

Immediate release

Reliving the Masterpieces of Chinese Music Virtually

*Ding Yi Music Company presents the best collections from Ding Yi Encore! online series,
featuring the works by renowned China national class one composer Gu Guanren.*

Singapore, 29 Jun 2020 – Since the sudden intrusion of the Covid-19 pandemic, the arts and music industry in Singapore had to stop all live performances and start creating programmes online. As we enter Phase 2 of Singapore’s reopening, it is important to keep a safe distance while still enjoying the arts. Ding Yi Music Company (鼎艺团) presents its first ticketed digital concert on SISTIC Live as we adjust to the new normal before we return to the concert halls.



[Mr Quek Ling Kiong \(Left\) and Mr Gu Guanren \(Right\) at the end of the concert](#)

Ding Yi selected the best collections from our archive – *Masterpieces by Gu Guanren*

《蓝色畅想》顾冠仁作品音乐会 to pilot our plans towards a ticketed digital concert experience for our audiences. One of the most memorable concerts presented, this concert features the works of the renowned, living legend, 78 years-old composer Gu Guanren (顾冠仁), who is an advocator and trailblazer of the classic and modern Jiangnan silk and bamboo music (江南丝竹音乐). The concert showcases Chinese classics that built the foundation to the world of modern Chinese music scene, such as *Remembrance of Wenchuan Earthquake* 《5.12 祭》, *Spring Suite* 《春天组曲》 and *Fishermen’s Song of the Eastern Sea* 《东海渔歌》.

“Whether you are a Chinese music fan, a musician, or have no background to the Chinese music genre, you will love this concert for its majestic grandeur by a full orchestra of more than 70 musicians, performing Chinese classics familiar to many,” said Ding Yi General Manager Elvia Goh (吴欣慈). “While we see the viability of digital means for the arts, we also hope to seek support from our audience, fans and supporters in this difficult time. Your contribution will sustain our art-making journey for a non-profit arts organisation like Ding Yi.”

About Ding Yi Music Company

“Best known for putting contemporary spin on classic chamber orchestra music alongside more traditional performance” – The Straits Times

Established in 2007, Ding Yi’ s mission is to advocate and promote its unique Singaporean identity and sound – Ding Yi Chinese chamber music by producing iconic programmes locally and overseas, proudly flying our Singapore flag high, leaving footprints in many important international music festivals. Ding Yi is also a proud recipient of the third Chinese Cultural Contribution Award in 2019 and NAC Major Company Scheme since 2016. For more information, please visit www.dingyimusic.com.

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FAST FACTS

Best Collection of Ding Yi Encore!

Masterpieces by Gu Guanren

26 Jun to 19 Jul 2020

Anytime

On SISTIC Live

Ticketing agent: SISTIC

Pay-as-you-wish: \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50

SISTIC Ticketing:	https://bit.ly/38dgo2l
Ding Yi Website:	https://www.dingyimusic.com
Ding Yi Social Media (Facebook, Instagram, Youtube):	@dingyimusic

Images and other information can be downloaded through these links for media use

1. Ding Yi logo

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/wt5pyjd3psnej5q/AABAtPr25TnavlJzrQ1UBt2Qa?dl=0>

2. Ding Yi group photo(s)

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/nqt5fw6tqnskjyq/AACfLI2wTRUEvwqbOSulGRxna?dl=0>

3. Ding Yi Bio

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/0kxyjtcn9ipvmvw/AABiOIAITj_IaiDi8UnwtNV9a?dl=0

4. Conductor photo(s) and Bio: Quek Ling Kiong

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/8rqla1bftqi2m42/AADhChK_qoCPnLNxEs_fEnXla?dl=0

5. Photos of Concerts

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ti1oir8flowrbec/AADdKkJU9WuxDaWfxZqPORMfa?dl=0>

ANNEX II

ARTISTS BIOGRAPHIES

Ding Yi Music Company

Who We Are

Traditional Chinese music alludes to something outside itself... a story, a great literary work, a poem, a painting or even an emotion or aspect of nature. To us, composing, interpreting and performing Chinese chamber music transports us to realms—from the historic to the contemporary and avant-garde, from places exotic and familiar, from the sensual to the surreal.

At Ding Yi, it is not only about the sounds we make, but also the journeys we take. Each piece is carefully crafted to transport us, and you along with us, from the cloistered chambers of an imperial age to the expansive imaginations of our modern collective soul, to touch, entertain, understand, unite and inspire.

And it is this passion and formula that have won us the accolades and support of patrons, arts institutions, and chamber music fans across Asia. The journey starts with us, but continues with you. Won't you join us as we continue to explore and create a unique sound for Singapore?



Our accolades:

- 2019,2016: National Arts Council Major Company Scheme Recipient
- 2019: Third Singapore Chinese Cultural Contribution Award (Organisation) Recipient
- 2013: National Arts Council Major Grant Recipient
- 2011: National Arts Council Seed Grant Recipient
- 2011: Silver Award at the 28th Shanghai Spring International Music Festival
- 2009: Champion at the prestigious Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod held in Wales, United Kingdom
- 2008: First Prize at the Singapore National Arts Council Chinese Music Competition

Quek Ling Kiong – Principal Conductor



Known as the “People's Conductor” , Quek Ling Kiong is the Principal Conductor of Ding Yi Music Company, establishing the ensemble as a trailblazer in pushing the boundaries of Chinese chamber music. His core Chinese music training at the Shanghai Music Conservatory, China, and later his Western music training at the Zurich University for Arts, Switzerland, inspires him to create many profound intercultural music productions that resonate across communities. His charismatic conducting style and innovative music programming have made him an influential leader in promoting Chinese music. Of note are the two Ding Yi Music Company's iconic programs - the triennial Ding Yi Chinese Chamber Music festival and Ding Yi 's international competition and symposium for Chinese chamber music works - Composium. He is also famous for his children's educational shows internationally. Quek is a recipient of the Singapore National Arts Council's Young Artist Award (2002); the Cultural Fellowship (2013), COMPASS Singapore's Meritorious Award (2016), and featured as one of iconic personality by Singapore Lianhe Zaobao in 2018. In 2019, Singapore Management University (SMU) established “Quek Ling Kiong Arts and Cultural Scholarship” to inspire and support undergrads to venture into management especially for traditional arts. As a guest conductor, Quek has worked with many international orchestras. In China, he worked with Shanghai Chinese Orchestra, Guangdong Chinese Orchestra, Jilin Chinese Orchestra and more. He has also conducted the Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra and Macau Chinese Orchestra, and performed with the Taiwan Kaohsiung Chinese Orchestra. Quek is currently the Resident Conductor of Singapore Chinese Orchestra and Music Director of Singapore National Youth Chinese Orchestra. In his free time, he conducts SMU's Chinese Orchestra and lead as their Music Director. His strong beliefs in breaking down barriers for the special needs community with music lead him to be the Artistic Director and Conductor of Singapore and Hong Kong's largest inclusive orchestras - The Purple Symphony and True Colours Symphony.

Gu Guan Ren - Guest Conductor



Gu Guan Ren is an accomplished National Class One composer. He was the Chairman and Artistic Director of the Shanghai Chinese Orchestra, Vice President of the China Nationalities Orchestra Society, committee member of the Chinese Musicians Association

and Deputy Director of its ethnic music committee, and Honorary President of the China Nationalities Orchestra Society. He is the recipient of a special government stipend awarded by the Chinese State Council.

Gu's major compositions include pipa concertos Hua Mulan (which won him the Second China Nationalities Orchestral Society Music Forum Classical Composition for the Chinese Orchestra Award [concerto] in 2013) and Wang Zhaojun; orchestral works Fishermen's Song of the Eastern Sea (co-written with Ma Sheng Long), Spring Suite, Glimpses of Singapore Suite, The General's Order, Spring Returns to Earth, and Road; concerto for the orchestra Harmony of the Eight Tones; tone poems The Three Friends of Winter - Pine, Bamboo and Plum (won the inaugural Music Forum Classical Composition for the Chinese Orchestra Award), Remembering Jiangnan, In That Distant Land - Thematic Suite of Folksongs from Western China, and O Beautiful Rose - Thematic Suite of Folksongs from Western China; erhu concerto Looking to the Moon; zhongruan concerto Tone Poem of the Western Frontier; guzheng and string ensemble concerto Landscape; sanxian concerto The Prairie; qudi and guzheng double concerto The Peony Pavilion; pipa and sanxian double concerto Duet - The Storyteller; plucked string instruments ensemble pieces Three-six, Tinkling Camel Bells, Joy; Jiangnan Sizhu works The Dawn of Spring, Green Field, The Clear Waters of Yangshan River; small ensemble pieces Peking Tune, A Stroll in Suti; quintets The Rapids, Charms of Jiangnan; and accompanied poetry recital pieces Song of the Pipa Player and Sending the Soldiers Off.

ABOUT THE CONCERT 关于音乐会

Best Collection of Ding Yi Encore! 艺犹未尽 • 精选品集

Masterpieces by Gu Guanren 《蓝色畅想》顾冠仁作品音乐会

Gu Guanren is widely acclaimed for his culturally significant music and rated as a national class one composer in China. His works have inspired many and have been widely performed in many countries, including Singapore, China, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

Listen to his very own best collection of Chinese music ranging from chamber music such as silk and bamboo music Beauty of Jiangnan, the melancholic melody Remembrance of Wenchuan Earthquake, to modern orchestration Capriccio in Blue, all-time favourite Fishermen's Song of the Eastern Sea and traditional classic Spring Suite. Conducted by Ding Yi Principal Conductor Quek Ling Kiong and Gu Guanren, relive and enjoy this majestic performance by Ding Yi Music Company.

Performed and recorded live at SCO Concert Hall on 9 Jun 2018. The concert was sponsored by Qiu Zhai Art Foundation.

中国一级作曲家顾冠仁的作品曾在新加坡、中国、香港和台湾等地多次演出。他的作品融入了传统民间音乐的素材，广泛的流传新中港台，也深受乐团与观众的喜爱。

这次鼎艺团 – 艺犹未尽！系列呈献乐团的精选音乐会《蓝色畅想》顾冠仁作品音乐会，呈献的曲目包括江南丝竹音乐《江南美》，华乐室内乐《5.12 祭》和当代华乐作品《蓝色畅想》，经典乐曲《东海渔歌》及《春天组曲》。鼎艺团首席指挥郭勇德也与顾冠仁先生在此音乐会上同台指挥。悦耳动听的华乐乐曲，切勿错过！

音乐会于 2018 年 6 月 9 日在新加坡大会堂举行及现场录影，由秋斋基金会赞助。

GU GUANREN 顾冠仁

(1hr 15min, no intermission)

Peking Opera Tune 《京调》

Beauty of Jiangnan 《江南美》

Quek Ling Kiong, Principal Conductor

New Tune of Yingzhou 《瀛洲新韵》

Gu Guanren, Guest Conductor

Tinkling Camel Bell 《驼铃响叮当》

Three- Six 《三六》

Remembrance of Wenchuan Earthquake 《5.12 祭》

Capriccio in Blue 《蓝色畅想》

Fishermen's Song of the Eastern 《东海渔歌》

Spring Suite 《春天组曲》

In That Faraway Place 《在那遥远的地方》