

Press Release 新闻稿

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For Immediate Release

Explore the *Intimate Intricacies* of local handicrafts – **Traditional Teochew Embroidery and Giant Joss Stick Making** *In Celebration of Mr Quek Ling Kiong's Musical Journey with Ding Yi Music Company*

Singapore, 17 May 2023 – Ding Yi Music Company presents the third edition of the “Disappearing...” series, *Intimate Intricacies*. The brainchild of guest conductor Mr Quek Ling Kiong, this multidisciplinary concert spotlights on two of Singapore’s disappearing traditions and crafts – Traditional Teochew Embroidery and Giant Joss Stick making through contemporary Chinese chamber music. This concert celebrates Mr Quek Ling Kiong’s significant contributions towards the company’s artistic development since its pioneering years.



The concert will be held on 10 June 2023 (Saturday), 3.30pm and 7.30pm at the Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre Auditorium.



Discover the intricacies behind these disappearing Chinese handicrafts through carefully crafted music movements featuring two new commissions by local composer Liong Kit Yeng and Ding Yi Composer-in-Residence Jon Lin Chua alongside a film projection by Director Eric Wong. The film illustrates the intimate stories and rich heritage of two vanishing handicrafts with third-generation owner of Eng Tiang Huat Chinese Cultural Shop, Jeffrey Eng, and Albert Tay of the now defunct Tay Guan Heng Joss Stick Manufacturer with research from Cultural Researcher Dr Jesvin Yeo.



This production is part of *Disappearing...* series and the three-year memorandum of understanding between Ding Yi Music Company and Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre. The partnership marks the collaboration to develop programmes that promotes the local Chinese arts and culture, through the main medium of Chinese chamber music. The *“Disappearing...”* series shines the spotlight and pays homage to the fading heritage and vanishing trades of our Chinese Singaporean culture. Please visit <https://ce.singaporeccc.org.sg/> for more information.

Tickets for *Intimate Intricacies* are available for public sales at \$28 (excluding booking fees) on SISTIC [here](#). PAssion Card, NTUC, SAFRA, HomeTeamNS and MeRewards members enjoy a 20% discount. Terms and conditions apply.

Annexes

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About Ding Yi Music Company

Established in 2007, Ding Yi Music Company is Singapore's most prodigious Chinese chamber music ensemble and a coterie of accomplished Chinese instrumentalists that trademark Singapore Chinese chamber music in the traditional and contemporary field. The ensemble has captivated audiences with its distinctive approach to music-making and dedication to showcase a vast repertoire that ranges from traditional Chinese music to contemporary interpretations and cross-genre works. For more information, please visit www.dingyimusic.com.

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Concert Poster Artwork



Please download the high-resolution versions [here](#).

Featured Artists' Biographies

Image	Write-Up
 <p data-bbox="193 972 608 1003">Download high resolution image here.</p>	<p data-bbox="643 342 1126 374">Quek Ling Kiong, Guest Conductor</p> <p data-bbox="643 412 1377 633">Quek Ling Kiong was a recipient of the Singapore National Arts Council's Young Artist Award (2002); the Cultural Fellowship (2013), Singapore COMPASS Meritorious Award (2016), and Singapore 'Lianhe Zaobao' iconic personality (2018). In 2019, Singapore Management University established 'Quek Ling Kiong Arts and Cultural Scholarship' to support undergraduates venturing into arts management.</p> <p data-bbox="643 669 1377 891">Under the NAC Overseas Scholarship, the Lee Foundation and Singapore Hokkien Huay Kwan scholarships, he attained his Degree at Shanghai Conservatory of Music, China where he studied Chinese and Western classical percussion under Prof. Li Minxiong and Xue Baolun. He also explored various percussion arts with masters An Zhishun, Li Zhengui and Zhu Xiaolin. In 1997, he joined SCO as Percussion Principal.</p> <p data-bbox="643 927 1377 1084">He learned conducting from Cultural Medallion recipient Dr. Tay Teow Kiat, Maestro Prof. Xia Feiyun and attended masterclasses of luminaries including Maestro Tsung Yeh, Johannes Schlaefli, Marc Kissoczy, Kirk Trevor, Colin Metters, Harold Farberman, Oleg Proskumya, Leonid Korchmar, Jorma Panula and Kurt Masur.</p> <p data-bbox="643 1120 1377 1341">Ling Kiong's career in professional conducting took off after becoming SCO's first Conducting Assistant in 2003. In 2004, he became SCO's Assistant Conductor cum Conductor for the Singapore National Youth Chinese Orchestra (SNYCO). Since then, he has led SNYCO to perform at Tainan International Arts Festival, Hsinchu Chinese Music Festival in Taiwan, and various cities in China.</p> <p data-bbox="643 1377 1377 1666">In September 2006, with supports of the above scholarships, he pursued Conducting Studies in Zurich, Switzerland. In 2007, he completed the International Conducting Workshop in St. Petersburg and obtained his Diploma in Advanced Studies from Zürcher Hochschule der Künste (Zurich University of the Arts) in 2008. During residency in Europe, he conducted European symphony orchestras including Westbohmische Symphonieorchester in Marienbad, Karlovy Vary Symphony Orchestra and Berg Komorni Orchestra of Prague etc.</p> <p data-bbox="643 1702 1377 1955">Upon returning to SCO, he was promoted to Associate Conductor. Well trained in east and west musical culture equipped him to create highly acclaimed productions resonating across communities hence often known as "People's Conductor". Ling Kiong is also a popular guest conductor among oversea orchestras including Shanghai Chinese Orchestra, Guangdong Chinese Orchestra, Jilin Chinese Orchestra, Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra, Macau Chinese Orchestra, Kaohsiung Chinese Orchestra etc.</p> <p data-bbox="643 1991 1377 2110">Beyond professional conducting career, as a music educator who loves to inspire and share essence of music to young generation, he also teaches in Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Lasalle College for Arts. His strong beliefs in supporting the special needs community</p>

with music lead him to assist in establish and become the Artistic Director of The Purple Symphony – Singapore’s largest inclusive orchestra since 2015 and Hong Kong’s largest inclusive orchestra – True Colours Symphony since 2019.

Ling Kiong was appointed as SCO’s Resident Conductor in 2013, and has assumed appointment as SCO’s Principal Conductor in January 2023. He is also currently SNYCO’s Music Director since 2016.



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Jon Lin Chua, Composer

Singapore-born composer Jon Lin Chua credits her versatility in traversing musical cultures and genres to her eclectic musical background. She has had works premiered and performed in numerous concerts and festivals in the United States, Singapore, Canada, South Korea, China, Taiwan, and Malaysia, with groups such as the Toronto Chinese Orchestra (as the current composer-in-residence), the Musica Nova Orchestra (Phoenix, Arizona), the Ju Percussion Group (Taiwan), Singapore Chinese Orchestra, amongst many others. In 2021, she was commissioned to compose a piece in honour of the 100th year anniversary of the Eastman School of Music, her alma mater, featuring the award-winning American mezzo soprano Katherine Ciesinski as well as American violinist Renée Jolles, a concertmaster of the world-renowned, Grammy Award-winning, conductorless Orpheus Chamber Orchestra. In 2018, she received the First Prize (large ensemble category) as well as the Young Singaporean Composer award at the 3rd Singapore International Composition Competition for Chinese Chamber Music, "Composium 2018" organised by the Ding Yi Music Company. Jon Lin studied composition and music theory at the Eastman School of Music, where she graduated with highest distinction as a recipient of numerous scholarships, including the prestigious Presser Scholar Award and the National Arts Council of Singapore Arts Scholarship. She is currently a part-time lecturer at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music and also oversees music programmes in conjunction with various private music schools and art groups.



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Liong Kit Yeng, Composer

Liong Kit Yeng’s multifaceted career spans the arts, broadcasting and education. With a flair for crafting memorable melodies and sophisticated harmonies, she has been commissioned and performed by Chinese orchestras, ensembles and choirs, including Singapore Chinese Orchestra, Ding Yi Music Company, Singaporean pianist Lim Yan, Paper Monkey Theatre, Sing Song Club, Singapore Lyric Opera Children’s Choir, Vocal Associates Festival Choruses, Schola Cantorum Singapore, Natus Cantorum (Taiwan), and Johor Bahru Chamber Choir (Malaysia).

Having a keen ear for writing music appealing to children, she was commissioned by the Arts Education Branch of the Ministry of Education to compose the set piece for choir in 2018 (Little Red Dot), as well as Chinese orchestra in 2020 (Kreta Ayer, 饮水思源: 牛车水). The set pieces are performed by primary school students during the Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation.

She was appointed Composer-in-Residence of The Purple Symphony (TPS) in 2015, and has since been instrumental in

shaping the unique sound of Singapore's largest inclusive orchestra that comprises musicians with and without disabilities. In 2017, she was appointed Assistant Conductor, leading the TPS Ensemble to perform at outreach performances, including "Resonates With" at National Gallery Singapore (2022), "In Youthful Company" at Esplanade's Outdoor Theatre (2021), True Colours Festival (2018), as well as the National Day Parade (2017).

Apart from writing music, she also provides artistic direction, including the roles of Music Director for Paper Monkey Theatre's puppetry theatre "Romance of Mistakes" (花田错) (2013, 2019), Artistic Director for "Play with Bamboo", a musical showcase as part of National Arts Council's 2017 Arts In Your Neighbourhood programme, Producer for "Silver Stars 2014 – Our Music Party!", a celebration of musical talents amongst seniors, as well as Artistic Consultant for "Moon | Conversations", the 2016 edition of Mid-Autumn Festival traditional arts showcase, presented by the National Arts Council, in collaboration with Gardens by the Bay.

As an educator, she was a part-time lecturer at Temasek Polytechnic and Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, and had been invited by the Ministry of Education as trainer to workshops and music camps for secondary school student leaders, as well as imparting knowledge as panellist at career fair talks. A familiar face at the Esplanade's Beautiful Sunday series, she has been a bilingual emcee at the monthly concert series for more than a decade and occasionally lends her voice to Mandarin documentaries as voice-over artist.



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Dr Jesvin Yeo, Research Advisor

Dr Jesvin Yeo is an accomplished and highly regarded Associate Professor of Design Art at the School of Art, Design and Media, Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. With a focus on applied design, she conducts research in various fields to address societal, cultural heritage, and educational issues. Dr Yeo is particularly interested in the preservation of cultural heritage and often collaborates with traditional craftsmen and local communities to study century-old architecture, exploring innovative design solutions that blend the past and present.

Dr Yeo's cultural-related works have been widely recognized, published, and exhibited in prestigious venues around the world, including the Basel School of Design, Museum for Communication Berlin, Hong Kong Heritage Museum, Taipei Design Museum, The London Design Festival, and Art Biennale Venice Design. Dr Yeo has won over 70 international awards for her design work, including the Red Dot Award (Communication Design), GOOD DESIGN™ Award, Core77 Design Awards, AIGA 50 Books, and iF Communication Design Award. She is also a published author of eight award-winning books, including "Forgotten Heritage: Uncovering Singapore's Traditional Chinese Puppets", "A Collection of Singapore's Fading Traditional Crafts and Trades Collection," "Vanishing Crafts," and "Architectural Decoration: Negotiating Symbols Across Time and Place."

In addition to her academic and design work, Dr Yeo holds several leadership positions within the university and the wider community. She currently serves as the Deputy Associate Provost (Strategy) at Nanyang Technological University, Director of the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts' Directors Board, and Chairman of the Academic Quality Assurance Committee at Nanyang Academy

of Fine Arts. Dr Yeo is also the Vice President at Singapore Society of Asian Studies and a Scientific Board Member at the Applied Human Factors and Ergonomics and the affiliated conferences, USA. Her extensive experience and expertise in design and cultural heritage have made her a respected leader and influencer in her field.



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Eric Wong, Video Director

Eric’s journey in film making began from the music side of things. His music and composition training by the Music Elective Program in Raffles Junior College laid a strong musical foundation for his musical career. He has written film scores for movies, commercial ads, and produced various contemporary and classical artistes. He is also an educator at heart and spent many years conducting school bands and orchestras. He is also an adjunct lecturer for various music production degree courses in Singapore.

The journey to film making was a natural progression for Eric. As his works found their way into the film industry, it sparked his interest in camera work. He began shooting for music videos and short films. Eventually he was invited to be involved in local movies and progressed to take on the role of directing. The most notable short films were his commissioned work for the Singapore Airforce and his short film ‘Monster’ which won the Best Drama Short Film in the Chandler International Film Festival 2020 (Arizona USA).

Eric Wong and his wife founded a production house in Singapore which they have been managing since 2011.

Ding Yi Music Company Information and Materials

Ding Yi Music Company - Download Link for Media Use:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/s3ajdrmvq9wf45m/AABkgt2bcVki37OonQszISI8a?dl=0>