

## Press Release 新闻稿

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For Immediate Release

### Ding Yi Music Company Presents New Chamber Series: Chamber Classics

*'Says Hu' – Exploring the intricacies and classics of huqin*

**Singapore, 29 August 2023** – Ding Yi Music Company presents a new chamber series: *Chamber Classics* 《精细集》, created with the intent to explore the intricacies and classics of Chinese chamber music. This new series will spotlight on the unique melodic qualities of individual Chinese musical instruments and instrument section, as Ding Yi continues to expand boundaries and pursue new frontiers in bringing a new voice to Singapore Chinese chamber music.



The first edition of the series, 'Says Hu' “胡•说” spotlights the beautiful timbres of the *huqin* section, interspersed with intimate conversations between them and Western string instruments, the cello and double bass. This concert is curated by Ding Yi’s former concertmaster Chin Yen Choong and led by current concertmaster Fred Chan Hong Wei, with renowned *huqin* musician and Singapore Chinese Orchestra concertmaster Li Bao Shun as the artistic advisor.

The concert will showcase different combinations and techniques to offer a new perspective of the *huqin* section. Ding Yi *huqin* musician Chen Ning and double bass musician Chee Jun Hong will each present a solo, 'Reminiscences of the Silk Road' and 'Yangguan Refrains' respectively. Li Bao Shun will also lead the ensemble and perform a Singapore premiere piece titled 'Sword Sorrow', composed by Zhang Zheng.

Come indulge in the intimate conversations between the *huqin* section and the ensemble!

The concert will be held on 1 October 2023 (Sunday), 7.30pm at the Esplanade Recital Studio.

Tickets for 'Say Hu' are available for public sales at \$28 (excluding booking fees) on SISTIC [here](#). SAFRA and OCBC Arts Platinum Card members enjoy a 15% discount, while other OCBC card members enjoy a 10% discount. Terms and conditions apply.

## Annexes

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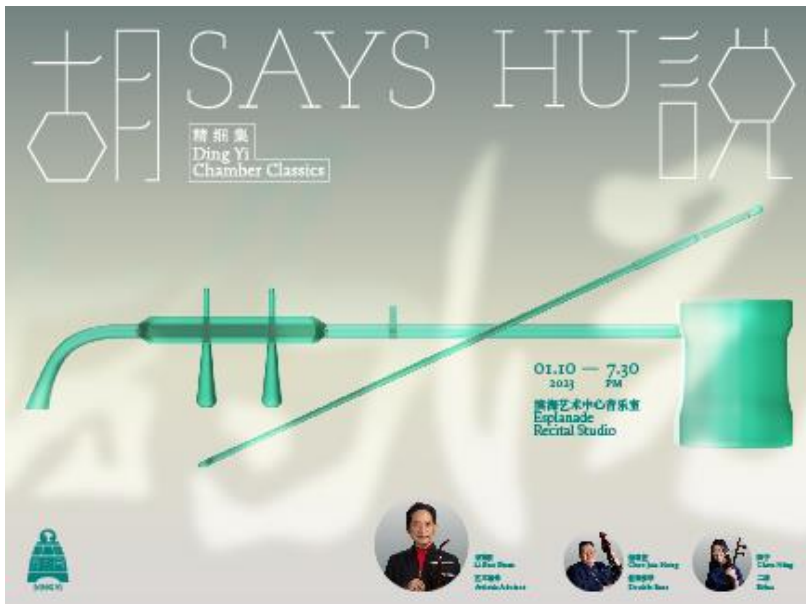
## About Ding Yi Music Company

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](http://www.dingyimusic.com).

## Media Contact



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Concert Posters Artwork



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

## Featured Artists' Biographies

Image	Write up
	<p><b>Li Baoshun, Artistic Advisor</b></p> <p>Li Baoshun started learning the violin from his brother at the age of seven and the erhu a year later. In 1983, he gained entry into the China Conservatory of Music and studied under renowned string master Liu Mingyuan and was trained by Zhao Yanchen, Jiang Fengzhi, Lan Yusong, Wang Guotong, Zhang Shao, An Ruli and Ji Guizhen. In 1978, he entered the Fuzhou Military Airbase Cultural Troupe. After his graduation in 1987, he joined the China Central Chinese Orchestra and was its erhu sectional principal in 1988. In 1995, he was the Acting Concertmaster of the China Central Chinese Orchestra. In the same year, he was appointed the Concertmaster of the Asia Orchestra, comprising of musicians from China, Japan and Korea.</p> <p>Li Baoshun has shown his talent in music since young, claiming many prizes along the way. He has been invited to perform in many large-scale performances locally and overseas, including Asia, Europe and the United States. He has frequently performed as a soloist with many orchestras, conductors, and composers from China and overseas. Li Baoshun joined the SCO in late 1997 and is currently its Concertmaster.</p>
	<p><b>Wong De Li, Dedic, Resident Conductor</b></p> <p>Wong De Li, Dedic aspired to be a conductor in his teen years, and his interest was ignited again by the renowned Chinese music educator and Singapore Cultural Medallion recipient, Dr Tay Teow Kiat. With his master's degree in orchestral conducting at the China Conservatory of Music in Beijing, under the tutelage of renowned Professor Yang You Qing and guidance from conducting maestro Tsung Yeh, he aims to push Ding Yi to new heights of artistic excellence and to develop a unique Singaporean musical direction.</p> <p>In 2013, Wong was selected to participate in the Conducting Masterclass by renowned conducting maestros Professor Zhang Guo Yong and Qu Chun Quan, organised by the Taipei Chinese Orchestra. While in 2015, he was again selected to attend the Conducting Workshop by Tsung Yeh, organised by the Singapore Chinese Orchestra.</p>

	<p>As a 2014 National Arts Council (NAC) Arts Scholarship recipient and a two-time recipient of the Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan Arts and Cultural Bursary in 2004 and 2006, he has performed in many countries such as China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, the United Kingdom, the Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Cambodia.</p> <p>In 2016, Wong staged his conducting recital with the China Conservatory of Music Middle School Youth Chinese Orchestra with reputable conductor Gu Guan Ren. In the same year, he assumed the conductor role for the Cultural Symphony Orchestra and was also featured as an outstanding NAC scholar in the 2016 Straits Times Scholars' Choice.</p>
	<p><b>Chin Yen Choong, Huqin, Curator</b></p> <p>Chin Yen Choong joined Ding Yi Music Company in 2007 and is currently a huqin musician in the ensemble. In 1999, Chin started learning erhu under the tutelage of Singapore Chinese Orchestra gaohu musician, Xu Wenjing. A highly talented musician, Chin quickly acquired a high level of skill with the string instrument.</p> <p>In 2000, together with Keat Hong Chinese Orchestra, he performed in various local and international platforms as the erhu and banhu soloist. In 2002, Chin took part in the National Chinese Music Competition organised by the National Arts Council and was awarded the second runner-up in the erhu open category. In 2008, he led Ding Yi to win first place in the ensemble category in the same competition. In 2003, he represented Singapore for the International Jiangnan Sizhu conference in Taicang, China. In 2004, he was selected to represent Singapore to participate in the annual ASEAN Youth Camp in Laos. In the same year, Chin attained the Diploma in Erhu Performance in the instrumental graded examination, jointly organised by Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA) and Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing, China.</p> <p>Chin was also the recipient of the Arts and Cultural Scholarship awarded by Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan for his diploma studies in NAFA. Receiving the NAC Arts Bursary, Chin is the pioneer batch of Chinese instrumentalist to continue and attained the Bachelor of Music (Honours) at NAFA.</p>

	<p>Subsequently, he studied orchestra conducting under the tutelage with Eric James Watson, Dr Robert Casteels and renowned Hong Kong conductor Wai Sing Fat; and attended conducting masterclass by renowned conductors Yan Huichang, Hu Bingxu and Xia Fei Yun. Chin is currently the conductor and instructor of various schools' Chinese orchestras in Singapore.</p>
	<p><b>Fred Chan Hong Wei, Huqin / Concertmaster</b></p> <p>Fred Chan is currently the huqin musician at Ding Yi Music Company. He obtained both his Bachelor and Master of Fine Arts (erhu) from the Central Conservatory of Music (CCOM) in Beijing under the tutelage of renowned erhu virtuoso and educator, Professor Zhao Han Yang, and banhu from Assistant Professor Hu Yu. Chan was also a recipient of the Chinese government full scholarship and the Beijing outstanding foreign students' scholarship award.</p> <p>Chan joined the Penang Chung Ling High School Chinese Orchestra in 2002 and started learning the erhu from Lim Soon Huat and Lim Soon Lay. During his studies at CCOM, he joined the China Youth Chinese Orchestra as a gaohu performer. He has studied Cantonese gaohu Performance with Tian Zai Li, and other famed erhu performers, such as Professor Yan Jie Min, Wang Ying, and Zhou Ling Yan. Chan has also received various awards, including first prize at the Hua Yue Zhi Yun International Erhu Competition 2013 (professional overseas category) first and third prize at the Yue Lang National Chinese Instruments Solo Competition (open category) in 2013 and 2009 respectively.</p> <p>Chan has staged two erhu solo recitals at the CCOM Beijing in 2015 and 2017, both of which were well received by audiences. He is also a co-founder of WAU! Ensemble, the first professional Chinese chamber music ensemble in Malaysia.</p>





### **Chen Ning, Huqin Soloist**

Chen Ning started learning the erhu at the tender age of 10, under the tutelage of Xu Wenjing. Her keen interest in the instrument led her to join the Nanyang Primary School's Chinese Orchestra and consequently, the Nanyang Girls' High School Chinese Orchestra, where she was appointed sectional leader and concertmaster.

A graduate of the Bachelors' in Music (Honours) Programme at the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts majoring in erhu performance, Chen Ning has had extensive experience playing with a variety of ensembles and orchestra, performing in venues such as the Esplanade, as well as the Singapore Conference Hall. She was a member of the Toa Payoh West Community Club Chinese Orchestra and is currently the Zhonghu Sectional Leader of the Singapore National Youth Chinese Orchestra. Chen Ning is also currently a full-time musician at Ding Yi Music Company.

Chen Ning also holds a Diploma in Erhu performance (2015), awarded by the Central Conservatory of Music, in conjunction with the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts. She also has a DipABRSM in Piano (2019) and is currently pursuing her LRSM.



### **Chee Jun Hong, Double Bass Soloist**

Double Bassist Chee Jun Hong started learning the instrument at the age of 10 and graduated with a Diploma of Music from Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA) School of Music under the tutelage of Singapore Symphony Orchestra (SSO) Double Bassist Jacek Mirucki.

Due to his outstanding performance throughout the course, Chee was awarded the YAMAHA Music Scholarship, Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan Art and Cultural Award, as well as the Tan Ean Kian Art Bursary Award for two consecutive years.

As an active musician in the local arts scene, Chee is currently a musician with Ding Yi Music Company and principal player of NAFA Orchestra and the Singapore National Youth Chinese Orchestra, under the tutelage of Singapore Chinese Orchestra (SCO) Principal Double Bassist, Zhang Hao. He has performed with several orchestras and ensembles such as SCO,

	<p>SSO, the Windstar Ensemble and the Singapore Pocket Opera Theatre, both locally and abroad.</p> <p>Chee is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Music (Honours) under the NAFA-RCM Programme with the support of San San Music Merit Award (Degree).</p>
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## **Ding Yi Music Company Information and Materials**

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Ding Yi Music Company Information – Download link for media use:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/zbxyi14itxrttsrp5kwb5/h?rlkey=mmtc9zoeizwi4gx140501o3bi&dl=0>