Press Release 新闻稿

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For Immediate Release

Ding Yi Music Company presents the second edition of ECOncert

A musical exploration between waste, humanity and nature

Singapore, 11 September 2024 – Ding Yi Music Company is proud to announce the second edition of its popular "ECOncert" series, a captivating and thought-provoking musical journey that delves into the complex relationship between humanity and the natural world. This year's theme, Waste, invites audiences to reflect on one of the most pressing environmental issues of our time through the transformative power of music and art.



Under the artistic direction of Creative Director Wong De Li, Dedric, and Stage Director & Dramaturg Ang Xiao Ting, the concert promises an immersive and emotionally charged experience that not only highlights the environmental impact of waste but also offers a message of hope and renewal. The concert's narrative is further enriched by the evocative compositions of Malaysian composer Yik Kah Hoe and Singapore composer Avik Chari, who have crafted a musical tapestry that underscores the urgency of environmental awareness while celebrating the resilience of nature.

"The ECOncert series was born out of a desire to focus deeply on the pressing environmental challenges we face," said Wong De Li, Dedric, Creative Director and Conductor. "The "Wasted" documentary by ECO Business served as a powerful catalyst for our theme. The Mobius recycling loop, highlighted in the film, struck me as a profound metaphor—not just for waste, but for the interconnectedness of music, humanity, and nature. After extensive brainstorming, we decided to use this symbol to represent the continuous cycle where these three elements influence and regenerate one another."

Taking inspiration from Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot*, the stage design of "ECOncert" will serve as a striking analogy for our environmental crisis. This innovative design is brought to life through the visionary art installations of Young Artist Award recipient Alecia Neo and the atmospheric lighting by Liu Yong Huay, drawing the audience deeper into the thematic core of the performance. Adding a unique and compelling dimension to the concert are the instruments remade with sustainable materials by Alvin Chea Hong Shen and Chea Wei Xian.

Additionally, as a prelude to the concert, join us for the **ECOncert Arts Chat**, where a panel consisting of the creative team and experts will explore how this pressing issue of waste is expressed through the mediums of art and music. This insightful discussion will provide a behind-the-scenes look at how each artistic element addresses the concert's theme. More details will be released on our social media platforms soon.

"Nature creates no waste." Ding Yi Music Company is eager to welcome audiences to this transformative edition of "ECOncert" where music and art converge to explore the profound theme of waste and its impact on our world.

ECOncert will be held on 23 October 2024 (Wednesday), 7.30pm at the Esplanade Recital Studio. Tickets are available for public sales at \$28 (excluding booking fees) on SISTIC here. Concession tickets at \$\$20 for students, senior citizens (aged 60 years and above) & NSFs. OCBC Arts Platinum Card members enjoy a 15% discount, while other OCBC card members enjoy a 10% discount. Terms and conditions apply.

Annexes

- A. Concert Posters Artwork
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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 Posters Artwork



Please download the high-resolution version <u>here</u>.

Image Write up

Wong De Li, Dedric, Artistic Director / Conductor

Wong De Li, Dedric is the Resident Conductor of Ding Yi Music Company and Music Director of the Asian Cultural Symphony Orchestra and Nanyang Collective. A recipient of the National Arts Council Arts Scholarship in 2014, he was featured in Straits Times Scholars' Choice in 2016 and served as a panelist for Singapore's Youth Action Plan in 2019.

Wong holds a Master's in Orchestral Conducting from the China Conservatory of Music, where he studied under Professor Yang You Qing and Maestro Tsung Yeh. He graduated from the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts in 2007, majoring in Suona Performance, with conducting mentorship from Dr. Tay Teow Kiat.

He has guest conducted various ensembles, including the Singapore Chinese Orchestra, China Sze Chuan Tian Zi Ensemble, and Suzhou Symphony Orchestra, and has represented Singapore at international arts festivals in countries like China, the UK, and Australia. He currently holds key roles with the Singapore Chinese Music Federation, Suona and Guan Society of Singapore, and School of the Arts Chinese Chamber Ensemble.



Ang Xiao Ting, Stage Director / Dramaturg

Ang Xiao Ting is a freelance hyphenated theatre practitioner (actor, director, dramaturg, facilitator). She is an Associate Artist with The Theatre Practice (Singapore) and Programmer for Practice Tuckshop.

Her practice in Eco-Theatre prioritises the various degrees of an integrated ecological practice, with a focus on Southeast Asian foodways, such as: Recess Time — which toured to World Stage Design 2022 (Calgary) and received an "Honourable Mention" at #CreateCOP27 — a global open call for art in conjunction with COP27.

As an actor, she was last seen in: The Soldier & His Virtuous Wife (playing Sidekick A) and Four Horse Road. Her recent directing credits include Extinction Feast (2021 Singapore Writers' Festival; 2022 The Theatre Practice) and Pickle Party.

Ang graduated from Lancaster Institute of Contemporary Arts (UK) where she received the LICA prize for Outstanding Achievement in Theatre.



Yii Kah Hoe, Composer

Yii Kah Hoe is a Malaysian composer and Chinese dizi and xiao improviser. Yii has been recognized as one of the major voices among Southeast Asian composers of his generation. His music has been widely performed in Asia, America, and Europe.

Yii won the National Outstanding Educator Award 2018 presented by the Private Education Cooperative of Malaysia. In the fall of 2015, Yii was the Scripps College Erma Taylor O'Brien Distinguished Visiting Professor at Scripps College in Claremont. Yii was guest composer and guest speaker at Birmingham Conservatoire UK (2013 & 2014), York St John University (2014), Yale-NUS College (2017), Iowa State University (2015), Tianjin Conservatoire of Music (2017), Mahidol University (2017), Guanxi Conservatoire of Music (2014, 2015, 2016).

As a Fullbright Scholar in Residence, Yii taught at Washington State University's School of Music from August 2022 to June 2023.

Yii was the festival director of Kuala Lumpur Contemporary Music Festival 2009, the festival director of SoundBridge festival (2013, 2015), the president of Society of Malaysian Contemporary Composers (2014 – 2016) and a senior lecturer at SEGi College Subang Jaya, Malaysia since 2000.



Avik Chari, Composer

Avik Chari is a Singapore-based composer and sound designer for games, visuals, spaces, and performing ensembles. His compositions blend orchestral and traditional Asian instruments, synths, organic beats, and ambient sound design, transporting listeners on journeys of self-reflection and exploration. Chari's works have been performed by ensembles like the Singapore Symphony Orchestra, Asian Cultural Symphony Orchestra, Transient Canvas, the Harp Quarterly, and Morse Percussion, and featured in diverse media projects. Notably, he was commissioned by the Asian Civilisations Museum to create an electroacoustic piece called *Senescence* for their Pedra Branca shipwrecks exhibition, featuring Ng Pei-Sian, principal cellist of the Singapore Symphony.

Chari has also edited and mixed the soundtracks of Disney's *Inside Out* into a 15-minute soundtrack for the Gardens by the Bay light show in Singapore. A graduate of the Boston Conservatory at Berklee, he studied under composers Tina Tallon and Felipe Lara, earning the Roger Sessions Memorial Award for composition.



Alecia Neo, Arts Installation Designer

Alecia Neo is an artist developing long-term projects involving collaboration with individuals and communities. Her socially engaged practice unfolds primarily through lens-based media and participatory artworks that address modes of radical hospitality and care. Care Index, her ongoing research which focuses on the indexing and transmission of embodied gestures and movements emerging from lived experiences of care, has been presented at the Singapore Art Museum, The Esplanade: Theatres by the Bay, The Listening Biennial, ArtScience Museum, Assembly for Permacircular Museums (ZKM Center for Art and Media Karlsruhe), New Season of Care (Asia-Art-Activism) and Presence of Mind (Gallery Lane Cove, NSW, Australia).

She co-founded Brack, an art collective and platform for socially engaged art, and the Ubah Rumah Residency on Nikoi Island, which focuses on the intersection of art, hospitality and ecology. Since 2014, her ongoing collaborations with disabled artists have manifested as an arts platform, Unseen Art Initiatives. She is currently an associate artist with Dance Nucleus.



Liu Yong Huay, Lighting Designer

Liu trained at The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts in Lighting Design (2016), under the National Arts Council Arts Scholarship (Postgraduate). In September 2017, she co-founded 微 Wei Collective with theatre practitioner Neo Hai Bin. They are interested in the performance of space, and how material and movement can allow one to experience a breathing space.

She is honoured to have worked on numerous theatre and dance productions in Singapore.

Ding Yi Music Company Information and Materials

Ding Yi Music Company Information – Download link for media use: https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/zbxyi14itxrttsrp5kwb5/h?rlkey=mmtc9zoeizwi4gx140501o3bi&dl=0