

Press Release 新闻稿

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For Immediate Release

The “Disappearing...” Seven Sisters’ Festival

Chinese chamber music meets contemporary dance in a multidisciplinary concert

Singapore, 5 May 2022 – Ding Yi Music Company presents the second edition of the “Disappearing...” series, *Seven Sisters’ Sonata*. A multidisciplinary concert showcasing a unique blend of contemporary Chinese chamber music and dance by local contemporary dance company, The Arts Fission Company. This production kickstarts 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.

“Ding Yi has a unique way of conveying our local culture through their music. To kickstart our long-term collaboration with Ding Yi, it is especially meaningful that we are using music to promote appreciation of our local heritage. We look forward to working with Ding Yi to re-interpret our local traditions for new audiences of today,” said Mr Low Sze Wee, CEO of Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre.



The concert will be held on 22 May 2022 (Sunday), 3.30pm and 7.30pm at the Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre Auditorium. This programme is part of Ding Yi’s celebratory concerts in 2022 as we celebrate our 15th year anniversary, *Together with You*.

Seven Sisters' Sonata spotlights on one of Singapore's disappearing traditions, the Seven Sisters' Festival. Drawing inspiration from the fabled Chinese Valentine's Day, this concert explores the origins of this tradition and re-interprets it through an intimate showcase spanning across time and space. Journey with our protagonist as she navigates through the vivid scenes and characters to connect the past and present of this fast-disappearing tradition.



The concert features a new commission composition by newly appointed Ding Yi Composer-in-Residence Jon Lin Chua, choreography by Cultural Medallion recipient Angela Liong with The Arts Fission Company and heritage research by Lee Kok Leong, led by Principal Guest Conductor Quek Ling Kiong. Composer-in-Residence Jon Lin Chua shares her thoughts on this project, "Though I have worked with Ding Yi before on quite a few occasions, this production is to date my biggest project with them. What an honour it is for me to have this project to coincide with my appointment as Composer-in-Residence, allowing me to start my journey with them on such a high note."

Stories of 'majie', sisterhood, love, and the rich heritage of the festival will be weaved into the music experience. This cultural reminiscence is represented by Cantonese folk and operatic musical elements to give a sensational experience.



This concert is part of the “*Disappearing...*” series produced by Ding Yi Music Company and presented by Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre (SCCC), as part of the SCCC’s [Cultural Extravaganza](https://ce2022.singaporeccc.org.sg/) 2022. The “*Disappearing...*” series shines the spotlight and pays homage to the fading heritage and vanishing trades of our Chinese Singaporean culture. Please visit <https://ce2022.singaporeccc.org.sg/> for more information.

Tickets for *Seven Sisters’ Sonata* are available for public sales at \$35 (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="209 972 625 1003">Download high resolution image here.</p>	<p data-bbox="659 340 1054 376">Quek Ling Kiong, Conductor</p> <p data-bbox="659 412 1394 600">Quek Ling Kiong is always surprising audiences with innovative programmes, charismatic conducting and engaging concert experiences. A winner of the Singapore National Arts Council (NAC) Young Artist Award (2002), recipient of NAC Cultural Fellowship (2013) and Meritorious Awards by Compass Singapore (2016), he assumed the role of Principal Guest Conductor of Ding Yi in 2016.</p> <p data-bbox="659 636 1394 891">Aside from his current roles as the resident conductor of Singapore Chinese Orchestra and the music director for Singapore National Youth Chinese Orchestra, Ling Kiong is also an active guest conductor within the international scene, especially in mainland China, Hong Kong and Taiwan. He is the mastermind behind major events that promote Chinese music to the masses, including the <i>Ding Yi Chinese Chamber Music Festival</i> and a competition for new chamber works titled <i>Composium</i>.</p>
 <p data-bbox="209 1543 625 1574">Download high resolution image here.</p>	<p data-bbox="659 1048 1062 1084">Angela Liong, Choreographer</p> <p data-bbox="659 1120 1394 1272">Angela is a prolific dance-maker with a large body of works that has shaped the distinctive dance profile of ARTS FISSION since the company's inception in 1994. She often appropriates form and methodology from cross-discipline sources to innovate new ways of dance creation.</p> <p data-bbox="659 1308 1394 1503">Spanning a dance career of more than 35 years, Angela has turned her professional practice into hybrid dance creation that goes beyond traditional performance making. Arts Magazine (1999) called Angela "Singapore's shaman of dance" for her penchant of drawing material from cultural heritage and mythologies to address the contemporary human spirit in her dance work.</p> <p data-bbox="659 1538 1394 1733">Angela is the recipient of the 2009 Cultural Medallion, Singapore's highest arts and cultural accolade. She continues to create new works with ARTS FISSION on diverse issues that impacts life in modern Asia. In recent times since the COVID-19 pandemic, she is exploring alternative dance creation with cinematic medium as well as AR/VR technology.</p>



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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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Lee Kok Leong, Research Advisor

Lee Kok Leong received education in Singapore and UK. He had spent over 20 years in the naval architecture and management profession. About a decade ago, he began engaging in freelance heritage research with an unequivocal interest in connecting the immigrant history between Singapore and China. He has since published several books documenting the immigrants' history in Singapore. His publications were nominated for the Singapore book prize. He is the consultant and curator for several heritage Galleries, as well as the script researcher for several Singapore Chinese Orchestra and Ding Yi Music Company performances.

Ding Yi Music Company and The Arts Fission Company Information and Materials

Ding Yi Music Company - Download Link for Media Use:

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

The Arts Fission Company - Download Link for Media Use:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/lwu061q5mo0dxyfw8lzsg/h?dl=0&rlkey=z08dwwszdwqvwyk7hlgriuj3q>