

Press Release 新闻稿

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For Immediate Release

[NEW!] Finalists Announcement for Composium 2021

Ding Yi Music Company 4th Singapore International Composition Competition for Chinese Chamber Music

Singapore, 3 October 2021 – A total of nine finalists were selected to advance to the final round of Composium 2021. Led by Quek Ling Kiong, Chairman of the Composium 2021 Adjudicator Panel and Principal Guest Conductor of Ding Yi Music Company, the preliminary round was held on 3 October 2021. There was a record-high of 88 compositions submitted from various countries and regions, including Malaysia, China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, United States of America, Madagascar, Mexico, Croatia and Singapore.

This edition received the highest number of applications since the inception of Composium in 2012, echoing the results of Ding Yi's continuous efforts in advocating Chinese chamber music through working with local and international composers in creating new and outstanding works. Out of the nine finalists, one of the works were submitted by Singaporean composer Ding Jian Han. He is currently pursuing a master's degree in Composition at the Robert Schumann Hochschule Düsseldorf, under the tutelage of Oliver Schneller.

All nine compositions will be performed live by Ding Yi ensemble in December this year. The finalists will proceed to an open rehearsal segment in the festival period conducted by final round's adjudicators, Ding Yi musicians and conductor, where their works will be evaluated live.

The triennial composition competition event, Composium 2021 happening from 17 to 19 December 2021, consists of a series of symposium by renowned international composers and concerts featuring works by the participants and our esteemed panel of international adjudicators. Composium 2021 will be the first ever hybrid edition where festival programmes will be made available both physical and online to encourage participation from local and overseas attendees in lieu of the restrictions.

We hope that this festival continues to promote Chinese chamber music internationally, as well as encourage composers from all walks of life to create new works and build onto the library of Chinese chamber music repertoires.

Congratulations to the nine finalists who have advanced to the final round of Composium 2021. More details of the finalists will be shared closer to the festival.

Annexes

A. List of Finalists' Names and Works

B. Finalists' Biographies

C. Ding Yi and Composium Branding Materials

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 showcasing 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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Finalists' Names and Works

Category A (Full Ensemble of 15 Musicians)

Composition	Composer (Country/Region)
<i>Twinkling of Bonfire Night</i>	Zhou Jia Ying (China)
<i>The Rhythm of Lv Opera VI – 'New Year Pictures'</i>	Liu Yu Hui (China)
<i>Chilly Autumn with Misshapen Beauty Moon</i>	Cheng Kuang-Chih (Taiwan)

Category B1 (Small Ensemble of 6 Musicians)

Composition	Composer (Country/Region)
<i>Ode on the Spring</i>	Zhang Yi Meng (China)
<i>Sitting Together Among the White Clouds</i>	Liu Peng (China)
<i>Memory</i>	Xie Qin Wei (China)

Category B2 (Small Ensemble of 6 Musicians)

Composition	Composer (Country/Region)
<i>Lu (nox)</i>	Ding Jian Han (Singapore)
<i>Ocean Breath</i>	He Jia Ning (China)
<i>Tumbleweed</i>	Zhang Zhi Liang (China)

Finalists' Biographies

CATEGORY A FINALISTS

Zhou Jia Ying (China)

In 2014, she was accepted to the folk music composition major of Shanghai Conservatory of music. In 2019, she was accepted to the composition department of the Postgraduate Department of Shanghai Conservatory of music, and instructed by Zhu Xiaogu, Su Xiao and Wang Jianmin. Jia Ying was also involved in the 2020–2021 bilateral exchange at Hochschule für Musik und Theater Hamburg, with instructor Elmar Lampson. Her professional performance has also won her the people's scholarship and the Fu Chengxian scholarship. In recent years, her works are mostly in the field of national orchestras and concertos.

Awards:

- Winner of IPCL-International Percussion competition of Luxembourg
- Honorary award of the first Carlton Chinese Orchestra international composition competition
- Second prize in the 10th composition competition of higher art institutions (National Orchestral Music) (first prize)
- Second prize in the first collection of large chimes and national orchestral music works
- First "Taiwan style" excellent Pipa new works collection (no ranking successively)
- Silver award in "Dunhuang Award" Pipa new works selection
- First prize in the third "Hui chuang youth" of Shanghai University Students' literary and art works selection
- 2019 National Art Fund(team)

Her works span across various forms, music styles, world music, contemporary classical and popular, with a focus in folk music and cross-border artistic collaborations.

Liu Yu Hui (China)

Liu Yuhui is a graduate student of composition department of Central Conservatory of Music currently. He served as vice-chairman of the 38th student union and was recommended to graduate students with the first grade in 2019, under the teaching and guidance of Professor Guo Wenjing. His work was selected as the designated work of the senior division of the second Fryderyk Chopin in Beijing International Piano Competition for Young Pianists and has won the first prize of the twelfth "Yanhuang cup" composition competition, the first prize of the first Futian International Competition for Accordion Composition Free Bass Category, the best work award of the 37th Shanghai Spring International Music Festival Dizi Art Festival and the second prize of the first Hangzhou Contemporary Music Festival "Art Creation Awards" International Orchestral Composition Competition. He also won the second prize at the 2019 Lin Yaoji International Competition for solo violin composition in Chinese style and the creative award of the "7th China Chamber Opera Composition Promoting Project" etc. His works also have been staged in the United States, Paris Milan, and many cities in China.

Cheng Kuang-Chih (Taiwan)

Kuang-Chih is a young composer and a PhD student at the Shanghai Conservatory of Music. He studied under Professor Jianmin Wang. His works have won many awards, including: the first prize of chamber music works of the Chinese Music Association "A Hundred Years of Echoes, China's Chasing Dreams" and the Outstanding Works Award of Large Works in 2020; the 2020 "Seventh National Orchestral (Youth Theme) Collection" won Second prize (two works) of China Nationalities Orchestra Society; 2021 Dunhuang Award Comprehensive Chamber Music Gold Award; 2020 Wuhan Conservatory of Music Chime and National Orchestral Works Collection Third Prize.

CATEGORY B1 FINALISTS

Zhang Yi Meng (China)

Zhang Yimeng, born in Fuzhou, Fujian in 1999, began to learn piano at the age of four. She started to study composition in 2016 under the tutelage of Prof. Wen Deqing in 2017, she was admitted to the composition department of Shanghai Conservatory of Music, where she studied double majors on composition and sight singing-ear training, under the tutelage of Professor Zhu Shirui. She won several times of the prize of the People's Scholarship of the Shanghai Conservatory of Music; Her work "Mountain Song Remembrance" won the third prize of the 8th China-ASEAN Music Week Piano composition Competition, and was published in "Music Creation" in the 12th issue of 2019; Her work "DaMoGanQuan" (Spring water in the desert) won the excellence Award in the Shanghai Conservatory of Music's 8th Baichuan (Hundredrides) composition competition and was invited to premiere at the Kanazawa Contemporary Music Festival 2020 in Japan. During her Shanghai Conservatory studies period, she participated in the "Indonesian Cultural field trip and creative composition workshop" organized by composer Dr Chong Kee Yong.

Liu Peng (China)

Peng Liu, born in 1986, Ph.D. in Music Composition, holds a teaching position at the Composition Department of Sichuan Conservatory of Music, while he is engaging in the postdoctoral research under the co-advisor Jia Guoping in the Central Conservatory of Music. His works have won numerous awards, including the outstanding award of 2019 Asian Composers Showcase in Korean, the Excellence Award of the 2nd China National Percussion Composition Competition, the Third Prize of the 7th and 13th Sun River new music competition, the First Prize of Sichuan Opera Music Competition and several awards of competition of ASEAN Music Week and Traditional Music Festival. These groups have performed his works as the Teana Zheng ensemble, the New Zealand Trio, the New Zealand Quartet, the Kammer Musek Veräin Lëtzebuerg, The Ensemble Novel and The Hong Kong New Music Ensemble etc. In consecutive years (2017- 2018), he has been selected into Sichuan Opera Music Talents Program and the Music Theory Research Program sponsored by China National Art Foundation. Recently, in December 2019, a special concert called "The Music of Wen Ziyang and Liu Peng" was presented at the small hall in Sichuan Conservatory of Music. In addition, in terms of academic research, he has published several articles about the music analysis of contemporary compositions on academic journals such as Vortex in Brazil,

People's Music, Chinese Music, Huang Zhong, Music Culture Studies and Journal of the Central Conservatory of Music in China.

Xie Qin Wei (China)

Xie Qinwei, bachelor's degree and master's degree graduated from Nanjing Academy of Arts in the direction of composition and composition technology. He is studying composition from Professor Wang Jian Min. The types of works include orchestra, chamber music, musicals, jazz, film and television soundtrack, drama soundtrack and so on. Won the third prize of Jiangsu Digital Music Competition in 2013; graduated from Nanjing Academy of Arts in 2014 and won the best exhibition award; created musical "Source" for Fu Ning Art Troupe in 2016; created music work "Red cloth" for Nanjing's "China-UK Joint Project-Voice gallery" in 2016; and won the national higher level for 2018 work "Shan shui Guest" Folk music composition awards in art colleges and universities, etc.

CATEGORY B2 FINALISTS

Ding Jian Han (Singapore)

Jian Han is a Singaporean composer who draws inspiration from his varied non-musical interests. He uses those ideas and concepts to formulate new sounds and textures in his music. Recent examples of this include adapting Hollywood action film editing techniques, more specifically from the Jason Bourne series, to his sextet *Liman* and dissecting the human's perception of memories in his piano duo *When Mind and Sound Disintegrate... (In Memory of my own Memory)*. Most recently, Jian Han has started to incorporate self-made short films into his musical compositions, most noteworthy *Three Pieces in search of Myself - III*, which was premiered in the Museum Kunstpalast in Düsseldorf, Germany. Some personal highlights of his include having his orchestra piece "Let me run 'til I fade away." premiered by the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory Orchestra at the 2018 YST Conservatory Concerto Competition and being the 3rd prize winner at the Asian Composers League Young Composers Competition 2018. He is currently pursuing a master's degree in Composition at the Robert Schumann Hochschule Düsseldorf, under the tutelage of Oliver Schneller. His past principal composition teachers include Martin Jaggi and Peter Ivan Edwards. Jian Han also enjoys song writing and has composed and arranged music for two full-length musicals.

He Jia Ning (China)

He Jianing was born in Hangzhou, Zhejiang province in 1996. In 2015, she was admitted to Shanghai Conservatory of Music, majoring in Folk Music composition under Professor Zhu Xiaogu. In 2016, she was admitted to Shanghai Conservatory of Music, majoring in Erhu Performance under the tutelage of Professor Ruyi. In 2020, she was admitted to Shanghai Conservatory of Music for postgraduate study of composition under the supervision of Professor Zhou Xianglin. In 2019, erhu solo "Drunken in deep Lane" won the outstanding Finalist award of "2019 Jiangnan Style Erhu Works < Solo, Quartet > Soliciting Competition" in the 36th Shanghai Spring International Music Festival. In 2020, vocal music work "Wind Rising" won the second prize of the sixth "Report Youth" Shanghai College Students Cultural Creative Works Competition. In 2021, the work "Empty Mountain Ci" won the award of Excellence in the second Dun Huang Prize of 2021 Exhibition and Evaluation of New Works of Chinese national Chamber Music.

Zhang Zhi Liang (China)

ZHANG zhi liang he is the young teacher of Electronic Music Department in Sichuan Conservatory of Music. His works were selected to be performed in many cities around the world and won prizes from competition at home and abroad.

Ding Yi and Composium Branding Materials

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<https://www.dingyimusic.com/composium2021>
