Press Release 新闻稿

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For Immediate Release

Our Tribute to Classics (Vote Now!)

Vote and relish in the beauty of Chinese chamber music classic tunes

Singapore, **3 March 2022** – Relive popular Chinese music of the past as Ding Yi pays homage to the classic tunes of Chinese chamber music in this upcoming concert, *Our Tribute to Classics*. Held on 13 March 2022 (Sunday), 7.30pm at the SCO Concert Hall, this is part of Ding Yi's celebratory concerts in 2022 as we celebrate our 15th year anniversary, *Together with You*.



The concert will be conducted by Ding Yi Principal Guest Conductor Quek Ling Kiong and features renowned *Erhu* soloist Zhao Jian Hua, where he will perform *Reflection of the Moon on Erquan*, composed by composer Hua Yan Jun. Ding Yi *Dizi* and *Suona* musicians, Ng Hsien Han and Jacky Ng will perform other classic pieces titled *Spring of Jiangnan* by composers Lu Chun Ning Ling and Zeng Jia Qing, as well as *Celebration*, by composer Ge Li Dao. The ensemble will be accompanied by a group of guest musicians in a chamber setting to portray these classic tunes in their majestic grandeur.

Other repertoires include *Spring Festival Overture* and many other classics you would not want to miss!

Pre-Concert Audience Voting Activity

Audience can vote for their favourite solo and ensemble pieces from a selection of classic Chinese music to be performed live in *Our Tribute to Classics* concert. The first 50 voters can redeem a free limited edition Ding Yi tote bag. Voters who voted for the top two pieces also stand a chance to win a special prize. Audience can submit their votes here from now till 7 March 2022 (Mon), 11.59pm.

Our Tribute to Classics is supported by Qiu Zhai Art Foundation. Tickets are available for public sales at \$28 and \$38 (before booking fees) on SISTIC <u>here</u>. OCBC and SAFRA cardmembers can enjoy ticket discounts. Terms and conditions apply.

Annexes

- A. Concert Poster Artwork
- B. Featured Artists' Biographies
- C. Ding Yi Information and 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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Please download the high-resolution version <u>here</u>.

Image

Quek Ling Kiong, Conductor



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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.

Write-Up

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 *Ding Yi Chinese Chamber Music Festival* and a competition for new chamber works titled *Composium*.

Zhao Jian Hua, Erhu Soloist



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Zhao Jian Hua is the erhu I Principal of the SCO and a member of the Chinese Musicians' Association. Born in Shanghai, he learned erhu performance under his uncle, educator Li Liang, at a young age. Li Liang's rigorous training laid the groundwork for Zhao Jian Hua's musical career. In 1975, Zhao Jian Hua represented Shanghai City Changning District Youth Cultural Centre in the China Youth Cultural Performance (Chinese and Western Instruments) Instrumental Solo Competition and won the highest award. The following year, Zhao Jian Hua performed the erhu solo in the youth category of "Shanghai Spring International Music Festival" and garnered critical acclaim.

In 1978, Zhao Jian Hua was selected for the prestigious College of the Shanghai Chinese Orchestra, where he was under the tutelage of renowned *erhu* master Min Hui Fen. He won awards at numerous high-profile competitions such as the National Chinese Instrumental Music Competition in Wuhan, and the Shanghai City Young Musician Association Competition in 1985.

Zhao Jian Hua's biography is also recorded in the Record of Outstanding Chinese Youths and the Record of Chinese Musicians.



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Ng Hsien Han, Dizi Soloist

Ng Hsien Han is currently a *dizi* musician in Ding Yi Music Company and the Ensemble Manager of Dicapella, the only *dizi* ensemble in Singapore. At the age of 13, Ng started learning *dizi* under Singapore Chinese Orchestra (SCO) musician Lee Heng Quey. In 2004, he was honoured to be under the tutelage of renowned dizi performer and educator, Professor Zhan Yong Ming.

Ng has performed locally and overseas as a *dizi* soloist and was invited as soloist to perform with many reputable orchestras such as performing with SCO in a *dizi* concerto in 2010 and collaborated with Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts Symphonic Wind Ensemble to perform the piece Madam White Snake, conducted by renowned Taiwanese conductor Lin Chun Chi in 2013.

Aside from his performing experience, Ng clinched the second prize (*dizi* open category – first prize vacant) at the National Chinese Music Competition organised by the National Arts Council in 2014. In 2017, Ng was awarded the prestigious PHD President Scholarship to carry out research in the field of *dizi*.

As one of Ding Yi's musician, Ng has represented Singapore in various overseas platforms and has now become one of the leading Chinese chamber *dizi* musician in Singapore.



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Jacky Ng, Suona Soloist

Jacky Ng started his music journey learning suona at the age of 13 under the tutelage of Singapore Chinese Orchestra (SCO) suona musician Liu Jiang. Under his mentor's support, he joined the Singapore National Youth Chinese Orchestra (SNYCO) in 2012 and was appointed as the principal suona and guan musician in 2017, Ng also followed the youth orchestra to perform overseas such as Beijing, Shanghai and Taiwan.

Ng graduated in 2018 from the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA) with a Diploma in Music Performance and was the principal of the suona and woodwind section in the NAFA Chinese Orchestra. He is also highly active in the local arts scene where he performed with various arts groups such as Siong Leng Musical Association, Odyssey Dance Theatre, Cappella Martialis and the Reverberance, and also invited as guest suona and guan musician by SCO. He has also staged his debut concerto Nostalgia with Cheng San Chinese Orchestra which inspired his professional music career.

Ng was invited to perform the concerto Farewell My Concubine with the NAFA Chinese Orchestra in 2017. In 2018, at the National Chinese Music Competition organised by the National Arts Council, he was awarded the first runner up in the suona open category.

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