## Press Release 新闻稿

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For Immediate Release

#### **Ding Yi Chinese Chamber Music Festival 2022**

5<sup>th</sup> edition returns from 15-17 December 2022

**Singapore, 23 November 2022** – Ding Yi Chinese Chamber Music Festival is organised by Ding Yi Music Company in collaboration with Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay from 15 to 17 December 2022 at the Esplanade Recital Studio. In its 5<sup>th</sup> edition, the festival will present the best of Chinese chamber music through a series of concerts, workshop and for the first time, a summit will be livestreamed to reach out to an international audience.



Ding Yi Music Company and various ensembles including the well-established *TroVessional* from Hong Kong will come together in a combined finale concert to offer an inspiring weekend of Chinese chamber music for everyone.

Led by festival director and Principal Guest Conductor Quek Ling Kiong, this hybrid festival features a dazzling line-up of renowned speakers, experts and musicians, from Singapore and overseas. They include Cantonese music master Yu Qi Wei (Hong Kong), Composer Gu Guan Ren (China), Professor Tan Long Jian (China) and *Erhu* Virtuoso Dr Ling Hock Siang (Singapore).

The festival is a platform for Chinese chamber music practitioners to exchange their knowledge, network and together advocate for Chinese chamber music and its role in Chinese arts and culture scene. We hope the festival will provide a special musical encounter for our audience, and through this foster a greater appreciation of this genre of music.

To further commemorate the occasion, for the first time in Singapore, Ding Yi will launch a first-of-its-kind score publication which includes a compilation of original Chinese chamber music by local and international composers commissioned by Ding Yi over the last fifteen years.

### <u>DING YI CHINESE CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL SUMMIT</u> 11 December 2022 (Sun), 11am – 3.30pm

Online, Free

The international summit is a highlight programme held online and moderated by festival director Quek Ling Kiong. It aims to provide a platform to educate and encourage discussion with a global perspective. An esteemed panel comprising of experts in the Chinese chamber music scene will discuss topics such as the discovery and interpretation of Chinese chamber music, as well as the sustainability of Chinese chamber ensembles in the region.

The summit will be livestreamed on <u>Ding Yi</u>'s Facebook page.

#### **DING YI CHINESE CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL WORKSHOP**

17 December 2022 (Sat), 3pm - 5pm Esplanade Recital Studio (<u>Free with Registration</u>) and Online

The workshop in two segments will feature renowned Chinese chamber music practitioners and live demonstrations of Chinese chamber classics.

#### Sixian Quartet, Visionary Master Hu Deng Tiao

Erhu Virtuoso Dr Ling Hock Siang will co-host the first segment of the workshop with Mdm Zhang Nian Bing, former Professor of the Shanghai Music Conservatory. They will discuss the origins of the String Quintet and the legacy of Chinese chamber music of visionary Master, Hu Deng Tiao. They will be accompanied by a quintet demonstration by Ding Yi Music Company.

#### The Infinite Possibilities of Traditional Cantonese Music

In the second segment of the workshop, Cantonese music master Mr Yu Qi Wei (Hong Kong) will share the origins, rise and potential of this genre in Hong Kong and other regions. Accompanied by Cantonese music band *TroVessional*, he will also share about his journey to promote and cultivate interest in this genre among youths in Hong Kong.

Ding Yi Chinese Chamber Music Festival 2022 workshop is available for registration on Peatix.

#### **CONCERTS**

Tickets for each Ding Yi Chinese Chamber Music Festival 2022 concert is available for sales at \$28 (excluding booking fees) on <u>SISTIC</u>. Esplanade&Me, PAssion Card, SAFRA and OCBC card members may enjoy ticket discounts of up to 15%. Terms and conditions apply.

<u>Hometown Companions – Contemporary Voice</u>
15 December 2022 (Thurs), 7.30pm (1 hr 15 mins with no intermission)
Esplanade Recital Studio
Ticketed



Led by Ding Yi Principal Guest Conductor Quek Ling Kiong, Ding Yi Music Company will share the stage with two homegrown Chinese music ensembles of the Singapore National Youth Chinese Orchestra and The Purple Symphony to showcase popular Chinese chamber music repertoires.

Bound together with a common passion and love for Chinese chamber music, the three ensembles will showcase the diverse Chinese chamber music landscape.

Oriental Friends – Traditional Essence
16 December 2022 (Fri), 7.30pm (1 hr 15 mins with no intermission)
Esplanade Recital Studio
Ticketed



TroVessional is a creative and energetic Cantonese Music Band formed by students and alumni from the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts. Supervised by renowned Professor Yu Qi Wei, the

ensemble is known for injecting innovative elements into traditional Cantonese music to present refreshing music experiences for their audiences.

*TroVessional* will present an evening of their signature traditional Cantonese music with a modern twist.

# <u>World Reunion – Classics Creation</u> 17 December 2022 (Sat), 7.30pm (1 hr 15 mins with no intermission) Esplanade Recital Studio

**Ticketed** 



A gathering of Chinese chamber music friends around the world! We bring back participating ensembles from previous editions of Ding Yi Chinese chamber music festival, as well as a special guest musician to join us virtually on stage to showcase the future of Chinese chamber music classics.

This finale signifies the friendships and shared vision of promoting Chinese chamber music internationally around the world.

#### **Annexes**

- A. Concert Poster Artwork
- B. Featured Artists' Biographies
- C. Ding Yi Music Company 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 showcase a vast repertoire that ranges from traditional Chinese music to contemporary interpretations and cross-genre works. For more information, please visit <a href="https://www.dingyimusic.com">www.dingyimusic.com</a>.

#### **Media Contact**

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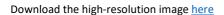
#### **Image**

## **Quek Ling Kiong Festival Director and Conductor**

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.





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#### **TroVessional (Hong Kong)**

TroVessional is a Cantonese Music Band formed by students and alumni from the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts and has been supervised by Professor Yu Qi Wei. The band often builds up from the foundations of traditional canton music to seek for innovation and creativity. The band members have different musical backgrounds such as Cantonese opera, Namyaam (Cantonese Narrative Singing), Cantonese flute and many more. TroVessional has participated in and coordinated numerous music events, performances, and competitions to promote Cantonese music culture.

#### These events include:

- 2020 Chinese Art Colleges Traditional Chamber Music Summit
- Cantonese Music Symposium
- Radio Television Hong Kong The Works
- 3rd Nanyang International Music Competition 2021 Ensemble Professional – Gold Award
- **Charity Concerts**
- Cantonese Music Lab productions
- Chinese Music Concert "A Day of Cantonese Music"



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#### **Singapore National Youth Chinese Orchestra**

The Singapore National Youth Chinese Orchestra (SNYCO) is an orchestra organised under the Ministry of Education's (MOE) National Project of Excellence (NPOE). Members of the orchestra come from a diverse range of backgrounds and have all been selected through a rigorous process. Every year, recruitment is open to tertiary and arts institutions, and also mainstream primary and secondary schools. In the 2020 Singapore Chinese Music Competition, 17 musicians from SNYCO won 1 Solo Grand Category, 1 Audience Choice Award, 6 First Prizes, 5 Second Prizes and 4 Third Prizes. From its inception, SNYCO holds 3 major ticketed concerts annually and since 2017, it has taken the additional step of performing in outreach and educational concerts in neighbourhood schools, the heartlands and communities. Not only do these concerts give the musicians more performance opportunities and stage experience, they also help to promote Chinese music to the communities.

To date, SNYCO has nurtured numerous outstanding musicians, and among them, seven have successfully joined the Singapore Chinese Orchestra (SCO), establishing themselves as professional full-time musicians. Besides becoming professional musicians and distinguished members of the Singapore Chinese music fraternity, many other SNYCO members have also moved on to become respected professionals in their respective fields, making innumerable contributions to both the Singapore arts scene and various corporations and institutions.

Under the leadership of Music Director Quek Ling Kiong and Associate Conductor Moses Gay, SNYCO seeks to nurture aspiring youths to be the future pillars of Singapore's Chinese music scene. Currently, there are over 90 members in SNYCO between the ages of 10 and 26 who receive professional tutelage under the guidance of 13 SCO musicians, representing more than 40 schools in Singapore.



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#### The Purple Symphony

The Purple Symphony, facilitated by the Central Singapore Community Development Council, debuted in 2015. It is Singapore's largest inclusive orchestra comprising musicians with and without disabilities.

The more than 100-member orchestra consists of the following key musical sections: Percussion, Strings (Plucked and Bowed), Winds, and a special Choir.

The Purple Symphony is also an avenue for musicians to learn and share music with one another, support inclusion, celebrate their abilities, and serve the community as one.

Ding Yi Music Company - Download Link for Media Use: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/s3ajdrmvq9wf45m/AABkgt2bcVki37OonQszISI8a?dl=0