# Press Release 新闻稿

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For Immediate Release

#### A Very Hare-py Chinese New Year from Ding Yi Music Company!

Kickstart the year of the Rabbit with our first outdoor concert of 2023 featuring local busker Jeff Ng

**Singapore, 20 January 2023** – Celebrate new beginnings this spring by ushering in the year of the Rabbit with Ding Yi Music Company's *Go Local! Happy Chinese New Year 2023* concert featuring works by local composers to showcase Singapore's rich and diverse arts and culture.

Held on 5 February 2023 (Sunday), 6pm at Singapore Botanic Gardens' Shaw Foundation Symphony Stage, this is Ding Yi Music Company's first outdoor concert organised as part of the Arts@SBG *NAC-ExxonMobil Concert in the Gardens* series since the pandemic.



Left to Right: Soh Swee Kiat (*Sheng*), Dedric Wong (Resident Conductor), Jeff Ng (Vocals), Tan Jie Qing (*Yangqin*), Fred Chan (*Gaohu/Erhu*)

Helmed by Ding Yi Music Company Resident Conductor Dedric Wong, this concert will include special appearances by local busker and performer Jeff Ng, as he serenades the crowd with auspicious tunes to celebrate the coming of the new year. This is Jeff's first ever collaboration and performance with a Chinese chamber ensemble.



Left to Right: Ng Hsien Han (Dizi), Jacky Ng (Suona)

Dizi and Suona musicians Ng Hsien Han and Jacky Ng will present two solo pieces titled Spring Comes to Xiang River and a specially rearranged version of famous pop song, Do You Know I Am Waiting For You?. Experience the festive spirit through specially rearranged medleys of your familiar Chinese New Year and pop songs, with the likes of Spring Blossoms, God of Fortune Wishes a Prosperous New Year, A Night in Beijing, JJ Lin Medley and many more.

This concert is part of the Arts@SBG NAC-ExxonMobil Concert in the Gardens series. Singapore Botanic Gardens is a part of the National Arts Council's Arts and Culture Nodes Network. Admission is free.

#### **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 <a href="https://www.dingyimusic.com">www.dingyimusic.com</a>.

#### **Media Contact**

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Please download the high-resolution version <a href="here">here</a>.

#### **Image**

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#### Write-Up

#### Wong De Li Dedric, Conductor

Wong De Li, Dedric aspired to be a conductor in his teen years, and his interest was ignited again by the renowned Chinese music educator and Singapore Cultural Medallion recipient Dr Tay Teow Kiat. With his master's degree in orchestral conducting at the China Conservatory of Music in Beijing, under the tutelage of renowned Professor Yang Youqing and guidance from conducting maestro and Music Director of Singapore Chinese Orchestra (SCO) Tsung Yeh, he aims to push Ding Yi up to new heights of artistic excellence and to develop a unique Singaporean musical direction.

In 2013, Wong was selected to participate in the Conducting Masterclass by renowned conducting maestros Prof Zhang Guoyong and Qu Chunquan, organised by the Taipei Chinese Orchestra. While in 2015, he was again selected to attend the Conducting Workshop by Tsung Yeh, organised by SCO.

As a 2014 National Arts Council (NAC) Arts Scholarship recipient and a two-time recipient of the Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan Arts and Cultural Bursary in 2004 and 2006, he has performed in many countries such as China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, the United Kingdom, the Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia and Cambodia.

In 2016, Wong staged his conducting recital with the China Conservatory of Music Middle School Youth Chinese Orchestra with reputable conductor Gu Guanren. In the same year, he assumed the conductor role for the Cultural Symphony Orchestra and was also featured as an outstanding NAC scholar in the 2016 Straits Times Scholars Choice.

#### Jeff Ng, Vocals



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A homegrown singer-songwriter, Jeff brings renditions of MandoPop hits with his soulful voice. He also released an independent solo EP in 2018, where he composed and sang 3 of his original songs. Over the years, Jeff has emerged champion in various singing competitions, held multiple music showcases and even staged a sold-out ticketed mini concert. Most recently, Jeff attracted crowds in the thousands for his busking act at the open space outside The Cathay.



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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 musicians, 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 is 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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