## Press Release 新闻稿

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For Immediate Release

# Ding Yi Music Company's 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Resounding A trilogy of our beginning, journey and future

**Singapore, 27 October 2022** – Ding Yi Music Company presents our 15<sup>th</sup> year milestone production – *Resounding*, a trilogy concert which tells the story of Ding Yi's beginnings, journey, and future. Integrating technology and immersive soundscape, the concert will showcase the limitless possibilities the ensemble can offer.

Resounding will be held on 5 November 2022 (Saturday), 7.30pm and 6 November 2022 (Sunday), 3.30pm at the Esplanade Recital Studio. This programme is part of Ding Yi's 2022 celebratory concerts as we celebrate our 15<sup>th</sup> year anniversary, *Together with You*. Led by Principal Guest Conductor Quek Ling Kiong and Assistant Conductor Wong De Li Dedric, repertoires include new commissioned works by renowned composers Zhou Long and Wang Jian Min and Ding Yi's Composer-in-Residence Jon Lin Chua.



Using audio-reactive visual technology by dynamic duo Spang & Lei, audience can look forward to a stunning display interacting with Ding Yi's signature Chinese chamber music live on stage to create an immersive audio and visual feast.

Two renowned composers Zhou Long and Wang Jian Min are commissioned with their works titled *Four Seasons* and *Glory* respectively. Both composers have been significant in Ding Yi's journey since its beginning as they have personally witnessed the growth of the ensemble over the years. *Four Seasons* is inspired by the four Tang Song poems whereas renowned composer *Glory* is a testament to Ding Yi's steadfast commitment, contribution, and glorious achievements in the international Chinese chamber music scene.

This special anniversary concert also features Ding Yi Composer-in-Residence appointed earlier this year, Jon Lin Chua. "While composing 15: An Era, I really wanted to write a piece specially dedicated to this ensemble and the significance of this occasion. Hence in this piece, there are various illusions to the number 15, from the use of 15 parts in the ensemble (with the audience playing the 15<sup>th</sup> part) to the use of the motif of the perfect fifth (signifying the numerals 1 and 5 in terms of scale degrees), among other symbols within the piece such as the 15-note main theme and various rhythmic/metrical manipulations. I also wanted to write a piece showcasing each member of the ensemble, because a chamber ensemble, unlike an orchestra, allows ample space for each individual musician to shine, and that is an aspect of music-making which is very much characteristic of Ding Yi", Jon Lin shared.

To further commemorate the occasion, for the first time in Singapore, Ding Yi will launch news on 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.

Tickets for *Resounding* is available for public sales at \$35 (excluding booking fees) on <u>SISTIC</u>. PAssion Card, SAFRA and OCBC card members enjoy a 15% discount. Terms and conditions apply.

#### **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>.

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#### **Image**



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#### Write-Up

#### **Quek Ling Kiong, 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.

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*.

### Wong De Li Dedric, Conductor



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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.

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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. Currently the composer-in-residence of the Ding Yi Music Company as well as the Toronto Chinese Orchestra, she has had works premiered and performed in numerous concerts and festivals in the United States, Singapore, Canada, South Korea, China, Taiwan, and Malaysia, also with groups such as the MusicaNova 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.

Recent composition awards also include the Outstanding Works Award on the 2021 Dunhuang Award, and the First Prize (large ensemble category) as well as the Young Singaporean Composer award on the 3rd Singapore International Composition Competition for Chinese Chamber Music, "Composium 2018," organised by the Ding Yi Music Company (Singapore). 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 also a part-time lecturer at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music.



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### **Zhou Long, Composer**

Zhou Long is internationally recognized for creating a unique body of music that brings together the aesthetic concepts and musical elements of East and West. Winner of the 2011 Pulitzer Prize for his first opera, Madame White Snake, Dr. Zhou also received the American Academy of Arts and Letters Award, the 2012-2013 Elise Stoeger Prize from Lincoln Center Chamber Music Society. He has been two-time recipient of commissions from the Koussevitzky, Fromm Music Foundations, Meet the Composer, Chamber Music America, and the New York State Council on the Arts. He has received fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Guggenheim and Rockefeller Foundations, and the New York Foundation for the Arts. In 2015, Zhou Long and Chen Yi both nominated the 58<sup>th</sup> Grammy Award.

Born on July 8, 1953, in Beijing. Zhou Long enrolled in the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing in 1977. Following graduation in 1983, he was appointed composer-in-residence with the China Broadcasting Symphony. He travelled to the United States in 1985 under a fellowship to attend Columbia University, where he studied with Chou Wen-Chung, Davidovsky and Edwards, receiving a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in 1993. Dr. Zhou is currently Distinguished Professor of Music at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music and Dance.

Recently, he has completed Tsingtao Overture, which awarded China National Arts Fund; Beijing Rhyme-ASymphonic Suite, commissioned by the Beijing Symphony Orchestra, a quartet co-commissioned by the Wigmore Hall and Lincoln Center, and his first piano concerto Postures co-commissioned by the BBC Proms and Singapore Symphony. In 2013, Zhou Long has composed a whole evening symphonic epic 'Nine Odes' on poems by Qu Yaun for four solo vocalists and orchestra, commissioned by the Beijing Music Festival. Zhou's music of all genres has been widely performed and recorded and published by the Oxford University Press.



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#### Wang Jian Min, Composer

Wang Jian Min is a composer, professor, and doctoral supervisor of Shanghai Conservatory of Music. Currently, Dr Wang is the vice president of China Nationalities Orchestra Society and has served many esteemed positions including the dean of Nanjing University of the Arts, the Executive Vice President of a high school attached to Shanghai Conservatory of music and head of the department of folk music at Shanghai Conservatory of music.

Wang has composed a wide genre of music and his works has won countless of awards from various competitions. Some of his renowned pieces; 《二胡狂想曲》系列、《幻想曲》、《枫桥夜泊》has gained a wide reputation internationally, and has been performed in many music competitions, published in music libraries, and included in music academics.

With Wang's skilled and extensive knowledge in music, he has travelled to Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France, Japan, Singapore, Hong Kong, Macao, Taiwan and many more countries and regions to conduct lectures, participate in concerts and premier his repertories. Additionally, he has also served as a judge to many prestigious competitions, such as the Golden Bell Awards, CCTV Folk Music Competition and more.

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