

Press Release 新闻稿

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For Immediate Release

Ding Yi Music Company Unveils 2025/26 Season, Championing Musical Storytelling and Cultural Discovery

The new season embraces multidisciplinary collaborations, cultural preservation, and sustainability

Singapore, 27 February 2025 – Ding Yi Music Company proudly announces its highly anticipated 2025/26 concert season, a visionary lineup that fuses tradition with cutting-edge artistry. Committed to shaping the future of Chinese chamber music, the upcoming season celebrates Singapore’s 60th year by featuring Cultural Medallion and Young Artist Award recipients in every concert—paying tribute to the nation’s most distinguished and emerging talents.

“Our 2025/26 season reflects Ding Yi’s unwavering commitment to artistic growth and collaboration, both locally and internationally,” says Elvia Goh, General Manager of Ding Yi. “Working with artists and creatives who have received the highest arts accolades of the nation is our honour and pleasure. We continue to explore new frontiers in Chinese chamber music through cultural discovery and musical storytelling. We hope these performances will inspire, challenge, and resonate deeply with our audiences.”



Ding Yi continues its deep dive into Singapore’s cultural landscape with one of the season’s most significant milestones—the culminating edition of the *Disappearing...* series. Having previously explored fading traditions such as the origins of dragon kilns, joss stick making and traditional

Teochew embroidery, this final edition brings the vanishing crafts of lion dance head-making, rattan weaving and songkok-making directly onto the concert stage. Featuring Singaporean composers Eric Watson (Cultural Medallion recipient) and Tan Yu Ting, the multi-disciplinary concert interweaves Chinese chamber music with the spirit and cultural depth of their artisans, brought to life through multimedia presentations.

Another highlight of the season is the return of *ECOncert*, where music meets environmental consciousness. This third edition will explore Singapore's natural landscapes, featuring *Secondary Forest*, a striking work by acclaimed Young Artist Award recipient Robert Zhao Renhui, originally showcased at the Singapore Pavilion at Biennale Arte 2024. Complemented by compositions from Yii Kah Hoe and performed on innovative instruments remade with sustainable materials by Ding Yi musicians, *ECOncert* reimagines the relationship between music, nature, and sustainability.

Beyond the concert hall, Ding Yi deepens its engagement with young international artists such as composers Hannah Hsieh from Taiwan, Yii Kah Hoe from Malaysia, French-born, Taiwan-based sound artist Yannick Dauby, *banhu* virtuoso Hu Yu from China, as well as Taiwan-born, Berlin-based violinist William Wei, amongst others.

Weaving cultural connections beyond Singapore, Ding Yi is also proud to be the Resident Ensemble of the Thailand International Composition Festival at Mahidol College of Music. This milestone marks a significant step in the ensemble's regional presence, showcasing Singaporean compositions while engaging with Thai works in a meaningful exchange of musical ideas.

Additionally, the ensemble continues its digital expansion, bringing Singaporean and Chinese chamber music to global audiences via recordings on platforms like Spotify. As part of this initiative, the ensemble will be recording and sharing works by internationally renowned composers and artists such as Chen Yi, Wang Chenwei and William Wei. Through these efforts, Ding Yi is not only preserving tradition but also shaping the chamber classics of tomorrow, ensuring that the genre continues to evolve and resonate with future generations.

A Season of Musical Storytelling and Cultural Discovery

The new 2025/26 season reflects Ding Yi's commitment to using Chinese chamber music to tell meaningful stories—whether it's preserving vanishing crafts, exploring environmental themes, or fostering cross-cultural collaborations. It unfolds across two distinctive categories: “Uniquely Ding Yi” and “Ding Yi Chamber Classics”. In the realm of “Uniquely Ding Yi”, the ensemble takes centre stage in pioneering, inventive productions. Collaborating with various art forms, elements, and inspirations, Ding Yi showcases its boundless creativity, virtuosity, and versatility. Conversely, “Ding Yi Chamber Classics” spotlights the ensemble's pivotal role in championing the finest works within the realm of Chinese chamber music.

Season Highlights

Traversing (14 March 2025) – The season kicks off with a powerful opening concert featuring commissioned works by renowned composers, including Cultural Medallion recipient Law Wai Lun and Young Artist Award recipient Wang Chenwei. The concert also welcomes internationally acclaimed violinist William Wei, a laureate of the Queen Elisabeth International Violin Competition, making his

Singapore debut, performing on the 1722 'Joachim, Elman' Stradivari violin, generously loaned by the Chimei Culture Foundation. Wei, who has performed with world-renowned orchestras such as the London Philharmonic Orchestra, Niederrheinische Sinfoniker, and Belgian National Orchestra under esteemed conductors like Eliahu Inbal, Marin Alsop, and Edward Gardner, brings his exceptional artistry to this highly anticipated season-opening concert.

Earth: Unheard (20 April 2025) – Audiences will experience an exquisite showcase of chamber music at its most intimate, highlighted by the Singapore premiere of *Barong Dance*, a mesmerising sheng solo. The concert is curated by Ding Yi concertmaster Fred Chan Hong Wei and features banhu virtuoso Hu Yu from Beijing's Central Conservatory as Artistic Advisor, bringing a rare and profound musical dialogue to the stage.

Disappearing Series: The Last Episode (6 & 7 June 2025) – A poignant tribute to vanishing cultural traditions, this immersive concert weaves Chinese chamber music with the artistry of three traditional crafts—lion dance head-making, rattan weaving, and Malay songkok crafting—each carrying generations of heritage and meaning. These time-honoured skills embody the spirit and cultural depth of their artisans, brought to life through multimedia presentations. Audiences will witness master artisan Henry Ng 黄宏强 bring the intricate art of lion dance head-making to life, while rattan weaving expert Chen Foon Kee 曾焕枢 showcases his craftsmanship, and the rhythmic grace and historical significance of Malay craftsmanship.

ECOncert (15 November 2025) – Returning for its third edition, this visionary concert seamlessly blends art and sustainability, featuring instruments crafted from recycled materials. The performance includes compositions by Yii Kah Hoe and works by Biennale-featured artist Robert Zhao Ren Hui, exploring the intersection of ecology and music.



The season-opening concert *Traversing* will be held on 14 March 2025 (Friday), 7.30pm at the Victoria Concert Hall. Tickets are available for public sales at \$45 and \$35 (excluding booking fees) on [SISTIC here](#). Concession tickets at S\$20 for students, senior citizens (aged 60 years and above) & NSFs. PAssion, SAFRA and OCBC Arts Platinum Card members enjoy a 10% 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 www.dingyimusic.com.

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Concert Poster Artwork



Please download the high-resolution version [here](#).

Featured Artists' Biographies

High-Res Photo Link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/hb5h1281ue6dt2971n8zt/ANFOMLdsJiSAINVMV-TvaaM?rlkey=qggdxa29s0x5wxofkmjyx3yuv&st=b2k1wf2q&dl=0>

Image	Write up
	<p>Tsung Yeh, Chief Artistic Mentor</p> <p>Tsung Yeh joined the Singapore Chinese Orchestra (SCO) as Music Director in January 2002. Under his direction, SCO expanded its repertoire with innovative works such as Marco Polo and Princess Blue — A Symphonic Epic, Instant is a Millennium— A Musical Conversation with Tan Swie Hian, The Grandeur of Tang, Thunderstorm, Admiral of the Seven Seas and Awakening. In 2013, Tsung Yeh was awarded the Cultural Medallion, the highest accolade in the arts in Singapore. He is also the advisor to the Singapore Youth Chinese Orchestra.</p> <p>As Music Director of Singapore’s National Day Parade 2007, Tsung Yeh conceptualised a symphonic music structure with supreme, textured virtuosity that incensed the national pride in the air. His illustrious career spans beyond Singapore; he served as the Music Director of the South Bend Symphony Orchestra (SBSO) in the United States from 1988 to 2016 and holds the esteemed title of Conductor Laureate by the SBSO Association. His international collaborations include renowned orchestras from San Francisco, Tokyo, Shanghai, and more.</p> <p>In the realm of education, Tsung Yeh is a distinguished professor at the China Conservatory of Music and a guest professor at the Shanghai Conservatory of Music. He imparts his expertise through conducting workshops and masterclasses globally, with recent appointments including Principal Guest Conductor of the China National Traditional Orchestra and roles in prestigious institutions like the Jiangsu Centre for the Performing Arts and the He Luting Chinese Music Research Institute of the Shanghai Conservatory of Music.</p>



Wong De Li, Dedric, Resident Conductor

Wong De Li, Dedric is the Resident Conductor of Ding Yi Music Company and Music Director of the Asian Cultural Symphony Orchestra and Nanyang Collective. A recipient of the National Arts Council Arts Scholarship in 2014, he was featured in Straits Times Scholars' Choice in 2016 and served as a panelist for Singapore's Youth Action Plan in 2019.

Wong holds a Master's in Orchestral Conducting from the China Conservatory of Music, where he studied under Professor Yang You Qing and Maestro Tsung Yeh. He graduated from the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts in 2007, majoring in Suona Performance, with conducting mentorship from Dr. Tay Teow Kiat.

He has guest conducted various ensembles, including the Singapore Chinese Orchestra, China Sze Chuan Tian Zi Ensemble, and Suzhou Symphony Orchestra, and has represented Singapore at international arts festivals in countries like China, the UK, and Australia. He currently holds key roles with the Singapore Chinese Music Federation, Suona and Guan Society of Singapore, and School of the Arts Chinese Chamber Ensemble.



Chua Yew Kok, Pipa

Chua Yew Kok is a pipa musician in Ding Yi Music Company, which he co-founded in 2007.

One of his most savoured memories is of the fledgling ensemble clinching the first prize at the 2008 National Chinese Music Competition. Ding Yi went on to receive top honours at the prestigious Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod held in Wales in 2009, and Silver at the Shanghai Spring International Music Festival in 2011.

An expressive, highly versatile performer, Chua has forged an impressive career as an award-winning pipa instrumentalist and an educator. He picked up the pipa at the age of 14 and went on to give standout solo performances in Singapore and internationally, with notable ensembles and orchestras such as the Singapore Chinese Orchestra.

Among various international awards, Chua won first prize at the Singapore 1998 National Chinese Music Competition in the pipa open category. He was also accorded the National Arts Council Young Artist Award in 2013, Singapore's highest award for arts practitioners aged 35 and below.

	<p>He earned a Bachelor of Music (Honours) from the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts in 2006, and a master's degree in arts from the China Conservatory of Music in Beijing.</p> <p>Committed to preserving Singapore's traditional Chinese music and its legacy for future generations, Chua teaches pipa at various schools as a sectional instructor and serves on the secretariat of Singapore Pipa Society.</p>
	<p>William Wei, Violin</p> <p>Laureate of the 2015 Queen Elisabeth International Violin Competition, William Wei is recognized as one of Taiwan's most promising violinists. Known for his natural musicality and refined sensibility, Wei's performances exude a vibrant dynamism.</p> <p>Wei's remarkable mental resilience and adaptability have seen him step in for several last-minute performances, most notably with Eliahu Inbal and the Taipei Symphony Orchestra, stepped in by Baiba Skride and Shlomo Mintz. Wei also made his much-anticipated debut with the London Philharmonic, led by Edward Gardner, performing concertos by Sibelius and Saint-Saëns.</p> <p>Wei's 2025 season begins with US duo recital tour with Evan Wong. He will also return to the Weiwuying, Taiwan to play Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto with conductor Jerry Hou and Eva Symphony Orchestra. Wei will also take his first step into Singapore with Ding Yi Music Company. Wei will also give master classes at the Talent Music Summer Course and Festival in Brescia, the Casalmaggiore Music Festival in Italy.</p> <p>As both a soloist and chamber musician, Wei has collaborated with renowned conductors and artists such as Eliahu Inbal, Marin Alsop, Edward Gardner, Wen-pin Chien, Shao-Chia Lü, Eiji Oue, Gil Shaham, Nai-Yuan Hu, Pei-Yao Wang, Sung-Won Yang, Orion Weiss, and Sunwook Kim. His orchestral appearances include performances with the Belgian National Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra, London Philharmonic, Niederrheinische Sinfoniker, Sejong Soloists, Taiwan Philharmonic, Taipei Symphony Orchestra, National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra, and the Boston Longwood Symphony. He has performed in prestigious venues such as Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, Jordan Hall, the Henry Le Boeuf Hall in Brussels, Gasteig Concert Hall in Munich, Seoul Arts Center, the Stradivari Museum in Cremona, and Taiwan National Concert Hall and Weiwuying Concert Hall.</p> <p>Wei gained international attention as the joint gold medallist of the 2013 Thomas & Evon Cooper International Competition. He later received the Laureate at the Queen Elisabeth International Violin</p>

	Competition in 2015 and was awarded the Salon de Virtuosi career grant in 2018. He currently performs on the 1722 Stradivari "Joachim-Elman" violin, generously on loan from the Chimei Cultural Foundation in Taiwan.
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Ding Yi Music Company Information and Materials

Ding Yi Music Company Information – Download link for media use:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/zbxyi14itxrttsrp5kwb5/h?rlkey=mmtc9zoeizwi4gx140501o3bi&dl=0>