

Press Release 新闻稿

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For Immediate Release

Battle Scores – Where Wuxia Meets Music

Bringing Chinese chamber music, shadow puppetry, and martial arts to life

Singapore, 18 September 2025 – This October, Ding Yi Music Company, in collaboration with the Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre (SCCC), unveils *Battle Scores* — an action-packed concert that transforms the stage into a world where Chinese chamber music and *wuxia* collide.

Audiences will be transported into a fantastical *jianghu* universe where five iconic Chinese instruments — the huqin (Chin Yen Choong), dizi, guzheng (Yvonne Tay), percussion (Low Yik Hang), and suona (Jacky Ng) — embody the five great martial arts sects: Shaolin, Wudang, Emei, Kunlun, and Huashan. Through electrifying clashes of timbre and dramatic musical duels, the instruments become avatars in a sweeping saga of ambition, rivalry, and reflection.



For the first time, Ding Yi weaves shadow puppetry into its performance, brought to life by actors Gordon Choy and Vanessa Toh, who animate the rivalries and alliances of the martial arts world. Paired with wushu-inspired stage movements and the vitality of live Chinese chamber music, *Battle Scores* boldly unites traditional art forms and cultures rarely experienced together, creating a groundbreaking production that is both visually and musically arresting.

Helmed by acclaimed theatremaker Chong Tze Chien, Festival Director of the *Singapore International Festival of Arts* and known for his visually striking and emotionally-charged works, the concert extends

his creative partnership with Ding Yi following earlier collaborations such as *The Zodiac Race* (part of Esplanade's *Feed Your Imagination* series). A full-length original composition by Taiwanese composer Hannah Hsieh anchors the work, written specially to capture the energy, tension, and lyricism of this martial-arts-inspired musical realm.

谁与争峰 BATTLE SCORES

SINGAPORE 新加坡华

Wong De Li, Dedric
黄德勋
Conductor
指挥

Chong Tze Chien
张子健
Director / Playwright
导演 / 编剧

Hannah Hsieh
谢惠如
Composer
作曲家

Gordon Choy
徐囡天
Actor
演员

Vanessa Toh
杜妍霖
Actor
演员

Chin Yen Choong
陈彦聪
Huqin
胡琴

Low Yik Hang
刘峰华
Percussion
打击乐

Jacky Ng
黄永和
Suona
唢呐

Yvonne Tay
郑怡雯
Guzheng
古筝

TICKET PRICE 票价
\$35

Card Discounts
HomeTeamNS, merewards
and SAFRA Members
(06 Sep - 18 Oct)
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Produced by 制作
新加坡华 SCCC

“By merging Chinese chamber music with *wuxia*, we’re drawing from the very essence of Chinese culture — celebrating and reimagining it for today’s audiences,” said Wong De Li, Dedric, Resident Conductor of Ding Yi Music Company. “Each instrument becomes a martial art, each musical phrase a clash or alliance, reminding us that in any battle, victory or defeat matters less than the human cost of conflict. Working with director Chong Tze Chien and composer Hannah Hsieh, we’ve created something both theatrical and deeply musical — a vivid celebration of the enduring spirit of Chinese culture.”

Battle Scores will be held on 18 October 2025 (Saturday), 3.30pm and 7.30pm at SCCC Auditorium, Level 9. Tickets are available for public sales at \$35 (excluding booking fees) on SISTIC [here](#) and is eligible for purchase using SG Culture Pass credits. SAFRA, HomeTeamNS and merewards members enjoy a 20% discount. Terms and conditions apply.

Annexes

- A. Concert Poster Artwork
- B. Featured Artists' Biographies
- C. Ding Yi Music Company Information and Materials

About Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre (SCCC)

The Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre collaborates with arts and cultural groups and community partners to promote and develop local Chinese culture. Through engaging and accessible content, we hope to nurture greater appreciation of our multi-cultural identity and a stronger sense of belonging.

Opened by then-Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong on 19 May 2017, our centre in the heart of the city welcomes everyone to enjoy exhibitions, fairs, performances, seminars, talks, workshops and other cultural activities throughout the year.

Website: www.singaporeccc.org.sg

Facebook: www.facebook.com/singaporechineseculturalcentre

Instagram: www.instagram.com/singaporechineseculturalcentre

Wechat ID: sccc_sg

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/5pgs7k3bvapmasdugpub3/AlaZl4gA0xMcSVn87xqXY_c?rlkey=bv5z1b14yen3jtiv8ut3zujia&st=gp3iss7l&dl=0

Image	Write up
	<p>Wong De Li, Dedric, Conductor</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
	<p>Chong Tze Chien, Director</p> <p>Chong Tze Chien is a playwright, director, and educator, currently Festival Director of the Singapore International Festival of Arts (The Arts House Limited), Principal Tutor of NUS Stage at the National University of Singapore, and a Core Team Member of The Finger Players.</p> <p>He received the Young Artist Award from Singapore's National Arts Council in 2007 and has won the Singapore Dramatist Award as well as multiple Straits Times Life! Theatre Awards. His plays have been staged in Singapore, the UK, Budapest, Taiwan, and Japan, and are published in three collections by The Necessary Stage, Epigram Books, and The Finger Players. Notable works include <i>Charged</i>—named by <i>The Business Times</i> as one of Singapore's top ten plays of all time—<i>PIE</i>, <i>Turn by Turn We Turn</i>, <i>Poop!</i>, <i>Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea</i>, and <i>The Book of Living and Dying</i>. He also writes for film and television across local channels.</p>

	<p>Tze Chien's national-level projects include Creative Director of Singapore Pools' Chingay floats (2007, 2008), Co-conceptualist and Writer for NDP 2016, Creative Director of <i>Island Adventures</i> for the National Museum's Children's Season 2012, Artistic Director of The Arts House's 10th Anniversary in 2014, and Co-curator of <i>The Studios: Fifty</i> at Esplanade in 2015.</p> <p>As an educator, he has conducted workshops and masterclasses since 2001 at institutions such as NUS, LASALLE, NAFA, and NTU/NIE. He serves on the Curriculum Development Assessment Committee of NAFA and is a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of Arts (UAS). Additionally, he has been a long-time SYF Drama Adjudicator and Creative Director of SYF Concert 2019. In 2018, he conducted MOE-commissioned devising workshops that resulted in scripts that were later incorporated into the OPAL teaching and learning portal.</p>
	<p>Hannah Hsieh, Composer</p> <p>Hannah Hsieh is a composer from Taiwan, holding an MA in music scoring & sound design from the Academy of Art University in San Francisco, CA.. Currently an adjunct lecturer in the department of ethnomusicology at Nanhua University (Chiayi, Taiwan).</p> <p>Her music blends rich timbral colours with lyrical melodic lines to create evocative, narrative soundscapes. Fusing both Eastern and Western musical languages, she crafts a style that is at once poetic and powerful. Her works, spanning Chinese orchestras, cross-disciplinary theatre music, large-scale productions, and sonic branding, are recognized for their emotional depth and expressive resonance.</p> <p>In recent years, she has cooperated with the well-known professional musical ensemble and company such as the Taipei Chinese Orchestra, National Chinese Orchestra Taiwan, Hsinchu City Youth Chinese Orchestra, Kaohsiung Chinese Orchestra, Chiayi Traditional Orchestra, Tainan Chinese Orchestra, Xiamen Haicang Cross-Strait Youth Chinese Orchestra, Singapore National Youth Chinese Orchestra, Ding Yi Music Company (Singapore), Gogoro Smartscooter, etc.</p>
	<p>Chin Yen Choong, huqin</p> <p>Chin Yen Choong co-founded Ding Yi Music Company in 2007 and is now a huqin musician with the ensemble. Chin's first foray into the world of Chinese instrumental music was in 1988, with the pipa. He picked up the erhu in 1999 and acquired exceptional proficiency under the tutelage of Singapore Chinese Orchestra gaohu musician Xu Wenjing.</p>



His talents were showcased in 2000 as the erhu and banhu soloist in local and international stagings with the Keat Hong Chinese Orchestra. He was second runner-up in the erhu open category in the 2002 National Chinese Music Competition organised by the National Arts Council.

In 2003, he represented Singapore at the International Jiangnan Sizhu conference in Taicang, China, and in 2004 again represented the Republic at the annual ASEAN Youth Camp in Laos.

In 2004, Chin attained a Diploma in Erhu Performance, awarded by Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA) and the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing, China. He was awarded the Arts and Cultural Scholarship by the Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan for his diploma studies.

An NAC Arts Bursary recipient, he was in the inaugural cohort of Chinese instrumentalists that attained a Bachelor of Music (Honours) at NAFA.

Chin is also the conductor and instructor of various school Chinese orchestras in Singapore. He studied orchestral conducting under the tutelage of Eric James Watson, Dr Robert Casteels and renowned Hong Kong conductor Wai Sing Fat, and gleaned further finesse through masterclasses by renowned conductors Yan Huichang, Hu Bingxu and Xia Fei Yun.




Low Yik Hang, percussion

Low Yik Hang has been a percussionist with Ding Yi Music Company since 2009. He also collaborates with the group A Bigger Bang Percussion under conductor Quek Ling Kiong.

A versatile musician, he is skilled in Chinese and Western percussion, as well as the traditional Middle Eastern darbuka, a goblet drum.

He was awarded the National Arts Council's Overseas Scholarship in 2011 and the China National Government Scholarship in 2015. In 2017, he earned his Master's Degree in Chinese Percussion at the Central Conservatory of Music, mentored by eminent Chinese percussion professor Wang Jian Hua. In 2023, he was awarded a Master's Degree in Music, majoring in Percussion from the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, National University of Singapore.

Low's passion for percussion developed during his secondary school years, under the influence of former Singapore Chinese Orchestra

	<p>(SCO) gaohu and percussion musician Low Cher Yong. He further refined his Chinese percussion skills under the mentorship of esteemed conductor Quek Ling Kiong and SCO percussionist Ngho Kheng Seng, and learnt the kanjira from Sri D Rajagopal.</p> <p>In 2014, Low received the prestigious NAC Capability Development Grant, which enabled him to pursue Middle Eastern rhythm training under the guidance of world-renowned darbuka master Misirli Ahmet, at the Misirli Ahmet Rhythm Academy in Istanbul, Turkey.</p> <p>Low cites his former teachers Wang Jian Hua and Misirli Ahmet, as well as renowned Indian tabla player and composer Zakir Hussain, as his inspirations.</p>
	<p>Jacky Ng, suona</p> <p>Jacky Ng's musical journey began at 13, when he learned the suona under the guidance of Singapore Chinese Orchestra musician Liu Jiang. With his mentor's support, he joined the Singapore National Youth Chinese Orchestra in 2012, and eventually became its principal Suona and Guan musician in 2017. His time with the youth orchestra allowed him to perform overseas in Beijing, Shanghai and Taiwan, among other places.</p> <p>Ng graduated from Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts – University of the Arts Singapore with a Bachelor of Music (Honours). During his studies, he was the principal Suona and Guan musician of the NAFA Chinese Orchestra. To date, his 2017 performance of the concerto 霸王别姬 (Farewell My Concubine) with the orchestra remains the most memorable piece he has worked on.</p> <p>In 2017, he clinched the second prize in the Suona open category at the National Chinese Music Competition, organised by the National Arts Council.</p> <p>Ng joined Ding Yi in 2019, and has performed with various esteemed arts groups such as Siong Leng Musical Association, Open Score Project, Nanyang Collective, Asian Cultural Symphony Orchestra, Ah5ive, DJ Wukong and the Reverberance. He is also a guest Suona and Guan musician with the Singapore Chinese Orchestra. With his extensive collaboration and proactive engagement in the music scene, he has been recognised as one of the most versatile musicians in cross-cultural and interdisciplinary performances. Ng is also a CCA instructor in various schools and conducts private teaching in his free time.</p>



Yvonne Tay, guzheng

An award-winning guzheng musician of Ding Yi Music Company since 2012, Yvonne Tay has extensive experience performing internationally and is a passionate educator. A recipient of the prestigious National Arts Council Arts Scholarship (Undergraduate) in 2015, Tay mastered the guzheng under the tutelage of Madam Yin Qun at the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA). She was named Best Graduate as she emerged with a Bachelor of Music (First Class Honours) conferred in 2017 by the Royal College of Music, which invited her to London to stage a solo recital that same year.

Tay was a soloist at the opening ceremony of the Youth Olympic Games 2010, which was televised live globally. She performed a guzheng solo *Wonder Full*, composed by late Cultural Medallion winner Iskandar Mirza Ismail, for the 2011 premiere of the Marina Bay Sands Light and Water Spectacular. Her solo recording was again showcased at the 2014 countdown. In 2021, Tay was invited once again to record for Marina Bay Singapore Countdown 2021: Light Projection Show – Share the Moment, composed Phang Kok Jun.


Under the banner of Ding Yi, Tay staged sold-out joint solo recitals *Proteges of Brilliance* in June 2013, and *Onwards* in April 2018 to critical acclaim.

Her guzheng playing techniques are in the Phoenix Orchestra sample library of traditional Chinese instrumentation and techniques performed by Ding Yi, recorded by Orchestral Tools in 2018. She also performed on the original soundtrack of the Disney movie *Mulan* in 2019. In 2022, she premiered the local symphony orchestra version of *Ru Shi* with the Asian Cultural Symphony Orchestra.

She is an adjunct lecturer with the Singapore Raffles Music College and an instructor with several guzheng ensembles in Singapore, and is frequently invited as a guest lecturer, speaker, and an adjudicator.

She co-founded the award-winning professional guzheng trio *Z3nith Ensemble* in 2014, and in March 2022, Tay staged a multisensory concert of music and gastronomy, *Music Kneads*, as its artistic director and producer.

Tay is the secretary-general of Singapore Qinzheng Association and a member of Singapore Chinese Music Federation Youth Chapter.

 A portrait of Vanessa Toh, a woman with long dark hair, wearing a white sleeveless top, looking directly at the camera.	<p>Vanessa Toh, Actor</p> <p>Vanessa Toh is an actor, educator and theatre maker. She graduated from LASALLE College of the Arts with a first-class BA (Hons) Acting degree (Goldsmiths, University of London) in 2015. Her artistic work spans across theatre, puppetry, movement and dance.</p> <p>Some of her theatrical credits include <i>Transplant</i> (Esplanade Co-Production with The Finger Players x RUDRA), <i>Jun and the Octopus</i>, <i>No Disaster on This Land</i>, <i>Peepbird</i> (The Finger Players), <i>These Brief Encounters</i> (Chowk) and <i>Landscaping A Personal Myth</i>, presented at Odin Teatret (Denmark).</p>
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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>