

Press Release 新闻稿

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For Immediate Release

A First-Ever Collaboration Between Singapore Symphony Orchestra and Ding Yi Music Company *A Vibrant Confluence of Chinese/Asian and Western Music Traditions*

Singapore, 5 December 2025 – The Singapore Symphony Orchestra (SSO) and Ding Yi Music Company come together for the first time in a richly layered musical collaboration that celebrates the meeting of Chinese/Asian and Western musical worlds. This landmark concert invites audiences to experience a sonic tapestry shaped by cross-cultural artistry, contemporary voices, and the shared pursuit of musical innovation.



This special programme features works by leading Singaporean composers Ho Chee Kong and Sulwyn Lok, alongside internationally acclaimed Chinese-American composers Tan Dun and Zhou Long. Through this curated selection, musicians of the SSO and Ding Yi explore elemental connections between traditions, instruments, and sound worlds — offering a thoughtful reflection on how musical cultures converse, transform, and inspire.

A highlight of the evening is the world premiere of *Gathered by the Winds* by Sulwyn Lok, commissioned by the SSO for this collaboration. Known for music that is filled with “plenty of beautiful sounds to savour” (*The Straits Times*), Lok’s evocative and immersive work draws on the imagery of wind as a unifying and ever-shifting force, mirroring the fluid exchange between Eastern and Western musical expressions.

Adding to the night's significance, Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Zhou Long has specially re-adapted his celebrated work *Metal, Stone, Silk and Bamboo* for the combined forces of the SSO and Ding Yi. This new version, crafted uniquely for this partnership, will also receive its world premiere — an honour that marks an important milestone for both ensembles.

Tan Dun's *Eight Colours for String Quartet*, written shortly after his arrival in New York in 1986, reflects his early exploration of Western atonality infused with the timbres, vocalisations, and dramatic gestures of Peking Opera and Chinese ritual music, while Ho Chee Kong's *Shades of Oil Lamps*, inspired by the vivid multicultural tapestry of Singapore, evokes the atmosphere of traditional outdoor storytelling through a richly imaginative blend of Eastern and Western sonorities.

This concert represents an exciting new chapter for Ding Yi Music Company, known for its dedication to contemporary Chinese chamber music and artistic boundary-pushing. "It's our first collaboration with the SSO, and we're thrilled to embark on this partnership," Wong De Li, Dedric, Resident Conductor, shares. "The exchange of ideas, traditions, and creative perspectives has been incredibly inspiring, and we look forward to presenting this meaningful musical journey to audiences."

Kok Tse Wei, SSO Deputy CEO, Programmes & Production shared, "We are excited to collaborate with Ding Yi Music Company for *Elements* as it brings a meaningful intersection of Western and Chinese cultures, international and local composers, and four distinctive works. The SSO Chamber Series also provides a platform for our musicians to express other facets of their musical identities, broadening the range of programmes our concertgoers can connect with and enjoy."

SSO Chamber Series: Elements – SSO x Ding Yi will be held on 11 January 2026 (Sunday), 7.30pm at Victoria Concert Hall. Tickets are available for public sales at \$50, \$40, \$30 (excluding booking fees) on the SSO website [here](#) and is eligible for purchase using SG Culture Pass credits. Terms and conditions apply.

Annexes

- A. Concert Poster Artwork
- B. 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.

About the Singapore Symphony Orchestra

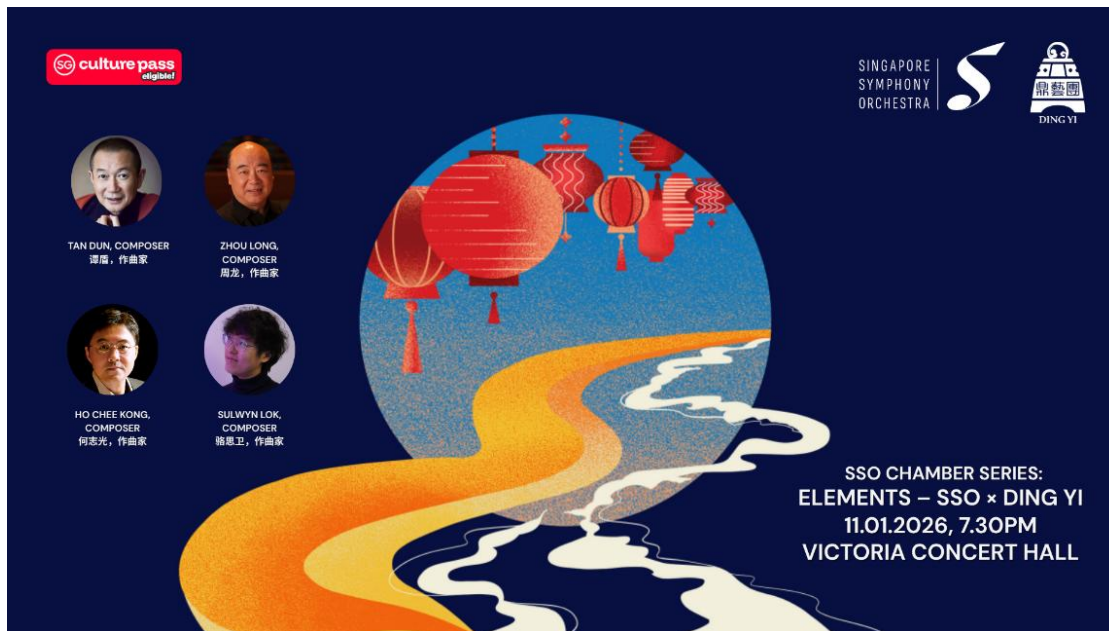
Founded in 1979, the Singapore Symphony Orchestra (SSO) is Singapore's flagship orchestra, touching lives through classical music and providing the heartbeat of the cultural scene. In addition to its subscription series concerts, the SSO is also known for its outdoor and community appearances. The orchestra also presents intimate chamber performances in the SSO Chamber Series and SSO Organ Series, the annual Singapore International Piano Festival (SIPF) and the biennial National Piano and Violin Competition (NPVC) at the Victoria Concert Hall, Home of the SSO. The SSO is part of the Singapore Symphony Group, which also manages the Singapore Symphony Choruses, and the Singapore National Youth Orchestra. The Group's vision is to be a leading arts organisation that engages, inspires and reflects Singapore through musical excellence. Our mission is to create memorable shared experiences with music. Through the SSO and its affiliated performing groups, we spread the love for music, nurture talent and enrich our diverse communities.

The Singapore Symphony Orchestra clinched third place in the prestigious Gramophone Orchestra of the Year Award 2021. In 2022, BBC Music Magazine named the SSO as one of the 21 best orchestras in the world.

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Concert Poster Artwork



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

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>