

Press Release 新闻稿

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For Immediate Release

Composium 2026 Returns with International Submissions from 8 countries and 6 Finalist Works
The fifth edition expands to Thailand and introduces a new East Meets West category for Western String Quartet and Chinese Instruments

Singapore, 5 August 2026 – Ding Yi Music Company presents *Composium 2026*, the 5th Singapore International Composition Competition for Chinese Chamber Music, from 29 to 30 August 2026, in collaboration with Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay and Princess Galyani Vadhana Institute of Music.



First launched in 2012, *Composium* is Ding Yi Music Company's flagship platform for the creation, development and performance of new works for Chinese chamber music ensemble. Over the years, it has encouraged composers in Singapore and abroad to write for Chinese instruments, while contributing to a growing body of contemporary Chinese chamber music repertoire. *Composium 2026* is led by Ding Yi's Chief Artistic Mentor, Tsung Yeh, who makes his debut as Chairman of the Adjudicating Panel.

This year's Open Call received 95 submissions from 8 countries and regions, from composers aged 18 to 58. Entries came from as far as Argentina, Venezuela and Italy, reflecting the growing interest in writing for Chinese instruments.

Following an evaluation by the Preliminary Round Adjudicating Panel, six works have been selected to advance to the Finals. Additionally, Ong Ping Din received the Young Singaporean Composer Award, recognising a promising local voice in contemporary Chinese chamber music.

In line with Ding Yi's season theme, Music Without Borders, *Composium 2026* extends its international exchange through a collaboration with Thailand's Princess Galyani Vadhana Institute of Music. Ding Yi Music Company will conduct workshops and perform adjudicators and finalists' works at the Institute and the Bangkok Art and Culture Centre.

This year also introduces a new *East Meets West* category for Western String Quartet and Chinese instruments, inviting composers to explore fresh possibilities between Chinese and Western instrumental traditions.

"After a five-year break, it is deeply encouraging to see such strong participation in *Composium*, including submissions from new countries. It affirms our belief that Chinese chamber music has the potential to reach wider international audiences," said Wong De Li, Dedric, Resident Conductor of Ding Yi Music Company.

"Through *Composium*, we hope to provide a platform for composers — especially young and emerging voices — to present their works, develop through the process, and contribute to the growing repertoire of Chinese chamber music. By expanding *Composium 2026* to Thailand this year, we hope to broaden the artistic exchange surrounding the competition, build stronger connections with composers and musicians internationally, and take a step towards discovering the classics of tomorrow."

Through *Composium*, Ding Yi Music Company continues to provide a platform for composers to develop and present new works for Chinese chamber ensemble.

OPEN REHEARSALS

Go behind the scenes of *Composium 2026* and witness the finalist composers working directly with Ding Yi Music Company's conductor and musicians.

Through *Composium's* unique open rehearsal format, composers receive feedback, respond to questions, and refine their artistic ideas as their works are brought to life. The open rehearsals forms part of the competition's adjudication process and offers audiences a rare look at the dialogue and collaboration involved in developing new Chinese chamber music.

Chaired by Ding Yi Chief Artistic Mentor Tsung Yeh, the Adjudication Panel comprises Ye Xiao Gang (China), Hao Wei Ya (China), Chan Wing-Wah (Hong Kong, SAR), Narong Prangcharoen (Thailand) and Cultural Medallion recipient Law Wai Lun (Singapore).

Open Rehearsals: Category A Finals

Date: 29 August 2026

Time: 10am – 1pm

Venue: Esplanade Recital Studio

Tickets can be purchased on SISTIC: <https://sistic.com.sg/events/cata0826>

Open Rehearsals: Category B Finals

Date: 30 August 2026

Time: 10am – 1pm

Venue: Esplanade Recital Studio

Tickets can be purchased on SISTIC: <https://sistic.com.sg/events/catb0826>

SYMPOSIUMS

Composium 2026 will feature a series of free symposiums that brings together composers, conductors, performers and educators for a series of conversations on the evolving language of Chinese chamber music.

Centred on dialogue and exchange, the symposiums look beyond the written score to the collaborative process behind new music. Audiences will be able to gain insights on how Chinese chamber music continues to evolve and develop.

All symposiums will be livestreamed and free to watch on Ding Yi's Facebook page, as well as on WeChat platform, Yue Tong Tian Xia for international audiences such as China.

3pm – 3.55pm: More Than a Mini-Orchestra: Does the Chinese Chamber Ensemble Have a Voice of Its Own?

4pm - 4.55pm: Love-Hate Relationships: What Composers and Musicians Really Need from One Another

5pm - 5.55pm: The Chinese Chamber Ensemble on Trial: Does It Have Its Own Voice?

Date: 29 August 2026

Time: 3pm – 6pm

Venue: Esplanade White Room

Admission is free, registration is required. Please register [here](#).

PRIZE PRESENTATION CONCERT

The *Composium 2026* Prize Presentation Concert marks the culmination of the 5th Singapore International Composition Competition for Chinese Chamber Music.

Featuring the seven finalist works, the concert showcases new voices and ideas in contemporary Chinese chamber music. Audiences are invited to experience these world premieres and witness the announcement of this year's prize winners.

Audience members will also get to cast their votes for the Audience Choice Award, recognising the work that resonates most strongly with them.

Date: 30 August 2026

Time: 730pm

Venue: Esplanade Recital Studio

Tickets can be purchased on SISTIC: <https://sistic.com.sg/events/prize0826>

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.

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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>