

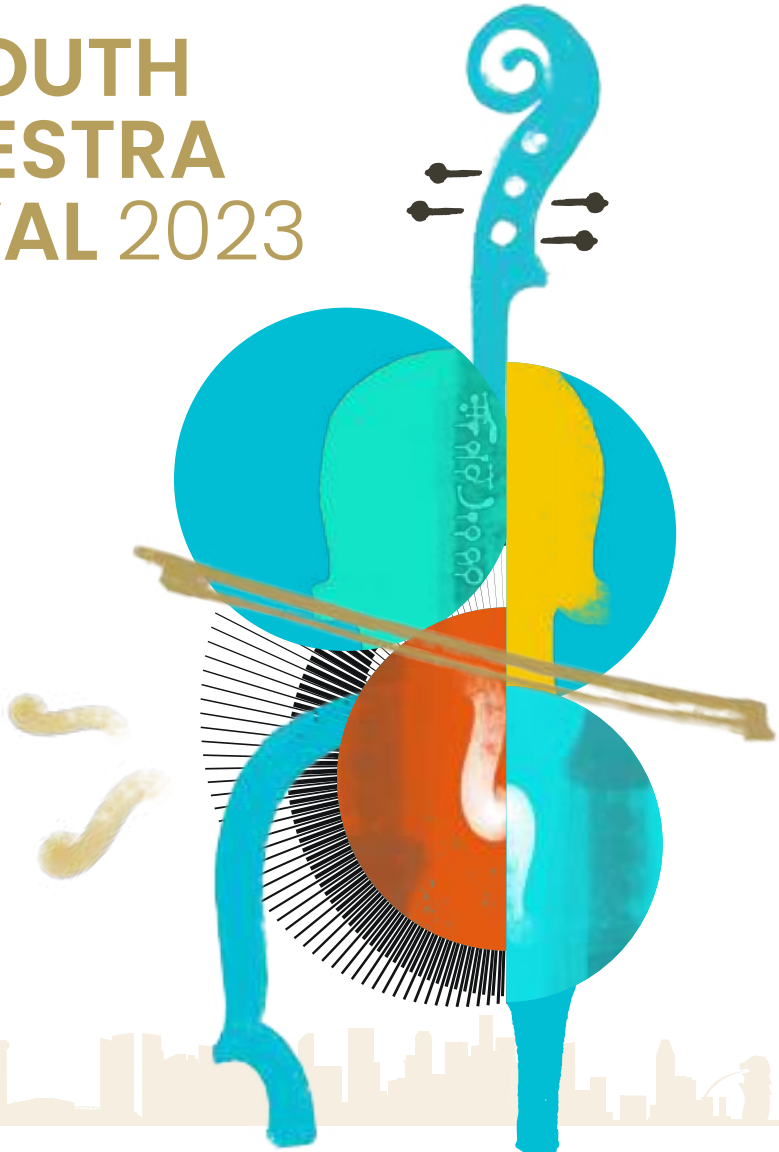


GSF YOUTH ORCHESTRA FESTIVAL 2023

Artistic director
Chan Tze Law

1-8
Aug

Yong Siew Toh
Conservatory
of Music,
**National
University of
Singapore**



Organised by



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Venue Partner



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CELEBRATING

2023

YST

Yong Siew Toh
Conservatory
of Music

NEW SEASON BEGINS

Flowing Resonances

VISITING ARTIST SERIES: KOICHIRO HARADA

Masterclass: 28 Aug, 4.00pm

Chamber Masterclass: 30 Aug, 5.15pm

Recital with YST faculty: 1 Sep, 7.30pm

with Qian Zhou, violin

Zhang Manqin, viola

Qin Li-Wei, cello

Ning An, piano

CONCERTO PRIZEWINNER SHOWCASE: WALTON & BRAHMS

9 Sep, 7.30pm

KAM-LIM-HARWOOD TRIO & LIM YAN RECITAL

6 Oct, 7.30pm

with Kam Ning, violin

Lim Tze Chian, viola

Richard Harwood, cello

Lim Yan, piano

ORCHESTRAL INSTITUTE: SCHOENBERG & RACHMANINOFF

(with T'ang Quartet)

7 Oct, 7.30pm

SOUTHEAST ASIAN GOLDEN AGE SYMPHONY PREMIERE

28 Oct, 7.30pm

New commission by Gema Swaratyagita (Indonesia), Hoang Pho (Vietnam),
Lee Chie Tsang (Malaysia), Thatchatham Silsupan (Thailand), Danny Imson
(Philippines), Jonathan Shin and Syafiqah 'Adha Sallehin (Singapore)

CREATE IN NEW LIGHT



ABOUT

GLOBAL STRINGS FEDERATION (GSF)

Global Strings Federation (GSF) aims to create a more inclusive world through music, making it a happier society for us to live in. Our mission “To bring together strings enthusiasts to bridge the gap between arts and the community by organising events, and developing programmes that give back to society.”

Our global events like World String’s Day (WSD) and the GSF Youth Orchestra (GYO) strives to do just that. WSD brings together diverse musicians, fostering friendship and creative expression. Meanwhile, GYO unites young talents from around the world, expanding their horizons and inspiring unforgettable performances.

Our impact extends beyond musicians. We also empower local communities and support regional initiatives, like our partnership with Marina Central Business Improvement District (BID). Having worked with more than 1000 musicians, we’ve united societies and made music fun.

In our latest collaboration with Viva Foundation, we use the healing power of music to bring hope and joy to children battling cancer. With a shared passion for the common good, we believe in using our talents and resources to give back to the community and to impact the lives of others.

As musicians, we are larger than life itself. If we start to think how we can use music now, we can change the world for the better.

**MESSAGE FROM
FOUNDER, GSF**

TONG MING XI



Dear participants,

Welcome to the inaugural Global Youth Orchestra Festival! I am the founder of GSF, and I am delighted to witness the gathering of all of you in Singapore with the shared passion for music.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to Professor Chan Tze Law for sharing the same ideals and affirming that this is the right thing to do to enrich our music community. To our venue partner, Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, for sharing our vision and supporting us in our mission.

Music has played a vital role in my life, shaping me both as a violinist and instilling in me a strong belief in its profound impact on our world. It has the power to inspire and unite people, fostering a mindset for growth and lifelong learning that will motivate generations of musicians to come.

But it's not just about the music. It's about making lifelong connections and friendships that will last a lifetime. Throughout this festival, you'll meet fellow musicians from all over the world, and together, you'll discover how music unites us all as one big, harmonious family.

Get ready to play, learn and laugh together as you share stories and melodies. Let the thrill of friendly competition fuel your passion to perform your very best and at the same time cheer on your new friends as they take the stage.

Remember, the real victory isn't just in the scores or the trophies—it's in the love for music and the spirit of togetherness that we'll create together. This is more than just a festival; it's a journey of growth, creativity, and making memories that will resonate with you long after the final notes are played.

As you step onto the stage, know that you are not just playing for an audience but for a world eager for unity and understanding. Let's show everyone what it truly means to harmonise the world through the universal language of music.

Tong Ming Xi
Founder, GSF



ABOUT

GLOBAL STRINGS FEDERATION YOUTH ORCHESTRA (GYO)

Welcome to the GSF Youth Orchestra 2023 (GYO), a musical festival hosted by the Global Strings Federation (GSF). Immerse yourself in an experience beyond the ordinary, where melodies become memories and learning intertwines with joy.

A festival filled with fun, music, and learning where you connect with fellow musicians from around the world. Together, we celebrate the unity and shared passion that will ignite your own artistic journey.

Acclaimed violinist Tseng Keng-Yuen, known for his virtuosity and performances with renowned orchestras worldwide, will be performing at the festival, adding to the excitement and brilliance of the event.

At GYO, elevate your musical skills to new heights with workshops, masterclasses, and sectionals. Embrace the opportunity to refine your artistry, expand your repertoire, and showcase your talents on a global stage. The spotlight awaits you, providing a platform to shine and express your unique musical voice.

This experience is not just about putting your skills on display; it's about personal growth and honing your craft. As you play alongside fellow musicians, you'll discover new dimensions of your artistry and improve your playing skills.

GYO opens doors to new perspectives and networks as you connect with fellow musicians, professionals, and enthusiasts. The friendships you forge have the potential to lead to exciting opportunities, collaborations, and unlock pathways in the dynamic music industry.

Enjoy your time, cheer on your new friends, and let the music be your guiding light.

MESSAGE FROM ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

PROF CHAN TZE LAW



To both our overseas friends and local ensembles, I am delighted to extend to you a very warm welcome to the festival!

In recent years, Singapore, like many countries in our region, has seen a flourishing of small and medium sized classical music ensembles. It is particularly noteworthy that many of these ensembles are made up of young musicians, and they perform at a very high level.

The end of the recent pandemic seemed an opportunity too good to pass, where young people from across the region can come together again to make music and interact with each other.

With this in mind, our festival provides a platform for these precious interactions to take place in Singapore. We have uniquely crafted masterclasses, school visits, sectionals and tutorials in the spirit of inspiration and exchange, for the conductors from each of these ensembles to share their valuable experience with other ensembles. Renowned faculty work hand in hand with them to help inspire our youth participants and showcase their musical enthusiasm and accomplishments.

We are grateful to internationally renowned violin pedagogue and virtuoso Tseng Keng-Yuen, who will conduct masterclasses and feature as violin soloist for the gala concert with the festival orchestra. This, along with the festival's participation in the World Strings Day event at Suntec City, will add to a memorable experience for all participants of the festival.

We also especially thank YST for being the venue partner for this festival and playing a leading role over the last 20 years in partnering with the Singapore musical communities. By providing the festival with its modern facilities and performance spaces, this partnership makes possible for a under one roof summer festival experience on the NUS campus to nurture future generations of young ensemble musicians in our region and beyond.

May you enjoy the festival!

Professor Chan Tze Law

Artistic director, GSF Youth Orchestra Festival

PROF CHAN TZE LAW



Singaporean conductor Chan Tze Law is Vice Dean and founding faculty member of the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, National University of Singapore (NUS), where he lectures on conducting and leadership and is widely recognised as the founding music director of the conservatory orchestra.

Chan is also the Music Director of Singapore's award-winning Orchestra of the Music Makers (OMM) and the Metropolitan Festival Orchestra (MFO), and has appeared with major orchestras in the Asia Pacific region and with soloists such as Lang Lang, Ng Pei-Sian, Melvyn Tan, Albert Tiu, Qin Li-Wei and Yevgeny Sudbin. Chan's performances of Mahler's 8th symphony with OMM and Sing50 concerts with superstar pianist Lang Lang and MFO were both named 'Best concerts' by Singapore's Sunday Times. In 2020 he conducted OMM in the Singapore premiere of Richard Wagner's *Die Walküre* to critical acclaim, with Opera (UK) proclaiming that Chan "elicited a multitude of expressive nuances and drew immense power without force from his musicians."

Originally trained as a violinist, Chan holds both doctoral and master degrees in conducting and management respectively. He was the founding chief conductor of the Australian International Summer Orchestral Institute, and was invited to conduct at the Australian Youth Orchestra's National Music Camp in 2020 and 2022. He has given masterclasses in conducting at the Peabody Institute, USA, and Royal Academy of Music, London, and served on the selection committee of the Oxford Conducting Institute International Conducting Studies Conference.

Chan's concerts and CD recordings have been broadcast on Australia's ABC Classic FM, UK's BBC Radio 3 and featured on Singapore Airlines KrisWorld in-flight Classical Music selection, Apple Music, YouTube and Spotify. In 2023 he was appointed as the university's Vice Dean of students overseeing the transformation of the NUS Center for the Arts.

PROF KENG-YUEN TSENG

VIOLINIST

A native of Taiwan, Keng-Yuen Tseng began studying the violin at the age of five and made his performing debut at the age of seven. Upon his arrival in the United States in 1980, Mr. Tseng was awarded a full scholarship to the Manhattan School of Music, where he studied with Erick Friedman and Glenn Dicterow.

Mr. Tseng has won numerous top prizes at national and international competitions, both in the United States and abroad. In 1990, he received the award for best interpretation of a new composition at the Tchaikovsky International Competition in Moscow, and three years later, he won the Silver Medal at the 1993 Queen Elisabeth International Violin Competition in Belgium. He has received top prizes at the North Carolina and New Jersey Symphony Artist Competitions as well as 1988 Washington International String Competition, among others.



Mr. Tseng has performed in recitals and as a concerto soloist throughout the United States, Europe, Central and South America, and the Far East. Orchestras with which he has appeared as soloist include the National Orchestra of Belgium, the Noordholan Philharmonic, the Koninklijk Philharmonisch Orkest van Vlaanderen, the Ensemble Orchestral de Paris, the Simon Bolivar Orquesta Sinfonica, the Tbilisi Symphony Orchestra, the Evergreen Symphony Orchestra, the Taiwan Symphony, and the National Symphony Orchestra in Taiwan, among others. He has appeared at prestigious venues such as the Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C., the Palais des Beaux-Arts in Belgium, the Theatre Des Champs-Elysees in Paris, Shanghai Concert Hall, and National Centre for the Performing Arts in Beijing, China.

Keng-Yuen Tseng travels to his native Taiwan and China several times each year, where he conducts master classes, seminars, and mentors a growing list of prize-winning students. In addition, Mr. Tseng serves as the Artistic Director of Phoenix Arts Management and is a recording artist under Dynamic and SYArts labels. A dedicated teacher, Mr. Tseng is a Violin Professor at the Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University.

“An active Player who thrives on the contact between orchestra and soloist... Tseng also succeeded brilliantly as recitalist; he drew the audience away from a competition atmosphere.”

~ *The Strad Magazine*

20
23

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

01
AUG

Opening Concert

The grand opening at the concert hall of Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, National University of Singapore, allows orchestras to perform, assess each other, and set improvement goals.

Round Table Conductor Work Plan

A round table discussion led by the Artistic Director will assign conductors to orchestras. They will analyse each conductor's strengths and collaborate with guest conductors for holistic insights and diverse perspectives to help all orchestras grow and develop optimally.

02–
04
AUG

Orchestra Masterclass

Masterclasses, led by guest conductors, provide orchestras exposure to diverse expertise from across Asia. Learning from established conductors enhances musicians' growth and fosters fruitful exchanges.

Sectionals

Orchestra preparation works with strings, winds, and percussion, focusing separately on their specific parts. These sectionals contribute to a unified sound when combined with the rest of the orchestra.

Instrument Workshop

Discover the world of sound exploration at our violin and bow workshop. Learn about the science behind the pairing between the violin and bow, and what you should do to maintain your instruments for optimal sound quality.

Tour NUS

As the 11th-ranked university globally, participating orchestras will have the privilege of touring the grounds of the National University of Singapore (NUS). This impressive facility and welcoming community offer a valuable opportunity to grasp the local institutional culture.

02,
04
AUG

YST Talk

“Shaping Your Musical Identity” - Paving ways to a music career through YST, NUS. YST nurtures aspiring musicians such as yourselves to be trendsetters, master players, movers and shakers in the music industry.

04
AUG

Professor Seminar

Learn from an expert, engage in thought-provoking discussions, and broaden your horizons.

05
AUG

WSD Orchestra Masterclass

Elevate your musical skills and have fun at our masterclass led by renowned violinist Tseng Keng-Yuen. Learn from a true maestro and take your performance to new heights.

WSD Iconic Performance

@ Suntec City Fountain of Wealth

Stand as one among 400 musicians and experience an iconic stage. Gain valuable exposure, expand your repertoire, and be part of this mass musical ensemble.

02–
04,
07
AUG

Local School Exchange

Local school exchanges include combined concerts, gift exchanges, and school tours, providing a glimpse into the lives of local school musicians. These activities foster cultural diversity among musicians, enriching lives and offers new perspectives beyond music, paving the way for future collaborations and exchanges.

06–
07
AUG

GYO Festival Competition

Bringing all orchestras together for a final performance, showcasing their development and incorporating festival learnings.

08
AUG

Festival Orchestra

The participating orchestras to form a collective orchestra to play at the Gala Concert.

Gala Concert

The festival's grand finale, uniting everyone together. It showcases the professor Tseng Keng-Yuen's performance, the winning orchestra's performance, and a prize presentation to recognize key qualities in orchestras.

ANGLO-CHINESE SCHOOL (INDEPENDENT) PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA



The Anglo-Chinese School (Independent) Philharmonic Orchestra was founded in 1962 as a symphonic orchestra before establishing itself from the 1970s to present, as one of the leading school orchestras in Singapore. The inaugural cohort of International Baccalaureate (IB) students in 2006 forming the IB wing of the orchestra championed yet another reformation. Under the musical direction of our conductors, the orchestra has achieved numerous Gold awards and Certificate of Distinctions at the Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) Central Judging and Arts Presentation.

With the mission to cultivate youth leadership through music and with strong support from the school, the orchestra seeks to explore a diverse range of repertoire, further their contributions to Singapore's increasingly vibrant music scene, as well as maintain old partnerships whilst establishing new ones with orchestras, chamber groups, schools, and conservatories around the world.



EDWARD TAN

CONDUCTOR

Edward Tan has been the conductor of the Anglo-Chinese School (Independent) Philharmonic Orchestra since 2013.

Marked as one of the “young Singaporean violinists to watch” in 2011 by the *Strad* magazine, Edward has performed widely in venues across the USA and Singapore, including Carnegie Hall and the Esplanade Concert Hall. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree and Performer's Certificate in Violin Performance from Eastman School of Music, as well as a Master of Music degree in Violin Performance from the Yale School of Music, where he was the recipient of the annual Presser Foundation Award, a grant awarded to one promising musician each year.

Besides being the founding first violinist of the Concordia Quartet, Edward regularly freelances with re:Sound, the Singapore Symphony Orchestra, and the Metropolitan Festival Orchestra. Edward strongly believes in the importance of teaching the next generation of performers and audiences, and his love of education led him into the field of conducting. In addition to being the conductor of the ACS(I) IB Philharmonic Orchestra, Edward is Associate Conductor of The Musicians' Initiative, and conducts other student orchestras in secondary schools and JCs.



MGS STRING ENSEMBLE

“...our primary goal is to cultivate and enhance the musical abilities of our members...”

The MGS String Ensemble unites individuals who share a deep passion for music. As a CCA, our primary goal is to cultivate and enhance the musical abilities of our members, focusing on skills such as attentive listening, harmonious blending, rich tonality, and synchronised ensemble playing. Through a variety of platforms including performances, masterclasses, competitions, collaborations, and string exchanges, the String Ensemble not only refines the artistic talents of

MGS students but also fosters essential values such as responsibility, resilience, and empathy.

In addition to school concerts, we have adapted to the challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic, engaging in digital performances as part of the Annual Festival of the Arts 'Ikigai.' Furthermore,



EDWARD TAN

CONDUCTOR

we have expanded our horizons by organising performances e.g. at the Esplanade Concourse. Our involvement extends beyond the boundaries of our school, as we actively seek collaborations and partnerships with other schools and the wider community. Notable examples include mentoring and collaborative learning initiatives with Dazhong Primary School Junior Orchestra, joint performances featuring various performing arts groups from MGS and Singapore Chinese Girls' School for the donors of Sengkang General Hospital, immersive exchanges during the ACS x MGS camp, and recently, performances during our school's Open House events in both school and at King Albert Park MRT. Through these endeavours, we aspire to share the gift of music with our community, making a positive impact on the lives of others.

Marked as one of the “young Singaporean violinists to watch” in 2011 by the *Strad* magazine, Edward has performed widely in venues across the USA and Singapore, including Carnegie Hall and the Esplanade Concert Hall. He is an alumni of the Eastman School of Music and the Yale School of Music, where he was the recipient of the annual Presser Foundation Award, a grant awarded to one promising musician.

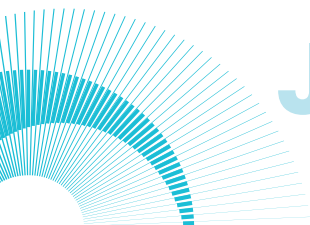
Since returning to Singapore in 2012, he has been active both as a violinist and a conductor. He performs as a freelance musician with the Singapore Symphony Orchestra and re:sound Chamber Orchestra, and has been first violinist with the Concordia Quartet since its formation in 2019. Work with conducting is a natural outgrowth of his love for teaching; in addition to his work with school orchestras, Edward is the associate conductor of the Musicians' Initiative and has worked with the Philharmonic Orchestra and the Orchestra of Makers as guest conductor. Edward has been the conductor of the MGS String Ensemble since 2015.



RAFFLES INSTITUTION STRING ENSEMBLE

The Raffles Institution String Ensemble (RISE) is a musical group that unites aspiring violinists, violists, cellists, and double bassists at Raffles Institution, fostering a shared passion for music and the art of performing together harmoniously. Established in 2001, RISE has continuously strived for excellence and is renowned for its exceptional attitude and dedication towards self-improvement.

With a deep commitment to musical expression and the pursuit of artistic growth, RISE has participated in numerous competitions, concerts, and overseas exchanges both locally and internationally (Australian International Music Festival - 2010, Strings Exchange in Hong Kong - 2017, "Concordia" at Victoria Concert Hall - 2018,



LIN JUAN

CONDUCTOR

SYF Distinction 2021, 2023, etc.), showcasing their craft and artistry. These experiences have allowed the ensemble members to develop their musical abilities, learn from renowned musicians, and gain invaluable performance exposure.

Beyond its pursuit of musical excellence, RISE fosters a sense of camaraderie and mutual support among its members through countless rehearsals, forging the values of teamwork, cooperation, and resilience into our musicians, shaping them into well-rounded individuals.

RISE's legacy spans over two decades, leaving an indelible mark on the musical landscape. The ensemble's unwavering commitment to musical excellence, passion for performance, and dedication to artistic growth have made RISE an emblem of musical distinction.

RISE is looking to continue pushing towards upholding their standards in the arts. RISE hopes to pioneer a culture of excellence that stretches beyond the confines of Raffles Institution through inspiring other young musicians to similarly chase their goals for excellence as musicians.

A graduate of the Royal Northern College of Music, UK (Bachelor and Master degrees in cello) and Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (Specialist Diploma in Orchestral Conducting), Juan is a highly sought-after orchestral musician, regularly freelancing with the Singapore Symphony Orchestra; he also appears regularly as Principal Cellist with re:Sound Chamber Orchestra, Singapore Lyric Opera Orchestra, The Philharmonic Orchestra, among others.

As an active chamber musician, Juan has most notably collaborated with Red Dot Baroque, Ding Yi Music Company, More Than Music, Incursion Trio, and since 2022 has been cellist of Concordia Quartet.

Juan is Lecturer at Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA), teaching cello, chamber music, and orchestral studies. He was the first Associate Conductor of the Singapore National Youth Orchestra and continues to educate youths as conductor of the Raffles Institution and Hwa Chong Institution (College Section) String Ensembles. He is also the Resident Conductor of The Philharmonic Orchestra.



TANJONG KATONG GIRLS' SCHOOL STRING ENSEMBLE



Established in 1998, the Tanjong Katong Girls' School String Ensemble has grown steadily, from a very modest 10-member team to the current 40-strong ensemble.

The ensemble has participated regularly in the biennial Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation, has been awarded the highest accolade, the Certificate of Distinction, since 2013. The ensemble is currently under the baton of Mr. Jeshier Loi.

Dedicated to providing our young musicians with musical, social and intellectual growth, the string ensemble has nurtured many music enthusiasts and young talents and will continue to do so for years to come. The string ensemble has also made numerous performances both in school and at public venues, most notably our biennial concert series, Da Capo, at the Victoria Concert Hall.



Jesher has had the pleasure of conducting and nurturing youth orchestras since 2010, when he graduated from The Master's University in Santa Clarita, California. As the student conductor, he worked with the campus collegiate choir and orchestra as they prepared for the Christmas Concert series and held a Senior Recital in Conducting where he assembled and conducted an orchestra.

Since then, he has conducted at Singapore Chinese Girls' School, Anglo-Chinese School (Independent), River Valley High School, Tanjong Katong Girls' School and National Junior College - building orchestras and taking them to festivals, concerts and engaging in collaborations. Some highlights have been performances at the Istana and a unique collaboration with artiste and song writer Annette Lee. He has also had the pleasure

of conducting the pit orchestra for National Junior College 50th Anniversary Musical, 'The National Dream', held at Esplanade Theatre.

Jesher studied under Prof Chan Tze Law, Dr Steve Opher and Dr Paul Plew and his conducting education and experience spans from Singapore, USA, Czech Republic and Germany where he has learnt under Dr Larry Rachleff, Dr. Donald Schleicher and Maestro Yoav Talmi.

One of Jesher's passions has been to use music as a way to nurture character development in the musicians in his orchestras. Some areas include teamwork, passion and responsibility. He finds it incredibly enjoyable when youth find passion and community in the orchestras they are a part of.



JESHER LOI

CONDUCTOR

NAN CHIAU HIGH SCHOOL STRING ORCHESTRA



Founded in 2001, Nan Chiau High School String Orchestra comprises of about fifty members who have the passion for classical and contemporary music. Under the guidance of our experienced and committed instructors, Mr Chua Seng Chee, Mr Luo Wei and Mr Eric Lim Yin Huang, our orchestra has grown in strength and confidence, with a deep appreciation of music and the ability to perform in a team. The orchestra has participated in several events such as the Singapore Youth Festival, outdoor performances such as iWalk 2022 Launch Event and school exchanges.

“...our orchestra has grown in strength and confidence, with a deep appreciation of music and the ability to perform in a team.”

Chua Seng Chee (蔡承志) is a cellist and the Junior Orchestra conductor at kids' philharmonic@sg. He also conducts in several secondary schools, including Nan Chiau High School, in Singapore and is the cello instructor of the National Technological University Chinese Orchestra.

In his early days, he studied the cello with the late renowned cellist, educator and composer Mr Zhao Zhenxiao (赵震霄) and later pursued further studies under the tutelage of Mrs. Herminia Ilano, one of Singapore's most prominent cello teachers who was the 1st Assistant Principal cellist of SSO (Singapore Symphony Orchestra) from 1979 to 1994 and is dubbed the 'First Lady of the Cello'.

Mr Chua was a member of the Singapore Youth Orchestra in his younger years and later joined the Singapore Chinese Orchestra as contract cellist. He then took to conducting and gained close to a decade of experience as conductor of a myriad of chinese orchestra concerts between 1989-1998 in Singapore.



CHUA SENG CHEE

CONDUCTOR

GYO FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA COMPETITION

The GYO Festival Orchestra Competition gathers talented ensembles worldwide, showcasing unity, musicality, and skill. Performers learn the art of emotional and tonal expression, engaging with the audience, and innovative approaches.

THE 7 AWARDS



Presented to the ensemble that demonstrates exceptional unity, synergy, and overall musicality.



Recognises the ensemble that demonstrates its exceptional talent, musicianship, and overall performance quality.



Given to the ensemble that showcases the most skillful and expressive use of tonal qualities, creating a captivating and nuanced musical experience.



Given to the ensemble that effectively connects with the audience, making them feel involved and captivated.



Recognises the ensemble that delivers their music with the highest level of emotional intensity and passion.



Given to the ensemble that shows great potential and promise for future growth and excellence.



Recognises the ensemble that brings additional value to their performance that elevate the overall experience.

THE JURY



**PROF CHAN
TZE LAW**

**PROF
KENG-YUEN
TSENG**



DAVID LOKE VIOLINIST

Violinist David Loke Kai Yuan is a multi-faceted musician. Trained in classical and jazz performance, David is active as a performer, bandleader, composer, producer and arranger. An Artist Faculty at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, he also works for the Music & Drama Company.

David graduated with a Bachelors of Music in violin from YST. He then received his Masters of Music in violin from the Yale School of Music, and in jazz performance from the New England Conservatory of Music.

As a performer, David traverses solo and chamber classical repertoire alongside pop and jazz settings alike. He is a founding member of the fusion quintet Lorong Boys, and is frequently

called as a chamber player, session musician and educator.

Recent composition highlights include soundtracks for the movie *Strings of Sorrow* and local documentary *3 Cents a Kilo* (premiered at the 2019 Macau International Film Festival & Awards and 45th Asian American Film Festival respectively).

David has had the good fortune of studying with Sylvia Khoo, Lynette Lim, Qian Zhou, Ani Kavafian, Brian Levy, Jerry Bergonzi, Frank Carlburg, Can Olgun, and Tony Makarome. He plays on a 1933 Giovanni Pistucci on generous loan from the Rin Collection.



SECTIONAL

Orchestra preparation works with strings, winds, and percussion, focusing separately on their specific parts. These sectionals contribute to a unified sound when combined with the rest of the orchestra.

SECTIONAL TUTORS



WOODWIND

ZHANG JIN MIN

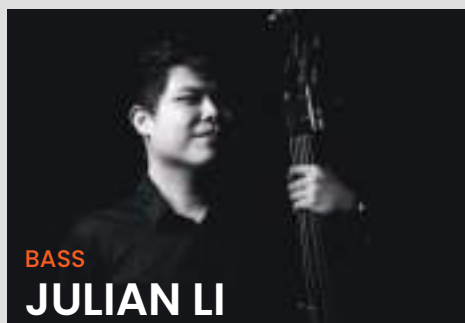


CELLO

JAMES NG

Renowned Singaporean musician Han Oh is celebrated for his versatility and extensive achievements across diverse musical genres. He collaborated with esteemed artists like Jay-Z, Linkin Park, and Paul McCartney, impressing Grammy-winning producers. Han's musical journey began with prestigious recognition, including a Singapore Youth Orchestra Scholarship and representing Singapore in esteemed music ensembles. He excelled as a violist in renowned orchestras worldwide and was the first Singaporean musician to perform at prominent international festivals like the Grammy Awards and Coachella. As an educator, Han nurtured young talents and conducted prestigious ensembles. He is a distinguished YAMAHA Electric Strings Artist and released an album titled "Eviolonogue." Currently serving at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, Han Oh continues to inspire aspiring musicians and captivate audiences with his extraordinary talent and passion for excellence.

Cellist James Ng is a highly accomplished musician with an extensive performance career spanning Asia, Europe, the United Kingdom, and the United States. He is a founding member of Bossa Celli, Singapore's premier cello quartet, and has recorded for their debut album, The Bossa Collection. James has been featured as a soloist with various orchestras and has recorded with the Orchestra of the Music Makers (OMM). He regularly performs as a chamber and orchestral musician with esteemed ensembles. James received his cello graduated from the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music with a full scholarship under the tutelage of Qin Li Wei. He is also a dedicated educator with over ten years of teaching experience, inspiring young learners and adults to share his passion for cello playing.



Renowned Singaporean musician Han Oh is celebrated for his versatility and extensive achievements across diverse musical genres. He collaborated with esteemed artists like Jay-Z, Linkin Park, and Paul McCartney, impressing Grammy-winning producers. Han's musical journey began with prestigious recognition, including a Singapore Youth Orchestra Scholarship and representing Singapore in esteemed music ensembles. He excelled as a violist in renowned orchestras worldwide and was the first Singaporean musician to perform at prominent international festivals like the Grammy Awards and Coachella. As an educator, Han nurtured young talents and conducted prestigious ensembles. He is a distinguished YAMAHA Electric Strings Artist and released an album titled "Eviolonogue." Currently serving at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, Han Oh continues to inspire aspiring musicians and captivate audiences with his extraordinary talent and passion for excellence.

Singaporean musician Julian Li is an active figure in the classical music scene. He boasts a wealth of professional orchestra experiences, having served as Associate Principal of the Hangzhou Philharmonic Orchestra (2017-2020) and Principal Bass of the Guiyang Symphony Orchestra (2015-2017). Beyond orchestras, Julian is a renowned bass soloist, achieving First Prizes in prestigious competitions like The Singapore International Double Bass Music Festival (2019) and the World Classical Music Award (2022). He holds a Masters in Distinction from Universität für Musik und Darstellende Graz (KUG), mentored by Ernst Weissensteiner. Julian is a founding member of Bass Around Asia (BAA), aiming to promote double bass chamber music in Asia. Back in Singapore, he is a freelance Bassist with the Singapore Symphony Orchestra and Principal Bassist for various classical ensembles. Julian is also actively involved in bass education, organizing masterclasses and workshops for aspiring musicians.



ASEAN YOUTH ENSEMBLE

At the heart of the Asean Youth Ensemble lies a profound belief in the power of music to bridge cultures. While each student brings their own distinctive background and experiences, they coalesce into a tightly-knit community bound by their shared love for music. Their collaboration and mutual respect demonstrates how individuals from different corners of ASEAN can blend their talents and perspectives to create something truly extraordinary.

This ensemble has become a beacon of intercultural understanding, showcasing the inherent uniqueness within ASEAN while highlighting the strength that emerges from unity. Through their enchanting melodies and vibrant rhythms, the Asean Youth Ensemble not only captures the hearts of audiences worldwide but also exemplifies the potential for collaboration and cooperation among ASEAN nations.

JESHER LOI

CONDUCTOR



Jeshier has had the pleasure of conducting and nurturing youth orchestras since 2010, when he graduated from The Master's University in Santa Clarita, California. As the student conductor, he worked with the campus collegiate choir and orchestra as they prepared for the Christmas Concert series and held a Senior Recital in Conducting where he assembled and conducted an orchestra.

Since then, he has conducted at Singapore Chinese Girls' School, Anglo-Chinese School (Independent), River Valley High School, Tanjong Katong Girls' School and National Junior College - building orchestras and taking them to festivals, concerts and engaging in collaborations. Some highlights have been performances at the Istana and a unique collaboration with artiste and song writer Annette Lee. He has also had the pleasure of conducting the pit orchestra for National Junior College 50th Anniversary Musical, 'The National Dream', held at Esplanade Theatre.

Jeshier studied under Prof Chan Tze Law, Dr Steve Opher and Dr Paul Plew and his conducting education and experience spans from Singapore, USA, Czech Republic and Germany where he has learnt under Dr Larry Rachleff, Dr. Donald Schleicher and Maestro Yoav Talmi.

One of Jeshier's passions has been to use music as a way to nurture character development in the musicians in his orchestras. Some areas include teamwork, passion and responsibility. He finds it incredibly enjoyable when youth find passion and community in the orchestras they are a part of.

MACAU PUI CHING MIDDLE SCHOOL

Macau Pui Ching Middle School has been offering string instrument training classes since 1995 and has been actively cultivating talented string musicians. Over the years, with the joint efforts of several instructors and students, the string orchestra has gradually grown in size and has participated in numerous performances and exchange activities both within and outside the school, continuously learning and improving through practice. Today, the string orchestra has approximately 90 members. To enhance training at different levels, the orchestra is divided into a junior group and a senior group, with rehearsals twice a week, and also offers string instrument training classes and an introductory course for young children, actively fostering talent.



LONG MENG TOU

CONDUCTOR

Born in Macau, Long Meng Tou was graduated from Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music in the United States, where he studied with renowned violin educator Kurt Sassmannshaus, soloist Giora Schmidt and Piotr Milewski. Long Meng first studied the violin at the age of 8 under the guidance of Mr. Hoi Kin Wa. After a period of study, he joined the Orchestra of his graduated high school, Pui Ching Middle School, as well as the Macao Youth Symphony Orchestra. During his high school life, he had received a lot of opportunities to perform. This was when he gained lot of valuable orchestral experience and rehearsing techniques. Later in 2009, Long Meng

began his study with the Hong Kong Philharmonic's associate concertmaster Kin Fung Leung, and has received string quartet coaching from him. Long Meng Tou was the winner of the 30th Macao Young Music Competition, including the first place of chamber category and the 3rd place of the violin solo category. He had often performed publicly as soloist and concertmaster with the Macao Youth Symphony Orchestra and the Macao Virtuosi. Long Meng Tou participated in concerts held all over the world, including Asia, Europe and United States. Recently, he has received the



CCM Power Scholarship from the conservatory. Long Meng is active in music events, concerts that he participated are listed as follows. Viotti violin concerto no.22 with the Macao Youth Symphony Orchestra and Brahms double concerto for violin and cello as the soloist under the famous conductor Lio Kuokman; he is also a member of the Macao Virtuosi, and performed as a soloist in the series of three separate concerts entitled Viva Mozart. He participated in the recording of his orchestra's CD "Dancing Strings". He also performed with the German National Youth Symphony Orchestra Vivaldi-Concerto for four violins as one of the soloists. Long Meng has collaborated with orchestras and played solo worldwide such as Asia, Europe, and America, including Taiwan Normal University, German Music Camp, and the National Cathedral of the United States. At the same time, as a musician of the C-see Chamber Orchestra of the United States, he often performs in the United States and across China. Besides performing, Long Meng is passionate about teaching, and strives to promote the educational methods and performance skills of some renowned violin teachers and soloists. In recent years, Long Meng became the director of Macao Youth Symphony Orchestra, and to teach at the Pui Ching Middle School Strings Orchestra, Sacred Heart Canossian College, Macao Youth Symphony Orchestra and University of Macau String Orchestra. In addition, Long Meng was invited to serve as a lecturer and instructor at the annual Poly Music Summer Camp held in Shenzhen. Long Meng is also the guest musician of the Macao Orchestra.



SCHOOL ORCHESTRA OF SACRED HEART CANOSSIAN COLLEGE (ENGLISH SECTION) MACAO

Sacred Heart Canossian College (English Section) Macao established the School Orchestra in 2007, made up mainly of secondary students, which has performed nearly 100 times both inside and outside the school.

Conductor Mr. Jimson Hoi has led the Orchestra to various events, including performing with Nanyang Polytechnic in Singapore in July 2013. Since 2011, the Orchestra has been one of the featured performers at the Music Seedling Concerts and the Macao YSO Music Festival. It has also taken part in three consecutive School Orchestra Festivals of Four Regions Across the Straits since 2015, giving students valuable performance experiences.

The Orchestra was awarded the Bronze Prize in the 9th World Orchestra Festival (Youth Orchestra category) in 2021.





KIN WA HOI

CONDUCTOR

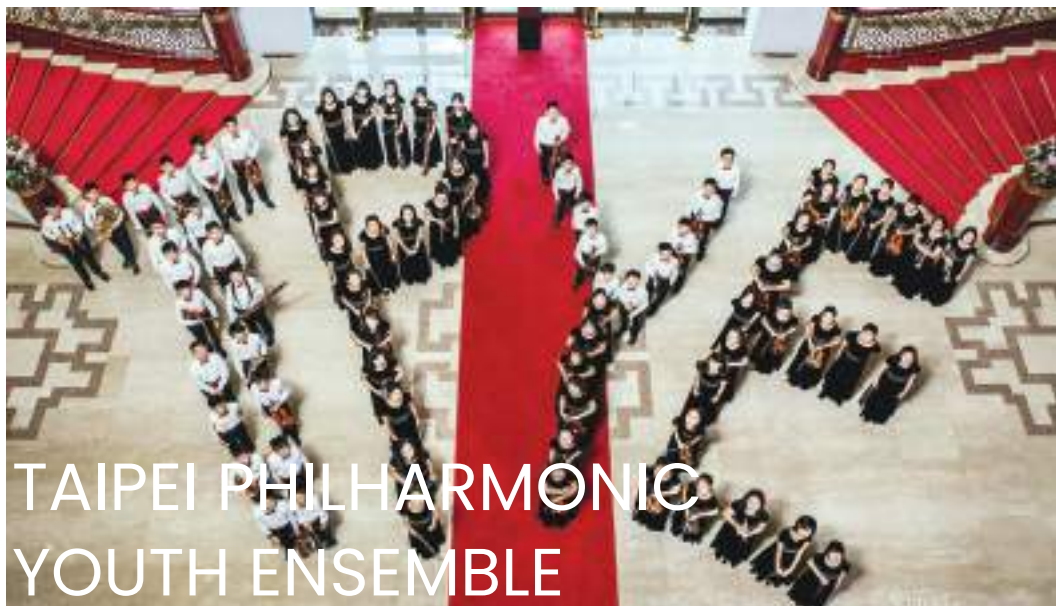


As one of the founders of local youth symphony orchestra and school orchestras, HOI has been the president of Macau Youth Symphony Orchestra Association since 1997, and takes the baton of Pui Ching Middle School Orchestra, and Sacred Heart Canossian College Orchestra of Macau. As well as the one of the founders and president of Macau Virtuosi. And, also the ABRSM International representative Macau, the conductor of the Grace Choir of the Macau Evangelical Church.

He studied violin under Mr Zhi Xiong TAN in his childhood and followed by with Mr Chan Pong CHEANG and Ms Wai Leng CHEANG in the Academia de Música S. Pio X of Macau. After graduating in Macau Yue Wah College, he joined the course of Arts Management in University of Hong Kong.

HOI was a violin player of the Macau Chamber Orchestra from 1982 to 1995, also he was the administrative of this orchestra after 13 years leaving of the stage. And he was appointed to be the coordinator of the orchestra from 1999 to 2002, under the Macau Government SAR.

HOI performed in Hong Kong, Singapore, Mainland China and Macau.



TAIPEI PHILHARMONIC YOUTH ENSEMBLE

In 2006, the Taipei Philharmonic Ensemble initiated the recruitment of elementary and middle school students from various districts in the northern region of Taiwan to form a Youth String Orchestra. They held weekly rehearsals and regular concerts. After several successful performances, the ensemble expanded into a chamber orchestra and was officially named the “Taipei Philharmonic Youth Ensemble” in the autumn of 2013.

For over a decade, the orchestra has been dedicated to promoting classical music education for young musicians. As the first incorporated youth orchestra in Taiwan, it provides a platform for music performances for school-aged children in the country. The orchestra has invited outstanding young musicians from Taiwan, including conductors Liu Bo-Hung, Yu, Chia-Fu, and Chen, Shih-Chieh to lead the ensemble. They organize annual concerts and interdisciplinary productions,

including musical theater, with the aim of exposing young musicians aged 8 to 18 to various musical forms and performance styles through ensemble playing. Through group training, the orchestra aims to foster professional attitudes and ensemble cohesion among its members, enabling them to become not only skilled musicians but also individuals with a high level of musical proficiency. The organization also encourages its members to unleash their potential and continue their musical journey with a healthy and positive mindset.

In the autumn of 2016, the “Taipei Philharmonic Youth String Ensemble” was established. It provides a platform for children to showcase their talents and creativity on stage. In addition to regular performances, the orchestra engages in diverse forms of performances, including charity events and outdoor concerts. The goal is to use



music to touch the hearts of everyone around and bring music to every corner of society. Since its establishment, the orchestra has performed in Taipei, Taoyuan, Miaoli, Penghu, and other places, using live performances to give back to the community and bring music closer to people's lives.

In recent years, the orchestra has collaborated with various musicians. In addition to regular performances in Taiwan, the orchestra has embarked on international exchanges to broaden their global perspective and gain a competitive edge. They performed in Kanazawa, Japan, in 2014, as part of an exchange program with the Kanazawa City Orchestra. In 2015, they participated in the first Budapest Music Festival in Hungary. In 2016, they were invited to perform in Los Angeles and Disneyland in California, USA. In 2017, they took part in the Lisbon Music Festival in Portugal, receiving high acclaim. In 2018, they traveled to Munich, Germany, to collaborate with the ATTACCA Jugendorchester des Bayerischen Staatsorchesters. In 2019, they had exchange performances at the Brescia Conservatory in Italy.

Paul Bo-Hung Liu is currently the conductor of the Taipei Philharmonic Youth Ensemble, CLAP & TAP Chamber Orchestra, and the Jingling String Ensemble. Under his direction, the Taipei Philharmonic Youth Ensemble has showcased their talents internationally in various cities, including Kanazawa, Budapest, Los Angeles, Frankfurt, Munich, Lisbon, and Brescia since 2014.

Apart from conducting, Paul Liu actively collaborates with prestigious orchestras like the National Symphony Orchestra, Taipei Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Yinqi Symphony Orchestra & Chorus. His performances have taken him to various countries across Japan, China, the USA, Southeast Asia, Eastern Europe, and Central Europe.

Beyond his musical endeavours, Paul Liu excels in organizational planning for the arts, serving as Stage Director for the National Symphony Orchestra and Program Planning Producer for the Taipei Chinese Orchestra. He also takes on roles in Marketing Planning, PR Media Administration, and Stage Management for diverse performance teams, including movie soundtrack production.

Passionate about music education, Paul is beloved by students for his enthusiastic and humorous teaching style. He conducts the Taipei Philharmonic Junior Ensemble and fosters large-scale cross-border collaborations to promote an international outlook for young musicians. His leadership facilitates cultural exchanges through music, impressing audiences and the media alike.

Besides conducting, Paul Liu aims to make classical music accessible to the community, sharing its joy and beauty in a relaxed, lively manner. He warmly welcomes more people to appreciate the beauty of classical music.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to individuals and organisations who contributed to the success of GSF Youth Orchestra 2023 (GYO). Your support and dedication made this event a memorable and impactful experience for all involved.

A special and sincere thank you to our venue partner, Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music. Your support in providing us with a wonderful space played a pivotal role for lasting memories and meaningful bonds to be forged, creating an enriching experience for all attendees.

We extend our deep appreciation to our generous donors Ms. Kim, Dr. Chan, and Marina Central Business Improvement District (BID), whose financial support brought GYO to life. Your contributions have a profound impact on the success of this event.

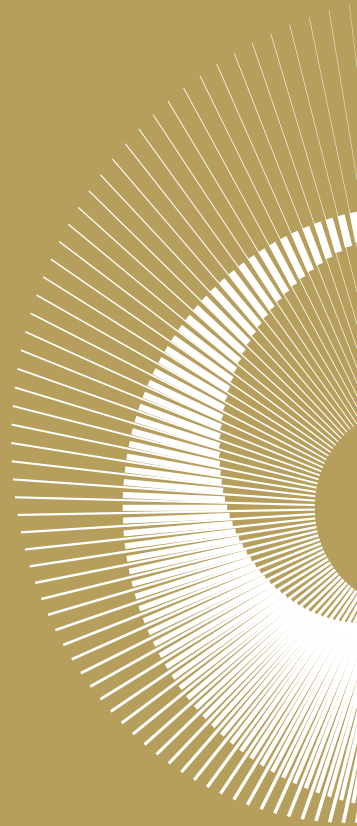
Our gratitude goes out to the Artistic Director, Professor Chan Tze Law, and guest professor Keng-Yuen Tseng, whose guidance and expertise elevated the artistic quality of GYO.

To David Loke, Edward Tan, Jeshar Loi, Jimson Hoi, Jonathan Shin, Lin Juan, Michael Tou, Paul Liu, we are incredibly grateful your passion in imparting knowledge, nurturing the talent of the participants, and enriching their musical journey.

We also want to acknowledge the schools and participants that took part in GYO. Your active involvement and enthusiasm added a vibrant atmosphere to the event.

To the volunteers, chaperons, and support staff, we cannot thank you enough for your tireless efforts and dedication. Your hard work and commitment behind the scenes ensured the smooth execution of every aspect of the event.

May we continue to inspire and uplift our society in all our future endeavours.



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