# Press Release 新闻稿

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For Immediate Release

### A Roaring Good Time with Ding Yi and Derrick Hoh this Chinese New Year!

Kickstart the year of the Tiger with our first concert of DY15!

**Singapore, 14 January 2022** – Celebrate new beginnings this spring by ushering in the year of the mighty Tiger with Ding Yi's annual signature *Happy Chinese New Year Concert 2022*. Held on 22 January 2022 (Saturday), 3.30pm and 23 January 2022 (Sunday), 7.30pm at the China Cultural Centre Theatre, this is the first concert organised to kickstart Ding Yi 15<sup>th</sup> (DY15) anniversary celebrations in 2022, *Together with You*.



The concert will be conducted by Ding Yi Assistant Conductor Wong De Li, Dedric and include special appearances by local singer-songwriter Derrick Hoh, where he will serenade the crowd with auspicious tunes to celebrate the coming of the new year. This is Derrick's first ever collaboration and performance with a Chinese chamber ensemble.

Ding Yi percussion musicians Cheong Kah Yiong and Low Yik Hang will drum up the excitement by presenting a specially commissioned piece titled *Year of the Tiger* by Hong Kong composer Alfred Wong. It highlights the contrast between Chinese and western percussion as both musicians engage in a battle of beats and momentum to find the perfect harmony. This piece also showcases the authoritative and ferocious spirit of the Tiger, an icon often used to represent the strength and braveness of soldiers in ancient times.

Contrasting its robust counterpart, *Light at Tunnel's End* is a special commission by Singaporean composer Terrence Wong to illustrate and remind everyone to find hope and light even amidst tough times and darkness. Using a popular tune from the 1930s, *In* 

*Springtime,* this composition is built up from a small motif towards its full form in the latter half of the piece.

Experience the festive spirits through medleys of your familiar Chinese New Year songs, specially rearranged by renowned composer, Law Wai Lun, with the likes of *Arrival of God of Fortune, Spring Blossoms* and *Gong Xi Gong Xi*.

*Happy Chinese New Year Concert* 2022 is organised in collaboration with the China Cultural Centre. Tickets are available for public sales on SISTIC here.

#### **Annexes**

- A. Concert Poster Artwork
- B. Featured Artists' Biographies
- C. Ding Yi 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 showcasing a vast repertoire that ranges from traditional Chinese music to contemporary interpretations and cross-genre works. For more information, please visit <a href="https://www.dingyimusic.com">www.dingyimusic.com</a>.

#### **Media Contact**

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# Image

#### **Derrick Hoh**



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Derrick Hoh is an established singer-songwriter in the Chinese Mandopop scene.

Write-Up

He started his career as an idol and fought his way up to establish himself as a professional singer-songwriter with 3 Mandarin Albums, 1 English EP and multiple hit singles under his belt. He is the first Singaporean Artiste to achieve #1 on Singapore iTunes Store with his own composition achieving a total of 20 million YouTube views for his songs.

Derrick also received countless awards including the Mnet Asia Music Awards for Best Asian Artiste in Singapore and multiple Top 20 Songs in the Global Chinese Music Awards. Derrick is a multitalent in entertainment, ranging from singing to acting to directing music videos.



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### Wong De Li, Dedric

Wong De Li, Dedric aspired to be a conductor in his teen years, and his interest was ignited again by the renowned Chinese music educator and Singapore Cultural Medallion recipient Dr Tay Teow Kiat. With his master's degree in orchestral conducting at the China Conservatory of Music in Beijing, under the tutelage of renowned Professor Yang Youqing and guidance from conducting maestro and Music Director of Singapore Chinese Orchestra (SCO) Tsung Yeh, he aims to push Ding Yi up to new heights of artistic excellence and to develop a unique Singaporean musical direction.

In 2013, Wong was selected to participate in the Conducting Masterclass by renowned conducting maestros Prof Zhang Guoyong and Qu Chunquan, organised by the Taipei Chinese Orchestra. While in 2015, he was again selected to attend the Conducting Workshop by Tsung Yeh, organised by SCO.

As a 2014 National Arts Council (NAC) Arts Scholarship recipient and a two-time recipient of the Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan Arts and Cultural Bursary in 2004 and 2006, he has performed in many countries such as China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, the United Kingdom, the Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia and Cambodia.

In 2016, Wong staged his conducting recital with the China Conservatory of Music Middle School Youth Chinese Orchestra with reputable conductor Gu Guanren. In the same year, he assumed the conductor role for the Cultural Symphony Orchestra and was also featured as an outstanding NAC scholar in the 2016 Straits Times Scholars Choice.

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#### **Cheong Kah Yiong**

Cheong Kah Yiong is currently the percussion musician at Ding Yi Music Company (Singapore). With Cheong's extensive knowledge and flexibility in Western and Chinese music literature, he was chosen from over 1000 musicians across Asia to take part in the Asian Youth Orchestra 2017 World Tour, touring across America, Europe, and Asia, performing in festivals like the Lucerne Music Festival and the Ravello Music Festival. In 2020, Cheong won a position in the Pacific Region International Summer Academy (PRISMA).

As a strong advocate of chamber music, Cheong participates in various local chamber ensembles such as, Morse Percussion (Contemporary Percussion Ensemble), Dicapella (Chinese Flute Ensemble), and Reverberance (Chinese Wind Instrumental Ensemble). He also frequently collaborates as a solo percussionist with theatre and dance companies such as Intercultural Theatre and The Arts Fission Company.

With a strong belief that music can connect audiences regardless, Cheong is involved in the Purple Symphony, Singapore's first orchestra that includes musicians with and without disabilities. Moreover, He frequently plays in local community concerts, Arts in your Neighbourhood programs hosted by the National Arts Council. Furthermore, he currently tutors percussion music for various high school Bands and Chinese Orchestras.

Cheong obtained his Diploma in Music from the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, where he studied with Mark Suter and Christian Schioler. He continues to expand his percussion knowledge by studying with Metropolitan Opera Percussionist Rob Knopper and former Chicago Symphony Orchestra Principal Percussionist Ted Atkatz.



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#### Low Yik Hang

Yik Hang was the scholarship recipient of the National Arts Council's Overseas Scholarship 2011 and China National Government Scholarship 2015. In November 2014, Yik Hang was awarded the NAC Capability Development Grant to pursue Middle Eastern rhythm training at the Misirli Ahmet Rhythm Academy in Istanbul, under direct mentorship of renowned darbuka Master Misirli Ahmet. Yik Hang graduated with master's degree in Chinese Percussion at the Central Conservatory of Music in 2017, under the tutelage of Chinese Percussion Professor Wang Jian Hua.

Yik Hang has been performing with Ding Ying Music Company since 2009. His music passion started in 2002 where he learned Erhu and Percussion in Woodgrove Secondary School under Mr Low Cher Yong's tutelage. He was the principal percussionist of the Singapore Youth Chinese Orchestra (SYCO) from 2007-2010, where he progresses and learns Chinese Percussion, Western Percussion, Music Theory and Aural under tutelage of Mr Quek Ling Kiong, Mr Ngoh Kheng Seng and Mr Law Wai Lun. In 2008, Yik Hang led his percussion group Symphonic Percussion to National Arts Council's first Chinese Percussion Ensemble Competition and was awarded the first prize. Recently in 2017, Yik Hang started studying South Indian Percussion Kanjira under the tutelage of Sri D Rajagopal at the Temple of Fine Arts Singapore.

Being an active performer in both local and overseas, he is often invited to perform in various festivals such as the Singapore Chinese Festival of Arts, Beijing Modern Music Festival, Beijing Chamber Music Festival and China Percussion Seminars & Concerts
Yik Hang is currently a percussionist performing with Ding Yi Music Company and A Bigger Bang Percussion Ensemble.

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