

SCO

新加坡华乐团



Conductor: Quek Ling Kiong

SCOTIFY.

A PERFORMING ARTS-BASED LEARNING CONCERT

14 Jul 2023 (Fri), 3pm & 5pm
SCO Concert Hall

Commissioned by



NATIONAL ARTS COUNCIL
SINGAPORE

In Partnership with



Ministry of Education
SINGAPORE

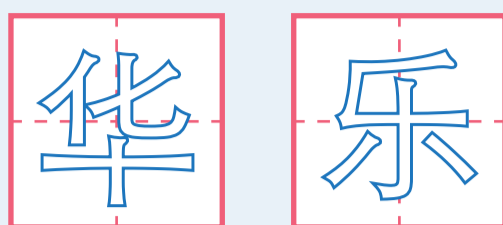
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► About Singapore Chinese Orchestra (SCO) ►

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CHINESE ORCHESTRA

• Singapore's **ONLY** professional national Chinese Orchestra

• Established Since 1997 26 years

• Singapore Conference Hall

• Two Guinness World Records:
LARGEST Chinese Drum Ensemble Chinese Orchestra
 Our People Our Music 2014 Concert at the National Stadium on 28 June 2014

• Twin Roles:

Preserving traditional arts and culture

Establishing its unique identity through the incorporation of Southeast Asian cultural elements in its music.

► Concert Tours ►

Europe

- Vienna, Austria
- Prague, Czech Republic
- Paris, France
- Stuttgart, Berlin, Nuremberg, Germany
- Ioannina, Greece
- Budapest, Hungary
- Forli, Italy
- Edinburgh, Scotland
- Gateshead London, United Kingdom

China

- Beijing
- Guangzhou
- Hong Kong
- Macao
- Nanjing
- Shanghai
- Shenzhen
- Suzhou
- Xiamen
- Zhongshan

Other Locations

- Gwangju, South Korea
- Taipei Taichung
- Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Cairo, Egypt

With its vision to be a world-renowned people's orchestra, SCO widens its outreach by performing regularly at various national parks, communities and schools. SCO also commissions its own compositions. It is with this vision that SCO continues to inspire, influence, educate and communicate through its music.



▶ Quek Ling Kiong – Principal Conductor ▶

ASK ME ANYTHING!

 **Hobbies?**

Cycling, hiking, reading

 **Cat or Dog?**

Dog

 **Favourite weird food combination?**

Laksa, Coffee, Pineapple, Chendol

 **Favourite composer / piece of music?**

Too many to name

 **Hardest piece of music score to read?**

Yet to come

 **Worst stage fright experience?**

Not happened yet

 **Best music joke you've heard?**

After conductor takes a bow, the orchestra plays

 **Favourite time signature & key signature?**

8/8 C#



Quek Ling Kiong is the first Principal Conductor of SCO to have been born and bred in Singapore. Widely hailed as the “People’s Conductor”, he has more than 25 years of professional musical experience. He assumed the role of Principal Conductor in 2023, after a decade as the Resident Conductor. He joined SCO in 1997 as its Percussion Principal after graduating from the Shanghai Conservatory of Music. A rising star, Quek went on to earn the Singapore National Arts Council’s (NAC) prestigious Young Artist Award in 2002.

Quek is active in the international music scene. He has guest-conducted esteemed Chinese orchestras such as the Shanghai Chinese Orchestra, Guangdong Chinese Orchestra, and the Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra. He also conducted symphony orchestras in the Czech Republic during a residency in Europe. Well-versed in the musical cultures of East and West, he counts maestros Tay Teow Kiat, Xia Feiyun, Tsung Yeh, Johannes Schlaefli, and Kirk Trevor among his diverse mentors. He is the Music Director of the Singapore National Youth Chinese Orchestra (SNYCO) and has conducted it since 2004, taking it on tours to the Tainan International Arts Festival, Hsinchu Chinese Music Festival, and other cities. As Principal Guest Conductor of Singapore’s Ding Yi Music Company (2016-2022), he also conceptualised the Ding Yi Chinese Chamber Music Festival and the composition festival Composium. In line with his desire to bring music to all, he became the Artistic Director of Singapore and Hong Kong’s largest inclusive orchestras – The Purple Symphony and True Colors Symphony – in 2015 and 2019 respectively.

His achievements have garnered him accolades such as the NAC Cultural Fellowship (2013) and the Meritorious Award by the Composers and Authors Society of Singapore (2016). The Quek Ling Kiong Arts and Culture Scholarship was also established at the Singapore Management University in 2019 in honour of his contributions to the arts.

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Conductor: Quek Ling Kiong

Chinese Classics

Horse Racing

Composed by Huang Haihuai,
Arranged by Qu Chunquan

Bringing to mind images of horses galloping in a racing competition, this classic is heavily influenced by Mongolian music, showcasing the Mongols' passion for horse racing and the boundless grasslands. The piece is fiery and features an energetic tempo from start to end, delighting audiences with its many rapid-fire passages.

Nocturnal Peace

Composed by Liu Tianhua,
Rearranged by Yan Huichang

Originally titled Song of New Year's Eve, Nocturnal Peace was composed by the late maestro Liu Tianhua in 1928. As he made merry with friends and students during the Chinese New Year's Eve's festivities, it was said a sudden rush of inspiration overcame Liu, giving rise to this short improvisation. With its gently undulating melody and soft dynamic, the piece radiates a calming and joyous ambience, reminding us of how we should treasure our precious moments in life.



Nanyang Rhapsody



Prince Sang Nila Utama and Singa

Composed by Law Wai Lun

A vivid musical narration based on the legend of Singapura, it integrates the style of fantasia with Southeast Asian (Nanyang) music elements. The opening sequence introduces the formidable lion with the short bass section and a short suona fanfare. Thereafter, the deep bellow of the guanzi, contrasting with the nimble pluck-string and percussion instruments, announces the arrival of the mighty fleet of ships led by Sang Nila Utama sailing vigorously on the vast sea. Subsequently, different scenes continue to unfold in the music, the storm on the sea, the hunt in the wilderness and the climatically founding of the Empire of Singapura.

About the composer

Law Wai Lun was born in Shanghai, China. He graduated from the Central Conservatory of Music (a specialised and world-renowned institution of higher education for nurturing music professionals in China). At 12 years old, he studied piano in the Affiliated High School of Central Conservatory of Music. Due to his stellar performance, he was allowed to take college-level composing classes under Professor Su Xia. Thereafter, he was admitted directly into the university's Department of Music Composition and he studied under renowned Chinese composer Du Mingxin. In 2017, he was conferred the Cultural Medallion, which is the most prestigious award an artist can receive in Singapore. Law was appointed as the Composer-in-Residence of the Singapore Chinese Orchestra twice in 2012 and 2018.

Singai Naadu

Composed by Shabir Tabare Alam,
Adapted by Wang Chenwei

“Singai” (சீங்கை) is Tamil for “lion”, while “Naadu” (நாடாடு) means “country”, referring to the Lion City – Singapore. Composed by local singer-songwriter Shabir Tabare Alam, Singai Naadu was first showcased at the 2012 National Day Parade, and has since become a yearly staple for our National Day celebrations. Featuring elements from Indian music, Wang Chenwei not only uses gliding notes on Chinese instruments to imitate Shabir's singing voice, solos by the Dadi and the Zhongyin Suona are incorporated to emulate the Bansuri (Indian flute) and Nadaswaram (South Indian Suona) as well.

About the composer

Wang Chenwei is the current Composer-in-Residence of SCO. He teaches at NIE and NAFA. He co-authored The TENG Guide to the Chinese Orchestra (2019), a 624-page book on instrumentation and orchestration. After graduating from RI's Gifted Education Programme with seven academic awards, Chenwei obtained his Magister Artium (five-year Master of Arts) with distinction and an Honorary Award (Würdigungspreis) from the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna, where he studied composition and audio engineering under a scholarship from Media Development Authority. Chenwei's compositions have been performed in 12 territories worldwide. His notable commissions include the Erhu concerto set piece Charms of Taipei for the Taipei Chinese Instrumental Competition, Postcards from Macao for the Macao Government's Cultural Affairs Bureau, 38 works for SCO, 4 SYF set pieces for MOE and 4 National Piano and Violin Competition set pieces for SSO. At age 17, Chenwei composed The Sisters' Islands, a symphonic poem which won the Singapore Composer Award at the 2006 Singapore International Competition for Chinese Orchestral Composition. Chenwei's efforts in composing, conducting, playing 12 musical instruments and writing in 12 languages were featured in the 2009 Singaporean TV documentary Extraordinary People. He received the Young Outstanding Singaporeans award from Junior Chamber International in 2011 and the Top Local Classical Music award from the Composers and Authors Society of Singapore (COMPASS) in 2022.

World Classics

Thunder and Lightning Polka

Composed by Johann Strauss,
Arranged by Gu Guanren

One of the most popular polkas ever written, this is also one of Johann Strauss' rowdiest dance pieces. As with many polkas, the piece is set in simple duple time (2/4), and seeks to evoke the sound of thunder and lightning through extensive features of the percussion section.

Radetzky March

Composed by Johann Strauss,
Arranged by Qu Chunquan

A march composed by Johann Strauss, this piece was commissioned to commemorate the victory of Field Marshall Joseph Radetzky von Radetz at the Battle of Custoza (1848). Strauss had purportedly witnessed these soldiers singing the folk song *Alter Tanz aus Wien*, gaining inspiration and incorporating its melody into the March. The piece is written in *alla breve* (cut time), lending it a brisk and celebratory tone.

Jazz & Blues

Saint Louis Blues

Composed by William Christopher Handy,
Adapted by Law Wai Lun

Billed the 'Father of the Blues', Saint Louis Blues is perhaps one of William Christopher Handy's most popular songs. Featuring dissonant harmonies and sense of melancholy that is so representative of the Blues repertoire, it was said that Handy obtained inspiration for this number while taking a stroll in the city of Saint Louis. There, he met an African-American woman lamenting that 'Dat man got a heart lak a rock cast in the sea', which became a key line in the song.

Jazz Pizzicato

Composed by Leroy Anderson,
Arranged by Sim Boon Yew

As Leroy Anderson's maiden work, *Jazz Pizzicato* was premiered in 1938 by the Boston Pops Orchestra. With its lively upbeat tone, swinging rhythms, as well as signature jazz progressions, the piece also features extensive usage of pizzicato; a technique that involves plucking the strings of a string instrument.



Popular



Havana

Composed by Camila Cabello etc,
Arranged by Sulwyn Lok

Havana is a song recorded by Cuban-American singer Camila Cabello featuring fellow American rapper Young Thug. Released on 3 Aug 2017, from her solo debut album, *Camila*, it is a salsa-inspired mid-tempo pop and Latin song with R&B-pop beats. Written in the key of G minor, Cabello sings the chorus over Latin-influenced piano riffs and rhythm, with her vocals spanning from the low note of G₃ to the high note of D₅.

Just the Way You Are

Composed by Bruno Mars,
Arranged by Ng Chee Yao

Released on 20 July 2010, this pop and R&B song remains as American singer-songwriter Bruno Mars's greatest hit. The pop, R&B and soft rock ballad peaked at number 1 on the US Billboard Hot 100 and has sold over 13.7 million copies worldwide. Its instrumentation features the piano with a "hip-hop breakbeat", creating an easy listening, smooth ballad. The song is in the key of F major, with Mars's vocal range spanning from F₃ to C₅.

Finale

Home

Composed by Dick Lee,
Arranged by Law Wai Lun

Home, premiered by Kit Chan at the National Day Parade in 1998, is commissioned for Singapore's National Day celebrations. A marked departure from the boisterous nature of past National Day Parade songs, its melodies and lyrics emanate a wistful air of homesickness, tugging at the heartstrings of the common folk. It has since become an evergreen favorite, cementing its position as part of Singapore's cultural identity.

Have you been paying attention throughout the show? As you enjoy our rendition of 'Home', do the final quiz and don't forget to give us your audience feedback too. Take part in both and double up your chances to win SCO merchandise!

Quiz

Survey

▶ Upcoming Outreach Free Concerts ▶

Date	Time	Concert	Venue
22 Jul 23	6pm & 8pm	SCO Goes to Nee Soon	MPC@Khatib
12 Aug 23	6pm	SCO Goes to Bukit Merah View	Bukit Merah View Square
2 Sep 23	6pm	SCO Goes to Tanjong Pagar	Tanjong Pagar CC
16 Sep 23	5pm	SCO Goes to Siglap	Siglap Blk 51 Amphitheatre
23 Sep 23	6pm	Music Oasis @ Jurong Lake Gardens	Jurong Lake Gardens PAssion WaVe

▶ Orchestra ▶

Principal Conductor
Quek Ling Kiong

Conductor Emeritus
Tsung Yeh

Associate Conductor
Gay En Hui, Moses

▶ **Bowed Strings**

Gaohu

Li Baoshun (Concertmaster)[@]
Zhou Ruoyu (Gaohu Associate Principal)
Hu Chung-Chin
Li Yuan
Liu Zhiyue
She Ling
Xu Wenjing
Zhao Li

Zhonghu

Lin Gao (Principal)
Wu Kefei (Associate Principal)
Chia Wan Hua
Goh Cher Yen
Goh Hock Jun, Shunta
Neo Yong Soon, Wilson
Wang Yi-Jen
Wong Qin Kai

Erhu

Zhao Jianhua (Erhu I Principal)
Zhu Lin (Erhu II Principal)
Ling Hock Siang (Erhu I Associate Principal)
Li Yulong (Erhu II Associate Principal)
Ann Hong Mui
Chen Shu Hua
Cheng Chung Hsien
Hsieh I-Chieh
Qin Zijing
Shen Qin
Siok Li Chin, Deborah
Tan Manman
Tao Kaili
Yan Yan
Zhang Bin

Cello

Xu Zhong (Principal)
Tang Jia (Associate Principal)
Chen Ying Guang, Helen
Huang Ting-Yu
Ji Huiming

Double Bass

Zhang Hao (Principal)
Lee Kiang
Qu Feng
Wang Luyao
Poh Yee Luh
Sim Lian Kiat, Eddie
Xu Xuena

▶ **Plucked Strings**

Yangqin

Qu Jianqing (Principal)
Ma Huan

Pipa

Yu Jia (Principal)
Goh Yew Guan
Tan Joon Chin
Zhang Yin

Liuqin

Seetoh Poh Lam
Zhang Li

Zhongruan

Zhang Ronghui (Principal)
Cheng Tzu-Ting
Foong Chui San
Koh Min Hui
Ngeow Si Ming, Jonathan

Sanxian / Zhongruan

Huang Guifang (Sanxian Principal)[#]

Daruan

Chan Jing Wen, Kenny
Jing Po

Harp

Liang Guoting, Fontane

Guzheng

Xu Hui (Guzheng Associate Principal)

▶ **Woodwind**

Qudi

Yin Zhiyang (Dizi Principal)[%]
Lee Jun Cheng

Bangdi

Lim Sin Yeo
Ng Wei Xuan

Dadi/Xindi

Phang Thean Siong
Zeng Zhi

Gaoyin Sheng

Guo Changsuo (Sheng Principal)
Ong Yi Horng

Zhongyin Sheng

Cheng Ho Kwan, Kevin
Yang Sin-Yu

Diyin Sheng

Lim Kiong Pin

Gaoyin Suona

Jin Shiyi (Suona / Guan Principal)
Chang Le (Associate Principal)

Zhongyin Suona

Lee Heng Quee
Meng Jie

Cizhongyin Suona

Boo Chin Kiah

Diyin Suona

Liu Jiang

Guan

Zhang Shuo

▶ **Percussion**

Boo Chong Wei, Benjamin (Principal)
Tan Loke Chuah (Associate Principal)
Koh Wen Jun, Derek
Ngho Kheng Seng

Shen Guoqin
Teo Teng Tat
Wu Xiangyang
Xu Hui

[@] Section Leader (Strings)
[#] Section Leader (Plucked Strings)
[%] Section Leader (Winds & Percussion)

Names in alphabetical order (except principal & associate principal)
Information correct at time of publishing

BE OUR FAN ON



@singaporechineseorchestra @snycosg

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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SUPPORTED BY



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FOUNDATION



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