

Program Title: Warisan

In line with the exhibition that focuses on the 50s-70s Malaya/Malaysia, we have devised a music appreciation program of lagu-lagu rakyat consisting well known folk songs of Malaya, and included some popular tunes of P. Ramlee, Saloma and Sheila Majid. The music is tastefully arranged for voice, choral and instrumental, retaining the flavours of the original tune, yet timeless and refreshing.

Song List:

Acappella Welcome	Pak Ketipang Ketipung
Acappella	Potong Padi
Keyboard + Solo Voice	Ala Canggung
Acappella	Wang Chun Feng
Keyboard + Men's Trio	Anak Ayam
Keyboard + Voices	Anak Itik
Keyboard + Solo Voice	Suriram
Keyboard + Solo Voice	Mak Inang
Instrumental	Getaran Jiwa (P Ramlee)
Instrumental	Violin: Bengawan (Saloma)
Keyboard + Solo Voice	Tunggu Sekejap (P Ramlee)
Instrumental	Violin: Legenda (Sheila Majid)
Acappella Finale	Jong Jong Inai

The total duration of the program is approximately 40 – 45 minutes.

Cultural Value of the program:

1. It promotes the a renewed and refreshing take on the traditional music, which may be more conducive to the younger generation of today.
2. The concert aims to inspire greater appreciation of music, promote healthy music activities and cultivate community music making.
3. It promotes the involvement of Classical Trained musicians in practicing and performing in a genre that may be less common.
4. The program will be of good publicity value for ILHAM Gallery as a wholesome entity that promotes and keeps Aseana arts (including musical heritage) lively and relevant.
5. The repertoire is huge and varied, therefore this program has the potential to be repeated periodically with different selections, thereby creating a series program.

Musicians Lineup:

The KL Madrigal Singers by VerSeS (www.versespj.com)

- 2002 Songfest Singing Contest (by Selangor Philharmonic Society) – Champion, Group Category
- 2004 Songfest Singing Contest (by Selangor Philharmonic Society) – Second Plac, Group Category
- 2005 Songfest Singing Contest (by Selangor Philharmonic Society) – Champion, Group Category
- 2019 the 17th Malaysian Choral Eisteddfod (MCE) National Choir Competition – Gold Award & Category Winner for Vocal Ensemble

The KL Madrigal Singers, is the soloist ensemble segment from within the wider VerSeS Music Ensembles collective that was formed in 2002. The Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) based soloist ensemble is dedicated to performing and promote a variety of solo classical vocal and choral ensemble music, with special interest in the Madrigals of Dowland, Morley, Monteverdi and Gesualdo. Also an active small opera company, the collective actively performs opera arias and small scale opera scenes, in addition to arts songs of Germany, France, Italy, China, Spain and Britain. While VerSeS is active in commercial activities by providing high quality live classical music to corporate and private clients alike, the social responsibility component of the collective has been strong and continuously running alongside the business activities. Notable projects include the “A Journey Through The Ages - AJTTA” series concerts for local charity body, “The Singing Balcony” non-profit outreach program, the “Iris & Cornflower” series that focuses on French and German Repertoire, the “Tiny Concerts” series that engages audience in appreciation of foreign language classical vocal and choral repertoire.

Musical Director and Vocal Master: **Scott Woo** (<https://scottwoo.home.blog>)

Adv. Cert. (Singing), Trinity College London

Scott is a seasoned musician that has taken on multiple roles in the classical music landscape, including lay clerk, choirmaster, musical director, talent agent and concert producer, both locally and abroad in Australia and Germany. He was on the panel for Sarawak Patriotic Choir Competition in 2004 and as Chief Judge in 2005. A skillful choral master, his choirs often scored top 3 in competitions. Upon returning to Malaysia in 2017, Scott started “The Singing Balcony” initiative where he strives to bring together talented local musicians and promote different portfolios of classical choral and vocal music to the Malaysian public in a very accessible manner. In 2018, Scott coached the Malaysian team on Poulenc and Bach Motets (BWV 227, 229 & 230) for concerts in Kuala Lumpur (in collaboration with Wicked Music People). The team later went on to become Festival Opening Guest for the 2019 Macau Vocal Festival. In 2019, Scott pioneered the deconstructed songcycle conversational format recital of Schumann’s Dichterliebe, where first time listeners of lieder are given a conducive environment to understand the meaning of the poetry and enjoy the music in an accessible manner. In the same year, he has also conducted Bite-Sized Zauberfloete, a child-friendly version of Mozart’s Die Zauberfloete, in collaboration with Ann Perreau’s Music School. Children and parents, many whom are first time listeners were presented with a condensed version of the opera making it an effective introduction to new listeners of the opera.

Local Media Coverage: <https://bit.ly/2QkFAI0>

Local Media Coverage: <https://bit.ly/2M4T8T9>

Foreign Media Coverage: http://www.macaodaily.com/html/2018-12/06/content_1315034.htm

Foreign Media Coverage: http://www.macaodaily.com/html/2018-12/13/content_1316729.htm

Special Guest: Dr. Yi-Li Chang (Violin)

A native of Taiwan, Yi-Li Chang has been recognized by Boston Musical Intelligencer as a baroque violinist and gambist with “confident virtuosity, deliver with fluid and engrossing flair and serious acuity, and blend as necessary, adding a rich warmth to the group’s sound.”

A well-rounded musician, Yi-Li’s knowledge of music goes beyond the modern violin, baroque violin, viola da gamba and keyboard. Yi-Li has received Doctor of Music and Master of Music in violin performance from the National Taiwan Normal University. Besides modern violin performance, she also has received Graduate Performance Diploma, and Master of Music degree in Early Music from the Longy School of Music of Bard College. During her studies at Longy she was the winner of the Honors Competition at Longy and granted the prestigious Roman Totenberg Award.

Yi-Li was the faculty at Arlington Public School and New School of Music in Massachusetts, and the staff harpsichord accompanist at Longy School of Music of Bard College, U.S.A.

Yi-Li is now Senior Lecturer at music department of University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Conductor cum Accompanists: Darrel Chan (Keyboard)

APD. Choral Conducting, Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, UK
M.Mus Choral Conducting, Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, UK
B.Mus Piano Performance, Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, UK
Recipient of:

- The Guy Woolfenden Prize on behalf of the Denne Gilkes Memorial Fund, 2017
- The Michael Beech Conducting Award, 2018
- “Stuart Cameron Smith American Song Prize”

Apart from being a countertenor soloist, Darrel is an active choral conductor and active collaborative pianist, working with singers and instrumentalists in Malaysia and Birmingham. Currently Darrel conducts the PJ Baroque Consort, sings with the KL Madrigal Singers and teaches music around the Klang Valley.

Wong Ming Li (Soprano)

B.A (Vocal Performance), Nanjing Normal University
Winner of 2014 Ching Yong Young Singer’s Competition & Vocal Scholarship
2019 National Classical Singing Competition: Champion (Female- Central Region)
2019 National Classical Singing Competition: 3rd Runner Up (Female- National)

Ming Li received her early vocal training from Low Kok Yau, Wong Wai Quan and Tan Kar Ghee, before furthering her voice education in Nanjing Normal University, in the studio of Assistant Professor Chen Jie. While in China, she was an active soloists, both for the prestigious university choir, and as a solo recitalist. Her recital, “Baroque Melodies From A Foreign Land” at the iconic Avant Garde Bookstore was well received in Nanjing. In Malaysia, Ming Li was the choral coach for Tsun Jin High School, The Waitankung and Neitankung Society choirs and SAB A-Cappella Band. In 2011, Ming Li was involved in the musical “Magic Mirror” at the Istana Budaya – a joint production between Malaysia and China. Ming Li now teaches voice and performs regularly with the KL Madrigal Singers around the Klang Valley.

Sharlene Rani (Soprano)

ATCL (Singing) Trinity College London

2018 National Classical Singing Competition: 3rd Runner Up (Female - National)

Hailing from Perak, Sharlene is classically trained but also enjoys singing different genres and learning new languages. Sharlene enjoys exploring new music and collaborations with instrumentalists and performs regularly with VerSeS and the KL Madrigal Singers.

Paul Khoo (Baritone)

Paul is a seasoned chorister in Kuala Lumpur. He was also a coach for “Play by ear” program that focuses on adult piano learners for 7 years and is a long standing member of the local chamber choir, Resonance which have premiered many mandarin original compositions in Malaysia.

William Kow (Baritone)

The Co-Founder of VerSeS, William have extensive performance experiences both locally and abroad. While in Canada, he participated in Handel’s “Messiah”, Britten’s “Paul Bunyan” and Mozart’s “The Magic Flute” in the role of Papageno during his study in Canada under the guidance of Soprano, Susan L. Dworkin. Meanwhile, he was awarded first place in King’s County Music Festival.

Upon return to Malaysia, William performed in the musical “The Above Full Moon”, “Anak Malaysia”, “Kita” and “In Perfect Harmony”, at the same time, William had his Recital “Songs Of Travel”, and also participated in Mozart’s “Requiem in D Minor” as Baritone soloist. In 2011 and 2012, he is on tour with the Musical "Princess Wen Cheng" in Beijing, Xi An, Singapore and Malaysia.

William is one of the singers in JSJG, Dharma Man’s Vocal Group that founded in 2015 by Imee Ooi. Recent years, he is on tour with “Sound Of Wisdom” to Singapore, Indonesia, China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and America to promoting Buddhism through music.

Prepared by:



Scott Woo

Musical Director

VerSeS Music Ensembles

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