



[Media Release] Immerse in the tunes of Singapore with The TENG Company

Description

TENG celebrates 20 years of Music for Good

Singapore-born arts company, The TENG Company (TENG), is celebrating its 20th anniversary with a series of initiatives and events annually that will showcase two decades of its commitment towards Music for Good. TENG has made waves in the local music scene since 2004, by pioneering the Singaporean Sound, empowering future generations of musicians and uplifting underserved communities — all through the conduit of music and its reimagination. As part of the celebration, TENG will continue to spotlight and collaborate with partners to support society and the industry.



Vinod Dass (Courtesy of Vinod Dass)

Empowering Singapore's music industry and growing the Singapore Sound

A key calendar event this year is The TENG Company 20th Anniversary Gala Night on 24 May, where proceeds from this fundraising concert will ensure that TENG's programmes and operations can continue to run and grow. The gala will feature 10 new commissions created in collaboration with 20 local creatives from different ethnic backgrounds, including composers, producers, musicians and filmmakers, who embody the country's cross-cultural essence, artistic heritage and burgeoning creativity. The works will celebrate the Singapore sound by following the Eastern storytelling framework of ʘ (Beginning), æ? (Exposition), è½ (Re-direction), and å• (Harmony).

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Alex Hooi (Courtesy of The TENG Company)

These commissioned works will also take centre stage as the opening programme of the Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre (SCCC) Cultural Extravaganza 2024. Presented by the Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre and Temasek Foundation, The Singaporean Composers Series (èµ·æ?¿è½-å?) will be hosted on 25 and 26 May.

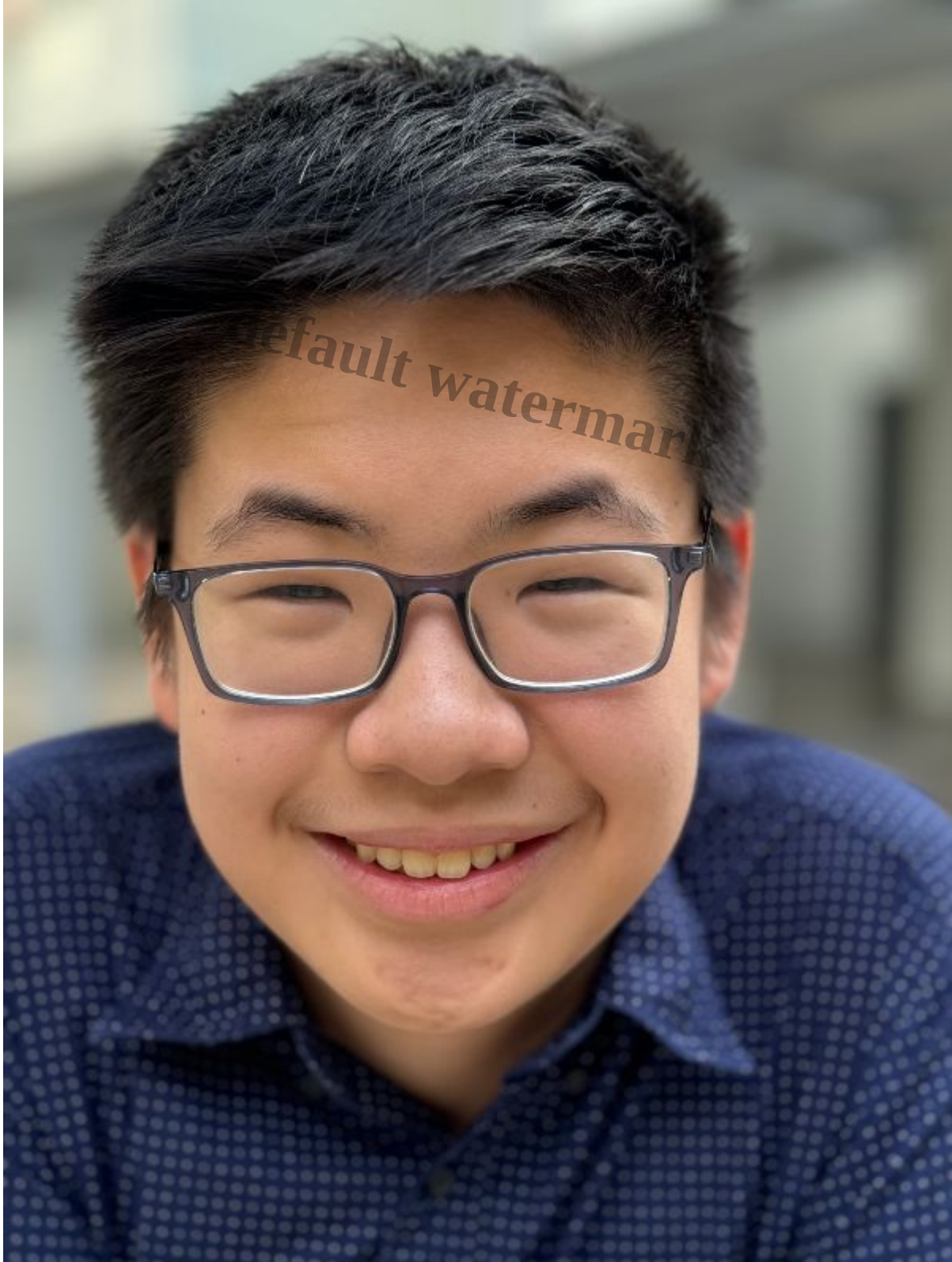
“It has been heartening to see our entrepreneurial aspirations from 20 years ago transform into a legacy of creations with influences from the East and West, that have grown alongside the local music scene. As we continue to challenge and expand the boundaries of music together with our collaborators, we hope to develop more opportunities for local talents to grow, while building upon our Singapore identity to forge meaningful connections within and beyond Singapore,” said Yang Ji Wei, Co-Founder and Executive Director of TENG.

Other TENG programmes to look out for this year include five community concerts presented by Mapletree Investments. These two educational instrumental concerts spotlight the contemporary tones of the Guzheng and Erhu respectively, as well as an unprecedented collaboration with The Private Museum to present The Eight Graces, a multidisciplinary showcase for enthusiasts of Chinese art and culture. The full lineup of programmes can be found in the Factsheet.



Rufus Varghese (Courtesy of Rufus Varghese)

TENG will also continue to support budding local musicians by awarding four new scholars thus extending mentorship to up to six new scholars in 2024, as part of the Mapletree-TENG Scholarship. The initiative will cover the full tuition fees of individual lessons with professional instructors from TENG, grading examinations and course materials for two years. To date, 26 scholars have benefitted from the training scheme since it launched in 2018.



Nathanael Koh (Courtesy of Nathanael Koh)

Empowering communities through Music for Good

In addition to the calendar of events that grow Singapore's musical identity and appreciation, TENG's flagship outreach programme TENG Gives Back will host 50 performances for hospices and hospitals such as The National Kidney Foundation and Assisi Hospice. The programme will also embark on a research project with the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory at the National University of Singapore to validate the effectiveness of live music in providing comfort to the sick and elderly.

TENG will continue to promote wellness in the community through its Music for Mindfulness initiative, which is now available in rooms at the Shangri-La Hotel as part of the hotel's Better Sleep package. It will expand its research collaboration with the Singapore Institute of Technology to explore the impact of music on the growing silver generation. Together with Direct Funeral Services, TENG will also be researching sound waves that provide comforting music for individuals during times of grief.

To increase the disaster resilience of children, the first set of animated jingles from the project TENG x COPE will also be completed and distributed on the UNICEF Learning Passport. Adapted from an existing series of children's books teaching survival skills during natural disasters, TENG is transforming the series into animated media with catchy jingles to help children remember the books' contents, following a comprehensive creation and research process involving kindergartens at NTUC First Campus's My First Skool in 2023.

In support of individuals with special needs through Chinese music, TENG will be extending its In-School Programmes for Targeted Students to a new specialised institution this year. TENG will work with the Dyslexia Association of Singapore to empower their beneficiaries to discover and develop their musical potential. Over 100 students have been supported by the programmes to date. This is in line with TENG's growing initiatives to use music in developing an inclusive society, such as the recent partnership with SMRT to release a series of train chimes to support the visually handicapped.



Dr Samuel Wong, Co-Founder and Creative Director, The TENG Company 1
(Courtesy of The TENG Company)

“We are excited to celebrate our anniversary and bring the joy of music to the community through live performances, and even in everyday life, with our train chimes produced for SMRT as auditory beacons to help the visually impaired in their commuting journey. Over the last 20

years, we have embarked on many initiatives that have harnessed the power of music and innovation to uplift Singaporeans of different walks of life. We are looking forward to breaking new ground and expanding our music for good initiatives in the next 20 years and more," said Dr Samuel Wong, Co-Founder and Creative Director of The TENG Company.

List of Collaborators for The TENG Company 20th Anniversary Gala Night and The Singaporean Composers Series

 <u>Alex Hooi</u> Global Top Three finalist of MusicRadar's "Young Guitarist of The Year" and Music Producer	 <u>Bang Wenfu</u> Music Director of 2024's National Day Parade, Music Producer, Arranger and Composer	 <u>Chok Kerong</u> Jazz Composer and Keyboardist, National Arts Council Overseas Arts Scholar, alumnus of Manhattan School of Music; Adjunct Faculty, School of the Arts, Singapore	 <u>Evan Low</u> Music Director & Music Producer; IMDA Media Education Scheme Scholar, alumnus of Berklee College of Music; Regional Label Manager Warner Music
 <u>Gabriel Chan</u> 2019 Young Artist Award Recipient for Lighting Design; Recipient of Best Lighting Design, Hong Kong Academy of Performing Arts' Technical & Entertainment Award 2010	 <u>George Leong</u> Executive Director at SingPop Music Limited and Veteran Music Producer; Recipient of the "Artistic Excellence" Award and the "Top Local Soundtrack" Award 2016 by the Composers and Authors Society of Singapore	 <u>Joel Nah</u> Head of Music at The TENG Company, National Arts Council Scholar, pioneer Singaporean alumni of Berklee College of Music (Valencia)	 <u>Kelly Tang</u> Cultural Medallion Award Winner 2011 and Master Teacher at Singapore Teachers' Academy for the Arts.

 Koh Cheng Jin Youngest Composer to be commissioned by Singapore Symphony Orchestra, Winner of the 2018 Boston New Music Initiative's 4th Annual Young Composer Competition; alumnus of The Juilliard School and current PhD student at New York University	 Nathanael Koh 14-Year old Math and Music Composition prodigy and current PhD student at Australian National University; Finalist, UK Commonwealth Composition Challenge 2020	 Phoon Yu Organist and Composer, C. V. Starr Doctoral Fellow and Doctor of Musical Arts, The Juilliard School	 Rizal Sanip Veteran Musical Theatre Percussionist and Producer
 Rufus Varghese Audio Director and Producer; Programme Manager (Music), Orita Sinclair School of Design and Music	 Samuel Wong Co-founder and Creative Director of The TENG Company	 Soul Dot Music Production Collective, alumni of Musicians Institute of Contemporary Music, Hollywood, Los Angeles	 Steve Zhang Sound and Audio Engineer, Project Engineer Luther Music

studio ryn & wo Studio Ryn & Wo Multidisciplinary Art and Design Practice Studio	 Vinod Dass Aka Wovensound, Hip Hop Producer; International Film Sound Designer	 Wang Chenwei 2023 Young Artist Award Recipient, Head of Research and Education at The TENG Company and Composer-in-Residence at Singapore Chinese Orchestra	 Widewall Pictures Award winning Filmmakers Nelson Yeo and Linh Duong, Recipients of the Top Prize, The Golden Leopard at the Lorcano International Film Festival 2023 and The Moulin D'andé-CECI Award at Locarno Open Doors 2019 respectively
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