

# THE PURPLE SYMPHONY

CONCERT 2019

Singapore's largest  
inclusive orchestra  
presents:

## *Dreams of our Little Red Dot*

Sun, 25 Aug 2019  
4pm  
Esplanade Concert Hall

A Community Project By:





# Contents

*p. 04*

The Purple Symphony

*p. 06*

Concert Programme

*p. 08*

Forewords and Welcome Message

*p. 12*

The Artistic Team

*p. 14*

The Orchestra

*p. 21*

The Training Award Programme

*p. 22*

It Takes A Village

*p. 26*

Our Musicians

*p. 28*

The Purple Symphony Journey

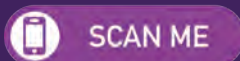
*p. 30*

Join Us

*p. 31*

Acknowledgements

Please scan this QR code to participate in our performance.



**For the enjoyment of all patrons during the concert:**

- Please switch off or silence all electronic devices.
- Please minimise noises during performance.
- No photography, video or audio recording is allowed when the musicians are performing.
- Non-flash photography is allowed during bows and applause.

Photographs and videos will be taken at the event, in which you may appear. These may be published by the Central Singapore CDC and The Purple Symphony on publicity channels and materials. By attending the event, you consent to the use of these photographs and videos for those purposes.



# *The Purple Symphony*

*The Purple Symphony* debuted on 31 July 2015 as Singapore's largest inclusive orchestra comprising musicians with and without special needs. The orchestra comprises more than 100 members in five key musical sections: Bowed & Plucked Strings, Choir, Percussion and Winds. Since its debut, *The Purple Symphony* has gone on to perform at national and regional platforms, such as the Closing Ceremony of the 8th ASEAN Para Games in 2015, National Day Parade 2017, President's Star Charity 2018, and the annual Purple Parade.

Facilitated by Central Singapore Community Development Council (CDC), *The Purple Symphony* is a collaborative project made possible with the support of Lighthouse School, Movement for the Intellectually Disabled of Singapore, Pathlight School, Singapore Management University, Singapore National Youth Chinese Orchestra, and passionate individuals with a talent for music.





# Concert Programme

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## OUR ROOTS

### A Kampong Rhapsody (World Premiere)

Composed by De Silva Alicia Joyce

Zhongruan: Luke Kang

Bongos and Drums: Nurul Natasya Binte Idrus

Accordion: Syafiqah'adha Sallehin

Bansuri: Raghevendra Rajasekaran

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## OUR GROWTH

### Songs We Share:

#### A Medley of Singapore Campaign Songs

*Productivity Campaign - Good, Better, Best (1982)*

*Courtesy Campaign - Make Courtesy Our Way of Life (1980)*

*Total Defence Song - There's a Part for Everyone (1984)*

*Speak Mandarin Campaign 大家说华语 (1980)*

#### A Medley of Singapore Community and NDP Songs

*Singapura, Sunny Island (1960s)*

*Five Stars Arising (1969)*

*Singapore Town (1967)*

*Count On Me, Singapore (1986)*

*One People, One Nation, One Singapore (1990)*

*We Are Singapore (1987)*

*Stand Up For Singapore (1984)*

*We Will Get There (2002)*

*Our Singapore (2015)*

Vocals: Claire Teo, Wan Wai Yee & Choir

Hand Signing: Eunice Seah & Lily Goh

Composed by Various Artists

Arranged by Liong Kit Yeng

# Intermission

## OUR PRESENT

### Home Medley

Composed by Various Artists

Arranged by Yvonne Teo

*Home (by Michael Buble)*

*500 Miles Away From Home*

*Home Sweet Home 可爱的家庭*

*细水长流*

*That's What Friends Are For*

*Home (by Dick Lee)*

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## OUR FUTURE

### Largo

#### Adapted from Symphony No. 9 in E Minor, Op. 95, 2nd Movement: "From the New World"

Composed by Antonín Dvořák

Arranged by Chua Jon Lin

### Stand by Me

Composed by Ben E. King, Jerry Leiber & Mike Stoller

Arranged by Sulwyn Lok

Vocals: Jaffar Sidek, Wan Wai Yee & Choir

### Ode to Joy

#### Theme from Symphony No. 9 in D Minor, Op. 125, 4th Movement

Composed by Ludwig van Beethoven

Arranged by Liong Kit Yeng

Vocals: Claire Teo, Wan Wai Yee & Choir

Featuring Digital Music Ensemble, comprising members from SPD and Muscular Dystrophy Association (Singapore)

### When You Believe

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz

Arranged by Liong Kit Yeng

Vocals: Claire Teo, Wan Wai Yee & Choir



A NOTE FROM

# Mr Lee Hsien Loong

PRIME MINISTER



*The Purple Symphony* celebrates its fifth anniversary this year. Watching more than 100 musicians, each differently abled with unique talents in different instruments come together to create melodious pieces, reminds me of our Singapore Story.

Like *The Purple Symphony*, Singapore celebrates and embraces diversity. Our diversity is our strength. As we commemorate our Bicentennial this year, we reflect on how Singaporeans with different passions and strengths have come together in harmony to build a distinctive, strong and united society.

Just as each symphony piece has its unique rhythm, Singapore's journey too has its ups and downs. Together, we must continue to work closely as one united people and bravely overcome challenges that may come our way so that we may journey towards an even greater Singapore Story.

I wish *The Purple Symphony* all the very best as you continue to make great music together. Congratulations on turning Five!

A NOTE FROM

# Ms Denise Phua

MAYOR,  
CENTRAL SINGAPORE  
DISTRICT

ADVISER TO  
THE PURPLE SYMPHONY



I remember feeling overwhelmed when *The Purple Symphony* debuted in 2015, playing five songs for 150 guests at the Singapore Conference Hall. We had pulled together a little over 80 musicians aged four to 58. It was a humbling experience.

*The Purple Symphony* played beautifully that July afternoon. It was only possible because of the dedication put in by the musicians, the artistic team, village of parents, volunteers and sponsors who believed and supported our endeavour.

In the blink of an eye, the orchestra is turning five. *The Purple Symphony* today has over 100 member musicians, comprising persons with and without special needs, and is Singapore's largest inclusive orchestra. They have gone on to play for thousands including at the 2017 National Day Parade.

On behalf of *The Purple Symphony*, my heartfelt thanks to everyone who has blessed and supported our special orchestra. To our artistic team led by Mr Quek Ling Kiong, the musicians, partners, passionate volunteers, loving family and friends – we couldn't have done this without you.

As the orchestra continues to grow, I am confident that our musicians will continue to inspire Singaporeans through their music, and be a beacon of inclusivity for others.

Thank you for supporting inclusivity and celebrating abilities with us.



A photograph of Mr. Quek Ling Kiong, the Artistic Director and Conductor of The Purple Symphony, conducting an orchestra. He is wearing a dark suit, a purple shirt, and a purple bow tie. He is holding a baton in his right hand and gesturing with his left hand. The background shows other musicians in the orchestra, some playing string instruments. The image is partially covered by a purple overlay on the right side, which contains text.

# Mr *Quek* Ling Kiong

## **WELCOME MESSAGE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR AND CONDUCTOR**

Looking back at the past five years as Artistic Director and Conductor of *The Purple Symphony*, I could not have imagined a more enriching and fulfilling musical journey by being a part of Singapore's largest inclusive orchestra, comprising musicians with and without special needs.

I have watched our musicians' grow in the past five years, and even become mentors to our new members. It has been heart-warming to see them nurtured; not just as musicians, but as a community. Together, we have built an inclusive home where every person, regardless of their starting points in life, can inspire others with their abilities and passion.

This year, in commemoration of Singapore's Bicentennial, we wanted to show that our special orchestra can also do its part by bringing you on a musical journey to understand our nation's rich history.

It is our pleasure to have you join us today and experience a special repertoire of familiar and nostalgic tunes that threads through Singapore's roots, growth, present and future. I hope that the music of *The Purple Symphony* will inspire you to appreciate and cherish our shared multicultural history.



# The Artistic Team

## MS LIONG KIT YENG

*Assistant Conductor and Composer-in-Residence*

Ms Liong Kit Yeng's multifaceted career spans the arts, broadcasting and education. As a composer, her works have been featured at local and international music festivals and competitions. Since 2015, she has been Composer-in-Residence of *The Purple Symphony*, crafting musical scores for its unique East-meets-West instrumentation, including the arrangement of the National Anthem, which was performed at the Closing Ceremony of the 8th ASEAN Para Games 2015. In 2017, she was appointed Assistant Conductor, leading *The Purple Symphony* Ensemble to perform at the National Day Parade, as well as True Colours Festival 2018.



## MR NGOH KHENG SENG

*Percussion*

A veteran percussionist with the Singapore Chinese Orchestra, Mr Ngoh Kheng Seng is an avid learner and extensive percussion educator who coaches award-winning bands and Chinese Orchestras.



## MS KHOR AI MING

*Choir*

A celebrated choral conductor, vocal coach and contemporary classical soprano, Ms Khor Ai Ming's vast experience has led to her conducting various choral groups and delivering critically-acclaimed performances locally and abroad.



## MR TAN CHYE TIONG

*Winds*

A professional musician and a part-time lecturer, Mr Tan Chye Tiong is a passionate instructor who has led students to win several awards at local competitions. He is also proficient in several genres of music.



## MR GRZEGORZ MARKIEWICZ

*Percussion*

With more than 60 years of experience, Mr Grzegorz Markiewicz has enjoyed an international career with many orchestras as a timpanist and percussionist. He currently freelances as a lecturer at various schools.



## MR RAMLAN BIN RASIDI

*Taiko Drums*

An avid percussionist, Mr Ramlan Bin Rasidi has led the MINDS Taiko Drum Troupe to new heights as their trainer. Aside from music, he is also well-versed in Malay cultural dance and serves actively in the community.



## MS TEO WI CHIAN

*Concert Master*

Ms Teo Wi Chian started playing in orchestra during her university days. Holding a full time job since graduation, she continues to make time for her engagement in various music groups. A dedicated volunteer musician with *The Purple Symphony* since 2017, Wi Chian currently leads the violin section in the orchestra.







# *The Orchestra*





## BOWED & PLUCKED STRINGS

### VIOLIN

Ang Seow Wei  
Bronwyn Wong  
Pakshong Yuan Yi  
Charmian Lee Jia Min  
Cheri Ang Sheri-li  
Clarissa Chern  
Huang Li Zhen  
Koh Cheng Ya  
Leo Yun Fen  
Lu Tian Wei  
Luo Mang  
Samuel Ho Kah Hoong  
Teo Wi Chian

### VIOLA

Chu Wee Yong  
Ng Tung Hei

### CELLO

Bernecia Low  
Chee Jun Sian  
Royce Tan Kay Woon  
Tan Ren Jie Joseph  
Tok Jie Yi Joey  
Wong Yan Jun

### DOUBLE BASS

Chee Jun Hong  
Chee Wah Yong  
Joyce Goh  
Koh Yi Ling Tizane

### GAOHU (高胡)

Ng Rui Jun  
Wang Chen-En

### ERHU (二胡)

Gerald Teo  
Stephanie Ow Jia Min  
Tan Bing Xuan  
Vincent Wu Zheng Jie

### ZHONGHU (中胡)

Jasmine Jiang Pei Yan  
Ng Shu Qi  
Wei Zili

### YANG QIN (扬琴)

Ong Wei Da

### LIU QIN (柳琴)

Megan Chong Wen Xi

### PIPA (琵琶)

Chen Xin Yu  
Parveen Kaur D/O Geramir  
Singh  
Wu Yifan

### ZHONG RUAN (中阮)

Emilea Teo  
Liaw Hwee Choo  
Liu Jia' En  
Luke Kang  
Seah Yiru



## CHOIR

### CHOIR

Afrin Alyssa  
Aswinsivnes S/O Sivanasen  
Chew Rui Kai  
Julian Ng  
Justin Ng  
Loh Zi Xuan  
Marcus Emmanuel Hugo Koh  
Jun Wee  
Maryam Bte Imran  
Muhd Sufian Bin Abdullah  
Nur Anisah Daaniys Binte  
Muhammad Sufian  
Nur Ezzati Binte Hamidi  
Nur Hanis  
Shermaine Chiam  
Sing Guan Wei  
Tan Zhi Lin  
Wang Yi Chen

### VOCALISTS

Claire Teo  
Jaffar Sidek  
Wan Wai Yee

### PIANISTS

Bertrand Tan  
Loh Shu Han  
Siti Sakinah Binte Zainal





## PERCUSSION

### PERCUSSION

Chang Zi En  
Elvia Goh  
Ethan Tan Hym  
Eunice Seah  
Goh Jun Heng  
Jonathan Tan Godwin  
Justin Tan  
Lau Boon Yen  
Li Jun Qi  
Lily Goh  
Lim Yi Hang  
Nicholas Peh Wee Jin  
Nurul Natasya Binte Idrus  
Quek Ming Yi  
Ray Lim

### TAIKO

Khairullizam Bin Omar  
Mohd Erwan Bin Aman  
Mohd Farhan Bin  
Md Noor  
Yao Yao Hua



## WINDS

### DIZI (笛子)

Aaron Tan  
Bronwyn Teo Jia Wen  
Chong Rui Yang  
Kway Wei Tong  
Derrick Ang  
Jimenez Marzel Grace Eguia  
Ng Kok Wee  
Rena Quah  
Tan Jingyi Joey  
Tania May Leong

### GAO YIN SHENG (高音笙)

Soh Swee Kiat

### ZHONG YIN SHENG (中音笙)

Lee De Jie

### ZHONG YIN SUONA (中音唢呐)

Ling Xiao Jun

### CLARINET

Jonathan Goh  
Peck Wen Her  
Penny Tan

### FLUTE

Iris Choo  
Lawrence Gabriel  
Villar Angel

### FRENCH HORN

Choo Jun Wei  
Leow Bee Hua  
Stuart Ang  
Orion Ang  
Violet Goh

### OBOE

Ng Wei Xiang

### TROMBONE

Lim Kang Dylan  
Sylvester Tan

### TRUMPET

Cheong See Yeng  
Nur Nabilah Binte Azahari





NEW

DIGITAL MUSIC

Gan Theng Kiong  
Lin Yu An  
Lokman Nur Hakim  
Low Cher Chong  
Subramanian Harees  
Tan Lian Lay Melissa  
Tan Yan Ling Veronica

To signify the growth of Singapore entering the digital age, *The Purple Symphony* had the privilege of collaborating with SPD and the Muscular Dystrophy Association (Singapore).

Making their debut with *The Purple Symphony*, the Digital Music Ensemble trained together and bonded over their love for music. They will be playing on iPads to present the theme of *Ode to Joy* from Beethoven's Symphony No.9, Movement 4.

## THE *Training Award Programme*

*The Purple Symphony Training Award Programme* was established in 2016. The programme provides individuals with special needs or those from disadvantaged backgrounds opportunities to develop their musical talents and perform in public.

The award is jointly administered by GIC and the Central Singapore Community Development Council.



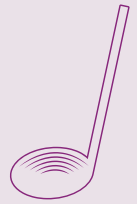
Nicholas Peh Wee Jin, Percussion

Nicholas has been with *The Purple Symphony* since 2015. The percussionist plays the vibraphone with such enthusiasm, that you can see his shoulders dancing as he strikes the bars. Nicholas is passionate about music, and practises diligently to ensure he puts up his best performance.

A naturally talented musician, Nicholas had the opportunity to hone his skills through *The Purple Symphony Training Award Programme*, which supports his weekly music practices.



# IT TAKES A *Village*



While the spotlight shines strongest on our musicians, there are others who work tirelessly behind the scenes to make every rehearsal possible, and each performance memorable. Most of them neither appear nor perform on stage, but their silent efforts help make *The Purple Symphony* a resounding success.

Thank you for being a part of this wonderful musical journey and inspiring others to believe that regardless of their starting points in life, everyone can contribute and effect positive change. Join us to hear the heart-warming stories of some of our musicians, families, friends and volunteers.





## IT TAKES A *Village*

**L**uo Mang, who has autism, was immersed in the arts since the age of seven. After learning the piano for almost a decade, she went on to challenge herself to learn the violin, a completely new instrument, in 2018.

Luo Mang joined *The Purple Symphony* later that year. She has since shown greater confidence when interacting with fellow musicians. Her mother has also noticed her becoming more sociable, and attributed it to the camaraderie and teamwork built with other musicians over the many rehearsals.

Luo Mang's mother, Dr Xu, willingly closed her clinic to accompany her to the weekly rehearsals, so that Luo Mang can continue to learn and enjoy the company of her orchestra mates.

She is heartened to see Luo Mang's progress, and enthused that, "As a parent, every sacrifice that she made was worth it. *The Purple Symphony* has helped to show others that persons with special needs are very much abled in their own way."



*Luo Mang and Mother*



*Samuel Ho and Family*

**S**amuel, who is physically disabled, began his musical journey when he was six. Initially hesitant to perform in public, Samuel overcame his apprehension and joined *The Purple Symphony* in 2018.

Being with the orchestra, Samuel's love for music grew and he has since forged new friendships. He has also learnt about teamwork, and better understands the importance of discipline and patience, amidst adversities.

Samuel's secret to success is the love and strong support from his family. His parents have exposed him to numerous concerts, and made sacrifices for Samuel to have more practice time to continue his passion.

Another unsung hero in Samuel's life is Norma, a helper in the family for almost 35 years. Together with his parents, Norma accompanies Samuel to rehearsals, and stood by him through life's ups and downs.



## OUR

# Musicians



Eunice Seah and Lily Goh

**E**unice is the sign interpreter and friend of deaf percussionist, Lily.

Although the two knew each other since their polytechnic days, Eunice vividly recalls the heart-warming experience partnering with Lily in *The Purple Symphony* for the first time many years ago. "Since then, I felt that *The Purple Symphony* was an excellent platform where differently abled individuals could come together to create music – a universal language."

Eunice and Lily continuously improve on ways to improvise in order to gel seamlessly with the orchestra. As each song is different, they have to learn and adapt along the way. This has further strengthened their bond.

Eunice and Lily hope for others to realise that inclusion should not be an afterthought. Rather, it is an integral building block of society that should be weaved into our daily lives.

**S**aturdays leading to *The Purple Symphony* concert comprises juggling work and rehearsals for Stuart Ang. Now into his third year, Stuart is joined by his son, Orion, who is autistic, but has displayed a keen interest to learn and play the French Horn.

This common interest has brought them closer and it sparks greater joy in their daily interactions. Beyond Saturday rehearsals, Stuart dedicates his time to mentor and coach Orion.

Stuart is heartened to see Orion gradually becoming more confident and at ease with other fellow musicians. He hopes that Orion's passion in making music will flourish, and *The Purple Symphony* will help further develop his character and life skills.



Siti Sakinah Bte Zainal and Loh Shu Han

**P**ianists, Sakinah and Shu Han bonded over their common love for music when they partnered in 2018. In this year's concert, Shu Han will be helping Sakinah count the beats as she performs two pieces. Shu Han will also play the accompaniment for three pieces.

Sakinah, who is visually impaired, was grateful to Shu Han for his unwavering help, as this year's musical pieces were more challenging than previous years.

Sakinah shared that, "The songs this year are more challenging, but with Shu Han beside me helping with the counting of the pulse, speed, and tempo, I feel a greater sense of confidence."



Stuart Ang and Orion Ang



# The Purple Symphony Journey





# JOIN US

## BE A PART OF THE MUSIC!



### MUSICIANS

Do you have a passion for music and are proficient in a musical instrument? If you are able to commit for a period of one year for trainings and performances, share a short 2 to 3 minute performance clip with us. Shortlisted candidates will be notified for an audition.



### VOLUNTEER

Want to make a difference in the lives of those with special needs? We are looking for volunteers on a regular and long-term basis to help out in different roles in our orchestra. Take this opportunity to make a real and lasting difference in their lives and yours.



### DONATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Do you wish to support *The Purple Symphony* through donations, sponsorships, or partner us in any other way? Write to us to indicate your interest and we'll get back to you.



### CONTACT US

*The Purple Symphony Team*

Mr Kenneth Ng, Ms Kris Ye, Ms Rachel Tan, and Ms Cheang Hui Xin

[pa\\_centralssingapore@pa.gov.sg](mailto:pa_centralssingapore@pa.gov.sg)



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

### THE PURPLE SYMPHONY CONCERT 2019

Lighthouse School  
Movement for the Intellectually Disabled of Singapore  
Muscular Dystrophy Association (Singapore)  
Pathlight School  
Singapore Management University  
Singapore National Youth Chinese Orchestra  
SPD

### THE PURPLE SYMPHONY TRAINING AWARD PROGRAMME

GIC





**SUPPORTING INCLUSION.  
CELEBRATING ABILITIES.**

A Community Project By:



thepurplesymphony



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