



# Clarinet Festival

29 & 30 November 2015  
@ The Arts House

Presented by  
The Band World

~ Programme ~



# Foreword



## *A warm welcome to everyone*

who chose to be part of the Singapore Clarinet Festival 2015 -  
190 Years Anniversary Celebration for BUFFET CRAMPON.

I am very glad we have attracted close to 200 participants  
during this 2-day event.

It is an exciting line-up of clarinet activities organised  
to provide the best experience for our local clarinet community.

Featuring Buffet Artist Florent Héau, Singapore Symphony  
Orchestra (SSO) Clarinet Quartet, Combine Community Bands  
Clarinet Choir and Mass Clarinet Choir are some of the highlights  
you should not miss at this festival.

17 clarinet ensembles have signed up to compete in both Divisions

A and B where attractive prizes will be awarded to  
the top three winners of each category.

All the above would not have been possible without  
a dedicated team of artistic advisors and festival organisers,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of them  
for their contribution in making this clarinet festival a success.

Bringing our local clarinet community closer together was a  
mission, and I believe we have done it!

**Brando Tan**

*Festival Director*



# *Buffet Crampon Celebrates 190th Anniversary*

Buffet Crampon, one of the most iconic woodwind brands in the world and the worldwide leader in professional and high end clarinets, has continued innovating in order to satisfy musicians throughout the world who have trusted the brand for 190 years.

Over the past two years, Buffet Crampon has introduced several major instruments in its ranges. These include the Senzo, the new professional saxophone from the Super Dynaction lineage; the Orfeo professional oboe, developed by the best European oboists, and in the clarinet range: Divine, developed with input from several world-class clarinetists, the new RC clarinet, and the new Tosca bass clarinet, already in use by some of the world's most acclaimed musicians.

190 years  
B U F F E T  
C R A M P O N



# *Solo Recital*



29 November 2015  
16:30 - 17:30 @ The Arts House Chamber

***Soloist: Florent Héau***

*Pianist: Liu Jia*

*Repertoire:*

***Ernest Chausson***  
*ANDANTE ET ALLEGRO*

***Camille Saint-Saëns***  
*SONATA FOR CLARINET & PIANO, OP. 167*

***Claude Debussy***  
*PREMIÈRE RHAPSODIE FOR CLARINET & PIANO*

***Béla Kovács***  
*SHOLEM ALEKHEM FOR SOLO CLARINET*

***Traditional Arranged by Florent Héau***  
*CLARINET DANSES FROM EASTERN EUROPE  
FOR SOLO CLARINET*

***Francis Poulenc***  
*SONATA FOR CLARINET & PIANO*



# *Gala Concert*



30 November 2015  
19:30 - 22:00 @ The Arts House Chamber

**SSO Clarinet Quartet**  
*Ma Yue, Tang Xiao Ping, Li Xin & Yoko Liu*

*Repertoire:*  
**Harry Staplers**  
*CLOWNERY FOR CLARINETS*

**Patrick Hiketick**  
*THREE LATIN DANCE*

**Clarinet Ensemble**  
*1st Prize Winners for Division A & Division B*

*~ Intermission ~*

**SGCF Combine Clarinet Choir**  
*Conducted by Dr. Alan W. Mills*  
*Eb Clarinet - Liang Jiayi,*  
*Bb Clarinet - Ralph Emmanuel Lim, Gena Ng, Azman Shah, David Wong,*  
*Kendrick Shia, Aaron Chua, Daniel Ong, Richard Png, Jerry Tan*  
*Alto Clarinet - Pip Tang*  
*Bass Clarinet - Desmond Chow, Tung Hui Wen*  
*Contrabass Clarinet - Sean Tan*

*Repertoire:*  
**Jan Van Der Roost, Arr. Maarten Jense**  
*RIKUDIM - FOUR ISRAELI FOLK DANCE*

**Vaclav Nelhybel**  
*CHORALE AND DANZA*

**G. Rossini, Arr. Ralph Emmanuel Lim**  
*INTRODUCTION, THEME AND VARIATIONS*  
*(Soloist: Florent Héau)*



# *Festival Schedule*



## **29 NOVember 2015, SUNDAY**

- 1630 - 1730 Solo Recital by Florent Héau, Pianist: Liu Jia
- 1830 - 2130 Buffet Crampon Birthday Bash  
(for invited guests only)

## **30 NOV 2015, MONDAY**

- 09:15 - 12:15 Registration of Competition Group
- 10:00 - 11:40 Clarinet Ensemble Competition Division A  
(Open to all festival pass holders )
- 11:40 - 12:00 Break
- 12:00 - 13:10 Clarinet Ensemble Competition Division B  
(Open to all festival pass holders)
- 13:10 - 13:50 Lunch Break
- 13:50 - 14:00 Announcement of Competition Result  
(Open to all festival pass holders)
- 14:00 - 15:00 Ensemble Masterclass with Florent Héau  
(Open to all festival pass holders)
- 15:00 - 16:10 Open Rehearsal by Combine Clarinet Choir  
(Open to all festival pass holders)
- 16:10 - 17:20 Mass Clarinet Choir  
(Open to all festival pass holders)
- 17:20 - 18:30 SSO Clarinet Quartet Sound Check (Close Door)
- 18:30 - 19:15 Dinner Break
- 19:15 - 19:30 Doors open for Gala Concert
- 19:30 - 22:00 Gala Concert & Award Ceremony  
(Open to all festival pass holders)

## **All Day (Blue Room)**

- 1100 - 1800 Product Exhibition & Clarinet Repair



# Clarinet Ensemble

## Competition ~ Division A



### **ClaRZ**

Brandon Heng You Ren, Ng Ling Mei, Gui Shengyu,  
Tan Sze Chin Dolly, Lee Bao Yi Tiffany

**Chosen set piece:**

*The Merry Widow Selections for Clarinet Quintet*

### **West Winds Clarinet Quintet**

Gena Ng Ping Ping, Goh Swee Ling, Tan Si Yuan,  
Kendrick Shia Shao Quan, Daniel Ong Beng Kiat

**Chosen set piece:**

*The Merry Widow Selections for Clarinet Quintet*

### **CQN**

Lee Wai Teng, Ralph Emmanuel Lim, Fan Pengyu, Jang Zion, Deng Yung-Ping

**Chosen set piece:**

*The Merry Widow Selections for Clarinet Quintet*

### **Ngee Ann Polytechnic**

Jasmine Teo, Kwan Hao Wei, Kong Hou Jing, Ang Teck Yen, Gan Shao Hong,  
Chee Zhen Lin, Wong Shu Xian Kasey, Ng Bi Qi, Lin Hao Weng

**Chosen set piece:**

*The Merry Widow Selections for Clarinet Quintet*

### **Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts**

Lim Wei Cheah, Samuel Chan Wei Keong, Caroline Tan Kai Ting, Cheng Yee Ki

**Chosen set piece:**

*Chignon for Clarinet Quartet*

### **Temasek Junior College**

Ervin Ng Zi Kai, Lee Qing Ping, Lei Hao, John Elijah Gan,  
Toh Wei Xiang, Tan Yong Cheng, Neo Yong Yu

**Chosen set piece:**

*Csárdás for Clarinet Quartet*

### **éClars**

Teow Yue Se, Han Pau Ting Derek, Wong JianMing David, Tarun Jayaram, Tan Li En

**Chosen set piece:**

*Sakura Song - Five for Clarinet Quintet*

### **Nanyang Polytechnic**

Dominic Koh, Mariatul Fadilah, Syazana Khaider, Ho Min Li Rachel, Lee Jia Ern Janell,  
Tan Ming Hui, Siti Omairah Bte Amrhan, Bryan Ong, Chen Qing Qing

**Chosen set piece:**

*Sakura Song - Five for Clarinet Quintet*

### **442Hz**

Stephanie Lois Tan, Vivien Chong, Lim Huai Xing, Nathan Angelo Yap, Chong Kai Yu

**Chosen set piece:**

*Sakura Song - Five for Clarinet Quintet*

### **Nanyang Junior College**

Kuan Yue Min Yonuce, Lim Nicole, Lim Yun Yee,  
Megumi Chua Hui Mei, Muhammad Asnawi Bin Wahid, Tan Li Teng

**Chosen set piece:**

*Chignon for Clarinet Quartet*



# Clarinet Ensemble Competition ~ Division B



## **Ang Mo Kio Secondary School**

Justin Wang Ying Jie, Tock Ang Zheng, Law Weitong,  
Fong Wei Jing, Sia Yuchen, Wang Kai Jie, Eng Kang Qi,  
Denver Wong, Maevis Lee, Shie Rui Qi

**Chosen set piece:**

*Foster Rhapsody for Clarinet Quintet*

## **St Andrew's Secondary School**

Glenn Lee Yong Kang, Luqas Yue B. Istiandra,  
John Chew Tien Hoe, Irvin Lum Jun Weng

**Chosen set piece:**

*Scarborough Fair for Clarinet Quartet*

## **St Margaret's Secondary School**

Chua Yi Ying Jessalyn, Seah Wang Wen, Nadia Raihana, Khor Sheng Rui

**Chosen set piece:**

*Scarborough Fair for Clarinet Quartet*

## **CHIJ Katong Convent**

Joy Teo Chia Wen, Ling Hsieh Nee, Szeto Yan Ting Caitlyn,  
Clarissa Tan Zi Yu, Joo Chaemin, Jolynn Tng Yi En, Lin Jia Le Nicole,  
Mr. Sim Kim Seng (Ensemble Coach), Mr. Stanley Sim (Ensemble Coach)

**Chosen set piece:**

*Scarborough Fair for Clarinet Quartet*

## **Presbyterian High School**

Nicholas Goh Mao Wen, Bryan Ang Jun Yong,  
Park Kihoon, Lee Jiazer Mitchell

**Chosen set piece:**

*Scarborough Fair for Clarinet Quartet*

## **Raffles Institution Military Band**

Chua Yang Jie, Chua Kah Hau Luke, Sebastian Fok Shin Hung,  
Cheng Wan Jun, James Wen Ke Han, Shen Qin,  
Emil Tay Chee Yee, Wang Yu

**Chosen set piece:**

*Scarborough Fair for Clarinet Quartet*

## **CT Winds**

Chermaine Leong Jia En, Chan Khay Lin, Kristy Lim Rui Ting,  
Rachel Lee Yin Leng, Seah Zhi Rui

**Chosen set piece:**

*Foster Rhapsody for Clarinet Quintet*



# Artistes



## **Soloist Florent Héau**

Born in 1968, Florent Héau studied the clarinet with Michel Arrignon at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique in Paris, obtaining a Premier Prix before going on to postgraduate study there.

In 1991, he won First Prize at the Toulon International Music Competition. The duo Héau-Zygmanski (clarinet-piano) was awarded first prizes at the Paris International Chamber Music Competition (1994) and the Fnapec “musique d’Ensemble” (1995).

Florent Héau then began his concert career, playing chamber music in France, Japan and many European countries with such partners as Prazak quartet or Parisii quartet, and appearing as a soloist with orchestras including the European Camerata, the Orchestre Symphonique Français, the Ensemble Orchestral de Paris.

In 1997, Thierry Escaich asked him to give the first performance of his *Chant des ténèbres* (concerto for clarinet and string orchestra).

In 1996, Florent Héau has founded the music theatre company “Les Bons Beccs”. With “Tempête sur les anches” (a “musico-poetic joke” for clarinets and percussion) they have created an aesthetic approach blending the languages of music and of the body (notably mime). This show has been performed both in France and in numerous other European countries (Spain, Sweden, Italy, Denmark, Germany).

As the heir to the great tradition of the French clarinet school, Florent Héau was assistant professor under Michel Arrignon at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris from 1999 to 2003, and is currently professor of clarinet at CNR de Rueil-Malmaison.



## **Pianist Liu Jia**

Liu Jia has worked as an accompanist with Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Singapore Lyric Opera, the Singapore Press Holdings Chinese Choir, Lasalle-Sia Collage of the Arts, ABRSM Exam (as a accompanist to the participants), as well as the National Violin Competition in Singapore.

As a soloist, she was invited to perform with SSO in a concert featuring French Impressionist music conducted by Lan Shui. She also performs regularly on a freelance basis with the SSO in concerts and recordings.

Liu Jia was born in Beijing, China into a family of professional musicians. At a tender age, she has already won the Best Award in the National Children’s Piano Competition. In 1987, she entered the Middle School of the Central Conservatory of Music in China and studied under Professors Zheng Li Qin, Wu Ying and Ling Yuan, where she won the Shen Xin Gong Scholarship for 2 consecutive years. She eventually entered the piano department of the Central Conservatory of Music to study under Professor Guo Zhi Hong in 1993.

After graduating with Bachelor of Arts, she furthered her education with a Master’s Degree in the Conservatory. Due to her excellent results, she won many awards and scholarships; performed as a soloist with the major orchestra in China, such as China Film Symphony Orchestra and Beijing Symphony Orchestra; and was the only Chinese pianist to be selected to participate in the 3rd Hamamatsu International Piano Academy in 1997 on a scholarship.



# Artistes



## **Principal Clarinetist, SSO Ma Yue**

Ma Yue has been the Principal Clarinetist of the Singapore Symphony Orchestra since 1993. He began learning the clarinet at the age of 10 with his father Ma Hong Ye (principal clarinetist of China Broadcasting Symphony Orchestra) and later under Zhang Ren Fu (principal clarinetist of Central Philharmonic Orchestra of China). In 1980, he auditioned into the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing and studied with Professor Tao Chun Xiao. After graduating in 1984, he joined the school's teaching faculty and was the principal clarinetist of China Youth Symphony Orchestra.

In 1989, he went to the United States to further his education at the University of Alabama, studying with Scott Bridge. He later became the Principal Clarinetist and Assistant Conductor at the University of Alabama Symphony Orchestra and was also a member of the Alarida Octet and Tuscaloosa Symphony. In 1990, he went on to pursue an Artist Diploma at the Konservatorium und Musikhochschule in Zurich, Switzerland, and became a freelance for the Zurich Symphony Orchestra and Zurich Opera House. He then taught at Musikschule Chur.

Awards won by Ma Yue include the First Prize in 1990 Kiwanis Clarinet Competition, and Second Prize in the People's Republic of China National Clarinet Competition in 1982 and 1983. Recently in 2013, he has been ranked as one of China's top ten musicians by CCTV and has been invited to become a jury member of the Sixth Beijing International Music Competition – Clarinet. He has also been invited to become the art adviser and judge of the Singapore International Orchestra Arts Festival 2013 and to serve as a jury member for the 1st Unisa International Flute and Clarinet Competition 2014 organised by the University of South Africa (UNISA) Music Foundation.

He is also currently an artist faculty member at the National University of Singapore – Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music.



## **Associate Bass Clarinetist, SSO Tang Xiao Ping**

Tang Xiao Ping started learning the Clarinet at aged nine, under the tutelage of Professor Tao Chun Xiao at the China Conservatory of Music in 1983. He won a prize in the first season of the Beijing Clarinet Youth Festival Competition in 1985. He was accepted into Central Opera Symphony Orchestra as their Principal Clarinetist upon graduation.

In 1994, Tang Xiao Ping was accepted into Boston Conservatory of Music to study under the tutelage of Dr. Ethan Sloane. He held the position of Principal Clarinetist in the conservatory orchestra. While studying there, Tang Xiao Ping received the "Outstanding Student Scholarship" and won the "Dean Scholarship" from the conservatory.

The following year, Tang Xiao Ping joined the Singapore Symphony Orchestra and successfully performed Mozart's "Clarinet Concerto in A Major".

A well accomplished and widely recognized musician, Tang Xiao Ping was invited to perform in the "International Chinese New Year Festival" in Shanghai in 2006 and the Beijing Opera House in 2009. In Singapore, he has participated in various Singapore Arts Festivals as soloist with the ensembles and orchestras. This year, he was specially invited by the Harbin Symphony Orchestra to work with renowned conductor, Rylor Vladimir to perform as a soloist, Carl Von Weber's "Clarinet Concertino" and Franz Krommer's "Double Clarinet Concerto in Eb Major".

Currently, Tang Xiao Ping assumed the role of Clarinet and Saxophone teaching in Singapore National Youth Orchestra and Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, School of Music.



# Artistes



## **Associate Principal Clarinetist, SSO Li Xin**

Li Xin entered the middle school affiliated to Shanghai Conservatory of Music for clarinet learning with Professor Gu Peng and later entered the middle school affiliated to the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing, study with Professor Tao Chunxiao. Li Xin has won the prizes at the National Clarinet Competition at the age of 16 in Beijing and the “Shanghai Spring” International Music Festival in 2001.

With a full scholarship awarded by Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music at National University of Singapore, Li Xin continued studying with Ma Yue and completed his Bachelor degree of music. In April 2005, Li Xin was among the first group of six Conservatory students selected for Yong Siew Toh Conservatory Fellowship Programme at the Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore, USA, where he received coaching from Peabody faculty, as well as the clarinetist in Philadelphia Orchestra and the professor at Julliard school.

In the past years, Li Xin performed often with the conservatory orchestra in China and solo performance at Shanghai Concert Hall. In Singapore, he performed with the Conservatory Orchestra often as principle clarinet and as a member of a Conservatory Wind Quintet. He also played in the Peabody Symphony Orchestra, Singapore Symphony Orchestra, the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra and as Principal clarinet in Macao Orchestra. He often goes to the international music festival as well, like Asian Youth Orchestra, the Canton International Summer Music Academy, where he performed with some renowned soloists and conductors, such as Martha Argerich and Charles Dutoit.

In 2007, Li Xin continued his studies in Europe, where he received lessons with the clarinet professor in Geneva, Zurich and Lyon. He was accepted as freelance musician in the Orchestra of Zurich Opera and the Orchestra Musikkollegium Winterthur in Switzerland.



## **Clarinetist, SSO Yoko Liu**

Yoko Liu was born in Yokohama, Japan and studied at Tokyo College of Music.

One summer after graduation from college in 1993, she participated in Aspen Music Festival in USA as scholar. In 1995 she began to study with Professor Francois Benda at Musik Akademie der Stadt Basel, Swiss and had many experiences to perform at Sinfonie Orchester Basel and Radio Sinfonie Orchester Basel as trainee in 1996-97.

In July 1998 she played a concerto by Gotokovsky as soloist with Sinfonie Orchester Basel and graduated the Akademie with Soloist Diploma. After coming back to Japan, she expanded her activities there, for example having her solo recitals three times in Tokyo, Yokohama and Fukuoka and performing at many different orchestras in Tokyo, Osaka, Kanazawa, etc. In 2001 she joined Kyushu Symphony Orchestra and contributed for four years.

Yoko is a SSO clarinetist since January 2007.



# Artist Panel



## Dr. Alan W. Mills

Dr. Alan W. Mills is Director of Bands and Associate Professor of Music at Colorado State University-Pueblo. His duties include conducting the Wind Ensemble and University Band, directing the Thunderwolves Marching Band, overseeing the development of the concert band and athletic band programs, supervising student teachers, and teaching music education courses. Prior to joining the CSU-Pueblo faculty, he served as the Associate Director of Bands at Texas A&M University-Commerce, where his responsibilities included conducting the Symphonic Band, serving as director of the Pride Marching Band, and teaching courses in conducting, music education, music technology, and jazz history.

In addition to his teaching responsibilities, Mills' scholarly writing has focused on the life and career of James E. Croft, Director of Bands, Emeritus at The Florida State University. He has presented research lectures at state music education association conferences in Colorado and Wyoming, and additional his scholarly writings can be found in the Journal of Band Research and in the popular text book series Teaching Music Through Performance In Band. Mills has served as a clinician, guest conductor, and adjudicator throughout Colorado and several other states. He is also in demand internationally and makes regular trips to China where he serves as a clinician, guest conductor, adjudicator, and recording artistic director. He has conducted concerts at the Forbidden City Concert Hall and has also served a residency at Ningxia University in Yinchuan, China, where he delivered a lecture series on music education and performance. During the summer of 2011, he served a residency at the International Music Camp located in the International Peace Gardens in North Dakota. In 2013, he presented his dissertation at the College Band Directors National Association National Convention at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Dr. Mills is a member of the College Band Directors National Association, the World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles, the Music Educators National Conference, and the Colorado Music Educators Association. He is also an elected member of Pi Kappa Lambda and Phi Kappa Phi, and has been granted honorary membership in Kappa Kappa Psi & Tau Beta Sigma. Mills is active as a clinician throughout the year and makes a concerted effort to honor invitations to visit music classrooms on a regular basis.



## Pip Tang

Pip Tang achieved his Fellowship Diploma in Piano Performance (FTCL) under the tutelage of the late renowned pianist Mr. Ong Lip Tat. He then pursued his music studies at the University of Texas at Austin learning piano with Professor Gregory Allen. In 2003, he graduated with the Bachelor's Degree in Music Performance.

Having played the clarinet since his secondary school days at Saint Patrick's School Military Band, Pip continued his interest in University and took clarinet lessons as a minor study. He performed with the University of Texas Orchestra from 2001-2002. Currently, Pip plays clarinet with West Winds, Band of the Bukit Batok Community Club. Pip is the current band director at Nan Chiau High School and Bedok North Secondary School. He also maintains a studio of private piano students.



# Artist Panel



## Desmond Chow

Desmond started playing the clarinet at the age of 13 when he joined the St Patrick's School Military Band.

He went on to further his studies at the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts to pursue his Diploma in Music, and was subsequently awarded a full scholarship for the BA in Music Course, which he graduated with Honors. His teachers include Ma Yue and Tang Xiao Ping from the Singapore Symphony Orchestra.

Desmond is currently a member of The Philharmonic Winds, Metropolitan Festival Orchestra and Clarinet Concord. He has freelanced with the Singapore Symphony Orchestra, National Symphony Orchestra of Malaysia and does regular concerts with the Singapore Lyric Opera Orchestra since 2009.

He is a highly sought after performer in musicals and has been involved in the productions of Cabaret (2006), The Phantom of the Opera (2007, 2013), My Fair Lady (2014), The Sound of Music (2015) and The LKY Musical (2016) to name a few. He has also performed with international singers Aska (2008), Andrea Bocelli (2010), Russell Watson (2010), Katherine Jenkins (2011) and Sarah Brightman (2012).

Desmond is an active chamber musician, performing on Clarinet, Bass Clarinet and Baritone Saxophone. He is also an experienced music educator.



## Richard Png

Richard has been a band director since 1986, with 29 years of teaching experience. Beginning conducting for SYF Band Competition in 1982, Richard won a Gold Medallion for his alma mater, Raffles Junior College. Thereafter he has conducted bands from Polytechnics, Junior Colleges and Secondary/Primary Schools in local performances, competitions and overseas, winning accolades and honours

As a performer, Richard play all wind and percussion instruments but principal on the clarinet. Currently, a clarinetist with Singapore Wind Symphony in which he is the Concert Master and a member of the Board of Directors. He is a member of the Band Directors' Association (Singapore) as an Assistant Secretary, World Association of Symphonic Band and Ensemble (WASBE), Asia Pacific Band Directors Association (APBDA), International Society of Music Educators (ISME), International Clarinet Association (ICA) and International Association of Jazz Educators (IAJE).



## Stanley Sim

Stanley started playing the clarinet during his secondary school days in Yishun Town Secondary school.

After he completed his academic studies in Nanyang Polytechnic, he was enlisted into national service and was sent to Singapore Armed Forces Central Band.

During his national service period, he signed on as a regular and started off his clarinet career. During the pledge of his service for the SAF band, he took clarinet lessons under Mr Vincent Goh (ex-SSO clarinetist) and later, Mr Ma Yue (current SSO principal clarinetist). He has also taken masterclasses with Ms Janet Hilton (ex Royal College of Music, Head of Woodwind), Andrew Simon and Mr Charles Neidrich when they were in Singapore. As a clarinetist in the SAF Central Band, he had the honour to work with various famous composers and conductors who came to Singapore to conduct the Army Band. They include Hardy Mertens, Eric Whitacre, Frank Ticheli, James Barnes, James Keene, Tim Reynish, Douglas Bostock and "The President's Own" Marine Band's conductor with their Principal players.



# Festival Music Arranger



## Ralph Emmanuel Lim

Ralph Emmanuel Lim started playing the clarinet when he joined the St Patrick's School Military Band. He went on to pursue his Diploma in Music Performance at Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA) under the tutelage of Tang Xiao Ping. Ralph recently graduated with a Bachelor of Music with Honours from the Royal College of Music, London.

In 2015, Ralph received a grant from the National Arts Council, and won the runner up prize for the Prof. Dichler international competition in Vienna. Ralph was also awarded a scholarship from the International Chamber Music Festival in Norway to study with Martin Fröst and Herman Stefánsson in the festival. Other awards include a Distinction from Royal College of Music Woodwind Concerto Competition in London, and performing as a finalist in the NAFA Music Essentials Concerto Competition in Singapore.

Ralph is a freelancer for the Singapore Lyric Opera Orchestra and has appeared as a Principal Clarinetist on numerous occasions. He has also appeared as a Soloist with the Singapore National Youth Orchestra, as well as the Philharmonic Youth Winds. Musicals that Ralph has been involved in include *The Boys from Syracuse* (2012) and *Sweet Charity* (2008).

As an advocate for chamber music, Ralph and his friends founded CLARQuinet, a clarinet ensemble. Together, they have been pushing the limits of the conventional Clarinet ensemble by incorporating different art styles into their performances.



## Dax Wilson Liang

Dax Wilson Liang began his musical training in 2002 when he joined the symphonic band in his secondary school, performing on the Horn, Trumpet and Piano. In 2007, Dax was accepted into the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, majoring in Music (Orchestral Studies) under the tutelage of Jamie Gabriel Hersch, Associate Principal Horn of the Singapore Symphony Orchestra. He has worked with several of the prominent local orchestras including Singapore Lyric Opera, The Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Orchestra of the Music Makers, and also had the opportunity and privilege of performing for several masterclasses by eminent musicians from the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.

Whilst in the academy, Dax started formal training in Music Composition as well as Conducting and has received several commissions to date from various entities including government institutions as well as corporate organizations. In 2013, he was awarded the Licentiate Diploma with a Distinction in Horn Performance from the Trinity College of London, and has since realigned the prime focus of his training to composition. Recently, his music arrangement/composition *The Lion City: A Journey Home* was premiered by the Singapore Armed Forces Central Band to an international audience at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo in Scotland, the Basel Tattoo in Switzerland, and the Kuala Lumpur International Tattoo in Malaysia.

Dax is currently the appointed instructor in the Singapore Armed Forces Band Training Wing, where he has since restructured the entire academic training syllabus and pedagogy to benchmark the professional musical standards required of the world's finest armed forces bands.



# Acknowledgement



The Band World would like to express thier deepest gratitude to the following, without whom this festival would not have been possible:

MAIN SPONSOR  
Buffet Crampon

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BG Franck Bichon

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ARTIST PANEL  
Desmond Chow | Pip Tang | Richard Png | Stanley Sim

FESTIVAL MUSIC ARRANGER  
Ralph Emmanuel Lim | Dax Wilson Liang

OFFICIAL DIGITAL MEDIA  
The Band Post

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