

Dr. CHONG Kee Yong, one of Malaysia's leading contemporary music composers, possesses one of the most exciting voices in new music today. Indeed, his work has been hailed as "imaginative and poetic" by leading conductor-composer Peter Eötvös, and as "very inventive and artistically pure" by composer Jonathan Harvey. The uniqueness of his music stems not only from a rich palette of sounds, but his experimentation into traditions, infusing his own Chinese and multi-cultural Malaysian heritage into his work.

Dr. Chong's distinctive style has won him many awards and commissions; His list of prizes at various competitions is remarkable, for example the Prix Marcel Hastir by Belgium Royal Academy of Sciences, Letters & Fine-arts (1999, 2003), the 4th International Andrzej Panufnik Competition for Young Composers in Poland (2002), the Grand Prix at the 2nd Seoul International Competition for Composers (2003), the Max-Reger-Tage International Composition Competition in Germany (2004), the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra International Composers' Award (2004), second prize at the 2nd Lepo Sumera International Young Composer Prize (2006), Lutoslawski Award (2006), BMW Award in the International Isang Yun Music Prize in Korea (2007), 2nd prize in the Preisträgerkonzert des Internationalen Kompositionswettbewerbes "global music—contemporary expression" in Germany, 3rd prize in Luxembourg International Composition Award 2008 and Giga-Hertz-Award 2009 (Germany).

He has been awarded the composer-in-residency with Akademie der Künste (Germany), Herrenhaus Edenkoben (Germany), Asian Cultural Council (USA), the Center Henri Pousseur (Belgium), SWR EXPERIMENTALSTUDIO (Germany), Civitella Ranieri Foundation Fellowship 2014 (USA/Italy), Korea National Gugak Center fellowship, IGNM-VS / Forum Wallis in Leuk Switzerland and spring workshop Hong Kong.

To recognize Dr. Chong's contributions to South East Asia's contemporary music scene, Huddersfield University (UK) awarded him a full scholarship for PhD by publication 2014-2016 under the guidance of Prof. Liza Lim.

Dr. Chong is the creative director of Studio C, president of Society of Malaysian Contemporary Composers (2017-2019) and was the artistic director of the 2009 Kuala Lumpur Contemporary Music Festival and SMCC Contemporary Music Festival "SoundBridge" 2013, 2015 and 2017. 2016-2017 he was visiting professor of Shanghai Conservatory of Music.

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