

CONTRIBUTORS

Cheong Ku Wing is a faculty member at the Cultural Centre, University of Malaya. With a special interest in music education and music pedagogy, Cheong has extensive experience in instrumental teaching and learning, working as a piano teacher and group class music teacher. As a music education researcher, Cheong's research interests have been oriented to music education, music pedagogy, musical creativity and thinking skills, music entrepreneurship, early childhood education, happiness and positive ageing.

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Ghulam-Sarwar Yousof holds a degree in English from the University of Malaya and a Doctorate in Asian Theatre from the University of Hawaii. He is a specialist of traditional Southeast Asian theatre, and has written extensively on various Indonesian and Malaysian genres. Additionally he has worked on South Asian epics, Singapore-Malaysia literature as well as Islamic literature, particularly the Urdu ghazal. As a creative writer Ghulam has published several volumes of poetry, drama as well as short stories all written in English. Ghulam-Sawar Yousof is currently Adjunct Professor at the Cultural Centre, University of Malaya 50603 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

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Linda Fui Tze Koh is a Postgraduate Student at the Cultural Centre, University of Malaya. Linda has been teaching the piano and music theory for more than 30 years. As a researcher, she has two foci: music education, and music pedagogy. Her practical expertise encompasses instrumental teaching and learning (piano), music theory, singing, as well as speech and drama. Her students won a number of international music competitions such as Grand Prize Virtuoso and the World Championships of Performing Arts (WCOPA). Some were also invited to perform for prestigious events such as the 10-year Anniversary of American Protégé Competitions in Carnegie Hall.

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Mahtab Mahdavifar was born and raised in Iran. She is a Ph.D. student at Cultural Center, University of Malaya. She holds a Masters in English literature with a dissertation on American feminist theatre, focusing on the deconstruction of gender on the American stage. After moving to Malaysia and becoming fascinated with Southeast Asian Theatre, she decided to extend her research to Filipino Modern Theatre of the past thirty years. She is currently working on a thesis on Women Involvement in Philippines Modern Theatre in Post-Marco Time. She is currently residing in the Netherlands and is planning to start a project in a new stage production.

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Musicologist **Mohd Nasir Hashim** received his PhD from Southampton University, United Kingdom. His research areas include music therapy, traditional Malay music, and Malay Poem (syair). He is also specialized in Orchestration Score Writing, Recording Production and Copyright. Dr. Nasir Hashim is currently Associate Professor in the Cultural Centre, University of Malaya and is the conductor of Universiti Malaya Symphony.
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Premalatha Thiagarajan is a Senior Lecturer and the Head of Dance Department at the Cultural Centre in University of Malaya. She received her Ph.D in Critical Dance Studies from the University of California Riverside, USA, in 2012. Through her doctoral research, she pioneered the research in Indian dance practices in Malaysia. She has published her researches as book chapters and journal articles. She is a vivid dance practitioner trained in *Bharata Natyam*. She is the founder of Premalayaa Performing Arts, a company that specialises in Indian classical dance and music.
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Tan Chai Chen is a lecturer in the Dance Department of the University of Malaya. She received her MFA in Choreography from Taipei National University of the Arts, Taiwan. She is passionate about performing arts, dance education and has been active in local dance education fields for more than 15 years. Her works have won awards such as the China-ASEAN Youth Dance Interaction & Competition. Her recent choreographic works include "Yearning", "Self-Accusation" in previous Uma Showcase, as well as a cross-disciplinary artwork of music and dance, entitled, "ONE", in Kaleidoscope Five, HANDS International Drumming Festival 2018.
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