

BACK TO THE SEA



LIVE

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3PM (GMT+8)



TABLE OF **CONTENTS**

- 01** Foreword From
The Artistic Director
- 02** About The Music
- 03** The Composer
- Kentaro Sato
- 04** The Turtles
Abstracts
- 05** The Artist
- Poesy Liang
- 06** Performing Choirs
- 07** Pianist
- 08** Acknowledgement



FOREWORD

FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

We are all citizens of the mother earth. Every single thing, living and non-living forms of life, are equally important for the role they play in the circle of life we share and live together in.

In this deteriorating era of our mother earth, there are more and more life forms being forced to let go their right to live among us and disappear from the face of the earth. When one component vanishes from a complete chain, our nature will lose its balance, and just like the opened Pandora box, we are currently living in the consequence of our past doings.

Music and art are not the cure to the problem. *"We learned to recognize beauty, we learned to be sensitive, to have more love, compassion, gentleness and good."*
~ Kathryn B. Hull. In short, through music and art, we learn to be humane again.

Through any form of art, we can catch a glimpse of a better tomorrow, we see possibilities and hope. Please share this with the turtles who are rapidly fading away due to our inconsiderate and greed. Please help us to make the circle of life whole again. Together, we can make a difference.

LEE SHIAK YAO

Artistic Director
Back to The Sea

Shiak Yao is a multiple international prize and award-winning conductor, vocalist, clinician and lecturer. He has performed and lectured in more than 35 countries around the world, and being the first Malaysians to perform in 2011 Nobel Peace Prize award ceremony in Oslo, Norway. He serves as the Artistic Director of Time Ensemble and Klang Chamber Choir, Vice-President of Malaysian Choral Federation and closely affiliated with the International Federation of Choral Music.



UMI'NGAME-NOUTA

(S E A T U R T L E S O N G S)

TEXT & MUSIC BY KENTARO SATO (KEN-P)

This musical work
consists of

4 MOVEMENTS

each of them having their own
contrasting idea yet are able
to flow seamlessly from the
beginning to the end.

01 WHITE HOPE

A mother turtle, threading through waves,
heading towards the home land that she
misses dearly. On that shore that she was
born, she lay down her next generation.
As she was covering them up with the
warm sand, she make a wish and entrust
her babies to her beloved homeland.

02 WHISPER OF THE NIGHT SKY

This movement was written in acapella setting –
taking away instrumental accompaniment and
return to the pure magic of living voices. The song
depicts the quiet night sky as the backdrop and
the sensitive mother worrying about her babies.
“Will they be afraid? Are they comfortable?”
Despite of her worries, she choose to believe,
and with believe came hope.

03 DEPARTURE IN THE MOONLIT NIGHT

This movement is filled with energy and action.
The baby turtles hatched from the eggs, pushing
away the sand, crawling onto the surface of the land
and running towards the ocean. Despite of all these
excitement and positive dreams of the future, the
hardships of life too, have just begun. Nevertheless,
the music ends in its peak to celebrate all these new
lives beginning their journey under the moonlit night.

04 WHITE MIRACLE

Sun rises from the horizon. Baby turtles had all swam
out to the ocean, leaving behind countless of white
egg shells and tiny tracks. “How are they doing? Are
they safe and swimming happily? Will they come back
in the future?” We all wish for that, we all hope for it,
but will we put in the effort to make sure they have a
place to return to in the future?

THE COMPOSER

Kentaro Sato (1981-), Ken-P to his friends, is an award-winning composer, conductor, and lyricist. His symphonic and other instrumental works have been featured in TV/Film media, game industry and concert performing groups around the world such as the London Symphony Orchestra, the Philharmonia Orchestra and the Sydney Symphony Orchestra.

In the choral music world, Sato is best known as the winner of the prestigious ACDA Raymond W. Brock Memorial Composition Contest for "Kyrie" from Missa pro Pace (Mass for Peace), which was premiered at the 2005 ACDA National Convention in Los Angeles. He is also a frequent guest conductor and lecturer for various choral workshops and reading sessions around the world.

Sato is a licensed expert of MIDI from Association of Music Electronics Industry (AMEI), and has been involving in developments of many commercial and private orchestral sample libraries and music hardware/software. He is also a specialist in intellectual property management (administration) certified by the Japanese Government.

As a busy VO artist and singer, Sato's voice has represented companies such as Disney, Microsoft, Visa, American Express, Discovery Channel to name some, heightening products and services, and educating users and customers.

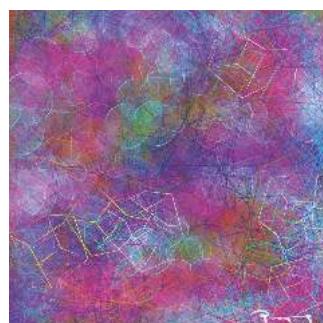
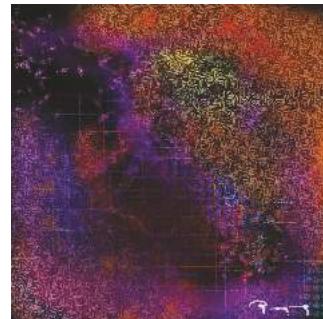
Sato was born in Hamamatsu, Japan, a manufacturing city known for musical instruments. He received a Master of Music in Conducting with Distinction and a Bachelor of Music in Media Writing from California State University, Northridge. In addition to his music degrees, he holds degree in cinema from Santa Monica College. Sato currently serves as the conductor of Meiji

University Glee Club, and a lecturer at Shobi University, teaching music composition, arrangement, recording and music technology and production. His past positions include a resident composer/assistant conductor of the Torrance Symphony (2005-2012), and a composition/music production lecturer at Shobi College of Music (2011-2015).



KENTARO SATO (KEN-P)

THE TURTLE ABSTRACTS



BY POESY LIANG

Please visit <https://www.neart.my/> to purchase

THE ARTIST



POESY LIANG

Poesy is a creative practitioner who is globally active in the arts, interior design, fashion and jewellery, social impact and innovation. Her iconic tuxedo cat named Harry Putter, is permanently featured as the street art in New York, Manila, Singapore, Johor Bahru, Malacca and Kuala Lumpur. It speaks of aspirations, goals & dreams, when the Rooftop Cat found a way to fly himself to the moon on a humble broom.

Poesy was named HerWORLD Women of Year 2011 and awarded other media titles for her social movements.

She founded Helping Angels on Facebook in 2007, which grew into a network of volunteers committed to a movement of compassion based on random acts of kindness with projects covering the welfare of under privileged children, homeless, animal welfare and disaster aid in 11 countries.

She founded Bald Empathy Movement where she collaborated with photographers & crew in 9 countries before shaving her head at the 64th Cannes Film Festival, funding this world tour as a sidewalk artist across Europe. She continues to champion her humanitarian messages through the arts, global collaborations and businesses.

Currently published, the Pirate's Daughter, is a tribute to Poesy's late father, consists of a pavilion installation staging an underwater graveyard of fallen sailors - a scene hosting 62 ship wheels, 38 storm lamps, seven ship oars, and other maritime artefacts that were collected by her father nearly 40 years ago. Despite the theme of loss and grief, Poesy depicts the message of redemption and solace, emotions relevant during this pandemic.

Poesy is the principal of a fine jewellery house POEZ, the Pink Yakuza online fashion jewellery and the Harry Putter cat brand. She is a luxury home designer and a songwriter. She travels with a mobility scooter to aid her walking disabilities caused by spine tumours since she was 17 years old.

PERFORMING CHOIRS



KLANG CHAMBER CHOIR

Klang Chamber Choir was formed in an experimental stage in year 2002 by Lee Shiak Yao. By year 2003, we have finally confirmed our status as a chamber choir. The aim of forming this choir is not just to deliver an environment for young and talented singers in Klang to sing and perform together but also to provide a base for educational choral exchange as well as to promote, strengthen and develop the concept and principle of choral culture in the Klang Valley.

The Klang Chamber Choir, better known as the KCC, is mainly composed of many passionate and experienced singers, aged 17 to 30, from the Klang Valley region. Since the formation of the KCC in 2002, we have been known nationwide as a dynamic and energetic group. We are regularly invited as guest performers in various occasions and we have established ourselves a wide fan base of contented audience members.

Amongst our regular performances in various choral festivals, ceremonial events, charity performances as well as our annual concerts, some of our past years' highlights include:

- Was awarded 1st runner up for Malaysia Youth Music Festival (MYOF) 2007
- Recorded our debut album and won the champion in the Klang Music Festival Choir Competition 2010
- Was awarded 2 Gold Diplomas from "Youth Choir Category" and "Sacred Music Category" and our director was awarded the Conductor Award in 9th Venezia in Musica International Choir Competition, Venice, Italy 2011.
- Was awarded 1st runner up and Jury Award in the Grand Prix of 1st Asia Cantate International Choir Competition, Phuket, Thailand 2012.

PERFORMING CHOIRS



LOLLAPALOOZA SINGERS

Lollapalooza Singers was formed informally in 2011, as a Christmas caroling group performing annually in Genting Highlands. The choir was led by Koh Tian Yi, who has been leading it since.

The choir was formally assembled and active since year 2013; they gave their debut concert 'Lollapalooza!' in Damansara Performing Art Center (DPAC). In 2014, the choir was invited to Radio Television Malaysia (RTM) to make recording of ASWARA student's composition. In the same year, the choir participated in 2nd Voices of Asia International Choir Festival and won the Chamber Choir Category with Gold Award. In 2016, the choir went on hiatus when the musical director decided to further his study.

Having completed some early music, Faure's requiem, and some traditional carols throughout 2019, the choir is now set to tackle some of the most prestigious and world-known choral repertoires including works from Monteverdi, Palestrina, and Bach.

PERFORMING CHOIRS



OTTOPHONY VOCAL ENSEMBLE

Ottophony, founded in 2017 at Young Choral Academy, consists of a group of young talented singers who share a common passion for making music together. They began life as a vocal quintet, making their debut at the MIA Ladies Chorus Fund Raising Concert in 2017. Since then, they have developed as a vocal octet and was featured in Young Malaysian Go Classics Vol. II where they premiered Ken Ho's arrangement of Rolling In the Deep, and was Guest Performer in SJK(C) Davidson Choral Exchange in 2018.

Ottophony has competed in the 2018 Hong Kong International Music Festival in the category Vocal Ensemble, where they achieved a Gold Award, and also achieved a High Distinction in the ABRSM Choral Assessment Exams in 2018.

The group embarked on a tour, performing in several high schools in the southern region of Malaysia. They also performed with two renowned Singaporean choirs, Voce Men's Chorus and Voco Ladies Chorus and were also invited to Singapore to sing in Sacred Polyphony 2 Festival, performing alongside Creatus Chamber (Singapore) and the Byrd Consort (Australia). Recently, Ottophony performed in a staged production of Karl Jenkins' work Adiemus together with Gaudeamus Youth Choir, choreographed by Kenny Shim and also been invited to perform at the Hungarian Embassy's Gala Dinner celebrating 50th anniversary of Hungary and Malaysia diplomatic relations. In 2020, Darrel Chan, young conductor who has studied in the UK, has been appointed as the Artistic Director of the group.

PERFORMING CHOIRS



Formed in April 2003 by Malaysian choral conductor and pedagogue Susanna Saw, who remains its Artistic Director, The Kuala Lumpur Children's Choir course is Malaysia's first comprehensive choral singing programme for children aged between 6–14 years. From its home at the Young Choral Academy (YCA), Malaysia's first academy for the training of choirs and a leading hub for choral education, the primary philosophy of the course is to introduce choral singing as a healthy activity for children in a fun and relaxed environment based on the Kodály Method of teaching.

The choir has won many prizes and awards and made successful tours to Australia, Austria, China, Germany, Hong Kong, Latvia, Singapore and South Korea. They have also collaborated and shared the stage with the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra (MPO), Kuala Lumpur City Opera (KLCO), and several other international ensembles.

PIANIST

Yap Yi Zhe, Malaysian pianist born in 2001, Kuala Lumpur. He started his music journey when he was three years of age. He is currently learning under guidance of Maestro Ng Chong Lim. He has taken part and was the prize winner of several piano and electone competitions.

- Asia Pacific Electone Festival 2014 (Grand Prix Winner)
- Tokyo Junior Electone Festival 2014 (1st runner up)
- 2nd UCSI International Piano Festival & Competition 2016 (3rd Prize Winner & Best Etude Award)
- 1st PCM National Music & Dance Competition 2017 Piano Solo Senior Category (Gold Award)
- National Yamaha Electone Festival Finals 2017 (Grand Prix Award) [qualified for Asia Pacific Electone Festival in Singapore]
- 4th Steinway Malaysia Youth Piano Competition 2018 (Grand Winner) [qualified for Steinway Regional Finals Asia Pacific 2018 in Taiwan]
- Electone Festival National Finals 2019 (Grand Prix Award) [qualified for Yamaha Electone Festival in Osaka]
- MIA Young Musician Competition 2021 (Bronze Award)

YAP YI ZHE



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