

BRADDELL HEIGHTS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA  
and  
THE JOY CHORALE  
*proudly present*



# WINTER DAYDREAMS



**Leonard Tan | Conductor**  
**Khor Ai Ming | Chorus Director**

**22 December 2024 | Sunday**  
**5 pm**

**School of the Arts (SOTA) Concert Hall**



**Braddell  
Heights  
Symphony  
Orchestra**



Organised by Braddell Heights CCMC



People's Association

**22 December 2024 (Sunday), 5:00pm**  
**SOTA Concert Hall**

## **Winter Daydreams**

**Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky**

Symphony No. 1 in G Minor (48:00)

----Intermission----

**Douglas E. Wagner**

A Classic Christmas (5:00)

**Dan Forrest**

O Come, All Ye Faithful (4:00)

**Bob Chilcott**

12 Days of Christmas (12:00)

**Ong Lin Wei**

Christmas Fantasy (4:00)

**Braddell Heights Symphony Orchestra**

**The Joy Choral**

**Leonard Tan**, *conductor*

*The duration of the performance is approximately 72 mins, excluding intermission.*

## Braddell Heights Symphony Orchestra



The Braddell Heights Symphony Orchestra (BHSO) is one of Singapore's most prominent community orchestras. Founded in 1986 under the auspices of the Braddell Heights Community Club, the BHSO has been home to countless local and expatriate musicians living in Singapore who come from all walks of life, bonded by their love of classical music and performing in an orchestra.

From humble beginnings with only a handful of members, the BHSO grew steadily into a full-sized symphony orchestra under the leadership of Maestro Yan Yin Wing during his 25-year tenure as Music Director. In 2012, the baton was passed on to the late Singaporean conductor Adrian Tan who brought with him innovative ideas that revitalised the orchestra and its role in the community. The formation of The Joy Choral (TJC) in 2015, under the direction of Khor Ai Ming, was significant in providing opportunities for aspiring singers with little or no training to perform in concerts alongside experienced choristers. This new BHSO-TJC partnership made its debut with a performance of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony which was received with enthusiastic cheers and a standing ovation from a sold-out audience at the Esplanade Concert Hall.

As a community orchestra with the vision of expanding its outreach to a wide audience with diverse tastes, the BHSO's repertoire not only includes symphonic, choral and chamber music from the Baroque to music by living composers, but also covers a variety of genres from film music to jazz. As a strong advocate of local music, the orchestra regularly features Singaporean composers in its concert programs. It actively commissions new works and has given world premiere performances of compositions by Americ Goh, Bernard Tan, Low Shao Ying & Low Shao Suan and John Sharpley.

An orchestra of the community and for the community, with its vision "music for everyone" is reflective of its aspiration for inclusiveness and its commitment to making good music accessible for the enjoyment of all, regardless of background or circumstances.

# The Joy Chorale

*A Symphony of Voices in the Heart of Singapore*



Born from the visionary minds behind the Braddell Heights Symphony Orchestra, The Joy Chorale stands as a testament to the power of music in bringing communities together. Established in September 2014, this unique choral ensemble has quickly become a beacon of musical excellence and inclusivity in Singapore's vibrant cultural landscape.

At its core, The Joy Chorale is dedicated to a noble purpose: bringing the timeless beauty of classical music directly to the heart of the community. Unlike traditional choirs that may seem exclusive or intimidating to newcomers, The Joy Chorale prides itself on its welcoming atmosphere. It opens its arms to singers of all levels, creating a harmonious blend of seasoned professionals and enthusiastic beginners. This inclusive approach not only enriches the choir's sound but also fosters a supportive environment where members can grow and learn from one another.

The choir's mission is twofold and ambitious. Firstly, it aims to spread the joy and passion of music through the art of singing. In a world often fraught with stress and division, The Joy Chorale offers a sanctuary where individuals can come together, united by their love of music. The act of singing in unison creates a powerful bond among members, transcending age, background, and experience levels.

Secondly, The Joy Chorale is committed to making classical music accessible to the wider Singapore community. By breaking down perceived barriers and presenting classical works in an approachable manner, the choir plays a crucial role in cultivating a new generation of classical music enthusiasts. This commitment to accessibility extends beyond their performances, as the choir actively engages in community outreach and educational programmes.



The Joy Chorale's dedication and talent were on full display during their inaugural performance in January 2015. Titled "Joy! - Beethoven's 9th Symphony," this ambitious debut showcased the choir's ability to tackle complex classical works with confidence and skill.

The performance was a resounding success, captivating audiences with powerful and harmonious sound. It served as a clear statement of intent, demonstrating that The Joy Chorale was not just another community choir, but a serious ensemble capable of delivering professional-quality performances.

Since its inception, The Joy Chorale has grown steadily, both in numbers and in reputation. Today, the choir boasts approximately 150 members, a testament to its popularity and the growing interest in choral singing within the community. This growth has allowed the choir to expand its repertoire and take on increasingly challenging works, further cementing its position as a significant player in Singapore's classical music scene.

Looking to the future, The Joy Chorale continues to extend a warm invitation to music lovers across Singapore. Whether you're an experienced singer looking for a new challenge, a classical music aficionado eager to participate actively in the art form you love, or simply someone curious about exploring choral singing, The Joy Chorale welcomes you. The choir offers more than just an opportunity to sing; it provides a chance to be part of a vibrant, supportive musical community.

As The Joy Chorale moves forward, it remains committed to its founding principles of inclusivity, musical excellence, and community engagement. Through its performances, outreach efforts, and welcoming spirit, the choir continues to play a vital role in enriching Singapore's cultural tapestry, one harmonious note at a time.

## Leonard Tan

*Conductor*



Singaporean musician Leonard Tan is a prolific conductor with a strong presence in the Singapore arts scene. He has conducted numerous ensembles, including the Singapore Symphony Orchestra, Singapore National Youth Orchestra (Principal Conductor), Ensemble de la Belle Musique (Principal Conductor), Philharmonic Wind Orchestra (Music Director), and Indiana University Orchestras.

He earned his doctoral degree from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, where he studied orchestral conducting with David Efron, Arthur Fagen, and Murray Sidlin. Additional conducting studies were with Leif Segerstam and

Alexander Polischuk in Russia, where he worked with the St. Petersburg Chamber Philharmonic, and with Johannes Schlaefli, where he worked with Academic Orchestra Zurich.

In demand internationally, he has conducted, adjudicated and taught throughout the United States and Asia. Performances under his direction have been lauded by local and international critics. Singapore's The Straits Times described his performance of Corigliano's Symphony No. 3 as "masterfully helmed," while the American press lauded his "artful conducting." He is an Associate Professor of Music at the National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore.

## **Khor Ai Ming**

*Chorus Director*



Celebrated as a contemporary classical soprano, choral conductor and voice teacher, Ai Ming is the recipient of the COMPASS Artistic Excellence Award 2015 for her exceptional achievements as an artiste in Singapore. She has graced many large-scale celebrations, a testament to her versatility and innate musicianship.

Her Singapore and Asia premieres include Gottfried von Einem's *Der Besuch der alten Dame* (as Claire Zachanassian), Schoenberg's *Pierrot Lunaire*, Jeremy Monteiro's *Shakti Dance*, just to name a few. She has given 14 annual highly anticipated and sold-out solo recitals at

the Esplanade from 2008-2024, and received critical reviews from *The Straits Times*.

Ai Ming is the Artistic Director of Vocal Associates Choruses and Principal to Ms Khor's Studio. She consistently produces top scorers in the singing examinations under Trinity College of Music (UK). Her voice students have been accepted to renowned music colleges, including Royal Northern College of Music (UK), Manhattan School of Music (USA), Berklee College of Music (USA) and University of Queensland (Australia).

She has been the choral director of The Joy Chorale under BHSO since 2015.

# Orchestra

## CONDUCTOR

Dr. Leonard Tan

## VIOLIN 1

Lim Shue Churn  
*Concertmaster*  
Ang Seow Wei #  
Hong Yaw Chang #  
Zach Cubillas #  
Denzel Lim  
Albert Phang  
Samantha Lee  
Hiroko Nakae  
Srijan Mookherjee  
Eric Tan  
Tan Bao Jun  
Keitaro Usuda #  
Ye Zhi #  
Moon Zou

## VIOLIN 2

Amanda Kye Tan  
*Principal*  
Cao Can #  
Kelvin Chung  
Foo Her Yun  
Hoon Tien Hun  
Elle Lim  
Lee Mei Rong  
Jessica Ng  
Ong Lin Wei  
Phua Teng Soong  
Teo Xin Zhi  
Yang Jiayi

## VIOLA

Leon Lai #  
*Guest Principal*  
Max Cheng Wenzhang #  
Akiyama Fumito  
Ham Shim Ying  
Lee Hwey Ping  
Nyein Maung #  
Shen Huo #  
Sherman Soo Thoo #  
Clement Yan

#Guest musicians

Musicians listed alphabetically by family names

## CELLO

Lee Ying  
*Acting Principal*  
Janelle Kam  
Gareth Lee #  
Min Ng  
Zaheera Hashim #  
Atsushi Taniguchi #  
Joseph Tan Ren Jie #

## DOUBLE BASS

Chee Jun Hong #  
Foo Hui Wen #  
Kua Zhun Seng  
Adrian Liew #  
Melody Ng #  
Yong Wenyi #

## FLUTE

Mohamad Rasull  
*Principal*  
Tan Mei Wah  
*Assistant Principal*

## PICCOLO

Jaydn Kwek #

## OBOE

Jasper Goh  
Nathalie Fu

## CLARINET

Tim Raes  
*Principal*  
Jessica Wong

## BASSOON

Syed Ridwan Ahmad  
Yap Keng Peng

## TRUMPET

Justin Chia  
*Acting Principal*  
Lee Junyoung  
Amanda Yong #

## HORN

Stuart Ang  
Cai Jinpei #  
Lucas Lim  
Ryan Hidayat #

## TROMBONE

Cheng Peiling  
Koe Meng Kiang Keith  
Dr. Pisit Piriayporn

## BASS TROMBONE

Koe Meng Kiang Keith

## TUBA

Gabriel Song

## PIANO

Khew Yun Zhen

## PERCUSSION/ TIMPANI

Victor Wong  
*Principal*  
Jake Lim  
Jared Robertson  
Kenny Zhang #



# The Joy Chorale

**CHORUS DIRECTOR** Ms Khor Ai Ming

**ASSOCIATE CHORUS DIRECTOR** Mr Quek Chiow Lin  
Charlie

**CHOIR MANAGER (ADMINISTRATION)** Mr Joel Chen

**CHOIR MANAGER (OPERATION & LOGISTICS)** Mr Tan Jing Han

**REHEARSAL PIANIST** Ms Sharon Ham

## **SOPRANO**

Amelia Yeo  
April Tan  
Beifen Zhang  
Fran Ho Fei Fan  
Geraldine Wang Lee  
Huang  
Jacqueline Zhang  
Janet Chan  
Joyce Kwok  
Leong Li Bin Fiona  
Lim Siew Kuan  
Ng Liam Ching  
Patricia Ong Mui Kin  
Patricia Teng  
Rebecca Chan  
Vicky Zhang  
Yvonne Yeo

## **ALTO**

Adelgunde Sommer  
Carol Wee Ai Keen  
Diane Ng  
Leong Li Ming  
Lily Wong  
Loo Seow Hua Laura  
Patricia Chong  
Tay Sine Yee Regina  
Wang Ann Ni  
Yeoh Jeok Eng  
Zhuang-Mackie Qiji

## **TENOR**

Aaron Tan  
Anthony Seow  
Charlie Quek  
Jerome Lau  
Joel Chen  
Shane Seah  
Syahrulnizam A R

## **BASS**

Cornelius Neil  
Edward Lee Kok Cheng  
Han King Juan  
Lim Ee Heong  
Mark Yuen  
Phang Yong Xin  
Yan Yim Tong

# Programme Notes

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

## **Symphony No. 1 in G Minor**

Tchaikovsky composed Symphony No. 1 between 1866 and 1868, while he was a professor at the Moscow Conservatory. This period was marked by intense self-doubt and insomnia as he wrestled with the challenges of mastering large-scale symphonic writing. The work underwent multiple revisions, reflecting his meticulous attention to form and orchestration. While early performances were met with mixed reviews, later audiences and critics came to appreciate its innovation and charm. Its evocative themes and innovative orchestration make it a testament to his creativity, marking the beginning of his distinguished symphonic career.

### **1. Dreams of a Winter Journey (Allegro tranquillo)**

The opening movement begins with a serene introduction, leading into a gently flowing main theme that suggests a winter landscape. A second theme, more lyrical and introspective, introduces a sense of longing. The development section features intricate counterpoint, showcasing Tchaikovsky's skill in building tension. The movement concludes with a tranquil yet slightly melancholic coda.

### **2. Land of Desolation, Land of Mists (Adagio cantabile ma non tanto)**

The second movement is lyrical and deeply emotive, featuring a beautiful cantabile theme introduced by the strings. This movement captures the contemplative mood of a winter evening, filled with quiet introspection. The orchestration highlights Tchaikovsky's sensitivity to instrumental color, with poignant interplay between the strings and winds sections.

### **3. Scherzo (Allegro scherzando giocoso)**

The third movement offers a lively contrast to the preceding Adagio. This scherzo is playful and rhythmic, with light, dancing motifs that suggest the crisp energy of a frosty winter day. The trio section introduces a graceful waltz-like melody, blending elegance with buoyancy.

### **4. Finale (Andante lugubre – Allegro moderato)**

The final movement opens with a dramatic and brooding introduction, leading to a robust and spirited Allegro. This section showcases Tchaikovsky's skill in thematic development and orchestral drama. Folk-like melodies emerge, culminating in a triumphant conclusion that balances the symphony's reflective and exuberant elements.

Douglas E. Wagner

### **A Classic Christmas**

A Classic Christmas is a hybrid work that combines the joyous spirit of Christmas with the sophistication of classical music. Wagner weaves traditional carols with excerpts from classical masterpieces, blending the two genres seamlessly. The medley highlights the thematic and harmonic connections between these distinct musical traditions.

Dan Forrest

### **O Come, All Ye Faithful**

*O Come, All Ye Faithful* (originally *Adeste Fideles*) is one of the most enduring and beloved Christmas carols. With origins tracing back to the 18th century, it has been a cornerstone of Christmas music across cultures. Forrest's arrangement takes this hymn and imbues it with a sense of grandeur and awe, blending traditional elements with his signature contemporary choral style.

Bob Chilcott

### **12 Days of Christmas**

Bob Chilcott, a celebrated British composer and arranger, has been a prolific figure in the world of choral music. In "The 12 Days of Christmas," Chilcott brings his characteristic wit and creativity to reimagine the carol, offering performers and audiences a fresh take on the familiar tune.

The original carol, a cumulative song dating back to the 18th century, recounts a series of increasingly extravagant gifts bestowed over the twelve days of Christmas. Chilcott's arrangement maintains the structure but infuses it with a sense of drama, humour, and musical diversity.

*Programme notes by Min Ng*

Ong Lin Wei

## **Christmas Fantasy**

In this festive arrangement, three iconic pieces of the holiday season—We Wish You a Merry Christmas, Jingle Bells, and Auld Lang Syne are woven together to create a musical journey that shifts through various moods, mirroring the transition from Christmas celebration to the ringing in of the New Year.

The medley begins with the warm, familiar cheer of We Wish You a Merry Christmas, setting a tone of joy and togetherness that's synonymous with holiday spirit. The lively rhythms of Jingle Bells follow, adding a touch of playful energy and excitement, evoking the image of festive snowstorms and sleigh rides. Finally, the poignant strains of Auld Lang Syne bring a reflective moment, symbolizing the closing of the year and the anticipation of new beginnings.

Each section transitions seamlessly into the next, with dynamic changes in tempo, orchestration, and mood, reflecting the evolving emotions of the season. The arrangement captures both the warmth and joy of Christmas and the hopeful, nostalgic feeling of welcoming the New Year.

This medley is a celebration of timeless traditions and the joy that music brings in connecting us through the holiday season and beyond.

### **Jingle Bells**

Dashing through the snow  
In a one-horse open sleigh  
O'er the fields we go  
Laughing all the way  
Bells on bobtails ring  
Making spirits bright  
What fun it is to ride and sing  
A sleighing song tonight

Oh! Jingle bells, jingle bells  
Jingle all the way  
Oh, what fun it is to ride  
In a one-horse open sleigh, hey!  
Jingle bells, jingle bells  
Jingle all the way  
Oh, what fun it is to ride  
In a one-horse open sleigh

### **We Wish You a Merry Christmas**

We wish you a merry Christmas  
We wish you a merry Christmas  
We wish you a merry Christmas  
And a happy new year  
We wish you a merry Christmas  
We wish you a merry Christmas  
We wish you a merry Christmas  
And a happy new year  
Good tidings we bring  
To you and your kin  
Good tidings for Christmas  
And a happy new year

### **Auld Lang Syne**

Should old acquaintance be forgot  
And never brought to mind?  
Should old acquaintance be forgot  
In the days of auld lang syne?  
For auld lang syne, my dear  
For auld lang syne  
We'll drink a cup of kindness yet  
For the sake of auld lang syne

*Programme notes by Ong Lin Wei*



## Music For Everyone - Be a Sponsor!

Encompassing music of different genres and varied repertoires, BHSO and the Joy Choral wish to provide the community opportunities to enjoy music along our vision of "Music For Everyone". To this end, our **"sponsor-a-ticket" programme**, active since its launch in July 2018, aims to connect sponsors with beneficiaries of charities and welfare organisations.

Below are the list of organisations that have benefitted from this concert:

- Art:Dis
- MINDS
- CDAC
- Moral Home for the Aged Sick
- The Purple Symphony (Community Development Council Central SG)
- Beautiful Mind
- Institute of Mental Health
- Chee Hoon Kog Moral Promotion Society

We would like to acknowledge our kind sponsors for raising tickets for this concert:

- Tim Raes
- Yap Keng Ann
- Janet Chan
- Adelgunde Sommer
- Other individuals who have requested to remain anonymous
- Jessica Wong
- Tan Mei Wah
- Lim Shue Churn
- Hoon Tien Hun
- Min Ng

Besides our sponsorship program, BHSO is also looking to broaden our outreach by partnering with schools, community organisations and corporations to realise BHSO's vision at every performance. If you resonate with our vision and would like to inspire the community, please do:

- Be a ticket sponsor for our concerts.
- Bulk purchase (10 or more tickets) at a special price.
- Make a donation (individual or corporate).

Contact us to share your ideas at [info@bhs.org](mailto:info@bhs.org)

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