

The background features a light beige color with various abstract elements: a large donut chart in the top left with segments in yellow, pink, grey, and green; a smaller donut chart in the bottom right with segments in blue, purple, yellow, orange, and teal; several thick lines in orange, red, and green; a dashed green arrow pointing upwards; a black pen nib in the bottom left; and various grey and black geometric shapes like rectangles and circles scattered throughout.

# Fresh Perspectives

SOUNDBITES BY YST COMPOSITION STUDENTS

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7 November 2022  
NUS YSTCM Orchestra Hall  
12:00 PM

# Welcome!

Sit back (for certain pieces) and enjoy an exciting programme brought to you by the graduating students of the YST Composition Department. The pieces written as part of their Final Year Projects represent their musical interests and personal expressions. Experience the music of our time, here and now, with a full line-up of premieres at Soundbites: Fresh Perspective.

## **PROGRAMME**

**Lim Chae Hyun**

UsTarbucksOWNd

Chen Hung Shun (B.Mus3), *trumpet*

A series of: Cognitively Satisfying Music

Song Yuhui (B.Mus4), *bassoon*

Jennifer Stephanie Silva Coresma (B.Mus3), *trombone*

Thanaphat Pratjaroenwanit (B.Mus4), *percussions*

Hibiki Otomo (B.Mus2), *double bass*

**Tai Yun Ming**

I. Prelude to the Other Shore

II. Flowers on the Other Shore

Teerayut Tupmongkol (B.Mus3), *tuba*

Chong Zhia Chee (B.Mus4), *harp*

Neville Athenasius Ang Xin Chun (M.Mus2), *violin*

Luo Juntao (B.Mus4), *violin*

Lee Wei-Fan (B.Mus2), *viola*

Liu Chien-Wei (B.Mus3), *cello*

Programme notes

# Lim Chae Hyun



## **UsTarbucksOWNd (2022):**

During the composer's time studying at NUS, he spent quiet a lot of time at the Starbucks at the University Town (UTown). This Starbucks outlet used to be the largest Starbucks outlet in Singapore, meaning that there are a lot of seats and tables to study.

This Starbucks outlet is a representation of the bursting and energetic atmosphere of UTown. It carries daily lives of people who live and stay at UTown.

The piece, UsTarbucksOWNd, a combination of two words UTown and Starbucks, is a musical ethnography of the place. The trumpet narrates the flow of events in the Starbucks store. The playback is the rendered field recording at the store.

Please pay attention to how the trumpet's onomatopoeia corresponds to the sounds effects in the playback. It is also nice to imagine the landscape of the store as time passes in a day.

## **A series of: Cognitively Satisfying Music (2022):**

*1. Air, Metal, Stone, and Liquid*

*2. Pitch Exploration*

*3. Cohesive Ensemble*

*Section 4: Clear structure*

We prefer most of our surroundings to be consistent and har-

monious. We fix the inconsistent components to put them back to the state that is logical and sensible.

The theory of cognitive dissonance is based on the above assumption. People select, organize, and interpret sensory stimulation into 'meaningful' and 'coherent' manners. If people perceive two elements of knowledge that do not agree with each other, people will be psychologically uncomfortable.

Therefore, people are motivated to reduce dissonance and achieve consonance, and to avoid situations and information which would likely increase dissonance. This process of dissonance resolution can be applied to the music making, such as composers' approaches to reduce ambiguity of intentions, strive to coherently present materials, and to convey ideas in time-efficient manner.

A series of: *Cognitively Satisfying Music* is a digression from conventional cognitive process of music making. The piece are built on cognitively dissonant materials and organizations. The piece invites listeners to explore the different dimensions of dissonances in music making. The piece does not allow listeners to sit back, relax, and wait for the resolution of tensions.

**About the composer:**

Lim Chae Hyun (B.Mus4, Composition, CNM) is a composer who create works with extra-musical materials, such as artifacts, or communications theories. He musicalize things that aren't music. He turns concepts into sound. He translate visual art works into musical systems and transform societal affairs into sonic ones.

Chae Hyun studied composition with Peter Edwards and Chen Zhangyi during his studies at YST. His works has been performed by renowned ensembles such as Hand Werk and Ensemble Chromoson, and internationally-renowned artists including Martin Jaggi and Christoph Wichert.

Programme notes

# Tai Yun Ming



## I. Prelude to the Other Shore

You know it is a world different from ours, when you see whales in the air, and fireflies in the water.

How strange it is to have whales smaller than your palms, and fireflies as big as boats.

The eyes see only whalebirds and fireflyfishes.

The mist tells you there is more.

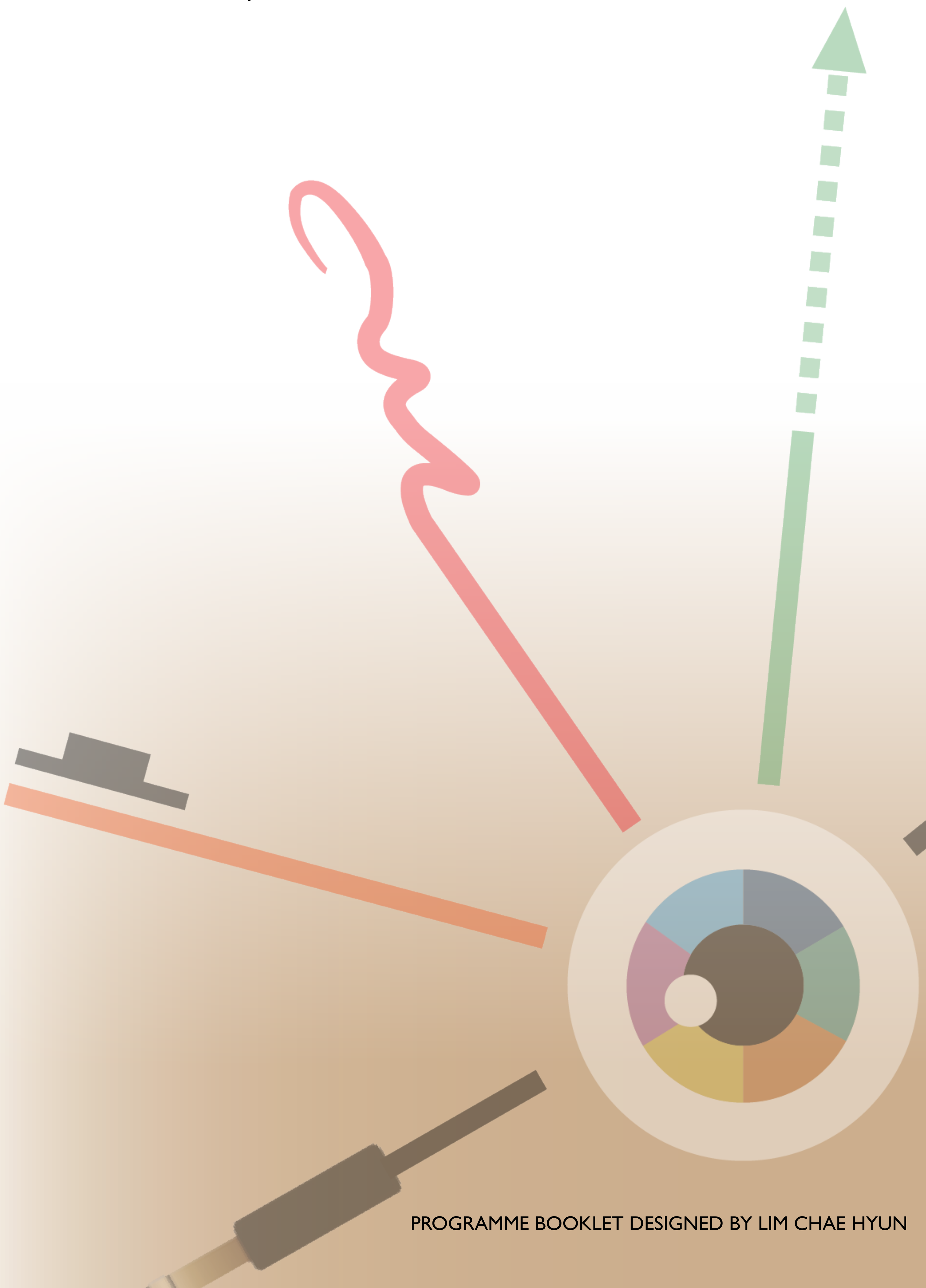
## II. Flowers on the Other Shore

Red spider lilies, also known as Higanbana and Manjusaka, carry meaning of passion, sad memory, separation and reincarnation. When the flowers bloom, the leaves would have fallen; when the leaves grow, the flowers would have wilted. According to Lotus Sutra, white Mandarava flowers descend from the heavens with the most fragrance. They turn red on the shores of hell, becoming the only flowers blooming on the other side of the river, guiding souls through samsara – the cycle of rebirth. The fragrance of these red flowers has magic to evoke memories from previous lives.



### **About the composer:**

Tai Yun Ming (B.Mus4, composition) works with and takes inspiration from different disciplines in art such as film, visual art, dance, and painting. Her works were featured in Free Hand Piano Festival 2022, In Your Hands 2022 @ Esplanade, Arts and Science Days 2020 @ Saint Etienne, Hot Air Music Festival 2021, and Simpósio Internacional de Música Nova 2021. She has also won first prize in Chopin Society Malaysia's Virtual International Music Competition 2020 (composition) and collaborated with the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra (MPO).





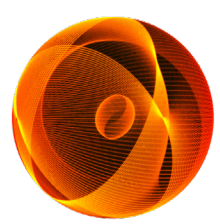
# Acknowledgements

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## **YST Programming and Productions**

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## **YST Audio Arts & Sciences**



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