

Hong Kong percussionist Sophia Woo and acclaimed former students to collaborate for percussion concert

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department will present the Percussion Concert "Legacy" in October.

Well known Hong Kong percussionist Sophia Woo will collaborate with four of her former students for a unique percussion experience. The group promise excellent musicality and fine technique on a variety of instruments, and will perform a selection of the most exciting percussion music from Europe, the United States and Asia.

The programme will include world premieres for two commissioned works, "Yuen" and "Memento", written by Pius Cheung and Chi Him Calvin Chiu, as well as Owen Clayton Condon's "Fractalia", Marcus Ström's "Ettena", Steve Reich's "Nagoya Marimbas", Iannis Xenakis's "Okho", Astor Piazzolla's (arranged by Pius Cheung) "Verano Porteño", Johann Sebastian Bach's (arranged by Samuel Chan) "French Suite No. 5 in G Major" and Hiroyuki Yamazawa's "Blue Wing".

Well known as a percussionist and music educator in Hong Kong, Sophia Woo has been a percussionist for the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra for over 20 years. She is currently a teacher at the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts (HKAPA), the Chinese University of Hong Kong and Hong Kong Baptist University. A keen educator, she has taught many rising stars in the percussion field. Four of them, namely Sabrina Ma, Raymond Vong, Samuel Chan and Pius Cheung, will join her for this concert.

Originally from Hong Kong, Berlin-based percussionist Sabrina Ma graduated from the University of Michigan and the Hochschule für Musik in Karlsruhe, and has won major international music competitions. She has played with a wide range of composers, theatre-makers and artists and is active as a soloist and chamber musician.

Raymond Vong obtained both his Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from the HKAPA. He is currently Principal Percussionist of City Chamber Orchestra of Hong Kong. He is also a teaching faculty member of the HKAPA and the executive director of the Macau Percussion Association.

Samuel Chan has won many international percussion competitions and has worked with famous orchestras around the world, performing at prestigious venues like Lincoln Centre, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and Elbphilharmonie and more.

Marimbist and composer Pius Cheung is a special guest of the concert. He has profound knowledge of percussion and composition and is currently an assistant professor and chair of percussion at the University of Oregon.

Percussion Concert "Legacy" will be staged at 8pm on October 16 (Tuesday) at the Theatre of Hong Kong City Hall. Tickets priced at \$150 and \$200 are now available at URBTIX (www.urbtix.hk). For telephone credit card bookings, please call 2111 5999. For programme enquiries and concessionary schemes, please call 2268 7321 or visit www.lcsd.gov.hk/CE/CulturalService/Programme/tc/music/programs_631.html.