

**REGISTER NOW**

# International Masterclass Series 4-7 December 2025

*The 2025 International Masterclass Series provides a platform for musicians from all over the world to have an opportunity to take lessons under the guidance of renowned pedagogues. Participants will be able to exchange their musical ideas, showcase their talent and artistry and establish friendships with musicians and pedagogues from different countries.*



*Prof. Ning An*



*Dr. Khoo Hui Ling*



*Winnie Tay*



*Karen Wong*



*Chin Ying Soong*



*Kellie Khoong*



*Dr. Lee Pei Ming*





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*This year, we are honoured to have prominent teachers like **Prof. Ning An** (USA), **Ms Karen Wong**, **Ms Winnie Tay**, **Dr Khoo Hui Ling** and **Dr. Lee Pei Ming**, to conduct masterclasses and talks. These teachers are not only prolific performers, they have produced several prize- winners. We are highly privileged to have this opportunity, and hope that everyone will attend and enjoy this masterclass series.*

**Early-Bird discount before 1 Nov 2025:** 5% discount not including GST  
**Registration deadline:** 1 December 2025

PROGRAMME	PRICING
Masterclass	<b>Prof Ning An:</b> \$280/30min, \$520/1hr <b>All other pedagogues:</b> \$180/30min, \$300/1hr
Afternoon Talk	<b>\$80/talk</b>  <b>5 Dec 2025, Fri: 1pm-2pm</b> <i>Music Journey with my Child: Practice hacks nurturing discipline and resilience through music, understanding goal setting in music learning, creating a musical environment with fun musical conversation by Dr Khoo Hui Ling.</i>  <b>6 Dec 2024, Sat 1pm-2pm</b> <i>Pursuing MEP/Music O' level: Meeting the expectations. What knowledge is required for the 6 questions on jazz, pop and Asian music. Ms Kellie Khoong Shok Meng will be sharing ways to obtain a high score in music exams.</i>  <b>7 Dec 2024, Sun 1pm-2pm</b> <i>Tackling the Direct School Admission (DSA) for music and sports: How to increase your chances by Dr Lee Pei Ming.</i>  <b>2pm-3pm</b> <i>Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven's compositional styles by Prof. Ning An.</i>
Masterclass	Complimentary for audience.  Please email <b>info@staccato.com.sg</b> to register.
Informal Dinner at Spizza (Balmoral Plaza)	\$90/person

Day 1 Schedule  
4 Dec 2025, Thursday

	Balmoral Rm 1	Balmoral Rm 6
11am-2pm		Mr Chin Ying Soong
2pm-4pm	Dr Khoo Hui Ling	Ms Winnie Tay
4pm-630pm	Ms Karen Wong	Prof. Ning An

Day 2 Schedule  
5 Dec 2025, Friday

	Balmoral Rm 1	Balmoral Rm 6
11am-2pm		Mr Chin Ying Soong
11am-1pm	Dr Lee Pei Ming	Dr Khoo Hui Ling
1pm-2pm	<b>Afternoon Talk</b> Music Journey with my Child: Practice hacks nurturing discipline and resilience through music, understanding goal setting in music learning, creating a musical environment with fun musical conversation by Dr Khoo Hui Ling.	
2pm-4pm	Dr Khoo Hui Ling	Ms Karen Wong
4pm-630pm	Ms Winnie Tay	Prof. Ning An

**Day 3 Schedule**  
**6 Dec 2025, Saturday**

	Balmoral Rm 1	Balmoral Rm 6
10am-1pm	Ms Winnie Tay	Ms Karen Wong
1pm-2pm	<b>Afternoon Talk</b> Pursuing MEP/Music O' level: Meeting the expectations. What knowledge is required for the 6 questions on jazz, pop and Asian music, and main differences between ABRSM theory and MEP exams will be covered by Ms Kellie Khoong Shok Meng.	
2pm-6pm	Mr Chin Ying Soong	Prof. Ning An

**Day 4 Schedule**  
**7 Dec 2025, Sunday**

	Balmoral Rm 1	Balmoral Rm 6
10am-1pm	Ms Karen Wong	Dr Lee Pei Ming
1pm-3pm	<b>Afternoon Talk</b>  <b>1pm-2pm</b> Tackling the Direct School Admission (DSA) for music and sports: How to increase your chances by Dr Lee Pei Ming.  <b>2pm-3pm</b> Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven's compositional styles by Prof. Ning An.	
3pm-6pm	Ms Winnie Tay	Prof. Ning An

## **Masterclass**

1. *Each participant can prepare 1-2 repertoires not exceeding 8 minutes for each 30-minute Masterclass.*
2. *All participants are strongly encouraged to memorize their pieces.*
3. *All participants should bring their own scores.*
4. *Each participant will receive a trophy and a certificate for participation at the end of the event.*
5. *All beginners-advanced level participants can sign up for masterclasses conducted Ms Karen Wong, Ms Winnie Tay and Dr Lee Pei Ming.*
6. *Only intermediate (Grade 5 and equivalent) to advanced-level participants are encouraged to sign up for Prof Ning An's masterclasses.*
7. *Each 2-hr masterclass session has a limit of 4 participants based on first-come-first serve basis.*
8. *There is no time extension for late participants for all masterclasses.*

## **Location**

1. *All Masterclasses and Afternoon Talks will be held at the Staccato at 271 Bukit Timah Road, Balmoral Plaza, B1-01 S(259708)*
2. *Please bring socks for adult and child at all times for hygiene purpose.*

## **Fees**

1. *Fees are non-refundable once payment is made.*
2. *All paid bookings for Masterclasses and Afternoon Talks are fixed and non-transferable to different pedagogues. Staccato! Pte Ltd reserves the rights for any changes in locations, speakers and events.*





**Pianist Ning An** is a rare pianist who has been hailed as a musician who “combines a flawless technique and mastery of the instrument with an expressive power that is fueled by profound and insightful understanding.” (New York Concert Review) His top prizes from the Queen Elizabeth, Cleveland, and William Kapell Piano Competitions led to performances at Carnegie’s Weill Recital Hall, Salle Verdi (Milan), and to the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, China. He has been invited to perform at numerous festivals, including the International Chopin Festival in Duszynski, Poland, the Gina Bachauer Piano Festival in Salt Lake City, New Hampshire’s Monadnock Music Festival, the Bourglinster Festival in Luxembourg, and the Interlaken Music Festival in Switzerland. A passionate chamber musician as well as soloist, Mr. An has performed with distinguished groups such as the Ysaye, Daedalus, and Takacs Quartets as well as instrumentalists James Ehnes, Paul Neubauer, and Andres Diaz.

Since making his orchestral debut at the age of 16 with the Cleveland Orchestra, Mr. An has been a featured soloist with orchestras that include the London Symphony Orchestra, Moscow Radio Symphony Orchestra, Baltimore Symphony, the Stuttgart Philharmonic, Tivoli Symphony Orchestra, the Belgian National Symphony, the Flemish Radio Symphony, and many more under the batons of conductors such as Vladimir Fedosseyev, Jorg-Peter Weigle, Rafael Fruhbeck de Burgos, and others. Mr. An was also a featured soloist on the 100th Anniversary American tour made by the Warsaw Philharmonic under the direction of Maestro Kazimierz Kord.

In recent years, Mr. An has increased his travels to Asia where he made solo debuts in the National Grand Theatre in Beijing as well the major concert halls of Shanghai, Guanzhou and Shenzhen. Recent concerto appearances have included the National Symphony Orchestra of Taiwan as well as the Guangzhou and Shenzhen Symphony Orchestras.

Ning An has also been a top prize winner of the Paloma O’Shea Santander Competition, the Tivoli International Piano Competition, the Rachmaninoff International Piano Competition, the National Chopin Competition, the American Pianist Association and the Alfred Cortot Prize winner of the International Chopin Piano Competition.

This artist began his musical studies at the Cleveland Institute of Music with Olga Radosavljevich and Sergei Babayan. Subsequently, Mr. An continued his studies under the tutelage of Russell Sherman at the New England Conservatory of Music.

As a frequent guest lecturer, Mr. An has given masterclasses throughout the United States and Asia. He has served previously on the piano faculty of Lee University and as Associate Professor at the California State University Fullerton.





A pianist, music educator, researcher and entrepreneur, **Dr. Khoo Hui Ling** seeks and maintains diverse interests in life which nourish her artistic soul. She believes that good music is sincere and vulnerable, ideals she infuses into her artistic endeavours.

Hui Ling is currently Lecturer at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music (YST), where she has taught courses in community engagement, contextual studies, pedagogy and piano performance. Having a strong conviction to positively impact the music teaching community, she has served as Vice President of the Singapore Music Teachers' Association and the executive committee of the Southeast Asian Directors of Music (SEADOM). Prior to her current teaching appointments, she has taught in various capacities at Nanyang Girls' High School in Singapore, the University of Oregon and the preparatory division of the Peabody Conservatory of Music.

In 2018, Hui Ling founded The Music Studios, a collective of private music teachers in Singapore with a mission to help every music learner build a lifelong friendship with music. Her sensitivity to detail and ability to elicit the strengths of every student have helped students gain entry into prestigious music programmes, festivals and competitions. The Music Studios has since grown with her creations of innovative programmes for both students and teachers, and she has been invited to share her research in piano pedagogy at the International Society for Music Education World Conference, Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM) Music Teacher Conferences, and the Australasian Piano Pedagogy Conference.

Constant musing on the interconnectivity between art and the world around us has inspired Hui Ling's eclectic array of musical projects. Her artistry at the piano has been heard in creatively programmed recitals in the United States, Europe and Singapore. Forays into multidisciplinary performance have led to inter-cultural collaborations and productions with dancers. In 2016, she produced short documentaries on the confluence of Chinese traditional music and painting in Tan Dun's 8 Memories in Watercolour as part of her doctoral research, culminating in a multimedia performance that premiered in the United States and Singapore.

In her spare time, Hui Ling is a hobby potter and enjoys trekking. She also fiddles around on the erhu, which she picked up upon joining the Chinese orchestra as a teenager. Hui Ling graduated with a Doctorate in Musical Arts from the University of Oregon under the tutelage of Dean Kramer. She previously studied at the Peabody Conservatory of Music with Brian Ganz, and the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of music with Thomas Hecht. In her childhood and teenage years, her love for music was cultivated by Julie Tan who taught her piano, and Xu Wen Jing who taught her erhu. Since 2017, Hui Ling has been based back in Singapore, her birth country. She continues to find inspiration in music and has made it her lifelong mission to likewise inspire others through her diverse musical pursuits.



**Mr Chin Ying Soong** holds an Advanced Performance Study Certificate in Music from Birmingham Conservatoire, UK, FTCL Diploma in Piano, LTCL Diploma in Piano, and LRSM Diploma in Piano (Distinction).

A teacher to many young and aspiring musicians, Mr Chin has over 30 years of teaching experience, mostly in tertiary institutions and music colleges in Malaysia and Singapore. His students range from private piano students, undergraduates, to music teachers completing their diploma certifications.

In his earlier years, he participated and won in several piano competitions, such as the Yamaha Malaysia Grand Prix 1990, Mozart Competition in Penang 1991, and few competitions during his time in Birmingham Conservatoire. He also won a few awards for best accompanist for vocal and violin competitions.



Ms. **Winnie Tay**, a native of Singapore, emerged onto the global stage as a pianist and educator, enriching the lives of countless students and enthusiasts with her passion for music.

*Driven by her unwavering dedication and relentless pursuit of excellence, Winnie Tay honed her skills under the tutelage of renowned mentors, immersing herself in the rich tapestry of classical music and nurturing her distinctive artistic voice. Her commitment to her craft led her to achieve remarkable success, earning accolades and recognition both nationally and internationally.*

*Winnie Tay's illustrious career as an educator has been characterized by her profound commitment to nurturing the next generation of musicians. She currently presides over the esteemed Song without Words Music Studio, where she imparts her wisdom and expertise to a diverse array of students. Under her guidance, her pupils have garnered acclaim in prestigious competitions and festivals worldwide, distinguishing themselves as prizewinners and earning coveted spots at renowned music institutions. Notably, Winnie's students have achieved unprecedented success in the biennial Steinway Youth Piano Competition, making history by clinching the Grand Prize and proudly representing Singapore on the regional stage. Their remarkable achievements serve as a testament to Winnie's exceptional teaching methods and her unwavering dedication to nurturing talent.*

*In addition to her role as an educator, Winnie Tay serves as the co-founder and artistic director of The Musique Loft, a dynamic hub for artistic exploration and collaboration. Through her visionary leadership, The Musique Loft has emerged as a beacon of excellence in the musical community, fostering creativity and innovation among aspiring musicians.*

*Winnie's influence extends far beyond the confines of her studio, as she is frequently sought after as an adjudicator and presenter of masterclasses. Her insights and expertise have been instrumental in shaping the next generation of pianists, inspiring students to reach new heights of artistic expression. She conducts regular masterclasses, drawing eager participants from far and wide, including Indonesia and China, who flock to benefit from her invaluable guidance.*

*In recent years, Winnie Tay has been entrusted with the honor of serving on the jury for esteemed competitions such as the 3rd Steinway Youth Piano Competition and the Zhongsin International Music Competition. Winnie Tay has been appointed as a Steinway Educational Partner Teacher, further cementing her status as a distinguished figure in the industry. Her affiliation with Steinway underscores her commitment to excellence and her unwavering dedication to nurturing the next generation of musicians.*

*Through her passion for music and her unwavering commitment to her students, Winnie Tay continues to inspire and empower aspiring musicians, leaving an indelible mark on the world of music education. Her legacy serves as a testament to the transformative power of music and the profound impact of a dedicated mentor.*



**Karen Wong**, co-founder of Forte Musicademy, embodies the philosophy that comprehensive, structured, and robust musical foundations are vital for every aspiring musician.

*Karen's academic journey includes graduating with honors from the University of Wales, where she earned prestigious awards such as the Yo Kiang Beng Music Scholarship and the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA) Degree Studies Scholarship, alongside being recognized as the Best Graduate. For eight years, she was a lecturer at NAFA, imparting her expertise in Harmony and Practical Musicianship. Concurrently, she played a pivotal role at the School of Young Talent within NAFA, shaping young minds in piano, theory, and aural skills, and contributing significantly to establishing the music program at NAFA Arts Kindergarten.*

*Transitioning from her tenure at NAFA, Karen founded Forte Musicademy in 2010, where she holds the roles of Director and Head of Keyboard, Curriculum, and Academics. Under her guidance, numerous musicians have flourished, achieving remarkable success in prestigious competitions worldwide. Karen's students have secured top honors in international piano competitions, alongside triumphs in numerous placing in the Singapore's National Piano and Violin Competition, Steinway Youth Piano Competition, and Piano Island Competition. Additionally, her students have excelled as ABRSM High Scorers and recipients of the Hedy King Robinson Prize.*

*With over two decades of experience in piano pedagogy, Karen possesses strong analytical skills, enabling her to effectively educate students of all levels, including those with learning differences such as dyslexia, dyspraxia, ADD, ADHD, and autism. Her commitment to instilling a love for music and empowering her students with purpose sets the foundation for their lifelong musical journey.*





***Khoong Shok Meng, Kellie*** is an accomplished music educator, pianist, and author with over four decades of experience in performance, teaching, and curriculum development. She holds a Master of Education from the National Institute of Education, Singapore, and a Bachelor of Science from the University of Oregon, alongside multiple licentiates and diplomas from the Royal Schools of Music and Trinity College.

*Kellie has performed extensively in Singapore, including solo and charity recitals at the Victoria Concert Hall, Raffles Hotel Jubilee Hall, and Yamaha Concert Salon, as well as collaborative two-piano recitals. Her awards include the University of Oregon Dean's List (1984), Phi Delta Piano Performance Prize (1986), and Best Songwriter Award by Radio 95.8 (1993).*

*As a dedicated educator, she began teaching at Yamaha Music School in the 1970s and later served as Chief Instructress and curriculum developer for Yamaha Music (Asia). She has lectured widely, served as adjudicator for piano competitions across the region, and presented seminars for Alfred Publications and Yamaha Music Asia. In 1999, she founded the MW School of Music, where she continues to serve as Principal and Director.*

*Kellie has also contributed to music education through publications such as Model Answers to ABRSM Theory (2002–2006), Smart Kids in Music (2018), and ABRSM theory practice papers (2021).*



**Dr Lee Pei Ming** was previously an Assistant Professor in Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music at National University of Singapore. She taught at the university for 13 years from 2005--2018. Lee graduated with a Doctorate in Musical Arts (DMA) in Piano Performance and Pedagogy at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor in 2005 and achieved her Licentiate and Fellowship (F.T.C.L.) from Trinity College in London with honors prior to her degrees.

Lee's research paper on "Infant Musicality in the New Generation" was published in INTED conference in Spain, and she has presented her papers at the prestigious World Piano Pedagogy Conference at Texas, USA and in Malaysia. Lee is also the founder of the music program Staccato! Music, which specializes in early childhood music and movement program since 2009. The program is based on her research on developing accurate pitching abilities in young children. Due to the success of the program, Staccato! Music was awarded Promising SME 500 in 2013. The early childhood program has been adopted by several well--known kindergartens in Singapore, like Carpe diem, Little Skool House, Bibinogs, My World by YMCA over the years. In 2018, Staccato! Pte Ltd ventured into the China market with Prodigy Music in Shanghai, and expanded a new branch near Orchard Road at Balmoral Plaza in 2024.

Lee has conducted several pedagogy workshops and lecture recitals held in Singapore for the People's Association, The Arts House, Singapore Symphony Orchestra (SSO) and Ministry of Education (MOE) schools over the years. Lee also founded the Pedagogy Series in 2015 to help raise funds for the financially--challenged students and the less--privileged in collaboration with RICE Holdings.

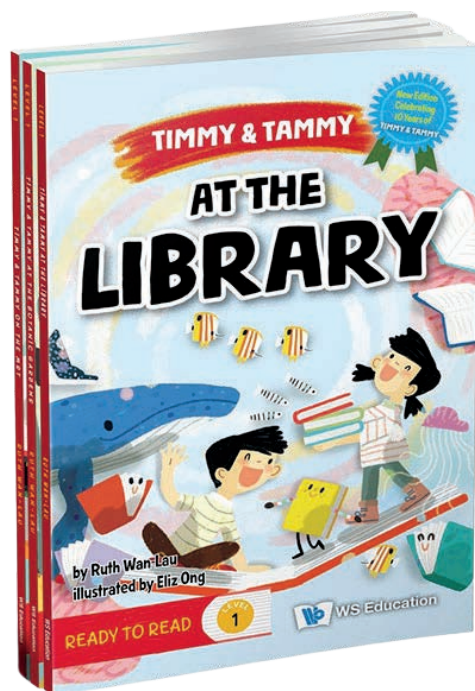
In recent years, Lee has several students who had achieved distinction in their ABRSM or Trinity piano examinations. Ong Weng Yee headed to Chetham's School of Music in Manchester, to pursue a music education, after achieving her grade 8 with distinction when she was 8 years old. Goh Kai Cheng was awarded the grand--final winner in the 5th Annual Steinway Piano Competition, to represent Singapore in the Regional Round in 2020.

In addition to her passion for teaching, Lee has performed in the 13th ASEAN Summit 2007 Gala Dinner, and in the Singapore International Piano Festival in 2006 at the Victoria Concert Hall. In 2006, Lee premiered *Eine Kleine Mitternachtsmusik* by American composer George Crumb in Michigan and Singapore. Other places that Lee has performed include Czech Republic, Italy and USA.

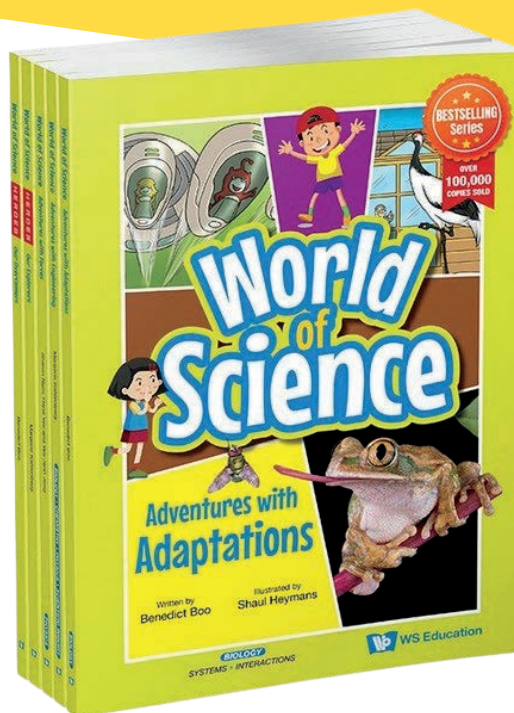
Lee is currently an adjunct lecturer at Lasalle College of the Arts under University of The Arts Singapore.



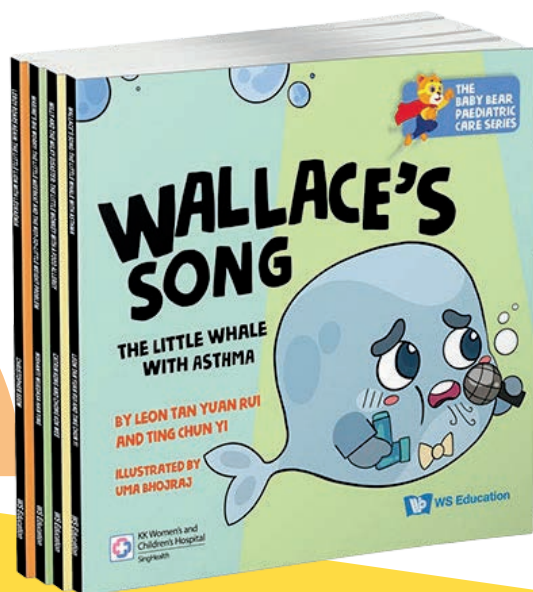
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