

Profile

Yak Aik Wee is a multi-disciplinary artist who graduated with Distinction from LASALLE-SIA College of the Arts, with a Music Diploma majoring in Composition. His studies there were supported by the National Arts Council (Georgette Chen Arts Scholarships).

Prior to his music studies, he served as an Artiste with the Singapore Armed Forces Music and Drama Company (SAF MDC), performing extensively locally as well as at overseas deployments like Australia, Taiwan, Indonesia, Thailand and Brunei. As actor and dancer, he has appeared in various theatre and television productions, including Toy Factory's *Guys and Dolls*, Music and Movement's and MDC's *Kampong Amber*, TCS's *Growing Up*, and Tammy L Wong Dance Company's *Child*.

His compositions have been performed publicly since his first year at LASALLE-SIA, beginning with The Philharmonic Winds' Local Composers' Concert 2001 and The Esplanade's Music Box 2001. Besides being featured at concerts, his music is also being used within other mediums of theatre, dance, film and visual art.

Recent performances of his work include original music for SPH Writer's Lab and TheatreWorks' *A Beautiful Companion*. He is currently researching on techniques to further integrate the different disciplines of music, dance and theatre. Future projects include music for *Subtext ii*, a modern-dance piece to be performed at Utterly Art Gallery in October 2006, and a musical to be launched in 2007.

Skills and Experience

Music

Diploma in Music, Major – Composing (Distinction) (2003)

Dance

Classical Ballet, 10 Years - Tony Llacer, Anthony Tay

Acting and Theatre

Please refer to attached list of Theatre and Dance performances

Music Performance Notes

In October 2006, The Esplanade presented 5 independent choreographers in a show for the **Little Asia Dance Exchange Network 2005**. This year's participants came from Korea, Japan, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Singapore. Aik-Wee composed the music for Singapore's representative, Joavien Ng in her piece **Victoria**. This piece went on to tour the 5 above-mentioned countries.

The One-Sided Wall, a play produced by LASALLE-SIA and Samantha Scott-Blackhall, and performed by the 3rd-year Theatre Arts students. The soundtrack for this one-hour production consisted of over 30 sound cues, and were executed from 2 CD players.

In July 2005, a 30-minute neo-classical suite was composed for **GHOST**, an interdisciplinary performance project produced by **Crow Jane aka Joavien Ng**. **GHOST** was a collaborative effort between different art forms created with Joavien Ng, Choy Ka Fai, Helmi Fita, Ebelle Chong, Neo Hong Chin and Yak Aik-Wee.

Music was composed for 3 modern dance pieces featured in **FireBall 2005**, a showcase for dance and interdisciplinary art organised by **Ecnad Project** in April 2005. Aik-Wee wrote music for choreographers Joavien Ng, Ming Poon (Europe-based) and Kon Su Sam, their pieces all of which were favourably highlighted in subsequent reviews.

Peacock & Chandrabhaga, were commissioned by classical Indian dancer, Raka Maitra. Based on original traditional accompaniments, these two pieces were incorporated as part of her solo recital; "*Mistique of India*", which was performed at Montgomery Performing Arts Centre, Washington, in June 2001. *Mistique of India* was organised by **IDEA** – Indian Dance Educators Association.

Peacock was later released on **CNET Music**, where it garnered an "Editor's Review". This piece was also used on Here On Earth, an internet radio show based in the United States. Till date, *Peacock* has been downloaded over 7,000 times.

Nocturne premiered on 8 April 2001 at Singapore Art Museum as part of **Music Box Festival 2001**, which was organised by The Esplanade and National Arts Council. *Nocturne* was then selected from among the participants in this festival to perform at the **The President's Young Talents Exhibition** on 11 April 2001. We had the honour of performing for the President of Singapore, His Excellency, S.R Nathan on this occasion. These two performances were performed by members from The Philharmonic Winds.

List of Music Performances and Projects

A Beautiful Companion by Tan Suet Lee (Dramatic play)

produced by Writers' Lab, TheatreWorks

Director: Jeffrey Tan

April 2006, Play Den @ The Arts House

Role: Sound Designer, Composer

Medium: 2 CD recordings of piano and environmental sounds

Victoria (Modern Dance, Dance Theatre)

produced by The Esplanade, as part of Little Asia Dance Exchange Network 2005

Director and Choreographer: Crow Jane aka Joavien Ng

October 2005, Studio Theatre, The Esplanade (Singapore, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Korea, Japan)

Role: Composer

Medium: CD recording of cello and electronic sounds

The One-Sided Wall (Dramatic play)

produced by LASALLE-SIA and Samantha Scott Blackhall

Director: Samantha Scott-Blackhall

August 2005, Studio Theatre, LASALLE-SIA College of the Arts

Role: Sound Designer, Composer

Medium: 2 CD recordings of a sampled and electronic instruments, and environmental sounds

GHOST (Interdisciplinary Performance, Dance Theatre)

produced by Crow Jane aka Joavien Ng

Music piece: 30-minute suite based on a central theme.

July 2005, The Living Room @ The Arts House

Medium: CD recording of a sampled instrument ensemble consisting of string and woodwind quartets.

FireBall (Dance, Modern)

produced by Ecnad Project

Dance Piece and Choreography :

- Closet Barbie, Kon Su Sam

- Lab, Crow Jane a.k.a Joavien Ng

- The Man Who Looks For Signs, Ming Poon

April - May 2005, The Arts House

Medium: CD recording of music with sampled instruments and soundscapes, synthesizer (live)

Nana and Damien (Short Film)

produced by Lionel Chok, Richard Kiely, AquaFire Productions

Written by Richard Kiely

Directed by Lionel Chok

January 2005

Medium: Short Film

Singapore' Dance Legacy, The Unsung Heroes, A Tribute to Tony Llacer (Dance, Ballet)

produced by Dance Association of Singapore.

Title Piece and Choreography: A New Beginning, A New Home and Everlasting Memories, Gillian Tan

Music Piece: Petite Allegro and Adage, for Tony

June 2004, LASALLE-SIA Black Box

Medium: CD recording of ballet music, on piano

Lonely Planet (Dramatic Play)

produced by luna-id Productions

Directors: Christian W Huber, Samantha S Blackhall

November 2002, Guinness Theatre

Role: Composer/Sound Designer

Medium: CD recording of live trumpet and midi sequences

Wardrobe of Memories (Installation Art)

by Aleksander Obradovic

November 2002, Earl Lu Gallery

Role: Composer/Sound Designer

Medium: 4 CDs on 4 CD players playing simultaneously

Ménage à Trois

produced by LASALLE-SIA College of the Arts

August 2002, Victoria Theatre

Concert Piece: The Hole in the Wall

Medium: 4 synthesizers + 1 Electric Guitar

Mistique of India

Solo Indian Dance Recital by Raka Maitra

June 2001, Montgomery Performing Arts Centre. Washington

2 Pieces to accompany Indian dance - Peacock & Chandrabhaga

Medium: CD recording from sampled instruments and midi

The President's Young Talents Exhibition

April 2001, Singapore Art Museum

Pieces: selected pieces from *Nocturne, Mystery & Mischief under the Moon*

Music Box Festival 2001

produced by The Esplanade

April 2001, Singapore Art Museum

Concert Piece: Nocturne, Mystery & Mischief under the Moon

Medium: Woodwind quartet + synthesizer

Local Composers' Concert 2001

performed by The Philharmonic Winds

conducted by Robert Casteels

January 2001, Victoria Concert Hall

Concert Piece: White River, Love of the Beast

Medium: Wind Band

Reviews (excerpts)

Lonely Planet by Steven Dietz

sound design and original music for theatre play
produced by luna-id productions in November 2002.

"...Also deserving of credit was Yak Aik Wee's intelligent sound design that touched the feelings rather than intruding on the ears." - Matthew Lyon, The Flying Inkpot Theatre Reviews

The Hole in the Wall

performed by LASALLE-SIA Electro Acoustic Ensemble
featured as part of LASALLE-SIA's public concert M nage   Trois in August 2002

"Aik Wee's Hole in the Wall, a musical composition for synthesizers and electric guitar, may have been the only solely instrumental piece of the evening but its haunting and atmospheric sounds created their own visuals for the listeners, and showcased the creative talent of this young and promising composer." - Grace Pundyk, The Arts Magazine, Nov - Dec 2002

White River (Love of the Beast)

performed by The Philharmonic Winds in Jan 2001

"The more mature and established composers had more to offer. In postgraduate student Aik Wee's tone poem, White River (Love of The Beast), one senses a seasoned hand with a firm grasp of musical idioms and the ability to pace music with movement." - Chang Tou Liang, The Arts Magazine, May - June 2001

Other Reviews (excerpts)

FireBall by Ecnad Project

Original music compositions for modern dance
produced by Ecnad Project in April - May 2005

"...Closet Barbie and The Man Who Looked for Signs were true gems on the night" - David Chew, Today Online, 4 May 2005

"...fine crops harvested... The Man Who Looks For Signs, in which dancer-choreographer Ming Poon was a war-torn soul swimming in the crushed newspaper installation...Joavien Ng's procedural Lab was as delectably cold as the white table she romped..." - Malcolm Tay, Straits Times - Life!, 6 May 2005

List of Theatre and Dance Performances

<u>Production Details</u>	<u>Role</u>	<u>Director/Choreographer</u>	<u>Location</u>
FRESH PLAYS - Dramatised Reading of the 2005 Greenhouse TheatreWorks and Writers' Lab January 2006	Multiple Characters	Jeffrey Tan	72-13
The 24-Hour Playwriting Competition 2000 – Result Announcement and Prize Presentation TheatreWorks October 2000	Multiple Characters	Jeffrey Tan	The Black Box
The Heroes of Force 136 School Assembly Shows D'Rama Productions February 2000 – March 2000	Multiple Characters	Danny Jow	Secondary and Primary Schools in Singapore
Growing Up IV #18 Local Television Drama Television Corporation of Singapore (TCS) February 2000	Peter Pan	H.L Cheong	TCS
Star Trek World Tour – Singapore December 1999 – February 2000	Lta. Sumi Lta. Mahtuk	Winrich Kolbe/ Jeffrey Tan	Suntec Convention Centre
Child Modern Dance piece Late-Night Arts Fringe Tammy L. Wong Dance Company June 1999	Dancer	Tammy L. Wong	The Drama Centre
Guys & Dolls The Musical Toy Factory May 1999	Benny Southstreet	Goh Boon Teck	DBS Auditorium
Wheels of Time Educational Theatre November 1998 – March 1999	Naikee Benerton	Henry Heng	Singapore Discovery Centre
Child Modern Dance piece DramaPlus September 1998	Dancer	Tammy L. Wong	The Drama Centre
Growing Up III #6 Local Television Drama August 1998	Robber/ "Mother-Killer"	Adrian Teo	TCS
Beauty World The Musical – TV version President's Star Charity TCS April 1998	Chorus	Ong Keng Sen/ Casey Lim/ Najib Ali	TCS

Corporate Animals The Musical Action Theatre August 1995	Mick	Ekachai Uekrongtham/ Mohammed Noor	Jubilee Hall
Video Expressions Local MTV TCS March 1995	Dancer	Various (MDC)	Brunei/Singapore
Loose Joints Dance Recital The Substation February 1995	Dancer	Mervyn Cheo	Guinness Theatre
Kampong Amber The Musical Singapore Art's Festival 1994 Opening Music and Movement and SAF MDC May 1994	Chorus	Glen Goei/ Najip Ali	Kallang Theatre
Bugis Street The Musical Pacific Theatricals February 1994	Helen (Chorus)	Robert E Turoff/ Charlene Clarke	Victoria Theatre
Have Fun with Bobo and ChaCha 2-man comic routine September 1993	ChaCha	Koh Chieng Mun	Asian Village, Sentosa
Thomson VCR Television Commercial September 1993	Comical Character		Creative Pte Ltd
You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown & Snoopy! 2 Musicals Pacific Theatricals June 1993	Charlie Brown	Gene Perrson/ Antonio Llacer	Jubilee Hall
Dances of the Orient Modern Dance March 1993	Dancer	Eugene Lim	Kallang Theatre