

Neil Chua 蔡为仲

Ruan (阮) Instrumentalist, Composer



Graduated from the prestigious Shanghai Conservatory of Music, Neil is the first and youngest musician of the Conservatory to receive a Master Degree in Music - Ruan (阮). Currently a permanent resident in Singapore, Neil is the

Founder of Ruanatworkz Musical Arts, a non-profit Society in Singapore which promotes traditional culture, music, art and other form of traditional values. Neil is also the first musician to be invited to represent Malaysia to participate in the highly acclaimed OneBeat, which is a U.S. State Department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs exchange programme in 2014 whereby he had the opportunity to interact, educate and promote *Ruan* (阮) to students and musicians from around the world in the United States of America.

Neil's ability to bond different traditional cultures into his music set himself apart. His passion led to an invitation to participate in the Silkroad's Global

Musician Workshop 2015 by Cello Maestro Mr. Yoyo –



Neil Chua performing with international musicians at the Silkroad's Global Musicians Workshop 2015

Ma where globally minded musicians engaged in learning from one another's traditions and incorporating them into their own artistic voices.

"There is a great sense of beauty & spirit in his musical voice, combined with a truly kind nature and a deep commitment to sharing his love of music, and his musical tradition, with people around the world," Elena Moon Park, OneBeat Director.

Neil is also a proud recipient of several musical accolades. He staged his first solo performance under the invitation of the Malaysia Professional Culture Centre Chinese Orchestra in June 2005 at the Kuala Lumpur City Government Concert Hall. Ever since then, Neil has been invited to perform in numerous concerts and festivals around the world and is the author of the



Neil Chua with Javanese Singer, Ms. Peni Candra Rini for the Setouchi Triennale 2016 in Japan

'History of Ruan and Creation of Ruan Works (阮史與阮曲創作)'.



Neil Chua performing with a traditional Indian dancer for his concert at the Esplanade

Being the first to graduate with a Master Degree in Music (Ruan), Neil feels that it is his responsibility to inspire and to advocate the rich culture of traditional Chinese music instrument. He dedicates his time to promote his principle instrument Ruan (阮) by working closely with composers, young musicians and conducts regular classes to impart his skills to his students.

"We are proud to be part of his journey as he continues his effort to create positive impact to the communities," Mdm. Kamsiah Kamaruddin, Malaysia's Deputy High Commissioner to Singapore.