

MAESTROS

DR. DANIEL YAT CHIU NG (In Memoriam)

Dr. Daniel Yat Chiu Ng was the founder and a director of The Octavian Society Limited in Hong Kong, a private collection of music manuscripts of Richard Strauss and the music library of Paul Wittgenstein that carried out archival, editing and scholarly works on these materials. A native of Hong Kong, Dr. Ng graduated from the University of Illinois and held a doctorate degree in chemical engineering from the Imperial College of Science and Technology in London. Between 1965 and 1972, Dr. Ng managed projects on environmental protection and energy systems at the Institute of Gas Technology in Chicago. In 1972, Dr. Ng. became the joint managing director of Inter-Asia Management Co. Ltd., a venture capital company in Hong Kong. In 1975, Dr. Ng founded the first McDonald's restaurant in Hong Kong, where he was managing director until 1995. He was also Honorary Chairman of Ronald McDonald House Charities in Hong Kong. Dr. Ng was a board member of AFS Intercultural Programs of Hong Kong; he served on the executive committee of the Hong Kong Arts Festival and the Board of Governors of the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra.



AGNES HSU-TANG, Ph.D.

Agnes Hsu-Tang, Ph.D. is an archaeologist and international cultural heritage policy advisor, having served on UNESCO World Heritage Centre's scientific committees from 2006 to 2013, and advised President Obama's Cultural Property Advisory Committee on the administration's amended 2014 bilateral agreement with China to prevent looting. Agnes was a Mellon Fellow at Cambridge and Stanford Universities, and taught at Brown before joining Columbia University. In 2018, she was elected a Distinguished Scholar to the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology at the University of Pennsylvania. Agnes was awarded a Centennial Medal by the Institute of International Education in 2019 for her work in cultural heritage protection.



In addition to academic publications, white papers, and lectures, Agnes has been involved in several international exhibitions. In 2015, Dr. Hsu-Tang was appointed by Asia Society's Co-Chairs to lead its Global Council on Asian Arts and Culture and to create the Asia Society Inaugural Triennial with Boon Hui Tan, Founding Director of the Triennial.

Agnes was the bi-lingual host and narrator of two award-winning documentary series on History Channel Asia and Discovery Channel Asia; the latter, a series on contemporary Chinese art, premiered at Asia Society Hong Kong Center in 2014. Formerly trained as a Classical musician, Agnes made her solo debut in 1989 at the Kennedy Center; in 2016, she contributed to the dramaturgy and libretto of a new opera, *Paradise Interrupted*, which premiered at the Spoleto and Lincoln Center Festivals.

Since 2014, Agnes has served on the board of the Metropolitan Opera and was Chairwoman of the Nominating Committee from 2018 to 2020. Agnes is also a trustee of the 217-year-old New-York Historical Society, where she has chaired the Exhibitions Committee since 2015. She co-founded the Tang Center for Early China at Columbia University, the Tang

Center for Silk Road Studies at UC Berkeley, and the Hsu-Tang Library for Classical Chinese Literature at the Oxford University Press.

In March 2021, Agnes, with her husband Oscar Tang and two former Asia Society New York personnel Li-En Chong and Ken Tan, created The Yellow Whistle™, an activist campaign to distribute 30,000 free whistles emblazoned with the slogan “WE BELONG” to combat anti-Asian violence in America.

OSCAR L. TANG

Oscar L. Tang, Co-Chairman of the New York Philharmonic, has supported institutions that promote excellence in education, arts and culture, athletics, and the advancement of social justice for forty years. In 1990, Mr. Tang was appointed by President George H.W. Bush to serve on the President’s Committee on the Arts and Humanities; he also served on the New York State Council on the Arts from 2002 to 2004. In 2005, Mr. Tang was elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Mr. Tang has been a trustee of The Metropolitan Museum of Art for almost thirty years; he is a member of the Executive and Acquisitions Committees, and serves as Chairman of the Met’s Asian Art Visiting Committee. Mr. Tang is also a director of the New York Philharmonic and was elected as its Co-Chairman in early 2019. A lifelong skier and athletics enthusiast, Mr. Tang has supported the United States Bobsled and Skeleton Foundation and serves as a trustee.

In 1989, Mr. Tang, with Yo-Yo Ma, I. M. Pei, and three others, founded the Committee of 100, a leadership organization “to encourage rapport and understanding of the United States and China and to promote the full participation of all Chinese Americans in American society.” He continues to serve as a governor after 32 years.

Mr. Tang is a graduate of Phillips Academy Andover and has been a charter trustee since 1995. Under his leadership as Board President from 2004 to 2012, Andover became the first American boarding school to go “need blind.” Mr. Tang attended Yale and graduated from Harvard Business School. He has founded institutes and centers of excellence at Andover, Princeton, Columbia, Berkeley, and Oxford.

Mr. Tang has been a private investor since 1993, when he retired from Reich & Tang, an asset management firm that he co-founded and served as president and chief executive officer for 20 years. In 1987, Reich & Tang L.P. became the first publicly traded investment management limited partnership when it listed on the New York Stock Exchange. In 1993, New England Investment Companies merged into Reich & Tang to form Nvest, L.P., which managed over \$130 billion of client assets when it was acquired in 2000 by Caisse des Depots et Consignations.

FOUNDATIONS

AAN FOUNDATION

“Culture defines who we are, and if that is not shared, disseminated and hence preserved, it can be lost. Art and culture are susceptible to rampant global homogenization, and we felt that there were ideas, philosophies, voices and opinions that needed to be discovered and explored”.

The AAN Foundation has been instrumental in building platforms for new work and supporting artists to show their work on a global stage, through exhibitions, private as well as public art projects, publications and other experimental initiatives. This includes being the lead on exhibitions such as the Apparatus of Power by Shahzia Sikander at Asia Society Hong Kong, 2016, the Central Sponsor of the Inaugural Lahore Biennale, 2018 and support for the exhibition 36 Calendars by Song Dong in Hong Kong in 2013, as well as numerous projects in Asia, Europe and the Americas in the last fifteen years. A very significant part of the AAN Foundation’s aim is to provide support at the very initial/conceptual stages, to projects, which could become platforms for further strengthening the artistic space in their own areas and geographies.

The Foundation’s initiatives are also complemented and informed by the AAN Collection which comprises of over 800 works of art ranging from 3rd Century Gandhara sculptures to 17th Century Mughal miniatures and contemporary works of art. Works from the collection have been part of major exhibitions at over 45 public institutions and museums including the Metropolitan Museum of Art New York, Belvedere Museum Vienna, Singapore Art Museum, The Venice Biennial, The Sharjah Biennial, The Guggenheim Museum Bilbao and MAXXI Museum Rome amongst others. It has also published over 25 publications focusing on contemporary art as well as establishing a first of its kind dedicated art space for artists to launch ambitious projects.



HONG KONG ARTS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Established in 1995, Hong Kong Arts Development Council (HKADC) is a statutory body set up by the Government to support the broad development of the arts in Hong Kong. Its major roles include grant allocation, policy and planning, advocacy, promotion and development, and special projects.

The mission of HKADC is to support and promote the development of 10 major art forms in literary arts, performing arts, visual arts as well as film and media arts in Hong Kong. Aiming to foster a thriving arts environment and enhancing the quality of life of the public, HKADC is also committed to facilitating community-wide participation in the arts and arts education, encouraging arts criticism, raising the standard of arts administration, and contributing on policy research.

Development strategies of HKADC includes:

- Supporting promising artists and arts groups in the pursuit of excellence
- Promoting arts administration to improve the management of arts groups
- Focusing on the arts environment and proposing policy recommendations
- Enhancing public participation, developing arts space for artistic creation and production
- Fostering strategic partnerships and attracting private sector resources to support the arts



NARRATORS

CANDACE CHONG MUI NGAM

Candace Chong Mui Ngam is a playwright. Apart from writing spoken drama, Chong has also collaborated in musical theatre as a book writer and librettist.

Chong is a recipient of the Best Artist Award (Drama) by the Hong Kong Arts Development Council (2010). She was selected by the *South China Morning Post* as one of Hong Kong's 25 most inspirational and influential women, having won six Hong Kong Drama Awards (Best Script) for *Alive in the Mortuary* (2003), *Shall We Go to Mars* (2004), *French Kiss* (2006), *Murder in San Jose* (2009), *The Professor* (2014) and *May 35th* (2020).

Chong's libretto for the chamber opera *Mila* had toured to New York and San Francisco in late 2019. Recently she also penned two original scripts—*My Very Short Marriage* and *We Are Gay*. Her collected plays, published by Cosmos Books Ltd., received the 9th Hong Kong Book Prize.



SANJOY K. ROY

Sanjoy K. Roy, an entrepreneur of the arts, is the Managing Director of Teamwork Arts, which produces over 33 highly acclaimed performing arts, visual arts and literary festivals across 40 cities in countries such as Australia, Canada, Egypt, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, UK and USA, including the world's largest free literary gathering — the annual Jaipur Literature Festival. Roy has received the National Award for Excellence and Best Director for the film *Shahjahanabad: The Twilight Years*.



He is a founder trustee of Salaam Baalak Trust (SBT) working to provide support services for street and working children in the inner city of Delhi where over 55,000 children have benefited from education, training and residential services. In 2011, the White House presented SBT the US President's Committee of Arts and Humanities Award for an International Organisation.

Roy works closely with various industry bodies and Government on policy issues within the Creative Industries and Cultural Sector in India and is a senior office bearer on several committees working on policy infrastructure for the creative industries - he is Co-chair of the Art and Culture Committee of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and former President of Event and Entertainment Management Association (EEMA) and an advisor to the Arts Council of England Diversity board for theatre. He is on the advisory council of various International Agencies, Federations and Universities.

Roy has lectured and works in collaboration with Universities including those of Western Australia, DUT, Brisbane, Monash, University of Chicago, Harvard, MIT Media lab, Admas, Symbiosis, University of Houston, Columbia College, London School of Economics, University of York, Swansea, etc.

PERFORMING ARTS

DU YUN

DU YUN, born and raised in Shanghai, China, and currently based in New York City, works at the intersection of opera, orchestral, theatre, cabaret, musical, oral tradition, public performances, electronics, visual arts, and noise. Her body of work is championed by some of today's finest performing groups and organizations around the world.

Known for her "relentless originality and unflinching social conscience" (The New Yorker), Du Yun's second opera, Angel's Bone (libretto by Royce Vavrek), won the 2017 Pulitzer Prize; in 2018

she was named a Guggenheim Fellow; and in 2019, she was nominated for a Grammy Award in the Best Classical Composition category for her work Air Glow. As an avid performer and bandleader (Ok Miss), her onstage persona has been described by the New York Times as "an indie pop diva with an avant-garde edge."

Du Yun is Professor of Composition at the Peabody Institute, and Distinguished Visiting Professor at the Shanghai Conservatory of Music.

A community champion, Du Yun was a founding member of the International Contemporary Ensemble; served as the Artistic Director of MATA Festival, conceived the Pan Asia Sounding Festival; and founded FutureTradition, a global initiative that illuminates the provenance lineages of folk art and uses these structures to build cross-regional collaborations from the ground up. In 2018, Du Yun was named one of 38 Great Immigrants by the Carnegie Foundation, and in 2019 the Beijing Music Festival named her "Artist of the Year."



SHEN WEI

Born in Hunan China in 1968, He began formal opera training in 1978 at age nine. Then studied in Painting and Dance, 1991 he was one of the founding member of the first modern dance company in China-The Guangdong Modern Dance Company. Shen Wei moved to Brooklyn in 1995, where he immersed himself in the cultural life of New York City and soon turned his attention to film, while continuing to pursue innovations in dance theory, commissioned choreography, and painting throughout the 1990s.



Shen Wei founded Shen Wei Dance Arts in 2000, and his works has been presented over 30 countries and 140 cities. He was awarded a Nijinsky Award in 2004, a MacArthur Fellowship in and a US Artist Award in 2007. He choreographed for the opening ceremonies of the Beijing Olympic Games In 2008. He received American Dance Festival a Choreographer Life Time Achievement Award in 2020. He has been received multiple commissions for his dance, opera and painting and films works from a range of organizations, including the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., Lincoln Center, Park Avenue Armory in New York City, American Dance Festival, Edinburgh International Art Festival, San Carlo Opera House in Naples, Dutch National Opera Ballet, Metropolitan Museum For The Arts, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston, Shanghai International Arts Festival, Hong Kong New Vision Festival and Asian Society Hong Kong Center. Over the past decade, Shen Wei has continued to move fluidly between painting, design, film, and dance with performative installations, abstract paintings, and multimedia dance productions. Recently his large solo exhibitions was presented at the Power Station of Art in Shanghai In 2018 and

the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston 2020-2021, it offering viewers comprehensive looks at Shen Wei's interconnected approach between Painting, Dance, design and films.

FILMMAKERS

JANET YANG

A Golden Globe and Emmy Award-winning Hollywood producer with deep roots in China, Janet Yang also sits on the Board of Governors for the Motion Picture Academy and is Chair of the Membership and Governance Committee.

Yang's extensive film and television credits include "The Joy Luck Club", "The People vs. Larry Flynt", "Shanghai Calling", "High Crimes", "Zero Effect", and the recent animated feature "Over the Moon" for Netflix.

Yang began her career bringing Chinese cinema into North America, and then representing the Hollywood studios to broker the first sale of American films into China. This in turn led to joining Steven Spielberg on the historic production of "Empire of the Sun".

Yang has been named one of the "50 Most Powerful Women in Hollywood" by the Hollywood Reporter. She is a co-founder of the influential Gold House; is a member of the prestigious Committee of 100, as well as the National Committee on US-China Relations; and chairs the highly regarded U.S.-Asia Entertainment Summit for Asia Society Southern California.



RUBY YANG

Ruby Yang is an Academy Award winner for the Documentary Short Subject, *The Blood of Yingzhou District* (2006). She is also known for directing the Oscar-nominated documentary short *The Warriors of Qiugang* (2010) and the award-winning feature documentary *My Voice, My Life* (2014).

Yang is a member of the Directors Guild of America and the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. She now heads the Hong Kong Documentary Initiative at the University of Hong Kong, which aims to nurture the next generation of documentary filmmakers in the region. In May 2019, she received Artist of the Year in Film of Hong Kong Arts Development Awards.

