

**PRESS RELEASE**

**THE PACIFIC WAVE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH MUSIC FESTIVAL**

Two young Singapore musicians, Siow Lee Chin and Cynthia Goh will participate for the first time in the Pacific Wave International Youth Music Festival to be held in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada between 24 Oct to 1 Nov 86. The Festival is part of the City of Vancouver's Centennial Year celebrations, and is supported by the City of Vancouver, the Province of Columbia, various departments of the Federal Government of Canada, and major Canadian corporations.

2 The festival consists of presentations of western classical popular jazz, authentic folk and traditional music of cultures of the countries along the Pacific rim. About 400 youths will gather from Asia and the Pacific, Canada, the United States and Latin America for 10 days of performances and exchange. The organisers will provide return airfares to the participants who will be billeted with Vancouver families.

3 Siow Lee Chin, 20 years old, is a third year student on a full scholarship at the prestigious Curtis Institute of Music in USA.

4 Cynthia Goh, 13 years old, won the second prize in the piano senior section of our Fifth National Music Competition in 1985. She is currently a student at Raffles Girls' Secondary School.

4 Details of the Festival and the Singapore participants are enclosed. Further information is available from Ms Goh Ching Lee, Assistant Director (Planning) at telephone 3307210 or Mrs Lim Mee Lian at telephone 3307216.

MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

11 Oct 86

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## THE PACIFIC WAVE FESTIVAL

The Pacific Wave Festival will be an exciting ten days of music, cultural and social interchange, between young people of Canada and musicians and singers from around the Pacific Rim.

The Festival will take place in Vancouver during the City's Centennial year. From October 24th through November 1st, over 400 performers between the ages of 13 and 25 from Asia, the Pacific, Central & South America, the United States and British Columbia will perform in Vancouver concert halls, cabarets and schools.

The Festival was established to stimulate interest and enthusiasm for youth music of all types, and to give young people of the Pacific Rim area of the world a chance to join in a celebration of music - ranging from classical and folk music to jazz, blues, contemporary pop and rock music. The Pacific Wave Festival is being organized with the support and help of the major youth music organizations of the City of Vancouver, with the following aims:

- To bring together musical representatives of the Pacific Rim countries to meet, share their music with the people of Vancouver, and to find common musical and other cultural bonds.
- To bring together various types of musicians and music-making in one festival, in order that the performers and the public can learn about these differing musical languages and to break down the artificial barriers that exist between them.
- To deepen and broaden the knowledge and skills of young musicians through special workshops and concerts held throughout the Festival - providing opportunities for musicians from various

cultures to listen to each other, but also to experience the excitement of actually playing together.

- To give young people an opportunity to express, through their music, their idealism and concerns.

#### THE MUSICAL CELEBRATION:

- \* A ten-day celebration of music of all kinds, featuring the finest young performers from British Columbia and from around the Pacific Rim - in keeping with the special Centennial/EXPO year.
- \* Six mainstage concerts in Vancouver's Queen Elizabeth Theatre.
- \* Workshops and cabaret sessions, providing informal opportunities for groups to explain their music, and for musicians from different countries to play together.
- \* "Instant Shows" in public places throughout Vancouver, including shopping malls and Vancouver's main downtown centre - Robson Square.
- \* A day-time mini-festival, to be held in Vancouver's secondary schools.
- \* Social opportunities, designed to promote friendship, fun, and interaction between performers and with Festival goers.
- \* A musical celebration of the Centennial of the City of Vancouver, through the music and celebration of Vancouver's young people and their visitors from the nations of the Pacific Rim.
- \* An extension of the Pacific Wave Festival through radio broadcasts, to be aired around the Pacific Rim and in Canada.

POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION TO BE EXPLORED FROM THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC:

- Australia
- Hong Kong
- India
- Indonesia
- Japan
- Korea
- Malaysia
- New Zealand
- The Pacific Islands
- The People's Republic of China
- The Philippines
- Singapore
- Taiwan

LATIN AMERICA:

- Chile
- Colombia
- Costa Rica
- Ecuador
- Guatemala
- Honduras
- Mexico
- Nicaragua
- Panama
- Peru

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U.S.A.:

- Alaska
- California
- Oregon
- Washington State

## PACIFIC WAVE FESTIVAL AUDITIONS

### The Festival:

The Pacific Wave Festival will be celebrating the talents of young musicians of all kinds during the ten days of the Festival in late October, 1986. Approximately 15 local British Columbia groups and an equal number of international music groups from around the Pacific Rim will be performing in such major Vancouver venues as the Queen Elizabeth Theatre and the Commodore Ballroom. In addition, the Festival will be programming small informal concerts and workshops at Robson Square's Media Centre, instant concerts in public places around Vancouver, and a special mini-festival will take place in the high schools of Vancouver during the week of the Festival.

The music will range from popular, folk, jazz and Western classical music, to traditional music of the cultures of the Pacific Rim. Many of the young performers will be on the verge of exciting careers in music. They will be performing an average of 4-5 concerts during the ten days of the Festival, and participating in many social events, concerts, and sightseeing in the beautiful City of Vancouver and its surroundings.

### Festival Auditions:

The audition process for the Festival is now beginning. Those eligible are amateur or semi-professional musicians, singers or groups whose members are between 13 and 25. Only performers that make 100% of their income from music or who exceed the age limits are ineligible. Some allowance may be made for groups with a few members that exceed the age guidelines.

The audition committee is drawn from Vancouver musicians or are professionals in the field of music, with experience in the many different types of music that will be performed during the Festival. They will be meeting in Vancouver from March 15 to June 1st, to review the many applications expected.

There are two main categories: group and soloist. The key item of the application is an audio cassette tape and an optional VHS video cassette, with an example of your music. Tapes of live performances are preferred, in order that all groups will be evaluated on an equal basis.

The Portfolio:

Please include with your applications and tape a portfolio for your group and a completed application questionnaire. The portfolio should include the following information about yourself or your group:

- 1) - a photograph
- 2) - a résumé of performances and achievements
- 3) - A list of your basic performance, repertoire, songs etc.; possible selections for the Festival, plus the language of performance for vocal music.
- 4) - If you are a soloist, please include information as to what sort of band or orchestra you require for your performances.
- 5) - Your name and age, or names and ages of your group's members.
- 6) - The extent of the professional experience of yourself or your group.
- 7) - A statement as to your aims and objectives (musical, philosophical, or otherwise).

What To Do With Your Audition:

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Please send the audition package to:

Pacific Wave Festival Office  
#1201 - 207 West Hastings Street  
Vancouver, British Columbia  
Canada, V6B 1H7

The deadline for your application is May 15, 1986, but please submit your application as soon as possible in order to speed up the process. All auditioning will be completed by June 1st. All applicants will be informed by mail, and successful candidates invited to participate by that date.

Please apply now! We want to hear your music and see if we can fit you into what promises to be an exciting multicultural, maxi-music mega-fun Festival.



Siow Lee Chin was born in 1966. At the age of seven, she started her violin lessons under the tutelage of her musician father, Siow Hee Shun who is a member of S.S.O. She obtained her ABRSM Grade VIII three years later.

Lee Chin joined the S S O as a trainee when she was twelve. By then she had already won several prizes, including the First Prize in the Violin Competition held by the Singapore Music Teacher's Association in 1977, and the first prize in the 1978 Violin Competition (Open Section) organised by the Singapore Music Society. In 1982, she gave her debut performance with the SSO, playing the Paganini Violin Concerto in D major.

She has played for many world-renown violinists, including Ruggiero Ricci, Yehudi Menuhin, Grigory Zhislin, and Aaron Rosand, who recommended her for a full scholarship at the Curtis Institute of Music, USA. She is the only Singaporean to be admitted to this prestigious institute. At Curtis, she studies with Aaron Rosand and Jascha Brodsky and her study abroad has been made possible by the kind generosity of the Cheng Kim Loke Foundation.

Lee Chin has never ceased to improve herself. She participated in the Music Camps held in Nice, France, Sarasata, Florida and was also awarded a full scholarship to the Aspen Music Festival where she studied with Miss Dorothy Delay, the most sought after violin teacher at the Julliard School. Following that, Lee Chin was selected to study with Professor Wolfgang Schneiderhan at the Mastercourse held during the International Festival of Music in Luzern, Switzerland, which was established by Carl Flesch. She was subsequently chosen to perform a solo item at the closing ceremony concert of the Festival.

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Cynthia Goh, 12, is a Sec. 1 student at the Raffles Girls' Secondary School. She started learning to play the piano at the age of 5 and had obtained the ABRSM Grade 8 when she was 11. A Yamaha scholarship student since the age of 7 Cynthia is also a graduate of the Junior Special Advanced Course. She is presently studying the piano with both Mr. Ong Swee Chuan and Mr. Gan Choo Kheng.

At the age of 8, Cynthia was selected to represent Singapore in the 1981 International JOC in Japan with her own composition entitled "Tarantella" and at 12, the 1985 Asia-Pacific Piano Competition for Youth in Taiwan. Her performance of Haydn's "English" Sonata in this competition was highly commended by Gary Graffman, concert pianist and professor of piano at the Manhattan School of Music, New York.

She won the first prize (Piano-Junior) and second prize (Piano-Senior) in the 1983 and 1985 National Music Competitions respectively. Concert pianist Ruth Slencynska, one of the five judges in the 1985 National Music Competition has this to say of Cynthia: "She has obvious talent, a sense of melody and a beautiful sensitivity for music."

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