



澳門揚琴研究學會

ASSOCIAÇÃO DE ESTUDO DULCIMER DE MACAU
MACAO DULCIMER RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Inauguration Ceremony and Concert of Macao Dulcimer Research Association

The Macao Dulcimer Research Association marked a historic milestone on the 25th of January 2026, with its successful inauguration ceremony and concert at Casa Garden, a World Cultural Heritage site built over 240 years ago. The event filled the air with festive cheer and vibrant music, bringing together authoritative experts, scholars and educators from Macao and abroad.

We were deeply honored by the presence of our officiating guests who graced the ribbon-cutting ceremony, including:

Ms. Chan Sok Mei, Director of the Performing Arts Activities Office, Cultural Affairs Bureau of Macau SAR Government; Mr. Jimmson Hoi, Vice President of Federation of Associations of Cultural Sectors of Macau and President of the Macao Youth Symphony Orchestra; Mr. Zhang Lie, Music Director and Principal Conductor of the Macao Chinese Orchestra; Prof. Li Ling Ling from China Conservatory, President of the Yangqin Professional Committee of the Chinese Nationalities Orchestra Society; Ms. Catarina Cottinelli Da Costa, Director of Orient Foundation's Macau Delegation; Prof. Dai Ding Cheng from City University of Macau; Ms. Melody Yu, Founder and Honorary President of Hong Kong Yangqin Association; Ms. Yuan Quan, President of the Macao International Music & Arts Exchange Association; Ms. Bonnie Chan, Renowned Yangqin Educator, Permanent Honorary President of Macao Dulcimer Research Association.

The association's establishment has received widespread international attention. It boasts a prestigious lineup of honorary leadership, including Prof. Viktoria Herencsar, President of the Cimbalom World Association, and Life Honorary Presidents Prof. Huang He, Prof. Li Lingling, and Prof. Liu Yue Ning. With over sixty experts and scholars from countries & regions including Mainland China, Hungary, Iran, India, Japan, Korea, Vietnam, Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong and Taiwan, the association demonstrates its significant influence on global cohesiveness.

During the ceremony, distinguished dulcimer experts shared their aspirations for this new era: Ms. Bonnie Chan reflected on over forty years of dedication to dulcimer education in Macao, expressing deep gratification for the association's growth. Prof. Li Ling Ling highlighted the dulcimer as a witness to cultural exchange along the Maritime Silk Road, noting that the association injects new vitality into this century-old lineage. President Inês Ip outlined three major missions: conducting in-depth research, promoting the art to the public through the "Gracious Dulcimer Orchestra", and connecting the world through an international exchange platform.

Following the speeches, a high-level concert captivated the audience with a fresh and joyful spirit which includes repertoires: Traditional Guangdong pieces such as "Autumn Moon Over the Calm Lake" and "Thunder in a Drought"; Adaptations of Western classics like Vivaldi's "Excitement of Vivaldi" and Gossec's "Gavotte"; The Macao premiere of Kenwy Ho's "Sunset Clouds" and a grand four-handed performance of Schubert's "Military March No.1, Op.51".

To commemorate this special occasion, Prof. Li Ling Ling gifted a "Butterfly Dream" Mini Dulcimer, symbolizing the art breaking out of its cocoon to soar to new heights. It also carries the blessings and support of Chinese music industry for the development of dulcimer in Macao.

Finally, our heartfelt thanks go to people from all walks of life who have shown care and support for the inauguration of the Macao Dulcimer Research Association. Upholding the philosophy of "Based in Macau, Facing the World, adheres Openness & Diversity", the Macao Dulcimer Research Association aims to bring together dulcimer performers, educators, and professionals to jointly drive the long-term development of dulcimer art in Macao and enhance industry collaboration.

Acknowledgment

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