



October 2021

NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear members of SEADOM,

Greetings from Malaysia! I trust everyone is in good health and keeping safe during these challenging times.

It is a tremendous honour for me to welcome you as the new President of SEADOM. I am humbled at this opportunity to lead the association for the next two years. I will stay focused on SEADOM's mission and I am eager to explore ways to enhance and foster relationships among SEADOM members and to deepen and broaden our work moving forward. I wish to extend my congratulations to the new Executive Council, Theme Chairs and National Representatives.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Past President Professor Bernard Lanskey for his leadership of SEADOM as well as to outgoing Executive Council members for bringing the association to where it stands today. Thank you to Dr. Joe Bowman and those in the SEADOM Office in Bangkok for managing SEADOM activities all these years.

Despite the current challenges, it has been wonderful as previously mentioned by Professor Lanskey, to see continuous musical interactions across Southeast Asia in the past year with our online series among others. We hope to continue with more activities and our theme chairs are coming up with activities in their respective portfolios for the upcoming years. And we are hoping to have the next SEADOM congress in the later part of 2022. It would be a wonderful opportunity to be able to catch up during the congress.

SEADOM has come a long way and I thank everyone for your immeasurable contributions. We look forward to your support moving forward to ensure we continue to fulfil SEADOM's mission together and finding ways how we can serve the association and the members better, as we prepare for the next phase of our growth. Please do not hesitate to connect with me.

Cheers to the beginning of a new term. Looking forward to seeing everyone soonest, and in the meantime stay safe.

DR. SHAHANUM MD. SHAH
SEADOM PRESIDENT
2021 - 2023

NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



As many schools and members of our association return to teaching, in more and more optimistic circumstances as Covid vaccines allow for more open situations, here at SEADOM we are planning for a new member year that we hope will culminate in an actual Congress gathering in Fall 2022. Its been too long for us to meet together in person, and while zoom has kept us connected, there is something special about sitting with each other – meeting, talking, eating, sharing, and listening to music.

Our new Executive Council begins its two-year term with our newly elected SEADOM president – Dr. Shahanum Mohd Shah, we will be working on planning new activities and projects, as well as continuing the great work done to this point with projects such as the “30 Under 30”.

Just as its natural to look forward, it is important to look back and recognize the leadership that has allowed us to stand together strong as an association. Our previous and first SEADOM President – Bernard Lanskey and our previous SEADOM Secretary Jenny Ang are moving to new positions that will take them in new directions

I wanted to thank them for their efforts. We have traveled throughout the region together over the past decade, as we worked on so many of the past Congresses and had the chance to bring SEADOM to many global music events. Their insights and efforts have helped to make SEADOM stronger today and we will look forward to hearing about their new chapters as they unfold.

I miss you all – I really am excited that soon we will be able to see each other soon and continue the work of linking Southeast Asia music training organizations and interested individuals together. There is not a day that goes by that I don’t miss our in-person gatherings, and hope for their quick return. Please remember that SEADOM is strong when each of us advocates for collaboration regionally. We all know that local is where we think first but lets not immediately jump to other far-off destinations, without recognizing that there is regional expertise that deserves to be shared and connected into.

DR. JOSEPH BOWMAN
SEADOM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MUSING ON THE SEADOM 30 UNDER 30 PROJECT: SURRENDERING

BY KHOO HUI LING

Many religions and spiritual beliefs talk about surrendering, of relinquishing control in order to trust the natural flow of things. When mentoring students towards greater acceptance of their personal and musical selves, I encourage students to practice surrendering too. Recently, a particular student bounced this question back to me: What is the difference between surrendering and giving up? I found myself musing on the journey of managing the SEADOM 30 Under 30 Project with Anothai Nitibhon alongside pondering that student's thoughtful question

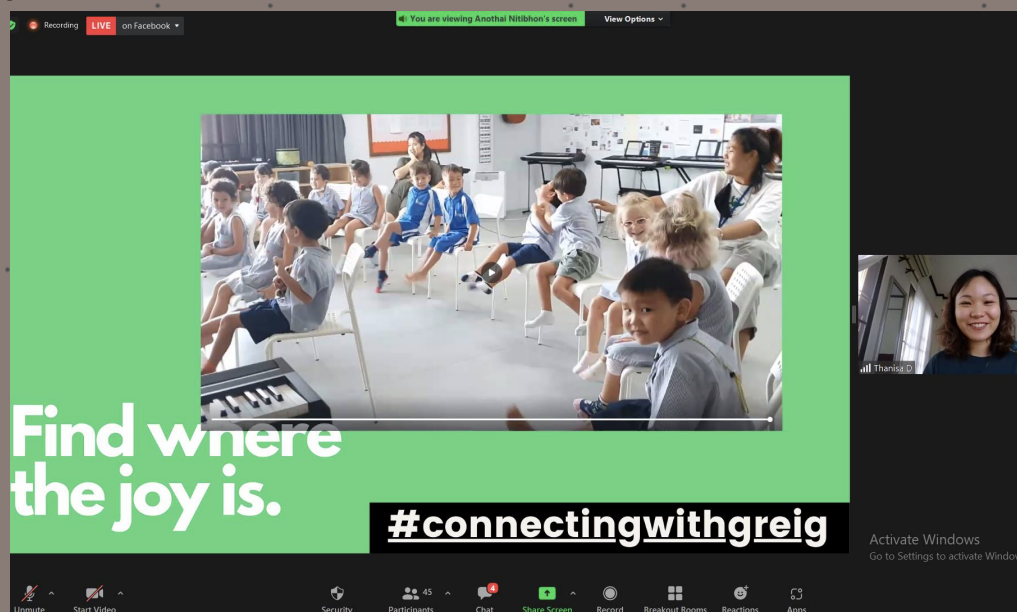
Surrendering to Circumstances

The SEADOM 30 Under 30 Project was a brainchild of Bernard Lanskey, the former president of SEADOM.

It was a seemingly simple provocation of 'what is a Southeast Asian musical identity?' that set the wheels in motion in 2019. Scoping projects were conducted at the Princess Galyani Vadhana Institute of Music Symposium (PGVIS) in Thailand and at the Southeast Asian Music Education Exchange (SEAMEX) in Yogyakarta, Indonesia that very same year. A consolidated mission for the SEADOM 30 Under 30

Project was birthed, and that was to uncover the hybridity, multiplicity and diversity in Southeast Asian musical identities through collaborative, professional development and showcase initiatives.

However, the COVID pandemic hit right after our initial selection of the SEADOM 30 Under 30 musicians. It would have been easy to give up on this initiative altogether back then. As individual countries sought to contain the epidemic within their borders, the idea of musical collaboration across borders seemed too huge a mountain to climb. We had no choice but to accept that physical interaction across countries was out of the question. And yet, it is precisely this that accelerated the onset of virtual interaction. The very first meeting with SEADOM 30 Under 30 musicians took place over Zoom in August 2020. It was an atmosphere of positive curiosity and anticipation palpable even in a virtual sphere as musicians crossed borders and made new friends digitally. The online launch of the SEADOM 30 Under 30 Project at SEADOM's virtual seminars took place just recently in August 2021 and featured some of our artists' musical journeys and can be viewed [here](#).



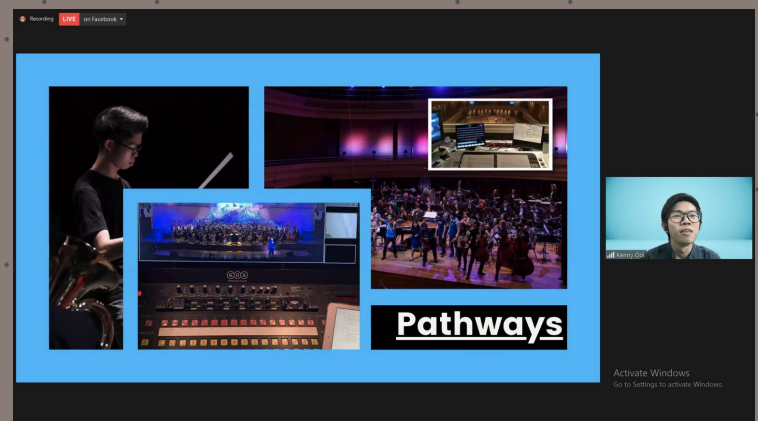
In a parallel encounter shared in the same video link, Thanisa Durongkaverroj, a SEADOM 30 Under 30 musician, pianist and music educator in Thailand found herself working as a translator after COVID hit in order to support herself. Surrendering to circumstances was not easy, but her new role as a translator has opened up new musical insights and connections for her. For me, the unfolding of SEADOM 30 Under 30 events and Thanisa's experience are lessons in how surrendering to circumstances is not giving up if we can embrace new perspectives.

Surrendering to Change

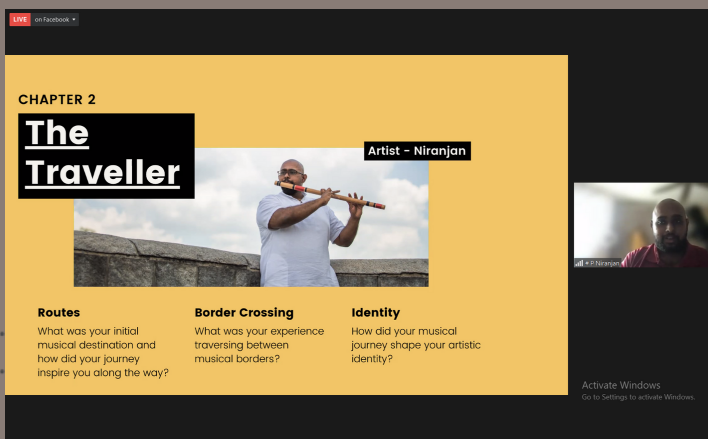
In the process of getting the ball rolling for the SEADOM 30 Under 30 Project, I was fortunate to have had numerous inspiring conversations with mentor, colleague and friend, Anothai. Anothai is a forward-thinking educator who has expanded my notion on what it means to be a musician in the 21st century. More than a confident and articulate performer, today's musicians need to keep abreast of the changing world around them, in order to identify skill sets and opportunities that could help them build their own audiences and reinvent their artistic identities. Kenny Ooi, a SEADOM 30 Under 30 trumpeter turned music entrepreneur is such an instance. Kenny established The Rondo Production in 2019 as a social enterprise dedicated to bringing quality music education programs and initiatives in and beyond Malaysia, whilst promoting inclusivity and diversity in music education.

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Another musical phenomenon that has been brewing in the region is a growing sense of assurance in one's own cultural identity. This is not a selfish and divisive pride that seeks to advocate the superiority of one culture over another. It is an open conversation of how tradition and innovation can converge, an honest interaction leading to collaboration between different musical customs. This is apparent in the work of Niranjan Pandian, a SEADOM 30 Under 30 musician who initially studied accounting, but eventually chose to pursue music. An Indian classical flautist also adept in jazz, he set up Brahmastra, an award winning Indo-Jazz Asean ensemble, which frequently features original compositions and arrangements that bring different communities together.



What strikes me about Kenny and Niranjan is that they were not fatalists who surrendered to change by unquestioningly and accepting what was. Instead, they first surrendered to who they were driven to be, and then accepted the changes that needed to happen for self-actualization. When that happened, surrendering yielded beautiful possibilities that made positive impacts on their respective communities. Do listen to a firsthand account of their narratives in the same video link shared above

Surrendering to Not Knowing

If one were to listen to the SEADOM 30 Under 30 session entitled 'ReNEWed' at PGVIS here, one would no doubt sense an invigorating trend of innovation unfolding as the SEADOM 30 Under 30 musicians shared their projects, from Calista Liaw's experimentations that fuse fashion, pop music and Chinese traditional instruments to Stefanie Quintin's soulful combination of Filipino music and art song portrayed through exquisite videography.



However, it is hard to name or categorize these musical shifts in trends that are taking place. Perhaps, there is no need to. I am excited to surrender to not knowing, because I am curious to see the extent of artistic innovation these amazing individuals may unleash through a SEADOM 30 Under 30 collaboration that does not label, and therefore limit, evolution.

Join the Community!

If you would like to find out more about the SEADOM 30 Under 30 Project and the musicians profiled, please check us out via the following channels -

Website: www.seamusleaders.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/seamusleaders

If you would like to nominate a student, individual or yourself to join the community, simply fill in this form: <https://bit.ly/39kXONS>

Last but not least, if you are keen to collaborate with the 30 Under 30 Project musicians through mentorship and showcase opportunities, do drop us an email at seamusleaders@gmail.com.

INVITATION TO SALIKSIK-MUSIKA: GRADUATE PROGRAMS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF PHILIPPINES

Saliksik-Musika means "Music Research". The UP College of Music Graduate Programs open its conference to international participants. As a collective ecosystem of researchers, performers and composers, the Graduate Programs thrive on the students' conceptual-and-expressive core by building scholarship, performativity, and creativity.

In this conference, students will be presenting part of their thesis/dissertations, or even work-in-progress studies. The gathering opens opportunities for students' works to be presented, talked about, critically reviewed, and opened to the enrichment of others in the field.

The conference will have sessions for paper presentations and discussions, lecture-demonstrations of music/dance performances, open session/"Talk-in-Circle", and virtual performance of compositions.

These conference activities are aligned with the UP CMu's mission of achieving "a community of thinking and creative performing artists and scholars transforming the world through ideas, sound, and movement."

THEMES

- Explorations in Music Education
- Music and History
- Gender Issues in Music
- Music and Technology
- Open Topics

SUBMIT

- Abstract (Paper/Lecture-Demo/Virtual Music and/or Dance Performance) in not more than 500 words.
- Bionotes (not more than 300

Submit here:

<https://bit.ly/SaliksikMusikaGForm>

These conference activities are aligned with the UP CMu's mission of achieving "a community of thinking and creative performing artists and scholars transforming the world through ideas, sound, and movement."

DEADLINE: November 30, 2021

CONFERENCE DATES: February 22-23, 2022

For inquiries, email: UPMUSICSaliksikMusika@gmail.com

Graduate Programs website: https://music.upd.edu.ph/Graduate_Programs.html

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SINGAPORE



JOCELYN GUADALUPE
UNIVERSITY OF PHILIPPINES

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Congrats to the new

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2021 - 2023

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