

UCP 6 - The Singer, Songwriters and Music Producer

UCP 6 seeks out young and veteran professionals in Singapore's music industry.

- How to break into the professional music scene?
- What is it like to be a professional musician/singer/producer?
- What are the possible prospects in this industry?
- Is the Singapore market too small?

Come and hear their stories.

Speakers Profiles:



Benjamin Kheng

Benjamin Kheng is a Singaporean-based musician, actor, writer and former national swimmer. He had his start in the industry at the age of 17 as a radio producer / presenter on Lush 99.5FM, hosting two recurring programmes – The Art of Lush and The Lush Lab.

In 2012, he founded the folk-pop quartet The Sam Willows. Since their inception, the group has gone on to grace both local and international stages, such as the SXSW Festival in Austin, Texas, the Canadian Music Festival in Toronto, Ontario, MU:CON and Zandari Festa in Seoul, Digital & Music Matters and Singapore F1 Grand Prix 2013 in Singapore, and the Western Australian Music Festival in Perth. Their latest single, Glasshouse, is produced by 5-Time Grammy Award Winner Steve Lillywhite (U2, Rolling Stones).

Benjamin is also an avid film and theatre actor. Recent works include playing Romeo in Toy Factory's mounting of Romeo and Juliet, recruit Ken Chow in Ah Boys To Men: The Musical, EDGES The Musical (Sightlines Productions) and National Broadway Company (Theatreworks). He can also be seen on screen in Channel 5's new sitcom Do-It-Yourself, as well as the latest seasons of Code of Law 2, Mata Mata, and We Are Singaporeans. On the side, Benjamin writes for various online art and lifestyle magazines, and performs his own spoken word pieces.



Jack & Rai

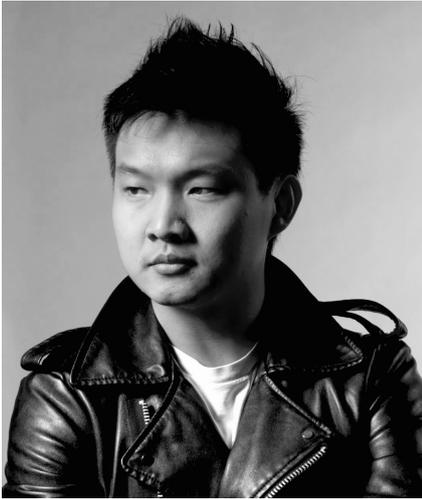
Starting off as solo acoustic musicians more than a decade ago, Jack & Rai came together in 2002 to form an acoustic/rock duo with a chemistry that borders telepathic. Their easy-going and engaging natures makes any audience feel right at home when watching them.

The need to explore their more creative side led them to put their heads together to launch their debut album 'In Stores Now!', that featured hit songs like 'The Fa La La Song' and 'Fiona'. Songs like 'Release Me' and 'Pixelated' were also used in World Aids Day campaigns in 2008 and 2009 respectively. 'Television Affair' was featured as the title track for a kids' talent show called 'Junior Jams'.

Since then, Jack & Rai have been busy performing not only all over Singapore, Southeast Asia, China, Australia and the US, but also found themselves playing other roles; as radio co-hosts on Class 95 FM (2007-2009), occasional emcees, songwriters, producers and composers of songs like 'As I Am' which was featured on

Mediacorp 5's 'Red Thread', 'The Ground, which was the opening title for 'Polo Boys', as well as the soundtracks of OKTO series, like 'Schoolhouse Rockz: The Movie' , 'The Band' and 'Dream School'; all this while striving to maintain their status as one of the top performing acts in Singapore.

Jack & Rai have built their presence such that aside from appearing at their regular night gigs at bars, they've played numerous public and corporate events, at a plethora of venues in Singapore and parts of Asia, and earned themselves Elle Magazine's Musicians of the Year in 2009, as well as M:Idea Youth Choice's 'Band I Wanna throw myself at' in 2010 and 2011. They also have done several radio and TV appearances, on local airwaves as well as Asian channels like Star World and AXN.



Eric Wong

Eric Wong (毅力) graduated from UniSIM with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology. Prior to that, he studied Higher Music with an emphasis on composition at the A-levels in Raffles Junior College. He is currently the Creative Director and Founder of United Records. United Records is a comprehensive Music Production Studio providing studio recording, mixing & mastering, audio post, live sound and music production solutions to musicians, artistes, filmmakers, video production houses and media content providers. The company has its own record label to manage and develop home grown artistes.

In his younger years, he has written dramatic compositions such as “Variations on a Minnesinger Folksong”, and “In War and Peace”, for wind orchestras which have been premiered by Raffles Junior College Symphonic Band and NIE Symphonic Band. His most recent composition was the film score for an upcoming movie produced and filmed in China. He has more than 15 years of teaching and conducting experience under his belt and is currently lecturing music performance and recording degree modules in Singapore Raffles Music College. He is also the Resident Conductor of The Millennial Orchestra, a local community orchestra that has performed to crowds of more than 10,000 people live. More than just composing and conducting for the classical genre, he is also equally at home with the pop and contemporary genre due to his many years playing and performing with a local rock band called Dreamfactory. The band has performed in locations such as Hard Rock Café, Mediacorp, and the Esplanade and has released their self written and self produced album in 2009.

He is the proud father of two children and is married to Careen Tham, vocal producer and principal of United Music, the educational arm of United Records. He enjoys playing golf and running in his free time.

About UCP series

The UCP (Up-Close and Personal) series are designed to allow entrepreneurs in the creative sector to share about their professional, entrepreneurial and life experiences. The sessions also aim to facilitate interaction and networking between the speakers, SODE students and members of the public.

Programme Design

Each speaker would be given about 20 to 30 minutes to share their stories and some key principles which is relevant to the topic. We encourage the sharing to be casual and honest.

There would be 2 networking opportunities within the session, one during 'half-time' and one at the end.

A 30-minute question and answer session would also be allocated.

As this is an up-close and personal session, we keep total registration small so as to create a cosy setting.

Date, Time & Location

Date: 21 Jun 2014, Saturday

Time: 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Location: 2 Bukit Merah Central, #20-00

