



*NAFA Alumni Cupid Series*

# ***Finding Love Through Music***



## **TWO IS BETTER THAN ONE**

Have you ever wondered if that particular so-and-so in class were really dating all those years back or if THAT famous couple, who got everyone talking, has gotten married after graduation?

Besides broadening our knowledge and developing our creativity in NAFA, some students graduated with an added bonus: finding love.

However and wherever it happened, be it from working together on a project/production or during a school trip, sparks flew and chemistry struck amongst our graduates through the common language of arts.

This Valentine's Day, we invited a married alumni couple from the School of Music to share their campus love story that has blossomed into their successful music ensemble today -

**DO YOU HAVE AN INTERESTING ALUMNI STORY TO SHARE?**

Send us your stories & photos to [alumni@nafa.edu.sg](mailto:alumni@nafa.edu.sg).

We will feature them on our Facebook/Instagram pages!

Looking for :

- NAFA Alumni Solo Features
- NAFA Alumni Couples/Groups

# Suona Lovers

Goh Wei Hong

Diploma in Music, 2015

&

Ng Chu Ying

Bachelor Of Music (Hons), 2016

## 1. How did you meet?

The both of us majored in the Suona (AKA the Chinese trumpet) and met each other at a community orchestra. Playing the same instrument, we got closer during our NAFA days through classes and performances.

## 2. What do you enjoy most about your current jobs as musicians?

I would say being able to work together! We get to travel to many places for performances/work and share many precious experiences together.

## 3. What is the biggest highlight of your career individually and together?

That would be both of us winning the NAC National Chinese Music Competition Suona Open Category in year 2016 and 2018 respectively, as well as winning 1st runner up in the ensemble category with our music group - Reverberance.

## 4. It seems you have great chemistry with each other! Would you say there is healthy competition between both of you since you are playing the same instrument?

We wouldn't describe it as a competition between us. Even though we both took part in the same competition and competed against one another, we did not view each other as competitors. We practised together everyday and shared pointers on ways to improve.

**P.S.** The benefit of having both of us majoring in the same instrument is that we can fully understand the other party's difficulties faced during practice and performances.



## 5. What prompted you to start your Chinese Winds-Percussion Ensemble Reverberance; was it a decision as a couple?

We started off initially as an ad-hoc Chinese winds-percussion group performing for the Huayi Fest at Esplanade many years ago and gathered many of our NAFA schoolmates to perform together for that show. We then went separate ways as some schoolmates had to further studies in London and Beijing. Upon their return to Singapore, we met and caught up on the good old performing days we had together. Realizing that we all enjoyed and shared the same passion in performing as a Chinese Wind-percussion ensemble, we decided to form Reverberance.

## 6. What are some challenges you have faced to start up and sustain Reverberance?

Starting up a company is never easy. There will always be new challenges along the way. From the very beginning, we were lucky that we have a great group of like-minded NAFA schoolmates that love to play music together and believed in our vision for the company. With the support of our members, we were confident in starting up Reverberance and building our friendship with other musicians.

The main challenges for sustaining the company is always having a rehearsal venue as well as fundings. As a Chinese Wind-percussion ensemble, the nature of our instruments are very loud. Hence, we require a large soundproofed space for us to rehearse for performances. With little fundings, we were unable to rent a space for rehearsals. Therefore, we have to move around borrowing rehearsal venues from orchestras. We are very grateful to the many people who has helped along the way!

## 7. Thank you for your time, finally, what advice do you have for your juniors who are considering taking up the same career path as you?

I would say to believe in your dreams and never give up! With perseverance, one will succeed! We persevered in our path and we now are still doing what we love. Don't be afraid to ask for help, there will always be someone there to guide you.

