# Dawn Wong 黄川美

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Singaporean jazz vocalist and singer/songwriter Dawn Wong has come a long way since she debuted on Channel U's television talent search competition Project Superstar 2. Recipient of the Jazz Association (Singapore) 2018 Local Scholarship, Dawn recently performed at the Thailand International Jazz Festival 2018 in Chiang Rai (Thailand) which also featured international superstar Brian Mcknight and Singapore's very own "King of Swing" Jeremy Monteiro. She has performed at numerous festivals in Singapore and abroad, including the Singapore International Jazz Festival, Spring Scream International Music Festival (Taiwan) and Light to Night Festival 2018 at the National Gallery of Singapore.

Dawn hopes to develop her version of Singaporean jazz, inspired by her unique home that is at once a multi-cultural melting pot and global city. In 2016, Dawn launched her first full length album of Mandarin jazz originals with a concert presented by Singapore's landmark arts centre, The Esplanade, as part of Huayi Chinese Festival of the Arts in::music series. The whimsical album 'Marco Lopo' contains songs about imaginary worlds and features some of Singapore's top names in jazz like Tan Weixiang and Tama Goh, ethnic instruments (Sitar and Tabla), and world percussion by New York-based Japanese percussionist Keita Ogawa (Snarky Puppy). To promote this album, Dawn took her band 'The Ark Royal' on tour to Taiwan in 2015 and 2016 with a travel grant from the National Arts Council of Singapore. Her 2012 EP, produced by Los Angeles-based Singaporean producer Tat Tong, also received positive reviews in the local press. Both releases are available on major digital platforms.

Apart from original music and English jazz standards, Dawn keeps the jazz tradition alive as the vocalist for classic mandarin jazz band 'The Shanghai Jazz Club' which has performed full house shows at the Esplanade Concourse, Sing Jazz Club (closed), Montreux Jazz Café (Singapore), and to enthusiastic reception from audiences at the Silver Arts Festival and Arts in Your Neighbourhood series.

In addition to performing, Dawn assumes the roles of creative producer and arts manager to help others fulfil their artistic visions and conducts workshops in MOE schools to introduce the next generation of

Singaporeans to different facets of music. She founded and runs 2 businesses -1. Hummingbird, a live music services company, and 2. Good People Music which provides music education workshops. As part of Hummingbird's internship programme, now into its  $4^{th}$  year, Dawn mentors aspiring young composers in the administrative aspects of putting together their debut concert.

Dawn is currently pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Performing Arts (Music) as a jazz vocal major at LASALLE College of the Arts (Singapore). She also has a Bachelor's Degree in Commerce (with Distinction) from the University of New South Wales (Australia).





# **Recording Projects**

## 'The Adventures of Marco Lopo' contemporary Mandarin jazz album

• 'Marco Lopo' is a contemporary Mandarin jazz album co-written and co-produced by Wong, together with Singaporean jazz composer Felix Phang. The music was recorded by some of Singapore's top names in jazz including Tan Weixiang, Alvin Wong, Tama Goh, Kailin Yong and Felix Phang. Percussion tracks for 2 tunes were recorded by New York-based Japanese percussionist Keita Ogawa (Snarky Puppy). The album combines many different styles (rock, pop, folk, classical) with jazz and includes an Indian-influenced tune with Sitar and Tabla.

**'Seeing Sounds'** album recording & launch performance with Felix Phang & The Imaginary Forces, March 2014 to February 2015

• Wong penned the lyrics to and recorded vocals for the only vocal tune on this 9-track album, composed for and performed by 10-piece contemporary jazz ensemble (2 trumpets, trombone, 3 saxophones, piano, guitar, bass, drums). The recording was vocally produced by well-known Mandopop producer Jim Lim (Funkie Monkies).

#### 'Steady' single recording

• Co-wrote and recorded a tune in collaboration with jazz composer Felix Phang and jazz quartet Qilin Group in tribute of Singapore's 50th birthday (https://youtu.be/Be8CYSizlzQ)

'收听快乐' - Mediacorp Radio Lunar New Year single & music video recording, February 2015

• Recorded vocals and music video for a newly written Lunar New Year tune for Mediacorp Radio's Chinese stations with other local independent Chinese artists.

# 'DAWN' EP recording & launch, 14th October 2012

• Recorded, co-wrote and co-produced a 5-track mandarin pop EP with producers Tat Tong (T2 Production) and Roland Lim (Sync Studios). The CD was launched with a performance at the now defunct Crazyworld Cafe and was featured in popular Singaporean media like the Straits Times, Lianhe Wanbao, TODAY, i-Weekly, MyPaper, and more.

# Selected Performance History

#### 2018

- 'Free My Music' An Inclusive Musical by Very Special Arts Singapore
- Dick Lee's 62<sup>nd</sup> Private Birthday Party
- Tampines Urban Arts Fest 2018 with The Shanghai Jazz Club
- Kallang ArtsBites with The Shanghai Jazz Club
- 'To Brazil!' a Tribute to Antonio Carlos Jobim at the Victoria Bar Singapore
- Thailand International Jazz Festival 2018 Chiang Rai, Thailand
- Light to Night Festival 2018 at the National Gallery of Singapore

#### 2017

- Symphony in Blue at Monti Club, a Postmodern Jukebox edition with Dawn Wong & The Suits
- We Love Jazz Party 2017 [UNITY: Different Together] with the Ark Royal
- Red Dot Singapore 2017 at the Esplanade Waterfront Stage with WEBE
- Singapore Night Festival 2017 with The Shanghai Jazz Club
- Singapore Zoological Gardens National Day Performances 2017 with WEBE
- Songs We Grew Up with at the Esplanade Waterfront Stage with The Shanghai Jazz Club
- Music Impressions by the Singapore Ruan Ensemble
- Arts in Your Neighbourhood at Tanglin Halt with The Shanghai Jazz Club

#### 2016

- Dawn Wong & The Ark Royal Taiwan mini-tour Taipei (Sappho Live; Kafka by the Sea), Taichung (Forro Café), December 2016
- Kallang CC ArtsBites with The Shanghai Jazz Club, October 2016
- Silvers Arts Festival Relive the Golden Era with The Shanghai Jazz Club, September 2016
- Sing50 Singapore Rhapsodies Pop-Up Concert at Timbre+, August 2016
- Switch Singapore Originals 新创 with The Ark Royal, August 2016
- Singapore Zoological Gardens National Day Celebrations Performances 2016
- Jazz in July at the Esplanade Concourse
- The Shanghai Jazz Club at Sing Jazz Club

- Esplanade Huayi Festival 2016 in::music Dawn Wong & The Ark Royal The Adventures of Marco Lopo Album Launch Concert, 16th February 2016
- Our Lovepedia 2 Singtel Mio television programme appearance for '收听快乐'

#### 2015

- Dawn Wong & The Ark Royal Taiwan mini-tour Taipei (Rhythm Alley), KaoHsiung (In Our Time), 17th to 21st December 2015
- Singapore International Jazz Festival with Felix Phang & The Imaginary Forces
- 2015 Esplanade Huayi Festival with Qilin Group
- 'Seeing Sounds' album recording & launch performace with Felix Phang & The Imaginary Forces Jazz Composers Series for Large Ensembles at Blu Jaz with Felix Phang & The Imaginary Forces
- '收听快乐' Mediacorp Radio Lunar New Year single & music video recording
- Toast the Macallan Media Preview
- Esplanade Presents: Jazz in July with the Shanghai Jazz Club at the Cafe 21 Living Room
- Esplanade National Day Celebrations with Qilin Group
- Singapore Writers Festival 2015

## 2014

- BNP Paribas WTA Finals, Private Lounge
- Japan vs Brazil international football friendly match, OCBC VIP Lounge
- Kallang CC ArtsTreats Carnival Festival with Qilin Group
- Red Dot Radio, National Day performance programme at the Esplanade Concourse with The Odd.inary Trio
- Esplanade Presents: Jazz in July with the Shanghai Jazz Club at the Cafe 21 Living Room
- Midnite Quartet at Blu Jaz
- L'OFFICIEL 7th Anniversary
- Les Amis 20th Anniversary

# 2013

- Spring Scream International Music Festival in Taiwan
- Spring Wave x E-Le Awards Singapore
- Singsation Concert: Bevlyn Khoo & Dawn Wong

- Uke Fiesta at CHIJMES
- Yoga for Water, World Water Day at Marina Barrage
- Downtown East Music Fest
- 简单玩 (Malaysia) Tour, SIngapore Stop opening act
- Swinging Sixties, Memories for Tomorrow by the National Heritage Board
- The Clock Strikes Four at Plain Vanilla, mini showcase
- Esplanade Presents: Jazz in July with Sidewalk Orleans
- ME@OUE official opening event
- Originals Sing at Artistry

#### 2007 to 2012

- DAWN EP recording & launch
- Esplanade Presents: Celebrate December with the Summertimes Big Band
- InHerShoes Charity Concert, Art & Music Against Cancer
- Enterprise 50 Business Awards with the Summertimes Big Band
- UBS 150 Years, Kuala Lumpur
- YES933 Summer Music Fest with MICAPPELLA
- Sparkle Celebrates Love at the Esplanade Waterfront with Sparkle Live Music
- EP Promotional Performance at One2Eat, Johor Bahru Malaysia
- Super Idol 5, Taiwan San Li Television
- Mothers' Day Concert with the Summertimes Big Band at the Esplanade Theatre
- Mediacorp Trade Show
- New Year's Eve at Loewe, Jakarta Indonesia
- Singapore Children's Society Charity Gala Premiere of Mamma Mia
- Kewei & Friends at the Esplanade Waterfront
- Mediacorp Channel U Project Superstar 2