



Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra Concert in Singapore

January 28



The Director of the Singapore ETO, Mr Owlin Fung (second left) joined Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra's Chairman Mr Benjamin Chan (second right), Executive Director Ms Celina Chin (first right) and Artistic Director and Principal Conductor for Life Mr Yan Huichang (first left) in a toasting ceremony in the private reception.

After a hiatus of more than four years, we welcomed one of the world's top Chinese orchestras, the Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra, back to Singapore on the seventh day of the Chinese New Year as they garnered standing ovation from a full house of close to 1,600 audience at the Esplanade's *Huayi – Chinese Festival of Arts*. Led by Artistic Director and Principal Conductor for Life as well as Singapore Cultural Medallion recipient, Yan Huichang, the orchestra kickstarted a joyous evening with the jubilation of *The Chorale of Spring* depicting the grand celebrations enjoyed by people from all over the world, followed by masterpieces presented by pipa musician Zhang Ying, sheng player Mr Chen Yi-wei and organist Mr Jonathan Scott. Music lovers were also treated to a medley of Chinese New Year songs and a surprising appearance of the 'God of Wealth' on stage. Addressing some 160 guests at a private reception before the concert, our Director remarked that the high level of artistry of the 100-strong Chinese orchestra showcased HK's soft power as a vibrant arts and cultural hub with different world-class art troupes.



A group of young Hong Kongers currently residing in Singapore relished the chance of gathering to watch a wonderful orchestra performance.



The audience was surprised by the appearance of 'God of Wealth', which added to the festive vibe of the Chinese New Year (Photo credit: Esplanade)



Principal pipa musician Ms Zhang Ying led the audience through an enthralling journey with the song *Pipa Concerto No.2* (Photo credit: Esplanade)