



STAR-POST (Music)

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for your support and participation at the launch of the Singapore Teachers' Academy for the aRts (STAR) and the Art and Music Education Conference (AMEC) 2011. It was a wonderful opportunity to learn from renowned arts educators, school leaders and our fellow colleagues! Hope you have had a fulfilling time of professional development.

With National Day around the corner, it is time when Music becomes the inspiring force that gels the school community in the *Singapore Spirit!* We at STAR wish all Music teachers every success in the National Day celebrations in schools!

To subscribe to **STAR-POST (Music)**, please contact:

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TIP of the Month (August)

Gelang Sipaku Gelang: A Musical Reading

Gelang Sipaku Gelang is a beloved local folk song. With National Day around the corner, this is certainly one of the familiar tunes that we music teachers can fall back on for our National Day celebrations in school. Let's have a quick look at the meaning of the lyrics and its musical structure.

The most common translation is that 'Gelang' means 'bracelet' / 'ring' and is related to the word 'Geylang', an area in Singapore (e.g. <http://undergroundsquare.com/topic.php?id=113>). But as is the case of folk songs, this translation is not entirely definitive. I'd like to offer another reading here: that 'Gelang' is a species of creepers and 'sipaku' is a non-flowering fern of the species.

If we place this song within the genre of Malay traditional music, the song's lyrics conform to the format of a Malay *pantun* (a classic Malay poetic structure): strophic and with a rhyme pattern of *abab*. It usually begins by making references to nature or a local place. The opening lyrics are often not 'logically' connected to the rest of the song (Matusky and Chopyak 2001: 435). Once the beauty of the *pantun* is appreciated, the musical meaning of the song is clearer too!

Stanza 1	<i>Gelang si paku gelang Gelang si rama-rama Mari pulang, marilah pulang Marilah pulang, Bersama-sama</i>	Creepers and ferns Creepers, the butterflies Go home, let's go home Let's go home, together
Stanza 2	<i>Gelang si paku gelang Gelang di Singapura Jangan suka mengata orang Diri sendiri baik dijaga</i>	Creepers and ferns Creepers and ferns of Singapore Do not criticize others Be mindful of your own behaviour
Stanza 3	<i>Gelang si paku Gelang Gelang di Ulu Pandan Jangan suka mengata orang Akibat nanti binasa badan</i>	Creepers and ferns Creepers and ferns of Ulu Pandan Do not criticize others Later results in destroying others

Programmes At A Glance (TRAISI):

Primary School Teachers

S/N	Title of Workshops	Details	Course Code	Status
1	Pedagogy in Pop Music	12, 19, 26 Sept, 3 Oct 4 sessions, 10 hours	21162-00002	Open for registration now!

Secondary and JC Teachers

S/N	Title of Workshops	Details	Course Code	Status
2	Introduction to 20th Century Music	11 Aug – 3 Nov 12 Sessions, 36 hours	21218	Open for Traisi registration
3	Basic Music Writing Skills *	12 Aug – 4 Nov 12 Sessions, 18 hours	20634	Open for Traisi registration
4	Introduction to Musical Analysis*	12 Aug – 4 Nov 12 Sessions, 24 hours	20635	Open for Traisi registration
5	Teaching Music as an O level Exam subject	1 Aug – 31 Oct 12 Sessions, 24 hours	20411	Course started

** also for Primary teachers*

Milestone Programmes

Teacher Practitioner Programme

S/N	Title of COP	Starting from...	Updates
1	Music Teacher Practitioner Programme – 1st intake	May 2011 – September 2011, (About 100 hours)	FULL
2	Music Teacher Practitioner Programme – 2nd Intake	September 2011– March 2012 (About 100 hours)	FULL
3	Orff Method in Music Education -open to all CS1 or CS2 Primary and Secondary Music teachers	14, 15 16, 19 and 20 September, 8.30am to 5.30pm @ STAR, (About 35 hours)	Only 18 places! Registration closes 12 August 2011



Launch of STAR Website and Official Facebook Page

STAR is now launched online! **STAR website** <http://www.star.moe.edu.sg/>

- Online calendar of our programmes at STAR
- Links to useful resources for Music teachers

Be **in touch** with the latest buzz at STAR! Join the newsfeed of **STAR's Official Facebook Page**: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/STAR-Singapore/135514779864688>.

- Receive the latest, including real-time updates on what's happening at STAR!

Join our **Facebook Group Musicators!** <http://www.facebook.com/groups/Musicators/>

- Online lounge where you could glean professional teaching insights from colleagues
- Share issues, empathize, understand and seek advice and professional support from group members.

STAR will be conducting **an online survey** for all music teachers on music teaching.

- Aims to better understand about your music teaching experiences, triumphs and proud moments, and areas where you would like more professional development guidance that STAR could look into.
- This survey will be on **Facebook**, on **Musicators!** soon

Keep your eyes (and ears) peeled! **And Get Yourself Heard!** ☺

Communities of Practice (CoP) for Everyone!

Meeting Point: STAR @ Malan Road



S/N	Name of COP	Date	Updates
1	Singing (Singing in an ensemble or choir to improve sight-singing and vocal abilities)	5 Aug, 12, Aug, 15 Aug and 22 Aug. 3pm to 5.30pm	In full swing
2	Pop Band (Playing in a pop band to get in touch with music practice; participants should be able to play an instrument)	11 Aug, 18 Aug and 25 Aug, 3pm to 5.30pm	In full swing and full membership

Call us if you would like to lead or start a COP. You could drop us a mail too!

Your Feedback!



We are heartened to receive your feedback on the workshops that you've attended. Thank you for your support!

... able to reflect and apply different ways of teaching music in the classroom!

- Participant of Pedagogy in Pop Music

The workshop allowed us to think of how activities can be applied in our classrooms.

- Participant of Introduction to Orff Workshop

It was fun and applicable. Something new to try out in class.

- Participant of Music in the Making

The Kodaly singing opens my heart to singing as a teacher and with the students. I can get more ideas in teaching singing in class.

- Participant of Kodaly Method in Music Education (Introductory Level)

The course was tuned on more pedagogical approaches and how teachers scaffold the pupils' learning of music concepts

- Participant of Kodaly Method in Music Education (Level 2)

What's on the Arts Scene

- **CDIME (Cultural Diversity in Music Education) Conference**
4th to 6th January, 2012. Calling for Papers now
<http://www.unesco-care.nie.edu.sg/events/cultural-diversity-music-education-conference-cdime-11>
- **30th International Society for Music Education (ISME) World Conference 2012 Calling for Papers and Performers!**
http://www.isme.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=43&Itemid=26
- **Esplanade: National Day - Once Upon Singapore**
http://www.esplanade.com/whats_on/esplanade_presents/festivals/national_day/index.jsp
- **SSO Classics in the Park, Sat, 27 Aug 11, 6.00pm, Singapore Botanic Gardens**
http://www.sso.org.sg/index.php?option=com_fwecalendar&task=showdetails&id=3904&Itemid=56
- **Plucked Space • Resonating Strings 弹指间, 7 Sep, &.30pm, Esplanade Recital Studio**
http://www.esplanade.com/whats_on/programme_info/plucked_space/index.jsp
- **NAFA Symposium: New Asian Imaginations: (Re)searching the Arts in Southeast Asia, 19 – 21 September 2011 at Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts**
<http://newasianimagination.nafa.edu.sg/>
- **2-day Voice Care Workshop (in Mandarin) by Prof Chia Wei Khuan at the Confucius Institute (NTU OneNorth Campus), 13 and 20 Aug 2011.**
<http://www.ci-ntu.com/>