

National Anthems Online

SINGAPORE: *Majulah Singapura* ("Onward Singapore")

Singapore, officially the Republic of Singapore, is an island city-state located at the southern tip of the Malay Peninsula, lying 137 kilometres (85 miles) north of the equator. Although the smallest nation in Southeast Asia, it is considered the most business-friendly economy in the world. Before independence, Singapore's national anthem was that of Great Britain. In 1958, the City Council of Singapore commissioned the composer Zubir Said to compose a theme song for the Council's official functions, to be titled "Majulah Singapura". Upon full independence in 1965, "Majulah Singapura" was formally adopted as Singapore's national anthem.

In May 2000, several leading local composers were invited to rearrange the national anthem in F major. An evaluation panel selected the version submitted by Phoon Yew Tien. Originally composed in the key of G major, in 2001 the national anthem was officially relaunched in the lower key of F major. In the official arrangement, there are two sets of parallel fifths between the melody and the bass line on the last beat of bar 18 and the first beat of bar 19. Someone must have spotted them before but the sound seems a bit awkward, so in this arrangement they have been corrected.

Zubir Said was a Singaporean composer originally from the Minangkabau highlands of Indonesia. His first job was as a musician with City Opera, with a *bangsawan* or Malay opera troupe. In 1947, he worked as a part-time newspaper photographer while continuing to compose and perform music and in 1949 he took up the post of Orchestra Conductor at Shaw Brothers' Malay Film Production. A self-taught musician, he is estimated to have written about 1,500 songs, including those written for Cathay-Keris Film Productions' Malay films in the 1950s and 1960s.

Zubir Said (1907-1987)
Arranged by Colin Kirkpatrick

♩ = 96

Part 1

Part 2

Part 3

Part 4

Part 5

Part 6

Timpani

Cymbals

Snare Drum

Bass Drum

In F, Bb and C

f *mf*

p *f* *mf*

You may download the score and the instrumental parts free of charge, making as many copies as you need. However, these may not be subsequently sold. Feedback from users is always welcomed. If you would like to report any mistakes in the music, make comments or suggestions (in English) please contact Colin Kirkpatrick at doctorcolin@csloxinfo.com. If you perform, record or broadcast this arrangement, please notify the Performing Rights Society (in the UK) or the equivalent performance rights organisation in your own country (e.g. ASCAP in the USA; SOCAN in Canada), listing the name of the anthem and the arranger.

This arrangement © Colin Kirkpatrick 2008.

1. *mp* *f* *mf* *f*

2. *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

3. *mp* *f* *mf* *f*

4. *mp* *f* *mf* *f*

5. *mp* *f* *mf* *f*

6. *mp* *f* *mf* *f*

Timp. *mf cresc.* *f*

Cym. *f*

S.Dr. *mf cresc.* *f*

B. Dr. *f*

1.

2.

3.

4.

5. *f*

6.

Timp.

Cym.

S.Dr. *f*

B. Dr.

19

1. 2.

1. 2.

3. 3. 3. 3.

3. 3. 3. 3.

5. 6.

Timp. Cym. S.Dr. B. Dr.

f *mf* *cresc.* *f* *rit.*

f *f* *f* *rit.*

f *mf* *cresc.* *f* *rit.*

f *f* *f* *rit.*

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for measures 19-22. It consists of six string parts (1-6) and four percussion parts (Timp., Cym., S.Dr., B. Dr.). The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The score is divided into two systems: the first system covers measures 19-21, and the second system covers measures 20-22. The string parts (1-6) feature complex rhythmic patterns, including triplets and sixteenth-note runs. The percussion parts provide a rhythmic and dynamic foundation. Dynamic markings include *f* (forte), *mf* (mezzo-forte), *cresc.* (crescendo), and *rit.* (ritardando). Performance instructions such as accents (>) and slurs are present throughout the score.