

KHAC CHI



July 20, 2002



By June Ong

IT was a night of sheer entertainment for the audience who watched with enthusiasm the performance of the Vietnamese duo, Chi Khac Ho & Bic Hoang from Canada.

The couple introduced and played a variety of traditional Vietnamese instruments to the audience before they asked the audience to participate with them in making the different sounds that accompanied the musical instruments that they were playing. One such sound that the audience gladly participated was the "Klongput", whereby amazingly beautiful rhythms and music could be made by clapping both hands together in front of the mouth.

Bic Hoang, Chi Khac Ho's wife showed the audience how it was done, by playing a lovely Bruneian folk song which they learned whilst attending His Majesty's birthday celebrations in Temburong on Thursday.

Unique traditional Vietnamese instruments like the Dan Bau, Bass T'rung and T'rung, as well as the Bang Boo were introduced to the audience for the first time last night.

The "Sounds of Vietnam" Concert on Friday night was presented by the Brunei Music Society and the Canadian High Commission at the Orchid Garden Hotel.

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MUSIC FROM THEIR HEARTS

By Yusrin Junaidi

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN: Vietnamese-born duo, Khac Chi from Canada will perform on July 19 evening at the Orchid Garden Hotel.

Sponsored by the Canadian Embassy, the Brunei Music Society has been able to bring this talented husband and wife duo to Brunei.

Khac Chi has set out to bring its traditional music to western audiences in ways they can enjoy by coming up with lively new arrangements of traditional tunes and creative stage antics to capture their listeners.

At one point in their show, the two musicians play the same flute, each blowing a different hole.

They also encourage audience participation and educate them in the different styles of music being played.

Their combination of musical virtuosity with sheer entertainment value has earned them the opportunity to play all over Canada, the US and Europe.

Before coming to the Sultanate, the duo was performing at the International Rainforest World Music Festival in Kuching, Malaysia. Both were teachers at the Hanoi National Conservatory and Hanoi College of Music and Art before migrating to Canada in 1992.

At the moment, they are teaching part-time at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver as half of the year the duo travels around Canada, the US and Europe to perform professionally for their audience. Their next stop is to perform at a festival in Belgium known as "Sfinks Festival".