

# The Great Escape 2024

## Delegate Profiles

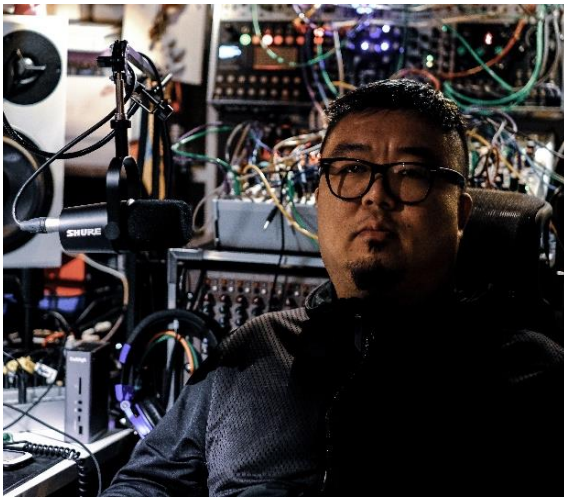


### **Kiah Gossner** (Australia)

Kiah Gossner is a Producer/Engineer at two of Australia's premier Studios: Studios 301 in New South Wales, and Mixmasters Studios in South Australia.

After graduating from the Adelaide Conservatorium (2014), Kiah worked first as a session musician/Musical Director - which saw him on multiple international tours – Kiah naturally progressed into a writer/producer/engineer role and now works at Australia's leading recording studios.

Kiah makes records and plays with things that make sounds.



### **Demone He** (China)

Demone is the founder of China's most influential independent podcast "Tangsu Radio", which has reached millions of people worldwide. He is also a DJ and signed to Universal Records as a songwriter.

Demone is also one of the founders of the "Modular Commune", the largest modular synthesizer community in China, and organises large-scale synthesizer and brand exchange events in Beijing every year. He is now the director of Sound Blanc, an ambient music label under Modern Sky, and is committed to the development of artistic music in China, as well as the fusion of music and contemporary arts.



## **David Wong** (China)

David has been active in China's indie music scene since 2008. In 2010, David became the planning director for the C:Union and T:Union, the earliest and most renowned live music venues in Guangzhou. Since then, David has managed Toy Captain, the Mi Fen Band (later renamed Mabang), and Sandojo. His responsibilities span performance management, album production, international collaborations and touring.

In 2023, David joined the newly founded Enlightening group, a high-tech live music space aiming to support talented musicians. Within three months of its inauguration, the venue had hosted Grammy Award winner Antonio Sanchez [USA], amongst other international musicians.



## **Alejandra Gomez Quintero** (Colombia)

Alejandra is founder and director of Biche, an alternative music production house based in Bogotá and Cali, Colombia, that focuses on the creative and executive development of atypical, roots and avant-garde Latin sounds. Alejandra is also an artist manager and booking agent and specialises in the strategic development and internationalisation of alternative Latin bands.

President of the MMF LATAM (Music Managers Forum Latin America) and cofounder of the collective Todopoderosa for gender diversity in the Latin independent music scene. She is currently leading the building of Casa Biche, a creative house with artist residency and recording studio for grass-roots cultural projects and community-based arts in Cali, Colombia.



## **Eddy Gomez** (Colombia)

Eddy Johana Gómez, founder and director of Llorona Records, Discos Pacifico and Llorona Foundation, is a cultural manager specialising in innovating strategies to promote local music ecosystems and development. Her work has been behind key projects creating sustainability strategies around roots music from all-around Colombia by connecting unique and powerful local music hubs with possibilities around the world. Eddy Johana Gómez is a visual artist by profession, with a specialization in management in culture, politics and communication at FLACSO.



### **Lázaro Alberto Cordoví Benítez** (Cuba)

Radio programmes director, scriptwriter, and soundman, with 39 years of experience in Cuban Radio. He works at Radio Taíno and for 26 years he has overseen the musical profile program "Cuba Tonight", including Selector Radio, for which he has been responsible since its first broadcast in Cuba. Lázaro has been involved in all the British Council's Selector Radio activities in Cuba. He is also the director of the national contest for DJs, "MusicDos", connected with Selector Radio.



### **Reinier Valdés Iznaga** (Cuba)

Director, producer, and scriptwriter of radio programmes for more than twenty years. Since 2021 he has been the General Director of the national radio station Radio Taíno, one of the most popular radio stations in Cuba, where Selector Radio has been broadcast for several years in collaboration with British Council Cuba.



### **Guta Wakuma Chimsa** (Ethiopia)

Guta Wakuma Chimsa is the founder of Meedo Records and Choo Choo Promotions in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Meedo Records is a Pan African record label and artist development company. Since its formation in 2021, Meedo has played a leading role in redefining the way music is produced and consumed in the country. Meedo discovers, supports and empowers artists to take risks and experiment with their crafts to unlock their capacity and create some of the most original music in the continent.

Choo Choo Promotions is a music promotions and events company that has ignited the Ethiopian dance music culture over the past decade. It is at the forefront of creating thriving subcultures and promoting good music in Ethiopia. Choo Choo has hosted some of the biggest 6000+ people events in Addis Ababa featuring local sensations and global stars.



## **James Owusu-Ansah**

**(Ghana)**

James Owusu-Ansah a Senior Officer at copyright office, Kumasi. James is a member of the Ghana Music Rights Organisation (GHAMRO), Musicians Union of Ghana (MUSIGA) and he is known in the music circles as OMAMA BLACKMAN as a composer, singer and performer with four albums to his credit. He had his maiden live concert in Kumasi dubbed 'Afro Hybrid in World Music and Reggae for Awareness' through the support of Alliance Francaise.



## **Ferry Dermawan**

**(Indonesia)**

Ferry Dermawan is a member of the Association of Indonesian Music Promoters (APMI) as the co-founder of Plainsong Live, the Jakarta-based concert promoter that has become synonymous with high-quality music events. Plainsong Live's Joyland Festival is a refreshing, family-friendly event that features the cream of Indonesia's most beloved artists and up-and-coming music talent, along with acclaimed global names that have included Cornelius, Fleet Foxes and Interpol. With Joyland Festival Bali having just wrapped up its third year with memorable sets by Shintaro Sakamoto, Kings of Convenience and James Blake, Dermawan and Plainsong Live's plans for the rest of 2024 so far include bringing

indie stalwarts The Drums to Jakarta in May, followed by the much-anticipated latest installment of Joyland Festival Jakarta in November.



## **Ricardo López Cordero**

**(Mexico)**

Ricardo López Cordero heads Ibero 90.9, Mexico's leading alternative radio station, focused on eclectic English-language music and cultural programming. Ricardo holds an MSc in Politics and Communication from the London School of Economics and Political Science, and a BA in Communications from Mexico's Universidad Iberoamericana, where he currently teaches electoral politics. He has extensive experience in cultural and political journalism and has been Executive Director of En Esta Esquina, a non-profit organisation focused on promoting democratic values in Mexico.



## **Marwane Fachane**

**(Morocco)**

Marwane is Executive Director of the Hiba Foundation, a Moroccan non-profit organization dedicated to advancing cultural and artistic development, with a specific focus on music. At the heart of the foundation's initiatives is Hiba Rec, a state-of-the-art recording studio. Under Fachane's leadership, Hiba Rec plays a pivotal role in structuring and professionalising the music industry in Morocco. The studio not only provides high-impact programs but also serves as a creative space for artists to thrive. Over the next five years, the foundation aims to strengthen the creative music industry in Morocco, utilising Hiba Rec to implement educational

and vocational programs, fostering talent from early childhood stages. This strategic approach aligns with the foundation's broader mission of supporting socioeconomic inclusion and job creation within the dynamic realm of Moroccan music.

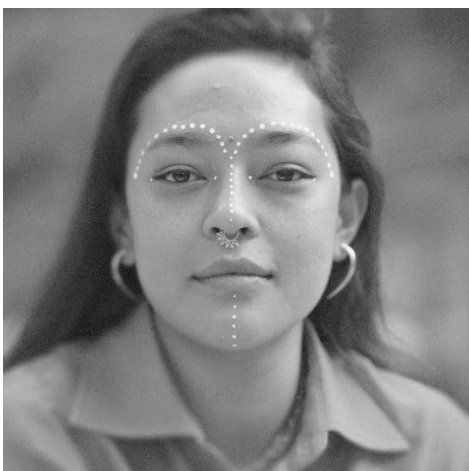


## **Amine Hamma**

**(Morocco)**

Amine is a musician and activist in the cultural field in Morocco. Amine has worked as a Project Manager at Fondation Hiba for over a decade, and has conceived and developed several cultural programs and events (HIBA\_Rec, HIBA\_Lab, Khaliya comic, Resource Center, Visa for Music, Tricinty Fest).

In 2016, Amine published the book *Jil Lklam*, co-written with Dominique Caubet, dedicated to the Moroccan urban music scene, and is trying to set up his music label, Tricinty. In 2023, he wrote an article published by Lexington Books, "Defiant Sounds: Heavy Metal Music in the global south".

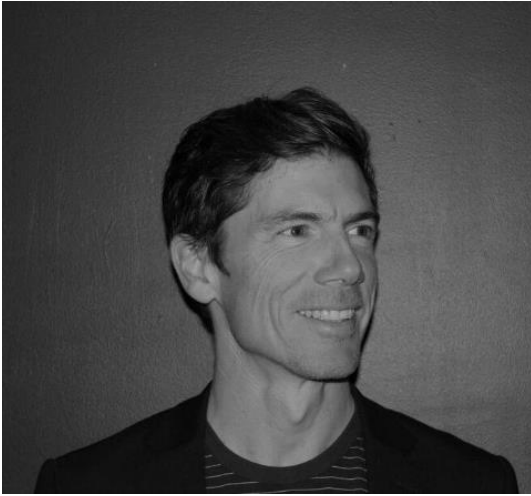


## **Monika Gole**

**(Nepal)**

With over a decade of experience, Monika Tamang Gole, also known as DJ Monika or DJ Moomin, is a seasoned figure in Nepal's electronic music scene. Her versatility knows no bounds as she seamlessly navigates through genres such as House, DnB, Breakbeats, Psy, Acid, Techno, and more. Co-founding ManzilMaia to support indie filmmakers and musicians, Monika has also spearheaded the all-female artist project "BoyZ Not Allowed (On Stage)" to provide female artists with platforms and support. Additionally, she is the co-founder of Lights Academy, dedicated to the pursuit of new and mixed

media art. Monika further contributes to the cultural landscape by hosting monthly Jam sessions to promote and preserve club culture in Nepal. With a decade of experience, Monika embodies creativity, connection, and dedication in the world of DJing.



## **Mike Hall** (New Zealand)

As Director of Member Services at APRA NZ (a music rights management organisation), Mike is responsible for the APRA AMCOS business relationship with its members; and the efficient delivery of high-quality services and programs to APRA AMCOS members.

Mike is also known throughout New Zealand as a versatile bass-player and musical collaborator. Mike started in music in a punk hardcore band before playing and recording with The Brunettes, Pluto, Dimmer, Anna Coddington to name a few. Mike continues to play and compose music, alongside his role as Director of Member Services New Zealand.



## **Hassan Sheikh & Roshan Sherwani** (Pakistan)

Hassan & Roshan released their debut album “Chaar Dinon Ka Khwaab” in 2020, with two songs becoming national hits, and one featuring in the Hollywood series Ms. Marvel.

Their second studio album “Day 5” was released in 2022 with chart toppers like “Duur Se” and “Sukoon” which charted at number 1 in Pakistan on Spotify. The album transcended borders in its popularity and solidified Hassan & Roshan’s name as one of the rising new stars of the country.

Hassan & Roshan’s music takes elements from South Asia’s rich musical history (both traditional and recent), and reimagines it in a new contemporary sound by combining it with elements from Western Pop and RnB creating a sound that’s uniquely them.

They are currently working on their third studio album set for release in 2024.



## **Majd Hajjaj**

**(Palestine)**

Delia Arts Foundation Representative in Palestine

Fueled by her passion for the arts, especially performance, Majd Hajjaj is a Palestinian cultural facilitator who has been involved in the cultural sector in Palestine for more than 12 years, as a cultural manager and fundraiser with multiple Palestinian organisations, and as a circus, theatre and dance performer. Motivated by her belief in the role of the arts in fostering communities, she pursued her Master's degree in Management from Durham University, UK with a dissertation on Marketing Management of Performing Arts Organisations. She is keen on helping Delia Arts Foundation in raising Palestinian voices through music.



## **Cindy Castillo**

**(Spain)**

After a lifetime dedicated to music, Cindy Castillo has been accompanying Mad Cool for almost a decade since its inception in Madrid. She is also the founder of Gigantic Music, a company dedicated to artist management and booking.



## **Mar Rojo**

**(Spain - Madrid)**

Mar Rojo is a booking agent, manager and independent festival curator. She currently manages the career of Judeline, one of Spain's most promising talents, in collaboration with the Sonido Muchacho and Interscope teams. Mar has also worked for Primavera Sound's booking team, contributing to the 2022 and 2023 festival line-ups and tours. With a decade-long tenure as a venue programmer in Madrid venues, Mar also improved her expertise as an independent music promoter. Her portfolio includes freelance curation for institutional programs, notably Veranos de la Villa (2020-2024). Additionally, she serves as the proud Vice-President of Asociacion MIM, a leading women's association dedicated to championing gender equality in Spain's music industry.



## **Gema Sánchez** (Spain)

Gemma Sánchez has coordinated the live music circuit AIE nRUTa-Artists since 1998. This program is organised by AIE to support the emerging music scene and small to medium sized venues throughout winter.

The ultimate goal is on one hand, to support artists and bands to broaden their proposals and on the other hand, to promote programming to venues.

In addition, Gemma manages international exchanges, thanks to collaboration agreements with the Cervantes Institute and AECID, and participation in the Sounds From Spain platform.



## **Sifiso Gcabashe** (South Africa)

Sifiso Gcabashe has experience working across industries as a marketing manager, brand strategist and consultant in the creative Arts. His professional career has been a combination of corporate marketing and consultancy in the creative sector, working with businesses such as Red Bull, Government Arts and Culture, and City of Joburg to name a few. He has also supported and lead arts and creative projects internationally.

Sifiso has been an advocate for African arts and its prioritisation since his early years as a radio presenter. He is also the owner of The Dig\_za (a bespoke agency and experiential lifestyle business).

The Dig has become one of the most sought-after alternative music experience businesses in South Africa with a growing African and diaspora footprint. He is also one of the 3 owners of Artist/ Untitled basement which is a multi-functional music hub, restaurant, gallery and one of South Africa's leading live music venues.



## **Dhouha Abdelghani** (Tunisia)

Dhouha Abdelghani is Artistic Director of the Music Division at the esteemed Fondation Kamel Lazaar. In this position, she has worked tirelessly to create a thriving hub for music within the Fondation, overseeing its artistic direction and development. Her current position also extends to being the Musical Curator for the Jaou Festival, an initiative of the Fondation Kamel Lazaar. Through this festival, Dhouha has endeavoured to showcase the diversity and richness of the musical landscape, contributing to the cultural dialogue and fostering a deeper appreciation for the arts.





## **Yaryna Denysyuk** (Ukraine)

Yaryna Denysyuk is editor-in-chief at the online media site – Neofomat – covering the Ukrainian underground scene. In her job, Yaryna searches for artistic expression and rawness, and finds it in many genres - punk, metal, indie, experimental electronics, noise, etc.

Yaryna's job in recent years tends to focus more on management and grants, but she also keeps an eye on the development of Ukrainian music. Yaryna has written for foreign media including Idioteq, The Quietus, and Louder Than War. Her role at Neformat has also allowed her to experience organising concerts and music conferences, working as a small music label, making Tik-Tok and YouTube videos, podcasts, and many other activities.



## **José Miguel Bermúdez Castillejo** (Venezuela)

José has 8 years' working experience at Cusica - the leading music industry company in Venezuela - producing and promoting over 300 shows, including 3 editions of Cusica Fest featuring national and international acts, with over 80,000 attendees. José plays a very important role in the company, as part of the booking & music programming team, producing live events, and managing the artist and sponsorship relations. He has worked with high-profile artists (Grammy Awards Winners and Nominees), including: Slash, Joe Satriani and Bomba Estereo.



## **Huy Tuan Bui** (Vietnam)

Vietnam's leading music producer, who has discovered many music stars in Vietnam. Huy Tuan is also a famous songwriter with a series of songs loved by the audience during his 30 years of musical activity. He is known as a judge on Vietnam Idol, Vietnam's Got Talent and many other television shows. Currently, he is the founder and general director of the largest music festival in Vietnam - Hozo Music Festival.

# ASEAN-UK Music Festival Delegation

---

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is a regional organisation of 10 member states: Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

The ASEAN-UK Advancing Creative Economy – Music Festival Delegation programme is a 10-day curated visit from 9 – 19 May 2024 to FOCUS Wales in Wrexham, London and The Great Escape in Brighton.

The delegation is targeted at music festival professionals with a proven interest in the independent music sector, who demonstrate a significant interest in UK and international collaboration and have the potential to work on future collaborative projects with British Council and the UK.

## ASEAN Delegate Profiles



**Kukuh Rizal Arfianto**  
(Indonesia)

Kukuh Rizal Arfianto, commonly known as Kukuh, is a co-founder of Sun Eater, a music company based in Jakarta. With over four years in the Indonesian music industry, a passion for music and visual arts led Kukuh to leave corporate life and establish a company that manages artists such as Hindia, Feast, Agatha Pricilla, Rayhan Noor, and others.

Kukuh's career began in brand marketing, working with international companies including Nike Indonesia (2013), Philip Morris International (2015), among others. A love for music has brought Kukuh to prestigious stages and roles as a speaker at international events.



**Arin Sharnaz Binti Ahmad Rasdi**  
(Malaysia)

Arin Sharnaz founded the events company Tala Records Asia, which has become an invaluable platform for showcasing local artists. She has since successfully held multiple events such as Journey to the South, which featured Indonesian indie powerhouses Reality Club and talented Malaysian acts Airliftz and Golden Mammoth, mini-festival Down To Riot, which saw 14 local bands taking to the stage and her inaugural 2D pixelated metaverse platform Revive Arcade Festival in South East Asia during the pandemic that featured 27 artists across South East Asia.

With an expanding portfolio, she has been selected to be one of the South-East Asia team members called AXEAN, a group of gig/concert promoters, music festival/conference owners, artist managers, music professionals and community leaders from all over Southeast Asia and beyond who are confident in the quality and creativity of Southeast Asian musical talents, and believe that they belong on the world stage alongside global superstars.



### **Anna Nicole Sarmiento** (Philippines)

As the CEO & Founder of Red Ninja Production and the Music Export Director for Sonik Philippines, Nicole plays a pivotal role in shaping the Philippine music landscape. Renowned for curating successful music festivals, she passionately champions local talent, fostering a dynamic platform for artistic expression. Currently based in Spain for an enriched marketing perspective, Nicole remains dedicated to contributing significantly to the Philippine music industry while actively working for Sonik. Having attended diverse conferences and festivals across Asia, Nicole has networked with industry leaders, cultivating invaluable relationships that

enhance the global reach of Philippine music. Her commitment lies in representing and exporting the Philippines' rich musical heritage, bridging cultures, and fostering international collaborations to elevate the industry on the global stage.



### **Jose Francisco Cruz** (Philippines)

Joff Cruz started his journey into the music scene as a songwriter and guitarist for an indie band in the mid-2000s. Since then, he has worked numerous jobs throughout the music industry such as curating playlists for Deezer, producing events for Philippine musicians in Singapore, DJ-ing, and organising concerts for the likes of Grimes, Jose Gonzalez, Explosions in the Sky, and Kings of Convenience. He is currently one of AXEAN Festival's co-organisers and organises his own shows in Manila. In addition, he produces electronic and hip-hop music under the moniker Fashion Island and hosts a monthly show on Hanoi Community Radio that features music from East and Southeast Asia and its diaspora.



### **Vathiar Mohanavelu Sai Akileshwar (Singapore)**

A fine and versatile performer, Akilesh is a very sought-after percussionist. His sound has been described by critics as being a pleasing blend of virtuosity and aesthetics. His approach to performance highlights the tonal nuances of the Mridangam (South Indian percussion instrument) while being rooted in the polyrhythmic tradition of Indian percussion.

Akilesh has represented Singapore regionally in numerous festivals and conferences namely ANMC Bangkok 2010, Asem V Kuala Lumpur 2012 and “roots and traditions” Manila 2017.

As a full-time Producer at the Esplanade, he has close to a decade of experience in the realm of Arts Management. He is part of the team that presents many festivals and performances throughout the year and was the lead programmer of Esplanade’s alternative music festival, Baybeats, which also happens to be Singapore’s largest free music festival. Currently, Akilesh is the festival producer of Kalaa Utsavam - The Indian festival of arts.



### **Le Thi My Phuong (Thailand)**

Swiss-born, Vietnamese-tracing Phuong Le has been a touring DJ, event manager, and brand consultant for over 16 years. As a fixed and unwavering member of the global club and live event communities, Phuong has launched community music initiatives Die Empathie label in Switzerland and Homeaway Agency in Asia. Through her network of artists, agents, venues, and supporters, Phuong has been responsible for some of the most community-connected, ground-shifting gatherings throughout Europe and Asia. Her talents and experience lie in artist & event management, branding, creating experiences, conceptualisation, music curation for festivals, and cultivating strong scenes with initiatives such as We Are Philia, a community label in Thailand.

When the live music world stopped in the wake of COVID–19, Phuong saw the rally of support around venues and artists across Europe and brought one of the most impactful efforts, United We Stream, to Asia—a live-streamed festival that helped bring attention and much-needed paid bookings to the struggling industry. Now being a member of the Global Nightlife Committee representing the Southeast Asian Nightlife Scene she contributed to Vibelab’s Global Nighttime Manifesto and hosted several workshops to help raise awareness and build bridges between the west and the east.



### **Sarun Pinyarat** (Thailand)

Sarun established 'Fungjai' in 2014, a leading Thai music-community startup where he serves as CEO. Fungjai facilitates connections between indie artists and their fans through music streaming services, media channels, and both showcase and commercial festivals. Since 2018, Fungjai, in collaboration with Seen Scene Space and Have You Heard?, have created Maho Rasop, Bangkok's premier independent international festival ([www.mahorasop.com](http://www.mahorasop.com)). The festival has hosted renowned headliners such as Interpol, Bombay Bicycle Club, Slowdive, IDLES, The Horrors, The Drums, King Gizzard & the Lizard Wizard, and many others.



### **Thao Phuong Nghiem** (Vietnam)

Thao Nghiem is the Founding and Executive Director of the Vietnam Music Industry Network (VMIN), host of the annual Vietnam Music Week (VMW) music conference and showcases in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. At the same time, she also works as the Marketing Manager at Small World Music, host of the annual Global Toronto Music Festival.

Her professional work includes The OMAs regional music award show, NPTmusic Vietnamese music show promoter, Label Licensing and Royalties Liaison at the Canadian Musical Reproduction Rights Agency, and Associate Brand Manager at Unilever Vietnam.



### **Ta Thi Thanh Huong** (Vietnam)

Huong is Managing Director of Hanoi Rock City, a pioneering creative, cultural development & artistic exchange in Vietnam since 2010. With the ambition of combining Hanoi Rock City's credibility and artist network with the potential of Vietnam's music tourism, Huong and her team aim to create a grand-scale event concept that will evolve into an internationally recognized brand.

# British Council Staff Profiles

The following staff members will be joining the delegation in Brighton:



## Joel Mills

### Director, Music (UK)

As Director of Music, Joel oversees the music portfolio for British Council, leading on key partnerships and programmes. With a background of over 25 years in the music and arts sector, that bridges both the commercial and funded sector, Joel joined the British Council in 2009. She has developed numerous programmes that support international collaboration, residencies and professional exchange opportunities. Having worked extensively with teams in South Asia, East Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, she spent several months in South Africa as Interim Director Arts, Sub-Saharan Africa. As well as leading the global Music portfolio for British Council, she has championed and led many cross-disciplinary work with music and film, arts and tech such as British Council's work at SXSW.



## Tom Sweet

### Senior Relationship Manager Music (UK)

Since joining the British Council music team in 2015, Tom has worked extensively developing music programmes in Europe and south Asia. He led on the creation of: 'Envision Sound', a film scoring programme for emerging composers; Selector PRO, a music industry capacity building programme; and 'Creative Producers', a project to develop cross-sectoral arts practice and ecosystems across Europe. Tom has played a key role in the shaping and delivery of large-scale programmes, grant schemes and British Council 'seasons' in countries including Ukraine, Pakistan, India and many others.

Since 2022, Tom has taken on the relationship management role of our very own Selector Radio and overseen the partnership delivery of the new Selector Presents live events at The Great Escape festival in Brighton and South by Southwest (SXSW) in Texas, USA.



## **Manami Yuasa**

### **Regional Arts Director, East Asia (Japan)**

With over 25 years of experience in international cultural relations, Manami Yuasa has been a member in British Council Japan's Arts team since 1995, taking on the role of Head of Arts in 2005. She has led arts and culture programs, strengthening relationships between the UK and Japanese arts and cultural sectors. In 2021, Manami transitioned to the role of Regional Arts Director for East Asia, where she oversees a diverse arts and culture programme across 14 countries and territories in East Asia. In addition to her role at British Council, Manami has engaged with Japan's cultural policy development. She has been a member of

governmental advisory panels, including the Council for Cultural Affairs at the Agency for Cultural Affairs and the Policy Evaluation Committee at the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.



## **Camelia (Kemi) Harahap**

### **Head of Arts and Creative Industries (Indonesia)**

Camelia Harahap is the Head of Arts and Creative Industries at British Council Indonesia since 2019. She first joined British Council in 2011, working on creative enterprise programmes with a focus on Fashion, Design and Music sectors, and led the showcasing activities of the *UK/Indonesia 2016-18* programme, a three-year season celebrating new relationships between Indonesian and UK artists and cultural organisations – including curating and managing the annual UK/ID Festival.



## **Erica Choong**

### **Arts Manager (Malaysia)**

Erica Choong joined British Council Malaysia as their Arts Manager in 2020. In her time at the British Council, Erica has contributed her project, grant and partnership management skills to British Council Malaysia's Arts and Culture work on creative hubs, crafts, and diversity programmes, across multiple artforms, stakeholders, and outcomes such as, creative research, residencies, festivals, talks and exhibitions.

Erica and her team are currently working to create spaces and opportunities for connections, collaborations, and knowledge exchanges between the UK and Malaysia, which focuses on cultural practices, traditional knowledge, coloniality, inclusion, diversity, and climate change. Her portfolio has recently been expanded to the ASEAN region, in supporting the British Council ASEAN-UK Advancing Creative Economy Music Delegation programme.



## **Natasha Beckman**

### **Country Director Aotearoa New Zealand and the Pacific (New Zealand)**

Natasha has many years of experience in Festivals, Artist Management, Events, Museums and Galleries. Her extensive training includes a BA in Art History and Law and an MA in Art History. She also completed an internship at The Smithsonian Institution in Washington DC, working on one of the largest Festivals in the world, The Smithsonian Folklife Festival, which celebrates different cultures around the world.

Previous Auckland based posts include Public Programmes & Cultural Relations Manager, Auckland Museum; Visual Arts & Public Programmes Manager, Auckland Arts Festival; and Manager of Alberton House, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga.

While in Britain she was most recently Director of Urban Soul Orchestra. Prior to that she was employed as Visual Arts Officer, Arts Council England and Patrons Programme Manager, Venice Biennale for Creative New Zealand.



## **Haider Ali Khan**

### **Arts Programme Manager (Pakistan)**

Haider Ali Khan is an enthusiastic and passionate Arts Programme Manager currently based at the British Council Pakistan office. With a solid background in customised events management and backstage coordination for prestigious fashion weeks and award shows, Haider brings extensive expertise in project management to the cultural landscape. His role at the British Council involves curating and overseeing dynamic arts programs that promote cultural exchange and artistic collaboration. Haider's dedication to fostering creative initiatives and his adeptness in managing diverse projects make him a valuable contributor to the arts community in Pakistan and beyond.