



2 March, 2020

Atatürk Faculty of Education
Marmara University
Goztepe 34772, Kadikoy, Istanbul, TURKEY

To Whom It May Concern,

I am the principle investigator and the director of the Project called “Bridging Sound and Culture in the World” at the Chinese university of Hong Kong. The aim of this project is to create a platform of interaction and knowledge transfer as well as promotion of cultures through traditional music performed along Silk Road countries.

It is well known that Turkey has a rich and long history of traditional music. We realized that it is necessary to have this country represented in the first phase of this major Project, which would give audience a sense of what Turkish music is about and how it became part of its culture. We intended to have each participating country presents a program of traditional music (not western classical music) that consists of three parts. 1. To present a lecture demonstration (will be taped for radio broadcast later) explaining traditional music with live demonstration, explaining the genres as well as its socio-cultural context, demonstrate how the music is put together, show musical instruments by explaining its features and teach audience how to listen to the music and its aesthetics. 2. A public concert featuring various Turkish classical and folk musical genres; 3. A photo exhibit and or video showing of Turkish culture and music.

On behalf of the Chinese University of Hong Kong, it was with great pleasure that I invited Prof. Dr. Seyfi KENAN to participate in the “Bridging Sound and Culture Concert Series” Project from 4 February 2019 to 2 March 2020. During his visit to Hong Kong in Oct 6-12, 2019, he successfully participated in a lecture-demonstration (9th Oct) and a concert (11th Oct), and gave a lecture "Overview of Turkish Music Culture" which was held at the Lee Hysan Concert Hall on the CUHK campus. In addition, he also contributed to preparation of the exhibit called “Echoes from Anatolia: Images from Turkish Classical and Folk Music” covering Turkish music and musical theory from its inception to everyday life today, musicians, performance, musical instruments, music and ritual, both historical and contemporary in order to show the role of music in Turkish culture. This exhibit was opened 4-18 October, 2019 at the Lee Hysan Concert Hall on our campus . Other scheduled events included meeting with Pro Vice-Chancellor Fanny Cheung and Professor Victor Zhang of the Global China



Program to discuss future collaborations, giving guest lectures at the Ethnomusicology seminar, and meeting with post-graduate students and faculty.

I would be remiss if I don't express my thanks to Professor Seyfi Kennan for being the coordinator for this project. He embraced it enthusiastically when I first mentioned the project to him back in early summer of 2018. His expertise, professionalism, efficiency, and care on details made the planning process even enjoyable and educational for me. I am lucky to have his help and your musical guidance. Marmara University is lucky to have such capable and dedicated faculty members. The successful completion of this project established a firm foundation for future collaborations. I look forward to a long-lasting friendship between our two universities. I wish you and your colleagues a most prosperous 2020.

Sincerely,

Frederick Lau
Chair and Professor, Department of Music
Director, Center for Chinese Music Studies
The Chinese University of Hong Kong