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Glitz and glamour at Global Chinese Music Awards

The crème de la crème of the Chinese music industry will be in town to battle it out for some coveted awards during the fifth Global Chinese Music Awards, writes THAM AI MEI.

COME Saturday, Bukit Jalil Putra Stadium will be transformed into a bustling music hub with the who's who in the Chinese music industry.

From Hong Kong's Eason Chan and Joey Yung to China's Anson Hu Yan Bin, from Taiwan's Jolin Tsai to our very own talents Penny Tai and Nicholas Teo, superstars of great following are expected to notch up the glam quotient at the upcoming fifth Global Chinese Music Awards (GCMA).

The glitzy awards show is an event jointly organised by radio stations Malaysia's 988, China's Beijing Music Station, East Shanghai Station and Guang Dong Radio Station, Taiwan's Hit FM, Hong Kong's RTHK and Singapore's Yes 933.



Wang Lee Hom might just win the Most Popular Male Singer award.

The GCMA is based on the seven stations' quarterly Global Chinese Song Chart, which is a voting-based musical billboard. 988 is hosting the event this year, much to the joy of local Chinese music fans.

To add to the appeal of the event, there is the spectacular RM4.5mil stage as well as a carnival event to be held prior to the night time awards. Certainly, these are reasons enough to block your calendar for Saturday.

The superstars will be vying with each other in the 18 categories of the awards – including the coveted Most Popular



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Female Singer, Most Popular Male Singer, Most Popular Duo, Most Popular Composer and Most Popular Band.

Leading the list of nominees is the increasingly popular Joey Yung, who has been nominated for Most Popular Female Singer and Most Popular Duo for her ballad *Ke Bu Rong Huan* (Precious Moments) with fellow singer Hacken Lee and Top 25 Hits (for both *Ke Bu Rong Huan* and *Ming Ri En Dian*). Yung will be battling it out for the Most Popular Female Singer title against equally popular singers Fish Leong, Jolin Tsai, Cindy Wang, Tanya Chai and Yu Heng.



Jolin Tsai is in the running for Most Popular Female Singer.

Of course, most Malaysian fans will be rooting wholeheartedly for home-grown talents who have done the country proud by carving a name for themselves in the cutthroat Taiwanese market.

Penny Tai, alongside fellow Malaysian Yu Heng, definitely has her fans backing her up for the ultimate award of Most Popular Female Singer. Her song *Ai Feng Le* (Loving to the Point of Madness) is in the running for the Top 25 Hits category. She will also be crossing her fingers for the coveted Most Popular Composer award – as will Yu Heng, China's Yu Quan, Hins and Anson Hu Yan Bin, Hong Kong's Nicholas Tse and Taiwanese cutie Wang Lee Hom.

When it comes to newbies attempting to burst into any market, a Most Popular Newcomer award certainly does wonders to jumpstart a successful singing career. In the running for this sought after award are China's Zhang Jie, Ben C and Man Jiang and local boy Nicholas Teo. Battling it out for the Most Popular Band title are Taiwan's May Day and F.I.R and China's Hua Er Yue Dui. The spunky May Day also has its song – *Jue Qiang* (Strong) –in the running for the Top 25 Hits, alongside trio F.I.R's *Qian Nian Zhi Luan* (Thousand Year Love Affair).

Moving onto the battles of the masculine crooners – heavyweights Eason Chan, Hacken Lee, Nicholas Tse and Wang Lee Hom will be pitched against up and coming stars like Taiwan's Kenji Wu Ke Qin, Singapore's JJ Lim as well as China's Hu Yan Bin, Hins and Lu Yi for the Most Popular

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Male Singer award.

Fans attending the event will get to see all the contenders for the prestigious category in the flesh as the popular singers have already confirmed their attendance. Impressing his fans with his quick success is the adorable Ben C from China, who has managed to notch several nominations for this year's awards. This young man is in the running for Most Popular Newcomer, Most Popular Composer and also the Top 25 Hits for his popular tunes *Wang Bu Liao Ni* (Cannot Forget You) and *Hello Angel*.



Malaysian talent Penny Tai will be attending the fifth Global Chinese Music Awards on Saturday.

Singapore diva Tanya Chai also has an impressive number of nominations that include Most Popular Female Singer, Most Popular Composer and Most Popular Duo for her hit song *Yuan Dian* (Original Point).

In her bid to support the music industry, Hong Kong luminary Sandy Lam will also be gracing the event. Other famous faces to look out for on that night include Gigi Leung, Twins, Snow Wei Xue Man and Wang Rong.

Tickets for the GCMA, priced at RM290, RM200, RM150, RM90 and RM50, are on sale at the concourse area of Sungei Wang Plaza in Kuala Lumpur, selected CD Rama outlets, Music Valley and Rex Box Karaoke outlets and TicketCharge counters.

• **For more details, call TicketCharge at 03-7726 2002 or visit [www. ticketcharge.com.my](http://www.ticketcharge.com.my).**



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