

Presentation format: Oral

Growing *Papilionanthe* and *Papilionanda*

Christopher Teo

Orchid Society of South East Asia, Singapore

Singapore earned its international horticultural prominence from two orchids: *Papilionanthe* (syn. *Vanda*) Miss Joaquim, raised by Agnes Joaquim in 1893, which became Singapore's national flower in 1981, and *Papilionanda* (syn. *Vanda*) Tan Chay Yan, originated by Robert Tan Hoon Siang in 1952. Both hybrids gained the First Class Certificate from the Royal Horticultural Society in 1897 and 1954, respectively. Three cultivars of *Pda.* Tan Chay Yan also received the Award of Merit from the Malayan Orchid Society, the predecessor of the Orchid Society of South East Asia, and a fourth received the Award of Merit from the American Orchid Society. Many beautiful hybrids have been bred from *Ple.* Miss Joaquim, and numerous awarded *Papilionanda* have been bred from *Pda.* Josephine van Brero, the pod parent of *Pda.* Tan Chay Yan. *Papilionanthe* and *Papilionanda* are extremely free-flowering when they are grown in full sun, well-watered and provided with heavy feeding. Unfortunately, interest is now focused on small or compact orchid plants. *Papilionanthe* and *Papilionanda* are not widely grown due to a shift to apartment dwelling and space constraints. However, public gardens and orchid growers living in landed property should consider devoting some space to growing these magnificent orchids. The lecture will discuss the essential steps to be taken to achieve success with *Papilionanthe* and *Papilionanda*.

Keywords: Horticulture, large orchids, space constraints, heritage orchids, hybrids