



EVERGREEN SINGER: Abdullah greeting Andre Goh, who belted out Johar Bahar's 'Selamat Tinggal Bungaku' at Angkasapuri last night. Behind them are the other artistes.

Nostalgic trip down music history

KUALA LUMPUR: It was a trip down memory lane when some of the country's most famous composers, writers, artistes and former orchestra leaders gathered for the *Malam Simfoni Irama Malaysia* here.

A joint production between RTM and the Culture, Arts and Heritage Ministry, the two-and-half-hour concert at Angkasapuri last night was a cultural potpourri of Malaysia's rich musical heritage.

Performing to a packed hall that included Prime Minister Datuk Seri

Abdullah Ahmad Badawi among the audience, the combination of young and veteran singers belted out evergreen tunes dating back to the 40s.

Also present were Information Minister Datuk Zainuddin Maidin and Culture, Arts and Heritage Minister Datuk Seri Dr Rais Yatim.

RTM Orchestra's 63 musicians, under Datuk Mokhzani Ismail, performed 42 songs from the various eras of Malaysian music, as well as from traditional to Latin, jazz and contemporary.

The orchestra played tunes of

composers such as Datuk Dr Ahmad Nawab, Joe Chelliah, Gus Steyn, Tan Chong Yew, Alfonso Soliano, Ooi Eow Jin, Datuk Johari Salleh and Jimmy Boyle.

Among the veteran artistes who performed were Tan Sri S.M. Salim, Ahmad Jais, Datuk Yusni Hamid and Andre Goh.

The more current crop included Ahmad Fauzee, Ibnor Reza, Sharifah Zarina, Zahid of *Akademi Fantasia 2*, Deja Moss, Azharina, Dayang Nurfaizah and the Mohram duo.