

## ANNEX

### Arts & Disability International Conference 22-23 March 2018

#### SPEAKERS & ARTS GROUPS

##### **Adrian Anantawan (Canada)** **National Arts Centre Young Artists Programme**

Born of Thai-Chinese ethnicity, Adrian Anantawan began the violin at nine, and has since established himself as “a rising star in classical music” (Globe and Mail). In 2001, he was accepted into the Curtis Institute of Music with a merit-based full scholarship, and completed his bachelor degree under the tutelage of Ida Kavafian and Yumi Ninomiya Scott. During past summers, he also studied with Pinchas Zukerman as part of the NAC Young Artists Program in Ottawa, and Itzhak Perlman at Shelter Island, NY. He also holds a Masters Degree from Yale University, studying with Peter Oundjian.

Adrian is a key proponent of the disabled arts, as he was born without a right hand. He is a national spokesperson for the War Amps of Canada, and the Holland Bloorview Kids Rehab Center. Active within Canadian media, his documentary “Adrian Anantawan: The Story Behind the Notes” is currently being broadcast across the country by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC).

Adrian has performed extensively in Canada as a soloist with the Orchestras of Toronto, Nova Scotia, Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Montreal, Edmonton and Vancouver. He has also presented feature recitals at the Aspen Music Festival, Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall and the White House. His proudest moments have included performances for the late Christopher Reeve and Pope John Paul II. He has also represented Canada as a cultural ambassador in the 2006 Athens Olympics, and was a feature performer at the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympics Opening Ceremonies. His 2010/2011 includes collaboration with violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter as part of a ten-city European tour, with performances in the United States and Canada.

##### **Alirio Savarce (Australia)** **Director, Writer, Performer, Musician** **Representative of No Strings Attached (NSA)**

A multi-award-winning director and theatre maker, Alirio has developed and directed projects with companies across Australia, including Nexus Multicultural Arts Centre, SYTE, Urban Myth, The Multicultural Community Council of SA, Flinders University Drama Centre and the Community Arts Network. Alirio is the Artistic Director of AJZ Productions and True North Youth Theatre Ensemble. In the 2015 Come Out Festival, he directed “A Kid Like Me” which was selected to represent Australia in the 2016 World Festival for Children’s Theatre in Ontario, Canada.

Alirio has been a tutor and director with NSA since late 2004. In addition to annual showcase productions, Alirio has also directed, written and performed “Trapped” (winner of the inaugural Graham Smith Peace Foundation Award) and “Sons & Mothers” (winner of four 2012 Fringe Awards including Best Theatre Production, Adelaide Critics Circle Best in Fringe Award and the Adelaide Festival Centre inSPACE Development Award). In 2014, the touring production of “Sons & Mothers” won an SA Ruby Award for Community Impact and was nominated for a Helpmann Award as Best Regional Touring Production.

### **No Strings Attached (Australia)**

No Strings Attached was established in 1993 by performer, writer and entrepreneur Helen Flinter Leach. Its mission is to lead the way in training, services and opportunities for disabled artists by creating world class theatre, and supporting members to develop career paths in the performing arts. They value entertainment and advocacy, individuality and community, unity and diversity. They also especially appreciate humour.

No Strings Attached creates original theatre through the unique perspectives of its disabled artists and performers. They produce locally, tour nationally and discover new talent in weekly workshops tailored to the individual needs of participants. They also develop members' skills in all areas of theatre production, and produce work which raises awareness for and about people with disabilities.

### **Dr Azariah Tan (Singapore)**

#### **Pianist**

Azariah Tan, 25, graduated with a Doctor in Musical Arts in Piano Performance from University of Michigan, under the guidance of Dr. Logan Skelton. The National Arts Council-Conservatory scholar and President's Young Performer, was placed on the Dean's List multiple times at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music where he did his undergraduate studies with Albert Tiu and graduated with first-class honors in 2011. He went on to study at the School of Music, Theatre and Dance, University of Michigan, where he graduated with two Master of Music degrees in Piano Performance and in Chamber Music, as well as being nominated by the piano department for the Earl V. Moore Award. Azariah was also a recipient of the VSArts International Young Soloists Award in Washington, DC, the NUS Achievement Award for Outstanding (all-round) Achievement (Arts & Culture) 2009, full-scholarships from the University of Michigan, USA, the National Arts Council of Singapore, and the Yamaha Music Foundation of Japan.

The award-winning pianist more recently won the first prize for both the Solo and Concerto categories at the American Prize 2012, the "Laureate" title at the WPTA International Piano Competition 2013 and two top prizes in 2014 at The New York International Artists Association Piano Competition and The American Protégé International Concerto Competition. Azariah gives back by performing at events to raise funds for charity organisations and takes time during his summer vacation breaks to examine and conduct masterclasses for students undergoing the Music Education Program and at Yale-NUS, on a voluntary basis. In 2014, he was named "Honoree" (Personal Improvement and/or Accomplishment) in the Ten Outstanding Young People (TOYP) Singapore, in recognition of the inspirational role he exemplifies for others.

### **Epic Arts (Cambodia)**

Epic Arts is an international, inclusive arts organisation based in Cambodia and registered as a charity in the UK. They use the arts as a form of expression and empowerment to bring people with and without disabilities together.

Epic Arts uses the arts as a powerful tool for transformation that explores and celebrates the richness of diversity through creative experiences. They work with people of all abilities and backgrounds through their Inclusive Education, and Community and Social Enterprise Programmes to encourage a change in perceptions and attitudes at both a personal, and public level. They promote the message that every person counts, every person is a unique and creative individual and every person is equal, believing in integrity, understanding, acceptance, development, equality and the inclusion of all, and most of all their belief in people.

**Dr Justin Lee (Singapore)**  
**Research Fellow, Society & Identity Research Cluster**  
**Institute of Policy Studies**

Justin has substantive interests in issues relating to disadvantaged populations, and has done research on the social inclusion of people with disabilities, proper end-of-life planning for vulnerable seniors and the re-integration of ex-offenders. He is also interested in the non-profit sector at large, and has been paying keen attention to the role and strengths of new and untapped resources like game designers, community artists and other social innovators.

In his previous position as Senior Research Fellow at the National Council of Social Service, Justin led needs-assessment projects, helped design programmes and conducted evaluation studies in partnership with various Voluntary Welfare Organisations. He is also Chairman of *ArtsWok Collaborative*, a non-profit organisation, which seeks to connect communities by harnessing the power of the arts to create dialogue, invite social participation and build bridges across difference.

**Kate Hood (Australia)**  
**Board Member, Arts Access Victoria; Artistic Director, Raspberry Ripple;**  
**Actor, Writer, Advocate**

Kate Hood has had a full career as an able-bodied actor, writer and director, which lasted for over 20 years. She has performed in classics and musicals, working for major theatres (Melbourne Theatre Company, State Theatre Company Adelaide, Hit Productions) and commercial production companies (Gordon Frost, Everyday Productions). Some of her credits include “Pygmalion”, “BigRiver”, “Buddy” and “Hotel Sorrento”. Her film and television credits include “Prisoner”, “Dancing in the Dust”, “The Flood” and “Blue Heelers” and she has worked as the main promotional voice-over artist for the ABC. She has directed for Melbourne Fringe, the Brisbane Festival, Opera Plus and Jane O’Toole Productions.

As a wheelchair user, Kate reinvented herself as a disabled actor, has worked extensively as a voiceover artist, working commercially and winning awards for her audio book narrations for Bolinda Publications. She now writes and performs her own work, which includes monologue, short story and spoken word. Some examples are “Queen Esme of Collingwood”, “Growl, Motor Neurone” and “The Girl with the Blue Hair”. In 2016, Kate formed the production company Raspberry Ripple Productions, and plans to collaborate with disabled and non-disabled performers to create work which dissolves the divide between the mainstream and disability arts sectors. She collaborates with others as director, mentor and dramaturge (Quippings, Theatre on Wheels) and has become a strong advocate for actors with a disability, sitting on the board of Arts Access Victoria and Actors Equity’s Diversity Committee as Deputy Chair.

**Kris Yoshie (Japan)**  
**Director, Slow Label**

Born in Tokyo in 1977. From the age of seven, Kurisu began taking classes in creative dance. As a high school student, she was inspired by Lillehammer Winter Olympics Opening Ceremony and decided to enter the Tokyo Zokei University of art and design. From 2006 to 2007 she studied at the Domus Academy in Italy and received a Master’s Degree in Business Design. In 2010, Kurisu was diagnosed with malignant fibrous histiocytoma and due to this ailment completely lost lower limb function in her right leg.

In 2011, she established and served as a director of *Slow Label*, an enterprise to create products through collaborative work between people with disabilities and artists from Japan and abroad. Since then, she has worked consistently through programmes such as establishing the Yokohama Paratriennale 014 and programmes that bring together people

with disabilities, artists and people from the general public with the goal of building social platforms that help people live creative lives regardless of whether they are disabled or not. Kurisu is the winner of the “Contribution to the Arts and Culture Award” of the 65<sup>th</sup> Yokohama Culture Awards and the “Face of Tokyo” award of the Time-out Tokyo LOVE TOKYO AWARDS 2016.

### **Pete Sparkes (UK)**

#### **Artistic Director, Drake Music Scotland**

Pete has been the Artistic Director of Drake Music Scotland since December 2009. He joined the team at Drake Music Scotland as a freelance associate musician in 2005, leading projects in Glasgow, Edinburgh and Stirling. In 2007 he was appointed as Education & Training Officer and spent a busy few years training teachers and musicians to use music technology in a variety of different settings. He is completely convinced that making music is fun, good for us in many ways, and we should be doing more of it – all of us! He was Education Officer of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra from 2002-2005. As a freelance project leader he has led creative projects with many different participant groups for various organisations including: Drake Music Scotland, Scottish Book Trust, Scottish Chamber Orchestra, BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, Artlink Central, and Jessie’s Fund.

### **Yoshihiro Kaiya (Japan)**

#### **President, Japan Barrier-Free Association**

Yoshihiro Kaiya is not only the president of the Japan Barrier-free Association, he also works to promote disabled musicians through concerts across Japan. When not involved in his concert planning, he uses his experience as a disabled student in America to build bridges internationally and promote acceptance and integration of persons with disabilities within Japan. The first is a music contest for people with disabilities called Gold Concert. Of over 100 contestants, 10 musicians with disabilities are selected every year to compete for the grand prize at the Tokyo International Forum – Japan’s biggest concert hall. The participating musicians have varying disabilities and not only come from across Japan, but other countries as well. This year will be the 13th time holding the contest.

The other is a music festival called GC Grand Festival and it features the performances of many famous artists. The organisers contract a majority of the work to persons with disabilities so that those attending can see them taking part in the production of the festival. The organisers also prepare a large number of seats for people in wheelchairs and arrange everything in such a way that it creates a shared space in a natural way. The next festival will be planned to happen next April in Roppongi.

**DAY 1 – INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**  
Begonia Ballroom, Sands Expo & Convention Centre

0800 hrs	Registration @ Begonia Ballroom	
0900 hrs	Arrival of GOH & commencement of event	
0910 hrs	Welcome address by Guest of Honour	
0925 hrs	Opening remarks by Dr. Indrajit Banerjee, Director, Knowledge Societies Division, UNESCO	
0940 hrs	Keynote Speech #1 – Theme: Arts and Disability Leadership By Ms Kate Hood (Australia, Artistic Director, Raspberry Ripple)	
1030 hrs	Morning Tea Break	
1130 hrs	Keynote Speech #2 – Theme: Innovations on Arts and Disability Practices By Ms Kris Yoshie (Japan, Director, Slow Label)	
1215 hrs	Panel Discussion – Advancing Inclusion in the Arts	
	Moderator: Kenneth Kwok (Assistant Chief Executive, National Arts Council, Singapore) Panellists: 1. Dr Justin Lee (Research Fellow, Institute of Policy Studies, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore, Singapore) 2. Dr Azariah Tan (Musician, Singapore) 3. Ms Kate Hood (Australia) 4. Mr Pete Sparkes (Artistic Director, Drake Music Scotland, United Kingdom) 5. Ms Kris Yoshie (Japan)	
1315 hrs	Lunch	
	Breakout Session @ Begonia Ballroom	Breakout Session @ Angsana Ballroom
1415 hrs	Session #1 – “Dance” (75 mins) <i>Presenter: Ms Sokny Onn &amp; Mr Buntheng, Epic Arts (Cambodia)</i>	Session #2 – “Music” (75 mins) <i>Presenter: Mr Pete Sparkes, Drake Music Scotland (UK)</i>
1530 hrs	Session #3 – “Theatre” (75 mins) <i>Presenter: Mr Alirio Zavarce, No Strings Attached (Australia)</i>	Session #4 - Panel Discussion on SPED Sector (75 mins) <i>Presenter: featuring 4 speakers (Singapore)</i>
1645 hrs	Afternoon Tea Break	
1730 hrs	Performance	
1740 hrs	Wrap-up @ Main Hall (summary of main conference and breakout session action points)	
1750 hrs	End Of Event	

## DAY 2 – LEARNING JOURNEY

### Enabling Village

	<b>WORKSHOP A</b> <b>MR PETE SPARKES</b> <b>(UK)</b> capacity: 30 pax Seminar Room 1	<b>WORKSHOP B</b> <b>EPIC ARTS</b> <b>(Cambodia)</b> capacity: 30 pax Seminar Room 2	<b>WORKSHOP C</b> <b>NO STRINGS ATTACHED</b> <b>(Australia)</b> capacity: 30 pax Classroom 1 & 2	<b>LECTURE</b> Auditorium		
0800 hrs – 0930 hrs	Shuttle Service from Bus Station outside Redhill MRT Station					
0830 hrs	Registration @ Auditorium					
0930 hrs – 1030 hrs	Workshop Part 1 (60 mins)	Workshop Part 1 (60 mins)	Workshop Part 1 (60 mins)	0915 hrs – 0930 hrs	Welcome Speech by Ms Ku Geok Boon, Chief Executive Officer of SG Enable	
				0930 hrs – 1000 hrs	Breakfast	Guided tour
				1000 hrs – 1030 hrs	Guided tour	Breakfast
1030 hrs – 1100 hrs	Tea Break			1030 hrs - 1110 hrs	Speaker #1 – Mr Adrian Anantawan (Canada)	
1100 hrs – 1230 hrs	Workshop Part 2 (90 mins)	Workshop Part 2 (90 mins)	Workshop Part 2 (90 mins)	1110 hrs - 1150 hrs -	Speaker #2 – Mr Yoshihiro Kaiya (Japan)	
				1150 hrs - 1230 hrs	Speaker #3 - Ms Kate Hood (Australia)	
1230 hrs – 1300 hrs	Guided Tour			1230 hrs - 1300 hrs	Live Q&A	

Note: Information is accurate at time of print and may be subjected to changes.