

TICKETED PROGRAMMES**11 and 12**

Peter Brook/Theatre des Bouffes du Nord (France)

Directed by Peter Brook, this new play, which comes to Singapore as part of an international tour, explores an extraordinary conflict in West Africa under French occupation. It shows how a dispute over whether a certain prayer should be recited 11 or 12 times leads inexorably to hatred and massacres. The question of violence and true place of tolerance make this epic story more than ever relevant today.

11 and 12 is based on Brook's play *Tierno Bokar* which was adapted by Marie-Hélène Estienne and critically acclaimed during its run in Warwick (UK) in 2005 where it was performed in French. This new production will be performed in English by an international cast.

Date: 26 - 28 May

Venue: Drama Centre Theatre

Time: 8pm

Ticket Prices: \$70, \$60, \$40, \$30

Academy of St. Martin In The Fields & Joshua Bell (UK)

The Academy is one of the world's leading chamber orchestras famed for its superlative performances without a conductor and impeccable musicianship. Perhaps it is fitting that they should make exception for Grammy Award-winning violinist cum conductor Joshua Bell. Not only has Bell performed with all major orchestras and conductors, he has also been soloist on soundtracks for Oscar winning films, and recorded with artists such as Josh Groban, Sting, Pamela Frank and Steven Isserlis. His immense prowess on the violin and amply varied collaborations, coupled with his restless curiosity and multi-faceted musical interests have earned Bell the rare title of 'classical music superstar.'

Get ready for a gripping performance at the Esplanade as Bell – who wields the precious Gibson ex-Huberman Stradivarius of 1713 – and the celebrated musicians of the Academy forge a unique artistic relationship that will enthrall, delight and surprise you.

There will be two separate programmes:

12 June

Beethoven Coriolan Overture, Op 62 (8')

Mendelssohn Violin Concerto in E minor, Op 64 (26')

Beethoven Symphony No 7 in A, Op 92 (36')

13 June

Beethoven Violin Concerto in D, Op 61 (42')

Beethoven Symphony No 4 in B flat, Op 60 (34')

Date: 12 & 13 Jun

Venue: Esplanade Concert Hall

Time: 7.30pm

Ticket Prices: \$150, \$120, \$80, \$50, \$20

Acoustic Evening

Nitin Sawhney (UK)

Nitin Sawhney makes his festival debut with a delectable *Acoustic Evening* programme which will present him and an exciting line-up of international musicians, unplugged.

A world-class producer, songwriter, DJ, multi-instrumentalist, orchestral composer, flamenco guitarist and classical/jazz pianist and cultural pioneer, Sawhney's music has graced the diverse realms of music, film, videogames, dance, and theatre. The multi-talented Sawhney has received no less than 17 major national awards and has collaborated with a multitude of artists over the years, including Sting, Natacha Atlas, Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan, Jeff Beck and Julian Lloyd Webber. His appointment as a judge for the prestigious BAFTA, BIFA and The Ivor Novello Awards pays testament to his firm standing as one of the leading figures in music, theatre and film.

In addition to his eight critically acclaimed studio albums (including the latest *London Undersound* – featuring Paul McCartney, Anoushka Shankar, Natty, Imogen Heap amongst many others), his recent work include orchestral scores for Mira Nair's *The Namesake* as well as the hit Playstation 3 game *Heavenly Sword*.

"It would be easier to jot down what this man can't do than what he can."

- *The Guardian, London*

Date: 28 May

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: Esplanade Concert Hall

Ticket Prices: \$80, \$60, \$45, \$35, \$20

Atsuhiko Ito featuring Zai Kuning & Analog Girl

A meeting of musical minds with a stunning visual twist, this gig features Japanese contemporary artist Atsuhiko Ito, sound artist Zai Kuning and laptop rock pioneer Analog Girl in an intense, electrifying conversation.

The stars of this unusual club gig manipulate musicality and digital technology to achieve a hypnotic soundscape and visual canvas, and look set to push the boundary of live performance to whole new level. This performance forefronts the performers' mastery of new technologies that is increasingly prevalent and ubiquitous among the urban generation.

Atsuhiko Ito first embarked on a career as a visual artist in the late 1980s, before developing sound performances in art exhibitions. His music device, the OPTRON, is an original invention made from fluorescent tubes. Over the years, Ito has continued to refine this instrument and to approach sound and music from a contemporary art-based perspective.

Zai Kuning has always remained a free-spirited and unpredictable maverick in the arts scene. Dancer, sculptor, painter, musician, film-maker, photographer, performance artist, theatre director... none of these terms can aptly describe Zai. The past six years, Zai has been exploring sound and music for theatre and film through acoustic and electronic sound. His musical forms are split into two extreme forms. Acoustically, it is heavily based on Malay traditional music and rituals; electronically his sounds are heavily influenced by punk, chaos and deconstruction.

The Analog Girl is Singapore-based electro-rock chanteuse, and was named by TIME magazine as one of 5 Music Acts To Watch in 2008. In this show, she performs a dance of light and sound, art and pop. With the use of intriguing machines like the Tenori-On and Percussa Audio Cubes,

come see her orchestrate electronic music with an organic sensibility as she uses tangible objects and touchscreen facilities to perform and manipulate sound.

Date: 5 June

Time: 10.30pm

Venue: supperclub

Ticket Prices: \$25 (includes 2 drinks)

For 18 years and above only. Club rules apply.

Cargo Kuala Lumpur – Singapore

By Karrenbauer / Kaegi (Rimini Protokoll)

Produced by Hebbel am Ufer / Berlin

Get a new perspective on life and Singapore by getting into the minds and vehicles of truck drivers! Cargo Kuala Lumpur - Singapore takes a converted frigo truck and uses it to transport audiences instead of cargo through the 'unseen arteries of economic life' – back streets, truck parking areas, warehouses etc. – as the real life truck driver gives a commentary on his life. The concept is to show the audience the places where truck drivers spend their lives, to show who they are and how they live their lives. Accompanied by prepared sounds and music, this experience takes the audience on a journey of discovery deep within themselves.

Date: 14 May – 12 Jun (except Sun)

Time: 6.30pm (No late admission allowed. Patrons to arrive by 6.00pm)

Venue: Site-specific (Pick-up point TBC)

Ticket Prices: \$36

The Carnival Of The Animals And Peter & The Wolf

Kamchàtka Theatre Company and Singapore Festival Orchestra (Spain/Singapore)

This double bill concert will entertain kids, teens and entire families with a smorgasbord of classical music, theatrical animation and acts of skill and strength. Featuring the combined talents of acclaimed Kamchàtka Theatre Company and the Singapore Festival Orchestra (SFO), *The Carnival of the Animals and Peter & the Wolf* will enthrall families with a delightful evening of wholesome entertainment.

The Esplanade Concert Hall will be magically transformed into the wild! Accompanying the Kamchàtka Theatre Company's marvelous mix of juggling and acrobatics will be the SFO's rendition of Camille Saint-Saens's renowned musical suite, *The Carnival of the Animals*. Led by Director Adrian Schvarzstein, the Kamchàtka Theatre Company is a young multi-disciplinary collective from Spain whose work has been acclaimed at numerous festivals.

The SFO continues to provide live music accompaniment to the animated film version of Sergei Prokofiev's *Peter & the Wolf*, directed by Suzie Templeton and produced by Breakthru Films, which won an Oscar in 2008 for the category of Best Short Film (Animated).

Delightful from start to finish, *The Carnival of the Animals and Peter & the Wolf* will entertain children and adults alike with its universal themes of innocence, courage and humour. This concert is conducted by Virginia Martinez and directed by Adrian Schvarzstein.

Date: 21 & 22 May

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: Esplanade Concert Hall

Ticket Prices: \$80, \$60, \$45, \$35, \$20

COOL

Beijing Paper Tiger Theater Studio (China)

The culture of brutality (kùxíng) and the culture of being cool (kù) are the themes in *COOL* – a performance piece that includes installations, body work and strong visual elements. The original idea for this performance came from memories of violent experiences during their childhoods. Created by the Beijing Paper Tiger Theater Studio, named after Mao Zedong's famous statement regarding foreign nations. "All the reputedly powerful reactionaries are merely paper tigers!" Of course, this group turns traditional thinking on its head as it writes press releases about their performance during a New Year party that never was. Now that's really cool.

Date: 12 & 13 June

Time: 8pm

Venue: Esplanade Theatre Studio

Ticket Prices: \$36

Cantonese Opera Showcase From Nanning

Nanning Cantonese Opera Troupe (China)

Making its debut in Singapore will be the Nanning Cantonese Opera Troupe 南宁粤剧团 (NCOT) from Guanxi in China. The 50-member Troupe will treat opera fans to a showcase of traditional Cantonese opera not performed in Singapore in recent decades. A reputable opera troupe in China, NCOT has won several national, regional and municipal awards for its performances, and accolades from the audience. Its award-winning works include *Emperor Qianlong Nominates a Scholar*, *Mid-Autumn Festival*, *Zijin Hammer*, *Kaitai New Voice* and *The Governor Hosts a Party*. The Troupe has continued its winning streak with recent original titles such as *A Lucky Hit* (2007) and *Mulian Saves His Mother* (2009).

The Troupe's lead actress, Liang Sumei (梁素梅), had won the Plum Blossom Award in the 19th Chinese Drama Award for her role in *Zijin Hammer*. Apart from Huang Juncheng (黄俊成) who is the lead actor, the Troupe has over the years also groomed an experienced team of top-notch script writers, composers, directors, musicians and performers. The performance of the NCOT, which will present a different show every night, is not to be missed.

Date: 6 – 13 June 2010

Venue: Kreta Ayer People's Theatre

Time: 7.30pm

Ticket Prices: \$50, \$40, \$30, \$20, \$15

Sale of tickets commences at Kreta Ayer People's Theatre Box Office from 29 May 2010 daily from 12pm – 8pm.

Tel: 6222 3972

dance/film

Various artists

An exciting line-up of short films showcasing the art of dance through the medium of film and video. Catch outstanding examples of dance on screen that will stretch your imagination and further your understanding of how to perceive dance in film as an art form.

Experience dance presented through the visual medium of film in the dance/film programme which consists of 5 screenings, 2 commissioned films, 2 Masterclasses and a Forum. Dance films as an art form finds its balance between the film and performing arts world. It embraces the visual

language of film that dramatizes scenes through seamless editing, and is heightened by the fluidity of dance movements choreographed to create drama, tension and space. Stretch your imagination with some of the most exciting names in the arts including Lee Yanor, Shelly Love, Alex Reuben, Richard James Allen, filmmakers from Hong Kong as well as Victric Thng and Sherman Ong.

Date: 5 & 6 Jun

Time: TBC

Venue: The Cathay, Hall 5

Ticket Prices: \$10

Emily of Emerald Hill

Margaret Chan (Singapore)

Emily of Emerald Hill is a one-woman play about a Singaporean matriarch spanning the decades from the 1930's to the 1960's. The script written by Stella Kon, won the First Prize in the National Playwriting Competition organized by the Ministry of Culture, 1982. *Emily* is a hallmark play in charting the development of Singaporean identity. It opens a window into the lives of the Straits-born Chinese community caught between the opposing pulls of traditional Chinese values and new ideas from the West.

The play has resonated with audiences on both sides of the Causeway since its premiere in 1984. Margaret Chan first performed *Emily* at the Singapore Drama Festival in 1985 and made Singapore theatre history when she took the production, directed by Max Le Blond to the Commonwealth Arts Festival and Edinburgh Festival Fringe in 1986. Twenty-five years later, Margaret will reprise this iconic role in a farewell tribute to the Old Vic. The Victoria Theatre, the grand dame of Singapore theatre, closes for renovations after Margaret's *Emily*. The 2010 production will be a fitting tribute to the vigour of Singapore theatre.

The 2010 production is helmed by producer-director Jeremiah Choy in creative consultation with Margaret Chan who serves as co-director. This production sets the personal drama of a Peranakan matriarch against the dusk of a once glorious empire and the dawn of an emerging nation. Theatre multi-media designer-director, Casey Lim will, through visuals and sounds, infuse the production with the context of those times. Against the backdrop of history, the story of one woman plays out on the larger Singapore stage, and the character takes on an epic dimension, telling us of the pathos of change. At the end of the play, time has moved on. Emily is old, but not bowed as she relinquishes the living of life to another generation.

Presently, *Emily* is a Ministry of Education approved literature text for secondary schools.

Date: 11 & 12 Jun

Time: 8pm

Venue: Victoria Theatre

Ticket Prices: \$50, \$40, \$30, \$20

Eonnagata

Sylvie Guillem/ Robert Lepage/ Russell Maliphant (France/Canada/UK)

Conceived and performed by the combined talents of internationally acclaimed dancer Sylvie Guillem, theatrical wizard Robert Lepage and award-winning choreographer Russell Maliphant, *Eonnagata* is a unique collaboration that unites three renowned artists on a shared path to dance theatre excellence.

Eonnagata is set during the time of King Louis XV and tells the story of the flamboyant Chevalier d'Éon, Charles de Beaumont – diplomat, writer, swordsman and perhaps the first spy to use transvestitism in the furtherance of his/her duties.

Drawing parallels to the ancient Kabuki technique of Onnagata – in which male actors portray female roles in an extremely stylised fashion – *Eonnagata* delves into the complex world of androgyny through a unique hybrid of dance, theatre and sword dancing. Lepage's touching portrayal of d'Éon, coupled with Maliphant and Guillem's endearing performance, create an intriguing mix of dance and theatre that's pure genius.

Rounding off this amazing creative collaboration are late legendary fashion designer Alexander McQueen and lighting pioneer Michael Hulls, whose extraordinary techniques add an amazing dimension to the performance.

Date: 4 & 5 Jun

Time: 8pm

Venue: Esplanade Theatre

Ticket Prices: \$120, \$100, \$70, \$40, \$20

Football! Football!

Concept and directed by Haris Pašović. Choreographed by Koen Augustijnen. Co-produced by Singapore Arts Festival, East West Theatre Company, Napoli Teatro Festival Italia and Les Ballets C de la B.

There is a ball. There is a green pitch, or a part of the street, or a beach, or a park. There are the running legs. Fierce minds. Fast-beating hearts. Dreams. Memories. Histories. Fights. Celebrations. There are the disappointments. Failures. Tears. Anger. Cursing. There are the loyalties. Friendships. There are the betrayals. Sorrow. There is forgiveness and there is re-union. Our football, our lives.

The show explores through dance, theatre, video, music and technology the art of football, the Beautiful Game. The strict rules meet chaos; geometry meets the wildly free movements in this simple game. What many humans describe as divine is - at the same time - the most accessible practice in the world.

An international cast (Italy, Singapore, Bosnia) and Singaporean creative team make a high-pitched artistic team of this vigorous, profound and entertaining production. A surprise guest on stage makes it even more exciting.

Date: 20 & 21 May

Time: 8pm

Venue: Victoria Theatre

Ticket Prices: \$50, \$40, \$30, \$20

Gatz

Elevator Repair Service (USA)

Unlike traditional adaptations of *The Great Gatsby*, F. Scott Fitzgerald's classic novel, *Gatz* is a verbatim reading of the entire book – word-for-word. A theatrical tour de force, *Gatz* is a 6-hour long performance with a cast of 13 set in a crummy office. The story begins when an employee, Nick (Scott Shepherd) starts reading the book aloud at work... and can't stop. Soon, his colleagues arrive and begin acting out Fitzgerald's written descriptions with a bewildering chain of visual puns, occasionally interjecting dialogue straight from the novel.

Over the course of the show, the cast is gradually pulled into Fitzgerald's world, transforming into the familiar but colourful characters in his classic. Shepherd's amazing feat of narrating helms the 6-hour long show, tracing the novel's progression until the final half-hour when he gracefully narrates the remaining 15 odd pages of the book entirely from memory – without any reading!

By creating its own dramatic universe through the use of verbatim narration, *Gatz* draws the audience into a frame of mind that savours every word and phrase of the classic novel with lyrical pleasure. Through experimental theatre, Elevator Repair Service has given a familiar story a whole new dimension – balancing the novel's heavy themes of obsession, lust and tragedy with satire, comedy and joie de vivre.

The entire duration of the performance is 7 hours and 40 minutes, and includes a dinner break and two intermissions.

Date: 21 – 23 May
Time: 2pm
Venue: Esplanade Theatre Studio
Ticket Prices: \$45

heroïne

Arco Renz | Kobalt Works

If the artist is like a researcher or a scientist, then the young German choreographer Arco Renz would most certainly be an anthropologist. A graduate from Anne Teresa de Keersmaekers' dance school PARTS, Arco Renz has also assisted the American director Robert Wilson on several of his projects and performed in several of his productions. He has often visited the Asian continent to learn about the principles of traditional dance. Examining the emotional potential of abstraction, his shows are a perfect interaction between movement, light, video and music.

Designed for Taiwanese dancer Su Wen-Chi, *heroïne* is a solo that captures, in a highly sensual way, perception and appearance, immobility and movement. A splendid but anonymous body, faceless, even when her features slowly begin to light up in the shadows.

We follow an unreal woman in time and space: the aesthetic universe of a virtual heroine faced with the secular simplicity of physical meditation.

Date: 5 – 6 June
Time: 8pm
Venue: Drama Centre Theatre
Ticket Prices: \$50, \$40, \$30, \$20

Tim Crouch (UK)

"...if only the plays were taught like this in schools, nobody would ever say Shakespeare was boring." – *The Guardian, UK.*

Ever since Tim Crouch, internationally awarded playwright, performer and storyteller extraordinaire, decided to retell Shakespeare's plays through the eyes of minor yet highly opinionated characters, he has enraptured audiences of children as well as adults.

I, Peaseblossom

"There's a lion that isn't a lion. A wall that talks and the moon comes down with a dog and everybody's killing themselves but there's no blood, and I'm in a play, but I don't know the words. I'M NAKED AND I DON'T KNOW THE WORDS!!"

I, Peaseblossom is the story of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* as re-lived through the fevered nightmares of Shakespeare's most neglected fairy. Uttering only one word in the whole of Shakespeare's celebrated play, Peaseblossom is able to see much of what goes on without having to be physically present, thanks to his magical abilities. Through the innocence of Peaseblossom, the young audience is invited to share his discoveries about the complicated affairs and trials of grown-ups, and in the process understand more about the story of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Best for 6-year-olds and above.

Date: 25 – 27 May
Time: 10am and 2pm
Venue: NAFA Studio Theatre
Ticket Prices: \$25

I, Malvolio

"Look at you. Sitting there with your bellies full of pop and pickled herring. Laughing at me. Go on. Laugh at the funny man. Laugh. Make the funny man cry."

I, Malvolio is the story of *Twelfth Night* told through the eyes of Shakespeare's most pent-up steward. Replete with yellow stockings, it is a charged, hilarious and often unsettling rant from a man who was "notoriously wronged". A story of lost dignity, prudery, practical jokes and bullying, Malvolio draws his audience into the madness of Shakespeare's play and makes it his own. Best for 12-year-olds and above.

Date: 25 – 29 May
Time: 8pm with a 3pm show on 29 May
Venue: NAFA Studio Theatre
Ticket Prices: \$25

Lady Macbeth

Theatre Moollee (Korea)

Lady Macbeth is a thorough rewriting of Shakespeare's tragedy, *Macbeth*, as seen through the eyes of Korean playwright and director Tae-sook Han. Han's adaptation of *Macbeth* won the plaudits of the critics for successfully fusing the western perspectives in Shakespeare's *Macbeth* with traditional shamanistic views, which are present even today in modern Korea.

By combining movement, text, object manipulation and live Korean percussion music, Han creatively re-imagines the torment of a woman who has driven her husband to murder. Han's *Lady Macbeth* is a powerful piece of theatre that injects distinctly Korean stylistics without discounting the essence of Shakespeare's play, which is the tragic manifestation of corruption in Man.

Experience this powerful performance up close and personal, as audiences are seated onstage at the Esplanade Theatre – a first in the history of the arts centre. Founded in 1997 by Han, Theatre Moollee is a leading experimental theatre company dedicated to exploring the boundary between universal truth and Korean ethics.

Date: 29 & 30 May
Time: 8pm
Venue: Esplanade Theatre
Ticket Prices: \$50, \$36
Contains mature themes.

Maybe Forever

Meg Stuart/Philipp Gehmacher (Belgium/Germany)

Vampires struggle with eternity and loneliness. Human beings struggle with each other and with the fact that things are not forever. Everyone struggles with something in the end, and fortunately there are songs that make us feel better about it all.

Maybe Forever is the collaborative piece in which choreographers Meg Stuart and Philipp Gehmacher let their artistic worlds bleed into one another. The songs of the Brussels-based singer-songwriter Niko Hafkenscheid, who joins them on stage, invites them to waltz to lullabies and into promised lands. But under the velvet surface of a sweet melancholy simmer the unexpressed and the embryonic.

In a set by Janina Audick, reminiscent of concert halls, cinematic theaters, and even crematoria, Stuart and Gehmacher look like tiny figurines in a play that wavers between dreams and wishes, mourning and meeting. The album of *Maybe Forever* flips through relational snapshots, expressive moods and declarations that speak of the impermanence of life. How do we let the lifespan of things extend beyond their predicted deadlines?

Date: 11 & 12 Jun

Time: 8pm

Venue: Drama Centre Theatre

Ticket Prices: \$50, \$40, \$30, \$20

Nijinsky Siam

Pichet Klunchun Dance Company (Thailand)

Vaslav Nijinsky (1890-1953), the dance maverick of the legendary Ballet Russes, who performed *Danse Siamoise* in the Paris Opera. Exactly 100 years later, celebrated Thai dancer Pichet Klunchun will incarnate the same production by reconstructing poses and movements from archival photographs of Nijinsky, and reprising the 1900 sound recording of the first Thai classical company which toured Europe and deeply impressed many artists.

Pichet brings Nijinsky back to life on stage by means of paintings, photographs and traditional huge puppets called 'nang yai'. A sensitive dance dialogue unfolds between both artists, one dead and the other alive. Between shadow and light, sound and silence, and the magical gap between East and West, life is re-imagined and its vitality celebrated.

Date: 26 & 27 May

Time: 8pm

Venue: Victoria Theatre

Ticket Prices: \$50, \$40, \$30, \$20

O Sounds

T.H.E Dance Company

Choreographed and directed by Kuik Swee Boon

A new interpretation of *Old Sounds 2008*, T.H.E. Dance Company's first full-length work commissioned by National Heritage Board, *O Sounds* is a seamless union of multimedia and modern dance, drawing fresh inspiration from things of old.

An eclectic amalgamation of city sounds, local dialects, folk-songs, chants, rundown buildings and modern dance, *O Sounds* interprets the loss of traditions and the impact of never-ending environmental changes through multimedia magic, integrating videography with live, fluid dance.

With music by Darren Ng, choreographer Kuik Swee Boon seamlessly fuses two distinct art forms elegantly, meshing movement with multimedia.

Set against a soundscape that features vernacular speech and folk songs, *O Sounds* will offer fresh new developments as well as a makeover of the multimedia and dance of the original.

Date: 29 May
Venue: Victoria Theatre
Time: 3pm (Open Rehearsal) & 8pm
Ticket Prices: \$12 (for 3pm Open Rehearsal),
\$50, \$40, \$30, \$20 (for 8pm show)

On the String

Joyce Beetuan Koh (Singapore)

On The String, a performance about the String Theory, a speculative theory of space, matter, energy and time, will fascinate music lovers in this intriguing production which seeks to explore metaphorically the musical, visual and theatrical side of the theory.

This multi-disciplinary project presented by the acclaimed local composer Joyce Beetuan Koh, the composer-in-residence at École Nationale de Musique, Montbéliard, France (2006), Herrenhaus Edenkoben in Germany (2004) and TheatreWorks, Singapore (2001), will provoke questions inspired by the study of these tiny one-dimensional vibrating entities.

What if we could hear sounds of elementary particles? Or the sonic texture created by various vibration patterns of a string curving space? Or the harmonic colour sparked by string interaction? Is it possible to translate an abstract scientific theory into art? Exploring metaphorically the musical, visual and theatrical side of the theory, this fascinating composition of music and choreographed movements will provoke deep thinking and instill a deeper appreciation of the miracle of sound and music.

Date: 4 & 5 Jun
Venue: Esplanade Theatre Studio
Time: 3pm (for 5 Jun only), 8pm
Ticket Prices: \$28 (for 3pm show), \$36 (for 8pm shows)

OPEN-STUDIO - 共作室

"OPEN-STUDIO invites you, the audience, to come in and join the artist in creating new work"

The Singapore Arts Festival presents an exciting new platform that focus on individual artists and process work. In every edition of OPEN-STUDIO, artists from Singapore and the region ranging from directors, writers, choreographers and musicians will be invited to participate in a year-long process: to embark on a creative journey without the pressure of presenting a finished work. This journey will see the artists presenting workshops & showings and to the public: laying bare the creative process as it happens. The audience will be invited to dialogue with the artists and provide feedback and thoughts on the process. The process ends with a final showing at the Festival's main programme itself.

OPEN-STUDIO will be curated by Robin Loon, Kok Heng Leun and Tang Fu Kuen.

OPEN-STUDIO 2010 will feature the creative process of a director and writer pairing.

Be part of the creative process - come into the OPEN-STUDIO

Date: 10 & 11 June
Venue: NAFA Studio Theatre
Time: 8pm
Ticket Prices: \$10

Platform Campus

A new Singapore Arts Festival initiative, Platform Campus seeks to showcase the best of campus talents in the local educational institutions. Platform Campus will provide festival audience a peek into what's brewing in the backyard of these institutions, thereby also allowing practitioners to spot potential bright sparks in the Singapore performing arts scene.

In line with the festival's *Between You and Me* thematic thread, Platform Campus 2010 will feature student dancers from NUS Dance Ensemble (a member of NUS Centre For the Arts), SMU, Republic Polytechnic Tarian and Fresh Elements, ITE College East Street Jazz Club performing new works from their respective resident choreographers. Selected dancers from these institutions will also perform a piece choreographed by T.H.E Dance Company's Lee Mun Wai, himself an emerging choreographer mentored by T.H.E's artistic director, Kuik Swee Boon.

Platform Campus 2010 also seeks to lay the foundation for more conversations to take place across institutions as the festival plays the role of a facilitator, bringing student arts enthusiasts and practitioners together to converse, exchange and create.

Date: 3 & 4 June
Venue: Victoria Theatre
Time: 8pm
Fee: \$12 & \$8

Red Demon

Makhampom Theatre Group (Thailand)

Red Demon is a modern Thai folk dance-drama directed by award-winning performing arts practitioner Pradit Prasarthong. Adapted from Japanese playwright Hideki Noda's script *Akaoni*, *Red Demon* is a contemporary Likay interpretation of Hideki's original writing. In Prasarthong's rendition, the rhythm and language tone have been modified to accommodate the comedic style of Likay, a traditional Thai dance drama performed at village festivals.

Set on an island in southern Thailand, the play tells the story of a village where three good friends, Kmuki, Kini and Puglann befriend the Red Demon, a strange-looking vagrant ostracised by the villagers. Their unique friendship eventually incurs the village's hostility, and the four friends depart by boat for an intriguing journey that results in the disappearance of the Red Demon.

Through rich symbolism, wonderful songs and playful humour, *Red Demon* explores themes of exploitation, xenophobia and humanity as it hurtles towards an explosive ending. A collaborative effort between Makhampom Foundation, Bangkok Theatre Network and Tokyo Metropolitan Art Space, *Red Demon* is the first performance reworked and presented entirely through Likay.

Date: 8 & 9 Jun
Time: 8pm
Venue: Esplanade Theatre Studio
Ticket Prices: \$36

Sound System

Nitin Sawhney (UK)

Nitin will be performing an exclusive set featuring blistering sounds from cutting edge Asian Breakbeat and drum 'n' bass to dubstep, soundscapes and ambiences infused with his unique feel. Accompanied by the astounding talents of regular band members, Ashwin Srinavasin on flute/vox, Aref Durvesh on tabla/dholak and Tina Grace on vox, Nitin creates a unique blend drawn from flamenco, Indian classical music, Brazilian Samba and Hip Hop to complete the mix.

Having DJ'ed at clubs all around the world from America and India, Nitin offers a huge contradiction to his chillout albums with an infectious and hardcore energy too powerful to ignore.

As a top composer for film, dance and theatre, Nitin works with some of the world's leading orchestras and has won countless awards for his eight albums but abandons all this tonight to generate a direct, raw sound guaranteed to bring an astonished smile to the lips of even the most hardened clubbers.

Armed with his guitars, keyboards, decks and virtuoso band members, Nitin keeps the floor moving whatever the vibe.

Date: 29 May

Time: 1030pm

Venue: supperclub

Ticket Prices: \$35 (includes 2 drinks)

For 18 years and above only. Club rules apply.

The Manganiyar Seduction

Directed by Roysten Abel (India)

The Manganiyar Seduction is a compelling feast for eye, ear and the spirit. In this colourful, uplifting and sensory show, acclaimed Indian Theatre director Roysten Abel brings together the Manganiyar musicians from the deserts of Rajasthan and frames their music theatrically in a truly magical setting. The intellect is put to rest for more than hour, thereby allowing the soul a total experience of intoxication with 40 musicians who are revealed one by one from the 36 red-curtained cubicles arranged in four horizontal rows one on top of the other. Be seduced as they weave together their deeply rooted and complex history in a rousing array of choreography, song and rhythm, building to a breathtaking and memorable climax.

The Manganiyar Seduction was first created for the Osian Film festival in 2006 at New Delhi and has since had success full tours in Europe and Australia. This is the Group's first showing in Asia outside India.

Date: 19 – 21 May

Time: 8pm

Venue: Esplanade Theatre

Ticket Prices: \$80, \$60, \$45, \$35, \$20

Those Who Can't, Teach

The Necessary Stage (Singapore)

Those Who Can't, Teach is a classic of The Necessary Stage, first staged in 1990 as part of the Opening of The Substation. 20 years later, the original creative team of director Alvin Tan and playwright Haresh Sharma, will revisit, revive and revamp the play into a contemporary classic.

Set in the backdrop of a secondary school, the play looks at the madcap lives of teachers and students, with often hilarious results. As the teachers struggle daily to 'nurture and groom', the students prefer to hang out and *chillax*. In the meantime, they all have to deal with the dreaded 'parents'.

With upskirting and facebooking, teaching and politicking, school has never been the same. Join the colourful cast of characters as they struggle to prove that Those Who CAN, Teach. Featuring an ensemble cast including Neo Swee Lin, Rodney Oliveiro, Siti Khalijah, Ian Tan and Najib Soiman. With original music by Philip Tan and set design by Vincent Lim.

Date: 19 – 21 May

Time: 3pm and 8pm

Venue: Drama Centre Theatre

Ticket Prices: \$30, \$15 (3pm shows, for school bookings only), \$50, \$40, \$30, \$20 (for 8pm shows)

Wind Shadow

Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan (Taiwan)

A stunning contemporary dance performance staged by one of Asia's top contemporary dance companies Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan, *Wind Shadow* is a groundbreaking collaboration between revered choreographer Lin Hwai-Min and internationally renowned Chinese visual artist Cai Guo-Qiang.

An experimental fusion of installation art and dance, *Wind Shadow* carries you to a world of changing shadows where dancers take turns playing humans as well as their shadows. *Wind Shadow* is meticulously conceived to replicate natural wind movements such as launching kites and fluttering angelic wings. Displaying total submission to the theme, performers dance with an ephemeral lightness, seemingly controlled by the wind and fluidly blending with the 'shadows.'

Cai's stunning gunpowder drawings and artworks of explosions are projected via video through fluttering flags, forming a contrasting backdrop for the dancers as they turn into wandering 'shadows.' Against a haunting soundtrack, the landscape changes abruptly into an apocalyptic showdown with sulphur-lit smoke, fire, black 'snowflakes' and even a black rainbow. In a scene evocative of a nuclear holocaust, a 'Black Hole' forms on stage, engulfing the dancers in a tunnel of darkness.

Date: 25 & 26 May

Time: 8pm

Venue: Esplanade Theatre

Ticket Prices: \$120, \$100, \$70, \$40, \$20

Y o'Clock

faifai (Japan)

Did you enjoy playacting with toy robots or dolls when you were young? *Y o'clock* explores the curious phenomenon of playacting and its direct relationship to the societal issues affecting modern families.

Presented by faifai, a sprightly 13-member contemporary theatre collective from Japan with a refreshing perspective on storytelling and theatre-making, *Y o'clock* is set in an after-school daycare center, and was widely acclaimed when it premiered in 2007. The performers comprise members from vastly different backgrounds – including cosplayers, designers, cooks and figure creators, who attempt to replicate the world seen through the eyes of children.

Sensitively crafted to address the rampant problems of alienation, estrangement and isolation in today's society, *Y o'clock* will reintroduce you to the world long forgotten by adults, but lovingly embraced by children every day. A world where the strong never preys on the weak; where children make up their own rules without the need to conform to adults' expectations.

Date: 19 & 20 May
Time: 8pm and a 3pm show on 20 May
Venue: Drama Centre Black Box
Ticket Prices: \$36

Street Revolution JAM!

Revolution begins due to popular demand. Street Revolution JAM! Come about with a BANG!

Showcasing all forms of the finest in urban street culture, the Street Revolution JAM encompasses the elite sporting talent with the best in new music, hottest dj's, breakdance battles, rap great masters, and all surrounded by cutting edge graffiti art straight from the streets.

Poetry lyrics are a window to Hip Hop world - a snapshot into a life of getting lifted and contemplating the great mysteries of life, but at the same time keeping it grounded enough to hold it down in the real world and provide for creative seed. This JAM's gonna sound DOPE!

DON'T MISS IT!

Date: 5 June
Time: 8pm
Venue: Victoria Theatre
Ticket Prices: \$12

NON-TICKETED PROGRAMMES

Festival Opening

INVITATION TO DREAM – A FIRE GARDEN INSTALLATION

Compagnie Carabosse (France)

The Singapore Arts Festival 2010 is all set to spark your imagination with an opening act that transforms the historic expanse of Esplanade Park and Empress Place Precinct into a glowing wonderland.

Combining street art with creative fire display, internationally renowned French fire alchemist, Compagnie Carabosse recreates the urban landscape of the historic district, embellishing it with towering sculptures of metal, clay pots, fire curtains, blazing garlands and intricate patterns of flame. For three nights, the fire installation will light up the historic expanse of Empress Place Precinct, Cavenagh Bridge and the Esplanade Park with an enchanting glow, carving out intimate spaces of warmth.

Accompanied by a haunting soundscape featuring a collaboration of Asian musicians Andrew Lum and New Asia, *Invitation to Dream* promises to immerse all visitors in a breathtaking, yet tranquil experience that's simply out of this world.

THE EMPRESS PLACE, TRANSFORMED

Within the familiar grounds of Singapore's heritage trail, two captivating 'Méli Mélo' – tall metal rings resembling ferris wheels carrying firepots – slowly spin within each other, casting a hypnotic effect on the eyes. Along the Cavenagh Bridge, over 300 firepots line the railings while majestic steel pipes spit balls of fire and bursts of flames to welcome visitors at selected spots.

A short walk away is another sensational sight: a 'forest' of glowing sleeveless vests seemingly suspended in mid-air, interspaced with flaming charcoal balls. At the 'atmospheric ground', one is surrounded by firepots and curious sounds – strategically placed radios gently broadcast the voices of people from all over the world, creating a surreal ambience.

THE ENCHANTING ESPLANADE PARK

Relaxing swings, hanging garlands of firepots and huge 'fairy fireballs' – metallic spherical frames studded with firepots – beckon visitors at the Esplanade Park. A starry ceiling of fiery bulbs lines pathways, with surreal sounds from overhead radios for soothing company. Tall fire stovepipes stand guard in one alley, gently billowing fire and smoke from their tops like a forest of glowing gothic candles. The pyrotechnic wizardry of Carabosse will lit up a side of the Esplanade Park that's never seen. Catch a glimpse of her hidden façade, and be spellbound.

Date: 14 – 16 May

Time: 7.30pm – 10.30pm

Venue: Empress Place Precinct (Victoria Theatre and Asian Civilisations Museum Outdoors) and Esplanade Park

Trois

Compagnie Une de Plus (France)

An outdoor show that incorporates puppetry, dance, mime, stilts and masks, *Trois* is a poetic and touching tale illustrating the circle of life.

Two actors dress like puppets – one a newborn who can't even stand up straight, the other a giant on stilts. The 'parent' takes the 'child' under his wing and teaches him to walk and be independent, even finding him a friend from the audience. However, when the little puppet wants to fly away on his own wings, he can only do so by cutting the string that ties him to his 'parent'. It is only when he kills him that he can freely live.

Trois is the brainchild of Compagnie Une de Plus, a company specialising in street theatre and puppetry that's founded by Eric Hervé. Since 2003, Compagnie Une de Plus has toured all over Europe, delighting young and old with their unique brand of innovative and fun puppetry.

Date: 4 - 6 Jun

Time: TBC

Venue: TBC

In The Mood

The Mobile Sewing Company (The Netherlands)

Searching for a truly unique piece of garment that no one else in the world has? You'll find it at *In The Mood*. Karin Arts and Mariken Biegan are lady tailors/entertainers who create original pieces of art using the clothes of members of the audience. To get participants 'in the mood', they

are requested to take off their clothes and let these two handy ladies transform their outfits into original pieces of art – on the spot.

In The Mood is probably the only show in the world that's literally powered by the audience: while their clothes are being stitched, participants will be asked to power the antique sewing machines by riding two gorgeous classical Dutch Bikes! After delighting thousands around the world with their unique take on spontaneous performance art, *In The Mood* will leave Singaporeans with some unique mementos they will treasure for life.

Who says you can't keep fit and go green in the name of fashion?

Date: 27 – 30 May

Time: TBC

Venue: VivoCity

The Hood

La Passionata Svironi (Israel)

Winner of the Bat-Yam Street Festival, Israel 09, La Passionata Svironi has created a new genre of miniature & interactive theatre. Small groups of audiences are invited to put their heads inside seven miniature houses created by Svironi Michal and her team. Not only is the audience part of the scene but they also put in music in it. Playing along with Singapore performers, audience members interact with the comedians and puppets for an experience that goes well beyond any pre-written text. This is truly out of the box thinking from an amazingly creative group. The group plans to develop a repertoire of stories thorough cooperation with creators and comedians around the world.

Date: 4 – 6 Jun

Time: TBC

Venue: VivoCity

Zapin Di Muara

Era Dance Theatre Limited, Yayasan Warisan Johor and Langkan Budaya Taratak (Singapore/Malaysia/Indonesia)

Experience beautiful melodies, enjoy exuberant dancing and listen to meaningful vocals that make for a true Zapin experience. As one of the five basic Malay dances, Zapin promotes the revitalisation of cultural heritage such as the unique form of traditional silat and will feature artisans of traditional crafts like the *marwas* (drums) and *selodang* (oud) in the 10 station Zapin Trail Experience. This event will also explore the similarities and differences between Malay cultures in Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia. Zapin D' Muara will feature solo and duo dance items as well as collaborative pieces by Era Dance Theatre Limited, Yayasan Warisan Johor and Langkan Budaya Tarata Indonesia. Local groups Teater Tari Era, Sriwana, Azpirasi and Perkumpulan Seni will also be sharing their Zapin works.

Enjoy the performances, participate in the workshops and seminars, experience classic P. Ramlee movies *Kanchan Tirana* and *Semerah Padi* under the stars, join the mass participation events, relax at the picnic and celebrate the best of Zapin all weekend long!

Date: 28 – 30 May

Venue: Malay Heritage Centre

Time: From 7.15pm (Fri) and 2.30pm (Sat & Sun)

Festival Closing
Mega Line Dance

Community Groups in Singapore & Line Dancing Communities & Filmmakers

Line dancing has always been a popular activity in Singapore, and the 11,967 dancers who were part of the Guinness World Record set in Singapore for 'World's Largest Country Line Dance' in 2003 pays testament to that claim.

The numerous line dancing organisations, which organise their dances weekly outside shopping malls and community centres all around Singapore, are a sure sign that the art of line dancing is blossoming in tandem with Singapore's burgeoning arts culture.

It is therefore apt that the closing event of the Singapore Arts Festival will be a massive line dance project that will enable Singaporeans from all walks to engage in art making and express themselves!

This event will bring together all the line dance community groups in Singapore and pair them with dance/film makers. The resulting dance/film project will be showcased in dance/film series of Singapore Arts Festival 2011.

So put on your dancing shoes! Join us and be part of Singapore Arts festival 2011. And who knows, you could make it to the Guinness Book of World Records.

Date: 13 Jun

Time: 6-9pm

Venue: Central Promontory

Singapore Street Festival

2010 celebrates the 9th Anniversary of the Singapore Street Festival. They have been a long time partner of the Singapore Arts Festival from day 1. Reaching youths through the use of Youth Culture from Hip Hop, Breakdancing, Yo-Yo competition, Belly Dancing competition, Cosplay, Graffiti and bands! Several of the competitions have attracted international participants and organisers. The Festival usually takes place over four weeks. Some of the venues the festival has been include Hereen, Orchard Cineleisure, Plaza Singapura, Scape, Vivo City and Suntec City.

Date: 4 Jun to 4 July

Time: Thu to Fri, 6 - 10 pm.

Sat and Sun, 2 - 10 pm.

Venue: 1st Week – New Scape Park and National Youth Council Park

2nd Week – Plaza Singapura and Orchard Cineleisure
