

Singapore Arts Festival 2009 - Festival Outreach Highlights

Featuring more than 400 free performances and 1,255 artists, the Singapore Arts Festival's 2009 outreach line-up features an extensive list of free and ticketed outdoor performances island-wide, bringing the arts to the doorsteps of Singapore audiences. This year's Festival outreach programme will see the arts permeate the heartlands such as Toa Payoh, Ang Mo Kio, Yishun and Tampines, as well as various spots about the city. The three-day festival opening, *Hélios II*, premieres at the Marina Barrage, while the closing celebration takes to the open field at Yishun Central 1, with *Crackers?*. The Festival also features a broad range of outreach events that cater to different ages and entry levels of arts appreciation. These can range from the Arts On The Move and Family Funfest to Asian Showcase

Festival Opening

**Helios II – Saga of thousand
suns** Out of Chaos comes the Asian Premier of an inspired surrealist evocation of the mythological tale of the creation of the sun god, Hélios.

**La Compagnie Malabar
(France)**

15 – 17 May 2009

Marina Barrage

8.00pm, 45 min

Free

(Pre-show performance from
6.30pm)

Be treated to a 24-metres long and 9-metres high strange mythical insects, builders of light and worshippers of the sun, emblazon the dark night in a breathtaking symphony of lights and sounds and conjure up a fantastic spectacle harking back to a time of myth.

Witness as French urban theatre extraordinaire La Compagnie Malabar brings to life the construction of the sun god at its zenith, with a spectacular procession of circus artists, performances, music and dazzling pyrotechnic displays.

Festival Closing

**The World Famous
Crackers?**

The World Famous (U.K.)

12 - 14 June 2009

Yishun Open Field behind
Yishun Bus Interchange,

Yishun Central 1

8.00pm, 45 min

Free (standing room only)

Crackers? is suitable for
adults and brave children over
10.

A celebration of the explosive and dangerous beauty of fire and fireworks and an exploration of our attitudes to Risk, *Crackers?* is a large scale show that combines fireworks projection, performance and music to tell the story about courting danger and taking risks.

Audiences will be surrounded by fire and smoke, spinning wheels and fireworks. Symphonies of loud, disorientating and cacophonous pyrotechnic sounds will fill the air and there will also be moments of delicate and profound beauty of dancing flames, giant Catherine Wheels and a 'human sparkler'.

"By the flash and combustion of fires, wonders can be wrought." -
Francis Bacon

Special Events

RED

***Stalker Theatre Company* (Australia)**

22 -24 May 2009
Vivocity, The Plaza
8.00pm, 45 min
Free

Explore the end of the world as foreseen by western science and Science Fiction as *RED* provokes the imagination of Earth in several billion years time where the sun is about to embrace the earth and turn it into a red giant.

A unique hybrid piece comprising dance theatre, live music and circus-style arts, *RED* forms the second part of a triptych of performances, developed by Stalker's Co-Artistic Director, David Clarkson. *RED* is an extreme movement work of frenetic beauty portraying a journey to the end of time, into the remote landscape of the imagination that explores the texture and ephemeral nature of falling, suspension and gravity.

"...the world's most exciting visual and physical theatre company...the real reason to go and see Stalker is the way they marry jaw dropping spectacle with real purpose."

- Tim Marsh, The London Times

The Diamond

***The Dream Engine* (U.K.)**

29 – 31 May 2009
Merlion Park
7.00pm, 8.00pm, 9.00pm
12 min
Free

Watch a gigantic *Diamond* come to life and be mesmerised as the solo aerial dancer within moves and twirls to the crescendos of music and colourful, dancing lights, suspended on what seems to be nothing but a column of light.

Unfurling like a transparent giant orchid, the *Diamond* achieves full bloom at a height of 11 metres. After dark, the lights reflect and refract in crystalline formations, creating ghostly images that mirror the hypnotic beauty of the dancer.

Transports Exceptionnels ***Compagnie Beau Geste*** **(France)**

5 – 7 June 2009
Tampines Open Field
4.30pm, 6.30pm
20 min
Free

French choreographer Dominique Boivin created a tender love duet for a dancer and a mechanical digger accompanied by the dramatic voice of Maria Callas.

Transports Exceptionnels is a witty interpretation of the pas de deux dance tradition. A modern romance between iron and flesh evoking a playful and rugged poetic industrialism, *Transports Exceptionnels* offers a glimpse into an unexpected moment of emotion and grace between man and machine.

"It was impossible to resist its magic."

The Spectator (U.K.)

Asian Showcase

Saman Traditional Dance ***SEIS Dance* (Indonesia)**

20 – 22 May 2009

The "Dance of a Thousand Hands," is the most popular traditional dance in Aceh. SEIS Dancers from Indonesia will perform the dance in a row, where they will display a different

For media enquiries, please contact media.saf2009@bm.com.

Performance across different times and venues. Details are available on www.singaporeartsfest.com

coordinated movements which starts slowly and gradually become faster following the songs and sounds of rapa'i (kind of tambourine).

Pasar Theatre

23 – 24 May 2009

Kreta Ayer Square, beside Sago Street, Chinatown (near Chinatown MRT station)

4.00pm, 270 min

Free

After enduring immense hardships during the Second World War, an eighteen year-old girl is sent to Southeast Asia in search of a better life. As with most immigrant Chinese in Singapore, Chinatown was the first place she set foot on.

Follow the vivacious and wholesome young Ah Qin as she discovers classic forms of traditional street entertainment.

Pasar Theatre features Kityang Huay Kwan Teochew Opera Group, Siong Leng Musical Association, D.LaB, Johnny Ng (黄家强) and Liu Xiao Yi (刘晓义), Jessica Tan, Ling Ying, Ng Chee Yang (黄智阳) - *Overall Champion of Season 1 Campus Superstar (2006)* and directed by Jalyn Han (韩雪卿)

Come experience a black and white outdoor film!

Gentarasa 2009: Bapak Borek Anak Cerdik! (Like Father, Smarter Son!)

13 June 2009

Nanyang Polytechnic Auditorium

Organised by the People's Association Malay Activity Coordinating Council

8.00pm

\$20

Tickets available at all Community Centres/Clubs and the People's Association Headquarters. (No. 9 King George's Ave Blk 1B level 3)
Tel: 6345 1000

A fast-paced light hearted comedy drama science fiction combining pre-recorded visual acts with live on-stage acting, *Gentarasa 2009: Bapak Borek Anak Cerdik!* focuses on a time travel journey by four teenage boys into the past to discover and appreciate Malay Culture. They then share these values upon their return to the present time.

Family Funfest

The Big Game

Polyglot Puppet Theatre (Australia)

29 – 31 May 2009

Toa Payoh HDB Hub

11.00am, 12.15pm, 1.30pm

45 min

Free

The Big Game premiered at the Melbourne International Arts Festival in 2008 and it combines sport and art to invoke the kind of passion and spectator participation rarely seen in the theatre. As a beautiful play space, children and adults can play the game with their own dice and their own teams. As a performance it becomes a play-off, with children as the tokens and the audience as cheer squad.

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Hodman Dodmanott & Sally Forth

The Flying Buttresses (U.K.)

29 – 31 May 2009
Toa Payoh HDB Hub
11.45am, 3.00pm
30 min
Free

Hodman Dodmanott & Sally Forth is a heart-warming and magical walkabout performance where a pair of wee, wonderful, and world-famous wanderers from Oblivia. *Hodman Dodmanott and Sally Forth* will attempt to fathom the strange new and baffling world around them. This unique and memorable couple is often described as 'spellbinding'- with people of all ages becoming completely enchanted by the ingenious illusion and witty personalities of the two characters.

Sienta la Cabeza (Spain)

29 – 31 May 2009
Toa Payoh HDB Hub
2.15pm – 5.15pm
180 min
Free

A “live” hairdressing salon for audience will fuses colour, music and fantasy to produce an array of outlandish hairstyles and fantasy characters that are just out of this world!

Be Spotted and Win

29 – 31 May 2009
Toa Payoh HDB Hub
11.15am, 5.15pm
15 min
Free

A showcase of creativity and beauty, audiences are encouraged to appear at the event dressed as their most beautiful, most creative favourite story book characters. Roving judges will offer attractive prizes to the winners.

Arts on the Move

**The Glittering Bestiary
*La Compagnie Malabar (France)***

16 May – 19 May 2009
Performance across different times and venues. Details are available on
www.singaporeartsfest.com

The Glittering Bestiary is a dream-like parade, where a tamer goes about herding ethereal, fantastical creatures into a fabulous glittering sideshow.

**The Agency
*The DCP (Belgium)***

21 May – 23 May 2009
Performance across different times and venues. Details are available on
www.singaporeartsfest.com

The Agency is a high powered visual performance incorporating stylish, marches, contemporary choreography and hip hop dance with acrobalance, acrobatics and gymnastic. Expect also a seamless blend of corporeal mime, lecoq style, precision briefcase ballet, improvisation, ariel sculpture and an arsenal of spectacular multi-person circus stunts placed in different environments.

**Spaced out Tourists
*Sticky Planet Network (Australia)***

24 May – 25 May 2009
Performance across different times and venues. Details are available on

Captain Gorfo Ghirk and his co-pilot assistant Ginch Zot are lost. The two bizarre but friendly characters will try to mimic earthling behaviour and solicit cosmic map-reading assistance from the public as they cannot speak our language.

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www.singaporeartsfest.com

Mono the Monkey

***Electric-Circus
(The Netherlands)***

26 May – 30 May 2009

Performance across different times and venues. Details are available on

www.singaporeartsfest.com

Mono the Monkey is a little stubborn circus monkey. Catch Mono performing life-like antics as he rides his bike, plays the organ, screeches and squeaks, eliciting wondrous laughter from everyone!

Baby Charli

***Association de Malfaiteurs
(France)***

3 June – 7 June 2009

Performance across different times and venues. Details are available on

www.singaporeartsfest.com

Owning the world record of the highest wee wee fountain, Baby Charli is no ordinary baby. He weighs 20 times more than the average baby and he's always in a good mood. If he cries, it's for a laugh!

His pushchair is a Zorro's horse, a Cinderella's pumpkin and a true circus that will light the fire for the audiences.

Arts Where We Eat

Food is where the art is! Lunchtime office workers and families can find themselves entertained and delighted by both foreign and Singapore professional performers while waiting in line or deciding what to eat. Have an artfully enjoyable meal!

20 – 22 May 2009

Blk 724 Ang Mo Kio Ave 6

Food Centre

12.00pm, 1.00pm

30 mins

Free

27 – 29 May 2009

Amoy Street Food Centre

12.00pm, 1.00pm

30 mins

Free

3 – 5 June 2009

New Upper Changi Road

Food Centre (near Bedok Bus Interchange)

12.00pm, 1.00pm

30 mins. Free

Associate Events

Rock the Sub

***The Substation and Timbre
Music Restaurant and Bar***

6 June 2009

The Substation

45 Armenian Street

6pm

\$21, inclusive of one drink

For more information, please visit www.substation.org or

www.timbre.com.sg

Singapore Street Festival

23 May – 14 June 2009

Various Venues & Times

For more information, please visit

www.singaporestreetfestival.com

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Esplanade presents flipside

Dancing On Your Grave
The Cholmondeleys and
The Featherstonehaughs
(U.K.)

22 – 24 May 2009
Esplanade Theatre Studio
8.00pm
\$35, *\$27 Concession

Olé! The Latin M¹usic
Comedy Explosion
Paul Morocco
(Cuba/Spain/U.S.A.)

30 – 31 May 2009
Esplanade Recital Studio
8pm and 3pm (Sunday only)
\$35, *\$27 Concession

Les Précieuses Ridicules
(The Pretentious Young
Ladies)
Théâtre du Kronope
(France)

5 – 7 June 2009
Esplanade Recital Studio
8pm
\$35, *\$27 Concession

Shut Up, Play!!
The Original Tempo (Japan)

12 – 14 June 2009
Esplanade Recital Studio
8pm
\$35, *\$27 Concession
*Concessions for students,
NSF and senior citizens

flipside Free Performances
Various Artists (Japan/
Korea/ Singapore/ Thailand)

21 May – 14 June 2009
Various venues around the
Esplanade
6. 15pm onwards
Free

C.L.A.P!

The Community Life Arts Programme (CLAP!) is a regular arts-based community outreach initiative by the Central Singapore Community Development Council to enhance interaction and bonding between people of different races, generations and walks of life. CLAP! is also a free platform for budding artists to showcase their talents to a live audience.

Heartlands CLAP!

16 May 2009
Redhill open space
(near Redhill Market)
7.30pm

Urban CLAP!

29 May 2009
Raffles Place Park
5.30pm

Street CLAP!

5 Jun 2009
Far East Plaza
7.30pm

Heartlands CLAP!

6 June 2009
Toa Payoh Hub
7.30pm

Heartlands CLAP!

13 June 2009
Ang Mo Kio Hub
7.30pm

Visual Arts

“What Do You Want To Be, An art installation project that seeks to engage with the intricate

* Concessions for students, NSF and senior citizens

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Strange.R?"

A project by [+O] in collaboration with Oforzero with the participation of Strangers and Friends

8 May – 14 June 2009
Raffles City (outdoors)
10am – 8pm (Mon –Thurs)
10am – 10pm (Fri – Sun)
Free

relationships and wonders inherent in our daily life; between people, objects and the environment, through the process of creating.

A chance encounter between strangers in a city, a conversation, a promise made, leading to the transformation of an everyday object into something that seems to obtain a life of its own - a Strange•R.

Reminiscent

The Observatory

9 – 14 June 2009
LASALLE College of the Arts,
Flexible Performance Space
Every 2 hrs between 11am –
8pm (last screening at 7pm)
Free

Reminiscent is an audiovisual installation and extension exhibit recapturing *Invisible Room*, an unusual “live” performance by preeminent Singapore rock band The Observatory.

Prepare to plunge into deep psychological territory in an inverted venue – a pentagonal chamber formed by screens – as a mystical, poetic soundtrack surrounds and captivates, while stark images of human mortality projected onto tall walls confront and hypnotise. Brooding drones, delicate voices, sinister guitars, sublime melodies and disembodied passages create a mesmerising, visceral experience of slow-burning intensity and dark, ambiguous space, from which there is no exit.

Found & Lost

23 May – 12 Jul 2009
Osage Singapore, 11B Mount
Sophia Road, #01-12
10am -7pm. Daily (closed on
Monday)
Free

Found & Lost features the work of eight Singapore artists concerned with questions of representation in relation to the act of drawing.

TransportAsian

30 May – 6 Sep 2009
Singapore Art Museum
10am-7pm daily (9pm on
Friday)
Museum admission fees
apply

TransportAsian is an Asian photography exhibition centred on the themes of “transport” and “Asia”. The works comprise of a selection of major artistic photographers in Singapore and Southeast Asia.

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