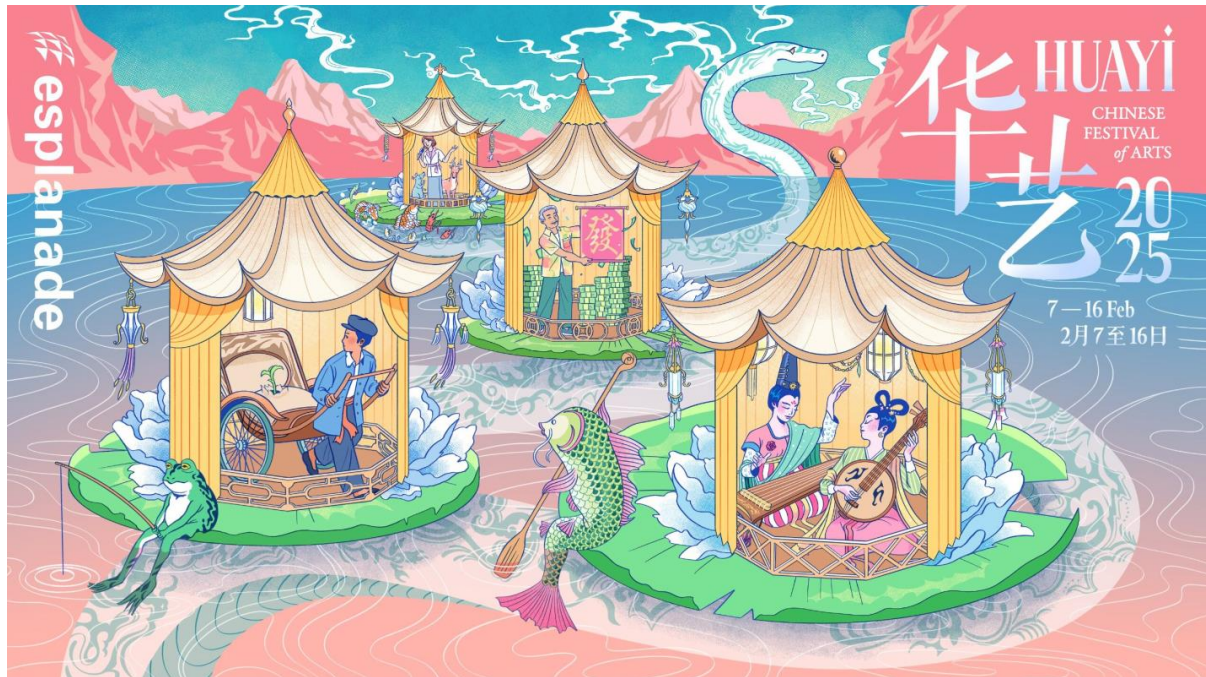


Esplanade Presents  
**Huayi – Chinese Festival of Arts**  
7 – 16 Feb 2025  
[www.esplanade.com/huayi](http://www.esplanade.com/huayi)



Dear friends of the media,

In the early days of my career, I had a hard time describing my work to my parents and relatives. With the job title “Programmer”, they inevitably thought I was an IT guy. Over the years, I would find opportunities to take them to performances and explain what I do. Today, my relatives not only attend *Huayi – Chinese Festival of Arts*, they are even more anxious than I to be the first to hear about the line-up! If there were a simple way to describe what it is to put together this festival, it is this: to connect top-notch performances and themes with various groups of people and their desires or needs. The 23rd edition of *Huayi*, held from 7 – 16 Feb 2025, reinforces the festival’s tenet to have something engaging and meaningful for everyone.

Our two productions in the Esplanade Theatre will appeal to anyone who loves a good story. Even though Lao She wrote the story of *Rickshaw Boy* in the 1930s, modern day rickshaw boys are everywhere – the ubiquitous food delivery guys on their bikes trying their best to make a good and honest living. Arriving in Singapore on the back of a hugely successful tour of major cities in China, *Rickshaw Boy* is helmed by award-winning director Fang Xu. And in acclaimed Taiwanese theatre company Greenray’s *Human Condition VIII*, the main protagonist dreams of winning the lottery – isn’t that a wish many people can identify with?

How does one stay active and mobile in the sunset years? What do friendships—or the dearth of them—look like? These are the themes explored in the dance production *Dance with Me* by choreographer Low Mei Yoke, recipient of the Cultural Medallion. These themes are also explored in *Last Luncheon*, the solo play directed, written and performed by Singapore theatre stalwart Alvin Chiam.

At a time where AI is poised to take over the world, traditions and how to keep them relevant are explored in three riveting music productions *What is Qin* by Zi De Guqin Studio of China, *The Temple of Resonance* by Taiwan’s Uni Percussion, and *The Heart of Jun: Memoirs of*

*Zhaojun* by Singapore *nanyin* ensemble Siong Leng Musical Association in collaboration with Taiwanese director Lee Yi Hsiu.

Songwriters are the poets of everyday life. *Huayi 2025's in::music platform* presents a bumper crop of excellent songwriters, beginning with Taiwan's Golden Melody Award winner and indie darling ANPU, followed by Hong Kong's Yoyo Sham, Taiwan's GoodBand and Singapore's Boon Hui Lu.

As for the little ones, don't they love to be able to indulge to their hearts' content in sweets, gummies and chocolates? Adapted from the tale of Hansel and Gretel, *Candy House in the Mountain* by Bon Appétit Theatre of Taiwan is a fusion of storytelling and Foley. This production encourages children to listen to the Chinese language and the many sound effects, as well as to activate their imagination. Another storyteller who will have audiences eating out of the palm of her hand is Malaysian artist Cheryl Lee, well known across the Causeway for her hilarious brand of Cantonese stand-up comedy.

Aside from a wide spectrum of works that will move you deeply or have you rolling with laughter, *Huayi* also seeks to put the 'festive' in 'festival'. Held during the Chinese New Year period every year, it gives us an opportunity to wish everyone who comes to Esplanade for the festival a bounteous year ahead, filled with luck, good health and prosperity. As producers and programmers behind the festival, we set the stage for celebration.

Our heartfelt thanks also go to our Principal Sponsor **Knife Cooking Oil**, Supporting Sponsor **Berries 百力果** and Supporter **Polar Premium Drinking Water**.

Happy Year of the Snake!

**Delvin Lee**

Senior Producer, The Esplanade Co Ltd  
*Huayi – Chinese Festival of Arts*

## About Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay

Esplanade is Singapore's national performing arts centre. It hosts a year-round line-up of about 4,000 live performances and activities presented by Esplanade, its partners and hirers. As an arts centre for everyone, Esplanade also creates opportunities for seniors, youth, children and underserved communities to experience the arts. More than 70% of the shows that take place each year at the centre are free for all to enjoy.

Esplanade also brings the arts virtually to audiences in Singapore and beyond, through its diverse range of digital programmes on [Esplanade Offstage](#), an all-access backstage pass to the performing arts and guide to Singapore and Asian arts and culture, with videos, podcasts, articles, quizzes and resources.

The centre works in close partnership with local, regional and international artists to develop artistic capabilities and content, push artistic boundaries and engage audiences. Esplanade supports the creation of artistic content by commissioning and producing new Singapore and Asian work for the international stage. It also develops technical capabilities for the industry nationally.

Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay is operated by The Esplanade Co Ltd (TECL), which is a not-for-profit organisation, a registered Charity and an Institution of a Public Character. TECL received the Charity Governance Award – Special Commendation for Clarity of Strategy in 2016 and 2022, the Charity Transparency Award from 2016 – 2023, and the Charity Transparency Dedication Award in 2024. Esplanade is Singapore's first Dementia-Friendly Arts Venue and a certified Dementia Go-To Point, as well as a guide/assistance dog friendly centre.

TECL receives funding support from Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth and its Community Programmes are supported by Tote Board Family, comprising Tote Board, Singapore Pools and Singapore Turf Club.

Visit [Esplanade.com](https://www.esplanade.com) for more information.

~ End ~

Issued by *The Esplanade Co Ltd*.

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## Annexe

Esplanade Presents

### **Huayi – Chinese Festival of Arts**

7 – 16 Feb 2025

[www.esplanade.com/huayi](http://www.esplanade.com/huayi)

Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay invites everyone to an unforgettable experience in the arts at *Huayi – Chinese Festival of Arts* which will run from 7 – 16 Feb 2025. Into its 23rd edition, this pinnacle arts festival that celebrates the Chinese New Year with the community will feature an exciting line-up of theatre, dance, and music programmes by outstanding Chinese artists from Singapore and beyond, for all to enjoy during the festive period.

**\*Programme details on free programmes will be announced in Jan 2025.**

## TICKETED PROGRAMMES

### **Rickshaw Boy**

by Beijing Artists Management Corp., Ltd (China)



Lao She's classic *Rickshaw Boy* tells the story of Xiangzi, a rickshaw puller in Beijing who lived during the Republic of China era. A strong and ambitious young man from the countryside, Xiangzi works hard to build his ideal life. However, fate repeatedly thwarts his aspirations, and despite his hard work and determination, his circumstances remain unchanged, and his life never gets better.

*Rickshaw Boy* offers a compelling psychological portrait of Xiangzi, delving into the conflict between his ideals and the harsh realities, alongside the confusion, frustration, and helplessness that permeate his inner world—a struggle that remains profoundly relatable even today.

Lao She is widely celebrated as a “Master of Language”, and *Rickshaw Boy* is among his most renowned masterpieces. Featuring the Beijing dialect and local expressions, *Rickshaw Boy* presents a tragic story laced with humour to vividly portray the resilience, pride, and underlying

pain of its characters. Director Fang Xu, often regarded as a "Lao She specialist," has adapted Lao She's works for the stage numerous times with his distinctive expressive and interpretative style. With *Rickshaw Boy*, Fang reimagines the original text through a contemporary lens, incorporating modern aesthetics into the stage design, lighting, music, and visual composition.

Another standout feature of this adaptation is its all-male cast, which boldly challenges traditional gender roles while employing a non-linear, visually driven narrative structure to depict Xiangzi's tragic journey. This innovative approach departs from a straightforward retelling, offering a rich and layered interpretation.

One of the female characters, Tigress, is portrayed by Zhao Zhen, a nationally acclaimed Chinese actor with extensive theatre experience, who brings the role of to life with a commanding portrayal of her domineering and sharp-tongued personality. Another female character, Xiao Fu Zi, is portrayed by Ren Yuebin, who is trained in traditional opera Dan roles. He delivers a poignant performance, capturing the character's sorrow and timidity with nuance. Siqin Gaowa, an actress renowned for her iconic portrayal of Tigress in the film adaptation of *Rickshaw Boy* (1982), serves as the artistic advisor for this production.

This marks the first-ever staging of *Rickshaw Boy* in Singapore and Fang's Esplanade debut. The critically acclaimed all-male cast, which has captivated audiences in China, will perform in this groundbreaking production, making it a must-see event!

Chief Producer:	Guan Jixin
Literary Advisor:	Shu Ji
Artistic Advisor:	Siqin Gaowa
Screenwriter and Director:	Fang Xu
Main Cast:	Fang Xu Zhao Zhen Ren Yuebin Sun Ning

(2hrs 50mins, including 20min intermission)  
Performed in Mandarin, with English and Chinese surtitles.

#### About Beijing Artists Management Corp., Ltd

Founded in 1958, Beijing Performance Arts Group Co., Ltd. is one of the most influential and largest cultural performance organisations in Beijing. With its expertise in planning, production, and execution, it has created numerous stage masterpieces such as *Rickshaw Boy*, *Lao She Goes to the Market*, *Monsters in the Forbidden City*, and *Canal 1935*, and has won numerous major drama awards in China.

#### About Fang Xu

Fang Xu, a graduate of the Directing Department of the Central Academy of Drama (Directing), is a multi-talented writer, director, and actor. Since 2011, he has adapted many of Lao She's works into plays, earning the title of "Lao She's Specialist". Fang has developed a distinctive "daxieyi" (expressive and spontaneous) Peking-style theatre, offering a fresh perspective on Lao She's legacy. His notable works include *The Life of Mine*, *Mr Ma and Son*, and *Heaven Sent (Niu Tianci)*. In addition to directing his own productions, Fang collaborates with renowned theatre groups such as the Lin Zhaohua Theatre Studio, the National Theatre Company of China, and the Beijing People's Art Theatre.

**7 & 8 Feb 2025, Fri & Sat, 7.30pm**  
Esplanade Theatre

Ticket Price: \$38\*, \$58\*\*, \$88^, \$108^

Limited concessions for students, NSFs and seniors: \$30\*, \$46\*\*

Limited concession for PWDs: \$30

^Esplanade&Me Early Bird Specials

Available from 5 Dec – 22 Dec 2024. Limited tickets.

Black: 20% savings

White: 15% savings

Discover: 15% savings (Min. of 2)

^Esplanade&Me Specials

Available from 23 Dec 2024, 10am.

Black: 15% savings

White: 10% savings

Discover: 10% savings (Min. of 2) (Limited tickets)

**Tickets on sale from 5 Dec 2024, Thu, 10am onwards.**

## Human Condition VIII

by Greenray Theatre Company (Taiwan)  
Written & directed by Wu Nien-jen



After a more than two-decade long domestic run, celebrated Taiwanese arts icon Wu Nien-jen brings his acclaimed *Human Condition* theatre series to *Huayi* for its Singapore premiere. The well-loved series has been enjoyed by over half a million Taiwanese theatregoers so far, and *Human Condition VIII* is the latest eagerly anticipated instalment.

*Human Condition VIII* tells the story of Mingcan, a retiree who finds himself adrift and without a purpose in life. His status as a respected patriarch has long disappeared as his adult children have their own families and lives to deal with. Unable to contribute to the economy and unneeded by his family, Mingcan questions his self-worth as his dignity slowly fades with each listless, monotonous day. Just as he feels that he has struck rock-bottom, he instead strikes the lottery jackpot, and immediately finds himself to be of interest to his family once more. Mingcan feels respected, needed, wanted. But is this unexpected windfall a stroke of luck or a harbinger of misfortune?

Starting in 2000, the *Human Condition* series shines an empathetic spotlight on the day-to-day stories of everyday Taiwanese people who strive to make the best out of what they have in their lives. Presented by Greenray Theatre Company, the series has continued to garner enthusiastic support and enjoy great appeal since its inception. It has become the first taste of theatre for many across Taiwan, with each instalment of the series rapidly selling out within days of their launches.

The first comedy of the series, *Human Condition VIII* is a humorous and poignant tale of masculine self-worth that features an acclaimed cast that includes theatre multi-hyphenate Chen Hsi-Cheng, and Golden Bell Award winners Wang Juan and Yang Li-yin.

Playwright and director Wu Nien-jen is one of the most prolific and respected names in Taiwanese cinema. Debuting in 2001, the *Human Condition* series is his blockbuster foray into theatre, which had been seen and loved by over half a million Taiwanese theatregoers, and earned him the prestigious National Cultural Award.

Artistic Director:

Wu Nien-jen, Ko I-cheng

Produced by: Greenray Inno-Art Inc.  
Written / Directed by: Wu Nien-jen  
Executive Director: Denny Wu  
Main Cast: Chen Hsi-sheng  
Wang Juan  
Yang Li-yin  
Sam Yang  
Crystal Lin  
Frog

Key Visual Photographer: Chen You-wei  
Key Visual Graphic Designer: Hsu Ming-wen

(3hrs, including 20mins intermission)  
Performed in Mandarin and Minnan dialect, with English and Chinese surtitles.  
Advisory: Contains some coarse language. Recommended for ages 12 and above.

### About Greenray Theatre Company

Since its establishment in 1993, Greenray Theatre Company has produced many theatre works, categorised into five series: “Original Musical”, “National Theatre”, “World Theatre”, “Taiwan Literary Theatre”, and “Urban Life Theatre”, which features more than 40 works. In 2021, episodes one to six of the *Human Conditions* series were broadcast online and received a record 2.8 million views.

In 2022, Greenray Theatre Company announced the establishment of Greenray Inno-Art Inc., with Wu Nien-jen as the chairman, to diversify the IP of stage plays and to convert them into different forms of cultural entertainment—literature, film and television, theatre, music, and video games—in order to promote the interconnection and integration of the multicultural entertainment market.

### About Wu Nien-jen

Wu Nien-jen is a Taiwanese director, playwright, actor and writer, who was the first to win all four Golden Awards—the Golden Melody Award, Golden Bell Award, Golden Horse Award, and Golden Tripod Award. He is currently the chairman of Greenway Inno-Art Inc. His signature works include *Daughter of the Nile*, *A Borrowed Life*, *Osmanthus Alley*, *A City of Sadness*, and *Dust in the Wind*.

Wu joined the Greenray Theatre Company in 2001 and created the *Human Condition* series, which has been staged more than 400 times since. His works are reflections of the daily lives of everyday people, with plots that are simple and sincere, successfully attracting first-time theatre audiences.

### **15 & 16 Feb 2025, Sat & Sun**

Sat, 2pm & 7.30pm | Sun, 2pm  
Esplanade Theatre

Ticket Price: \$38\*, \$58\*\*, \$88, \$108^, \$128^  
Limited concessions for students, NSFs and seniors: \$30\*, \$46\*\*  
Limited concession for PWDs: \$30

### ^Esplanade&Me Early Bird Specials

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Discover: 15% savings (Min. of 2)

^Esplanade&Me Specials

Available from 23 Dec 2024, 10am.

Black: 15% savings

White: 10% savings

Discover: 10% savings (Min. of 2) (Limited tickets)

**Tickets on sale from 5 Dec 2024, Thu, 10am onwards.**

## ANPU 'Awake – from Somnolence'

(Taiwan)



During ANPU's Somnolence tour, she said "It's really great that we haven't lost our way". This short sentence encapsulates the spirit of the tour. Indeed, audience felt nothing but a deep sense of reunion and personal growth, both in terms of the artist's evolution and their own individual journey. The warmth and emotional depth of ANPU's music as always, offers comfort, healing, and the opportunity to re-interpret the past.

Join us at ANPU's concert, let her emotive and captivating music continue to be a source of inspiration, for us to reflect and get comfort, marking significant moments in our lives.

*in::music* showcases some of the most inspiring Chinese singer-songwriters & bands performing their originals.

(1hr 30mins, no intermission)  
Performed in Mandarin.

**11 Feb 2025, Tue, 7.30pm**  
Esplanade Theatre

Ticket Price: \$58\*, \$88\*\*, \$118^, \$138^  
Limited concessions for students, NSFs and seniors: \$46\*, \$76\*\*  
Limited concessions for PWD: \$46

[^Esplanade&Me Early Bird Specials](#)  
Available from 5 Dec – 22 Dec 2024. Limited tickets.

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Discover: 15% savings (Min. of 2)

[^Esplanade&Me Specials](#)  
Available from 23 Dec 2024, 10am.

Black: 15% savings

White: 10% savings

Discover: 10% savings (Min. of 2) (Limited tickets)

**Tickets on sale from 5 Dec 2024, Thu, 10am onwards.**

An Esplanade Co-production

## The Heart of Jun: Memoirs of Zhaojun

by Siong Leng Musical Association (Singapore)



A tale of 20th-century voyagers seeking their destinies, set against the elegant beauty of traditional Nanyin music. Co-produced with Siong Leng Musical Association, *The Heart of Jun: Memoirs of Zhaojun* presents a musical experience of discovery, courage and determination.

Three women leave China and set sail for Southeast Asia in the early 20th century, their voyage echoing the journey of Wang Zhaojun, one of the legendary Four Beauties of ancient China. Finding themselves on a cargo ship, they are inescapably embroiled in sinister struggles for power as a mysterious man reveals secrets they have yet to understand. What will their destinies hold? What connection exists between these three women braving a tumultuous sea and Wang Zhaojun, who rode beyond the borders of Western Han into the Xiongnu empire? Do the fragments of loss and sorrow in Nanyin music symbolise the life stories of these modern women, or do they inspire courage to explore new horizons?

This fusion of traditional Nanyin music and contemporary theatre will delight both Nanyin purists and new audiences. Siong Leng breaks new ground in this collaboration with celebrated Taiwanese playwright Katherine Hui-ling Chou and Taiwanese director Lee Yi Hsiu, who is known for his innovative direction of traditional music performances.

*The Heart of Jun: Memoirs of Zhaojun* features authentic traditional Nanyin music harking back half a millenium that narrates the legend of Wang Zhaojun, with additional music composed by Siong Leng's music director Ng Kang Kee. The production showcases the principal artists of Siong Leng, and a skilled ensemble of Eastern and Western classical musicians performing together with Singapore actors Ang Xiao Ting, Jodi Chan and Hang Qian Chou.

(1hr 20mins, no intermission)

Performed in Mandarin and Minnan dialect, with English and Chinese surtitles.

Advisory: Contains some coarse language.

### About Siong Leng Musical Association

Siong Leng Musical Association was established in 1941 and owes its success to its late chairman, Teng Mah Seng. Under his guidance, Siong Leng has become an arts company that preserves and promotes Nanyin. Teng received the Cultural Medallion in 1987 due to his passion and love for Nanyin. As Siong Leng's chairman, he continuously worked to reform and revive Nanyin. He revitalised Nanyin by writing new lyrics and music that were livelier and more relatable. With his hard work and perseverance, Nanyin was given a new life.

In 1983, Siong Leng participated in the 37th Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod and won third place in the folk solo category with Teng's work *Reminiscence*, and fourth place in the folk ensemble category with the traditional Nanyin piece *Trotting Horse*. In 2010, Siong Leng took part in the same competition and won the first prize in the folk solo category with Teng's work *Facets of Life*.

Siong Leng organised the inaugural Southeast Asia Nanyin Conference in 1977, the International Nanyin Concert & Symposium in 2000, the International Youth Nanyin Concert and Symposium in 2015, as well as the International Youth Nanyin Festival in 2018. To ensure that the musicians maintain close relations with other Nanyin musicians around the world and keep up with the development of Nanyin, the company actively participates in international Nanyin symposiums held in Asia, to contribute to the efforts of promoting and developing the ancient artform. Siong Leng has also toured and performed in major cities and countries in Europe, Asia, and the US.

In 2017, Siong Leng was the recipient of the inaugural Singapore Chinese Cultural Contribution Award, awarded by the Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre. In 2021, Siong Leng was awarded The Stewards of Intangible Cultural Heritage Award by The National Heritage Board. Siong Leng is also the recipient of the National Arts Council Major Grant (2022–2025).

### **14 & 15 Feb 2025, Fri & Sat, 8pm**

Singtel Waterfront Theatre at Esplanade

Ticket Price: \$45\*^, \$60^

Limited concessions for students, NSFs and seniors: \$36\*

Limited concessions for PWD: \$36

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### ^Esplanade&Me Specials

Available from 23 Dec 2024, 10am.

Black: 15% savings

White: 10% savings

Discover: 10% savings (Min. of 2) (Limited tickets)

**Tickets on sale from 5 Dec 2024, Thu, 10am onwards.**

An Esplanade Co-production  
**Dance with Me**  
by Frontier Danceland (Singapore)  
Artistic Director: Low Mei Yoke



Do you stop dancing because you grow old?

Four friends who share a passion for dance reunite after more than 40 years. They reminisce about their youthful days, recalling the reckless pursuit of their dreams and the fearless dedication of their younger selves. What did they believe in? What did they hold onto? In the end, how have they changed?

Now, with their wealth of experience, they learn new steps as they once again dance together, rediscovering one another through their shared movements. They embrace their differences, welcome spontaneous participation, and respect those who choose to step away. Perhaps dance is more than just dance; it is a reflection of life. Through their dance together, they aim to reveal the traces of their life journeys, showcasing the many possibilities of body and dance.

In *Dance with Me*, Artistic Director Low Mei Yoke invites her longtime friends Selina Tan, Thong Meng Lan and Jean Lee—who danced together with her in their youthful days—to explore the essence of life and dance in this brand new work. They are also joined by a regional creative team, comprising Ong Yong Loke (Hong Kong), Ng Chor Guan (Malaysia), and Gabriel Chan and Tung Ka Wai (Singapore) in this collaboration.

(1hr 15mins, no intermission)  
Performed in English & Mandarin, no surtitles

#### About Frontier Danceland

Founded in 1991 by Low Mei Yoke and Tan Chong Poh, Frontier Danceland is a professional non-profit contemporary dance company in Singapore that became full-fledged in 2011. Committed to cultivating versatility in expression through the body, Frontier Danceland's dynamic range of innovative works craft unique experiences that heighten sensibilities and evoke introspection.

Frontier Danceland has worked with both local and international dance-makers including Noa Zuk, Ohad Fishof and Shahar Binyamini (Israel); Richard Chappell and Deborah Nightingale née Galloway (United Kingdom); Stephanie Lake and Luke Smiles (Australia); Edouard Hue and Thomas Lebrun (France); Sita Ostheimer (Germany); Sascia Pellegrini (Italy); Matej Kejzar (Belgium/Slovenia); Liu Yen-Cheng and Tung I-Fen (Taiwan); and Victor Ma Choi-Wo (Hong Kong).

Throughout the years, Frontier Danceland has represented Singapore internationally, including three sold-out shows at Batsheva Dance Company in Tel Aviv, Israel; Kuandu Arts Festival in Taiwan; the 25th and 30th Quinzena De Dança De Almada – International Dance Festival in Portugal; Festival Tour d'Horizons in France; and Dance in the City in Belgium and Germany.

#### About Low Mei Yoke, Artistic Director

Low Mei Yoke is the co-founder of Frontier Danceland (Singapore) and one of the pioneer Singapore choreographers who had the vision of creating a unique blend of contemporary dance with a distinctive Singaporean style. Fusing Eastern aesthetics with Western movement vocabulary, Low's choreography focuses on honest portrayals of human emotions, zeal and relentless drive. Her works are contemplative, evoking reflection and introspection, and are often celebrated for being bold, imaginative and thought-provoking. She also enjoys creating works that represent Singapore's vibrant and diverse society. In recognition of her contributions to the arts in Singapore, the National Arts Council conferred her with the Cultural Medallion Award in 2018.

Low's choreographic works have been performed to great success and favourable reviews. Her work *Cloud* was showcased to much acclaim at 2000 Feet – A Celebration of World Dance, a dance festival held in Philadelphia, USA. Dance critic Brenda Dixon Gottschild praised it as a first-rate performance in America's foremost dance publication *Dance Magazine*. In 2015, her work, *Fade*, portrayed an obscure historical feature of Singaporean culture, "Ma Jie" (妈姐), and won high acclaim and enthusiastic applause from the audience. Other notable works include *Abortion*, *Asking Dance*, *Crying Earth*, *Grandmother's Tale*, *Refuges*, *The First Emperor*, *In the Moment*, and *White*. Excerpts of her works have toured internationally to Portugal, Belgium, Germany, France, Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Philippine, Indonesia, Thailand, Cambodia, and Malaysia, bringing a uniquely Singaporean narrative not just to other Asian countries, but also to the Western frontiers.

Low's expertise in contemporary dance has led her to receive invitations to be part of the distinguished panel of judges in Malaysia National Chinese Cultural Dance Open Competitions, the Hong Kong Bauhinia Cup Dance Championship, and at Tanzolymp Asia 2018 in Seoul, South Korea.

#### **7 & 8 Feb 2025, Fri & Sat**

Fri, 8pm

Sat, 3pm & 8pm

Esplanade Theatre Studio

Ticket Price: \$40^

Limited concessions for students, NSFs, seniors and PWDs: \$32

#### ^Esplanade&Me Early Bird Specials

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Discover: 10% savings (Min. of 2) (Limited tickets)

**Tickets on sale from 5 Dec 2024, Thu, 10am onwards.**



An Esplanade Commission

## Last Luncheon

by Le Jeu Studio (Singapore)

Written, directed & performed by Alvin Chiam



“The soul that sees beauty may sometimes walk alone.”  
– Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

A man,  
a table,  
a pack of instant noodles,  
a can of luncheon meat,  
a cassette tape recorder.  
This is a journey of life, about reflection and acceptance.  
When the present meets the past, perhaps the future becomes clear.

Every day, an elderly man eats a can of luncheon meat, to keep a promise to his wife. Alone and adrift, he revisits past moments and memories, in search of meaning and closure. As the days pass, he gets closer to his last can of luncheon meat.

After decades in the scene honing his craft, Singapore theatre practitioner Alvin Chiam writes, directs, and performs in his first solo work, a rumination on the meaning of solitude.

Inspired by *Krapp's Last Tape* by Samuel Beckett, Chiam invites the audience on this groundbreaking journey with him. Choosing a minimalist approach, Chiam compels the audience to focus on him, to delight in his exterior actions, but more importantly, to look beyond that and see his character's inner world.

Alvin Chiam: “It has been an unconscious goal to explore solitude since the very beginning of this creation; the sheer realisation that loneliness is ubiquitous, is silently by our side since the day we were born...When change hits us, there is grief, remorse, or emptiness...Solitude will

take us into her arms. A quiet world as such, some remain vanquished, some are redeemed, while some may still be waiting...”

*Last Luncheon* is a commission by the inaugural Huayi Brewery, an incubation programme that aims to provide support for and cultivate deeper relationships with independent artists creating works in the Chinese language.

Writer, Director and Performer: Alvin Chiam  
Dramaturg: Robin Loon  
Script Editor / Documenter / Archiver / Researcher: Neo Hai Bin  
Sound Designer / Music Composition: Jing Ng  
Lighting Designer: Liu Yong Huay  
Scenographer / Production Design: Ian Tan  
Graphic Designer: Ric Liu

(1hr 30mins, no intermission)

Performed in Hokkien, Cantonese and some Mandarin, with English and Chinese surtitles.

Advisory: Contains some mature content.

Admission for ages 13 and above. Recommended for ages 16 and above.

### About Le Jeu Studio

Founded by Alvin Chiam, Le Jeu Studio is dedicated to crafting a stage that sparks imagination and embodies pleasure and playfulness. Through each creative narrative and heartfelt performance, we embark on a journey of exploring and sharing the beauty of humanity.

### About Alvin Chiam

Alvin Chiam is a vibrant presence in Singapore's theatre landscape, with over 25 years of experience shaping the Singapore theatre and arts scene. Throughout his career, Chiam has taken on diverse roles as an actor, director, and acting coach. His productions and training sessions have captivated audiences in Paris, London, China, Macau, Hong Kong, and Taiwan. Chiam has also had the privilege of collaborating with esteemed directors across Asia such as Stan Lai (Taiwan) and Fredric Mao (Hong Kong).

In 2001, he joined The Theatre Practice, a leading bilingual theatre company founded by the late Kuo Pao Kun, a pioneer of Singaporean theatre, and played a vital role in his six years at the company. In 2007, he was awarded the Arts Professional Development Grant from the National Arts Council of Singapore, enabling him to hone his performing skills under the mentorship of the renowned Philippe Gaulier in Paris. Graduating with distinction from École Philippe Gaulier in 2009, Chiam then served as a movement teacher and Assistant Professor at the school.

In 2013, he received the Arts Scholarship from the National Arts Council Singapore, allowing him to pursue an MA in Ensemble Theatre at Rose Bruford College in London. He graduated with a master's degree in 2014 and continued to contribute to the academic community as a part-time lecturer at Rose Bruford College.

Currently, Chiam makes significant contributions as a full-time lecturer at LASALLE College of the Arts in Singapore. His unwavering dedication to theatre, combined with his extensive experience and training, continues to inspire audiences and aspiring artists alike.

**14 – 16 Feb 2025, Fri – Sun**

Fri & Sat, 8pm | Sat & Sun, 3pm

Esplanade Theatre Studio

Ticket Price: \$40^

Limited concessions for students, NSFs, seniors and PWDs: \$32

^Esplanade&Me Early Bird Specials

Available from 5 Dec – 22 Dec 2024. Limited tickets.

Black: 20% savings

White: 15% savings

Discover: 15% savings (Min. of 2)

^Esplanade&Me Specials

Available from 23 Dec 2024, 10am.

Black: 15% savings

White: 10% savings

Discover: 10% savings (Min. of 2) (Limited tickets)

**Tickets on sale from 5 Dec 2024, Thu, 10am onwards.**

# Candy House in the Mountain

by Bon Appétit Theatre (Taiwan)



You've heard sound effects before, but have you *seen* how sound effects are created live during a theatre performance? That's what a foley artist does, and *Candy House in the Mountain* features a foley artist!

Let your imagination take flight through the beauty of Mandarin storytelling and captivating live music and sound effects!

Bon Appétit Theatre brings you on an enchanting and eye-opening journey through a reimagining of beloved children's classic *Hansel and Gretel*, told through an enchanting blend of storytelling with music and sound effects created live on stage. Family audiences with young children can expect a fun and unique experience that harnesses the power of language and sound to explore the emotional depths of the classic tale. Audience members also get to participate in creating sound effects during the show!

Presented with young audiences in mind as an engaging and easy-to-follow Mandarin story, *Candy House in the Mountain* makes meaningful connections between the enduring themes of *Hansel and Gretel* and the current issues of today, creating a sense of shared understanding and empathy.

(1hr, no intermission)

Performed in Mandarin, no surtitles.

Admission for ages 6 and above. Recommended for ages 7 to 12.

## About Bon Appétit Theatre

Founded in 2018, Bon Appétit Theatre integrates sound, music, puppetry, objects, and physical performance to explore contemporary issues and environmental themes, creating unique sensory experiences for family audiences. Since 2020, the company has collaborated with foley artist Chen Yen-Ju to develop "foley performance techniques", focusing on original stories that convey universal values.

In 2024, its non-verbal puppetry production, *Little Drops of Rain*, was selected for the Taiwan Season at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, and received a four-star review from *Edinburgh*

*Festival Magazine*, which described it as “a feast for the ears”. Bon Appétit Theatre also works closely with domestic and international organisations, including the Taipei Children’s Arts Festival and the Umay Theater at Huashan 1914 Creative Park in Taiwan, and Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay in Singapore.

**7 – 9 Feb 2025, Fri – Sun**

11am & 3pm

Esplanade Recital Studio

Ticket Price: \$35^

^Esplanade&Me Specials

PIP’s Club: 10% savings (Min. of 2) (Limited tickets)

**Tickets on sale from 5 Dec 2024, Thu, 10am onwards.**

## What is Qin

by Zi De Guqin Studio (China)



Ancient China comes to spectacular musical life as Zi De Guqin Studio makes their Singapore debut with *What is Qin*, after touring to multiple cities around China since 2020.

Featuring a visually arresting and sonically exciting narrative style, Zi De Guqin Studio's atmospheric "ancient painting music" concerts—a masterful fusion of the classical and the modern—have mesmerised and captured the hearts of many. A traditional Chinese painting come to life, the ensemble's young musicians present classical Chinese music pieces performed on traditional instruments—with the *guqin* as the star—while wearing classical Chinese costumes from various Chinese dynastic periods.

The ensemble presents their unique contemporary takes on traditional Chinese classical pieces such as *Solitary Orchid*, *Breaking a Willow at the Yangguan*, as well as a mesmerising rendition of their original piece *Break Through*.

Zi De Guqin Studio has garnered international recognition, and boasts millions of followers on social media who eagerly anticipate their unique music videos that have revitalised an interest in traditional Chinese instruments and culture among young and old alike. This is a perfect introduction to traditional Chinese music for the uninitiated, and a sophisticated and sumptuous reinvention of the familiar for long-time listeners.

(1hr 30mins, no intermission.)

### About Zi De Guqin Studio

Established in 2014 in Shanghai, China, Zi De Guqin Studio is one of the most unique contemporary traditional Chinese music ensembles, featuring young musicians in traditional Chinese attire playing traditional Chinese instruments. The studio is dedicated to promoting traditional Chinese music and culture, with a focus on the *guqin* (a plucked seven-string instrument with a history of over three millennia). Their refined Eastern traditional aesthetics has brought about the "ancient painting music" trend on the internet, showcasing the profound cultural heritage of China and the cultural confidence of Chinese youth today.

Starting in 2020, Zi De Guqin Studio presented the *What is Qin? – Tang Dynasty* concert series nationwide in China. In 2023, they launched the *What is Qin? – Song Dynasty* concert series. Dressed in Tang dynasty costumes, the musicians evoke the imagery of characters from ancient paintings, playing the *guqin*, Chinese flute, *gu zheng* and drum to entertain their audience. Their repertoire is rearranged and reinterpreted based on traditional pieces, combining the essence of ancient times with innovative sounds.

**8 & 9 Feb 2025, Sat & Sun**

Sat, 8pm | Sun, 3pm

Singtel Waterfront Theatre at Esplanade

Ticket Price: \$58^

Limited concessions for students, NSFs, seniors and PWDs: \$46

^Esplanade&Me Early Bird Specials

Available from 5 Dec – 22 Dec 2024. Limited tickets.

Black: 20% savings

White: 15% savings

Discover: 15% savings (Min. of 2)

^Esplanade&Me Specials

Available from 23 Dec 2024, 10am.

Black: 15% savings

White: 10% savings

Discover: 10% savings (Min. of 2) (Limited tickets)

**Tickets on sale from 5 Dec 2024, Thu, 10am onwards.**

## The Temple of Resonance

by Uni Percussion (Taiwan)



*The Temple of Resonance* draws audiences into an immersive percussive experience that teems with the aural essence of Taiwan's temple culture.

Inspired by the rhythmic reverberation of gongs and cymbals in musical processions that travel through bustling streets and alleys, and the transcendental prayers and thanksgivings of temple-goers that ring through the seasons, centuries of sounds have been channelled into this immersive fusion of contemporary percussion and experimental music.

Temples are a focal point of Taiwanese life, deeply embedded in the everyday experience of the young and old. Still, for many on the island, there is much in temple culture, with its intricacies and rituals, that remain elusive and unknown. Starting in 2019, Uni Percussion artistic director and percussionist Yung-Chih Hsueh conducted field research to explore the elements of temple culture, resulting in a richly layered music experience that transforms the performance space into a temple courtyard that has existed through the ages. Masterfully utilising a variety of percussive instruments and everyday objects, Hsueh creates unique rhythms and melodies that are familiar yet surreal.

In 2024, *The Temple of Resonance* was nominated for the prestigious Taishin Arts Award, and was also selected as one of the featured programmes at the Kaohsiung Spring Arts Festival.

(1hr, no intermission)

### About Uni Percussion

Founded by Artistic Director Yung-Chih Hsueh, Uni Percussion builds on a foundation of classical and modern music education, merging percussion, sound art and theatre with interdisciplinary collaboration. Bringing together talent from diverse artistic fields both domestically and internationally, Uni Percussion aims to create a vibrant, multifaceted art



environment and establish innovative platforms for audience engagement. In recent years, the Lab has expanded its creative reach by collaborating with installation artists, dancers, and puppeteers, exploring connections between the arts and society through performance productions, art curation, site-specific works, and community workshops.

**8 & 9 Feb 2025, Sat & Sun**

Sat, 5pm | Sun, 1pm & 5pm

Esplanade Annexe Studio

Ticket Price: \$38^

Limited concessions for students, NSFs, seniors and PWDs: \$30

^Esplanade&Me Early Bird Specials

Available from 5 Dec – 22 Dec 2024. Limited tickets.

Black: 20% savings

White: 15% savings

Discover: 15% savings (Min. of 2)

^Esplanade&Me Specials

Available from 23 Dec 2024, 10am.

Black: 15% savings

White: 10% savings

Discover: 10% savings (Min. of 2, limited tickets)

**Tickets on sale from 5 Dec 2024, Thu, 10am onwards.**

## Boon Hui Lu 'Hey Dear, Time to Go Back Again with Me' (Singapore)



Come and be treasured. Come and be loved.

Singapore singer-songwriter Boon Hui Lu commemorates her 10th year of making music with a special Valentine's Day concert.

To mark the occasion, Hui Lu will be sharing original songs from her long-awaited upcoming solo EP. And she will even be hosting a song request session for those who wish to make this Valentine's Day a little more memorable for their loved one.

Her journey in music has seen many chameleonic transformations, as she effortlessly shifts between genres and styles such as lyrical pop, indie ballad, and rock. These have only spurred her own musical passions as she grew from being a goddess of cover songs into a creative force in her own right.

*in::music* showcases some of the most inspiring Chinese singer-songwriters & bands performing their originals.

(1hr 30mins, no intermission)  
Performed in Mandarin.  
Standing room only.

### About Boon Hui Lu

Boon Hui Lu is a singer-songwriter from Singapore. She rose to fame in the early days by covering songs on YouTube. One of her covers, *Stranger In the North* instantly climbed to the top of various regional YouTube charts after its release, accumulating over 50 million views to

date. Her YouTube channel has also surpassed one billion views in total. In addition to her unique voice and impressive vocal abilities, Hui Lu also possesses exceptional songwriting skills. She has released her original works, with two full albums of original compositions released in 2019 and 2022, titled *Honestly me* and *Dear* respectively. Popular songs from these albums include *Messed Up*, *Losing myself*, and *Reset*.

Hui Lu songwriting abilities have been recognised by many artists, leading her to collaborate on various songs too. Some of the songs written and composed by Boon Hui Lu for other artists include *Everyday is a miracle* and *Your body speaks* for Hebe Tien, *Present* for Jia Jia, *Heart to heart* for Jiuzhe CP, *Guess* for Joanne Tseng and *Silver Lining* for Wen Yin Liang.

**14 Feb 2025, Fri, 8pm**  
Esplanade Annexe Studio

Ticket Price: \$68^  
Limited concessions for students, NSFs, seniors and PWD: \$55

^Esplanade&Me Early Bird Specials  
Available from 5 Dec – 22 Dec 2024. Limited tickets.

Black: 20% savings  
White: 15% savings  
Discover: 15% savings (Min. of 2)

^Esplanade&Me Specials  
Available from 23 Dec 2024, 10am.

Black: 15% savings  
White: 10% savings  
Discover: 10% savings (Min. of 2, limited tickets)

**Tickets on sale from 5 Dec 2024, Thu, 10am onwards.**

## Yoyo Sham 'it's been a while...'

(Hong Kong)



“Is it a place of a feeling? A sense of safety or belonging? To me, a home should be more than just one place.” – *Yoyo Sham*

Hong Kong singer-songwriter Yoyo Sham pursues her profession while regularly shuttling between Hong Kong and Taiwan. With this nomadic music lifestyle, she frequently ponders on the meaning of home, and these musings found their way into her 2022 release *Home is...*, which saw a Hong Kong concert tour that was attended by more than 10,000 fans.

In 2019, Sham's album *Nothing is Under Control* was nominated for Mandarin Female Vocalist of the Year and Album Producer of the Year at the Golden Melody Awards in Taiwan, also selected as Top 10 albums in Freshmusic Awards in Singapore. The following year, she won Best Original Film Song for her song *Fly* at the Hong Kong Film Awards.

Destiny has it that her song *Come What May* found its way to be chosen as the ending theme for the movie title *Twilight of the Warriors: Walled In*, honing into the theme that the relationship shared between people and their place transcends time.

*in::music* showcases some of the most inspiring Chinese singer-songwriters & bands performing their originals.

(1hr 30mins, no intermission)  
Performed in Mandarin and Cantonese  
Standing room only.

**15 Feb 2025, Sat, 8pm**  
Esplanade Annexe Studio

Ticket Price: \$68^

Limited concessions for students, NSFs, seniors and PWD: \$55

^Esplanade&Me Early Bird Specials

Available from 5 Dec – 22 Dec 2024. Limited tickets.

Black: 20% savings

White: 15% savings

Discover: 15% savings (Min. of 2)

^Esplanade&Me Specials

Available from 23 Dec 2024, 10am.

Black: 15% savings

White: 10% savings

Discover: 10% savings (Min. of 2, limited tickets)

**Tickets on sale from 5 Dec 2024, Thu, 10am onwards.**

## GoodBand 'We Learn to Take Care of Each Other in the Ongoing' (Taiwan)



Your musical companion to adulthood.

After debuting in 2015 and releasing two EPs and an album in the years since, Taiwanese duo GoodBand makes their way to *Huayi* for their debut Singapore concert with a full live band!

Formed by Wen Hsu (vocals) and Ching (guitars), GoodBand strives to provide a sense of companionship to their listeners through poignant songs that range from folk pop to indie rock. They sing of their own experiences of youth and of the challenges of adulthood, resonating strongly with fans and first-time listeners alike.

The debut single *Youth to You* has gained more than 14 million views on YouTube, and their 2020 single *The Useless Young Man* achieved the same success. Both songs have been regarded by many Taiwanese youth as anthems of their lives.

*in::music* showcases some of the most inspiring Chinese singer-songwriters & bands performing their originals.

(1hr 30mins, no intermission)  
Performed in Mandarin.  
Standing room only.

**16 Feb 2025, Sun, 4pm**  
Esplanade Annexe Studio

Ticket Price: \$68^  
Limited concessions for students, NSFs, seniors and PWD: \$55

[^Esplanade&Me Early Bird Specials](#)  
Available from 5 Dec – 22 Dec 2024. Limited tickets.

Black: 20% savings  
White: 15% savings  
Discover: 15% savings (Min. of 2)

^Esplanade&Me Specials

Available from 23 Dec 2024, 10am.

Black: 15% savings  
White: 10% savings  
Discover: 10% savings (Min. of 2, limited tickets)

## The Perfect Detox Soup

by Cheryl Lee (Malaysia)



After taking Malaysia and Hong Kong by storm with her wit and humour, Malaysian stand-up comedian Cheryl Lee makes her Singapore debut at *Huayi* with a brand new show!

*The Perfect Detox Soup* is a Cantonese stand-up comedy experience that humorously unpacks the various “toxins” of modern life. From outdated mindsets to toxic relationships and the negativity of online troll culture, Lee skillfully administers a delightful comedic antidote with her sharp wit and keen observations. This show will have you flushed with cleansing laughter, giving your mind, body and soul a thorough comedy detox.

(50mins, no intermission)

Performed in Cantonese, no surtitles.

Advisory: Contains mature content and coarse language.

Admission for ages 16 and above.

### About Cheryl Lee

Cheryl Lee is a versatile artist, known as a host, lyricist, writer, YouTuber, and stand-up comedian. To date, she has published six popular books that offer a blend of life wisdom and humour. In the field of stand-up comedy, she has also excelled, holding over 10 solo performances, all of which received enthusiastic responses with sold-out crowds. With her witty language and keen observations, Lee has made a name for herself across various domains, attracting a large fan base. Whether online or during live shows, she continues to have a significant impact.

**14 & 15 Feb 2025, Fri & Sat, 7.30pm**

Esplanade Recital Studio

Ticket Price: \$58^

Limited concessions for students, NSFs, seniors and PWDs: \$46



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Black: 20% savings

White: 15% savings

Discover: 15% savings (Min. of 2)

^Esplanade&Me Specials

Available from 23 Dec 2024, 10am.

Black: 15% savings

White: 10% savings

Discover: 10% savings (Min. of 2) (Limited tickets)

**Tickets on sale from 5 Dec 2024, Thu, 10am onwards.**

## Parent-Child Workshop: Little Puppets Celebrate CNY!

by The Finger Players (Singapore)



Bring your child along for a hands-on introduction to traditional Chinese hand puppetry in this workshop!

At *Parent-Child Workshop: Little Puppets Celebrate CNY!*, you and your child will discover the rich history of the traditional art form and learn basic puppet manipulation techniques. After which, participants get the valuable opportunity to create and perform their own story using the hand puppets!

(1hr 30mins)

Conducted in English and Mandarin.

For ages 6 and above, with an accompanying adult. Accompanying adult must be above 16.

### About The Finger Players

The Finger Players is one of Singapore's leading theatre companies, best known for inventively fusing traditional and contemporary puppetry elements and integrating other artistic disciplines into its visually arresting productions.

Founded in 1999, The Finger Players is Singapore's oldest contemporary puppetry theatre company. Since its inception, it has been invited to perform in various countries. Its body of work is extensive and has garnered recognition from both domestic and international media.

**8 & 15 Feb 2025, Sat, 1.30pm & 4.30pm**

Esplanade White Room

Ticket Price:

1 Adult + 1 Child \$50

1 Adult + 2 Children \$75

2 Adults + 1 Child \$75

**Tickets on sale from 5 Dec 2024, Thu, 10am onwards.**

## Parent-Child Workshop: Soundscapes of Imagination

by Bon Appétit Theatre (Taiwan)



Get a hands-on foley experience in making live sound effects for theatre!

Bon Appétit Theatre guides workshop participants in exploring how sound effects can be created using everyday objects, and in using their imagination to create their own unique stories.

(1hr 30mins)

Conducted in Mandarin.

For ages 6 and above, with an accompanying adult. Accompanying adult must be above 16.

### About Bon Appétit Theatre

Founded in 2018, Bon Appétit Theatre integrates sound, music, puppetry, objects, and physical performance to explore contemporary issues and environmental themes, creating unique sensory experiences for family audiences. Since 2020, the company has collaborated with foley artist Chen Yen-Ju to develop “foley performance techniques”, focusing on original stories that convey universal values.

In 2024, its non-verbal puppetry production, *Little Drops of Rain*, was selected for the Taiwan Season at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, and received a four-star review from *Edinburgh Festival Magazine*, which described it as “a feast for the ears”. Bon Appétit Theatre also works closely with domestic and international organisations, including the Taipei Children’s Arts Festival and the Umay Theater at Huashan 1914 Creative Park in Taiwan, and Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay in Singapore.

**8 Feb 2025, Sat, 5pm**

Esplanade Rehearsal Studio

(Meet at Theatre Studio, Level 4, 15mins before start time)

Ticket Price:

1 Adult + 1 Child \$50

1 Adult + 2 Children \$75

2 Adults + 1 Child \$75

**Tickets on sale from 5 Dec 2024, Thu, 10am onwards.**

## Workshop: Discover Hulusi

by Tong Wei Jie (Singapore)



Get a first-hand introduction to the Hulusi, one of the most popular Chinese ethnic instruments. After an eye-opening afternoon of music-making, participants even get their very own brand-new Hulusi to keep!

With its uniquely pleasing musical tone, the iconic gourd and bamboo instrument has mesmerised those who have the pleasure to hear it being played.

(1hr 30mins)

Conducted in English and Mandarin.

Admission for ages 13 and above.

### About Tong Wei Jie

Tong Wei Jie is a passionate musician, conductor, and educator, who is dedicated to music education and community engagement. With a Master of Education in Music, he conducts and instructs diverse groups that include students, seniors, and special-needs communities, while fostering artistic development through roles in various schools, ensembles, and cultural organisations in Singapore.

**9 Feb 2025, Sun, 1.30pm & 4.30pm**

Esplanade White Room

Ticket Price: \$30

**Tickets on sale from 5 Dec 2024, Thu, 10am onwards.**

## Workshop: Acting is about Playing

by Alvin Chiam (Singapore)



Regardless of whether you are an aspiring performer, an established performer or a beginner wishing to learn more about performance, this workshop by veteran theatre practitioner Alvin Chiam will provide you with valuable insights about the art of performance. And the best thing is you'll be playing while you're doing it!

Through theatre games and exercises, participants will have opportunities to experience the two fundamental elements of performance—playfulness and imagination. Participants will also explore how these two fundamental elements can serve as catalysts to enhance creativity.

(1hr 30mins)

Conducted in English and Mandarin.

Admission for ages 16 and above.

### About Alvin Chiam

Alvin Chiam is a vibrant presence in Singapore's theatre landscape, with over 25 years of experience shaping the Singapore theatre and arts scene. Throughout his career, Chiam has taken on diverse roles as an actor, director, and acting coach. His productions and training sessions have captivated audiences in Paris, London, China, Macau, Hong Kong, and Taiwan. Chiam has also had the privilege of collaborating with esteemed directors across Asia such as Stan Lai (Taiwan) and Fredric Mao (Hong Kong).

In 2001, he joined The Theatre Practice, a leading bilingual theatre company founded by the late Kuo Pao Kun, a pioneer of Singaporean theatre, and played a vital role in his six years at the company. In 2007, he was awarded the Arts Professional Development Grant from the National Arts Council of Singapore, enabling him to hone his performing skills under the mentorship of the renowned Philippe Gaulier in Paris. Graduating with distinction from École Philippe Gaulier in 2009, Chiam then served as a movement teacher and Assistant Professor at the school.

In 2013, he received the Arts Scholarship from the National Arts Council Singapore, allowing him to pursue an MA in Ensemble Theatre at Rose Bruford College in London. He graduated with a master's degree in 2014 and continued to contribute to the academic community as a part-time lecturer at Rose Bruford College.

Currently, Chiam makes significant contributions as a full-time lecturer at LASALLE College of the Arts in Singapore. His unwavering dedication to theatre, combined with his extensive experience and training, continues to inspire audiences and aspiring artists alike.

**9 Feb 2025, Sun, 4pm**

Esplanade Rehearsal Studio

(Meet at Theatre Studio, Level 4, 15mins before start time)

Ticket Price: \$28

**Tickets on sale from 5 Dec 2024, Thu, 10am onwards.**

## Workshop: CNY Fabric Looming

by Aestival Elements (Singapore)



Discover the art of fabric looming in this fun, hands-on workshop! Learn the traditional technique of weaving threads on a loom and create your own unique Chinese New Year decor piece. Participants get to enjoy the creative process that fosters mindfulness and craft something that is personal and meaningful.

Fabric looming is a traditional weaving technique where threads are interlaced to create a fabric. Using a loom, participants will learn how to set up the warp (vertical threads) and weave in the weft (horizontal threads) to form patterns.

(2hrs)

Conducted in English and Mandarin.

Admission for ages 15 and above.

### About Aestival Elements

Aestival Elements is founded by Valerie Aw, who has been passionate about crafting since a young age. She learnt the art of Chinese paper cutting from her artist father, Aw Tee Hong. She enjoys the intricate art of traditional Chinese paper cutting and the creativity of diorama-making. While Valerie has a background in banking, her true passion lies in the world of handmade creations and she is excited to share her skills and enthusiasm with you in this workshop!

**16 Feb 2025, Sun, 1.30pm & 4.30pm**

Esplanade White Room

Ticket Price: \$30

**Tickets on sale from 5 Dec 2024, Thu, 10am onwards.**