



Esplanade
Presents

Kalaa Utsavam
Indian Festival of Arts

AGAM THEATRE LAB
features Chutney Drama Society's



பச்சு
பங்களா
தொடர்
கொல்லா!

24-26
NOV
2023
FRI-SUN

Esplanade
Theatre
Studio

TWIN MURDER IN THE
GREEN MANSION

AN ESPLANADE CO-PRODUCTION



A GANESH
KARTHIK
MAYHEM

About Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay

Esplanade is Singapore's national performing arts centre. It hosts a year-round line-up of about 3,500 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. The Charity Council awarded TECL the Charity Governance Award – Special Commendation for Clarity of Strategy in 2016 and 2022, and the Charity Transparency Award from 2016 – 2019 and 2022. Esplanade is Singapore's first Dementia-Friendly Arts Venue and a certified Dementia Go-To Point, as well as a Guide-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 for more information.

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FESTIVAL MESSAGE

From 17 – 26 Nov 2023, Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay's *Kalaa Utsavam – Indian Festival of Arts* presents on-the-pulse explorations of culture and identity by some of India and Singapore's best-known names in the performing arts, alongside exciting musicians and bands who have emerged in the last decade. Southeast Asia's first Indian arts festival with a multi-genre focus will celebrate these talents as well as the power of stories and folklore in both traditional and contemporary contexts.

Through forms ranging from comedy to dance, the festival promises bold expressions of female divinity and desire as well as incisive reflections on Indian culture within cities and across the diaspora. Leading Singapore comedian Kumar will be in a new work specially commissioned by Esplanade on Indian culture in the Lion City and beyond in *The Great Indian Mix – Kumar Spills the Tea*. In the solo work *FORBIDDEN*, world-renowned contemporary kathak dancer and choreographer Aditi Mangaldas ponders the myriad ways in which women are routinely persecuted the world over just for being themselves, and the courage needed to reclaim their sexuality. Esplanade has co-commissioned *FORBIDDEN* together with London's Sadlers Wells Theatre and the National Centre for the Performing Arts, Mumbai. Emerging writer Shiv Tandan explores a young man's move from sedate Singapore to over-the-top Mumbai in the award-winning comic play *Fistful of Rupees*.

The festival continues to provide a stage for the next generation of artists. Making his Singapore debut, Bollywood playback singer and popular crooner Armaan Malik will regale audiences with the hits that catapulted him to superstardom like *Main Rahoona Ya Na Rahoona* and *Pehla Pyaar*; feted young music composer Sean Roldan and his band present an evening of their well-loved songs; while Carnatic 2.0 will whet the appetite of all fusion music lovers, featuring renowned musician-composer Mahesh Raghvan with violinists Nandini and Ragini Shankar from Taraana. One of India's top indie bands, When Chai Met Toast, makes a welcome return to the festival, while Euphonic Masala from the festival's *Fusion Beats* mentorship programme presents a night of wedding songs in *BARAAT*.

Stories and folklore have the power to transport us to realms beyond our imagination. They carry the collective wisdom, traditions, and legends of our ancestors and connect us to the roots of our shared humanity. Children aged four and above are invited to immerse themselves in the story of *Four Friends and the Hunter* (a Panchatantra tale) written by Aishwariyah Shanmuganathan and directed by Rani Kanna & Kalah Rajes Kannan from A K Theatre. *Naga Mandala* by Punyah Dance Company centres around the popular folklore of Rani and a shape-shifting snake told through *bharathanatyam* dance and *Twin Murder in the Green Mansion*, inspired by the British play, *The Play That Goes Wrong* will be presented by local theatre company Agam Theatre Lab, transporting audiences to worlds both familiar and fantastical.

Complementing this wide array of programmes is a line-up of free performances and activities, as well as workshops and talks. We would like to thank Principal Sponsor High Commission of India, Supporting Sponsors Fort Sanctuary, Malabar Gold & Diamonds and Suvai Foods PT Ltd, and Mr Matthew Teng for their generous support of the festival.

As you step into Esplanade for *Kalaa Utsavam*, we invite you to leave the constraints of everyday life behind and surrender yourself to the transformative power of this unique celebration. We hope you open your heart and mind, and embark on a path of personal growth, artistic exploration and profound connection.

We eagerly await your arrival, ready to create memories that will linger in your hearts forever.

See you at *Kalaa Utsavam*!

V M Sai Akileshwar

Producer

The Esplanade Co Ltd



DIRECTORS' MESSAGES

In the words of the great Anton Chekhov, "Don't tell me the moon is shining; show me the glint of light on broken glass." Our production is a testament to this wisdom, inviting you to witness not just a play but the luminous shards of human experience refracted on the stage.

This production is not just a play; it is a theatrical adventure, an uncharted exploration of narrative and technical wonders that has never graced the stages of Singapore before. Join us on this daring escapade into the heart of theatrical experimentation, where the unexpected is the only certainty.

In the tapestry of creativity, *Twin Murder in the Green Mansion* unfolds as a symphony of dreams and dedication. To the luminous stars of our stage, the cast, and crew, your artistry has woven a narrative that transcends the ordinary—thank you for breathing life into this theatrical odyssey.

Our heartfelt gratitude extends to the benevolent hands of our funding agencies, National Arts Council & Tamil Language Learning and Promotion Committee whose belief in our vision has been the palette from which we painted this vibrant canvas. A dance of collaboration with our co-producer, Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay, has enriched the choreography of our storytelling.

Yet, the true masterpiece lies in the silent dialogue between the stage and the soul of our audience. Your presence is the ethereal melody that resonates in the heart of our performance. To you, we offer an encore of gratitude for being the silent protagonist in this tale.

Behind the curtain, my children and family, you are my unsung heroes, the silent muses who inspire and sustain. Your love is the hidden thread stitching together the seams of this production.

In the alchemy of art, gratitude becomes an art form. With brushes dipped in sincerity and pens fueled by passion, we extend our deepest thanks to all who have made this production a tapestry of enchantment.

With love and boundless appreciation,

Subramanian Ganesh

Producer & Director

Have you ever watched a show and wondered, "How did they do that?". There's a story behind it all, and that's what theatre is all about: bringing communities together to share stories. Tonight we invite you to join us for an unforgettable storytelling experience like none other!

The sheer brilliance of the original, *The Play that Goes Wrong*, caught my eye when I watched an excerpt many years back. A set of characters in a fictional theatre company that can really never get anything right. Now that is an ingenious formula to explore multiple levels of theatricality which leads to a high adrenaline pumping experience for the audience. It did not take much to convince Ganesh to slot an adaptation of the play into the Agam calendar this year.

I believe the beauty of theatre lies in the "live-ness" that exists only in stage plays. Theatre is what happens here in this exact moment, between this particular audience and these particular performers on this particular night. So believe me when I say that tonight everything is real, everything is believably happening to this cast of characters at every moment.

What makes this play really unique is that there really are two sets of characters. They are the characters of murder mystery, which are pretty straightforward without much depth. But then there are the true characters, which is what our chaos is, playing the actors of Chutney Drama Society who play these characters. There's not a whole lot written in there which gave us the wonderful opportunity to work with our actors in crafting and finding the backstory of the characters, which is, I think, one of the things that's going to make this production unique and different from other productions that people may have seen of it. So I urge you to watch with the different layers in mind including the set as the ninth actor.

Comedy is tougher than drama. It requires meticulous planning and choreography for the humour to work. This resonated with every single soul of the company that worked for this production. Many thanks to the wonderful cast, and the brilliant production, technical, and stage management teams for bringing your best to this play. Eternal gratitude to the Agam team and, of course, my undying thanks to Ganesh for always allowing my craziest of ideas to come on stage! Thanks to my family and friends for always being my cheerleaders.

Now buckle up for the ride of a lifetime!

Karthikeyan Somasundaram

Director & Script Adaptation



SYNOPSIS

Charlie Singam, a law consultant, solves the mystery behind a major fraud case where \$9,000 was apprehended by the police. Within days he is found mysteriously dead in his green mansion, Pachae Bungalaa, on his engagement night. Everyone in Pachae Bungalaa becomes a suspect: his loyal friend Panjabootham Chandran, his gorgeous fiance Roopa Chandran, his righteous younger brother Robbie Singam and his faithful servant Maanasthan. Inspector Choudhry arrives to investigate the case over the stormy night but finds himself embroiled in the web of lies, lust, deceit and betrayal. He is in a race against time when he finds a second dead body in Pachae Bungalaa! Who is the murderer?

(2hrs, including 15 mins intermission)

SINGAPOREAN PLAY THAT GOES WRONG

"Break a leg!" takes on a whole new meaning for a woefully misguided troupe of players at the Chutney Drama Society's opening night performance of *Pachae Bungalaa, Rettae Kolaedaa*, where Murphy's Law throws curve balls at the ensemble throughout the play. An unconscious leading lady, a corpse who can't play dead, a ruffled detective, and a word-mangling servant, among others, must battle against technical gaffes, forgotten lines, and sabotaging scenery in a quest to arrive all in one piece at the final curtain call. Part Monty Python, part Sherlock Holmes, all mayhem, this disastrously delightful whodunit will leave you in stitches!

Prepare to be captivated by a play within a play as our actors navigate the intricacies of a meta-theatrical twist. Unpredictability and the unexpected become the norm, blurring the lines between reality and performance.

Tradition meets innovation in this theatrical experiment like never before. This official adaptation of *The Play that Goes Wrong*, 2015 Olivier Best Comedy Award winner, takes a daring leap into uncharted territories of Singaporean Tamil language theatre, pushing the boundaries of conventional storytelling.

In a groundbreaking exploration of technicalities, the sets and props become dynamic players in the drama as the stage transforms fluidly through the course of the play. The architecture of the Green Mansion aims to bring Singaporean nostalgia to stage, mirroring the flux of the narrative.

Witness the innovative use of lighting, sound, and special effects. These technical elements cease to be mere tools and instead become characters in their own right, shaping the emotional landscape of the production.

Welcome to a new era of storytelling—where the play goes wrong, and the audience is still entertained!

ABOUT AGAM THEATRE LAB

Established in 2019 by theatremaker Subramanian Ganesh and a collective of theatre enthusiasts, Agam Theatre Lab is one of Singapore's newest additions to the evolving landscape of homegrown theatre. Agam's contribution to the theatre landscape includes cultivating trained theatre practitioners, showcasing high quality theatre productions and growing an audience base beyond the Tamil-speaking public. With a focus on stimulating critical thinking and inspiring constructive self-expression, Agam aspires to create a space where audiences can reflect on the world around them.

Diversity is at the heart of Agam Theatre Lab, with artists hailing from a spectrum of backgrounds— from full-time practitioners and educators to accountants, scientists, army personnel, film producers, and beyond. The company offers a haven for 'resting' professional actors to experiment and innovate in a nurturing environment.

Agam's commitment extends beyond the classics; the theatre lab actively supports new writing, aspiring to shine a spotlight on lesser-known playwrights. Moreover, Agam serves as a stage for its own members' original works, with plans to publish these creations in both hard and digital formats.

A compelling vision drives Agam Theatre Lab to ensure the longevity of Singapore Tamil language theatre by providing a dynamic platform for both youth and adults to curate, market, and stage distinctive intercultural theatre content.



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KARTHIKEYAN SOMASUNDARAM

Karthikeyan Somasundaram is a multifaceted artist who is an actor, host, scriptwriter, and director. His recent acting credits are his roles in *Hangman* by Avant Theatre, P Krishanan's *Animal Farm* by Agam Theatre Lab, *2+2* at *Kalaa Utsavam 2020* and Grace Kalaiselvi's *Angry Indian Woman – The Trial* at the Singapore Writers Festival 2020. Graduating from LASALLE College of the Arts in 2019 with a BA (Hons, First Class) in Acting, Karthikeyan has showcased his talent in a range of productions. His portfolio boasts appearances in plays such as *Requiem for Change* under David Glass, *Henry V* directed by Adam Marple, *Pinter Triple Bill* helmed by Noor Effendy Ibrahim, and *Medea* directed by Elizabeth De Roza. His versatility is further evident in his portrayal of title characters in productions such as *Azhagiya Asuran*, *Murasu*, *Othello*, and *Thondan*. He has also won the Best Actor Award in 2022 and 2016 Pradhana Vizha Awards, Mediacorp.



UDAYA SOUNDARI

Udaya Soundari stands as a luminary in the realm of Singaporean Indian stage and television. A consummate artist and television presenter, Udaya's artistic journey began in her adolescence, marked by a fervent passion for the arts. From staging musicals in school to securing a gold medal at the Singapore Youth Festival and achieving recognition as a Top 10 finalist on the reality television singing competition *Vasantham Star*, Udaya's ascent has been remarkable. Her illustrious eight-year career has seen her triumph as a singer, actor, and host, amassing a collection of awards that underscores her versatility and skill. Notably, she holds the distinction of being the first individual in Singapore to achieve three awards in a single year at the Pradhana Vizha festival, accumulating a total of six victories overall, an all-time record in Singapore's Tamil arts scene.



PRASAKTHI ALLAGOO

Prasakthi Allagoo's passion for stage acting has been an enduring facet of her life since 1995. Under the guidance of esteemed veterans of the era, Prasakthi has graced the stage in numerous productions. Some of her notable stage performances include *(Missed) Manamagal*, *MRT - Mangai Ragalai Time* and *AVA Trilogy*. Having been a mainstay for 26 years in MediaCorp Vasantham dramas, Prasakthi's talent has earned her recognition and five nominations at Pradhana Vizha, spanning categories like Best Supporting Actress, Best Actress (Comedy), and Best Actor in a Negative Role. Her versatility has also seen her gracing the screen through popular drama series on MediaCorp Channel 5, including *True Files*, *True Courage*, *Incredible Tales*, *Polo Boys*, and *The Best I Could*. Her artistic pursuits also encompass short films like *Un Vasalilae*, for the Singapore Writers Festival 2014, which also found its way to cinemas. In 2020, her exceptional performance in the short film *Wait for Me* earned her a nomination for Best Supporting Actress at the London International Film Festival. The film's selection for the Tokyo Lift Off Festival 2020 further cemented her reputation as an accomplished and versatile artist.



NALLU DHINAKHARAN

Nallu Dhinakaran stands as a passionate professional with a remarkable journey that spans both the arts and education sectors. A trailblazer in his own right, he boasts achievements as both a practitioner and an educator. Notably, he led a team to the Cannes Film Festival Community Documentary Category in 2008, receiving the Distinguished Community Documentary Award. With over 15 years of engagement in theatre, Nallu has played varied roles in several noteworthy Tamil language theatre productions. His dedication extends to research, music production, and administration, and he stands as a pioneering cultural geographer in the exploration of performance's role in carrying Tamil culture in Singapore. Nallu Dhinakaran's profound passion for scholarly works within Tamil theatre encapsulates his commitment to the cultural fabric of Singapore.



SHAIKH YASIN

Shaikh Yasin is a versatile freelance bilingual actor whose passion for theatre ignited during his early school days, evolving into a blazing commitment over the years. Starting as a young actor in school plays at the age of 12, Shaikh's journey took him to Nanyang Technological University, where he resumed his acting pursuits in his third year. His lead performance in the school's annual Tamil musical garnered recognition from local theatre directors and marked his reentry into the theatrical sphere. Following his graduation, Shaikh harmonised his engineering career with his theatrical aspirations, collaborating with various theatre companies. His theatrical journey spans over 25 dramas, where he has not only excelled as an actor but also delved into roles like production manager and stage manager, enriching his appreciation of every facet of stagecraft.



MANO

Mano's journey in the arts has been a blend of academic excellence and artistic exploration. Graduating from NTU with an honours degree in Communication Studies and later completing his Masters in Strategic Studies at RSIS, NTU, Mano's journey reflects his multidimensional interests. With a career spanning around nine years in communications, his venture into Tamil theatre during his undergraduate years awakened an enduring appreciation for arts and culture. His performances in productions like *Taj Mahal*, *12 Angry Men*, *Avanum Ivanum* and the recent success of Agam Theatre Lab's *Vilangkuppennai* showcase his commitment to the stage and its potential for fostering societal diversity.



PK

Ponkumaran, often referred to as PK, is a fervent theatre enthusiast whose artistic journey found its roots during his university days through NUS Tamil Language Society's annual event, *Sangae Muzhangu*. Guided by a deep passion for the arts, he has traversed various roles within the arts. PK's theatrical repertoire includes collaborations with diverse Tamil groups in an array of plays, showcasing his commitment to the craft. Some of his notable works include *Kullanari*, *Avanum Ivanum* and *Vilangkuppennai*.



INDU ELANGO VAN

Indu's journey in theatre is one brimming with enthusiasm and admiration for the craft. From her initial interest in acting during her school years to her deepening passion as she matured, Indu's dedication to the art form is evident. Collaborating with numerous Singaporean Tamil theatre companies, she has carved a niche for herself as one of the most sought-after actresses of her time. Noteworthy in her repertoire are performances in Agam Theatre Lab's *Vilangkuppennai*, *Vidhai*, and Avant Theatre's *Chandramukhi*, solidifying her reputation as an actor of exceptional talent.



THE

CREW

SUBRAMANIAN GANESH

PRODUCER & DIRECTOR

Subramanian Ganesh emerged as a young luminary in the realm of performing arts, boasting an extensive portfolio that encompasses directing, acting, and lighting design. With a career spanning 20 years, Ganesh has evolved from his initial role as an actor to become a driving force in pushing artistic boundaries within his generation in Singapore. Recognized as a trailblazer in the Tamil theatre scene, Ganesh is celebrated for his commitment to the craft and his pivotal contributions. Having collaborated with nearly every Tamil theatre company in Singapore and with several fine arts companies, he stands as a respected figure, showcasing an unwavering dedication to the development of his artistry. Ganesh's journey as a director and collaborator has been marked by a relentless pursuit of excellence, evident in his involvement with various professional groups. His directorial ventures, including *Othello* (2013), *Kullanari* (2014), *Murasu* (2015), *AdukkuVeetu Annasamy* (2018), *Duryodhana ARVR* (2020), *ReSomma* (2021) and *Vilangkuppennai* (2022), have garnered critical acclaim, solidifying his reputation as a visionary leader in the realm of theatrical storytelling. With a wealth of experience and a passion for pushing creative boundaries, Subramanian Ganesh continues to leave an indelible mark on the vibrant tapestry of Singapore's performing arts scene.



KARTHIKEYAN SOMASUNDARAM

DIRECTOR & SCRIPT ADAPTATION

Beyond performing on stage, Karthikeyan Somasundaram has directed plays like *Adukku Veettu Annasamy 2*, showcased as part of Esplanade's *Raga 2016*. His most recent endeavours include directing and scripting the bioplay *Re Somma* in 2021 and the critically acclaimed *Vilangkuppennai* in *Raga 2022*, both presented by Agam Theatre Lab. He has also directed *Kullanari* in 2014, a stage adaptation of Quentin Tarantino's *Reservoir Dogs*. Apart from theatre, he has directed several MediaCorp television series such as the recent telemovie *Deepavali Parisu*, as well as *Vanakkam Singai*, *Deepavalikku Enna Samayal*, *Enna Nadakkuthu*, and *Uncle Taxi Engae Poguthu*. He has also written for award winning television series such as *CID Sakunthala*, *Oru Naal Koothu*, and *Parambarai*.



SINDHURA KALIDAS

DRAMATURG

Sindhura Kalidas is a theatre practitioner and educator. Over the years, she has diversified her largely performance-based portfolio to include writing, facilitating, directing, and dramaturgy through her training and work with companies such as Teater Ekamatra, The Necessary Stage (TNS), and The Finger Players (TFP). She is currently an Associate Artist with TNS. Sindhu is a recipient of the National Arts Council Postgraduate Arts Scholarship and holds an MA (Distinction) in Dramaturgy and Writing for Performance from Goldsmiths, University of London. Her recent dramaturgical credits include the Singapore Youth Theatre's double bill *Every Student Is A Good Student/In My Head* (2023), TFP's *Puppet Origin Stories* (2022), and *Jun and the Octopus* (2022) as well as TNS's *Acting Mad*.



CHARLINDA PEREIRA

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Charlyn Linda Pereira (aka Charlinda Pereira) is a production manager and stage manager with experience in commercial and community projects in Singapore. Throughout her career, she has worked on a variety of productions, including producing shows like *VINCENT*, *Cyril & Michael* and *Subtitled 1.0* as well as being an associate producer with Agam Theatre Lab and HuM Theatre. She also served as a production stage manager for productions like *ARISI:RICE* by Apsaras Arts, *Vilangkuppennai (Animal Farm)* by Agam Theatre Lab and *We Are Like This Only 3* by HuM Theatre.



SHIVANI D/O THILLAI NADARAJAN

STAGE MANAGER

Shivani, a graduate from the BA(Hons) Arts Management programme at Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, is currently a freelance production stage manager. Some credits include: Launch of Digital Archive of Singapore Tamil Theatre by National Library Board (NLB) and the Tamil Digital Heritage Group (TDHG) (Production Stage Manager), *Silent Walls* by Ochre Pictures (Art Assistant), *(un)becoming* by T: > Works, *Festival of Women: N.O.W* (Stage Manager).



AUDREY LOW

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER & PROPS DESIGNER

Audrey is a graduating student pursuing Diploma in Theatre Production Management at LASALLE College of the Arts. They are also exploring other areas while freelancing in management, props-making and technical works. Upon graduating, they will like to pursue more in the management or scenic field, and experience technical works in their freelancing period.



REYN TAN

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER & PROPS ASSISTANT

Reyn is a recent graduate of the LASALLE College of the Arts Diploma course in Theatre Production and Management. Before specialising in scenography, Reyn took on roles as an Assistant Stage Manager in *Mama Looking for her Cat*, and Wardrobe Supervisor for *Ma Courage*, managing a cast of 17 in both productions.

Pachae Bungala Rettae Kolaedaa has been a wonderful amalgamation of their scenic and management background, showcasing the various technical and creative solutions for props and cues.



SAFFY ISMAIL

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Saffy Ismail's interest in the theatre industry directed her to self-learn as a freelancer in her early years, which then led her to apply to LASALLE College of the Arts, where she graduated with a Diploma in Technical and Production Management in 2022. Saffy is also pursuing her passion for performing with the Malay drumming ensemble, Nadi Singapura.



EMILY FRANCESCA SOEGIJANTO

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Emily is a dedicated student from Indonesia who ventured to Singapore to pursue a Diploma in Theatre Production and Management at LASALLE College of the Arts. A deep passion for the intricacies of theatre management and technical aspects fuels her academic journey. Post-graduation, Emily envisions carving out a fulfilling career in production and management within the dynamic world of theatre.



NALLU DHINAKARAN

SOUND DESIGN

Nallu Dhinakharan stands as a passionate professional with a remarkable journey that spans both the arts and education sectors. A trailblazer in his own right, he boasts achievements as both a practitioner and an educator. Notably, he led a team to the Cannes Film Festival Community Documentary Category in 2008, receiving the Distinguished Community Documentary Award. With over 15 years of engagement in theatre, Nallu has played varied roles in several noteworthy Tamil language theatre productions. His dedication extends to research, music production, and administration, and he stands as a pioneering cultural geographer in the exploration of performance's role in carrying Tamil culture in Singapore. Nallu Dhinakharan's profound passion for scholarly works within Tamil theatre encapsulates his commitment to the cultural fabric of Singapore.



VINITH KUMAR

SOUND ASSISTANT

Vinith started his journey in Tamil theatre during his university days by taking the role of a writer and actor for his institution's play, *Sangae Muzhangu*. Ever since, he has developed a deep sense of interest and passion towards the craft. He has worked as a producer, production manager, stage manager and artist for over 12 stage productions over the last five years.



NOREHAN

COSTUMES & MAKEUP DESIGN

Norehan, a distinguished graduate of Institut Guerlain Champs-Élysées Paris and LASALLE International Singapore, boasts over two decades of expertise in makeup, hair, and fashion design. Commencing her journey as a regional trainer for Guerlain, she imparted her extensive knowledge across Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, and the Philippines.

Her mastery expanded to the realms of television, movies, theatre, and stage, catering to artists across various channels at MediaCorp, including Channel 5, Channel 8, Octo, Suria, and Vasantham. Norehan's artistry also left an indelible mark on the South Indian film industry, contributing to productions like *Paranthu Sellae Vaa* and *Saroja*, as well as local films such as *Gurushetram*, *Pickles*, and *Banting*.

Beyond the screen, she has lent her talents to theatre productions like *Gemuk Girls*, *The Bedroom*, and others. Notably, Norehan was critically acclaimed for her last theatre production, *Animal Farm* by Agam Theatre Lab, where she explored prosthetics to bring life to the characters.



REUBEN ONG

LIGHTING DESIGN

Reuben graduated from Singapore Management University with a double degree in Psychology and Marketing, which kind of makes his degree a useless piece of paper. He is literally a head above the rest, making it so easy to focus lights that it started him on his theatre journey in 2008.

Since then, he has developed a myriad of experience in the theatre industry. He is extremely thankful for all the mentors and friends along the way who gave him opportunities to expand his exposure and for having worked with companies like Wild Rice, Dream Academy and Sing Theatre.



LIM KENG SAN

SET DESIGN

An architect by training, Keng San enjoys torturing himself by designing for the stage and other experiential mediums. He has been honing his craft over the years, collaborating with creatives and builders in productions, big and small. Keng San is married with one kid, thus well acquainted with unreasonable demands and crazy ideas.



JS SASIKUMAR

BRANDING & PUBLICITY DESIGN

JS Sasikumar is a full time science educator. He graduated with a BSc (Hons) in Life sciences from National University of Singapore and a post-graduate diploma in education from NIE. Sasi also holds a Masters degree from University College London's Institute of Education. As a branding designer and graphic artist, Sasi has worked with numerous local and international clientele on their branding and publicity needs over the past 11 years, including Snapchat Inc, Vasantham, Tamil News, National Design Centre, Agam Theatre Lab, Avant Theatre, Singapore Indian Theatre and Film Explorers, National University of Singapore, and the Ministry of Communications and Information.



CREDITS

PRODUCER
DIRECTORS

ORIGINAL SCRIPT

DRAMATURG
SCRIPT ADAPTATION
PRODUCTION MANAGER
STAGE MANAGER
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

SOUND DESIGN
SOUND ASSISTANT
BRANDING & PUBLICITY DESIGN
LIGHTING DESIGN
TECHNICAL MANAGER
SET DESIGN
SETS CONSTRUCTION
PROPS CONSTRUCTION

MAKEUP & COSTUME DESIGN
SURTITLIST
FRONT OF HOUSE SUPPORT
PUBLICITY TRAILER EDITOR

STUNTS TRAINER

CAST

SPECIAL THANKS

SUBRAMANIAN GANESH (AGAM)
SUBRAMANIAN GANESH
KARTHIKEYAN SOMASUNDARAM
THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG
BY HENRY LEWIS, JONATHAN SAYER &
HENRY SHIELDS
SINDHURA KALIDAS
KARTHIKEYAN SOMASUNDARAM
CHARLINDA PEREIRA
SHIVANI D/O THILLAI NADARAJAN
AUDREY LOW
REYN TAN
SAFFY ISMAIL
EMILY FRANCESCA SOEGIJANTO
NALLU DHINAKHARAN
VINITH KUMAR
JS SASIKUMAR
REUBEN ONG
IAN TAN
LIM KENG SAN (ONSTAGING)
BRANDON (ONSTAGING)
AUDREY LOW
REYN TAN
NOREHAN FONG-HARUN
DURGA DEVI
BANU PONNARASU
PRAVEEN KUMAR TR

LIAN SUTTON

KARTHIKEYAN SOMASUNDARAM
UDAYA SOUNDARI
PRASAKTHI ALLAGOO
NALLU DHINAKHARAN
SHAIKH YASIN
PK
MANO
INDU

NATIONAL ARTS COUNCIL
TAMIL LANGUAGE LEARNING AND
PROMOTION COMMITTEE (TLLPC)
MR ELANGO, CASUARINA CURRY



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Esplanade is a charity and not-for-profit organisation. Help us bring the joy and inspiration of the arts to different communities, including the underserved.

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- Esplanade&Me members can redeem an additional one reusable bag when you upload the same receipt image. Limited to one redemption per member.
- Valid receipt must be presented to qualify for redemption.
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- Valid receipt must be presented to qualify for redemption.
- Reusable shopping bags are available for collection at Esplanade Box Office and Visitor Centre from 12pm to 8pm daily.
- Participating merchants reserve the right to amend the terms and conditions without prior notice.

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Find out more:

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Discover Personalities' Recommended Content at Esplanade

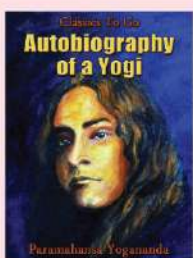
Where Art & Books Meet



SHARUL CHANNA



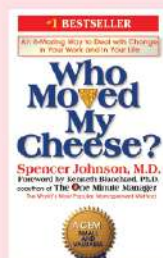
A book that helped me find my spiritual master.



A book in which Jerry Seinfeld compiled some of his best jokes and made me laugh out loud!



A book for anyone and everyone! It is a quick read which motivates you to do better for yourself and still be kind.



PopLore is a podcast on how local stalwarts have shaped our own music scene.



Check out Sharul's other recommended reads at the NLB node on Level 4 at Esplanade.



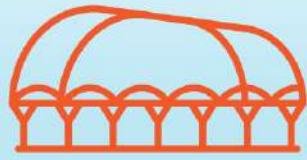
Download the NLB Mobile app



Read "Bookmark This: Sharul Channa" on Esplanade Offstage

Esplanade gives our heartfelt thanks

to our Esplanade partner, arts benefactor, donors and sponsors for believing in our vision to be a performing arts centre for everyone. They made all these possible!^



4,562

activities took place at Esplanade.



3,354

 Free

1,057

 Paid

3,260,515

People attended our activities at the centre.



Free

1,487,680

Paid

287,931



602

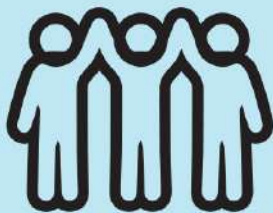
 Activities

12,059

 Participants

We believe that everyone should be able to experience the joy of the arts, including children, youth, seniors, migrant workers and individuals with special needs. Our community engagement activities bring the arts to those in need.

*Figures for Esplanade's activities from Apr 2022 to Mar 2023.



Your contribution* will make a difference.

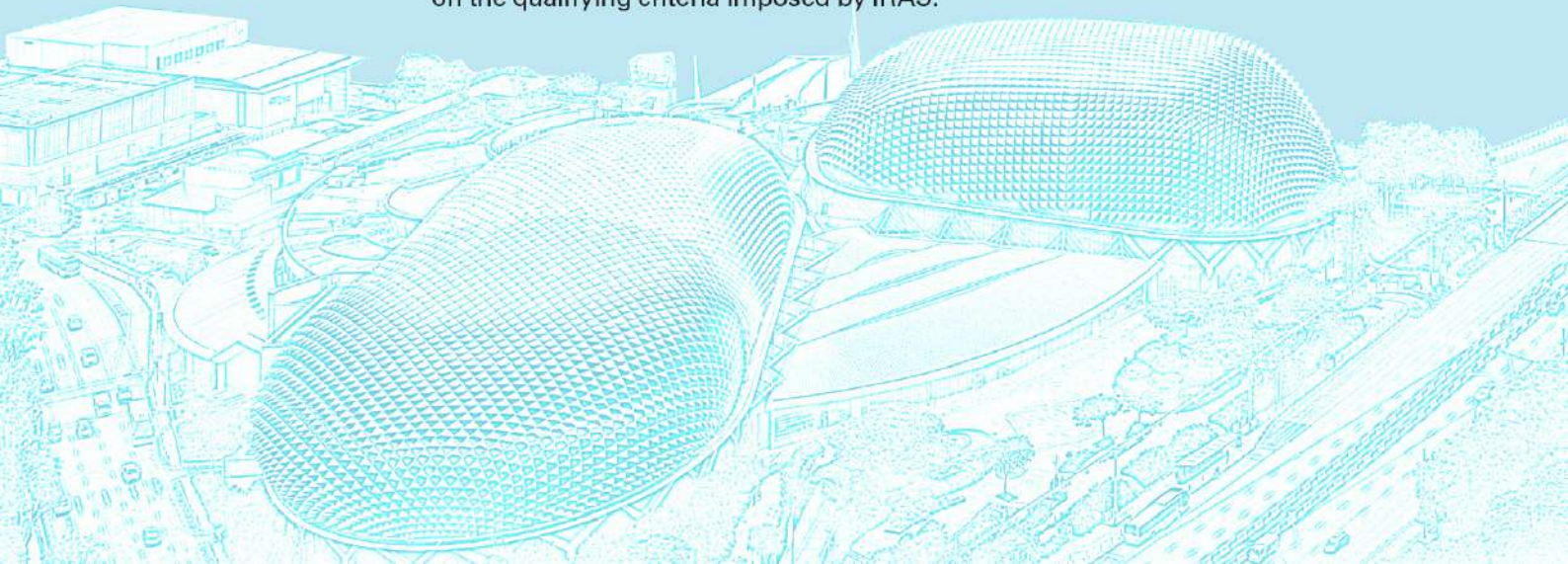
On behalf of the communities we serve, thank you!

Find out how you too can make a difference through the arts at Esplanade.

Donate at www.esplanade.com/donate

To find out more, email us at donations@esplanade.com or speak with us at 6828 8321.

Esplanade is a charity and an Institution of a Public Character. Your donation to us is matched dollar-for-dollar by the Cultural Matching Fund. Please note that the prevailing tax exemption scheme for donors and sponsors of Arts-Related Businesses will depend on the qualifying criteria imposed by IRAS.



With Gratitude

Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay is a charity, a not-for-profit organisation and Singapore's national performing arts centre. We seek to entertain, engage, educate and inspire through the arts.

We thank everyone who has helped us bring joy, inspiration and positive impact to Singaporeans from all walks of life by supporting the arts and Esplanade.

Our heartfelt appreciation goes especially to our Donors and Sponsors, for their steadfast belief in our mission and for their generous support.

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Yap Foo Kar
Yvonne Tham

The above are donors and sponsors who contributed \$1000 and above from April 2022–March 2023.

Join us in sharing the joy of the arts and help us reach more communities in need.

We believe that an experience with the arts is special and that with your generous support, more people will get a chance to enjoy the arts. Join us in sharing the joy of the arts and help us reach more communities in need.



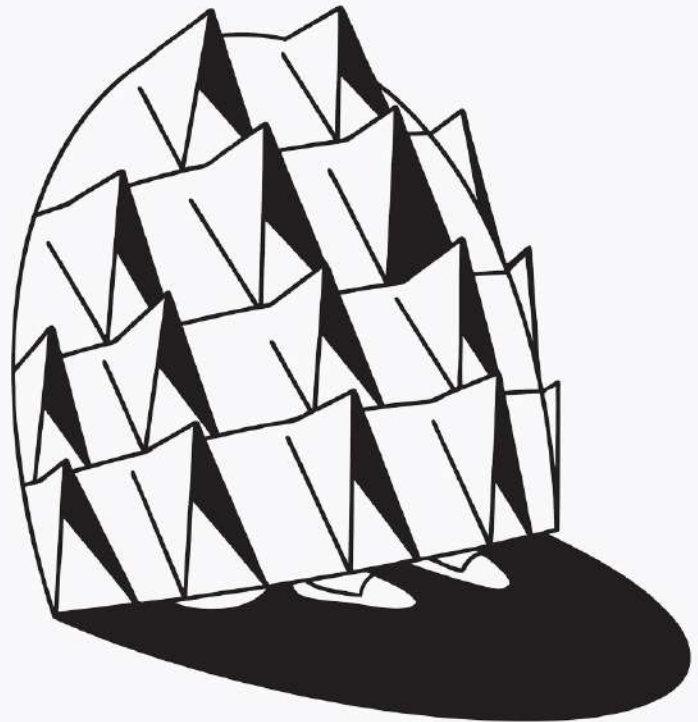
Esplanade also receives grants from the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth, as well as support for our Community Programmes from the Tote Board Family, comprising Tote Board, Singapore Pools and Singapore Turf Club.

“

I could just scroll through IG or TikTok but I thought why should I when I can do the same on Offstage? It makes me feel like I know more things. Great arts content, anytime, anywhere. Highly recommend.

”

Totally Anonymous Person
(who is not related to www.esplanade.com/offstage)



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