

Film Picks

Yip Wai Yee and John Lui recommend



SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ARTS: SINGULAR SCREENS

For its film programme this year, known as Singular Screens, the Singapore International Festival of Arts is celebrating independent voices and the power of the individual.

The line-up kicks off with Iranian director Mohammad Rasoulof's *A Man Of Integrity* (left), about a man whose goldfish farm in northern Iran is threatened by a corrupt authoritarian regime. The film, starring Reza Akhlaghirad (far left) and Soudabeh Beizaei (left), was banned in Iran, but has won much acclaim, including the Un Certain Regard prize at the Cannes International Film Festival last year.

Other films in the programme include Thai director Nawapol Thamrongrattanarit's *Die Tomorrow* (2017), which looks at the last 24 hours of six Bangkok individuals, as well as Chinese newcomer Cai Chengjie's *The Widowed Witch* (2018), about a woman who pretends to be a shaman. **WHERE:** Screening Room, The Arts House, 1 Old Parliament Lane **MRT:** City Hall/Clarke Quay **WHEN:** April 28 to May 11 **ADMISSION:** \$9 a film, \$24 for three films, from sifa.sg/programmes/singular-screens

Yip Wai Yee

THE HURRICANE HEIST (PG13)

103 mins
★★★★☆

One of the largest hurricanes in history is about to hit a town in Alabama, where a federal facility that disposes of old paper currency is located.

With the town evacuated and the facility lightly guarded, the only ones standing between the cash and a gang of violent robbers are meteorologist Will (Toby Kebbell), his alcoholic older brother Breeze (Ryan Kwanten) and a federal agent Casey (Maggie Grace).

This movie makes full, imaginative use of its premise. The storm is more than just a bystander or a ticking clock – it is a human-scaled character that steps in, sometimes in aid of the baddies and, at other times, its screeching winds are weaponised by the good guys.

John Lui



SWEDISH FILM FESTIVAL

The lives of the two titular characters in *Fanny And Alexander* (1982), starring Bertil Guve (above left) and Pernilla Allwin (right), are turned upside down after their widowed mother remarries a strict clergyman.

The acclaimed film is said to be semi-autobiographical of the life of

director Ingmar Bergman, whose seven other movies will be showing at the Swedish Film Festival.

WHERE: The Projector, 05-00 Golden Mile Tower, 6001 Beach Road **MRT:** Nicoll Highway **WHEN:** April 12 to 15 **ADMISSION:** \$13.50 from theprojector.sg

Yip Wai Yee



POLISH FILM FESTIVAL

The other film festival going on this month gives audiences a selection of films from Poland, the first time a festival from the country is being held in Singapore.

Titles to look out for include *All That I Love* (2009), a modern-day Romeo And Juliet story set in Communist-era Poland starring Mateusz Kosciukiewicz (above left) and Olga Frycz (right); and *Carte*

Blanche (2015), about a high-school history teacher who tries to hide the fact that he is gradually losing his eyesight.

WHERE: The Projector, 05-00 Golden Mile Tower, 6001 Beach Road **MRT:** Nicoll Highway **WHEN:** April 26 to 29 **ADMISSION:** \$13.50 from theprojector.sg

Yip Wai Yee

PHOTOS: SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ARTS, SWEDISH FILM FESTIVAL, POLISH FILM FESTIVAL

FILMS

Love, Simon (2018, PG13)

This GV Movie Club Squad screening is about a teenage boy who keeps his sexual orientation from his family and friends, but shares it with an anonymous online friend, who is also a closet gay.

WHERE: GV Suntec City, 03-373 Suntec City Mall, 3 Temasek Boulevard **MRT:** Promenade **WHEN:** Wed, 7.30pm **ADMISSION/INFO:** \$13 (GV Movie Club members only; sign up for free membership at gv.com.sg), includes regular popcorn

On Happiness Road (2017, PG)

Growing up in Taiwan, Chi yearned to move to the United States. She worked hard and got her wish. However, when she comes home for her grandmother's funeral, she bumps into old friends and begins to feel nostalgic about her childhood. There will be a 20-minute dialogue with director Sung Hsin-yin after the movie, which is in Mandarin with English subtitles.

WHERE: GV Suntec City, 03-373 Suntec City Mall, 3 Temasek Boulevard **MRT:** Promenade/ Esplanade **WHEN:** May 1, 6.40 - 9pm **ADMISSION:** Singapore Film Society membership, from \$18 a month **TEL:** 9017-0160 **INFO:** E-mail info@singaporefilmsociety.com

NATURE

Weekends I The Park: Lifestyle Market & Workshops

If you enjoy artisan crafts and chalk art, catch NParks' lifestyle market at East Coast Park. Look out for workshops on how to creatively reuse old materials, taking place throughout the day.

WHERE: Parkland Green, East Coast Park Car Park C1 **MRT:** Eunos **WHEN:** April 14 & 15, 11am - 8pm **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** E-mail sylvia_phay@nparks.gov.sg

Birdwatching At Sungei Buloh

Join guides from the Nature Society of Singapore at Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve to watch visiting waders during the migratory season and

observe a wide range of resident bird species.

WHERE: Meet at visitor counter, Sungei Buloh Wetland Centre, Neo Tiew Crescent **MRT:** Kranji **WHEN:** April 15, 7.30 - 10.30am **ADMISSION:** For Nature Society of Singapore members (go to www.nss.org.sg for membership information) **TEL:** 6741-2036 **INFO:** E-mail contact@nss.org.sg

Rustic Reflections Tour – Pulau Ubin

This tour takes you through the former Bin Kiang School site, the Sensory Trail pond, the former headman's house and Kampung Melayu. There are also visits to a rubber plantation, the Ubin Fruit Orchard and Teck Seng's Place, a restored Chinese kampung house.

WHERE: Assembly Area (Meeting Point 1, Ubin-HSBC Volunteer Hub/NParks Office), Pulau Ubin **MRT:** Changi Airport **WHEN:** April 21, 9.30 - 11.30am **ADMISSION:** \$60 for group of up to 15 people **INFO:** E-mail leroy_rocky_alphonso@nparks.gov.sg, jacky_soh@nparks.gov.sg or ridhwan_mokri@nparks.gov.sg

Art In The Park At Little Guilin

Join artists Van Wangye and Alpana Ahuja for a fun and casual site drawing session at Little Guilin in Bukit Batok. No drawing experience is necessary.

WHERE: Little Guilin at Bukit Batok Town Park (details will be e-mailed one week before the activity date) **MRT:** Bukit Gombak **WHEN:** April 21, 8.30 - 10.30am **ADMISSION:** register at tinyurl.com/artatguilin **INFO:** E-mail kerry@nss.org.sg

PETS

Save Our Street Dogs Shelter Tour

SOSD (Save Our Street Dogs) conducts shelter tours every second and last Sunday of the month. Registration is required. For the safety of its dogs, the centre will not accommodate drop-in visitors.

WHERE: SOSD Rehabilitation Centre, Unit 13/14 Block C, Swift Singapore, 22 Pasir Ris Farmway 2 **MRT:** Pasir Ris

WHEN: Sun & April 29, noon - 1pm **ADMISSION/INFO:** Free, sign up at sosd.org.sg

Who Let The Dogs Out Carnival

Take your pet dog to a carnival filled with fun activities for the family. The event is organised by Telok Blangah Community Club.

WHERE: West Coast Dog Run, West Coast Park **MRT:** Kent Ridge **WHEN:** May 12, 9am - noon **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** goo.gl/2X3xTx

TOURS

Heritage Trail: In Search Of Golden Shoe Fortunes

A new heritage trail that follows the fortunes of Singapore's "Wall Street" from when it was first named Raffles Way in the Central Business District and popularly known as Golden Shoe. The trail starts at the Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre and ends at Lau Pa Sat food centre.

WHERE: Meet at Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre Lobby, 1 Straits Boulevard **MRT:** Tanjong Pagar **WHEN:** Today (6.30 - 8pm), April 14: 5 - 6.30pm **ADMISSION/INFO:** Send your name, e-mail address, contact number and preferred session and language (English or Mandarin) to events@singaporeccc.org.sg **INFO:** singaporeccc.org.sg/events

Cheng Sugar Factory Tour

This Singapore Heritage Festival tour takes participants to Cheng Yew Heng Candy Factory in Senoko Loop. Established in 1947, the home-grown company is the only rock-sugar manufacturer in Singapore.

WHERE/MRT: Admiralty MRT Station bus pick-up point **WHEN:** Tomorrow, 9.30 & 10.30am, 1.30 & 2.30pm **ADMISSION:** \$10 a person, tickets from tinyurl.com/y7jtknu3 **INFO:** heritagefestival.sg/programmes

Non-Chinese Communities In Chinatown

Sri Mariamman Temple and Jamae Mosque – the oldest Hindu temple and one of the oldest mosques in Singapore respectively – are in the heart of Chinatown. This tour explores

their history and heritage and gives participants an insight into the basics of Islam and Hinduism, as well as the essential architectural features of a mosque and a Hindu temple.

WHERE: Meet at Kreta Ayer Square Information Counter, 21 Banda Street **MRT:** Chinatown/Outram Park **WHEN:** April 15, 4 - 5pm **ADMISSION:** \$5 a person **TEL:** 6622-6201 **INFO:** E-mail nhb_shf@nhb.gov.sg

KIDS

KidZania's 2nd Birthday Carnival

Palawan Kidz City is turning two. Buy a carnival wristband at \$10 and get a birthday goodie pack, an A5 photograph and unlimited access to the carnival game booths and the bouncy castle.

WHERE: Palawan Kidz City, 31 Beach View, Sentosa **MRT:** HarbourFront **WHEN:** Till April 15 (except April 12), 10am - 6pm **ADMISSION:** \$25 - \$58, \$10 carnival wristband entitles visitors unlimited access to carnival activities **INFO:** kidzania.com.sg

All About Dogs Children's Exhibition

Find out more about the origins of man's best friend and its qualities, such as its keen sense of smell and hearing, as well as its use in protection, security checks at immigration, search and rescue, guide and assistance and herding of farm animals.

WHERE: Singapore Philatelic Museum, 23B Coleman Street **MRT:** City Hall **WHEN:** Till Dec 1, 10am - 7pm **ADMISSION:** \$8 (adults), \$6 (children); free for Singapore citizens & permanent residents **TEL:** 6337-3888 **INFO:** E-mail nhb_spm_adm@nhb.gov.sg or go to spm.org.sg

Cold Storage Kids Run

This year's edition of the Cold Storage Kids Run will be accompanied by other fringe activities to help kids unlock their potential. Participants get a goodie bag worth \$50 (includes a T-shirt, Sentosa food and beverage and retail vouchers, discounts on selected Sentosa attractions and a chance to win hampers worth \$200 to \$400, as well as a trophy).

WHERE: Palawan Green, Sentosa **MRT:** HarbourFront **WHEN:** May 20, 8 - 11am **ADMISSION/INFO:** \$50 - \$115, free entry to Sentosa, register at coldstoragekidsrun.com.sg

OTHERS

International Friendship Day Embassy Showcase

The Singapore Discovery Centre is hosting a showcase titled *Globalopolis.sg: Beyond Possibilities*. A special International Friendship Bazaar takes place tomorrow, with activities such as live performances, food tasting, as well as craft and booth activities.

WHERE: Singapore Discovery Centre, 510 Upper Jurong Road **MRT:** Joo Koon **WHEN:** Tomorrow, 9am - 6pm **ADMISSION:** Free for Singapore citizens & permanent residents; foreigners: \$10 - \$15 (adults; 10 per cent off for seniors), \$6 - \$10 (children aged three to 12), \$7.50 - \$13 (those aged 13 - 20), families \$28 - \$45 (two adults & two youths/children) **INFO:** E-mail info@sdc.com.sg or go to www.sdc.com.sg

Sota Open House

Primary 6 pupils, their parents and teachers are invited to the School of the Arts' Open House to explore its campus and speak with the school's staff and students about its six-year integrated arts and academic curriculum.

WHERE: 1 Zubir Said Drive **MRT:** Bencoolen/Dhoby Ghaut **WHEN:** Tomorrow, 9am - 4pm **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** sota.edu.sg/oh2018

Unveiling Of Victoria School Boy Bronze Statue

The commemoration ceremony and unveiling of the Victoria School Boy Bronze Statue will take place at the school's former campus in Tyrwhitt Road (now home to People's Association headquarters). Past and present students, teachers, principals and staff of Victoria School and Victoria Junior College are invited.

WHERE: 9 King George's Avenue/ Tyrwhitt Road **MRT:** Lavender/Farrer Park **WHEN:** April 14, 10am

ADMISSION: Free **INFO:** E-mail eclim.pals@gmail.com

LAST CALL

Meet The Author: Lorna Tan

Following the success of her first two books, *Talk Money and More Talk Money*, financial journalist Lorna Tan is back with her third personal finance guide – *Retire Smart: Financial Planning Made Easy*. In this compilation of articles published from 2015 to 2017, *The Sunday Times'* Invest editor cuts through complex financial concepts, schemes and jargon to help the layman make sense of what is important in the planning of one's financial future and growing of one's nest egg.

WHERE: Books Kinokuniya Singapore Main Store, Level 4 Takashimaya Shopping Centre, 391 Orchard Road **MRT:** Orchard **WHEN:** Tomorrow, 2pm **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** kinokuniya.com.sg

Communities & Memories Of Old Downtown Singapore

In this walking tour led by Dr Lai Chee Kien, uncover the stories of old downtown Singapore that have been buried over time and learn more about the rich history of Four Horse Road.

WHERE: Meet at The Theatre Practice, 54 Waterloo Street **MRT:** Bencoolen/ Bras Basah **WHEN:** Tomorrow, 10am - noon (English), 3 - 5 pm (Mandarin) **ADMISSION/INFO:** \$27, tickets from fhwalk.peatix.com; present your Four Horse Road ticket stub for a \$5 cash refund on event day

Under Armour Test Of Will

This year's Under Armour Test Of Will challenge has three age categories – 18 to 34, 35 to 44 and 45+. Participants will compete in a new four-minute circuit challenge that will test their strength, endurance and power. Each competitor will be scored based on the maximum number of correct repetitions they can achieve within 60 seconds.

WHERE: Civic Plaza, Ngee Ann City, 391 Orchard Road **MRT:** Orchard **WHEN:** Tomorrow to Sun, 10am - 8pm **ADMISSION:** \$20, register at testofwill.com **INFO:** tripleready.com/events