

ArtsPicks

Olivia Ho recommends

GARDEN • UPROOTED

In this music and dance-theatre performance led by conductor Lim Yau and choreographer Angela Liong, both Cultural Medallion recipients, the idea of the garden as a sanctuary comes into contrast with the upheaval of modern-day diaspora. Set to nature-inspired music by Japanese composer Toru Takemitsu, the performance features an inter-generational cast, from senior citizens and students to professional dancers from Arts Fission and musicians from The Philharmonic Orchestra.
WHERE: Esplanade Theatre, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** City Hall/Esplanade
WHEN: Tomorrow, 8pm **ADMISSION:** \$27 & \$19 (concessions) from Sistic (call 6348-5555 or go to www.sistic.com.sg)
INFO: bit.ly/2lgEWUZ



THE GREAT RACE

A dozen European artists have created works on the 12 Chinese zodiac animals in this East-meets-West exhibition. These works range from French artist Lionel Sabatte's metallic sculpture of a rat covered with Parisian street dust to French painter Vincent Corpet's bestial melanges (right).
WHERE: Mazel Galerie, 02-16 Pacific Plaza, 9 Scotts Road **MRT:** Orchard
WHEN: Till June 30, 11am to 8pm (weekdays), 10am to 8pm (weekends and public holidays) **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** mazelgalerie.com



MASTERS OF COMEDY

This Toy Factory production, part of the Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre's annual cultural extravaganza, pays tribute to iconic Chinese comedians in Singapore, from Bai Yan to Jack Neo. The 90-minute show, which combines comic dialogue, crosstalk and song and dance, will feature local stars such as Sugie Phua, Judée Tan and Jo Tan.
WHERE: Level 9 Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre Far East Organization Auditorium, 1 Straits Boulevard **MRT:** Tanjong Pagar
WHEN: Tomorrow, 3 and 8pm; Sunday, 3pm; Wednesday to May 25, 8pm **ADMISSION:** \$38 and \$48 from Sistic **INFO:** www.singaporeccc.org.sg

UNDERCLASS

Xinyi loses her job and has to move into a rental flat provided by the Government. There, she strikes up an unlikely friendship with Johari, as they strive to get out of their disadvantaged status with the help of well-meaning friends, entrepreneurs, civil servants and politicians.
 This collaboration between local theatre troupes Drama Box and The Necessary Stage (TNS) delves into poverty and inequality in Singapore, with a script by TNS playwright Hareesh Sharma, based on interviews with community workers and beneficiaries of voluntary welfare organisations.
 The cast includes Goh Guat Kian, Yazid Jalil, Siti Khalijah Zainal, Brendon Fernandez and Yang Shi Bin.
WHERE: The Necessary Stage Black Box, B1-02, 278 Marine Parade Road **MRT:** Dakota/Eunos
WHEN: Till June 3, 8pm (Wednesdays to Fridays), 2.30 and 8pm (Saturdays), 2.30pm (Sundays) **ADMISSION:** \$36 from Sistic **INFO:** Performed in English, Mandarin and Malay. Advisory 16 (some mature content). For more information, go to www.sistic.com.sg/events/cunder0518



The cast of *Underclass* comprises (clockwise from left) Yazid Jalil, Brendon Fernandez, Yang Shi Bin, Goh Guat Kian and Siti Khalijah Zainal.

PHOTOS: CRISPIAN CHAN, MAZEL GALERIE, COURTESY OF THE PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA AND ARTS FISSION

ARTS

AUDITIONS

A Little Raw Company For Young Dancers

A Little Raw Company is a young dancers' company in Singapore that supports inclusion of children aged eight and older. Dancers are challenged and encouraged to express themselves confidently with new skills and knowledge gained during training sessions, which will culminate in a year-end performance. Upon confirmation of placement after the audition, course fees will apply.
WHERE: Raw Moves Studio, 01-08 Block B Goodman Arts Centre, 90 Goodman Road **MRT:** Mountbatten
WHEN: May 26, 11.45am - 12.45pm **ADMISSION:** Free, e-mail name of child, prior movement experience, name & contact of parent to rawmoves.classes@gmail.com
TEL: 6493-7112 **INFO:** facebook.com/rawmoves.sg

Young Talents UK Music Immersion Programme

Auditions for the Young Talents UK Music Immersion Programme will be held at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire from Nov 22 to 24. Those who are accepted into the programme will attend masterclasses and lessons conducted by university-level professors, and work alongside like-minded young talents in the Junior Birmingham Conservatoire. The programme will end with a performance at a state-of-the-art concert hall in Birmingham.
WHERE: Seimpi School of Music, 03-26 The Centrepoint, 176 Orchard Road **MRT:** Somerset
WHEN: Closing date is June 30 **ADMISSION/INFO:** \$30 audition fee, online audition available at seimpi.edu.sg/coalesce
TEL: 6737-6731 (Low Ke Cheng or Sahera)

BOOKS

Meet-The-Author: Robert Chua

Singapore-born television producer Robert Chua will promote his book, *TV 50 Golden Years - The Hongkong Story*, together with veteran Hong Kong actors Wu Fong and Law Lan. It chronicles Chua's half a century in Hong Kong's broadcasting and food industries, including being part of broadcaster TVB's launch in 1967 and creating *Enjoy Yourself Tonight*, the longest-running live variety show in Hong Kong.
WHERE: Kinokuniya Singapore Main Store, Level 4 Takashimaya Shopping Centre, 391 Orchard Road **MRT:** Orchard **WHEN:** May 26, 3pm **ADMISSION:** Free **TEL:** 6737-5021 **INFO:** kinokuniya.com.sg

The Edwin Thumboo Collection - Mapping Singapore's Poetic Soul

Librarian Michelle Heng charts the life of eminent poet, Emeritus Professor Edwin Thumboo, through his poems, based on Singapore landmarks that are mapped along a stylised transport network as well as the materials he donated to the National Library.
WHERE: Possibility Room, Level 5 National Library Building, 100 Victoria Street **MRT:** City Hall/Bugis **WHEN:** May 31, 7 - 8pm **ADMISSION/INFO:** Free, register at libraryeKiosks or at bit.ly/2GSSV4

Singapore Literature Book Club - Goodbye My Kampong By Josephine Chia

The Singapore Literature Book Club will discuss *Goodbye My Kampong!* Potong Pasir, 1966 to 1975 by Josephine Chia, the sequel to her 2014 Singapore Literature prize-winning book, *Kampong Spirit - Gotong Royong: Life In Potong Pasir, 1955 to 1965*. The author will also give a short presentation on what life in Singapore was like back then.
WHERE: Multipurpose Room, Central Public Library, Basement 1 National

Library Building, 100 Victoria Street **MRT:** City Hall/Bugis **WHEN:** May 31, 7 - 8.30pm **ADMISSION/INFO:** Free, with registration www.nlb.gov.sg/golibrary

CONCERTS

Jayati Chakraborty In Concert

This concert by Indian cultural icon Jayati Chakraborty is in celebration of the late Bengali polymath Rabindranath Tagore's birthday. She will present a Rabindra Sangeet repertoire, which are songs written by Rabindranath.
WHERE: RELC Auditorium, 30 Orange Grove Road **MRT:** Stevens **WHEN:** May 26, 7.30pm **ADMISSION:** \$30 - \$50, tickets at goo.gl/CCDaPc **TEL:** 9345-6915 (Dolly Sinha Davenport) **INFO:** E-mail dollysinhadavenport@gmail.com

Cellography's 2018 Concert: Our Music, Our Stories

Cellography, which held its first concert in 2014, is Singapore's only cello orchestra. Featured in this year's concert are songs from the movie soundtracks of *La La Land* (2016), *The Godfather* (1972) and *The Pirates Of The Caribbean* movie franchise, as well as chart hits such as Luis Fonsi's massive hit *Despacito*, Magic!'s *Rude* and Camila Cabello's *Havana*. The youngest cellist in this year's concert is seven years old.
WHERE: Gateway Theatre, 3615 Jalan Bukit Merah **MRT:** Redhill **WHEN:** June 30, 7.30pm **ADMISSION:** \$30 - \$40 **TEL:** 6348-5555 **INFO:** www.sistic.com.sg

DANCE

Chinese Dance Fiesta

The Singapore Chinese Dance Theatre presents classical and ethnic folk forms featuring dancers from schools, tertiary institutions and dance companies here. The fiesta is an annual outreach programme to

generate awareness and appreciation of Chinese dance.
WHERE (MRT), WHEN: Esplanade Outdoor Theatre, 1 Esplanade Drive (Esplanade/City Hall), today, 7.30 & 8.45pm; Resorts World Sentosa Forum Stage, 8 Sentosa Gateway (HarbourFront), tomorrow, 5pm; Toa Payoh Central Stage, Toa Payoh Central (Toa Payoh), Sun, 5pm; Kampung Admiralty Community Plaza, 676 Woodlands Drive 71 (Admiralty), May 26, 4.30pm **ADMISSION:** Free **TEL:** 6589-9501 **INFO:** E-mail enquiries@scdt.com.sg

Nritya Tarang - Spirit Of Kuchipudi Dance

With roots in yakshagana, a folk theatre form, kuchipudi is one of the eight classical dance forms of India based on the ancient Sanskrit text, *Natya Shastra*. Dancer Amrita Lahiri will perform a diverse repertoire of works by kuchipudi choreographers.
WHERE: Esplanade Theatre Studio, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** Esplanade/City Hall **WHEN:** June 8 & 9, 8pm **ADMISSION:** \$25 (\$18 for students, NSFs & seniors), tickets from esplanade.com **INFO:** facebook.com/kalaautsavam

RedDot Bhangra Competition

Six teams from Singapore, Malaysia, India and Australia will perform high-energy dance sets. Through the competition, RedDot Bhangra aims to bring new energy to the local dance scene and encourage bhangra groups to reach greater heights.
WHERE: Gateway Theatre, 3615 Jalan Bukit Merah **MRT:** Redhill **WHEN:** June 23, 4pm **ADMISSION:** \$22 (\$17 early-bird price till May 31), tickets at bsc.ne/RDBC18 **INFO:** facebook.com/reddotbhangra

EXHIBITIONS (MUSEUMS)

Voices Of Singapore
 Through cultural artefacts of music, performances, television and theatre, this gallery explores how

Singaporeans have forged a unique voice for themselves. The gallery's back room features a re-creation of a vintage drive-in theatre, where visitors can recline in seats fashioned like those in mini cars and pick-up trucks, and watch a specially commissioned film installation that celebrates the forms of leisure enjoyed by Singaporeans in the past.
WHERE: Voices of Singapore Gallery, Level 2 National Museum of Singapore, 93 Stamford Road **MRT:** Bras Basah/Dhoby Ghaut **WHEN:** 10am - 7pm daily **ADMISSION:** Free for Singaporeans and permanent residents **INFO:** nationalmuseum.sg

EXHIBITIONS (GALLERIES)

Virgin Apple

In her first solo exhibition, self-taught Korean artist Hannami Kim explores feminism, subtle eroticism and minimalism in paintings and drawings.
WHERE: NPE Gallery, 39 Kallang Place **MRT:** Kallang/Bendemeer **WHEN:** Till May 25, 10am - 5pm **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** hannamikim.com

EXHIBITIONS (SHOWS)

CEE Comex & ITshow

The Consumer Electronics Exhibition (CEE) is back with deals galore and sure-win lucky spins. You can trade in your television sets, cameras, old PCs, notebooks, tablets, smartphones, game consoles, software and e-mobility devices. Spend at least \$500 to redeem a Microsoft wireless mouse. Other deals include purchase-with-purchase and 50 per cent discounts from Hero Products.
WHERE: Suntec Singapore, 1 Raffles Boulevard **MRT:** Esplanade/City Hall **WHEN:** Thu - May 27, 11am - 9pm (level 3), noon - 9pm (level 4) **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** ceeshow.com.sg

THEATRE

What Really Matters

What are the most important things in life? What really matters to you in love, life, work, your family and your community? Join Tapestry Playback Theatre in a conversation about what is truly of value to us. There will be sign-language interpretation and live note-taking.
WHERE: Toa Payoh Central Community Club Theatre, 93 Toa Payoh Central **MRT:** Toa Payoh **WHEN:** May 26, 8pm & May 27, 3pm **ADMISSION:** \$20, tickets at whatreallymatters.peatix.com **INFO:** E-mail tapestry.ticketing@gmail.com

Dragonflies

Directed by Tracie Pang and written by Stephanie Street, *Dragonflies* is a story of a family fighting for survival in a hostile world, looking for a place to call home and something that looks like hope. Stars Adrian Pang, Tan Kheng Hua, Fanny Kee, Benjamin Chow, Frances Lee, Elizabeth Morse, Matt Grey, Jamil Schulze and Shona Benson.
WHERE: Victoria Theatre, 9 Empress Place **MRT:** Raffles Place **WHEN:** Today - June 3, 8pm (Tue - Fri), 3 & 8pm (Sat & June 3), 3pm (Sun) **ADMISSION:** \$40 - \$65 (Tonight's preview: \$30 - \$50), tickets from www.sistic.com.sg **TEL:** 6746-0046 **INFO:** E-mail admin@pangdemonium.com

McBeth By Delta Force Improv

Based on William Shakespeare's play *Macbeth* and adapted and directed by Phil Gruber, *McBeth* is a tragicomic tale of ambition, betrayal, murder, madness... and fast food. This debut production by Delta Force Improv Singapore is an interactive and immersive theatrical experience.
WHERE: Blue Room, The Projector, Level 5 Golden Mile Tower, 6001 Beach Road **MRT:** Nicoll Highway **WHEN:** May 29, 7.30pm **ADMISSION:** \$20, tickets from peatix.com/event/384863 **INFO:** theprojector.sg