

Film Picks

John Lui Film Correspondent recommends



MADLINE'S MADLINE (M18)
93 minutes/Opens today/★★★★☆

Teenager Madeline (Helena Howard) is not just an in-between in age – she is in between reality and fantasy because of her mental illness and in between two older women, each seeking control of her. Her mother Regina (actress and film-maker Miranda July) sees her as damaged and in need of care, while Evangeline (Molly Parker), the head of a physical theatre troupe, sees in her a gifted actor.

This powerful drama about the complicated bonds among women – beautifully acted and featuring a head-spinning variety of dream-like images – is directed and co-written by Josephine Decker, a noted performance artist and documentary maker.

WHERE: The Arts House, 1 Old Parliament Lane **MRT:** City Hall/Raffles Place **WHEN:** Till Aug 26, various times **ADMISSION:** \$13.50 **INFO:** madmad.peatix.com

Madeline's Madeline stars Helena Howard (far left) and Molly Parker (left). PHOTOS: ANTICIPATE PICTURES, ISRAEL FILM FESTIVAL, NUS ARTS FESTIVAL



NUS ARTS FESTIVAL

The film component of the festival is always interesting for its mix of the popular and the yet-to-be-discovered. This year, the focus is on Asian cinema and one of the more interesting picks is Mainland (2017, rating to be advised, 89 minutes, left). The documentary follows the lives of two students, Stella and Harry, among the thousands from China arriving in the United States each year to study. Documentary-maker Miao Wang points her camera at the pair as they settle into an elite boarding school in rural Maine, preparing themselves for their big American adventure.

WHERE: Ngee Ann Kongsi Auditorium, Level 2 Education Resource Centre, 8 College Avenue West **MRT:** Dover **WHEN:** Sept 7 - 23, various times **ADMISSION:** Free with registration at NUSartsfestival.com



26TH ISRAEL FILM FESTIVAL

Each year's edition brings a batch of high-quality, challenging work and it should be no different this year. The opening film, drama-comedy Longing (2017, M18, 103 minutes), has ageing bachelor Ariel (Shai Avivi, far left) discovering that his former college girlfriend has kept a secret from him for 20 years – one that will shake up his life for good. Also stars Neta Riskin (left).

WHERE: The Projector, Level 5 Golden Mile Tower, 6001 Beach Road **MRT:** Nicoll Highway **WHEN:** Aug 29 to Sept 2 **ADMISSION:** \$13.50 **INFO:** theprojector.sg

FILMS

Tokyo Story (1953, PG)

In this Singapore Film Society Asian Restored Classics movie (in Japanese with English subtitles), an ageing couple takes the long journey from their small seaside village to visit their adult children in bustling post-war Tokyo. Their elder son and daughter are too busy to pay them much attention and so it falls to Noriko, widow of their younger son who was killed in the war, to keep her in-laws company. Tokyo Story is widely regarded as film-maker Yasujiro Ozu's masterpiece and is often cited as one of the greatest films ever made.

WHERE: Capitol Theatre, 11 Stamford Road **MRT:** City Hall **WHEN:** Aug 24, 8pm **ADMISSION:** \$13 (\$2 off for Singapore Film Society members) **TEL:** 9017-0160 **INFO:** E-mail info@singaporefilmsociety.com

Made In Hong Kong (1997, NC16)

This Singapore Film Society Asian Restored Classics movie (in Cantonese with English subtitles) directed by Fruit Chan is about a high-school dropout who comes into possession of two bloodstained letters left behind by a schoolgirl who committed suicide. He starts having pesky wet dreams, his parents abandon him, his mentally disabled best friend gets into trouble and he falls for a girl who turns out to be seriously ill.

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Orang Minyak (1958, PG)

Capitalising on the news frenzy of the "oily man" in 1957 Malaya, Shaw Brothers' Malay Film Productions and Cathay-Keris raced to make films about the supernatural creature in Malay ghost beliefs. L. Krishnan's film (in Malay with English subtitles) was the first cinematic iteration.

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NATURE

New Cycling Route At Jurong Lake Gardens

The Jurong Lake Gardens West is scheduled to open next year and the National Parks Board would like to introduce the public to the new cycling route and cycling-related activities that it is planning in a sit-down engagement session.

WHERE: Jurong Lake Gardens,

Japanese Gardens – GuestHouse MRT: Chinese Garden

WHEN: Tomorrow, 10 - 11am **ADMISSION:** Free, register at www.nparks.gov.sg **TEL:** 6267-0155 **INFO:** E-mail ruth_tan@nparks.gov.sg

Venture Into The Wetlands

Join the YMCA Outdoor & Adventure team to explore the Kranji Nature Trail, Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve and Kranji Marshes – home to various wildlife and 202ha of mangroves.

WHERE/MRT: Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve, meet at Kranji MRT station **WHEN:** Aug 25, 9am - 1pm **ADMISSION:** \$3 (adults), \$1 (children aged below 12), \$1 (seniors); cash payment at meet-up point; sign up at goo.gl/forms/ZgtpypukaSAe66GY2 **TEL:** 9660-5740 **INFO:** E-mail eunicehua@ymca.org.sg

Birdwatching For Beginners At Bishan-AMK Park

Bishan-Ang Mo Kio Park is home to bird species that can be easily spotted, including the White-breasted Waterhen, Collared and White-throated Kingfishers, Yellow-vented Bulbul and Pink-necked Green Pigeon.

WHERE: Meet Lee Ee Ling (9693-5870) at 7.30am at Carpark B opposite SPC station, Ang Mo Kio Avenue 1, between the junctions of Ang Mo Kio Avenue 3 & Marymount Road **WHEN:** Aug 26, 7.30 - 11am **ADMISSION:** For Nature Society (Singapore) members, go to www.nss.org.sg for membership details **TEL:** 6741-2036 **INFO:** E-mail contact@nss.org.sg

PETS

Paws For A Good Cause At City Square, Quayside Isle

The next instalment of the adoption drive for more than 70 dogs and cats by City Developments' City Square Mall and Quayside Isle @ Sentosa Cove will feature dog welfare organisation Mercylight, with shows on obedience training and special tips and tricks for pets.

WHERE (MRT): Fountain Square, Basement 1 City Square Mall, 180 Kitchener Road (Farrer Park); Fountain Plaza, Level 1 Quayside Isle @ Sentosa Cove, 31 Ocean Way, Sentosa Cove (HarbourFront) **WHEN:** 5 - 8.30pm, tomorrow & Sun (Quayside), Sept 8 & 9 (City Square) **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** citysquaremall.com.sg & quaysideisle.com

Paint Your Poodle Pawtrait Workshop

Organised by pet portrait specialist Paw Moi, this poodle-themed pastel painting art workshop is held at a pet-friendly restaurant. Paint your poodle and take home a framed portrait. Local artist Geraldine Wang

will guide participants and your pets will receive free doggy treats.

WHERE: PastaJ, 205 Upper Thomson Road **MRT:** Marymount **WHEN:** Sept 1, 3 - 5.30pm **ADMISSION:** \$120 (includes tea, art materials & picture frame), \$20 for companion **INFO:** E-mail pawmois@gmail.com with a photo of your poodle to register

TOURS

Fort Canning Sculpture Tour

Participants will get to see and learn the stories behind the beautiful sculptures that are found around Fort Canning Park.

WHERE: Fort Canning Park, Stamford Green, bottom of outdoor escalator, beside National Museum of Singapore entrance **WHEN:** Aug 25, 4 - 6pm **ADMISSION:** Free, register at www.nparks.gov.sg **INFO:** E-mail Jason_001@NParks.gov.sg

CONTEST

Men's Health Cover Guy Contest

To mark its 15th anniversary, Men's Health Singapore is conducting its first search for the next Men's Health Cover Guy among its readers. Male Singapore residents of at least 18 years old can submit their entries on the contest website by popping their best shot onto a Men's Health cover frame provided. The winner can receive more than \$6,000 worth of prizes.

WHERE: menshealth.com.sg/coverguy **WHEN:** Till Aug 31 **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** menshealth.com.sg

Apec Photo Contest 2018

Entries – which can be taken by DSLR/digital cameras or mobile phone cameras – should illustrate how people and communities across the Asia-Pacific region can benefit from greater interconnectivity and digital opportunities. Contestants can submit up to three photos based on these themes: promoting sustainable and inclusive growth; deepening regional integration and improving connectivity; and strengthening inclusive growth through structural reform. Prizes range from \$750 to \$2,000.

WHERE: Go to goo.gl/HT7yjj for contest details **WHEN:** Entries close on Sept 27 at midnight **ADMISSION:** Free **TEL/INFO:** E-mail David Hendrickson on drh@apec.org or Michael Chapnick, on mc@apec.org for details

KIDS

Storytime By The Storytelling Centre

The centre is holding three

storytelling sessions this weekend targeted at children aged three to eight. The featured stories are The Mouse Bride (tomorrow, 11 - 11.30am, level 7 Gateway Theatre, 3615 Jalan Bukit Merah, Redhill MRT station, free admission); Goldilocks And The Three Bears (Sun, noon - 12.30pm, level 2 Cluny Court, 501 Bukit Timah Road, Botanic Gardens MRT station, free admission); and Crocodile Tears (Sun, 11.30am - 12.15pm, The Artground, 01-40 Block J Goodman Arts Centre, Mountbatten MRT station, \$10 for a parent-child pair).

The Rainbow Fish By Mermaid Theatre Of Nova Scotia

This Asian premiere of the production by the Canadian theatre company is suitable for children aged three to eight. Based on the award-winning book by Marcus Pfister, it follows the story of a beautiful multicoloured fish who learns to share his prized possession – silvery scales – and gains an ocean of happiness through renewed friendships.

WHERE: Victoria Theatre, 9 Empress Place **MRT:** Raffles Place/City Hall **WHEN:** Mon, Tue, Thu, Aug 27 - 29: 10am & 2pm; Wed, Aug 25 & 26: 10.30am & 2.30pm; Aug 24 & 28: 10am & noon (2.30pm shows include backstage tour) **ADMISSION:** From \$18 for child/adult; tickets from www.sistic.com.sg **TEL:** 6735-9986 **INFO:** act3international.com.sg

Grow With Nature Drama Series: The Ant And The Grasshopper (A Drama Workshop)

Creative play through nature can be used to nurture an appreciation for life in children. Participants of this workshop will be encouraged to explore nature through dramatisation and be aware of its rich biodiversity.

WHERE: Visitor Services Desk, Jacob Ballas Children's Garden, Singapore Botanic Gardens, 1 Cluny Road **MRT:** Botanic Gardens **WHEN:** Aug 25, 10 - 11am **ADMISSION:** \$10 a child, register at www.nparks.gov.sg **INFO:** E-mail nparks_sbg_edu@nparks.gov.sg

3D2N Outdoor Resilience Camp

Designed for children aged six to 13, this two-night camp will allow participants to face new challenges, build confidence and develop grit. They will also be taught exercises to recognise and regulate their emotions, simple yoga moves to manage stress and to identify different ways to practise self-care.

WHERE: Temasek Club, 131 Rifle Range Road **MRT:** Clementi/Beauty World, shuttle bus available **WHEN:** Sept 6 (9am) - 8 (noon) **ADMISSION:** \$680, e-mail rosemary@theresiliencecamp.com to register

INFO: theresiliencecamp.com

OTHERS

Quayside's Sunday Floral Market

Every last Sunday of the month, Hello Flowers will set up a pop-up stall to sell bespoke arrangements using seasonal blooms such as roses, peonies, tulips and lavenders. There is also a D-I-Y potpourri station featuring an assortment of dried petals and organic essential oils, and workshops on how to create personalised bouquets.

WHERE: The Quayside (main courtyard), 60 Robertson Quay **MRT:** Fort Canning **WHEN:** Aug 26, 11am - 4pm **ADMISSION:** Free (bouquets from \$25) **INFO:** thequayside.sg

SG Code Campus Open House

Parents and children (aged seven to 18) can discover what coding is and why it is important for kids to learn it. The founders of SG Code Campus will share the vision and philosophy of the school, where a strong focus is placed on both foundational computer science concepts and real-world application.

WHERE (MRT): Bukit Timah Campus: 03-01B King's Arcade, 559 Bukit Timah Road (Tan Kah Kee/Botanic Gardens); Marine Parade Campus: 03-04 Parkway Centre, 1 Marine Parade Central (Dakota/Eunos) **WHEN:** Bukit Timah: Sept 1, 2 - 3.30pm or 3.30 - 5pm; Marine Parade: Sept 2, 9 - 10.30am or 10.30am - noon **ADMISSION:** Free, register at goo.gl/forms/TmbtoM3AiLWnY6a33 **TEL:** 3138-9477 (Shanhuai Tan) **INFO:** E-mail enquiries@sgcodecampus.com

LAST CALL

Natas Holidays 2018

Travel specialists, tour operators and national tourism organisations come together to present popular and special travel destinations around the world.

WHERE: Halls 3 & 4 Singapore Expo, 1 Expo Drive **MRT:** Expo **WHEN:** Today - Sun, 10am - 9.30pm **ADMISSION:** Free **TEL:** 6534-0187 **INFO:** E-mail events@natas.travel or go to natsatravelfair.travel/natas-holidays-2018

Farmers & Healers Market

Open Farm Community, in collaboration with Spa Esprit, is transforming its garden and alfresco deck into a sustainability and natural healing marketplace featuring atmospheric tunes, gastronomic treats and energy-healing workshops.

WHERE: Open Farm Community,

130E Minden Road, Dempsey Hill **MRT:** Botanic Gardens **WHEN:** Sun, 10am - 6pm **ADMISSION:** Free (bring cash; credit cards accepted at selected stalls only) **INFO:** E-mail enquiries@ofcsingapore.com.sg or go to openfarmcommunity.com

• The listings on these Happenings pages are free. Write to Life Happenings, Life, The Straits Times, 1000 Toa Payoh North, Singapore 318994 or e-mail stliffe@sph.com.sg at least two weeks ahead. Include the name of the event, organiser, venue, date and time, ticket prices and nearest MRT station, as well as your name, address and contact number. We reserve the right to edit or reject items. Go to www.straitstimes.com (click on Lifestyle) for more listings

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(Registration starts at 6pm)

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For more information, go to www.straitstimes.com/askst



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