

Arts Picks

Melissa Sim Senior Arts Correspondent recommends



HAPPINESS PRIVATE LIMITED #10
This is the 10th edition of the Happiness Private Limited series by artist William Sim.
More than 20 watercolour pieces and mixed media on wood artworks are on show, including a 1.4m-long watercolour painting titled *Collectable Happiness* (above).
The painting's depiction of a fish-shaped trawler with its trailing dragnet is a representation of the artist's self and his quest to find happiness.
Colourful objects in the ship's hull symbolise happy memories and experiences amassed along the journey and stored as fuel to keep the vessel moving.
WHERE: Utterly Art Exhibition Space, 20B Mosque Street **MRT:** Chinatown
WHEN: Till Tuesday, by appointment
ADMISSION: Free **INFO:** E-mail utterlyart@yahoo.com or call 9487-2006



PHOTOS: KELVIN TAN, SINGAPORE CHINESE ORCHESTRA, YANYUN CHEN

SCO YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERT: A VOYAGE TO NANYANG – BALIK KAMPUNG

This weekend's performances by the Singapore Chinese Orchestra (SCO) will not simply be a treat for the ears, but for the eyes as well.
In keeping with the nostalgic theme, resident conductor Quek Ling Kiong and the musicians will dress in clothes from the 1960s and 1970s.
Over the past four years, this Voyage to Nanyang series has focused on various aspects of Singapore's culture and heritage, including street operas and food culture.
This time, the theme is balik kampung and the programme will feature games from the past such as five stones and chapteh, highlight the multiracial kampung community and promote the kampung spirit in modern Singapore. There will be a presentation of the games on stage while the orchestra performs. The audience can also play the games before the concert.
Guest musicians (from far left) Ismahairie Putra and Raghavendran Rajasekaran, who play the gambus and venu, respectively, will engage in a "cross-cultural musical conversation" with dizi musician Tan Chye Tiong and pipa musician Zhang Yin.
WHERE: SCO Concert Hall, 7 Shenton Way **MRT:** Tanjong Pagar **WHEN:** Today, 10.30am; tomorrow, 2.30 and 5pm
ADMISSION: \$14 to \$37, from Sistic (call 6348-5555 or go to www.sistic.com.sg) **INFO:** www.sco.com.sg



FLOWER FLIGHTS
Beauty that is heightened by transience is depicted in a series of charcoal drawings of flowers by artist Yanyun Chen, one of five nominees this year for the President's Young Talents award.
This solo exhibition expands on her flower series, *Chasing Flowers*, which was first shown in 2016. Twelve new works have been added.
Chen said that she passed a flower shop one day and got the idea to start drawing flowers in charcoal. She returned from studying in Sweden in 2014 and was too broke to afford to draw.
"Flowers are living and, contrary to what is perceived, they move towards the light source, they will, they are not still," says Chen, who said her practice became "a meditation on being present to death, and appreciating the short yet spectacular flourish of their lifespans".
WHERE: Art Porters Gallery, 64 Spottiswoode Park Road
MRT: Outram Park **WHEN:** Till Jan 4, Tuesdays to Sundays, 10.30am to 7pm, Mondays by appointment
ADMISSION: Free
INFO: www.artporters.com

ARTS

BOOKS

Book Launch: The 125 Best Birdwatching Sites In South-east Asia
Authors Yong Ding Li and Low Bing Wen launch their book, *The 125 Best Birdwatching Sites In South-east Asia*, which is an expanded and fully updated edition of *The 100 Best Birdwatching Sites In South-east Asia*. This illustrated guide describes the sites for viewing common and rare species in Asean countries and Timor-Leste.
WHERE: Kinokuniya Singapore Main Store, 04-20/21 Ngee Ann City (Takashimaya Shopping Centre), 391 Orchard Road **MRT:** Orchard
WHEN: Nov 17, 2pm **ADMISSION:** Free
TEL: 6737-5021
INFO: kinokuniya.com.sg

CONCERTS

Familiar Favourites: Tales Of Love
Three pieces, six tales – of love and loyalty. The concert marks the 150th anniversary of Rossini with his overture to *La Cenerentola* – Cinderella, that tale of faith and love. Tchaikovsky's abundant gift for melody makes him perfectly suited for *Sleeping Beauty*, a story of patience and protection. Four Korngold scores painting films of love and honour are the musical inspiration for his violin concerto, to be told by 2015 Singapore Violin Competition prize winner Richard Lin.
WHERE: Esplanade Concert Hall, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** Esplanade/City Hall **WHEN:** Thu, 7.30pm; pre-concert talk/autograph session, 6.30pm (library@esplanade.com)
ADMISSION: \$15 - \$88
INFO: www.esplanade.com

Sounds Of Mongolia
Experience the vast beauty of Mongolia through the sound of the legendary morin khuur. Under the baton of assistant conductor Moses Gay, renowned Mongolian morin khuur master, Jinshan Alatengwula, will perform this ancient instrument

with the Morin Khuur Concerto with the Singapore Chinese Orchestra (SCO). The famous story of Inner Mongolian hero Gada Meilin, who led a failed rebellion against a Chinese warlord's cultivation of pastureland, will be performed by SCO cello associate principal Tang Jia.
WHERE: SCO Concert Hall, Singapore Conference Hall, 7 Shenton Way **MRT:** Tanjong Pagar **WHEN:** Nov 24, 8pm **ADMISSION:** \$20 - \$88
TEL: 6557-4034 **INFO:** E-mail sco@sco.com.sg

VCH Organ Series: Pipe Up!
Singaporean organist Isaac Lee and trumpeter Lau Wen Rong team up for a collaborative musical journey at the Victoria Concert Hall (VCH). They are performing Lebanese-French composer Najib Hakim's Sonata For Trumpet And Organ. Performing on the VCH Klais Organ, Lee also presents three organ works by Mendelssohn, as well as his own arrangement of J.S. Bach's *Jesu, Joy Of Man's Desiring*.
WHERE: Victoria Concert Hall, 9 Empress Place **MRT:** Raffles Place
WHEN: Dec 10, 12.30pm
ADMISSION: Free
INFO: sso.org.sg/vchorgan

THEATRE

The Old Woman And The Ox
Written by 20-year-old Isaiah Christopher Lee, *The Old Woman And The Ox* explores the entangled currents of fear, guilt, loss and love. Set against the absurdist backdrop of a crumbling house, the play follows Aileen and the ghosts of her memories as she seeks something she cannot find except within herself.
WHERE: Gateway Theatre Black Box, 3615 Jalan Bukit Merah **MRT:** Redhill **WHEN:** Thu - Nov 17, 8pm
ADMISSION: \$35 **TEL:** 6348-5555
INFO: sistic.com.sg

Disco Sheela And Other Indian Superwomen
Following last year's Sharul Weds Sharul, actress and stand-up comedienne Sharul Channa returns with another hilarious one-woman show. This time, she plays strong and

colourful female characters who each have their own struggles, but she makes it all look easy. Directed by Kumar and featuring flautist Raghavendran Rajasekaran, Disco Sheela celebrates every woman who is a superwoman in her own way.
WHERE: Esplanade Recital Studio, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** Esplanade/City Hall **WHEN:** Nov 17, 7.30 & 9.30pm
ADMISSION: \$30 (\$18 for students, full-time national servicemen & seniors) **INFO:** www.esplanade.com

The Wizard Of Oz
Featuring an all-student cast and a live orchestra, this musical is a revision of the all-time classic by L. Frank Baum, with songs such as *Over The Rainbow*, *We're Off To See The Wizard* and *Follow The Yellow Brick Road*. Directed by Warren Baumgart Jr (*Wag The Dog Theatre*) and starring Ngee Ann Polytechnic's Andrea Jane Leopoldo Rojas as Dorothy, this 1987 Royal Shakespeare Company adaptation of the musical extravaganza promises fun for the whole family.
WHERE: Esplanade Theatre, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** Esplanade/City Hall **WHEN:** Nov 16, 8pm; Nov 17, 1 & 8pm
ADMISSION/INFO: \$12 - \$30, tickets from npartsfiesta.com/woz

Extremities
Marjorie turns the tables on an attempted sexual assault when she manages to restrain would-be rapist Raul. But when her housemates return home and discover the situation, are they on her side or will the manipulative Raul turn them against her? Can Marjorie trust the police to believe her over Raul or is she better off taking justice into her own hands?
WHERE: Esplanade Theatre Studio, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** Esplanade/City Hall **WHEN:** Nov 29 & 30, 8pm; Dec 1, 3 & 8pm
ADMISSION/INFO: \$28 (\$22 for students, full-time national servicemen & seniors), tickets from extremities.peatix.com

A Singapore Carol
This holiday season, Wild Rice presents a humorous take on Charles Dickens' classic tale about love,

compassion and the spirit of giving. Directed by Hossan Leong, the musical features a script by Jonathan Lim. As the miserly S.K. Loo, Sebastian Tan leads a stellar cast that includes Siti Khalijah Zainal, Audrey Luo, Candice de Rozario, Fauzie Laily and First Stage Kids.
WHERE: Victoria Theatre, 9 Empress Place **MRT:** Raffles Place **WHEN:** Nov 23 - Dec 15, Tue - Fri (7.30pm), Sat & Sun (2.30 & 7.30pm)
ADMISSION: \$45 - \$80
TEL: 6348-5555 **INFO:** sistic.com.sg

DANCE

Frontier Danceland's Milieu 2018
This annual year-end double-bill production by Frontier Danceland will be using sound as an integral part of the performance. Artistic director Low Mei Yoke will be collaborating with composer, performer and choreographer Sascia Pellegrini (Italy/Hong Kong) to explore the relationship between sonic production and motion. Deborah Nightingale (England) will engage with stories that highlight life's pivotal moments with interdisciplinary choreography.
WHERE: Esplanade Theatre Studio, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** Esplanade/City Hall **WHEN:** Today, 8pm; tomorrow, 3 & 8pm
ADMISSION: \$30
INFO: www.esplanade.com

We Can Dance! Holiday Workshop
This masterclass workshop is a dance integrated programme for children aged six to 11 years old to explore creative movement and hip-hop dance; building creativity and re-defining the appreciation of different dance genres for children. Participants will learn to initiate and improvise movements through theme exploration and basic hip-hop dance techniques. At the end of the programme, participants will perform a dance based on a thematic integration of the two dance forms.
WHERE: Raw Moves Studio, 01-08 Block B, 90 Goodman Road **MRT:** Mountbatten **WHEN:** Nov 17, 4-5.30pm
ADMISSION: \$20 - \$22

TEL: 6493-7112 **INFO:** E-mail rawmoves.classes@gmail.com

Sleeping Beauty
A timeless classic, Singapore Dance Theatre's production of *Sleeping Beauty* will be the highlight of a joyous December. A spell of a 100-year sleep, a charming prince and a true love's kiss that awakens the kingdom's slumber, *Sleeping Beauty* is a visual spectacle of music and dance and stunning costumes.
WHERE: Esplanade Theatre, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** Esplanade/City Hall **WHEN:** Dec 6 & 7 (8pm), Dec 8 (1 & 8pm) & 9 (1 & 7pm)
ADMISSION: \$35 - \$75
TEL: 6348-5555 **INFO:** sistic.com.sg

EXHIBITIONS (MUSEUMS)

In An Instant: Polaroid At The Intersection Of Art And Technology
In the late 1940s, Edwin Land introduced the Polaroid camera, marking a technological breakthrough – instant photography was born, predating the digital age. Through a wide range of artworks and artefacts, this exhibition offers insight into the story of Polaroid, while exploring the impact of instant photography.
WHERE: Exhibition Gallery 2 (basement), National Museum of Singapore, 93 Stamford Road **MRT:** Bras Basah/Dhoby Ghaut
WHEN: Tomorrow - March 31, 10am - 7pm
ADMISSION: Free for all children up to six years old; Singaporeans & permanent residents: \$12.50 (free for seniors & students); others: \$18 (\$14 for seniors & students)

EXHIBITIONS (GALLERIES)

Interruption: Scenes From The Crossroads Of Art And Research
This is an art exhibition with mixed media work, ranging from paintings, video installations to sculptures. Activities include artist talks by Jasper Yu at Golden Mile Complex (Nov 17, 4.35pm) and another talk moderated by Hera at Selegie Arts Centre (Nov 17, 2.30pm).
WHERE: Level 3 Selegie Arts Centre, 30 Selegie Road **MRT:** Bencoolen

WHEN: Exhibition till Nov 30
INFO: goo.gl/Fdjj6j6

Embodiment, Sentence: Charcoal Works From Estate Of Teng Nee Cheong Collection
The exhibition features a selection of charcoal drawings (1970s to 2000s) by the late Teng Nee Cheong. The works explore themes such as dualities, sensualities, desires and perceptions of the human body through the artist's inquisitive lens and the stark lines portrayed in the alluring forms.
WHERE: The Private Museum, 02-06, 51 Waterloo Street **MRT:** Bras Basah
WHEN: Till Dec 9 (Mon - Fri, 10am - 7pm; Sat & Sun 11am - 5pm)
ADMISSION: Free **TEL:** 6738-2872
INFO: E-mail theprivatemuseum.org

Jiang Jian's Archives On Orphans
In 2004, Henan Charity General Federation and Shaolin Temple launched a campaign to provide financial support to 1,036 orphans under the age of 16. Chinese master photographer Jiang Jian traced the lives of 400 individuals – each with his or her own unique story. Through this exhibition, viewers delve into the intimate stories of 12 strangers.
WHERE: Esplanade Tunnel, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** Esplanade/City Hall **WHEN:** Till Jan 6 (all day)
ADMISSION: Free
INFO: sipf.sg/archives-on-orphans

EXHIBITIONS (SHOWS)

Singapore FinTech Festival
This year's Singapore FinTech Festival promises more exciting activities. The festival is the largest financial technology event in the world. Attracting more than 30,000 participants, decision-makers and investors from 109 countries last year, the event is considered as the largest platform for the global fintech community, with Singapore thriving as an international hub at the forefront of fintech innovation.
WHERE: Halls 1 - 4, Singapore Expo, 1 Expo Drive **MRT:** Expo **WHEN:** Mon - Wed, 10am - 6pm
ADMISSION: From \$179, register at fintechfestival.sg/ registration **TEL:** 6403-2210
INFO: E-mail sgfintechfest@singex.com