

**FILMS**

**The Price Of Free (2018, PG)**  
Nobel Peace Prize recipient Kailash Satyarthi devoted his entire being to speeding up the eradication of child-labour exploitation. Offering an insight into the many perilous sting operations as well as the saddening and maddening cycle of abuse, *The Price Of Free* (in English and Hindi with English subtitles) is a resounding reminder of how one man's dream can pave the future of thousands.  
**WHERE:** The Projector, Level 5 Golden Mile Tower, 6001 Beach Road  
**MRT:** Nicoll Highway  
**WHEN:** Sun, 5.10pm (Green Room)  
**ADMISSION:** \$13.50 (standard), \$11.50 (concession) **INFO:** theprojector.sg

**Cities Of Last Things (2018, R21)**  
Malaysian film-maker Ho Wi Ding's latest and grittiest work is a time-bending, genre-twisting hocus pocus told through a non-linear structure. A man's mundane life becomes plagued with the most extraordinary events in three fantastical nights spanning three time periods. Shot on expired 35mm film stock, this devastating portrait of a man unfolds – in reverse – via three women who each play a pivotal role in shaping his identity.  
**WHERE:** The Projector, Level 5 Golden Mile Tower, 6001 Beach Road  
**MRT:** Nicoll Highway **WHEN:** Thu, 8pm, Dec 21 & 22, 8.30pm, Dec 23, 5.30pm (Redrum, Green Room)  
**ADMISSION:** \$13.50 (standard), \$11.50 (concession) **INFO:** theprojector.sg

**Fanny And Alexander (1982, M18)**  
The lives of two young children, Fanny (Pernilla Allwin) and Alexander (Bertil Guve), are upheaved when their father dies. The sensual opulence of their childhood soon turns into religious austerity when their trusting mother remarries a strict clergyman. In Swedish with English subtitles.  
**WHERE:** The Projector, Level 5 Golden Mile Tower, 6001 Beach Road  
**MRT:** Nicoll Highway **WHEN:** Sun, 1.30pm (Redrum) **ADMISSION:** \$13.50 (standard), \$11.50 (concession) **INFO:** theprojector.sg

**Girl (2018, R21)**  
Determined 15-year-old Lara is committed to becoming a professional ballerina. With the support of her father, she throws herself into this quest for the absolute at a new school. Lara's adolescent frustrations and impatience are heightened as she realises her body does not bend so easily to the strict discipline because she was born a boy. In Belgian French with English subtitles.  
**WHERE:** Golden Village Suntec City, 3 Temasek Boulevard  
**MRT:** Promenade/Esplanade  
**WHEN:** Dec 22, 1pm  
**ADMISSION:** Singapore Film Society membership from \$18 a month  
**TEL:** 9017-0160 **INFO:** E-mail info@singaporefilmsociety.com

**NATURE**

**Pasir Ris Park Mangrove Clean-Up**  
During high tide, man-made waste such as plastics get stuck in mangrove forests. You can help to clean up the area and prevent inedible materials from being ingested by the animals inhabiting the mangroves.  
**WHERE:** Pasir Ris Park, Mangrove Swamp (outreach venue) **MRT:** Pasir Ris **WHEN:** Dec 22, 9 - 11am  
**ADMISSION:** Free, register at nparks.gov.sg **INFO:** E-mail jeanice\_aw@nparks.gov.sg

**Nature Appreciation Walk At Windsor Nature Park**  
Situated at the perimeter of the Central Catchment Nature Reserve, the 75ha Windsor Nature Park is the gateway to the rich biodiversity of the largest nature reserve in Singapore. It was developed as a green buffer to help reduce visitor pressures and man-made disturbances currently experienced by the nature reserve.  
**WHERE:** Windsor Nature Park, 30 Venus Road (meet at Windsor Nature Park Pavilion)  
**MRT:** Marymount **WHEN:** Dec 22, 9.30 - 11am **ADMISSION:** Free  
**INFO:** E-mail lim\_siew\_hong@nparks.gov.sg

**Horseshoe Crab Rescue & Research Programme**  
Horseshoe crabs are in decline globally because of habitat loss, poaching and overfishing. Nature Society (Singapore) aims to monitor their local population to ensure they are around for generations to come. Join this mission to rescue and study them at Mandai Mudflats.  
**WHERE:** Kranji Mudflats (meeting details will be sent to registered participants) **MRT:** Kranji

**Film Picks**

**John Lui Film Correspondent recommends**



**THEY SHALL NOT GROW OLD (PG13)**  
99 minutes

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I. Director Peter Jackson and his team have taken front-line footage of the period (above) and processed it, adding colour and sound and filling in details that the film technology of the time could not capture. The result, given a voiceover by witnesses to the carnage, is the most striking reminder to date of the scale of the conflict and the lives lost to it.  
**WHERE:** The Projector, Level 5 Golden Mile Tower, 6001 Beach Road **WHEN:** Opens tomorrow, various times  
**ADMISSION:** \$13.50 **INFO:** theprojector.sg



**CLIMAX (R21)**  
96 minutes  
★★★★☆

On a snow-blanketed day in France, dancers assemble in a remote studio to rehearse. As the day wears on, they break for a meal, without realising that someone has slipped a powerful hallucinogen into the drinks. Soon, the dancers lose themselves to paranoia, compulsive behaviour and hate.

Provocative French film-maker Gaspar Noe is a hacker looking for ways to jack into the viewer's brain. The rave-in-hell vibe, with its riot of reds, browns and yellows, flailing limbs and hypnotic techno beats, does the job of sneaking past the thinking portion quite well.  
**WHERE:** Golden Village Paya Lebar, 10 Eunos Road 8  
**WHEN:** Now showing, various times  
**ADMISSION:** \$13.50  
**INFO:** gv.com.sg



**SORRY TO BOTHER YOU (R21)**  
112 minutes  
★★★★☆

This comedic dig at capitalism and broken race relations mixes the sweet with the sour, the silly with the serious. Cassius (Lakeith Stanfield, above) takes a soul-crushing telemarketing job and rises up the corporate ladder because on the phone, no one can tell he is black. But the "whiter" he becomes, the more estranged he is from his girl, the activist Detroit (Tessa Thompson, above). Musician-turned-film-maker Boots Riley cranks up the volume in the anarchic third act.  
**WHERE:** The Projector, Level 5 Golden Mile Tower, 6001 Beach Road  
**WHEN:** Now showing, various times  
**ADMISSION:** \$13.50 **INFO:** theprojector.sg

PHOTOS: ANTICIPATE PICTURES, UIP, WARNER BROS

**WHEN:** Dec 22, 3.30 - 6.30pm  
**ADMISSION:** Free; to register, go to [tinyurl.com/nsshshorsehoecrab](http://tinyurl.com/nsshshorsehoecrab)  
**TEL:** 6741-2036 **INFO:** E-mail hscr.nss@gmail.com

**PETS**

**Singapore Dog Festival: A Canine Christmas**  
This inaugural festival is the first night market for dogs and hopes to celebrate Singapore's dog culture. The Christmas-themed event features local and international dog product vendors and activities including talks and sharing sessions by dog owners.  
**WHERE:** The Grandstand, 200 Turf Club Road **MRT:** Sixth Avenue  
**WHEN:** Today & tomorrow, 3 - 11pm; Sun, 11am - 7pm **ADMISSION:** Free  
**INFO:** [goo.gl/2FneR1](http://goo.gl/2FneR1)

**CONTEST**

**Gift A Golden Christmas With The Golden Duck**  
To join snack company The Golden Duck's annual Gift A Golden Christmas contest, write a heartfelt message at the website given below to a loved one living overseas. The Golden Duck will pick the best messages and send out up to 100 packages of its signature flavours, Nanyang Chicken's sauces and other local goodies to the overseas addresses of the winners' loved ones.  
**WHERE:** Go to <https://bit.ly/2GarExs>  
**WHEN:** Entries close today, 11.59pm (delivery by Dec 31) **ADMISSION:** Free  
**INFO:** [facebook.com/TGDSG](https://facebook.com/TGDSG)

**KIDS**

**The Grouchy Ladybug By Eric Carle (Drama Workshop)**  
In this drama workshop as part of the

Grow with Nature Drama Series, participants are encouraged to explore nature through dramatisation. Find out what happens to the grouchy ladybug who keeps trying to pick a fight.  
**WHERE:** Visitor Services Desk, Jacob Ballas Children's Garden, Singapore Botanic Gardens, 1 Cluny Road  
**MRT:** Botanic Gardens  
**WHEN:** Tue, 10 - 11am  
**ADMISSION:** \$10 a child (suitable for those in K1 - P4)  
**INFO:** E-mail [nparks\\_sbg\\_edu@nparks.gov.sg](mailto:nparks_sbg_edu@nparks.gov.sg)

**Mickey's Super Celebration: Disney On Ice At United Square**  
Mickey Mouse is celebrating his 90th birthday at United Square. Engage in fun-filled activities involving Mickey and friends, and characters from Moana, Frozen 2, Toy Story, Inside Out and Fantasia. You can get up close and personal with Mickey at meet-and-greet sessions.  
**WHERE:** Atrium, B1 United Square Shopping Mall, 101 Thomson Road  
**MRT:** Novena  
**WHEN:** Dec 24 - 30, 11am - 9pm  
**ADMISSION:** Free  
**INFO:** [unitedsquare.com.sg](http://unitedsquare.com.sg)

**Terrific Tales: Christmas Stories**  
Find out how Rudolph the reindeer became the leader of Santa's sleigh, listen to The Night Before Christmas and sing along with Frosty The Snowman. There will also be a craft activity and participants can take home their own Christmas Stories memento. Suitable for kids aged three to seven.  
**WHERE:** The Artground at Goodman Arts Centre, 90 Goodman Road  
**MRT:** Mountbatten  
**WHEN:** Sun, 2.30pm; Dec 23, 2.30pm; Dec 30, 11.30am  
**ADMISSION:** \$10 for parent-child pair  
**INFO:** [storytellingcenterlimited.com](http://storytellingcenterlimited.com)

**LAST CALL**

**Faith & Freedom: Music Of George Michael**  
The concert celebrates the late English singer-songwriter's music with songs from his days as frontman of Wham! and solo career, such as Faith, Careless Whisper and Freedom. It features a full orchestra and choir, performing vocals and duets that he performed with the likes of Aretha Franklin and Elton John.  
**WHERE:** Sands Theatre at Marina Bay Sands, 4 Bayfront Avenue  
**MRT:** Bayfront **WHEN:** Today & tomorrow, 8pm **ADMISSION:** \$45 - \$125 **TEL:** 6348-5555  
**INFO:** [sistic.com.sg](http://sistic.com.sg)

**Trampoline Festival**  
Trampoline Singapore welcomes members of the public to try out high-performance equipment used for international trampoline gymnastics competitions. You will be taught simple jumps as well as some skills from the proficiency badge test programme. Qualified trampoline coaches will be present.  
**WHERE:** Bishan Sports Hall, 5 Bishan Street 14 **MRT:** Bishan **WHEN:** Today - Sun, 9am - 8pm **ADMISSION:** Free; tryouts \$10 for 30minutes  
**TEL:** 8186-2196 **INFO:** E-mail [trampolinesg@gmail.com](mailto:trampolinesg@gmail.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 [stlife@sph.com.sg](mailto:stlife@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](http://www.straitstimes.com) (click on Lifestyle) for more listings.



Life reporters (clockwise, from top left) Melissa Sim, Tan Hsueh Yun, Anjali Raguraman and Olivia Ho chat about all things Christmas. ST PHOTO: ERNEST LUIS

**Enjoy the festive season with Life**

Tune in to ST podcast Life Picks, where Life reporters highlight the best films, concerts, restaurants and arts events. This week, we chat about all things Christmas, including a yummy meat platter at restaurant The Black Swan and a Jazzy Christmas concert by musician Jeremy Monteiro and friends.



<https://bit.ly/2LbIF4g>

