

FILMS

**Free Solo (2019, PG13)**

This National Geographic film from award-winning documentary film-maker Elizabeth Chai Vasarhelyi and world-renowned photographer and mountaineer Jimmy Chin is a stunning, intimate and unflinching portrait of free solo climber Alex Honnold as he prepares to achieve his lifelong dream: climbing the face of the world's most famous rock – the 914m El Capitan in Yosemite National Park – without a rope.

**WHERE:** The Projector, Level 5 Golden Mile Tower, 6001 Beach Road  
**MRT:** Nicoll Highway **WHEN:** Today, 5pm, Sun, 2pm **ADMISSION:** \$13.50 (standard), \$11.50 (concession)  
**INFO:** theprojector.sg

**Shoplifters (2018, M18)**

The film is about a "family" of close-knit pilferers who make ends meet beneath the sleek, prosperous veneer of Tokyo. From pinching shampoos to swiping fishing rods, they live a blissful, fun life until a hapless child appears at their doorstep. In Japanese with English and Chinese subtitles.

**WHERE:** The Projector, Level 5 Golden Mile Tower, 6001 Beach Road  
**MRT:** Nicoll Highway **WHEN:** Sun, 2.40pm **ADMISSION:** \$13.50 (standard), \$11.50 (concession)  
**INFO:** theprojector.sg

**The Glory Hoes Present: Xanadu (1980, PG)**

A struggling artist living in Los Angeles meets a girl who may hold the key to his happiness. In this romantic musical fantasy flick, Olivia Newton-John sings and roller-skates.

**WHERE:** The Projector, Level 5 Golden Mile Tower, 6001 Beach Road  
**MRT:** Nicoll Highway **WHEN:** Today, 9.30pm, activities from 8pm  
**ADMISSION:** \$30  
**INFO:** theprojector.sg

**April And The Extraordinary World (2015, PG)**

This animated film about April, a teenage girl who goes in search of her missing parents, takes place in 1941 France, which is trapped in the 19th century, governed by steam and Napoleon V, and where scientists vanish mysteriously.

**WHERE:** library@esplanade open stage, 03-01 Esplanade Mall, 8 Raffles Avenue **MRT:** Esplanade/City Hall **WHEN:** Wed, 6.30pm **ADMISSION:** Free  
**INFO:** www.nlb.gov.sg/golibrary2

**The Guilty (2018, PG13)**

Alarm dispatcher Asger Holm answers an emergency call from a kidnapped woman. When the call is suddenly disconnected, the search for the woman and her kidnapper begins. With the phone as his only tool, Holm enters a race against time to save the woman. But he soon realises he is dealing with a crime far bigger than he had first thought.

**WHERE:** GV Paya Lebar, 03-107 SingPost Centre, 10 Eunos Road 8  
**MRT:** Paya Lebar **WHEN:** Wed, 9pm  
**ADMISSION:** Singapore Film Society membership, from \$18 a month  
**TEL:** 9017-0160 **INFO:** E-mail info@singaporefilmsociety.com

**Solaris (1972, NC16)**

Ground control has been receiving mysterious transmissions from the three remaining residents of the Solaris space station. When cosmonaut and psychologist Kris Kelvin is dispatched to investigate, he experiences the same strange phenomena that afflict the Solaris crew, sending him on a voyage into the darkest recesses of his consciousness.

**WHERE:** The Projector, Level 5 Golden Mile Tower, 6001 Beach Road  
**MRT:** Nicoll Highway **WHEN:** April 5 & May 11, 7.30pm **ADMISSION:** \$13.50 (standard), \$11.50 (concession)  
**INFO:** theprojector.sg

**Butterfly Walk At Telok Blangah Hill And Mount Faber**

Telok Blangah Hill Park and Mount Faber Park are part of the Southern Ridges. Over the years, some lovely Lycaenides have been sighted on the hills, including the Ambon Onyx, Felder's Royal, Malayan Plum Judy, Scarce Silver Streak and Acacia Blue. Other butterflies encountered include rare ones such as the Courtesan (Nymphalidae family) and Hieroglyphic Flat (Hesperiidae family), as well as more common ones such as the Painted Jezebel, Plain Nawab and Common Grass Yellow.

**WHERE:** Meet at small garden spot between Carpark 1 & 2 in Telok Blangah Hill Park at 9am **MRT:** Telok Blangah **WHEN:** April 6, 9 - 11.30am  
**ADMISSION:** Free for Nature Society (Singapore) members & friends; go to nss.org.sg for details **TEL:** 9817-5549 (Amy Tsang) **INFO:** E-mail contact@nss.org.sg

**PUPPY PANDEMONIUM**

Action for Singapore Dogs, a registered charity and non-profit organisation with the mission to improve the welfare of stray and

FilmPicks

John Lui Film Correspondent recommends

**DRAGGED ACROSS CONCRETE (M18)**  
 159 minutes/★★★★☆

After an arrest lands police officers Lurasetti (Vince Vaughn, right) and Ridgeman (Mel Gibson, far right) a suspension for excessive use of force, they hatch a plan to rob a drug dealer. But their path soon crosses with that of small-time crooks Johns (Tory Kittles) and Biscuit (Michael Jai White).

Some crime thrillers run on twisty plots and snappy language; others on action and gunplay. Yet others run on mean-streets realism. You usually get to pick one or two. But this is a rare movie that ticks all the boxes.

That ease with genre cinema and the willingness to have fun with it is the hallmark of writer-director S. Craig Zahler, who reteoled the western in Bone Tomahawk (2015) and the prison thriller in Brawl In Cell Block 99 (2017).



**BOY ERASED (R21)**  
 130 minutes/★★★★☆

Jared (Lucas Hedges, left) has been sent by his parents to a gay conversion therapy assessment programme in Arkansas. In flashback, he is shown to have a girlfriend, but a traumatic incident in college causes him to confront his feelings of attraction to men, feelings which he confesses to his father Marshall (Russell Crowe) and mother Nancy (Nicole Kidman, far left).

Marshall, a successful businessman and Baptist preacher, sends him to a gay conversion centre. There, therapist Sykes (Joel Edgerton) tells clients that homosexuality is a choice

and the result of poor parenting.

The movie is based on Garrard Conley's 2016 memoir of the same name.

What this reviewer was not prepared for is how emotionally powerful Jared's story is and how fairly it treats everyone, including those who believe that one can "pray away the gay", as some call it.

**WHERE:** The Projector, Level 5 Golden Mile Tower, 6001 Beach Road  
**MRT:** Nicoll Highway **WHEN:** From tomorrow, various times  
**ADMISSION:** \$13.50  
**INFO:** theprojector.sg

**A LAND IMAGINED (NC16)**  
 95 minutes/★★★★☆

In this dream-like detective story, a cop who cannot sleep searches for a man who cannot wake up from a nightmare. In the background, a woman from China yearns to be anywhere but here, while men from Bangladesh have made a space for themselves that is a home away from home.

Singaporean film-maker Yeo Siew Hua tries to crack the puzzle that is Singapore in this ambitious, mostly Mandarin film that grapples with issues of ethics and identity.

Police are called in when a Chinese national, Wang (Liu Xiaoyi), vanishes from his work site.

Detective Lok (Peter Yu, right) retraces Wang's steps and his eyes are opened to a twilight world inhabited only by migrant workers – their dormitories, cybercafes and celebrations.

The film won the Golden Leopard at the Locarno Film Festival and Best Film at the Asian Feature Film Competition section of the Singapore International Film Festival.

**WHERE:** The Projector, Level 5 Golden Mile Tower, 6001 Beach Road  
**MRT:** Nicoll Highway **WHEN:** From tomorrow, various times  
**ADMISSION:** \$13.50  
**INFO:** theprojector.sg

PHOTOS: AKANGA FILM/MM2 ENTERTAINMENT, SHAW ORGANISATION, THE PROJECTOR/FOCUS FEATURES

abandoned dogs in Singapore, is holding an adoption drive.

**WHERE:** Level 1 (near HSBC) Plaza Singapura, 68 Orchard Road  
**MRT:** Dhoby Ghaut **WHEN:** Tomorrow, noon - 4pm **ADMISSION:** Free  
**INFO:** E-mail info@asdsingapore.com

TOURS

**Healing Garden Tour**

The Healing Garden showcases more than 400 varieties of plants used medicinally. It is laid out thematically, according to component parts of the body, such as the head and respiratory and reproductive systems. The 2.5ha garden is designed as a tranquil retreat with medical plants traditionally used in South-east Asia as the main focus.

**WHERE:** Visitor Services Desk at Nassim Gate, Singapore Botanic Gardens, 1 Cluny Road **MRT:** Botanic Gardens **WHEN:** April 6, 9 - 10am  
**ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** E-mail nparks\_sbg\_visitor\_services@nparks.gov.sg

CONTEST

**Win Movie Tickets To Captive State (2019)**

Answer a movie-related question on the contest website and you may win one of 10 pairs of preview tickets to science-fiction thriller Captive State at Lido cinema (April 10, 7pm). Open to Singaporeans and permanent residents.

**WHEN:** Contest closes on April 7, 10am



The film Free Solo is a stunning, intimate and unflinching portrait of American free solo climber Alex Honnold as he takes on the face of the 914m El Capitan in Yosemite National Park – without a rope.

PHOTO: NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

**ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** bit.ly/2Wyh1fT

KIDS

**Cold Storage Kids Run**

This kids-focused running event provides seasoned child runners a chance to expose themselves to competition. There will also be fringe activities.

**WHERE:** Palawan Green, Sentosa  
**MRT:** HarbourFront **WHEN:** June 2, 8 - 11am **ADMISSION:** \$50 - \$55 (individuals); \$60 - \$65 for adult-child pair (\$40 - \$45 for additional adult; \$20 for additional child)  
**INFO:** coldstoragekidsrun.com.sg

OTHERS

**Artmakings By SAMH Creative Mindset Hub**

Volunteers and clients of SAMH (Singapore Association for Mental Health) Creative Mindset Hub and People's Association will conduct a series of visual arts workshops, which includes watercolour art, resist painting, food doodles, printmaking and cookie-icing art.

**WHERE:** Festive Walk East @ Our Tampines Hub, 1 Tampines Walk  
**MRT:** Tampines **WHEN:** Tomorrow & Sun, noon - 7pm **ADMISSION:** Free  
**INFO:** samhealth.org.sg

**Careers Connect On-The-Go**

The event brings career-matching services to the heartland, with career coaching, job-matching services and job-search workshops.

**WHERE:** Punggol Community Club, 3 Hougang Avenue 6 **MRT:** Hougang  
**WHEN:** April 5 - 7, 10.30am - 7pm  
**ADMISSION:** Free **TEL:** 6883-5885  
**INFO:** adaptandgrow.sg

**Sota Open House**

The School of the Arts (Sota) invites prospective students and their parents to tour its campus, chat with students and teachers and take part in hands-on demonstrations.

**WHERE:** School of the Arts, 1 Zubir Said Drive  
**MRT:** Dhoby Ghaut/Bencoolen  
**WHEN:** April 6, 9am - 4pm  
**ADMISSION:** Free, register at bit.ly/2JA1eIH

LAST CALL

**Terry Fox Run**

The annual run, in its ninth edition, is organised by the Terry Fox Run Singapore Committee and the Canadian Association of Singapore, in collaboration with the Singapore Cancer Society.

**WHERE:** Angsana Green @ East Coast Parkway, East Coast Park Service Road  
**MRT:** Bedok **WHEN:** Sun, from 7am  
**ADMISSION:** By donation; e-mail corporate@terryfoxrunsg.com for group registration or enquiry@terryfoxrunsg.com for donations in cash or kind  
**INFO:** www.terryfoxrunsg.com

**Grow Your Own Microgreens At Home**

Tasty, easy to grow and full of nutrients, microgreens are a wonderful addition to your meals – as a salad or garnish.

**WHERE:** Kim Pong Park, Kim Pong Road  
**MRT:** Tiong Bahru  
**WHEN:** Tomorrow, 10.30 - 11.30am  
**ADMISSION:** \$50 a person, includes materials **INFO:** E-mail learn@ediblegardencity.com

**Pioneer Trail Along Ann Siang Hill And Telok Ayer Green**

Learn about the trades and way of life of Singapore's early immigrants on this walk around a quiet enclave amid the hustle and bustle of Chinatown. Visit places of worship, shophouses built in the 1800s and the old well at the foot of Ann Siang Hill. Also, spice up the walk with a close look at fruit and spice trees planted along the way.

**WHERE:** Meet at Tanjong Pagar MRT station (Exit G, street level)  
**MRT:** Tanjong Pagar **WHEN:** Sun, 10am - noon  
**ADMISSION:** Free, register at www.nparks.gov.sg **INFO:** E-mail Sim\_Sue\_Lin@nparks.gov.sg

• 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 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