

Arts Picks

Olivia Ho recommends



Buddha, Study II (above) by Thukral & Tagra is featured at the exhibition, Double Bounce.

DOUBLE BOUNCE

Indian artist duo Thukral & Tagra reinterpret Indian mythology through the vocabulary of ping-pong in this playful exhibition. The works include Lullament, a kinetic installation of ping-pong balls rolling to and fro along steel tracks accompanied by the gentle hum of fans; and Present Continuous, a film that loops mundane scenes in the city punctuated by the action of a rapidly bouncing ping-pong ball.

WHERE: Pearl Lam Galleries, 14A Dempsey Road
MRT: Commonwealth **WHEN:** Till May 26, 11am to 7pm (Tuesdays to Saturdays); noon to 6pm (Sundays)
ADMISSION: Free **INFO:** www.pearllam.com



WHISPERS FROM THE DRAGON'S TEETH GATE

This dance-drama (left), commissioned by the Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre, looks back 700 years to the voyage of Sang Nila Utama and the discovery of Batu Berlayar or Dragon's Teeth Gate, a rocky outcrop that stood at the gateway to Keppel Harbour in Singapore until it was destroyed by the British.

Through a fusion of dance techniques with Chinese, Malay and Indonesian influences, 24 dancers from Dance Ensemble Singapore and Sri Warisan Som Said Performing Arts will depict Singapore's journey in four acts.

The production team includes historian Kua Bak Lim, Cultural Medallion recipient and playwright Han Lao Da, Indonesian choreographer Didik Nini Thowok and costume designer Raymond Wong.

WHERE: Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre, Far East Organization Auditorium, 1 Straits Boulevard
MRT: Tanjong Pagar **WHEN:** April 20, 3 and 8pm **ADMISSION:** \$30 to \$40 from Sistic (call 6348-5555 or go to www.sistic.com.sg)
INFO: www.singaporeccc.org.sg

PHOTOS: EDMOND WONG, NATIONAL GALLERY SINGAPORE, NATIONAL LIBRARY BOARD, PEARL LAM GALLERIES

MINIMALISM: SPACE. LIGHT. OBJECT

Catch the final weekend of this blockbuster exhibition on an iconic art movement at National Gallery Singapore and ArtScience Museum, featuring more than 150 works of art from the 1960s to the present day.

Not to be missed are Palestinian artist Mona Hatoum's barbed wire installation *Impenetrable* (right) and hypnotic sand wheel + and -; Chinese artist Ai Weiwei's *Sunflower Seeds*, featuring thousands of hand-crafted porcelain beads shaped like sunflower seeds; and *Seu Corpo Da Obra* (Your Body Of Work) by Danish-Icelandic artist Olafur Eliasson, a multi-coloured maze of translucent plastic sheets.

WHERE: National Gallery Singapore, 1 St Andrew's Road; and ArtScience Museum, 6 Bayfront Avenue
MRT: City Hall/Promenade
WHEN: Until Sunday; various



opening times **ADMISSION:** Free at National Gallery Singapore; one-for-one tickets at the ArtScience

Museum, go to po.st/ASMTicketing for details **INFO:** minimalism.sg

JUBILEE PHOTO STUDIO

Step back in time in this exhibition, done up like a vintage photo studio in the lobby of the National Library headquarters.

It shows more than 130 photos from the National Archives of Singapore, which celebrates its 50th anniversary this year.

The sights of yesteryear include a five-foot-wide noodle seller from the 1950s and flats in MacPherson housing estate in the 1970s.

Some are accompanied by oral history audio clips by people such as Mr M. Bala Subramaniam, Singapore's first Asian Postmaster-General, and Mr Rod Lim, who owns home-grown bak kwa business Lim Chee Guan.

The Time Travel Camera, a green screen photo booth, allows visitors to pose against historical postcard images such as Telok Ayer Street in the 1900s and Tanjong Katong in the 1920s.

They can take home a digital copy



of their photographs by scanning a unique QR code at the booth.

WHERE: National Library, 100 Victoria Street **MRT:** Bugis **WHEN:** Till June 30, 10am to 9pm daily **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** www.nlb.gov.sg

ARTS

BOOKS

Meet Author Kenny Ting Of Singapore 1819: A Living Legacy

With the founding of modern Singapore by Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles, Singapore 1819: A Living Legacy reviews the many events, people, artefacts, legends and lifestyles, pre- and post-1819, that contributed to making the country the unique city it is today.

WHERE: Kinokuniya Singapore Main Store, 04-20 Ngee Ann City, 391 Orchard Road **MRT:** Orchard **WHEN:** Tomorrow, 2pm **ADMISSION:** Free **TEL:** 6737-5021 **INFO:** kinokuniya.com.sg

Panel Discussion: Ng Yi-Sheng, Andre Yeo And Teo Xue Shen

Singapore writers Ng Yi-Sheng, Andre Yeo and Teo Xue Shen discuss their respective novels - Lion City, 9th Of August and 18 Walls.

WHERE: Kinokuniya Singapore Main Store, 04-20 Ngee Ann City, 391 Orchard Road **MRT:** Orchard **WHEN:** Tomorrow, 4pm **ADMISSION:** Free **TEL:** 6737-5021 **INFO:** kinokuniya.com.sg

Singapore Literature Book Club: Nimita's Place By Akshita Nanda

Journalist Akshita Nanda discusses her first novel, Nimita's Place, a story of two Indian women, generations apart, who walk divergent paths but face the same quandaries: Who are we and what is home?

WHERE: Multi-Purpose Room, Central Public Library, Basement 1 National Library Building, 100 Victoria Street **MRT:** City Hall/Bugis **WHEN:** Thu, 7 - 8.30pm **ADMISSION:** Free, with registration **INFO:** www.nlb.gov.sg/golibrary

CONCERTS

RI Chinese Orchestra

The Raffles Institution Chinese Orchestra, which celebrates its 31st

anniversary and has grown into a 120-member, internationally competitive orchestra with five sections, will showcase classical Chinese orchestral works performed at the recent Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation, as well as a mix of contemporary works.

WHERE: Esplanade Outdoor Theatre, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** Esplanade/City Hall **WHEN:** Today, 7.30 & 8.30pm **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** esplanade.com

NUS Guitar Ensemble

The ensemble will present a selection of its favourites, both old and new - from familiar gaming themes to movie soundtracks to classics like Piazzolla's *Libertango*.

WHERE: Esplanade Concourse, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** Esplanade/City Hall **WHEN:** Tomorrow, 6.15 & 7.15pm **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** facebook.com/NUSGuitarEnsemble

Pop Hits By Ngee Ann Polytechnic Alumni Band

The band will perform hits from The Jackson 5, Amy Winehouse, Bruno Mars and Ed Sheeran.

WHERE: Esplanade Concert Hall, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** Esplanade/City Hall **WHEN:** Sun, 3pm **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** esplanade.com

SSO Subscription Concert: Maestro Choo Hoey

A name synonymous with the birth and growing-up years of the Singapore Symphony Orchestra (SSO), Choo Hoey conducts a programme that includes music from Stravinsky's first opera, Mozart's Violin Concerto No. 4 and Bartok's Suite No. 1.

WHERE: Esplanade Concert Hall, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** Esplanade/City Hall **WHEN:** Thu, 7.30pm **ADMISSION:** \$15 - \$88 **INFO:** esplanade.com

Hebrew Biblical Songs

The Yamma Ensemble will perform works such as early songs inspired by ancient Jewish devotional poetry

and the songs of the Yemenites, Babylons, Hasiduts and Sepharads, as well as original and contemporary numbers that speak of the Jewish diaspora. Part of the series, *A Tapestry Of Sacred Music*.

WHERE: Esplanade Concourse, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** Esplanade/City Hall **WHEN:** April 20, 10.15pm; & April 21, 4.15pm **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** esplanade.com

DANCE

Kunitha: Ritual Dances Of Karnataka

The Karnataka Folk Ensemble, a group of folk artists from across Karnataka, performs *dollu kunitha* and *kamsale* (percussion-based dance and music traditions), among other dance forms.

WHERE: Esplanade Outdoor Theatre, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** Esplanade/City Hall **WHEN:** Thu, 9.30pm; April 19, 8.15pm **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** esplanade.com

Kamsale Workshop: Sacred Cymbal Dance

Kamsale, a cymbal-like instrument, is played by dancers as an offering to Lord Mahadeshwara. The workshop will introduce participants to the history and narrative of the tradition through discussions, demonstrations and hands-on learning.

WHERE: Esplanade Concert Hall, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** Esplanade/City Hall **WHEN:** April 19, 3.30pm **ADMISSION:** Free, register at bit.ly/2UcbfW1 **INFO:** esplanade.com

Ghost Call By Nabilah Said

Ghost Call explores the idea behind one-sided communication and its effects on a person. A collaboration between playwright Nabilah Said and contemporary dance company Raw Moves artistic director Ricky Sim, it is an experiment exploring the intersection between movement, text and the raw emotional connection with the audience.

WHERE: Goodman Arts Centre, Multi-Purpose Studio 1 & 2, Block O, 90 Goodman Road **MRT:** Mountbatten

WHEN: May 16, 8pm; May 17 & 18, 3 & 8pm **ADMISSION:** \$16 - \$20, tickets at ghostcall.peatix.com **INFO:** E-mail rawmoves.manager@gmail.com (school bookings) or rawmoves.tix@gmail.com

EXHIBITIONS (MUSEUMS)

Packaging Matters

This exhibition explores the world of food packaging in Singapore, from the early bottling and canning factories in the late 19th to early 20th centuries, to the light industries of the 1960s and 1970s when food was manufactured in factories.

WHERE: Stamford Gallery, Level 1 National Museum of Singapore, 93 Stamford Road **MRT:** Bras Basah/Dhoby Ghaut **WHEN:** Till Sept 15, 10am - 7pm **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** nationalmuseum.sg

EXHIBITIONS (GALLERIES)

Revisiting Flitter: Works By Gillian Chen (1997-2018)

In *Flitter*, organised by the Children's Cancer Foundation, Gillian Chen revisits her body of work from 2015 to 2016. Built off her intrigue with transitions and the debris left behind in their course, her works question and reflect on the sentimentality felt towards these neglected objects. Using hair, dust and flaking wall paints, she transformed and breathed new life into the perceptions of day-to-day detritus.

WHERE: 02-01, 51 Waterloo Street (opposite entrance of Centre 42) **MRT:** Bras Basah **WHEN:** Today, 10am - 7pm, tomorrow & Sun. 11am - 5pm **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** tinyurl.com/gilichen

The World Above: Solo Exhibition By Charlotte Elizabeth

Britain-born artist Charlotte Elizabeth holds her first solo exhibition inspired by the dramatic skyline of Singapore, the cloud-high architecture and exotic climate. Her first series of work is a collection of abstract skies.

WHERE: Level 4 APS Building, 9 Muthuraman Chetty Road **MRT:** Fort Canning **WHEN:** April 20 - May 11, 10am - 7pm **ADMISSION:** Free **TEL:** 6737-8865 **INFO:** miajaartcollections.com

National Gallery Singapore Open House

Visitors will enjoy complimentary admission to all exhibitions at National Gallery Singapore for the weekend, including the special exhibition, *Minimalism: Space. Light. Object*.

WHERE: 1 St Andrew's Road **MRT:** City Hall **WHEN:** Today & tomorrow, 10am - 9pm, Sun, 10am - 7pm **ADMISSION:** Free to all exhibits **INFO:** nationalgallery.sg

THEATRE

Til The End Of The World, We'll Meet In No Man's Land

Home-grown singer-songwriter Inch Chua recently travelled to the seventh continent of the world, as a part of 2041's International Antarctic ClimateForce Expedition led by veteran world explorer Robert Swan and his son Barney. She returns home with a suitcase full of stories.

WHERE: 72-13 Mohamed Sultan Road **MRT:** Fort Canning **WHEN:** April 24 - 26 & 30, May 1 - 3, 8pm; April 27 & May 4: 3 & 8pm **ADMISSION:** \$48 **TEL:** 6737-7213 **INFO:** theatreworks.org.sg

Shaggy And The Trims

In a town where everyone is trim and tidy, Shaggy is the shaggiest as haircuts terrify him. When the Notties come into town to cause trouble, everyone discovers that being different can be a good thing and, sometimes, you can fit in in ways you least expect. The play is an Esplanade production.

WHERE: Esplanade Theatre Studio, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** Esplanade/City Hall **WHEN:** May 3, 7 - 9, 14 - 17: 9.30 & 11am; May 4 & 5: 11am & 4pm; May 11, 4pm; May 12, 11am **ADMISSION:** \$20 **INFO:** esplanade.com