

FILMS

Beautiful Days (2018, PG)
The opening film of the 23rd Busan International Film Festival is about a boy who is forced to search for his estranged mother, a North Korean defector who abandoned him and his now-dying father in China. Despite his deep resentment, he cannot help but pore through a notebook which she left behind and begins piecing together a tragic story.
WHERE: The Projector, Level 5 Golden Mile Tower, 6001 Beach Road
MRT: Nicoll Highway **WHEN:** Thu - May 25, 8.30pm; May 26, 8.10pm
ADMISSION: \$13.50 (standard), \$11.50 (concession)
INFO: www.theprojector.sg

Stage Russia: Anna Karenina (2019, PG)
Stage Russia presents Leo Tolstoy's Anna Karenina, captured live on stage at the Vakhtangov State Academic Theatre of Russia. Directed by Lithuanian choreographer Anzelica Cholina, this award-winning production is a staging of the classic novel entirely in contemporary dance.
WHERE: The Projector, Level 5 Golden Mile Tower, 6001 Beach Road
MRT: Nicoll Highway **WHEN:** May 25, 7.30pm **ADMISSION:** \$25 (standard), \$23 (concession)
INFO: www.theprojector.sg

The Disappearance Of My Mother (2019, Rating to be advised)
At age 75, Benedetta – an iconic fashion model in the 1960s and radical feminist in the 1970s – becomes fed up with the roles that life has imposed on her and decides to disappear to a place as far as possible from the world she knows. Her son, Beniamino, has filmed her since he was a child and wants to make a film about her. The making of the film turns into a battle between mother and son. In Italian with English subtitles.
WHERE: The Projector, Level 5 Golden Mile Tower, 6001 Beach Road
MRT: Nicoll Highway **WHEN:** May 25, 5pm **ADMISSION:** \$13.50 (standard), \$11.50 (concession)
INFO: www.theprojector.sg

The Girl In The Fog (2017, PG)
Based on the novel of the same name, the movie (in Italian with English subtitles) follows the sudden disappearance of Anna Lou, a 16-year-old girl from a small mountain village in the Italian Alps. Called to investigate the mystery is the enigmatic Detective Vogel (Toni Servillo), who must make use of his unconventional methods to uncover the truth.
WHERE: The Projector, Level 5 Golden Mile Tower, 6001 Beach Road
MRT: Nicoll Highway **WHEN:** May 25, 8pm **ADMISSION:** \$13.50 (standard), \$11.50 (concession)
INFO: www.theprojector.sg

Ralph Breaks The Internet: Wreck-It Ralph 2 (2018, PG)
Enjoy free flow popcorn and nachos and cheese at Downtown East's outdoor movie screening in full-high-definition projection this month.
WHERE: Open Plaza 2 (outside D'Marquee), Downtown East, 1 Pasir Ris Close **MRT:** Pasir Ris
WHEN: May 25, 7.30 - 10pm
ADMISSION: Free
INFO: www.downtowneast.com.sg

NATURE

World Bee Day
Visitors will be introduced to local honey bees and learn how people can co-exist with them. They will be taken on a guided tour of the bee garden and a 360-degree transparent beehive. They will also discover other living things, such as free-range chicken and fish, and make lip balm.
WHERE: 30 Durban Road
MRT: Sembawang **WHEN:** Mon, 9am - 1.30pm **ADMISSION:** \$40 (adult), \$20 (child below 10 years old), \$50 (adult & child); beehive adoption: \$100 for first 10 families
INFO: Register at bit.ly/2DWmPPP

KIDS

Aladdin Workshop: A Whole(some) New World
PositiveLeePellin teams up with chefs from Saybons to teach young children to prepare fun and nutritious meals. Each child gets a Flying Carpet Crepe, a cup of Saybons soup, a drink and treasure hunt goodies.
WHERE: Saybons, 02-43 Bishan Junction 8, 9 Bishan Place
MRT: Bishan **WHEN:** June 1, 3 - 4.30pm **ADMISSION:** \$68 (child aged five - 10), register at bit.ly/2VFQwQb

Children's Season @ Sun Yat Sen Nanyang Memorial Hall
Explore the occupations of the past – such as policemen directing traffic

Film Picks

John Lui Film Correspondent and Boon Chan Media Correspondent recommend



FRENCH ANIMATION FILM FESTIVAL
Over one weekend, the festival, in its eighth edition, will showcase five feature films and 10 short films.
Winner of a Cesar award for Best Animated Movie this year,

Dilili In Paris (2018, 95 minutes, above) is an adventure of a girl in the time of Belle Epoque France, who investigates a spate of kidnappings and, in doing so, meets the famous names of that period.
It will be screened on May 24

and its animator and assistant director, Jean-Claude Charles, will answer questions after the screening.
WHERE: Alliance Francaise de Singapour, 1 Sarkies Road
MRT: Newton **WHEN:** May 24 to 26, various times

ADMISSION: From \$8 a screening for Alliance Francaise members, from \$10 for non-members; free screenings for selected films
INFO: bit.ly/2w0jxqH

PHOTOS: FRENCH ANIMATION FILM FESTIVAL, ITALIAN FILM FESTIVAL, GOLDEN VILLAGE

John Lui



ITALIAN FILM FESTIVAL
In crime thriller **Dogman (2018, 103 minutes)**, dog groomer Marcello (Marcello Fonte, above) finds his life descending into chaos and violence after he becomes an unwilling accomplice to the robbery of a cocaine dealer.
Directed by Matteo Garrone of prize-winning crime drama **Gomorra** (2008), the film was selected for the Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival and was Italy's entry to the

Academy Awards this year.
WHERE/MRT: The Projector, Level 5 Golden Mile Tower, 6001 Beach Road (Nicoll Highway); GV Plaza, Plaza Singapura, 68 Orchard Road (Dhoby Ghaut) **WHEN:** Wednesday to June 7, various times **ADMISSION:** \$13.50
INFO: Download the booklet at www.ambisngapore.esteri.it; for schedule and bookings, go to theprojector.sg/italianfilmfest or www.gv.com.sg

John Lui



BIRTHDAY (PG)
120 minutes/★★★★☆
The Sewol ferry disaster in which 304 people – many of them high-school students – died, is still a fresh wound for the South Koreans.
In an assured and sensitive directorial debut, writer-director Lee Jong-un chooses to focus on one family: how death has torn it apart and how the kindness of others might help them heal.
Jung-il (Sul Kyung-gu) returns home to South Korea after a number of years abroad. His wife, Soon-nam

(Jeon Do-yeon, both above), has been looking after their daughter, Ye-sol (Kim Bo-min), on her own and does not want to see him.
It is revealed that they had an older son, Su-ho (Yoon Chan-young), who died in the ferry sinking on April 16, 2014.
This could have been an unremittingly bleak film, but Lee manages to find little moments of tenderness and humour – making the big emotional moments all the more devastating.
Boon Chan

at crossroad junctions – through fun-filled programmes such as treasure hunts, dramatised storytelling and cartoon-drawing workshops. Also, read captions on selected works by students.
WHERE: Sun Yat Sen Nanyang Memorial Hall, 12 Tai Gin Road
MRT: Toa Payoh **WHEN:** June 1 - 30, 10am - 5pm **ADMISSION:** Free for Singapore citizens & permanent residents **TEL:** 6256-7377
INFO: www.sysnmh.org.sg

OTHERS

Kindness Carnival
The main feature of this year's carnival, the hourly circuit game, aims to educate children about traffic graciousness through fun and play. There are also stalls offering activities and light snacks for participants. Fringe activities for children include bouncy castle, ball pit, hopscotch and giant Twister stations.
WHERE: Road Safety Community Park, 910 East Coast Park **MRT:** Dakota/Bedok **WHEN:** May 25, 10am - 6.30pm
ADMISSION: Free **TEL:** 6761-9102
INFO: kindnessday.sg

LAST CALL

Beware Of Pity
Told by British director Simon McBurney, with actors from Schaubuhne Berlin, **Beware Of Pity** is an emotionally gripping play about

the treacherous nature of pity. How do people confront someone else's suffering? Is one's desire to save another person an act of true empathy or merely a balm for one's guilt?
WHERE: Esplanade Theatre, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** Esplanade/City Hall **WHEN:** Today, 7.30pm
ADMISSION: \$40 - \$80
INFO: www.esplanade.com

Young Children's Concert
Discovering Treasures Of Chinese Music – Winds In The Bamboo Grove by Singapore Chinese Orchestra is conducted by Quek Ling Kiong and will feature works such as Dawn At Miaoling (whistle and orchestra), Primitive Hunting Scene (flute and orchestra), Grasshopper Fooling With Rooster (dizi duo concerto), Miyazaki's Animation Medley (dizi concerto) and The Sounds Of Bamboo Forest (guan section and orchestra).
WHERE: Singapore Chinese Orchestra Concert Hall, Singapore Conference Hall, 7 Shenton Way **MRT:** Tanjong Pagar **WHEN:** Today, 10.30am; tomorrow, 2.30 & 5pm
ADMISSION: \$14 - \$37
TEL: 6348-5555
INFO: www.sistic.com.sg

A Doll's House
Using four scenes from Henrik Ibsen's **A Doll's House**, four actors start making dolls and end up with a house. In this reinvention of a classic, four graduating International Baccalaureate Career-Related

Programme students from the School of the Arts present their version of protagonist Nora's journey.
WHERE: Sota Studio Theatre, 1 Zubir Said Drive **MRT:** Dhoby Ghaut/Bencoolen **WHEN:** Today, 7.30pm, tomorrow, 2.30pm
ADMISSION: \$10 - \$15; tickets from www.apactix.com

Joo Chiat Rock Festival
As part of the district's anniversary celebrations, the Joo Chiat Citizens' Consultative Committee and Siglap South Community Centre will present an event featuring local musicians, such as SuperSonic, MILDlife, Too Much Drama and Ffion.
WHERE: Siglap Outfall, East Coast Park (between carparks C4 & D1) **MRT:** Bedok **WHEN:** Tomorrow, 5 - 9.30pm **ADMISSION:** \$5; tickets from Siglap South Community Centre
TEL: 6241-1925
INFO: www.facebook.com/joochiatfestival

• 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.

What's Good
LOOKING AT THE UPSIDE

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