

ARTS

BOOKS

Meet Author Eunice Olsen Of I'm A Girl. See What I Can Be!
The book is a series of poems written by Eunice Olsen, creator and executive producer of the international Emmy-nominated online video series, WomenTalk. They tell the stories of courage and inspiration based on real-life stories of 10 inspirational Asian women who have been featured on WomenTalk.
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

Questioning Museums: Art Institutions In Singapore
The book critically examines the ways in which shifting social, political and cultural histories are both produced and made visible through Singapore's institutional structures, collecting strategies and modes of exhibition-making.
WHERE: The Single Screen, NTU Centre for Contemporary Art, Block 43 Malan Road, Gillman Barracks **MRT:** Labrador Park **WHEN:** Wed, 7 - 9pm **ADMISSION:** Free
INFO: ntu.ccasingapore.org/events/questioning-museums-art-institutions-in-singapore-book-launch-and-welcome-reception/

CONCERTS

Musical Fantasia By Juying Secondary School Symphonic Band
The school band will perform a mix of pop and movie music, including from films such as The Avengers, Pirates Of The Caribbean and The Greatest Showman.
WHERE: Shaw Foundation Symphony Stage, Singapore Botanic Gardens, 1 Cluny Road **MRT:** Botanic Gardens
WHEN: Tomorrow, 6 - 7pm
ADMISSION: Free **INFO:** nparks_sbg_visitor_services@nparks.gov.sg

National Day Sing-Along
The 13th edition of this event, organised by the Singapore Federation of Chinese Clan Associations and Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre, will feature favourite NDP tunes performed by a 60-student strong combined schools' choir from Woodgrove Primary School and Guangyang Secondary School, as well as local classics and familiar tunes with home-grown musical talents Tay Sia Yeun, Yokez, See Kai Zheng and Irwin (Ah Win).
WHERE: Toa Payoh HDB Hub Mall Square, 480 Lorong 6 Toa Payoh **MRT:** Toa Payoh **WHEN:** Tomorrow, 7 - 9pm **ADMISSION:** Free

Kam Ning With SCO: Butterfly Lovers - Europe Pre-Tour
The Singapore Chinese Orchestra (SCO) is embarking on a Europe concert tour. Famed Singaporean violinist Kam Ning will play the popular Butterfly Lovers violin concerto, while SCO pipa principal, Yu Jia, will play the Arise, You Lion Of Glory pipa concerto, which won the 2015 Singapore International Competition for Chinese Orchestral Composition (SICCOC). Other works include Tan Dun's Yellow Earth and Wong Kah Chun's Krakatoa, which won him the Singaporean Composer Award in the 2015 SICCOC.
WHERE: SCO Concert Hall, Level 1 Singapore Conference Hall, 7 Shenton Way **MRT:** Tanjong Pagar
WHEN: Aug 24, 8pm
ADMISSION: \$20 - \$78
TEL: 6348-5555
INFO: sistic.com.sg

DANCE

Kamakshi - A Dancer's Journey Within
In this performance, the dancer aims to redefine her relationship with Bharatanatyam. Upon reflecting, she embraces a significant relationship in her life that moulds her passion - her grandmother, a dancer, teacher and choreographer. In Tamil and English.
WHERE: Drama Centre Black Box, 03-01 National Library Building, 100 Victoria Street **MRT:** City Hall/Bugis **WHEN:** Aug 10, 6 & 8.30pm
ADMISSION: By invitation with donations of at least \$15 at tinyurl.com/y25wo5ky
TEL: 9386-0442 **INFO:** E-mail_kamakshi.ms.2019@gmail.com

Masterpiece In Motion
This Singapore Dance Theatre's annual triple-bill performance features a line-up that includes George Balanchine's Serenade and Theme And Variations, as well as Goh Choo San's Fives.
WHERE: Esplanade Theatre, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** Esplanade/City Hall **WHEN:** Aug 16 & 17, 8pm
ADMISSION: \$40 - \$80; 20 per cent off for seniors, students & full-time national servicemen
INFO: esplanade.com

Arts Picks

Melissa Sim Deputy Life Editor recommends



FOOD, LIONS AND ZOMBIES BY POST-MUSEUM
Among the many interesting works at this exhibition, this painting (left) by artist Woon Tien Wei, 44, caught my eye as it is painted in the style of pioneer Singapore artist Cheong Soo Pieng.
Woon says the painting is in fact inspired by Cheong's work, Returning From Market.
But instead of the svelte, poised women in Cheong's notable piece, we see a stylised old woman returning home after collecting cardboard.
The piece is cheekily titled Returning From Exercising, referencing a Facebook comment made in 2015 by then Social and Family Development Minister Tan Chuan-Jin, where he said that some elderly cardboard collectors "prefer to earn extra monies, treat it as a form of exercise and activity rather than being cooped up at home". Critics branded him as insensitive and being out of touch.
There is levity and irreverence in Woon's piece, which simultaneously tips its hat to the skill and artistry of Singapore's master painters.
Woon, who is one of the co-founders of the art collective Post-Museum, says the title of this exhibition encapsulates the collective's practice and the works they are showing, which happen to revolve around themes of food, lions and zombies in a local context.
"It pertains to what sustains us, our dreams and what refuses to die," he adds.
WHERE: Yeow Workshop, Gillman Barracks, 47 Malan Road **MRT:** Labrador **WHEN:** Till Aug 11, Tuesday to Saturday, 11am to 7pm daily, Sunday, noon to 6pm
ADMISSION: Free **INFO:** www.yeoworkshop.com



PHOTOS: COURTESY OF WOON TIEN WEI, SAGE TAN, ST FILE

FENCES OF THE HEART
Opera may not be for everyone, but why not give this free performance a shot?
Set in London, Singapore and Malaysia in the 1960s, students Farah Ibrahim from Kuala Lumpur and Steven Lee from Singapore fall in love at a time when tensions are high between their home countries.
Their respective fathers object to the relationship on racial and religious grounds.
The composer is John Sharpley and the librettist is playwright Robert Yeo (left).
Do not miss the Lee Kuan Yew aria on the topic of Singapore's separation from Malaysia.
WHEN: Aug 8, 7 and 7.45pm
WHERE: Esplanade Concourse, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** Esplanade
ADMISSION: Free
INFO: www.esplanade.com/festivals-and-series/red-dot-august/2019/fences-of-the-heart



JUST TEDDY
Dance, theatre, literature and music come together for this interactive show (above) for children aged between two and four.
Put up by dance collective The Kueh Tutus, in partnership with The National Library Board, this free show allows parents and their children to contribute to the narrative of the performance.
The show takes place at various

libraries across Singapore, so check out the link below for other venues in the following weeks. The last show of the series will be at Bedok Public Library on Aug 31.
WHERE: Serangoon Public Library, 04R-82 Nex, 23 Serangoon Central **MRT:** Serangoon **WHEN:** Tomorrow, 11.30am to noon
ADMISSION: Free with registration at www.nlb.gov.sg
INFO: www.nlb.gov.sg

EXHIBITIONS (MUSEUMS)

Guo Pei: Chinese Art And Couture
The exhibition presents a dialogue between historical and contemporary Chinese design, juxtaposing 29 embroidered masterworks by China's foremost couturier with 20 Chinese art masterpieces in the Asian Civilisations Museum's collection. Guo's dramatic, sculptural gowns reflect influences from growing up in Beijing surrounded by Chinese imperial art and mythology.
WHERE: Asian Civilisations Museum, 1 Empress Place **MRT:** Raffles Place
WHEN: Till Sept 15, 10am - 7pm (Fri till 9pm) **ADMISSION:** Singaporeans & permanent residents: \$12; others: \$20, \$15 for students & seniors, \$60 for family of five **INFO:** acm.org.sg

Hooray For Heritage
Celebrate all things quintessentially Singaporean at the Sun Yat Sen Nanyang Memorial Hall's Hooray For Heritage event during the National Day weekend. Highlights include the venue's first cultural bazaar and thematic workshops such as making ang ku kueh and kueh lapis, and vinyl toy painting.
WHERE: Sun Yat Sen Nanyang Memorial Hall, 12 Tai Gin Road **MRT:** Toa Payoh **WHEN:** Aug 9 & 10, 10am - 5pm **ADMISSION:** Free
TEL: 6256-7377 **INFO:** E-mail_NHB_WQY@nhb.gov.sg

EXHIBITIONS (GALLERIES)

Miaja Art Collections Exhibition: I Create - I Am
Miaja Art's Summer Group Exhibition features the works of five artists, from colourful abstractions to detailed drawings.

WHERE: Level 4 APS building, 9 Muthuraman Chetty Road **MRT:** Fort Canning **WHEN:** Till Aug 24 (Mon - Sat), 10am - 7pm
ADMISSION: Free **TEL:** 6219-3326
INFO: www.miajaartcollections.com

Island Story: Solo Exhibition By Khairulddin Abdul Wahab
UOB Painting of the Year winner Khairulddin Abdul Wahab commemorates Singapore's Bicentennial by referencing local folklore to depict the country's early history. Featured are 14 of his layered-painting technique artworks, including paintings charting the journey of Toah, a 14th-century sea nomad who was a guide for the famous Chinese explorer Zheng He.
WHERE: UOB Art Gallery, UOB Plaza 1, 80 Raffles Place **MRT:** Raffles Place
WHEN: Till Sept 5, 9am - 6.30pm daily
ADMISSION: Free
INFO: uobpoy.com/artgallery

Currents: Than Sok Solo Exhibition
Cambodian artist Than Sok's first solo exhibition in Singapore will feature a set of six watercolour works, six canvas paintings from his Kbach Teuk (water forms) series and 20 watercolour works from the Objects Of Belief series.
WHERE: Richard Koh Fine Art (Singapore), 01-26 Gillman Barracks, 47 Malan Road **MRT:** Labrador Park
WHEN: Till Aug 17 (Tue - Sat), 11am - 7pm **ADMISSION:** Free
TEL: 6513-2640
INFO: www.rkfneart.com

THEATRE

The River's Story
This is a multilingual story-telling performance centred around the Singapore River, and enacted in the

street wayang style of yesteryear. Listen to tales featuring the likes of Stamford Raffles and William Farquhar and how the river transformed as the city changed. This light-hearted and interactive performance is helmed by director Zelda Tatiana Ng and performed by actor-creators Tan Weijing, Regina Foo and Vignesh Singh.
WHERE: Esplanade Concourse, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** Esplanade/City Hall **WHEN:** Sun, 5, 6 & 7pm
ADMISSION: Free
INFO: esplanade.com

The Orange Production - Acting Mad
Many who face mental illness issues still suffer silently or face stigma when they bring up their problems. Twenty actors who have experienced or are going through mental health issues were interviewed for this project, which is based on the verbatim texts of these interviews.
WHERE: The Necessary Stage Black Box Theatre, B1-02 Marine Parade Community Building, 278 Marine Parade Road **MRT:** Eunos
WHEN: Aug 7 - 10, 8pm; Aug 10 & 11, 3pm
ADMISSION: \$28
TEL: 6348-5555 **INFO:** sistic.com.sg

Wilderness
Youth theatre organisation The Runaway Company's second production, Wilderness - by Seth Bockley and Anne Hamburger - is a music theatre play set in a wilderness therapy camp for troubled teenagers. The play follows six main characters who have been sent to the unknown outdoors by their parents in a bid to heal them of their trauma and mental health issues.
WHERE: Stamford Arts Centre Black Box, 155 Waterloo Street **MRT:** Bugis **WHEN:** Aug 9 & 10, 7.30pm;

Aug 10 & 11, 2.30pm **ADMISSION:** \$20
TEL: 6348-5555 **INFO:** sistic.com.sg

A Midsummer Night's Dream
In three acts, Benjamin Britten's A Midsummer Night's Dream opera is based on Shakespeare's popular comedy of the same title, which follows the consequences of a spat between the fairy king Oberon and his queen, Tityania.
WHERE: Victoria Theatre, 9 Empress Place **MRT:** Raffles Place
WHEN: Aug 16 & 17, 7.30pm
ADMISSION: \$18 - \$80 **INFO:** [E-mail info@newopera.sg](mailto:info@newopera.sg)

Fat Kids Are Harder To Kidnap
Largely inspired by current affairs and trending topics, this re-staging of How Drama's 10th anniversary show will take on topics such as the Oxley saga, HDB rulings, crispy rendang and more. The cast will attempt to perform 31 plays in an hour, but the audience gets to decide the order of the plays.
WHERE: Esplanade Annex Studio, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** Esplanade/City Hall **WHEN:** Aug 16: 2 & 8pm; Aug 17: 2 & 7pm; Aug 18: 2pm
ADMISSION: \$35, tickets from peatix.com
INFO: facebook.com/fatkidsare

COMEDY

Trevor Noah Loud & Clear Tour
Trevor Noah is the host of the Emmy and Peabody Award-winning programme The Daily Show in the United States. After his first one-man show in 2009, his second show, The Racist, had a sold-out run at the 2012 Edinburgh Fringe.
WHERE: The Star Theatre, 04-01 The Star Performing Arts Centre, 1 Vista Exchange Green **MRT:** Buona Vista
WHEN: Aug 19, 7 & 9.30pm
ADMISSION: \$98 - \$198
TEL: 6348-5555 **INFO:** sistic.com.sg