

**ARTS**

**BOOKS**

**Heartlands Book Club: B-Sides And Backslides By Felix Cheong**

Singaporean writer Felix Cheong discusses his latest collection of poetry, which charts the ups and downs of career and marriage, to middle age, with reflections on his own writing that offer a rare glimpse of his creative process. Part of the SG Author Series.

**WHERE:** Activities Room, Bukit Batok Public Library, 1 Bukit Batok Central Link **MRT:** Bukit Batok **WHEN:** Today, 5 - 6.30pm **ADMISSION:** Free, register at [www.nlb.gov.sg/golibrary](http://www.nlb.gov.sg/golibrary)

**Could This Be Home, Truly? – A Discussion with Liyana Dhamirah**

When she was 22, Liyana Dhamirah found herself pregnant, with no one to turn to and nowhere to stay. Hear Liyana and her co-author Manisha discuss what "home" truly means to them. This event will be moderated by activist Kirsten Han.

**WHERE:** Kinokuniya Singapore Main Store Level 4 Takashimaya Shopping Centre, 391 Orchard Road **MRT:** Orchard **WHEN:** Oct 12, 2 - 3pm **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** [bit.ly/2pBspD9](http://bit.ly/2pBspD9)

**AUDITIONS**

**Open Call: The Shooting Home Youth Awards 2019**

The Shooting Home Youth Awards gives photographers aged 15 to 23 a chance to learn from some of the most exciting talent in the industry. Participants will be mentored by professional photographers and artists. At the end of the two-week programme, they will create a portfolio-worthy body of work and display them in a public exhibition. Only 12 participants will be selected. Application deadline is Oct 15. **INFO:** [objectifs.com.sg/shya2019](http://objectifs.com.sg/shya2019)

**CONCERTS**

**The TENG Ensemble Presents Heirlooms – Reimagining The Sounds Of Our Chinese Forefathers**

This one-night-only showcase will premiere a line-up of eight new commissioned works inspired by local Cantonese, Hokkien, Teochew and Hakka music traditions, performed with instruments found only in these folk ensembles. Heirlooms is also the highlight of The Forefathers Project, a four-year research journey by the arts group to uncover the origins of Singapore's Chinese music. Organised in support of the Singapore Bicentennial.

**WHERE:** Esplanade Concert Hall, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** City Hall/Esplanade **WHEN:** Oct 11, 7.30 - 8.45pm **ADMISSION:** \$25 - \$45 **TEL:** 6348-5555 **INFO:** [www.sistic.com.sg](http://www.sistic.com.sg)

**Debussy, Ravel & Mozart: Richard Tognetti**

Violinist, arranger and conductor Richard Tognetti will lead the Singapore Symphony Orchestra in a concert in which French masterpieces take centre stage. The programme includes Debussy's The Girl With The Flaxen Hair and works by Ravel uniquely arranged for orchestra by Tognetti. The concert closes, however, with Mozart's final symphony: Jupiter.

**WHERE:** Victoria Concert Hall, 9 Empress Place **MRT:** City Hall/Raffles Place **WHEN:** Oct 11 & 12, 7.30pm (pre-concert talk: 6.30pm) **ADMISSION:** \$15 - \$88 **TEL:** 6348-5555 **INFO:** [www.sistic.com.sg](http://www.sistic.com.sg)

**The Night Garden**

The debut classical-fusion concert by Swiss-trained, Singaporean classical musician and solo bassoonist Jo Anne Sukumaran celebrates the launch of her first solo album of the same name, which was recorded in Italy last December. She will be accompanied by Singaporean musicians, including multi-percussionist Mohamed Noor, harpist Sarah Wong, pianist Rachel Chen, bassoonists Lee Hui and Goh Mok Cheong, and guitarist Lee Feng. **WHERE:** Esplanade Recital Studio, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** City Hall/Esplanade **WHEN:** Oct 20, 7.30 - 9pm **ADMISSION:** \$30, \$20 (concession) **INFO:** [thenightgarden.peatix.com](http://thenightgarden.peatix.com)

**Chorus Of The Planets**

A precursor to his Ninth Symphony, Beethoven's sparkling 1808 Choral Fantasy for piano, vocal soloists, chorus and orchestra is a poetic tribute to the divine power of music. The Singapore Symphony Orchestra will be joined by Malaysian piano wunderkind Tengku Irfan. Ascend beyond the firmaments in Holst's universally loved classic, The Planets. **WHERE:** Esplanade Concert Hall, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** City Hall/

**Arts Picks**

**Melissa Sim Life Deputy Editor recommends**



PHOTOS: TAN KUAN ERN, ESNA ONG, ANGIE KREMER

**10 YEARS // 11 STORIES: ARTCOMMUNE ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

Collectors and their art-collecting journeys take centre stage in this exhibition, which celebrates the 10th anniversary of Singapore gallery artcommune.

More than 100 works by Singapore and overseas artists, hand-picked

from the collections of 11 private collectors, will be on display.

Collector Tan Kuan Ern, 42, who works in finance, says he chose to showcase works by Singapore artists who "used abstraction as a means to communicate their ideas and ideals and, in the process, laid the foundations for abstraction in Singapore art".

One of his pieces on display is Ho Ho Ying's The Red And Blue Concerto (above), which Mr Tan says "demonstrates the artist's significant capability and the quality of art our local artists could produce".

Other highlights include works by artists Cheong Soo Pieng, Chua Ek Kay, Chen Wen Hsi, Chua Mia Tee, Hong Sek Chern and Jane Lee.

**WHERE:** Artspace @ Helutrans, 39 Keppel Road **MRT:** Tanjong Pagar/HarbourFront **WHEN:** Tomorrow, 3 to 7pm; Sunday to Oct 13, noon to 7pm daily **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** [www.artcommune.com.sg](http://www.artcommune.com.sg)

**MORE THAN MUSIC AND WINE**

Fine wines are paired with classical music in this intimate performance by pianist Abigail Sin and violinist Loh Jun Hong (both right).

The artists will share the stories behind the music, which will be complemented by the characteristics and flavours of each wine.

Savour the rich melodies, sparkling textures and lush harmonies of works by composers such as Mozart, Beethoven, Ravel and more.

**WHERE:** Blue Room, The Arts House, 1 Old Parliament Lane **MRT:** City Hall/Raffles Place **WHEN:** Today and tomorrow, 8pm **ADMISSION:** \$60 (includes wine-tasting) **INFO:** [musicandwine.peatix.com](http://musicandwine.peatix.com)



**BEETHOVEN IM GARTEN**

The Singapore Botanic Gardens will provide the perfect setting for Beethoven's No. 6 Symphony, titled Pastorale, tomorrow.

"In this work, Beethoven evokes the sound of nature, from bird calls to a thunderstorm. But the music does not just depict and preserve nature through music. I believe it also connects human beings with our environment," says Singaporean conductor Wong Kah Chun (left).

Wong, 33, chief conductor of the Nuremberg Symphony Orchestra, will conduct this free concert titled Beethoven Im Garten.

This concert series – now in its second year – is an initiative of the German Embassy in Singapore, in partnership with the Nuremberg Symphony Orchestra and the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music.

Says Wong: "I love Beethoven's Sixth Symphony. It must be one of my absolute favourite pieces of music. The

melodies are so hummable and uplifting.

He adds that the music begins with the sound of springtime, as flowers bloom and wildlife awakens. Later, a full storm breaks out and when the storm subsides, "we hear the sound of rainbows in the warm music that ends the symphony".

Having never conducted this piece outdoors, Wong is "looking forward to performing it with the combined forces of the Nuremberg Symphony and the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music".

**WHERE:** Shaw Foundation Symphony Stage, Singapore Botanic Gardens, 1 Cluny Road **MRT:** Botanic Gardens **WHEN:** Tomorrow, concert at 6pm, picnic grounds open from 5pm **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** [singapur.diplo.de](http://singapur.diplo.de)

Esplanade **WHEN:** Nov 8, 7.30pm (pre-concert talk: 6.30pm) **ADMISSION:** \$15 - \$88 **TEL:** 6348-5555 **INFO:** [www.sistic.com.sg](http://www.sistic.com.sg)

**EXHIBITIONS (MUSEUMS)**

**Poverty Quilt/A Year In Java**

This large quiltwork, pieced together from textile scraps from sewing sweatshops in Yogyakarta, is an ode to Singaporean artist Jimmy Ong's reflections on poverty and the impact of colonial rule on Java, as well as a tribute to his late grandmother. She became the sole breadwinner and raised seven children on earnings made by sewing buttonholes for a factory when his grandfather was stranded on Java in 1948.

**WHERE:** Shaw Foyer, Asian Civilisations Museum, 1 Empress Place **MRT:** Raffles Place **WHEN:** Till Oct 17, Mon - Thu, Sat & Sun, 10am - 7pm; Fri, 10am - 9pm **ADMISSION:** Free **TEL:** 6332-7798 **INFO:** [acm.org.sg](http://acm.org.sg)

**EXHIBITIONS (GALLERIES)**

**One Machine, One Stitch, One Man**

This is an exhibition of embroidery art and fashion which features 20 hand-crafted kebayas and formal gowns made by Heath Yeo. Four works, such as a tablecloth and coaster sewn by Tan-Tjioe – who, like

Yeo, is similarly trained in the treadle machine embroidery – will also be showcased.

**WHERE:** Gallery 2, The Arts House, 1 Old Parliament Lane **MRT:** Raffles Place/City Hall **WHEN:** Today & tomorrow, 10am - 8pm; Sun, 10am - 6pm **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** [www.theartshouse.sg](http://www.theartshouse.sg)

**Imaginary Excursions: I Think I Am On A Field Trip**

Expressionist painter Andy Yang revels in introspection, where his mind massages his consciousness into a state of wandering, with drawings and sketches of scenery while travelling in them.

**WHERE:** NPE Gallery (Level 2), 39 - 41 Kallang Place **MRT:** Bendemeer **WHEN:** Today - Nov 7, 10am - 6pm (weekdays) **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** [www.npe.com.sg](http://www.npe.com.sg)

**Remember This Place, For We Will Be Back Here Again Someday**

Singaporean artist Faris Nakamura continues his inquiry of spaces in Singapore, presenting his recent works in painted wood and mild steel. The exhibition questions the privilege associated with the limited space in Singapore and its inevitable effects on the country's architecture.

**WHERE:** Richard Koh Fine Art, 01-26 Gillman Barracks, 47 Malan Road

**MRT:** Labrador Park **WHEN:** Today - Oct 19, 11am - 7pm (Tue - Sat), closed on Sun, Mon & public holidays **ADMISSION:** Free **TEL:** 6513-2640 **INFO:** [rkfineart.com](http://rkfineart.com)

**Masterpiece Collection**

A collection of masterpieces by the likes of Pablo Picasso, Marc Chagall, Georges Braque, Hans Hartung, Fernand Leger, Henri Matisse is on show, as part of Opera Gallery Singapore's 25th anniversary celebrations.

**WHERE:** Opera Gallery, 02-16 ION Orchard, 2 Orchard Turn **MRT:** Orchard **WHEN:** Till Oct 20, 11am - 8pm (Mon - Fri); 10am - 8pm (Sat & Sun) **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** [www.operagallery.com](http://www.operagallery.com)

**Zhang Fuming's V. Atas**

In an era of social media where people are constantly bombarded by photos of other people's successes and the fetishisation of hustling, v. atas – or very atas – probes into that cultivated image. Artist Zhang Fuming describes his "black & white narratives" as reprising the role of social realism or expressing critical social messages.

**WHERE:** Telok Ayer Arts Club, 2 McCallum Street **MRT:** Telok Ayer **WHEN:** Till Nov 9, 11am - 11pm (Mon - Sat); Closed on Sun **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** [telokayerartsclub.sg](http://telokayerartsclub.sg)

**EXHIBITIONS (OTHERS)**

**Our Schools, Our Stories Photo Exhibition 2019**

Students and educators were invited by the Ministry of Education to participate in a photo contest to capture scenes of school life under three themes. This roving exhibition presents selected entries.

**WHERE:** 841 Yishun Street 81 **MRT:** Khatib **WHEN:** Till Oct 25, open 24 hours **WHERE:** 151 Tampines Street 12 **MRT:** Tampines **WHEN:** Nov 1 - 30, open 24 hours **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** [www.moe.gov.sg/OSOS](http://www.moe.gov.sg/OSOS)

**COMEDY**

**The Most Interesting Man In The Room**

Indian YouTube comedian Kenny Sebastian returns to Singapore after two years with his sixth stand-up comedy special, sharing his outlook on how life has changed since he turned 28 with a unique blend of humour and music.

**WHERE:** Shine Auditorium, Shaw Tower, 100 Beach Road **MRT:** Bugis/Esplanade **WHEN:** Nov 22, 8pm **ADMISSION:** \$59 - \$134 **TEL:** 6348-5555 **INFO:** [www.sistic.com.sg](http://www.sistic.com.sg)

**OTHER ARTS EVENTS**

**New Guided Art Tour For Singapore's First Outdoor Art Gallery, The Gelam Gallery**

The back lanes of Kampong Glam have been converted from a dirty bin storage area to a cool outdoor gallery. The Gelam Gallery features artworks from 30 artists, a mix of contemporary art as well as art pieces which reflect the culture and heritage of the precinct and the artists' reflections. **WHERE:** Muscat Street **MRT:** Bugis **WHEN:** Till Oct 13, 4 - 5pm or 6 - 7pm (weekends only) **ADMISSION:** Free, register at [eventbrite.sg](http://eventbrite.sg) **INFO:** [www.theadmin.sg/gelam-gallery](http://www.theadmin.sg/gelam-gallery)

**Fourth Wall: Duets**

French and Singaporean artists, choreographers and producers embrace performing arts, contemporary dance, virtual reality, digital painting and music to present an innovative interdisciplinary work. The programme features three intertwined duet performances, complemented by a free flow of French wines. Part of Voilal! France Singapore Festival 2019.

**WHERE:** Miaja Gallery, Level 4 APS Building, 9 Muthuraman Chetty Road **MRT:** Fort Canning **WHEN:** Nov 8, 6 & 9pm; Nov 9, 3, 6 & 9pm; Nov 10, 4pm **ADMISSION:** \$98 (early bird up to Oct 15), \$128 (standard) **INFO:** [bit.ly/2mho8TC](http://bit.ly/2mho8TC)