

ArtsPicks

Melissa Sim Deputy Life Editor recommends



PHOTOS:  
COURTESY  
OF THE  
MESHMINDS  
FOUNDATION,  
SINGAPORE  
SYMPHONY  
ORCHESTRA

ART TRAIL WALKING TOURS

Four public artworks come alive on this tour, which is part of this year's Singapore Art Week.

The works highlighted in this 90-minute trail are Time Tree by Robert Zhao, Pembungan by Kumari Nahappan (above), Tropical Leaf by Han Sai Por and Currents by Grace Tan.

Through the use of augmented reality, those on the tour will gain a better understanding of the stories behind the works and develop a greater appreciation for the urban environment around them.

ART Trail is presented by non-profit organisation The MeshMinds Foundation, and supported by Facebook and the National Arts Council. The guided tours are supported by Artwalk Singapore and Monster Day Tours.

**WHERE:** Raffles Place Park (starting point outside Raffles Place MRT Exit B) **MRT:** Raffles Place

**WHEN:** Tomorrow to Jan 19; 10.30am and 5pm (weekends); 6pm (weekdays)

**ADMISSION:** Free

**INFO:** For the weekend walking tours, sign up at: [lead.me/mmwknd](https://lead.me/mmwknd) For the weekday walking tours, sign up at: [lead.me/mmwkday](https://lead.me/mmwkday) Visit [meshminds.com](https://meshminds.com) for more details



KAVAKOS PLAYS KORNGOLD

Violinist Leonidas Kavakos comes to Singapore for a concert with the Singapore Symphony Orchestra's (SSO) new chief conductor-designate Hans Graf (above).

This is Graf's first concert with the SSO since his appointment was announced last year.

The concert features Erich Korngold's tuneful, Hollywood-inspired Violin Concerto and Tchaikovsky's masterpiece,

the Pathétique Symphony.

Graf tells The Straits Times:

"You will hear one of the really great violinists of our time and a symphony which confronts, more than any other symphonic work, the beauty of life and the deepest tragedy."

**WHERE:** Esplanade Concert Hall, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** Esplanade

**WHEN:** Next Friday

**ADMISSION:** From \$25 on Sistic (call 6348-5555 or go to [sistic.com.sg](https://sistic.com.sg))

**INFO:** [sso.org.sg](https://sso.org.sg)

ART IS EVERYWHERE

Private art studio Brave New Worlds will be holding free workshops for kids and their parents over two weekends.

On Saturdays, participants will create multi-coloured paintings inspired by architecture around Singapore, as well as works by local artists such as Tay Bak Chiang and Lim Tze Peng.

The Sunday classes focus on public artworks in the central business district, including Han Sai Por's Tropical Leaf.

Families will discover that textures are everywhere and can be captured through frottage (crayon rubbings). They will combine their pieces to create their version of a public artwork.

The workshops, which are part of Singapore Art Week, are recommended for children aged four to eight, but older children are also welcome.

**WHERE:** Safrá Punggol, 9 Sentul Crescent **MRT:** Punggol **WHEN:** Tomorrow and Sunday, 10am and 2pm

**WHERE:** Safrá Toa Payoh, 293 Toa Payoh Lorong 6 **MRT:** Toa Payoh **WHEN:** Jan 18 and 19, 10am and 2pm

**WHERE:** Our Tampines Hub, 1 Tampines Walk **MRT:** Tampines **WHEN:** Jan 18 and 19, 10am and 2pm

**ALL ADMISSION:** Free

**INFO:** Register at [bravenewworlds.sg/saw2020](https://bravenewworlds.sg/saw2020)

ARTS

BOOKS

Caferati Writers' Group

Caferati is a group for adult English writers to share their original written works in English. It is open to both published authors and newbies.

**WHERE:** Geylang East Public Library, Activity Room, 50 Geylang East Avenue 1 **MRT:** Aljunied

**WHEN:** Jan 18, 3.30 - 5.30pm

**ADMISSION:** Free. Registration required **INFO:** [bit.ly/2sORHqe](https://bit.ly/2sORHqe)

How To Fall In Love With Classics (Graphic Novels): Alan Moore And Dave Gibbons' Watchmen

This National Library Board lecture series celebrates the classics and aims to ignite readers' passion for literature. This month, poet and graphic artist Gwee Li Sui will help readers understand the importance of graphic novel Watchmen, which won a Hugo award in 1988.

**WHERE:** Central Public Library, Programme Zone, 100 Victoria Street

**MRT:** City Hall/Bugis

**WHEN:** Jan 23, 7 - 8.30pm

**ADMISSION:** Free. Registration required **INFO:** [bit.ly/2N70cuS](https://bit.ly/2N70cuS)

Book Launch: Leading With Heart In A Vuca World

This book collects the stories of 14 business and community leaders from the Malay/Muslim community, chronicling how they beat the odds to become champions of their industry or field.

**WHERE:** Royal Palm @ Clarke Quay Central, 04-86 The Central (Clarke Quay), 6 Eu Tong Sen Street

**MRT:** Clarke Quay

**WHEN:** Jan 18, 11.30am - 3pm

**ADMISSION:** \$28 - \$75

**INFO:** [bit.ly/2tECvoG](https://bit.ly/2tECvoG)

The Straits Times Book Club – Stories That Make This World Better

Book editor Shefali Rekhi shares insights on how reporters from more than 20 countries work on their exposes, which are published in this

book. Shefali, who is also The Straits Times' Asia News Network editor, will talk about how Singapore hosted its first World News Day to celebrate world-class journalists. The session will be moderated by ST associate foreign editor Tan Ooi Boon.

A book signing will follow.

**WHERE:** Central Public Library

Programme Zone, 100 Victoria Street

**MRT:** City Hall/Bugis

**WHEN:** Jan 22, 7 - 8.30pm

**ADMISSION:** Free. Registration required **INFO:** [bit.ly/2Zp8chv](https://bit.ly/2Zp8chv)

OPEN CALL

New Award – Open Call For Singapore International Photography Festival

The Silvana S. Foundation Commission Award is a new award that will be part of the Singapore International Photography Festival's programme this year. It aims to empower Asia-Pacific photographers who focus on environmental, wildlife preservation and humanitarian concerns. The winning photographer will get \$20,000 and have his or her works shown in an exhibition as part of the festival in October.

**WHEN:** Online submissions are open until March 31 **INFO:** [bit.ly/2FtAs9w](https://bit.ly/2FtAs9w)

CONCERTS

A Farewell For Tasmin Little

After 2,000 performances over 30 years and nearly 50 recordings, English violinist Tasmin Little will be retiring from the stage after this season. She will be performing Bruch's much-loved Violin Concerto No. 1 with the Singapore Symphony Orchestra, led by American conductor Gerard Schwarz.

**WHERE:** Esplanade Concert Hall, 1 Esplanade Drive **MRT:** City Hall/ Esplanade **WHEN:** Feb 13, 7.30pm

**ADMISSION:** \$15 - \$88

**INFO:** [ticketing.sso.org.sg](https://ticketing.sso.org.sg)

Hong Kong String Orchestra – Obor Journey (Pan-Asia Tour) – Singapore

The Hong Kong String Orchestra,

known for fusing Eastern and Western influences, returns to Singapore with founder and artistic director Yao Jue as part of its Belt and Road Initiative concert tour in South-east Asia.

The concert opens with a Western classical selection, while the second half comprises Chinese pieces.

**WHERE:** Esplanade Recital Studio, 1 Esplanade Drive

**MRT:** City Hall/Esplanade

**WHEN:** Jan 17, 8pm

**ADMISSION:** \$30

**INFO:** [altenburg-arts.com](https://altenburg-arts.com)

ExxonMobil Campus Concerts: Chec 2020 – Heartstrings

Chec, or the Combined Halls Ensemble Concert, features familiar love songs re-imagined through the fusion of Eastern and Western instruments. Expect classics and medleys from movies such as The Avengers in this annual concert held by Raffles Hall, in collaboration with the National University of Singapore's other halls of residence.

**WHERE:** University Cultural Centre Theatre, 50 Kent Ridge Crescent

**MRT:** Kent Ridge/Clementi

**WHEN:** Feb 5, 7.30pm

**ADMISSION:** Free.

Registration required

**INFO:** [bit.ly/chec2020heartstrings](https://bit.ly/chec2020heartstrings)

Nanyang International Piano Academy Opening Gala Concert

The Nanyang International Piano Academy is an annual gathering of music lovers and allows piano students to learn from professionals.

The academy's concert features performances by members of this year's teaching faculty.

**WHERE:** Lee Foundation Theatre, NAFA Campus 3, 151 Bencoolen Street

**MRT:** Bugis/Bras Basah

**WHEN:** Jan 16, 7.30 - 9.30pm

**ADMISSION:** Free

**INFO:** [bit.ly/39PnUau](https://bit.ly/39PnUau)

DANCE

Memoirs Of The Lion City

Produced by Golden International Holdings in collaboration with Dance Ensemble Singapore, Sri Warisan Som

Said Performing Arts and three local experienced actors, this dance-drama fuses music, dance and poetry.

What unfolds is a Singaporean story of our forefathers arduously building up their lives in Nanyang, and their diligence and unyielding spirit passed down through cultures and practices.

**WHERE:** Esplanade Theatre, 1 Esplanade Drive

**MRT:** Esplanade

**WHEN:** Jan 17, 3.30 & 8pm;

Jan 18, 3.30pm

**ADMISSION:** From \$38

**INFO:** [sistic.com.sg](https://sistic.com.sg)

SINGAPORE ART WEEK

Justice For All

The Asian Art Institutum, together with The Arts House and Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, present Justice For All, an immersive, site-specific installation by acclaimed British-Nigerian artist Yinka Shonibare.

The exhibition has been curated by Dr Zehra Jumabhoy from the Courtauld Institute of Art, London, to coincide with Singapore Art Week and last year's Singapore Biennale.

**WHERE:** The Chamber, The Arts House, 1 Old Parliament Lane

**MRT:** City Hall

**WHEN:** Jan 13 - 30, 10am - 10pm

**ADMISSION:** Free

**INFO:** [artweek.sg/events/justice-for-all](https://artweek.sg/events/justice-for-all)

Of Spaces And Phases

Of Spaces And Phases looks at the historical remnants of 66 Spottiswoode Park Road. Located on Blair Plain Conservation land, the shophouse-style building retains many of its early features and relics.

**WHERE:** 66 Spottiswoode Park Road

**MRT:** Outram Park

**WHEN:** Tomorrow - Jan 19; noon - 8pm

(daily), noon - 10pm (Fri & Sat)

**ADMISSION:** Free

**INFO:** [artweek.sg/events/of-spaces-and-phases](https://artweek.sg/events/of-spaces-and-phases)

Cutting Edge II

Opera Gallery Singapore's first exhibition of the year is in tandem

with Singapore Art Week and is the second instalment of its Cutting Edge series. The works challenge the traditional boundaries of art, experimenting with textures, materials and technology, alongside traditional mediums.

**WHERE:** 02-16 Ion Orchard, 2 Orchard Turn

**MRT:** Orchard

**WHEN:** Tomorrow - Jan 19; 11am - 8pm

(Mon - Fri), 10am - 8pm (Sat & Sun)

**ADMISSION:** Free

**INFO:** [operagallery.com](https://operagallery.com)

THEATRE

Singapore Repertory Theatre's The Little Company "Fly High"

Fly High features the wonders of aviation and makes learning the basics of aerodynamics fun through music, puppetry and interactivity.

It is written by Rachel Barnett and directed by Jemma Gross, the founders of Fly High Stories, a British theatre company passionate about creating captivating theatre for children, with emphasis on a growth mindset and confidence-building.

**WHERE:** KC Arts Centre - Home of SRT, 20 Merbau Road

**MRT:** Clarke Quay

**WHEN:** From Feb 19, 10am (weekdays), 11am & 2pm (weekends and public holidays)

**ADMISSION:** From \$29

**INFO:** [srt.com.sg/show/flyhigh](https://srt.com.sg/show/flyhigh)

ExxonMobil Campus Concerts: Fat Kids Are Harder To Kidnap

Fat Kids Are Harder To Kidnap has been entertaining audiences with their quirky observations and wacky take on current affairs. Written by journalists Melissa Sim and Jeremy Au Yong, it is a raucous attempt to stage 31 bite-sized plays in an hour - audiences decide the order - and tackle hard issues such as the Trump-Kim summit and the Oxley saga.

**WHERE:** University Cultural Centre Theatre, 50 Kent Ridge Crescent

**MRT:** Kent Ridge/Clementi

**WHEN:** Jan 22, 7.30pm

**ADMISSION:** Free.

Registration required

**INFO:** [bit.ly/fatkidsarehardertokidnap](https://bit.ly/fatkidsarehardertokidnap)