

GIGS

Sing Lit Sounds: A Discord Disco

Sing Lit Station is organising a literature-themed online disco event to celebrate Singapore literature and the Chinese, Malay and Tamil languages. It will feature local singer Fauxe and bands .gif and Mantravine, as well as music produced by incorporating extracts of Singapore literature by six writers, as well as song mixes of voice samples from writers and poets. Other activities include readings, open mic for all languages, all-night discos and an "ask me anything" session with the featured artists.

WHEN: Oct 8 & Oct 16, 7 - 10.30pm

ADMISSION: Free with registration, optional \$8 for fun pack

INFO: buysinglit.sg/sing-lit-sounds-a-silent-disco

Dua Lipa Club Experience: Zoom Listening Party

Dance along to English singer Dua Lipa's remix album Club Future Nostalgia. Organised by Zouk Singapore and Warner Music Singapore.

WHEN: Today, 10.30pm

ADMISSION: Free with registration

INFO: bit.ly/2RJGTM9

Wonho Special Live #1WonhoYou

Wonho, a former member of South Korean boy band Monsta X, is holding his first live solo gig for his debut solo album, Love Synonym #1: Right For Me. Apart from songs from the new album, he will perform other original and cover numbers. Fans will also get to see exclusive behind-the-scenes clips. **WHEN:** Sept 27, 11am **ADMISSION:** US\$19.99 (\$27) - US\$149.99 **INFO:** bit.ly/35Gcy9f

Lamb Of God

American heavy-metal band Lamb Of God will perform music from two of their albums in separate online gigs from their hometown Richmond, Virginia. Today, they will play songs from their self-titled release this year; on Sept 25, they will perform Ashes Of The Wake (2004). A pre-show will start an hour before each gig, featuring a Q&A session with the band and a set from their past concerts.

WHERE: watch.lamb-of-god.com

WHEN: Today & Sept 25, 5am

ADMISSION: US\$15 & US\$35

Classics Of Old Shanghai

Travel back to old Shanghai with singer Skye Sirena as she belts out classic hits made popular by divas such as Zhou Xuan, Li Xianglan and Bai Guang. Sirena has established herself as one of the most versatile and sought-after singers here, and has sung in Mandarin, Cantonese, English, Korean and Japanese. Part of Coffee Morning & Afternoon Tea, an online series by the Esplanade featuring evergreen hits in English and Chinese, performed by veteran Singapore artists.

WHEN: Mon, 3pm **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** esplanade.com/offstage/arts/cmat-classics-of-old-shanghai

CHARITY

Ride For Rainbows: Virtual Ride

Organised by Club Rainbow, Singapore's largest charity cycling event aims to raise \$700,000 for children with chronic illnesses and their families, while also promoting health and fitness through cycling. Riders can cover the distance in one ride or do it over the participating period. They can do it outdoors or indoors and on any bike.

WHEN: Oct 3 - 11

ADMISSION: \$200 (20km) & \$700 (70km) **INFO:** rideforrainbows.org

Beyond The Label Fest

This two-day virtual festival, which features music, workshops and talks, aims to promote support for mental wellness. Learn to tackle mental health stigma, and encourage support and acceptance of people who are recovering from mental health conditions. All donations go to the Community Chest.

WHEN: Sept 26 & 27

ADMISSION: \$10 donation with registration for each workshop

INFO: bit.ly/3c2boWK

TALKS

Virtual Presentation Skills: Present, Facilitate And Sell Online Like A Pro

With many meetings now taking place virtually, learn how to give project updates, present to clients or close the deal online by using platforms such as Zoom, Microsoft Teams and other web tools. This webinar is organised by Anagram Group, a training company in Singapore which has won a Future of Work award for

transforming more than 200 corporate and government clients through training. **WHEN:** Oct 1 **ADMISSION:** Free with registration **INFO:** peatix.com/event/1632200

Social Memories & Contested Landscapes In HDB Communities

Explore contested memory-scapes in Housing Board communities with Dr Hamzah Muzaini, a cultural geographer at the department of South-east Asian studies at the National University of Singapore. Contestation takes place when people remember places and events in different ways. Part of Let's Talk About Queenstown, a seminar series organised by My Community, in which residents and participants get to know about the neighbourhood through experts. **WHEN:** Sun, 2pm **ADMISSION:** Free with registration

INFO: bit.ly/33zubVx

CLASSES

Make A Smartphone Filter

This virtual workshop will teach participants how to make their own smartphone filters, which they can use to take photos during the day or for shadow play at night. Part of MoonFest, presented by the Esplanade. **WHEN:** Sept 26, 5pm **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** esplanade.com/offstage/arts/moonfest-online-make-your-own-smartphone-filter

#FoodPorn: Exquisite French Tarts

Create Instagram-worthy pastries in this five-hour course at SSA Culinary Institute. Participants will make tarts such as Chocolate Ganache, Lemon Meringue and Pear Frangipane.

Open to all ages and beginners.

WHERE: Level 1/4, LTC Building A, 10 Arumugam Road **MRT:** MacPherson

WHEN: Tue, 10am - 4pm

ADMISSION: \$98 **INFO:** bit.ly/2H7zjZB

SPORTS

Punggol To Yishun Hike

In this 15.5km hike, participants will visit Sengkang Riverside Park; Singapore's largest man-made wetland, the Sengkang Floating Wetland; and a hidden bicycle cafe near Seletar Airport before making their way across Yishun Dam and Yishun Park. The walk, which is open to experienced long-distance hikers, will end at Yishun MRT station. Organised by ExplorerSG, a platform for outdoor sports and fitness events. **WHERE:** Meet at Punggol MRT station **MRT:** Punggol **WHEN:** Sept 27, 8.30am

ADMISSION: Free with registration

INFO: bit.ly/3mnY3ge

FESTIVALS

Cipta Cita

Part of the Esplanade's Pentas series, which aims to cultivate community interest in Malay arts and culture, and held in conjunction with Bulan Bahasa (Malay Language Month). Cipta Cita is loosely translated as "inspiring creativity", and Pentas means "stage" in Malay. This year, the spotlight is on the wordsmiths behind the pantun, a Malay poetic form; dikir barat, a popular style of Malay choral singing; and new theatrical and musical productions. **WHEN:** Until Sept 30 **ADMISSION:** Free **INFO:** esplanade.com/festivals-and-series/cipta-cita/2020

MusicPicks

Boon Chan Assistant Life Editor recommends

GOLDEN MELODY AWARDS NOMINEES



Some of the most exciting Chinese music being made now is by bands and the proof is in the nominee list for the Golden Melody Awards' Best Musical Group category. The contenders are: Trash for Never Die; Accusefiv for Somewhere In Time, I Love You; Iruka Porisu for Call Me When Night Go Blue; EggPlantEgg for We Are Gonna Get Married; Wayne's So Sad for The Art Of Embarrassment; Fire EX. for Stand Up Like A Taiwanese; and ZenKwun for Existing Like God. The results will be announced on Oct 3.



ROCK WE ARE GONNA GET MARRIED EggPlantEgg

★★★★☆

Indie rock band EggPlantEgg (above) won Golden Melody Awards for Best Taiwanese Album and Best New Artist with their debut album Cartoon Character (2017).

They are back with Minnan and Mandarin record We Are Gonna Get Married, where they contemplate love

and growing older.

There are sweet numbers like Happy!!! Drivers Love Song and Would You Want To Be My Girlfriend ("Days are hard/How to get through them without you/Would you want to be my girlfriend").

The mood turns darker on Walk With Me If You're One Of The Lonely Ones and the stark Make Money With Love.

Love is, after all, a complicated business.

POP CALL ME WHEN NIGHT GO BLUE Iruka Porisu

★★★★☆



With their colourful get-ups, Taiwanese band Iruka Porisu look like they have sprung forth from anime. But even if they come across as cosplayers - their name means Dolphin Police in Japanese - there is no denying that they are fully committed to the exercise.

The anime influence extends from the cover art to the songs on their imaginative debut Mandarin album, which bear riotous titles such as Chaos Of Donuts and Chocolate Adventure.

There is whimsy and playfulness here. The title track opens with various sound effects, setting the scene for a futuristic intergalactic space adventure.

Strap in, hold on tight and enjoy the ride.



PHOTOS: EGGPLANTEGG, GIGILEUNG/FACEBOOK, WARNER CHAPPELL MUSIC, WIND MUSIC, ZENKWUN/FACEBOOK



ROCK EXISTING LIKE GOD ZenKwun

★★★★★

Contemporary mainstream music is overwhelmingly secular, but a strong sense of religiosity pervades Taiwanese band ZenKwun's (above) mostly Mandarin second album.

The songs invoke the deities and draw on a heady mix of linguistic and musical elements from Hakka culture, Tibet, Mongolia and beyond, including the use of traditional instruments such as the piercing suona. The results sizzle with energy and musicality.

Boundless Sea Of Bitterness weaves in Tibetan musical instruments and the repetition of the Buddhist precept, "The sea of bitterness has no bounds, turn your head to see the shore".

The powerful track Gods Are Watching bemoans the evil that men do. The tone is not exactly worshipful either when it comes to the deities: "The gods are watching, but they are short-sighted/Icy and weak limbs, time to retire."

The hubris of the title track is both scary and sobering: "I exist like a god/ You chase like a pig from behind/ I exist like a god/I'll see what you can do." An exhilarating record.



GIGI LEUNG ONLINE CONCERT

Hong Kong singer Gigi Leung (left) held an online concert on Aug 29 to raise funds for construction workers affected by the pandemic. Dressed in a simple but chic get-up of a sleeveless white top and flowing brown pants, she sang a soothing selection of her Cantonese and Mandarin hits, from early favourite Coward to the more recent Silent Night.

The video has chalked up more than 670,000 views. Watch it at bit.ly/2Zrc8jb