



**-FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE-**

## **CINDEREL-LAH! IS BACK... REVAMPED AND UPSIZED FOR THE ESP-LAH-NADE!!**

**23 August 2010, Singapore** – Following on from their hugely successful productions, *Animal Farm* and *Boeing Boeing*, WILD RICE continues its celebratory “10 WILD YEARS” Season with ***CINDEREL-LAH!***

First staged at the Jubilee Hall back in 2003, ***CINDEREL-LAH!*** played to sell-out audiences and made history as WILD RICE’s very first musical pantomime. Ever since then, the annual pantomime has become a well-loved tradition and the must-see show of the Festive Season.

For 2010, ***CINDEREL-LAH!*** has been revamped and upsized especially for the Esp-LAH-nade and features an amazing star-studded cast including Emma Yong as *Cindy*, Sebastian Tan as *Prince Char Mee*, Najip Ali as *The Fairy God Makcik* and Gurmit Singh as *Mama & Papa Lemon*.

### **SYNOPSIS**

Poor Cindy lives in a crowded HDB flat with her Evil Casino-Obsessed Step-Mother and two Ugly Step-Sisters, Precious and Treasure. All she dreams about is going to The Grand Fish Ball where Prince Char Mee will choose a bride. Fairy God Makcik appears, and Cindy is transformed from “no taste” to “fashion ace” and off to The Ball she goes! But will the Prince be recognise her? Will the shoe fit? And will true love find a way?

With an imaginative local spin on the world's favourite fairy-tale, ***CINDEREL-LAH!***, WILD RICE’s very first musical pantomime is BACK, revamped and upsized especially for the Esp-LAH-nade!!

Come with your kids, your parents, their parents, your friends, your workmates and your loved ones and have a party! ***CINDEREL-LAH!*** is hilarious fun for ALL!

**Die Die Must Watch LAH!**

### **SPONSORS**

We are delighted that OCBC Cards and Robinsons have once again teamed up as Presenting Sponsors, following their sponsorship of last year’s *Beauty & The Beast* and the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary production of *Beauty World* back in 2008. We would also like to thank Simmons for their continued support as “Official Sleeping Partner”. OCBC Bank deserves special recognition as they are also the Presenting Sponsors for “10 WILD YEARS”, WILD RICE’s 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season.



## **PRAISE FOR CINDEREL-LAH!**

*"It brought out the true essence of a pantomime. I daresay everyone enjoyed every minute of it."*

**The Flying Inkpot**

*"Cinderel-LAH!'s greatest achievement was that there was something in it for both adults and children."*

**SPH The Straits Times Life!**

## **PRAISE FOR WILD RICE MUSICAL PANTOMIMES**

*"It's hard not to fall in love with *Aladdin*. It's so charming, kids and adults will fall under its spell!"*

**SPH The Straits Times Life!**

*"Oi! *Sleeping Beauty!!* is a politically incorrect pantomime with a social conscience – which is the best kind..."*

**SPH The Business Times**

*"Jack impresses with a strong cast and laughs aplenty."*

**TODAY**

*"Snow White... is a smart, sassy and satirical... just take the whole family!"*

**SPH The Straits Times Life!**

*"Beauty & The Beast cannot be faulted for its high production values and dedication to entertainment. It offers many laughs, feet-tapping catchy songs and a lovable cast. Great fun for the family."*

**SPH The Straits Times LIFE!**

## **ABOUT THE WILD RICE PANTOMIME**

Once a year, the best of Singapore's theatre artistes come together to celebrate the festive season by taking everyone's favourite fairy tales and giving them an imaginative local twist – just to bring laughter and the magic of theatre to audiences from five to eighty-five.

The WILD RICE Pantomime brings together all the elements of a great family entertainment – slapstick comedy, satire, political incorrectness, snazzy songs, toe-tapping dance routines, cross-dressing, fabulous costumes and spectacular sets, audience participation and a Good versus Evil story that is strong on romance and adventure.

Through First Stage, WILD RICE also develops the talents of children from the ages of 5 to 16, many of whom take their first steps on the Singapore stage.



*Beauty & The Beast* (2009), *Snow White & the Seven Dwarfs* (2008), *Jack & The Bean-Sprout!* (2006), *Oi! Sleeping Beauty!!* (2005), *Aladdin* (2004) and *Cinderel-LAH!* (2003) have tickled and touched an audience of over 70,000. Today, the WILD RICE Pantomime has become the MUST-SEE musical of the holiday season, and the best possible way to round up the busy year!



## FAST FACTS

Title	:	Cinderel-LAH!
Book & Lyrics by	:	Selena Tan
Music by	:	Elaine Chan
Directed by	:	Ivan Heng
Cast	:	Emma Yong <i>as</i> Cindy Sebastian Tan <i>as</i> Prince Char Mee Chua Enlai & Darius Tan <i>as</i> The Ugly Sisters, Precious & Treasure Neo Swee Lin <i>as</i> The Evil Step-Mother Lim Kay Siu & Karen Lim <i>as</i> King & Queen Lee Najip Ali <i>as</i> Fairy God Makcik Gurmit Singh <i>as</i> Mama & Papa Lemon  Siti Khalijah Zainal Dwayne Lau Andrew Ng Tan Shou Chen Alecia Kim Chua Josephine Tan  & the FIRST STAGE! KIDS
Choreography	:	Jeffrey Tan
Set Design	:	Nicholas Li
Lighting Design	:	Mac Chan
Sound Design	:	Shah Tahir
Costume Design	:	Moe Kasim
Hair Design	:	Ashley Lim
Make-Up Design	:	Beno Lim (M.A.C)
Producer	:	Tony Trickett
Venue	:	Esplanade Theatre
Show Dates	:	25 November – 11 December 2010



- Ticketing Agent : SISTIC.com Pte Ltd  
SISTIC Hotline (65) 6348 5555  
SISTIC Website [www.sistic.com.sg](http://www.sistic.com.sg)  
SISTIC Authorised Agents
- Ticket Prices : S\$89, S\$74, S\$59, S\$44, S\$89 (VIP), S\$29  
(8.00pm Previews 25 & 26 November)  
S\$94, S\$79, S\$64, S\$49, S\$94 (VIP), S\$34  
(8:00pm Tues, Wed, Thu)  
S\$99, S\$84, S\$69, S\$54, S\$99 (VIP), S\$39  
(8.00pm Fri & Sat & 2.30pm Sat & Sun)  
Prices exclude \$3 SISTIC handling fee
- Priority Booking : 23 August – 12 September 2010  
20% Discount for OCBC Platinum, Arts Platinum  
MasterCard and OCBC Robinsons Visa Elite & Platinum  
Cardmembers only
- Early Bird : 13 September – 06 October 2010  
20% Discount for OCBC Credit & Debit Cardmembers  
15% Discount for General Public
- Family Packages : Save 25% when you purchase 4 Cat 1 tickets for the price  
of 3 with your OCBC Credit/Debit Card.
- Tote Board Arts Grant: Schools may use the Tote Board Arts Grant to subsidise up  
to 60% of the cost of the programme
- Press Contact : Sirius Art Pte Ltd  
Aryanti Kamar Clarke  
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## Sponsors & Supporters



## **BIOGRAPHIES**

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### **IVAN HENG – Director**

Ivan Heng is the founding artistic director of WILD RICE, Singapore's leading professional theatre company. In a pioneering career spanning more than 2 decades, Ivan directed and acted in many landmark Singapore theatre productions, which have been performed in more than 20 cities throughout Europe, Asia, America, Australia, New Zealand and Russia. In 2006, Ivan conceived and created the Singapore Theatre Festival, which was hailed as "the main event in the world of the arts" (SPH The Straits Times, 2006), and the "Blockbuster Event of the Year" (TODAY, 2008).

Ivan has created more than 20 designs for performance and they include designs for *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Boeing Boeing*, *Asian Boy's Vols 2 & 3*, *The Magic Fundoshi* and Kuo Pao Kun's *Double-Bill*.

As Creative Director of Singapore's National Day Parade 2009, Ivan's theatrical vision radically revitalised and updated the event, and it reached out to a record-breaking live-television audience.

A law graduate, Ivan trained at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama. Ivan is the Creative Director of the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the inaugural Youth Olympic Games, Singapore 2010.

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### **SELENA TAN – Playwright & Lyricist**

Selena started performing on stage at age 14 and has been seen in numerous productions including *Godspell*, *Little Shop Of Horrors*, *Army Daze*, *Sing To The Dawn*, *A Twist Of Fate*, *Ah Kong's Birthday Party*, *Chang & Eng* and *Ang Tau Mui*. She toured Beijing, Bangkok and Kuala Lumpur with *Chang and Eng* and performed in *Animal Farm* at the New Zealand International Arts Festival 2004.

A prolific writer, Selena has penned *Selena EXPOSED*, *Broadway Baby Kailan*, *The 2nd Broadway Baby Kailan*, *The Other Side Of The Teacher's Table*, *Maybe Knot*, *Report Cuts*, *PS21+*, *Medicares*, *Wanton Me*, *It Takes Two*, *Cinderel-LAH!*, *Aladdin* and *Sing Dollar! The Musical Comedy about Money*. Her first stab at playwriting, *Pillow Talk*, was nominated for 'Best Play' at the 2002 Life! Theatre Awards.

On television, she has appeared in numerous sitcoms and entertainment programmes. She received the Asian Television Award for 'Best Actress in a Comedy Series' two years in a row (2004 & 2005) for playing the irrepressible Auntie Violet in *Daddy's Girls*.

Selena has also been busy with the Dim Sum Dollies®. The Dollies have had 8 successful years, starting at the Esplanade Theatre Studio in 2002 with *A Single Woman*, followed by *Steaming* at the Jubilee Hall and then, the smash box office hit of 2004, *Revenge of the Dim Sum Dollies*. In 2005, the Dollies performed *Dim Sum Dollies: Singapore's Most Wanted!* to full houses, and in 2006, they performed in their



first ever Broadway hit musical, *Little Shop of Horrors*. Most recently, the Dollies made history in two sold-out runs of *The History of Singapore*.

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### **ELAINE CHAN – Musical Director & Composer**

This popular theatre composer-arranger-director has garnered songwriting awards in her teens, wrote and directed her 1st musical score at 18, toured south of New Zealand with it, received the Wong Yee Hua Memorial Award for music excellence AND is the 1<sup>st</sup> Singaporean female composer to music direct the National Day Parade@Padang 2005 and composed the 2005 NDP theme song “Reach Out for the Skies.”

Her prolific portfolio encompass stage musical, CD direction & original writing for Dream Academy Productions’ 5 Dim Sum Dollies’ sellout shows, 3 *Broadway Beng* installments, 1<sup>st</sup> *Crazy Christmas*, *The Hossan Leong Show* & *Sing Dollar*; Wild Rice’s annual FundRaising Balls & pantomimes: *Cinderel-LAH!*, *Aladdin*, *Jack & the Bean-sprout!*, *Snow White*, *Beauty & The Beast*. She has also orchestrated for original musicals & the Mt Faber’s Jewel Box opening, has worked with theatre veterans as Ivan Heng, Glen Goei, Selena Tan, Sebastian Tan & Hossan Leong.

Her projects this year include SMU’s *Just So*, *A Singaporean In Paris*, SYF Opening Ceremony, *Superwomen* & *Beautiful Sunday* Concerts, Toy Factory’s *December Rain*, SRT’s *Fried Rice Paradise*, *The Hossan Leong Show II* & Wild Rice’s restaging of *Cinderel-LAH!* amidst sprinklings of corporate concerts & projects for SIA, Faith Methodist Church and vocal coaching for Youth Olympic Games.

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### **JEFFREY TAN – Choreographer**

Jeffrey Tan was appointed to the newly created post of Resident Choreographer for Singapore Dance Theatre since October 2004.

He holds concurrently the post of Assistant Ballet Master and Principal Artiste of Singapore Dance Theatre.

Despite late start to his dancing career at the age of 21 with the Singapore Armed Forces Music and Drama Company, Jeffrey has grown to become one of Singapore’s most prolific and promising stars in the dance arena. Jeffrey was awarded a scholarship to further hone his dancing skills at the Singapore Ballet Academy, under the mentorship of Anthony Then. This was followed by a stint at the London Studio Centre. He obtained his Royal Academy of Dance Examinations (Advance) with Honours and was a finalist in the Asia-Pacific Dance Competition, Tokyo in 1995.

In 2000, Jeffrey was awarded the National Arts Council’s Young Artiste Award for Excellence In Dance.

In 2003, being awarded with a educational grant from the National Arts Council, Jeffrey took a sabbatical to complete his Master of Fine Arts degree from Queensland University of Technology, under the tutelage of Associate Professor Cheryl Stock. With the desire

to explore and experiment his choreographic abilities, he has created *Un Reve Curieux* and *Sojournic Serenade* in 2003, *Last Watch of the Night* and a site-specific performance at the Old Government House, Brisbane in 2004. His recent accolades included staging his work at the New Zealand Ballet School in 2004 and an invitation for SDT to perform *Façade* in the Queensland Ballet Gala in 2005.

Upon his return to the Company, he was appointed the Resident Choreographer, a newly created post in SDT and Assistant Ballet Master.

In 2009-Jeffrey was the assistant artistic manager of the Singapore armed forces music and drama company. 2009 he was invited to present a work for President Command Presentation and choreographing the Chinese musical by Toy Factory, Vizpro and Mediacorp *The Peranakan Ball* in the Singapore Indoor Stadium in May 2009. He also Choreograph the NDP09 Chapter 5. In November 09 He is presenting a Opening Dance item for the APEC Show with the T.H.E Dance Company. In 2009 he choreographed the *Dream Academy Broadway Beng* at the esplanade theatre. In 2010 Jeffrey choreographed the *Resort World Voyages De La Vie* and also Singapore Repertory Theatre *Fried Rice Paradise* and also Chief Choreographer for this year NDP 2010.

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### **NICHOLAS LI – Set Design**

Nicholas won 'Best Script' at Hwa Chong Dramafeste and began designing sets during his NS. Five years on, his credits include: *Beauty & The Beast*, *Homesick (WILD RICE)*, *Die Zauberflote*, *La Boheme*, *The Barber of Seville (SLO)*, *Dim Sum Dollies@* and *the History of Singapore (Dream Academy)*, *Thunderstorm (Theatre Practice)*, *Bondage (Drama Box)*, *Blackbird (SRT)*, *Death and the Maiden (Escape Theatre)* and many more.

He has also art directed short films and designed exhibitions in Singapore and Hong Kong. In 2007, he represented Singapore at the ASEAN Set Design Workshop in Manila where he designed the *Ramayana*. He received nominations for 'Best Set' at the 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Life! Theatre Awards.

He is currently working towards a Masters degree in Architecture. He is really very excited about designing for *Cinderel-LAH!*.

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### **MAC CHAN – Lighting Design**

Mac has worked as an Independent Lighting Designer for commercial and theatre since 1994. Major commercial projects include the 16<sup>th</sup> Commonwealth Games Opening Ceremony and Grand Launch of Petronas Twin Towers. His international theatre lighting design works has spread over Malaysia, Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Korea, South Africa, Australia, New York and Japan. Many of his lighting designs demonstrate the potential of using lighting design as a parallel context or interpretation of the script, and also creating stylish statement with lighting design along side the performance, convincingly the 3<sup>rd</sup> actor on stage.





He has collaborated with many established directors and choreographers from Singapore and Malaysia like Alvin Tan, Goh Boon Teck, Iven Heng the late Kuo Pao Kun, Zahim Abakri, Jo Khukatus, Joe Hasham, Faridah Marican, Mew Chang Tsing, and also closely with the late Krishen Jit.

Mac also work as Theatre and Audiovisual consultant for projects and developments. He is also intensively involve in research to re-establishment of Asian Performing Arts Space with the support of ANA-Ford Foundation.

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### **MOE KASIM – Costume Design**

Moe is thrilled to be part of *Cinderel-LAH!*. As a self-taught designer, his credits include major national events like National Day Parade 2006 as well as the annual Chingay Processions. Moe's designs for W!ld Rice's pantomimes *Aladdin* (2004), *Oi! Sleeping Beauty!!* (2005) and Toy Factory's *Titoudao* (2007) won him Best Costume Design at the Straits Times Life! Theatre Awards. He is proud to be the first Singaporean to be nominated for Best Costume Design in the Golden Horse Awards (44<sup>th</sup>, 2007) for the hit-movie - *881*. Moe is the founder of Moephosis Concepts, which offers costume rentals and professional costume designing services. For more info, please visit <http://www.moephosis.com>.

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### **SHAH TAHIR – Sound Design**

Shah has been in the audio recording business for more than 15 years and is currently a freelance sound engineer and consultant for the local and regional market. He has worked on and engineered projects with top names in the local and international entertainment industry including Lobo, Sheryl Crow, A-Mei, Jacky Cheung, Mr Big, Dick Lee, Jacintha, Sandy Lam, Taufik, Prema Lucas (Malaysia), Zainal Abidin (Malaysia), Sheila Majid (Malaysia), Yellow Box Singapore, Petal Productions and other media and production houses.

As an arranger, producer and musician, Shah has worked with many local talents like Humpback Oak and The Oddfellows. He has also arranged and composed for MediaCorp Channel 8 serials such as *Beautiful Connection*, which was nominated Best Drama Serial in 2002.

Shah has also designed sound for numerous theatre productions, concerts, shows and events like *Beauty World (WILD RICE)*, *Forbidden City (SRT)*, *MTV Rouge* (2004), *Singapore Idols 2004*, *Countdown 2004 & 2005*,

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### **ASHLEY LIM – Hair Design**

Ashley started his hairstyling career in 1986 and set up his own Ashley Salon in 1999, in order to further pursue his dedication towards the art of hairdressing, especially with theatrical work.



Ashley became involved with theatrical work in 1987 and has since, worked with almost 150 productions of local and international standards. Many of these productions were participants of drama festivals, some of which became nominees and/or winners of art awards. Ashley has gained a wide range and depth of experience working with all the leading professional theatrical companies of Singapore. He had the opportunities to create hair designs ranging from a diversity of different cultures and periodic eras.

His skill is extensive, culminating from more than 2 decades of hairdressing experience. He is privileged to have been widely recognized by our local theatre community as a veteran in his artistry. Ashley is particularly thrilled to have participated in the recent shows of *Broadway Beng! Jiak Liu Lian* (Dream Academy), *Beauty & The Beast* (WILD RICE), *Victor/Victoria* (Zebra Crossing) and *The Monster Show* (Universal Studios Singapore), just to name a few.

Apart from theatre, Ashley also extends his work to TV shows and advertorial works for leading local fashion magazines providing contemporary hair designs for bridal and fashion projects.

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#### **TONY TRICKETT – Producer**

Born in Liverpool, Tony moved to Singapore from the UK in 1997. Prior to joining WILD RICE, he worked as a management consultant, specialising in leadership coaching and team-development for multinational companies in London and subsequently in South East Asia.

Tony acted as consultant in the establishment of WILD RICE and became a Director of the company in 2001. In August 2002, Tony was appointed as Executive Director, responsible for the overall management of the company. His portfolio encompasses finance, administration, marketing, fund-raising and sponsorship.

Tony is the Producer for all WILD RICE productions. Shows include: *Boeing Boeing*, *Oi! Sleeping Beauty!!*, *The Magic Fundoshi*, *Jack & The Bean-Sprout!*, *Blithe Spirit*, *Happy Endings: Asian Boys Vol. 3*, Eleanor Wong's *The Campaign to Confer the Public Service Star on JBJ*, *Snow White & the Seven Dwarfs*, *The Importance of Being Earnest* (which recently won Best Production of the Year at the 10<sup>th</sup> LIFE! Theatre Awards 2010), *Own Time Own Target*, *Beauty & The Beast* and the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary production of *Beauty World*. Tony also produced the 2006 and 2008 OCBC Singapore Theatre Festivals, which he conceived together with Artistic Director Ivan Heng.

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#### **EMMA YONG – Cast (Cindy)**

Besides being one of the delicious Dim Sum Dollies, Emma has performed lead roles in over 60 theatre productions in Singapore. She was recently seen as the fairy queen Titania in SRT's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, as Sally Bowles in the Toy Factory production of *Cabaret* and as Junko, the Japanese air stewardess in *Boeing Boeing* (Wild Rice). In 2009 she won the Life Theatre Award for "Best Supporting Actress" for her performance in the mandarin musical *Shanghai Blues* (Toy Factory).

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Her stage credits include *The Magic Fundoshi* (WILD RICE), *A Twist of Fate* (Singapore Repertory Theatre) – for which she garnered a Best Supporting Actress nomination at the Life Theatre Awards 2006, *Balance* (Theatreworks), *Honk* (Singapore Repertory Theatre) and *Plunge* (Action Theatre), for which she was nominated as “Best Actress” at the DBS Life Theatre Awards 2002. She also appeared in the mandarin plays *Mad Phoenix* (Toy Factory) and *Moving Gods* (Theatre Practice). At the opening festival of the Esplanade in 2002, Emma took on the lead role of Yehenara for the preview performances of the musical *Forbidden City* (SRT).

Other memorable roles include the Electric Geisha in *Kara-You-Ok* (Action Theatre), Ling Xiao Ding in the original version of *Ah Kong's Birthday Party* (SRT), the filipina and Beijing brides in *Mail Order Brides* (Action Theatre), Miss Adelaide in *Guys and Dolls* (Toy Factory), Hodel in *Fiddler on the Roof* (Singapore Lyric Theatre) and Ivy in *Beauty World* (Theatreworks 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary).

Her television credits include Karen in the medical drama *First Touch* and Kitty in the mandarin drama series *S.N.A.G*, both by Mediacorp. She was also in the *Family Matters* anthology with Lim Kay Tong (Zhao Wei Films), *The Second Singapore Short Story Project* (Film Formations) and the Channel i drama series *Life* (Verite Productions).

She made her film debut last year in *The Blue Mansion*, directed by Glen Goei.

Emma completed a postgraduate performance course in musical theatre at the Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts in London. She also holds a BA(Hons) degree in English Literature from University College London.

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### **SEBASTIAN TAN – Cast (Prince Char Mee)**

Sebastian Tan has been a Dream Academy Artiste since 2006. Theatre credits include *The Broadway Beng Series*, *BOOM!*, *Snow White*, *Jack & the Beansprout*, *Twist Of Fate*, *Forbidden City*, the UK tour of *Miss Saigon*, *Titoudao*, *Army Daze*, *Asian Boys Vol.2*, etc. TV and film credits include *First Class*, *My Big Brother*, *City-Spy Singapore*, *The Noose*, *Sayang Sayang*, and *The Blue Mansion*. Sebastian was nominated for “Best Supporting Actor” (ST Life! Theatre Awards) for *Twist of Fate* (SRT, 2006) and *Titoudao* (Toy Factory, 2008), and won the award as The Queen in *Snow White*. Other awards include ‘Actor of the Year’ (Elle Awards 2007), and winner for Talent Search 1996. Sebastian also made his directorial debut in SMU’s production of *Honk!* in January 2009 and is grateful for the chance to direct *Just So* this year. Watch out for Sebastian on the big screens in 2011 with *Broadway Beng the Movie!*

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### **CHUA ENLAI – Cast (The Ugly Sister, Treasure)**

Enlai was born in Singapore and grew up in New Zealand. Since returning, he has become an established name in the entertainment industry, his credentials spanning a variety of genres such as theatre, television and hosting.



From acting in highly rated Channel 5 programmes such as the sitcoms *Sayang Sayang* and *Parental Guidance* and the satirical sketch comedy programme *The Noose*, to hosting the recent series *Same But Different*, he is well loved by audiences young and old. As one of the most watched personalities in entertainment, Enlai is one of the faces for MediaCorp Channel 5's *Come Home To 5* branding campaign.

Boasting over 40 theatre productions to his name, he has worked with acclaimed theatre groups such as W!ld Rice, Toy Factory, Spell #7, SRT, TheatreWorks, The Necessary Stage and Action Theatre. *Cinderel-LAH!* will mark his 9<sup>th</sup> collaboration with W!LD RICE. Credits with them: *Beauty & The Beast*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Connect the Dots* (Hong Kong), *Oi! Sleeping Beauty!!*, *Aladdin*, *The Visit of the Tai Tai*, *Landmarks: Asian Boys Vol. 2* and the first staging of *Cinderel-LAH!*.

In 2009, Enlai received the Highly Commended Award for Best Comedy Performance at the Asian Television Awards. His previous wins include Actor of the Year 2008 by Elle Magazine, Best Group Acting at the BOH Cameronian Arts Awards 2006 and Best Actor at the 2002 ST Life! Theatre Awards.

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#### **DARIUS TAN – Cast (The Ugly Sister, Precious)**

After last year's successful romp as Brandy Bong (one half of the "Gorgeous" sisters) in *Beauty & The Beast*, Darius is ready to don on sexier outfits and shinier lipgloss as *Cinderel-LAH's* "Beautiful-lest" Stepsister!

A seasoned and bilingual performer, Darius has more than 50 productions on stage & screen under his belt. Three-time ST's Life! Theatre Awards' Best Supporting Actor nominee (*The Soldier & His Virtuous Wife* [2009], *Big Fool Lee* [2008] & *Beautiful Thing* [2004]), his multi-faceted versatility as an actor/singer is evident in the varied roles he has taken.

Notable stage credits include: Brandy Bong in *Beauty & The Beast*, Towkay Neo in *Beauty World*, Tun Perpatih Segalar in *The Swordfish*, then *The Concubine* (W!LDRice), the comically villainous Rickson Goh, in the recent mounting of Dick Lee's *Fried Rice Paradise* (SRT/PA), *The Full Monty* (Pangdemonium), *Father in The Boy Who Cried Wolf*, Roy in *The Odd Couple*, Grand Eunuch in *Forbidden City: Portrait of An Empress* (SRT), King Of Hell in *Maha Moggallana- A Story of Filial Piety*, Chorchor Tan in *The Peranakan Ball*, Lie Fu *Shanghai Blues*, Chairman in *Army Daze*, *East Side Story* (Toy Factory), *Sampek Engtay* (Theatre Practice), *Chang & Eng*, *Viva! Viagra!*, *The First 42 Festival* (Action Theatre) amongst many others.

An accomplished singer/actor, Darius made his one-man musical cabaret debut, *Let Me Entertain You!* in 2006. He has also created two successful *FLIPSIDE!* concerts (*Single In Singapore* and *Friend Or Foe?*) at the Esplanade.

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**NEO SWEE LIN – Cast (The Evil Step-mother)**

Swee Lin received her introduction to theatre at Katong Convent School, where her love for literature & performing was nurtured and encouraged by Mrs Marie Bong and Sister Josephine. She has a law degree from the National University of Singapore & a Diploma in Acting from the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama in Glasgow.

Since playing a lead role in *Dragon's Teeth Gate* for the Singapore Arts Festival in 1985, her body of work till now has spanned more than 40 roles in Singapore, Malaysia, India, Glasgow, London, Croatia, and America, in theatre, television and film.

Theatre credits include: *wo(men)*, *Bedrooms*, *Nadirah*, *Poop!*, *A Crazy Christmas*, *First Light*, *Beauty World*, *120* (the Museum Project), *Postcards from Rosa*, *Cogito*, *Blithe Spirit*, *Cheek*, *Homesick*, *2<sup>nd</sup> Link*, *For the Pleasure of Seeing Her Again*, *Cinderella!*, *The Morning People* (Singapore Arts Festival), *7<sup>th</sup> Drawer*, *Club Tempest*, *The Crucible*, *Ah Kong's Birthday Party*, *Hamlet*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *Half Lives* (voted Best Play by The Straits Times), *M. Butterfly* (Singapore Arts Festival), *Beauty World*, *Love Letters*, *Drunken Prawns*, *From the Belly of the Carp*, *The Yang Family*, *Fried Rice Paradise*, *Trip to the South*, *The Moon is Less Bright*, *Mother Courage*, *Caucasian Chalk Circle*, *Medea*, *Mama Looking for her Cat*, *Hayavadana* (Singapore Drama Festival), *Top Girls*, *The House of Bernada Alba*, *3 Children*, *Army Daze*, *Dragon's Teeth Gate* (Singapore Arts Festival)

One-woman shows include *Emily of Emerald Hill* directed by her husband Lim Kay Siu; *My Mother's Chest* directed by Kuo Pao Kun; and a double bill of *The Coffin is too big for the hole* & *No Parking on Odd Days*, directed by Krishen Jit.

KL: *Bunga Manggar Bunga Raya*, *The Coffin is too Big for the Hole* and *No Parking on Odd Days* (Five Arts Centre)

UK work include: *Takeaway* (Time-out Critics Choice) & *The Letter* (Lyric Hammersmith), *Mail Order Bride* (West Yorkshire Playhouse), *3 Japanese Women* (Cockpit Theatre), *A Secret Slave* (BBC TV), *Trishaw* & *The Woman in a Tree on a Hill* (Chandler Theatre)

TV work include: *Wrinkles*, *Random Acts*, *The Celebration*, *Really Something*, *Life – MAUREEN*, *PCK Pte Ltd* (ATV Best comedy actress award), *Drive: Life and Death*, *My Grandson the Doctor*

Film: *The Blue Mansion*, *Kallang Roar*, *Anna and the King*, *Where got problem*, *Teenage Textbook*, *12 Storeys*, *Nightwatch*

Short films: *Cut & Katong Fugue*

Swee Lin is also the voice over for many radio and tv commercials, and has voiced award winning documentaries like *Witch-hunts of India*, *Samurai Spiders of Japan*, *Snake-Men of Thailand* and *Body-Snatchers of Bangkok*.



### **LIM KAY SIU – Cast (King Lee)**

Kay Siu has been acting professionally since 1985, in Singapore, America, London and Germany.

Movie credits include Mao Yi Xin in *Nightwatch-Demolition II* for Lion Films; Prince Chowfa in *Anna and the King* for Fox; Julius in *Avatar* (Independent); Uncle Choo in *Kallang Roar* (Merelion Pictures). Wee Teck Liang in *The Blue Mansion* for Tiger Tiger Films.

TV credits include *Tenko Reunion* for BBC, *Holoponono* for RTL, *Celebration* (TV Movie), *Random Acts*, *Wrinkles*, *Happy Belly*, *PCK Pte Ltd* and *Drive* in Singapore, and *Monkey King* for Hallmark.

Stage credits include *Drift* with Drama Box; *Enchanted Tales* with Finger Players; *Memory/Human Remains* and *Virus* with Collective Mayhem; *Destinies of the Flowers in the Mirror* and *Cheek* with CAKE Theatre; *Lao Jiu the Musical* (in Mandarin) with Practice; *Beauty & The Beast*, *Blithe Spirit*, *Happy Endings: Asian Boys Vol. 3*, *Animal Farm* and *The Visit of the Tai-Tai, Cinderel-LAH!* with WILD RICE; *3 Japanese Women* for Mu-Lan in London; *The Letter for the Lyric Hammersmith*, London; *7<sup>th</sup> Drawer*, *Morning People* and *Army Daze* for Toy Factory; *Death of a Salesman* and *Oleana* for SRT. Musicals include *Beauty World*, *Fried Rice Paradise* (TheatreWorks), and *Nagraland* (Lead role and Assistant-Director), all by Dick Lee; and *Piaf* for TheatreWorks.

Kay Siu also went to directing School in London, at the Central School of Speech and Drama In 1994, and has directed *Half Lives* by Chay Yew for TheatreWorks, which was selected as Play of the Year by Straits Times in 1997, *Balls!* by Ming Wong for SRT, and *Club Tempest* for 3.14.

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### **KAREN LIM – Cast (Queen Lee)**

Karen is an actress, director, composer, singer, musician and arts educator. She has a Science degree from the National University of Singapore and a Masters degree in Education from Boston University, USA. Karen is also a Licentiate of Music from the Trinity College of London and holds a Grade 3 Teaching Certificate from Yamaha Music Foundation. She has been active in the performing arts since her school days, singing with a number of vocal groups as well as acting in a number of productions staged by Varsity Playhouse in NUS.

Karen has performed with various theatre companies in Singapore over the past 20 years. Acting credits include the Theatre Practice's award-winning *Descendants of the Eunuch Admiral* (Best Ensemble, Life! Theatre Awards 2004), *Sperm* (from *Blood Binds* by Project Magdalena for Wild Rice's OCBC Theatre Festival 2008), *Duets* (from *Do Not Disturb – Late Checkout Please* by Spare Room), *Eleemosynary* (Luna-ID), SRT's *A Twist of Fate*, *Ah Kong's Birthday Party*, *Breastissues*, *Bra Sizes* (theatreworks), *Singapore Squeeze* (Action Theatre), *Romeo and Juliet* (iTheatre), Arts Central's *AlterAsians II – Man in the Cupboard*, Mediacorp's *The Pupil* and acclaimed local short



films *The Secret Heaven* and *Bedroom Dancing*, the Granada film *Rogue Trader* and Raintree Pictures' *Dance of the Dragon*. Directing credits include *The Devil Eats Prata*, an interactive dinner theatre production for Fly Entertainment's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in October 2009, which she also co-wrote, and stage productions for a number of Singapore schools.

As an arts educator, Karen has also written, composed for, taught and facilitated numerous projects involving children and young people, working with Primary and Secondary school students as well as Foundation students and Musical Theatre undergraduates at the Faculty of the Performing Arts in LaSalle College of the Arts, where she lectures part-time.

Karen is a founding member of the Singapore Drama Educators Association and an artiste with Fly Entertainment.

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#### **NAJIP ALI – Cast (Fairy God Makcik)**

Najip Ali is a household name that is synonymous with fun and quality TV programmes. After Najip shot to fame as the irreverent host of "Asia Bagus", he's since conceptualized and produced numerous award-winning programmes for Singapore's Suria Channel – the free-to-air Malay channel in Singapore. Najip then spread his wings into the Malay speaking regions of Malaysia and Indonesia, working with TV stations like TV3 & 8TV of Malaysia and SCTV & Indosiar of Indonesia.

From being seen on stages and television screens, Najip has evolved into a role of a creative director behind the scenes. Najip has created, hosted, produced and directed Suria Channel's pioneering and most-successful talkshow - "Kopi O Teh Tarik" (KOTT). His vision and determination to always push the boundaries earned KOTT the "Best Variety Programme" for 3 years running, alongside a personal achievement for Najip as the "Best Producer/Director".

Najip went on to explore programmes for a new target audience – kids. Seeing his flair for the colourful and entertainment, Kids Central commissioned Najip and his production house, Dua M Pte Ltd to produce a pre-school series called "KC:TV Wow!". This is then followed by 2 seasons of a second pre-school series called "In Our House". Programmes for school-going kids audience also followed with "Watch Eat!" and "No Problem".

While Najip continues to create TV shows with his Production Company Dua M, he is also driven to help the Malay community in Singapore. Mini Monsters® which is Dua M's educational arm was set-up to increase awareness and love for the Malay Language, with products like storybooks and DVDs.

Najip's return to musical theatre happened in 2009 with the much-lauded *Sing Dollar*. His performance as Makcik Sa'adiah earned him new fans and strengthened his reputation as a multi-talented artiste.

**GURMIT SINGH – Cast (Mama Lemon)**

Singapore's very own Jim Carrey, and cultivating a large following with his disarming comic persona, Gurmit Singh is a unique personality well-loved by people from all walks of life. His versatility and multi-faceted talents as a comedian, host, singer, actor makes him a hit with the audience wherever he goes.

Helming the award-winning sitcom *PCK Pte Ltd* as Phua Chu Kang, 'the best contractor in Singapore, JB and some say, Batam', Gurmit has penetrated the public's consciousness with his engaging portrayal of an uncouth Chinese blue-collar worker and created a MediaCorp icon recognised by all. His talents were vindicated when he and PCK Pte Ltd won numerous awards at the Asian Television Awards; and himself honoured as the reigning Comedy King after winning the coveted Best Comedy Actor for five years (1998-2001 & 2003).

Respected as a host, Gurmit has also hosted numerous prestigious events such as the Singapore National Day Parade, MediaCorp All-Star Charity, The Millennium Swing, just to name a few.

Although best known as a comedian, Gurmit revealed his dramatic flair when he portrayed a rigid disciplinarian father who was guilt-stricken when his son disappears in *Shiver*, a science-fiction series. In his silver screen debut, Gurmit teams up with acclaimed local director Eric Khoo to touch the hearts of the audiences with his endearing performance as Tai Po, an underdog who finally succeeds in pursuing his dream of becoming a soccer star.

Always one who keeps challenging himself, Gurmit will reward audiences with a very different side of him when we see him on the Chinese drama serial, *Baby Boom* in 2003. Affable and easy-going, Gurmit is a natural when it comes to interacting with people. In his free time, he is involved in church activities and charity events. Gurmit's peerless athleticism and his engaging personality has brought him thus far, and it is little wonder why he is one of Singapore's best loved artiste.

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**SITI KHALIJAH ZAINAL – Cast (Mercy Relief)**

Siti made her debut as a full-time theatre actress after she attended the year long Theatre for Youth Ensemble programme held by The Necessary Stage in 2003. Some of her acting credits include *Rainbow Fish* (I Theatre), *Rosnah* (The Necessary Stage), *Divine Soap* (Cake Theatrical Productions), *How Did The Cat Get So Fat?* (Teater Ekamatra), *Nothing* (Cake Theatrical Productions), *Hero* (Panggung Arts), and *Nadirah* (Teater Ekamatra). Siti has also acted in TNS main season productions like *Good People* (Best Script, LIFE! Theatre Awards 08), *Gemuk Girls* (Best Production Of The Year, LIFE! Theatre Awards 09), *Frozen Angels*, and *\_\_\_\_\_ Can Change*, to name a few. Besides involving herself in theatre, Siti ventured into acting for television programmes, namely *No Problem!* (Kids Central) and *Tahu Nahu* (Suria). Her work has allowed her to travel to India, Indonesia, Scotland, Australia and Russia where she performed and/or assisted in forum theatre workshops.



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**DWAYNE LAU – Cast (Siva)**

Dwayne graduated from The NUS Theatre Studies Program (Hon) in 2007 and currently serves as the Creative Director at Calvary Assembly of God Church where he scripts and directs the various plays and musicals. He is the resident drama instructor at St. Anthony's Canossian Secondary. He also coaches at Meridian Junior College, where he led them to achieve the Gold Award in two consecutive SYFs (2008 and 2010). His stage credits include I Theatre productions – *You Are Special*, (principle role – Punch), *The Little Red Hen* (Main Cast) *The Wizard of Oz* (*Scarecrow*); *Aesop's Fables* (Main Cast); *Fairytale Heart* (Lead Male); *Gingerbread Man* (Main cast); *Duck and Dive* (Principle Role – Villain). He has also worked with WILD RICE in *Own Time Own Target* for both runs 2008 and 2009. He was also part of the Stages' Dine-in-Cabaret *Broadway for Suakus* and guest performed at their Christmas Skit Show *Chestnuts Does Christmas*. His TV credit includes *The Incredible Tales* and Kid Central's *In Our House*.

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**ANDREW NG – Cast (Cheng/Carozene)**

Andrew Ng is about to graduate with a BFA in Photography from the Nanyang Technological University. He joined the Singapore Repertory Theatre's Young Company to fuel a growing interest in theatre that was sparked by his pursuance of a Minor in Drama and Performance at his university. This led to his stage debut in the Young Company's 2008 production of *Love's Labour's Lost*. Subsequently, in 2009, he once again appeared with the Young Company in their production of *The Crucible*. *Cinderella-LAH!* will be Andrew's first professional theatre production.

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**TAN SHOU CHEN – Cast (Heng/Morphene)**

Tan Shou Chen is a versatile artiste with credits that span music, theatre, film, TV, and radio. Picked by The Straits Times in 2008 as one of Singapore's *30 under 30* talents to look out for, Shou Chen has tackled leading and supporting roles in productions such as Eugene Ionesco's *Rhinoceros* (2008), Molière's *The Hypochondriac* (2008), and Caryl Churchill's *Mad Forest* (2007). He was last seen in playing Dill in Toy Factory's *To Kill A Mocking Bird* (2010). Other notable credits include: I-Theatre's *Duck and Dive* (2009), STAGES' *Chestnuts* (2009), The Necessary Stage's *Off Centre* (2007), WILD RICE's *Landmarks: Asian Boys Vol. 2* (2004). He was a pioneer member of the award winning training ensemble WILD RICE's young and WILD, and now a proud founding member of COLLAB Theatre Ensemble, a new theatre company dedicated to developing ensemble-based works within the laboratory of collaboration and training.

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**ALECIA KIM CHUA – Cast (Mrs Pereira/Lucy)**

Alecia has always loved the challenge of theatre simply because, "I get to live a different life for 'awhile' ". With that, this effectively bilingual actress Graduated from NAFA and has never looked back.



Her work as an actor has taken her to India and Edinburgh. Theatre is magic and the “magic” is the people who work like mad to make it happen on opening night. On that note she feels very excited and fortunate to be part of ‘Cinderel-LAH!’s’ family!

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### **JOSEPHINE TAN – Cast (Mrs Koh/Mimi)**

Jo's a host and actress both on the stage and screen -- Some of the highlights of her year would be being the female lead in Ho Tzu Nyen's movie *Here* which premiered in the Cannes film festival as a contestant for the Camera D'or award, and as second female lead Wang Mei in the upcoming Toy Factory Mandarin Musical starring Kit Chan, *December Rains*. Onscreen with the Mandatory Mediacorp, she's a recurring character on various channels, including Channel 8's *The Ultimatum* and *Nanny Daddy*, Channel 5's *Fighting Spiders* and *Maggie & Me* and Kids Central's *Mandy's Mighty Adventures 1, 2 & 3*. She's also regularly seen on screen in commercials (Reader's Digest, Macdonalds, Live the Dream etc).

She's very excited to play Mimi in the upcoming *Cinderel-LAH!* by WILD RICE! Her previous theatre credits include Lady Olivia Raffles in WILD RICE's *The Last Temptation of Sir Stamford Raffles*, Emily Gan in *Off Centre* (The Necessary Stage), The Woman in *Manhood* (Action Theatre), Momoko the Japanese escort in Drama Box's *David the Best*, Tiny Tim in SRT's *Scrooge*, (Life! Theatre Awards Best Ensemble nominee) and Raybena in Dick Lee's *Sunshine Girl*.

Her hosting clients include Music and Movement, Westmall, Nintendo Wii, Swatch and Hyundai, as well as government and military bodies.