



# MAN SINGAPORE THEATRE FESTIVAL 2011

3 – 21 August 2011

Drama Centre, National Library Building

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Press Release

2<sup>nd</sup> August 2011

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **DRAMA CENTRE FOYER TURNED INTO CLUB FOR FESTIVAL**

2<sup>nd</sup> August 2011 – WILD RICE is inviting you to the Festival Club at the Man Singapore Theatre Festival 2011! Join us as we switch off the foyer lights and turn on the spotlights to entertain you.

Fabulous and fun, the Festival Club is an intimate space where the audience, artists and friends can relax and chill with a drink and munch on light bites before and after performances. The Club transforms to an after-hours Cabaret on Friday and Saturday nights, where new talents in stand-up comedy and musical theatre will be discovered. Stand Up for Singapore and Talk Cock Sing Song promise raucous fun evenings hosted by local theatre personalities.

Stand Up for Singapore, hosted by Pam Oei and Hossan Leong over two weekends, will showcase experienced and amateur standup comics. Kickback with a drink from our Festival Bar and watch them take to the stage as they pull out all the stops to tickle your funny bone. Theatre veteran, Lim Kay Siu, will attempt a career change as he steps up to the plate with his bag full of jokes. Will he succeed or fail? The truth is... We don't know! Come join us and find out!

Fresh off her performances in *881 The Musical* and Dick Lee's *Beauty Kings*, Judee Tan will join friends Julian Wong, Dwayne Lau and Darius Tan for a night of musical theatre with Talk Cock Sing Song. The foursome promise to heat things up after Friday night's performance of *Cooling Off Day* with their powerhouse vocals and 'damn cock' humor.

Bringing the festival to a close on a high, Ivan Heng will host Come Out and Party! Boggie with him on the dance floor as the DJ spins your disco favorites. We at WILD RICE look forward to having a drink with you as we celebrate the festival with music, song and laughter.



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**FAST FACTS**

**Title** : **The Festival Club**

**Venue** : Drama Centre Foyer

**Date** : 6<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> August 2011

6<sup>th</sup> August 2011  
**Stand Up for Singapore** hosted by Pam Oei

12<sup>th</sup> August 2011  
**Talk Cock Sing Song** hosted by Julian Wong

13<sup>th</sup> August 2011  
**Stand Up for Singapore** hosted by Hossan Leong

20<sup>th</sup> August 2011  
**Come Out & Party** hosted by Ivan Heng

**Time** : 10pm to 1am



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## **APPENDIX 1**

### **ABOUT THE FESTIVAL CLUB**

The ***Festival Club*** will present a brand new after-hours programme in an intimate cabaret setting that will introduce audiences to emerging talents in other theatrical forms, including stand-up comedy and musical theatre.

Dates: 6, 12, 13, 20 August

Time: 10pm – 1am

Venue: Drama Centre Foyer

### **SATURDAY, 6 AUGUST 2011**

#### **STAND UP FOR SINGAPORE**

HOST: PAM OEI

#### **TALENTS**

Talents:

- Edgar
- Helmi
- Jo
- Tris
- Fuzz
- Jinx
- Rishi

### **FRIDAY, 12 AUGUST 2011**

#### **TALK COCK SING SONG**

HOST: JULIAN WONG

#### **Talents**

- Darius Tan
- Dwayne Lau
- Judee Tan



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**SATURDAY, 13 AUGUST 2011**

**STAND UP FOR SINGAPORE**

HOST: HOSSAN LEONG

Talents:

- Alecia Kim Chua
- Kay Siu
- Tris
- Fuzz
- Jinx
- Rishi
- Sharul

**SATURDAY, 20 AUGUST 2011**

**COME OUT & PARTY**

HOST: IVAN HENG

## **APPENDIX 2**

### **BIOGRAPHIES**

#### **Pam Oei**

Pam has been in over 50 theatre, television and film productions. Her theatre credits include Animal Farm, The Campaign to Confer the Public Service Star on JBJ, Titoudao, Everything But The Brain, Rent and Boeing Boeing.

She is probably most known on stage for being one third of the delicious Dim Sum Dollies ®.

#### **Edgar**

Edgar Tang is an internationally award-winning creative whose inspiration comes from his parents' hilarious eccentricities - now shared publicly for the first time, in his attempt to save on a shrink.

#### **Kay Siu**

Kay Siu has been acting professionally since 1985, in Singapore, America, London and Germany. Stage credits include Drift with Drama Box, Enchanted Tales with Finger Players, Memory: Human Remains & Virus with Collective Mayhem, Cheek with CAKE Theatre; Lao Jiu the Musical (in Mandarin) with Practice; Blithe Spirit, Animal Farm and Visit of the Tai-Tai 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.

TV credits include Tenko Reunion for BBC, Holoponono for RTL, Happy Belly, PCK and Drive in Singapore, and Monkey King for Hallmark.

Movie credits include Nightwatch for Lion Films; Anna and the King for Fox; Avatar (Independent).

#### **Tris**

Tris has been performing for a year and a half at various open mics, counting among his proudest moments his performance at the New Word Order event at The Arts House. Striving always to be politically accurate (though not always correct) Tris' comedy explores new ways to get himself arrested.

**Fuzz**

Muhammad Fadzri a.k.a. Fakkah Fuzz is possibly the last Malay comic to ever come out of Singapore. He has been performing stand-up comedy for two years and counting and has always enjoyed performance art as a passion. Fuzz performed on stage at 16, singing in a punk rock band, when he realized that in between songs he enjoyed cracking jokes to make the audience laugh.

Fuzz started stand-up in September 2009 with now-defunct TakeOut Comedy Singapore as an open micer and soon was doing shows to larger audiences. The highlight of his comedy career was sharing the same stage as Comedy Club Asia's Jonathan Atherton and opening for international headliners like Jonathan Powley and Andrew Netto with The Comedy Club Kuala Lumpur. Faz has also opened for Malaysian Comedy heavyweight Harith Iskandar for Comedy Club Asia.

In May 2011, Fuzz has proceeded to perform for his own feature special alongside comedy impressionist Anil Desai and Canadian Comedy Professional Jason John Whitehead for The Comedy Club Kuala Lumpur. Later in August the same year, He defended the comedy image of Singapore by performing as one of the participants in Laugh Off Asia as a team member "against" Malaysian Comics in a comedy style "battle" in Kuala Lumpur.

Fuzz can also be seen as a regular performer at Comedy Masala Singapore, an open mic event held at Home Club where he tries out new material and also get the chance to mingle with a comedy crowd making friends.

**Jinx**

"Nerdy bald bespectacled writer by day, comic by night... Jinx is one of Singapore's rising local comedy talents. Join him on a roller-coaster ride of laughs as he shares his satirical and comedic views on issues ranging from Singapore's birth rate problem, to saving the endangered pandas."

**Julian Wong**

Julian is excited to be talking cock and singing song with three of his dearest friends. He has collaborated with them on many productions, including *Chang and Eng*, *Beauty World*, *Shanghai Blues*, *Own Time Own Target*, *Cinderel-LAH!*, *Broadway 4 Suakus*, *Chestnuts Does Christmas* and *Esplanade's Flipside* for four consecutive years.

**Darius Tan**

He's performed in more than 50 productions on stage & screen! With WILD RICE he's been in their annual RICE BALL, *Cinderel-LAH!*, *Beauty & the Beast*, *Beauty World*, *The Swordfish*, *then the Concubine* and next up, *Aladdin!* And most importantly, he really can Talk Cock Sing Song!

**Dwayne Lau**

Dwayne is honored to be part of The Man Singapore Theatre Festival's Talk Cock Sing Song! He's been part of W!LD RICE's runs of *Own Time Own Target* and *Cinderel-lah!* (2010). This time, apart from bantering and singing about various local fun flavors he also pays tribute to being Chindian in Singapore!

**Judee Tan**

Judee Tan is a triple threat performer who has appeared in major musical theatre productions including *December Rains* and *881* (Toy Factory Productions). Other theatre credits include *Broadway Beng* Jiak Liu Lian (Dream Academy Productions), the *Chestnuts* series (2009, 2010) with STAGES and Dick Lee's *Beauty Kings* (Fantastic Entertainment)

On TV, Judee most recently appeared as North Korean reporter, Kim Bong Cha, on *The Noose*.

**Hossan Leong**

Hossan, Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres (The Order of Arts and Literature) is one of Singapore's most loved and recognised actors whether starring in his yearly stage production "The Hossan Leong Show" or in more dramatic roles on MediaCorp's Channel 8.

**Alecia Kim Chua**

Ever tried walking in someone else's shoes? Come join Alecia and walk in her size 3 shoes..... Yes size 3. Get her take on being Singaporean and please laugh!!!!

**Rishi Budhrani**

Rishi is an up-and-coming performer in Singapore's standup comedy scene. Rishi is a trained actor, professional speaker, emcee and conducts one-of-a-kind workshops on humor and laughter-based motivation in the corporate world.

Rishi is Singaporean, born in to an Indian family, and has spent time in the US, Australia and all over Asia which has helped him craft a unique style of standup comedy with a universal appeal.

As an actor, Rishi has performed in award-winning comedy plays, *The Full Monty* (Pangdemonium Productions) and *Rafta Rafta* (HuM Theatre). He also appeared in a recurring role for a full season of a Malay drama on Suria (*Delicatessen*) and has been an extra in a Bollywood film where the back of his head was seen for 2 seconds.

Rishi is a weekly open-mic performer at the Home Club and was the opening act for international comedian, Dan Nainan at the DBS Arts Centre in Singapore in June 2011. He has also represented Singapore in a regional comedy show called *Laugh Off Asia* in July 2011 and received the following review by the Malaysian publication, *The Star Online*:



"..Rishi, whose self-deprecating style of humour, delivered in a delightfully deadpan way, combined with hilarious material, made him one of the strongest acts of the night."

## **Jo**

Director of The Instant Cafe Theatre Company, KL - a company beloved for its biting, political comedies. Here she created iconic recurring characters, male and female: YB, the Deputy Minister of Panic, sex kitten Ribena Berry, uncivil civil servant Puan Badariah Tudong Periok, Judge Mental Singh Gall and local wannabe Curry Spice. Other roles: Mercutio (Romeo and Juliet) Lady Macbeth (Macbeth), Girl (Ionesco, The Lesson), Winnie (Beckett, Happy Days), Helen (Fugard, The Road to Mecca), Paula (Dorfman, Death and the Maiden), Sumathi (KS Maniam, The Sandpit). One-woman plays: Atomic Jaya; Election Day (Huzir Suleiman); From Table Mountain to Teluk Intan (Shahimah Idris/Ann Lee). Recent performances: Cuckoo Birds; The Art of Living in the In Between (CAKE/Natalie Hennedige); Balek Kampong (The Necessary Stage/Haresh Sharma); Decimal Points 4.44 (Brian Gothong Tan/ CAKE).

Directing/writing/performing credits include: The Bolehwood Awards; Mass Hysteria; Kurang Manis; 1Sex1Money1Scandal; The Girlie Show. (Instant Cafe Theatre) Directing credits include: Midsummer Night's Dream, Merchant of Venice, Twelfth Night (Shakespeare), M! The Opera (Saidah Rastam) Accidental Death of an Anarchist (adapted, Fo) Flies and Foreigners (Ridzwan Othman), Air Con (Shanon Shah) Hero (Arun Subramaniam), Nadirah, Pariah/Parah (Alfian Sa'at). Intercultural collaborations: The Island In Between (Tokyo, KL); Hotel Grand Asia (Tokyo); Break-ing/Silence, Please (KL, Tokyo, Singapore).

## **Ivan Heng**

Ivan Heng is one of Singapore's most prominent and dynamic creative personalities, and the founder and artistic director of WILD RICE, Singapore's leading professional theatre company.

In a pioneering career spanning more than 2 decades, Ivan has 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 2000, Ivan founded WILD RICE. Under his leadership, the company is today at the vanguard of creating theatre with a distinctive Singaporean voice and point of view. In 2006, he founded the Singapore Theatre Festival, a new writing festival, which was appraised 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 was the Creative Director of the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the inaugural Youth Olympic Games, Singapore 2010. For its creativity, ambition and technical perfection, it was ranked among the ranked as one of the top three Opening Ceremonies since 1968 by President Jacques Rogge of the International Olympic Committee.

A law graduate from the National University of Singapore, Ivan trained at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama.