



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

W!LD RICE TO RE-LAUNCH YOUTH TRAINING DIVISION

10 February 2014 – In April 2014, W!LD RICE will be reviving **young & W!LD**, a division dedicated to preparing Singapore’s most promising young talents for careers in the professional theatre industry.

Over the course of eighteen months, participants will attend training workshops under the supervision of professional actors and theatre educators Rodney Oliveiro and Serena Ho. The young & W!LD ensemble will stage three milestone showcases throughout the programme, encompassing monologues, original one-act plays, and the production of a full-length play.

“We are thrilled that Rodney and Serena have agreed to work with us in reinventing young & W!LD,” says Ivan Heng, Artistic Director of W!LD RICE. “They are already well-known within the industry for their tireless work with students who are passionate about the craft of theatre.

“It’s a privilege and a joy for us to provide them with another platform to educate and nurture Singapore’s young talents.”

What sets this new incarnation of young & W!LD apart is its goal of bringing together a broad range of participants to form a fully functional theatrical ensemble.

Earlier iterations of young & W!LD had focused on developing a troupe of actors.

This year, individuals interested in all the various aspects of stagecraft are encouraged to participate as well.

Rodney Oliveiro, Young and Wild’s new programme co-director says, “Jonathan Lim, the programme’s first director, did an amazing job with his two cohorts of young actors. They really put their stamp on young & W!LD, and many of the graduates are actively working in the local theatre scene and making a name for themselves.”

“With that as a foundation, we now hope to broaden the scope of young & W!LD,” explains Oliveiro. “Singapore’s theatre industry needs new blood, and not just in terms of actors. We are also looking for the next generation of directors and playwrights.”

During the course of the programme, participants will be encouraged to write and perform their own original work.

Oliveiro elaborates: “We want to give the participants a platform and an incubator to develop their own unique sense of artistry.”



Auditions for young & W!LD's 2014 cohort will take place on 1 & 2 March 2014.

The programme's first workshop is slated to start in the first week of April.



AUDITION FOR young & W!LD!



Have you always wanted to act? Or, perhaps, to direct or write for the stage? Do you know someone who's passionate about theatre and is keen to learn or hone their stagecraft?

young & W!LD could be the perfect fit for you!

In April 2014, W!LD RICE will reboot its youth training division, and we're looking for enthusiastic, promising, dedicated individuals to join us on this journey of learning and discovery.

Led by Rodney Oliveiro and Serena Ho, this exploratory theatre programme will last eighteen months, during which time the participants will work together to put up three showcases of their talent and original work.

If you're interested in auditioning or if you know someone who fits the bill, do get in touch with us!

Interested candidates should submit their résumés, headshots and contact details to production@wildrice.com.sg by 23 February 2014 (Sunday) to book an audition slot on a first-come, first-served basis.

Auditions: 1 & 2 March 2014

All interested individuals must understand that participating in the programme requires an 18-month commitment that will cover three productions.

The audition is open to non-actors.

All interested parties must prepare one monologue of their choice, which should be at least three minutes long. (The monologue can be a published or a self-penned piece.) They should also be prepared for a short interview during the audition.



FAST FACTS: young & W!LD

Programme Directors: Rodney Oliveiro, Serena Ho

Course duration: 18 months (beginning from April 2014)

Training sessions: One three-hour session every week.
Depending on programme requirements, the frequency of classes might increase in certain months and/or in the run-up to productions.
Participants might have to attend extra workshops in the event that master classes are arranged that will be conducted by other instructors.

Estimated class size: 15 - 18 participants

Age group: 18 - 26 years old

Goals: Three showcases throughout the 18-month programme

- Monologues (August 2014)
- Original one-act plays (April 2015)
- Full-length production (September 2015)

Press Contact : Yee Zhiyun
Marketing and Communications Executive
Sirius Art PR Pte Ltd
DID: 6435 0625
yeezhiyun@siriusart.com.sg

Lew Yook Kim
Manager
Sirius Art PR Pte Ltd
DID: +65 6435 0627
yookkim@siriusart.com.sg



ABOUT young & W!LD

young & W!LD is a division of W!LD RICE dedicated to training and nurturing Singapore's most promising young talents. Under the stewardship of programme directors Rodney Oliveira and Serena Ho, this innovative training programme aims to prepare the next generation of theatre practitioners for careers in our professional theatre industry.

In addition to practical training that emphasises versatility, dedication, discipline and a deeper understanding of all aspects of theatre-making, the young & W!LD philosophy also stresses the role that theatre and its practitioners play in shaping our society.

The young & W!LD team learn that, as artists, they have a responsibility to the audience and the wider public – to illuminate, to educate, to communicate; and to always share in the common experience of theatre.

W!LD RICE is proud to invest in the future of Singapore theatre by playing its part in developing our next generation of multi-skilled, socially aware and creatively versatile theatre practitioners.

ABOUT THE 2014 young & W!LD TRAINING SEASON

young & W!LD aims to recruit and train young people who see theatre as a platform for social change. The programme will further develop their voices as artists and hone their critical skills and objectivity, be it in the field of acting, writing, designing etc.

The ultimate goal and challenge of the programme is to find and collaborate with new, emerging artists to create a collective or ensemble that will work closely together to create and showcase new works over the course of eighteen months.

The programme will focus on performance and theatre-making skills. Workshops will include a grounding in Anne Bogart's *Viewpoints* as a system of theatre-making, as well as using the outside environment as a stimuli for creating performance. Using August Boal's methodology, extensive work will also be done in terms of ensemble-building.



BIOGRAPHIES

RODNEY OLIVEIRO

Rodney Oliveiro graduated from the National University of Singapore in 2001 with a degree in Theatre Studies and English Literature and has since been working as an actor, director and writer with theatre companies and educational institutes.

With over 40 ticketed performances under his belt, Rodney has worked as an actor with many leading theatre companies in Singapore. Some recent performances include *Dreamplay: Asian Boys Vol. 1*, *Cooling-Off Day* (WILD RICE), *Those Who Can't Teach, _____ Can Change* (The Necessary Stage) and *The Crucible* (Toy Factory Productions). As an arts educator and youth theatre director, besides in-curriculum drama at various secondary schools, he is also the resident coach and director of the English drama groups at Ngee Ann Polytechnic and Singapore Polytechnic.

On the small screen, Rodney was in the main cast of Mediacorp 5's teen-drama *Spin* and appeared on Arts Central in two seasons of the groundbreaking *Singapore Short Story Project*.

SERENA HO

Serena Ho graduated from LASALLE-SIA College of the Arts, where she received the Outstanding Student Award 1999 for Drama.

Serena believes that one of the best kinds of theatre come from the creativity and energy of young people. She constantly seeks new ways to empower youth through meaningful facilitation and interaction in the classroom or rehearsal space.

Serena began her career as a full-time Resident Artist at The Necessary Stage. Since then, Serena has worked with a wide range of institutions such as Ang Mo Kio Secondary School, Yio Chu Kang Secondary School, Northlight Secondary School, Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Catholic Junior College, Raffles' Girls School, and Down's Syndrome Association in the capacity of director, educator, facilitator, resident coach and curriculum consultant.

Serena is also an accomplished actress, having worked with companies such as WILD RICE, I-Theatre, Singapore Repertory Theatre, and The Lyric Opera.

Recently, Serena served as a consultant and facilitator for the National Arts Council's pioneering Teaching Through The Arts programme and was elected as a committee member of the Singapore Drama Educators Association. She also teaches part-time at the School of the Arts (SOTA).