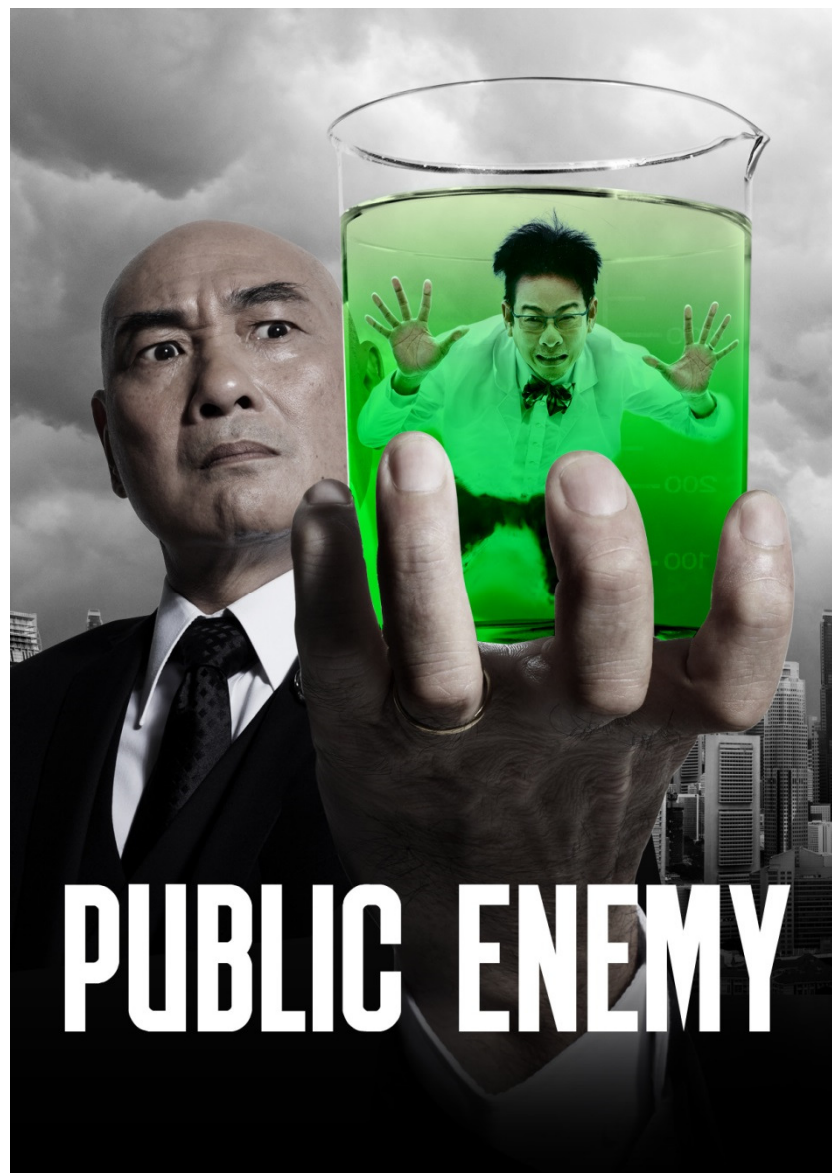


**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**W!LD RICE KICKS OFF imagiNATION SEASON WITH *PUBLIC ENEMY***



28 January 2015 – In April 2015, W!LD RICE will present a gripping new production of *Public Enemy*, Norwegian playwright Henrik Ibsen's powerful classic about truth, democracy and the tyranny of the majority.

The production is part of W!LD RICE's year-long imagiNATION season, which marks the company's 15th anniversary and coincides with Singapore's own jubilee celebrations.

Each imagiNATION production takes inspiration from the five stars of the Singapore flag. *Public Enemy* kicks off this theatrical odyssey by challenging the easy assumptions associated with 'Democracy'.



Written over 130 years ago, and better known as *An Enemy of the People*, Ibsen's thought-provoking play remains startlingly relevant today. In a town intent on marketing itself as a world-class resort spa, one man discovers that the water supply is toxic. His decision to go public with the information pits him against his entire community.

"In the same year that Singapore is celebrating SG50, it felt fitting to me that we should look more closely at the ideas commonly associated with democracy," says Glen Goei, WILD RICE Associate Director and the director of this production.

"Ibsen's play explores issues like the will of the people and the rights of minorities. Can one take precedence over the other? How do you make a difference when everyone around you would rather cling to the status quo?"

The cast of *Public Enemy* is led by two of Singapore's finest actors. Ivan Heng takes on the role of Dr. Thomas Chee, a scientist who discovers the toxic truth, while Lim Kay Siu plays Dr. Chee's brother – the mayor of their town who desperately wants to keep everything under wraps. They will be joined onstage by a powerhouse cast from Singapore and Malaysia, including Gerald Chew, Kee Thuan Chye, Serene Chen, Brendon Fernandez and Ghafir Akbar.

To realise his vision, Goei has assembled a creative team comprising some of the best theatre artists working in Singapore today. *Public Enemy* reunites Goei with acclaimed costume designer Lai Chan (*Emily of Emerald Hill*, *Boeing Boeing*) and award-winning set designer Wong Chee Wai (*The House of Bernarda Alba*, *Monkey Goes West*).

*Public Enemy* is also part of WILD RICE's ongoing series of Masterpiece Theatre productions, which include *The House of Bernarda Alba*, *The Importance of Being Earnest* and *Animal Farm*. Ibsen is the most frequently performed dramatist in the world after William Shakespeare. This production will feature an exhilarating new translation of Ibsen's classic play by Scottish playwright David Harrower, which was staged to great critical acclaim in 2013 by the Young Vic in London.



## **ABOUT *PUBLIC ENEMY***

What happens when you speak your mind and your entire community turns against you? Do you stand by what you believe is right? Or do you tell your colleagues, your family and your friends what they *want* to hear?

In a town that's preparing to market itself as a world-class resort spa, Dr. Thomas Chee (Ivan Heng) discovers that the water supply is riddled with bacteria. He resolves to go public with the information. It's a decision that pits him against his entire community. Overnight, he finds himself drowning in a storm of protests from the government, media, businesses, and even his family. Suddenly, Dr. Chee is the enemy of the people – the man who insists on telling truths that no one wants to hear.

One of the world's most powerful classics, *Public Enemy* asks thought-provoking questions about democracy and the freedom of expression. What does it mean to hold firmly to an unpopular opinion in a world where it's easier to conform? Can one man stand up to the tyranny of the majority? When does bravery become naivety?

Henrik Ibsen's electrifying satire comes to life under Glen Goei's direction. Exploring issues of politics, principles and power, *Public Enemy* tells a timeless tale of courage and corruption that has challenged and entertained audiences for over a hundred years.

As part of WILD RICE's thrilling 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary season, *Public Enemy* is the first production that's set to capture your imagiNATION this year!

## **Praise for *Public Enemy***

“Provocative, startling, breathtaking” – Financial Times

“Outrageously eccentric... expresses one of the great conundrums of modern times” – The Independent

“Brutal truths, riotous visuals and a wonderful cast” – Time Out

“Confronts and makes us wonder” – Daily Mail

“Fresh and entertaining, a gripping production” – Daily Telegraph

## FAST FACTS

Title	:	<b><i>PUBLIC ENEMY</i></b>
Author	:	Henrik Ibsen
A New Version by	:	David Harrower
Director	:	Glen Goei
Set Design	:	Wong Chee Wai
Lighting Design	:	James Tan
Sound Design	:	Darren Ng
Costume Design	:	Lai Chan
Hair Design	:	Ashley Lim
Make-Up Design	:	Beno Lim (M.A.C.)
Producer	:	Tony Trickett
Cast	:	Ghafir Akbar R Chandran Serene Chen Gerald Chew Brendon Fernandez Ivan Heng Kee Thuan Chye Lim Kay Siu Yap Yi Kai
Press Contact	:	Lew Yook Kim Manager Sirius Art PR Pte Ltd DID: +65 6435-0627 yookkim@siriusart.com.sg
Venue	:	Victoria Theatre
Show Dates	:	9 – 25 April 2015
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 : Previews 9 & 10 April 8pm \$45 - \$70  
Tue, Wed, Thu 8pm and Sat & Sun 3pm \$50 - \$75  
Fri & Sat 8pm \$55 - \$80  
*Prices exclude \$4 SISTIC handling fee*
- Priority Sales : 26 Jan to 8 Feb 2015  
**20% Discount** for OCBC Card Members
- Early Bird : 9 Feb to 11 Mar 2015  
**20% Discount** for OCBC Card Members, SAFRA, PAssion  
and IKEA FAMILY Card Members  
**15% Discount** for General Public
- From 12 Mar onwards: Discounts available for Students, Senior Citizens, Full-time  
NSFs, OCBC Card Members, SAFRA, PAssion and IKEA  
FAMILY Card Members
- Corporate & Group: For bookings of 20 or more tickets, please contact Ross Toh at  
6292 2695 or [sales@wildrice.com.sg](mailto:sales@wildrice.com.sg)



## **ANNEX**

- I. imagiNATION: W!LD RICE'S 15TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON**
- II. SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS**
- III. CAST BIOGRAPHIES**
- IV. CREATIVE TEAM BIOGRAPHIES**
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## APPENDIX I

### imagiNATION: WILD RICE'S 15TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

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# CELEBRATING 15 W!LD YEARS WITH imagiNATION

In conjunction with its 15th anniversary in 2015, WILD RICE will present 'imagiNATION', a season of five exciting new productions inspired by the stars of the Singapore flag.

Illuminating and reflecting on the ideas of democracy, peace, progress, equality and justice, the productions will include:

- ◆ **Public Enemy**, an adaptation of Henrik Ibsen's powerful and timely classic, directed by Glen Goei and starring Ivan Heng and Lim Kay Siu, which will challenge the easy assumptions associated with **DEMOCRACY**;
- ◆ **Another Country**, a Singapore-Malaysia co-production that brings together the finest writers and performers from both sides of the Causeway to reflect on the history, culture and **PEACE** shared by two countries that were separated at birth;
- ◆ **Hotel**, a stirring epic that observes Singapore's **PROGRESS** through the prism of one hotel room and its inhabitants over the past ten decades. A Singapore International Festival of Arts commission, this production is written by Alfian Sa'at and directed by Ivan Heng and Glen Goei;
- ◆ **The Emperor's New Clothes**, a brand-new pantomime directed by Pam Oei and scripted by Joel Tan, that adds a cheeky local twist to Hans Christian Andersen's classic fairy tale about **EQUALITY**; and
- ◆ A new production – presently a work in progress – examining the concept of **JUSTICE**.

APPENDIX II

SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS

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ARCHANGEL



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OFFICIAL PRIVILEGE CARD



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WITH SUPPORT FROM





## APPENDIX III

### CAST BIOGRAPHIES

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#### GHAFIR AKBAR

Ghafir is a Malaysian actor whose work includes *Raj and the End of Tragedy*, *White Rabbit Red Rabbit*, *The Baltimore Waltz*, *Gross Indecency* (Instant Café Theatre); *Nama Kamu Atas Perahu* (Manifesto Poetico); *Durian Beckett* (Pentas Project); *7-10* (Five Arts Centre); and *Hamlet* (Actors Studio).

New York and American credits: *All The Way From China* (Gene Frankel Theatre); *Short Hairs* (Theatre for the New City); *Life of Galileo*, *The Perfume Shop*, *Romeo & Juliet* (Asolo Rep); and *Slaughterhouse Five* (York Arena Theatre). Ghafir co-founded Mad Dog Theatre Company in New York and served as Artistic Associate for Ruckus Theatre in Chicago.

MFA Acting (FSU-Asolo Conservatory), BA Theatre Performance (Western Michigan University).

#### R CHANDRAN

Chandran is the founder-director of ACT 3 Theatrics, Singapore's first professional theatre company. It is his great privilege to have been a full-time theatre practitioner for – *gosh!* – the past 30 years, writing, directing and acting. In between, he has found time to author four books for children, publish the book *Makan Place – the Singapore*, which ACT 3 first staged in March 1988, and be involved in a couple of films, TV shows and stage productions by Samantha Scott-Blackhall, World-in-Theatre and SRT.

Recently, his focus has been on developing and running *Literacy through Drama* programmes with his wife, Amy J Cheng. The aim is to inspire children to find joy in writing and creative processes and to introduce drama programmes to Special Education children. He attempts to be a *dad for life* with his two boys, Joshua and Jivan. He is gratefully thrilled that WILD RICE has seen it fit to give him a *Public Enemy* tag!

#### SERENE CHEN

Serene Chen is a graduate of the National University of Singapore's Theatre Studies programme. She has worked in radio, television, film and theatre. Serene's more recent theatre projects include Federico Garcia Lorca's *The House of Bernarda Alba* produced by WILD RICE, Robert Thomas' *8 Women* produced by Sing'Theatre, Tan Tarn How's *Fear of Writing*, *Lan Fang Chronicles* conceived by Choy Kar Fai, Chong Tze Chien's *Charged* and *Wong Kar Wai Dreams*, Robin Loon's *DNR* and *120* conceived by Ong Keng Sen. On television, she has played Deputy Public Prosecutor Sally Cheng in three seasons of *Code of Law*. She starred in Woo Yen Yen and Colin Goh's seminal feature film, *Singapore Dreaming*, and in Ken Kwek's controversial *Sex.Violence.FamilyValues*, produced by The Butter Factory.

Serene is a two-time winner of the Best Supporting Actress award at the Life! Theatre Awards, for Alfian Sa'at's *Asian Boys Volume 2* and *8 Women*.



## **GERALD CHEW**

Gerald Chew is an established actor of stage, film and television. He started acting with the TheatreWorks ensemble in 1988 and has worked with all the major theatre, film and television companies in Singapore in numerous roles. He has also worked in many genres of theatre, in local and international pieces. He is also a director, recently directed work for La Mama Playwriting Season in New York 2014; and will direct works for Esplanade: The Studio's 50 Plays season this April.

Recently, Gerald played Salanio in Shakespeare's *The Merchant Of Venice* (SRT) and Brabantio, Herald and Gratiano in *Othello* (SRT), both directed by Bruce Guthrie; Ben Lik in the controversial *Not Counted*, written and directed by Zizi Azar (Teater Ekamatra), which premiered in Beijing and Singapore; and Lord Montague in *Romeo & Juliet*, Sang Ranjuna and Bhupala in *The Swordfish and Then The Concubine* and the Reverend in the adaptation of Durrenmatt's play *The Visit of the Tai Tai* (all by WILD RICE). Gerald won a Life! Theatre Award for Best Actor for ACTION Theatre's *Everything But The Brain* (2006), written by Jean Tay.

As a National Arts Council scholar, Gerald trained at the Central School of Speech and Drama in London, UK for an MA in Advanced Theatre Practice; and is an adjunct lecturer at the National University of Singapore as well as institutions like Ngee Ann Polytechnic and NTU-NIE.

## **BRENDON FERNANDEZ**

Brendon would rather have enemies in public than accomplices in hiding.

His theatre credits include *The Importance of Being Earnest* (2014, 2013, 2009), *The Optic Trilogy* (2013, 2001), *Company* (2012), *La Cage Aux Folles* (2012), *Romeo & Juliet* (2012), *Equus* (2011), *To Kill A Mockingbird* (2010), *The King Lear Project: A Trilogy* (2008), *Boeing Boeing* (2005), *Everything But The Brain* (2005), *Bent* (2003), *Rent* (2001) and *The Theory of Everything* (2000).

On television, Brendon hosts the documentary series *It Figures* on Channel News Asia (CNA), now in its third season.

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

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, with his portrayal of the titular character in *Emily of Emerald Hill*, Ivan founded WILD RICE. Under his leadership, the company is today at the vanguard of creating theatre with a distinctive Singaporean voice. In 2006, he founded the Singapore Theatre Festival, which has been acclaimed as "the main event in the world of the arts" (SPH The Straits Times), and the "Blockbuster Event of the Year" (Today).



Ivan was the Creative Director of the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the inaugural Youth Olympic Games, Singapore 2010, as well as the National Day Parade 2009. In 2013, Ivan was conferred the Cultural Medallion, Singapore's highest cultural award. *Public Enemy* marks his fourth collaboration as an actor with director Glen Goei after *Emily of Emerald Hill*, *The Importance of Being Earnest* and *La Cage Aux Folles*.

### **KEE THUAN CHYE**

Kee Thuan Chye is an actor/playwright who has appeared in international film productions like *Entrapment*, *Anna and the King*, *Marco Polo* and *Secrets of the Forbidden City*, as well as many Malaysian and Singaporean TV shows, including *City of the Rich*, *Phua Chu Kang*, *Code of Law* and *Mata Mata* (season 2). On stage, he has played lead roles in *Gulls*, *Honour* and *Death of a Salesman* (as Willy Loman). He is known for writing the plays *1984 Here and Now*, *We Could \*\*\*\* You*, *Mr Birch* and *The Big Purge*. His latest play, *The Swordfish and Then The Concubine*, has been staged in Singapore twice.

### **LIM KAY SIU**

Kay Siu has been acting professionally since 1985 in Singapore, America, London and Germany. Stage credits include *Drift* for Drama Box, *Enchanted Tales* for The Finger Players, *Memory: Human Remains & Virus* for Collective Mayhem, *4.44 (Decimal Points)* and *Cheek* for CAKE Theatre; *Lao Jiu The Musical* and *If There're Seasons* (both in Mandarin) for The Theatre Practice; *Monkey Goes West*, *Romeo & Juliet*, *Family Outing*, *Blithe Spirit*, *Animal Farm* and *Visit of the Tai-Tai* for WILD RICE; *3 Japanese Women* for Mu-lan in London; *The Letter* for the Lyric Hammersmith, London; *7th Drawer*, *Morning People* and *Army Daze* for Toy Factory; and *Death of a Salesman* and *Oleanna* for SRT. Musicals include *Beauty World*, *Fried Rice Paradise* (TheatreWorks) and *Nagrland* (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. He directed *Half Lives* by Chay Yew for TheatreWorks, which was selected as Play of the Year by the 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; and *Avatar* (independent).

### **YAP YI KAI**

Yi Kai studied Theatre Studies and Drama from 2008 to 2009 and has since been involved in productions with NUS Stage, the NUS Centre for the Arts, Buds Theatre Company, Yellow Chair Productions and Take Off Productions. She took part in the M1 Singapore Fringe Festival 2015, the Singapore Writers Festival 2013, the Lit Up! Singapore Indie Arts Festival 2013 and the NUS Arts Festival 2013, and has performed in readings for Checkpoint Theatre, the NUS Museum and IndigNation 2013. She studied law at NUS, did some hosting and radio broadcasting, and is now also a freelance voiceover artist.

## APPENDIX IV

### CREATIVE TEAM BIOGRAPHIES

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#### HENRIK IBSEN – Author

One of the greatest and certainly the most influential playwrights of the 19th century, Henrik Ibsen was born in 1828 in Norway. Disenchanted by Norway's foreign policy and his failure to secure a subsidy from the government for his work, Ibsen left the country in self-imposed exile in 1864. He wrote most of his most iconic works while living overseas in Rome, Dresden and Munich. In 1865, Ibsen published what is considered his first major work, *Brand*, and followed it with *Peer Gynt* (1867), a fantastical drama written in verse that draws inspiration from the fairy tales of Norway. Subsequently, he wrote 12 monumental prose plays which are still performed in every major theatre throughout the world. *Ghosts* (1881) was banned and attacked when it was first published. *Public Enemy* (1882) was Ibsen's powerfully ironic response. His other modernist masterpieces include *A Doll's House* (1879), *Hedda Gabler* (1890) and *The Master Builder* (1892). To this day, Ibsen is the most performed playwright in the world after Shakespeare.

#### DAVID HARROWER – Adaption

David Harrower's plays include *Knives in Hens*, *Kill the Old*, *Torture Their Young* and *Dark Earth* (Traverse), *Presence* (Royal Court), *The Chrysalids* (NT Connections), *Blackbird* (Edinburgh International Festival; West End; Olivier Award Best Play 2007), *A Slow Air* (Tron Theatre, Glasgow and Tricycle, London) and *Good with People* (Play, Pie and a Pint). Adaptations include Büchner's *Woyzeck* (Edinburgh Lyceum), Pirandello's *Six Characters in Search of an Author* (Young Vic), Chekhov's *Ivanov* and Horvath's *Tales from the Vienna Woods* (National Theatre), Schiller's *Mary Stuart* (National Theatre of Scotland), Brecht's *The Good Soul of Szechuan* and Gogol's *The Government Inspector* (Young Vic).

#### GLEN GOEI – Director

Glen's body of work embraces a wide range of the performing arts, covering film, theatre, musicals, parades, large-scale shows and World Expos over a twenty-five-year period. This began with his Olivier Award-nominated performance in the title role of *M. Butterfly* opposite Anthony Hopkins in London's West End. It grew through his multi-award-winning tenure as Artistic Director of Mu-Lan Arts, with productions like *Porcelain* (Best Play and Best Production, 1993) and *The Magic Fundoshi* (Best Comedy, 1993), which garnered worldwide acclaim. His career reached another height with his foray into the world of film. His self-written, directed and produced picture *Forever Fever* premiered at the Sundance Film Festival and was the first Singapore film to achieve a worldwide commercial film release. His second feature, *The Blue Mansion* (Best Film and Best Director, Singapore Press Holdings Entertainment Awards 2010), was a critical hit and completed a worldwide tour of film festivals, including Pusan, Tokyo, Hong Kong, Taipei, Shanghai and Berlin (Asian Hot Shots Opening Film).

Underpinning this has been his constant and substantial contribution to the theatre, principally as Associate Creative Director of WILD RICE. Here, his productions have included hits such as *La Cage Aux Folles*, *Aladdin*, *Emily of Emerald Hill*, *Boeing Boeing*, *The Magic Fundoshi*, *Blithe Spirit* and his internationally-lauded, all-male interpretation of



*The Importance of Being Earnest* (Best Production, Life! Theatre Awards 2010), which toured to the Macao International Arts Festival in May 2014. For Dream Academy, he has directed *The Revenge of The Dim Sum Dollies®*, *The Dim Sum Dollies' The History of Singapore*, *The Little Shop of Horrors* and *Into The Woods*.

### **WONG CHEE WAI – Set Design**

Chee Wai is a full-time freelance set designer. He has designed and worked with various performing arts companies in Singapore.

Some of his recent works include Blank Space Theatre's *Red*, The Theatre Practice's *If There're Seasons*, WILD RICE's *The House of Bernarda Alba*, Sightlines Productions' *Everything But The Brain*, Nine Years Theatre's *Art* (Huayi 2014), *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* (Macao Arts Festival 2013) and *Twelve Angry Men* (Huayi 2013), Sing'Theatre's *A Singaporean In Paris*, *French Kiss* and *8 Women*, and Blank Space Theatre's *Freud's Last Session*.

### **JAMES TAN – Lighting Design**

Recipient of *The Allen Lee Hughes Lighting Design Fellowship*, United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT) *YD&T Lighting Design Award*, USITT Commissioners Grant & International Association of Lighting Designers (IALD) *Education Trust for IALD Enlighten Americas* & National Arts Council Of Singapore *Arts Professional Scholarship*. MFA in Lighting Design, University of California, San Diego. Selected USA Lighting Design Credits: *Too Clever by Half*, *As You Like It*, *The Misanthrope*, *Camino Real* & *The Seagull*. ALD for *Madame Butterfly* (San Diego Opera), *Sammy* (The Old Globe), *Restoration* & *Little Miss Sunshine* (La Jolla Playhouse), *Ah! Wilderness* & *The Normal Heart* (Arena Stage, The Mead Center For American Theater). Recent Singapore Lighting Design Credits: *Junior Claus* (Singapore Repertory Theatre, TLC), *Frozen* (Pangdemonium Productions), *Red* (Blank Space Theatre), *Ah Boys To Men – The Musical* (Running Into the Sun), *Jack & the Bean-Sprout!* (WILD RICE), *8 Women* (Sing'Theatre), and *David the Best 2.0 - Kucing Kuraps FTW* (Drama Box). Architectural Lighting Design: *OCBC Garden Rhapsody: Rainforest Orchestra – Asia & Australia* (Gardens By The Bay) & *The Art of the Brick® Exhibition by Nathan Sawaya* (MBS ArtScience Museum). International & Regional Tour: *Relatively Speaking* (The British Theatre Playhouse) and *God of Carnage* (Singapore Repertory Theatre).

### **LAI CHAN – Costume Design**

Lai Chan is a fashion designer who designs costumes for the theatre as well.

Some of the shows he has designed for include *Spring Awakening*, *Fried Rice Paradise*, *Animal Farm*, *Romeo & Juliet* and *Atomic Jaya* (2013).

His eponymous boutique is located at the Raffles Hotel.

### **ASHLEY LIM – Hair Design**

Ashley started his hairstyling career in 1986 and set up Ashley Salon in 1999 to further pursue his dedication towards the art of hairdressing, especially for the theatre. Ashley became involved with theatrical work in 1987 and has since worked on almost 300



productions of local and international standards. Many of these productions were participants of festivals, some of which were nominees and/or winners of various art awards.

Ashley has gained a wide range and depth of experience working with all the leading professional theatre companies of Singapore. He has had the opportunity to create hair designs from diverse cultures and periods. His skill is extensive, the result of more than two decades of hairdressing experience. He is privileged to be widely recognised by the local theatre community as a veteran in his artistry. Ashley is particularly thrilled to have participated in *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 skills to TV shows and advertorial projects.

### **BENO LIM (M.A.C) – Make-Up Design**

M.A.C Pro Team Senior Artist Beno has 22 years of make-up experience. Movies, plays, music, art and travelling inspire and energise Beno.

To Beno, make-up tells a story, which is why he has enjoyed designing make-up for theatre – particularly when it comes to creating looks for characters that help propel stories forward. Some of his more recent work includes WILD RICE's *La Cage Aux Folles*, *Hansel & Gretel*, *Jack & the Bean-Sprout!*, *The House Of Bernarda Alba* and the WILD RICE Ball 2015 – *Night Safari*.

Besides doing make-up for International Fashion Week, Beno also keyed FIDE Fashion Week 2014, New Paper New Face 2014, Manhunt Singapore 2014 and the F1 Amber Lounge Fashion Show.

Apart from magazine shoots, Beno has also appeared on Channel U's *Style: Check IN* and *Asia Next Top Model 2015*.

Beno also loves to support local designers. He has worked with Reckless Erica, STILL, Max Tan, Nic Wong and JASON.

### **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, he 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 shows, both in Singapore and internationally. These include the 10th Anniversary productions of *Animal Farm*, *Boeing Boeing*, *Cinderel-LAH!*, *Emily of Emerald Hill* and *La Cage Aux Folles*, as well as the tour of *Animal Farm* to Tasmania, where it headlined the prestigious 10 Days on the Island Festival. Tony produced the acclaimed 2006, 2008 and 2011 Singapore Theatre Festivals, which he conceived together with Artistic Director Ivan Heng.



## APPENDIX V

### ABOUT WILD RICE

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WILD RICE was founded in 2000 by Ivan Heng, an internationally-acclaimed and award-winning theatre practitioner, and is recognised today as one of Singapore's leading professional theatre companies.

Our mission is to provide an open forum for the shared experience of theatre: celebrating our diversity, reflecting on the problems and possibilities of our times, and presenting productions that inspire, challenge and entertain.

A commitment to the highest standards informs every aspect of WILD RICE's creative work, which is first and foremost a celebration of Singapore theatrical talent. By producing and touring productions that are distinctively local in flavour and yet universal in vision and concerns, the company creates memorable experiences for audiences in Singapore and across the world.

The company's exciting and varied programming for the main stage includes:

- New and original works.
- New productions of the Singapore repertoire.
- New interpretations of world classics.

The company's mission to build a theatre culture also extends to the wider community through the following divisions:

- FIRST STAGE!, a project which nurtures young talents from the ages of 5 to 12.
- young & WILD, which identifies and develops Singapore's young theatre professionals.

WILD RICE is committed to touring its shows internationally to raise the profile of Singapore theatre, to create an international awareness of its unique productions, and to engage its artists and collaborators in creative dialogues with the international arts community. Its distinctively Singaporean productions have won great acclaim in major international arts festivals in Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, Macau, Malaysia, New Zealand and Russia.

In August 2006, WILD RICE presented the inaugural SINGAPORE THEATRE FESTIVAL, a biennial new writing festival committed to developing, presenting and promoting Singapore theatre. Renamed the OCBC SINGAPORE THEATRE FESTIVAL in 2008 and MAN SINGAPORE THEATRE FESTIVAL in 2011, this festival has to date produced 22 World Premieres of new Singapore writing, and has been 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).

In July 2013, WILD RICE launched IN THE SPOTLIGHT, a festival commissioning and presenting a representative survey of a local playwright's body of work. The inaugural festival shone a spotlight on our resident playwright, Alfian Sa'at.