

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



**“XXX: The Very WILD RICE BALL”**  
**The 15th Annual WILD RICE Charity Gala**  
Saturday, 8 October 2016, 7.00pm  
Island Ballroom, Shangri-La Hotel

## X-PECT AN X-QUISITE X-TRAVAGANZA!

W!LD RICE is thrilled to announce the 15th edition of the RICE BALL, one of the most highly anticipated events on Singapore's social calendar. Presented by Swiss luxury watch-maker Hublot, the world's leading alchemist of revolutionary timepieces, *XXX: The Very W!LD RICE BALL* will transport guests into an electrifying wonderland of sensual fantasy – part burlesque, part cabaret, and pure entertainment.

As the proud presenting sponsor of Singapore's most anticipated society balls for half a decade, Hublot is ready to celebrate art and culture to the extreme in collaboration with W!LD RICE. Hublot shares W!LD RICE's philosophy of challenging conventional mindsets, while creating exceptional pieces of art. This is in line with Hublot's "Art of Fusion" ethos, and has resulted in an extraordinary partnership that has continued to flourish from strength to strength over the past five years.

"HUBLOT and W!LD RICE are two creative enterprises that persistently push the envelope in terms of creativity, excellence and collaboration. Our association over the last five years has been extraordinary, exhilarating and, well, very sexy!" says Ivan Heng, Artistic Director of W!LD RICE. "True to form, we expect our guests will check their inhibitions at the door and express themselves freely, while benefiting W!LD RICE in its mission to create excellent theatre for Singapore and the world."

### X-citing, X-hilarating, X-traordinary!

This year, *XXX: The Very W!LD RICE BALL* promises an X-hilarating evening of seduction and sensuality. Leave your inhibitions at the door and step into an X-citing world of hidden passions and secret desires. To tantalise your taste buds, an X-quisite banquet will be laid out by the chefs of the Shangri-La Hotel.

And then, behind closed doors and for one night only, a galaxy of stars will take the stage for ***The XXX-Factor Cabaret Show***. Directed by Ivan Heng and Glen Goei, this eye-popping, heart-pumping X-travaganza will scandalise the Lion City! Some of Singapore's finest multi-talented performers, including Pam Oei and Hossan Leong, will share the stage with acclaimed burlesque artist Sukki Singapura. An international troupe of dancers will also perform dazzling routines created by world-renowned choreographer Lisa Keegan.

Last, but most certainly not least, DJ Keith Colaco will turn the heat up on the dance floor, and have the ballroom sizzling into the wee hours of the morning.

There's no doubt about it: *XXX: The Very W!LD RICE BALL* is the most X-ceptional, X-traordinary and X-hilarating event of the fundraising season. Join W!LD RICE for a sensational night to remember!

Donation tables, each seating 10 guests, are now available. For more details, please e-mail [riceball@wildrice.com.sg](mailto:riceball@wildrice.com.sg) or call Katherine Khoo at 6292-2695. Tables are priced at \$20,000, \$15,000, \$10,000 and \$6,000. As W!LD RICE is a Singapore Registered Charity, all donations will be eligible for 250% tax deduction.

## 'XXX: THE VERY WILD RICE BALL' FAST FACTS

Number of Guests	:	550
Edition Number	:	15
Directed By	:	Ivan Heng & Glen Goei
Musical Direction	:	Elaine Chan & Bang Wenfu
Choreography	:	Lisa Keegan
Sound Design	:	Shah Tahir
Costume Design	:	Frederick Lee
Hair Design	:	Ashley Lim
Make-Up Design	:	The Make-Up Room
Date	:	Saturday, 8 October 2016
Venue	:	Island Ballroom, The Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore
Time	:	7.00pm
Table Prices	:	\$20,000, \$15,000, \$10,000 and \$6,000
Secretariat (Table Sales)	:	WILD RICE LTD Katherine Khoo Tel: 6292-2695 <a href="mailto:katherinekhoo@wildrice.com.sg">katherinekhoo@wildrice.com.sg</a>
Press Contact	:	Siti Ahmad Marketing & Communications Executive Sirius Art Pte Ltd DID: 6386 0920 / Tel: 8484-0198 <a href="mailto:siti@siriusart.com.sg">siti@siriusart.com.sg</a>
Organising Committee	:	Kitch Lum Susanna Kang Ken Khoo Andrew Lau Ivan Heng Glen Goei Tony Trickett Katherine Khoo Koh Bee Bee Xu Xin'en

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## **About the RICE BALL**

The RICE BALL, now in its 15th edition, has distinguished itself as one of Singapore's most entertaining and creative fundraising events, not least because of its trademark all-star concerts.

Annually, Singapore's great and good, the members of its social and business elite, come together to show their support for W!LD RICE as it continues to fulfil its mission of creating significant, inclusive and innovative works that inspire audiences in Singapore and around the world.

Every RICE BALL is guaranteed to be fun-filled and W!LD, with guests dressed to the nines according to the night's theme, supping on a gastronomic feast created by the island's finest chefs and enjoying a concert that showcases Singapore's best theatre talents.

W!LD RICE, like all other major theatre companies from around the world, looks to the generosity and support of benefactors, patrons and sponsors in order to do its work. All funds raised from the evening's festivities will go directly towards supporting artistic and educational programming at W!LD RICE.

## Sponsors

Presenting Sponsors



With Support From



## About Hublot

“Hublot – a different way to progress,” say those who know this unique Swiss luxury watch company, which understands that each and every moment moves forward to create the future at breathtaking speed. Hublot is a dream initiated and developed by Hublot Chairman Jean-Claude Biver and CEO Ricardo Guadalupe when they took control of the brand in 2004. These two men were responsible for turning the Hublot brand into a genuine success story, with the Big Bang, Classic Fusion and Grandes Complications Collections serving as the symbols of a constantly evolving tradition. This year marks the 10th Anniversary of ALL BLACK, a pioneering concept by Hublot to create a timepiece – one that sports black hands, black indexes and a black dial – that is not explicitly about telling time.

From in-house watch complications, including award-winning minute repeaters and *tourbillons*, to revolutionary materials such as patented and scratch-resistant Magic Gold, coloured Texalium carbon fibre and transparent sapphire cases, as well as world-class collaborations with Ferrari, FIFA™ World Cup and Italia Independent, Hublot characterises itself through its “Art of Fusion” philosophy, bringing tradition into the future.

For more information, visit [www.Hublot.com](http://www.Hublot.com).

## **About The Hour Glass**

Established in 1979, The Hour Glass is one of Asia's premier luxury retail groups, with 43 boutiques in nine key cities throughout the Asia-Pacific region. The Hour Glass prides itself on being the world's leading cultural retail enterprise and a pioneer in the promotion and appreciation of contemporary luxury and horological culture. Recognised by international publications such as Monocle, Wallpaper and Vanity Fair as one of the most influential specialty retailers in the world, The Hour Glass was accorded the 'Best Watch Retail' honour by Singapore Tatler in 2014.

The Hour Glass has achieved international acclaim in the industry for its approach towards redefining specialty watch retail, which includes the creation of thematic salons and placing an emphasis on developing consumer-oriented cultural engagement platforms to promote the values of authentic luxury. L'Atelier, a boutique dedicated to expressing the patrimony of traditional watch-making; and Malmaison – the first multi-category luxury emporium in its stable to retail the finest and most carefully curated collections in horology, sartorial tailoring, fragrances and leather goods – were bestowed the 'Best Retail Concept of the Year' award by Singapore Retailers Association in 2010 and 2011 respectively. Malmaison, lauded for its unique and differentiated shopping experience, bagged the highly coveted 'Best Shopping Experience' award from the Singapore Tourism Board in 2012. L'Atelier and Malmaison were also awarded 'Most Innovative Retail Concept of the Year' by the Federation of Asia-Pacific Retail Associations (FAPRA) in 2010 and 2013 respectively.

## About W!LD RICE

W!LD 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.

Its 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 W!LD RICE's creative work, which is first and foremost a celebration of Singapore's 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; and
- 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 that nurtures young talents from the ages of 5 to 12; and
- young & W!LD, which identifies and develops Singapore's young theatre professionals.

W!LD 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, W!LD RICE presented the inaugural Singapore Theatre Festival, an event dedicated to celebrating contemporary Singaporean theatre through the development and presentation of new and original local writing. Over ten years and five editions, the Festival has collaborated with local theatre companies and artists to present 32 productions, including 19 world premieres, of new local writing. In 2013, the Festival launched 'In The Spotlight' to present a season dedicated to the works of a single local playwright. The Festival has been hailed as "the main event in the world of the arts" (SPH The Straits Times), and the "Blockbuster Event of the Year" (TODAY).

## Praise for WILD RICE

“Clearly one of the most dynamic, innovative and exciting theatre companies in town!”  
- *938LIVE*

“Theatre that’s accessible and intelligent, which combines serious intent with serious entertainment.”  
- *SPH The Straits Times*

“Always the sense that you are attending a theatrical event.”  
- *The Flying Inkpot*

“Exciting and hugely entertaining... This is rich and tender theatre!”  
- *South China Morning Post, Hong Kong*

“Moving, funny and accomplished. The stage bristles with invention.”  
- *The Dominion Post, New Zealand*

“Bold and insightful. Scintillatingly funny and thought-provoking.”  
- *SPH The Business Times*

“This is entertaining and challenging theatre.”  
- *The Age, Australia*

“The zenith of finely wrought artistry.”  
- *The Arts Magazine, Singapore*

## RICE BALL 2015

### **1965: SEXY SWINGING SINGAPURA! – WELCOME TO THE '60s!**

On 2 October 2015, W!LD RICE took a ballroom full of esteemed guests back in time to *1965: SWINGING SEXY SINGAPURA* – the 14th edition of our annual charity gala. Presented by Hublot for the fourth year in a row, the RICE BALL was a raucous affair that celebrated W!LD RICE's 15th Anniversary as well as Singapore's Golden Jubilee.

As they walked into the foyer of the Shangri-La Hotel's Island Ballroom, the 668 guests for the night found themselves transported into 1960s Singapore – by way of a sleek, snappy Vespa or a traditional rickshaw.

While wandering through a different time, guests whetted their appetites with ice-cream sandwiches or *kacang putih*, ahead of an exquisite five-course dinner designed by internationally celebrated chef Violet Oon of Violet Oon Singapore (in collaboration with Shangri-La Hotel's Executive Chef Maran Mariapin).

The *CABARET SINGAPURA* concert challenged Singapore's best and brightest theatre talents to revive some of the hottest cabaret acts of the 1960s. Pam Oei, our hostess with the mostest, rose to the occasion with rocking renditions of '60s anthems *Dancing In The Street* and *Proud Mary*.

She was followed on stage by Judee Tan, Siti Khalijah, Tony Eusoff, Benjamin Kheng, Sezairi and Rishi Budhrani, who sang, danced and joked their way into everyone's hearts.

Ivan Heng, Artistic Director of W!LD RICE, presented the company's report card for the year during the Ball. From *Public Enemy* to *Another Country*, from *HOTEL* to a Brisbane tour for *The Importance of Being Earnest*, it was W!LD RICE's most ambitious season yet.

"Thank you for empowering us to reflect on the problems, and also to imagine the possibilities, of our times," said Ivan. "Thank you for joining us in creating beautiful memories and, ultimately, a document of our history for the generations to come."





