

THE ^{Bowl} RICE BALL 2021

DON'T CALL HIM MR. MARI KITA

A FUNDRAISER IN AID OF WILD RICE

29 & 30 OCT, 6PM & 9PM | THE NGEE ANN KONGSI THEATRE

JULIAN WONG – Writer, Music Director, Arranger, Performer & Pianist

Julian is a composer, arranger and music director. Selected composing credits: *P. Ramlee Suite* for re: mix; Marina Bay Singapore Countdown (2014-2016); Wild Rice's *Peter Pan in Serangoon Gardens*, *The Emperor's New Clothes*, *The Amazing Celestial Race*; Spare Room Productions' *Tropicana*; Esplanade's *The Feelings Farm*; The Theatre Practice's *Day I Met The Prince*, the wee *Question Mark* trilogy, *I Came At Last to the Seas*; The Necessary Stage's *Actor, Forty*.

Selected music-directing credits: *Spotlight Singapore* (Mexico City), Goh Lay Kuan's *Returning* (Singapore International Festival of the Arts), Mark Chan's *Flight of the Jade Bird* (Hong Kong New Vision Arts Festival), *Liao Zhai Rocks!* (Shanghai International Musical Festival 2019), *If There're Seasons* (The Theatre Practice), *Forever Young* (Sing'theatre), *Lao Jiu The Musical* (Kuo Pao Kun Festival 2012), *The Nursery Rhymes Project*, *Sensing the Dark* (Esplanade Flipside 2018), Jason Robert Brown's *The Last Five Years* (Dream Academy), *ChildAid* (2014, 2016), Pam Oei's *Faghag*, Robin Goh's *Happy Robin* and Hossan Leong's *Hossan-AH! 50*. Julian has played piano and violin for Ramli Sarip, Addy Cradle, and Art Fazil. He was Kit Chan's pianist for her *Spellbound* concert tour (2015-2016).

Julian has conducted and arranged for Joyful Strings, Ministry of Bellz, Orchestra of the Music Makers, Metropolitan Festival Orchestra, Rave Harps, Bossa Celli and many more. Julian's beloved teachers include Mr. Iskandar Ismail, Ms. Sylvia Khoo and Ms. Belinda Foo. Julian studied at Berklee College of Music on a National Arts Council Arts Scholarship, where he received Berklee's Piano Department Achievement Award (2012) and Professional Music Excellence Award (2013), as well as the Alex Ulanowski Award in 2013 upon his graduation.

CAST & MUSICIANS

ABDUL WAFI ABDUL RASHID – Performer

As a member of ITE West Unplugged, Wafi has performed at *SCAPE and in ITE Vocal XChange (2017-2019). Wafi has also performed in the Esplanade's Red Dot August and Voices Festivals, as well as ITE's Singer-Songwriter Showcase in 2020. He collaborated with ExtraOrdinary Horizons for Esplanade's *Foreword February* in 2018 and Purple Parade 2019. Instagram: @waaaffeee

HANNAH NORDIN – Performer

Hannah is pursuing her Diploma in Visual Communications at Singapore Polytechnic. Her band from ITE's That Acappella Group won first place in the College category at the 2018 A Cappella Championships. Hannah has sung at the 2015 Singapore Grand Prix, as well as in ITE Vocal XChange (2015-2019), Esplanade's Voices Festival (2015-2018), Foreword February (2018) and *Sensing the Dark*.

ROHANIAH SA'ID – Performer

Hani graduated from LASALLE College of the Arts with a Diploma in Performance. She is pursuing her BA(Hons) in Musical Theatre. Hani is a recipient of the ITE CCA Medal and the ITE Arts Excellence Award. She has performed in the President's Star Charity (2016), ChildAid 2016 and *Sensing the Dark* (2018).

LEONARD MIKHAIL – Acoustic Guitarist

Mik is an acoustic guitarist pursuing his Diploma in Music at LASALLE College of the Arts. He has performed in Light to Night Festival 2019, ITE Vocal XChange (2018-2019) and ITE's Singer-Songwriter Showcase 2020. Mik is very grateful and blessed to be part of a Wild Rice show for the first time. Instagram: @leoxmik

RIDUAN ZALANI – Percussionist

One of Singapore's most prominent artists, Riduan has demonstrated great versatility throughout his career as both a performer and producer in the field of drums and percussion. He is the Co-Founder and Artistic Director of Nadi Singapura, an ensemble that is determined to etch its brand of traditional Malay drums and music performance into the hearts and minds of audiences.

RYAN SIM – Cellist

Ryan is a graduate of the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music and the Robert Schumann Hochschule Düsseldorf in Germany. An avid musician and teacher, Ryan often performs and freelances with local ensembles such as re:Sound, the Metropolitan Festival Orchestra, the Singapore Lyric Opera Orchestra and the Singapore Symphony Orchestra. Ryan is also the leader and a founding member of Singapore's premier cello quartet, Bossa Celli.

COLIN YONG – Electric Bassist

This session bass and flute player has performed in numerous music/jazz festivals in cities like Toronto, Chicago, New York, Berlin, Cape Town, Mexico City, Tokyo, Shanghai and Beijing. He has also worked with pop artistes Joanna Dong, Kit Chan, TF Boys and Wallace Chung. Local musical theatre credits include most of Wild Rice's annual holiday musicals, right up to *The Amazing Celestial Race* (2021); Dream Academy's *Dim Sim Dollies* and *Broadway Beng*; The Theatre Practice's *If There're Seasons* and Toy Factory's *Glass Anatomy*. Colin exclusively uses F-Bass and La Bella F-Bass strings.

CREATIVE TEAM

IVAN HENG – Director & Set Designer

Ivan is one of Singapore's most prominent and dynamic creative personalities. In a pioneering career spanning three decades, Ivan has directed, acted in and designed many landmark Singapore theatre productions. Ivan founded Wild Rice in 2000. Under his leadership, the company has reached an audience of over a million people, and is today at the vanguard of creating theatre with a distinctive Singaporean voice. Its ground-breaking theatre complex opened in September 2019 with a mission to create and present the best of Singapore theatre, nurture young artists and audiences, and leave a legacy of artistic excellence for generations to come. In 2013, Ivan was awarded the Cultural Medallion, Singapore's highest cultural honour.

ALFIAN SA'AT – Dramaturg

Alfian is the Resident Playwright of Wild Rice. He has been nominated at the Straits Times Life! Theatre Awards for Best Original Script 11 times, and has received the award four times. His plays with Wild Rice include *HOTEL* (with Marcia Vanderstraaten), *The Asian Boys Trilogy*, *Cooling-Off Day*, *The Optic Trilogy* and *Homesick*. He was the winner of the Golden Point Award for Poetry and the National Arts Council Young Artist Award for Literature in 2001. His publications include *Collected Plays One, Two and Three*; poetry collections *One Fierce Hour*, *A History of Amnesia* and *The Invisible Manuscript*; and short story collections *Corridor* and *Malay Sketches*.

ALBERTA WILEO – Lighting Designer

Alberta is a freelance lighting designer and theatre artist. Over the past 18 years, he has designed for many professional performing arts companies in Singapore – including Arts Fission, Action Theatre, Singapore Repertory Theatre, Singapore Symphony Orchestra and more – as well as around the world from Malaysia to Indonesia, Japan, France and the USA. He would like to express his gratitude to Wild Rice and director Ivan Heng for their trust in bringing him on board to paint *Don't Call Him Mr. Mari Kita* with light.

LIM CHENG YI – Sound Designer

Cheng Yi graduated from School Of Music & the Arts in 2015 in Music Production and Sound Engineering. Since 2016, he has engineered sound under Audio Image Engineering for Wild Rice's Singapore Theatre Festival, The Theatre Practice's *Four Horse Road*, 97.2FM's birthday musical (*Hero 来咯*) and ITE's Vocal XChange from 2017 to 2019. During the pandemic, he started dabbling in video design, and produced the viral *Living CoVida Loca* parody video. He spends his free time with his anime figurines.

HAFEEZ HASSAN – Choreographer

Hafeez is a movement coach, dancer and choreographer who started out as a street dancer and has since clinched many awards in various competitions. After exploring more genres in dance, he began to perform in and choreograph for various shows and events such as the Youth Olympic Games, *Burning Man* and *The Emperor's New Clothes*, to name a few. He is part of Ekta Singapura, a dance collective that explores Asian contemporary arts.

HE SHUMING – Multimedia Designer

Shuming is a screenwriter and director. He graduated with a MFA in Directing from the prestigious American Film Institute (AFI) Conservatory in Los Angeles. Shuming was conferred the Young Artist Award in 2019 by the National Arts Council. He has designed multimedia for *Faghag* (Wild Rice), as well as *Civilised* and *Singapore* (The Necessary Stage). He is currently in pre-production for his debut feature film, *Ajoomma*.

FREDERICK LEE – Costume Designer

One of Singapore's most sought-after designers, Frederick's *couture* fashion-as-performance-art theatricality has garnered him numerous awards and accolades. Most recently, he was named Best International Designer of the Year at Vietnam Fashion Week 2019. To support his friends in the theatre, Frederick has designed costumes for Wild Rice's *La Cage Aux Folles* and *The Importance of Being Earnest*; Dream Academy's *Dim Sum Dollies* and The Theatre Practice's *If There're Seasons*, among others. He has won the Best Costume Design Award at the Straits Times Life! Theatre Awards thrice. Frederick was also the director of costumes for the 2008 and 2009 National Day Parades, as well as the 2010 Youth Olympic Games.

ASHLEY LIM – Hair Designer

Ashley started his hairstyling career in 1986. In 1999, he set up Ashley Salon to further pursue his dedication towards the art of hairdressing, especially for the theatre. He has worked on over 300 productions locally and abroad, and recently took home the Lifetime Achievement Award for Theatre, presented by Mediacorp.

BOBBIE NG – Make-Up Designer

Bobbie is the co-founder of The Make Up Room, and has been passionately involved in designing make-up for local theatre productions for the past 20 years. She first collaborated with Wild Rice on *Blithe Spirit* in 2001. Since then, she has fostered great friendships with many of Singapore's best theatre-makers.