

**WILD
RICE**



**DIRECTED BY
PAM OEI**

**BOOK BY
THOMAS LIM**

**LYRICS BY
JOEL TAN**

**MUSIC BY
JULIAN WONG**

PINOCCHIO

**17 NOVEMBER – 24 DECEMBER 2022
THE NGEE ANN KONGSI THEATRE @ WILD RICE**

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**DOWNLOAD OUR
ACTIVITY BOOK!**



**TAKE OUR
POST-SHOW SURVEY**



SYNOPSIS

In this cheekily on-the-nose musical adaptation of the classic fairy tale, *Wild Rice* brings one of the world's most beloved characters to the Singapore stage. Meet Pinocchio, a wooden puppet crafted with loving care by Geppetto – a kind, humble carpenter who has always dreamt of becoming a father.

With a wish and a touch of fairy magic, Pinocchio springs to life... but there are some strings attached! To become a real boy, Pinocchio must first prove himself to be brave, true and kind. It's a challenge the little puppet is determined to overcome – until he is led astray by a pair of wily con artists, and swept up in a madcap misadventure that takes him from the tempting promise of the circus to the deepest depths of the fathomless sea.

The perfect holiday treat for you and your loved ones, *Pinocchio* is a hilarious and heartwarming celebration of family, friendship and the importance of being true to yourself. Wood we lie to you? 🤔

MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



Welcome to *Pinocchio*!

When we first dreamt up the Wild Rice pantomime close to two decades ago, we wanted to make theatre that would delight and entertain people of all ages. We hoped these shows, cheekily adapted from beloved fairy tales and legends from all over the world, would become a holiday tradition for Singapore audiences and their families.

20 years later, we are still going strong. *Pinocchio* is our 16th original holiday musical – and the first one in three long years to be playing to a full-capacity audience in our theatre. After dealing with pandemic restrictions for so long, it’s wonderful to finally have the First Stage Kids back on stage with us again. With Pam Oei brilliantly helming a dream team, including Thomas Lim, Julian Wong, Joel Tan and all of our designers, as well as actors “old and new”, it feels very much like a *Peter Pan in Serangoon Gardens* reunion and a return to form. Congratulations and thank you all so much for making magic with this story we all know and love.

As 2022 draws to a close, it’s the perfect time to reflect on and celebrate what we have all achieved over the past year. For Wild Rice, we have beaten the odds to stage 10 productions even as the pandemic continued to throw challenges our way.

We are proud to have premiered four brand-new works – *Tartuffe: The Imposter*, *Don’t Call Him Mr. Mari Kita*, *Pulau Ujong: Island at the End* and, of course, *Pinocchio*. Our 20th-anniversary production of *Animal Farm* electrified audiences. We also brought back shows that played to limited-capacity houses or were postponed or cancelled, such as *The Amazing Celestial Race*, *Schooled*, *Straight Acting* and *Faghag*. We even found time to fly the Singapore flag high with *The Butterfly Lovers*, a cross-cultural collaboration with Victorian Opera that won acclaim at its world premiere in Melbourne and will open in Singapore next May.

In all, Wild Rice has entertained an audience of 50,000 people and supported Singapore’s theatre industry by providing 350 jobs for our community this year. We have nurtured and inspired over 4,000 children and young people through our Youth and Education Division, and reached out to Singapore’s less fortunate and marginalised communities through our Gift of Theatre programme.

It has been the most worthwhile of journeys, albeit a very challenging one, and we could not have pulled it off without the kindness and generosity of our Angels, our supporters, and our audiences. We would like to say a special thank you to the National Arts Council, the Cultural Matching Fund, AL Wealth Partners, Frasers Hospitality and 3 Embers for your abiding support. Thank you all, from the bottom of our hearts, for supporting Wild Rice and Singapore theatre – for believing in us, our mission and our stories.

Finally, thank you for joining us in our theatre today. We hope the message of *Pinocchio* – that we can overcome our trials and tribulations by being brave, true and kind - resonates with you, as it does for all of us at Wild Rice.

Here’s wishing you and your loved ones a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!

IVAN HENG

Founding Artistic Director

Cultural Medallion 2013

MESSAGE FROM THE PLAYWRIGHT



I don't recall where or when I first heard about the story of *Pinocchio* – I think it might have been from one of those Ladybird books when I was a child.

But I do remember telling a lie while looking into the mirror to see if my nose grew longer. Even though it didn't, I continued checking the mirror a few times a day after that, just to be sure. And that was the power of Carlo Collodi's *The Adventures of Pinocchio* – it made me take a good look at myself every once in a while.

It has been a wonderful experience working on this production of *Pinocchio*. My heartfelt gratitude goes out to the amazing group of co-creators that I had the privilege to work and dream with – lyricist Joel Tan, composer Julian Wong and director Pam Oei.

To the actors and the First Stage performers, a big thank you for being such fun, energetic and generous collaborators.

As we can all probably imagine, the story of *Pinocchio* is by no means an easy one to stage (and not just because of the limits of human anatomy!). My deepest appreciation goes out to the creative, production and technical teams who had to contend with quite a number of stage directions that simply contain the words, 'magically appear'.

And of course, thank you, the audience, for being here to share this with us.

Happy holidays!

THOMAS LIM

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Pinocchio explores many themes, but the one that resonates with me the most is parenthood. For me, every day is a steep learning curve as I strive to be the best parent for my kid – and often fail. Was I too harsh, could I have been a better listener, did I hurt his feelings, could I have said that differently? Parenting is tough. And yet, I daresay my son has taught me more about life and love than I could ever have expected.

When Ivan Heng first asked me to direct *Pinocchio*, I was in a cloudy COVID state of mind – we did not know if theatres would be back at full capacity, or if live musicians would be allowed, much less the children who perform on stage as the First Stage Kids.

I also thought, how come I always *kena* the difficult pantos? In 2015's *The Emperor's New Clothes*, I had to find a way to get a naked Emperor onstage, and still be rated 'G' for a children's show. In 2017's *Mama White Snake*, I had to direct two Singaporean theatre doyens, Glen Goei and Ivan Heng, while they executed *wushu* and Chinese opera moves! And now in *Pinocchio*, I have to make a boy's nose grow and get my actors inside the belly of a whale? Wait, what. There are donkeys too?!?

But I knew I had Thomas Lim writing the book, Julian Wong composing the beautiful music, and Joel Tan penning the delightful lyrics so, of course, I had to say yes. And I also have the formidable force of the Wild Rice company behind me, as well as a Creative, Production and Stage Management team comprising the very best talents in Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand. Many, many people have held my hand throughout this journey and I am very grateful for it. A big shout-out to Melissa Teoh, our boss lady who runs the entire Production Ship – THANK YOU.

In addition, I would like to say a special thank you to the cast:

Ebi Shankara, the first person I called – what a kind and beautiful man. He is a first-time father to an 18-month-old and I knew he would lend great depth to Geppetto.

Dwayne Lau, a true friend and collaborator, always game for anything I throw at him and an enthusiastic problem solver.

Michelle Ler, a young, rising quadruple threat (she acts, sings, dances and composes music) – the world had better watch out for her!

Vester Ng, a wonderful, generous performer who has made us howl with laughter countless times in rehearsals.

Siti K, my sister from another mister. Comic timing like hers cannot be taught, this girl can do ANYTHING.

And, finally, Mae Elliessa. She played Wendy when I played Peter Pan in 2019, and I am still trying to reckon with the amount of talent that resides in her. It really is astounding. In my mind, nobody could have been a more perfect *Pinocchio*.

A big thank you also to my 11-year-old son, SM, who has endured my absence for the last eight weeks — Mama dedicates this work to you.

PAM OEI

SONG LIST

ACT 1

ALMOST REAL

Geppetto

P-PLATE FAIRY / INCANTATION

Blue Fairy, Little Blue Fairies

BRAVE, TRUE AND KIND

Blue Fairy

HOPPER

G-Hopper, Company

A REAL BOY

Company

I'VE JUST BEEN SCAMMED

Pinocchio, G-Hopper, Company

GENTLY GOES THE PARENT'S HAND

Geppetto, Blue Fairy, Company

HALF TRUTHS

Pinocchio, Frank Lee, Lucky Lee

THE OTHER SIDE

Pinocchio, Geppetto, G-Hopper, Blue Fairy,
Frank Lee, Lucky Lee, Company

ACT 2

DON'T TELL ME WHAT TO DO

Pinocchio, Frank Lee, Lucky Lee, Company

DON'S REPRISE

Don

WE'VE JUST BEEN CONNED

Pinocchio, Frank Lee, Lucky Lee

THIS IS LOVE, IN THE END

Pinocchio, Geppetto

BRAVE, TRUE AND KIND (REPRISE)

Blue Fairy

A REAL BOY (REPRISE) / BRAVE, TRUE AND KIND (FINALE)

Company

**LISTEN TO OUR CAST
RECORDING ON SPOTIFY**



ABOUT THE WILD RICE HOLIDAY MUSICAL

In 2003, Wild Rice decided to bring the traditional British pantomime to the Singapore stage – with a local twist, of course! Since then, the Wild Rice holiday musical has entertained more than 246,000 people of all ages and from all walks of life, and has become **one of the most eagerly anticipated events of the holiday season and the Singapore theatre calendar**.

Here are some facts and trivia about our holiday musical that we hope will enrich your enjoyment of *Pinocchio*!

ORIGINS & HISTORY



Hansel & Gretel (2012)

Wild Rice’s annual holiday musical was **inspired by the Christmas pantomime** – a uniquely British theatre institution that dates back to the Middle Ages. Tracing its roots to the raucous, no-holds-barred comedy of the Italian *commedia dell’arte* and British music hall traditions, the pantomime has proven expansive enough to embrace all forms of comedy – from slapstick to satire, stand-up and more.

Typical pantomimes are also a riot of song and dance, with eclectic scores made up of popular songs of the day with rewritten lyrics.

At the beginning, Wild Rice’s pantomimes shared many of these traits. Since then, we have continued challenging the form and limits of the pantomime. Today, **our pantomimes are full-fledged original musicals comparable to anything you’ll see on Broadway or in the West End**, created by some of Singapore’s best playwrights and composers.

REINVENTING A FAMILIAR STORY



Monkey Goes West (2016)

Pantomimes are based on well-known stories that place an emphasis on morality and romance – good triumphs over evil, true love conquers all, and everyone lives happily ever after. To this end, **Wild Rice has revised and revamped beloved fairy tales and folk legends from all over the world for Singapore audiences!**

POLITICAL INCORRECTNESS



The Emperor's New Clothes (2015)

Pantomimes are never politically correct. They poke both gentle and cruel fun at our human foibles and, through humour, bring us face to face with our greed, prejudice, cowardice and dishonesty. **No one in authority is safe** – parents, royalty, political personalities and public institutions are all figures of fun and targets for mockery. If only we had more of a sense of humour in everyday life!

CROSS-DRESSING



Mama White Snake (2017)

Cross-dressing has long been a hallmark of the pantomime. Typically, its **‘leading lady’ – or Dame** – is a man dressed as a woman, playing the villain, the hero’s mother or a funny sidekick. The subversive thrill that comes from gender-bending roles and characters also lends itself to endless comedic opportunities.

AGE-LESS THEATRE



Peter Pan in Serangoon Gardens (2019)

Billed as **theatre for kids from the ages of 5 to 105**, the pantomime brings out the children in audiences – both the young and the young at heart – by giving them permission to misbehave. **Audience participation is very much encouraged**, as the success of the show relies on an overt complicity between actor and audience.

There is something for everybody in a pantomime, which is what makes it **family entertainment**. Children will be delighted by the imaginative twists given to well-loved tales, while mums and dads will enjoy (or cringe at!) the below-the-belt innuendos and double entendres that spice up the show.

ACTIVITY BOOK



To help our young audiences explore, better understand and keep engaging with the issues and ideas raised in *Pinocchio*, Wild Rice's Youth & Education department has created this Activity Book.

Download for fun games and activities to keep your children thinking and talking about the show even after they leave the theatre!

**DOWNLOAD OUR
ACTIVITY BOOK!**



CAST



MAE ELLIESSA

Pinocchio

Mae first started performing in musical revues under the tutelage of Farah Sulaiman and Sabrina Hassan. Over the years, Mae has had the privilege to work with several Malaysian and Singaporean production companies, including PAN Productions, DAMA Asia, Wild Rice and Pangdemonium. Her work also extends into voiceover and dubbing, TV ads and commercials, dance and theme parks. Theatre credits: ‘Wendy’, *Peter Pan in Serangoon Gardens* (2019); ‘Little Sally’, *Urinetown* (2019); ‘Natalie’, *Next to Normal* (2019); ‘Kathy’, *Company* (2018); ‘Anne’, *La Cage Aux Folles* (2017); *Merrily We Roll Along* (2014); *The Producers* (2013); *The Wizard of Oz* (2012).



EBI SHANKARA

Geppetto

Ebi graduated from the Nanyang Academy Of Fine Arts in 2008 with a Diploma and from University of Essex in 2012 with a First Class Honours Degree in Acting. Acting credits include Wild Rice’s *Cinderel-LAH!* and *Oi! Sleeping Beauty*, as well as ‘Horse’ in Pangdemonium’s production of *The Full Monty* and ‘Krishna’ in Michael Chiang’s *Army Daze The Musical*. He is best remembered for playing ‘Vinod’ in The Finger Players’ restaging of Haresh Sharma’s *Off Centre* and ‘Kenneth Bala’ on hit TV series *KIN*. Ebi is proudly represented by FLY Entertainment.



SITI KHALIJAH ZAINAL

G-Hopper

Siti made her debut as a full-time theatre actress after she attended The Necessary Stage’s year-long Theatre for Youth Ensemble programme in 2003. She considers herself very lucky to have since worked with a wide range of theatre companies, both locally and internationally. She has won the Best Actress Award twice at the Straits Times Life! Theatre Awards for her performances in *Model Citizens* (2010) and *Off Centre* (2015). She was awarded the Young Artist Award by the National Arts Council in 2014.



DWAYNE LAU

Blue Fairy / Don

A graduate of NUS’ Theatre Studies Programme, Dwayne teaches drama and regularly performs in children’s theatre and comedy. He also played the Record Keeper in SRT’s epic musical, *Forbidden City*. Credits with Wild Rice include *HOTEL*, *La Cage Aux Folles*, *Hansel & Gretel*, *A \$ingapore Carol*, *Peter Pan in Serangoon Gardens*, *The Amazing Celestial Race* and *Animal Farm*.



MICHELLE LER

Lucky Lee

Michelle is a freelance performer and musician. In 2018, she graduated as the valedictorian of the BA (Hons) Musical Theatre programme from LASALLE College of the Arts. She has since been involved in local theatre productions as a performer, assistant music director, keyboardist and composer. Michelle is more than excited to be a part of this production, and hopes to spread empathy and comfort through her music and performances.



VESTER NG

Frank Lee

Vester has performed in numerous films and theatre productions. As an actor, Vester is committed to character-building, always giving more than what the director demands. Along with his undeniable talent, Vester is a real livewire. He has the ability to bring out the best in all of his fellow actors, regardless of age or experience.

MUSICIANS



FERI SUSANTO

Guitarist

Feri is a guitarist and guitar educator. Theatre credits include several musicals like *Peter Pan in Serangoon Gardens*, *Dim Sum Dollies: The History of Singapore Part 1*, *Lao Jiu The Musical*, *If There're Seasons* and *Liao Zhai Rocks!* (Shanghai International Music Festival, 2019). He has also accompanied Li Fei Hui and Marcus Chin in concert and appeared in Hollywood movie *Crazy Rich Asians*. Feri is grateful to be working with some of Singapore's best talents on *Pinocchio*.



COLIN YONG

Bassist

As a bass and flute player, Colin has performed in music festivals all over the world. He has worked with pop artistes Joanna Dong, Kit Chan, TFBoys and Wallace Chung. Theatre credits include most of Wild Rice's annual holiday musicals, Dream Academy's *Dim Sim Dollies* and Toy Factory's *Glass Anatomy*. Colin is currently a composer/producer with Universal Production Music; his original compositions can be heard in *Ms. Marvel* on Disney+ and numerous advertisements. Colin exclusively uses F Bass instruments, La Bella F-Bass strings and FAtfreq custom in-ear monitors.



BRANDON WONG

Bassist

Brandon's name is synonymous with the classical, jazz, pop and musical theatre scenes in Singapore. He is a brilliantly versatile double bassist and electric bassist. The advent of COVID has transformed Brandon into a man with many roles – a musician, a luthier, a recording producer and engineer and, finally, the father of a lovely five-month-old daughter, Carmelle. Brandon is thrilled to be working with Wild Rice on *Pinocchio*!

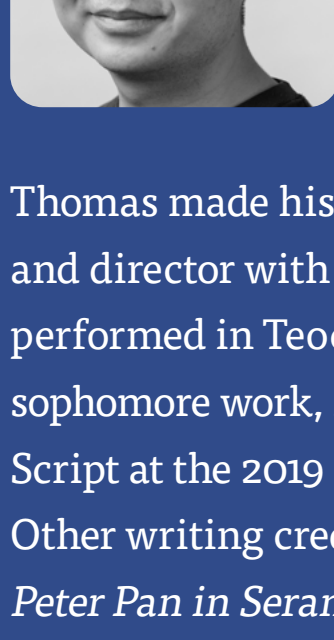


RIZAL SANIP

Drummer

An accomplished live performer and studio musician, Rizal plays the drums, percussion and trumpet. He has worked with Singapore's finest theatre companies on productions such as *Peter Pan in Serangoon Gardens*, *A Singapore Carol*, *La Cage Aux Folles*, *Into The Woods*, *Dim Sum Dollies*, *881 The Musical*, *The LKY Musical*, *Rent*, *Next To Normal*, *Fun Home*, *The Great Wall* and *The Lion King*. Rizal has also played in concerts for Kit Chan, Dick Lee and JJ Lin. He feels blessed to have a career in music and is thrilled to be involved in another Wild Rice production.

CREATIVE TEAM



THOMAS LIM

Playwright

Thomas made his professional debut as a playwright and director with *Grandmother Tongue*, which is performed in Teochew, English and Mandarin. His sophomore work, *Supervision*, won Best Original Script at the 2019 Straits Times Life! Theatre Awards. Other writing credits include *Straight Acting* and *Peter Pan in Serangoon Gardens*. He has worked as a drama educator in secondary schools and junior colleges across Singapore, and is currently the Associate Artistic Director for Youth and Education at Wild Rice.

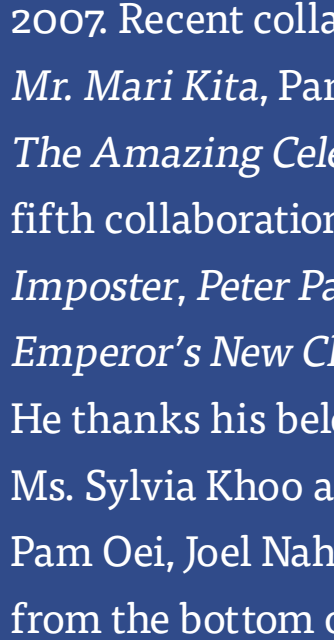


PAM OEI

Director

Pam has been in over 100 theatre, television and film productions. Theatre acting credits include the critically acclaimed *Faghag*, *HOTEL*, *Animal Farm*, *Everything But The Brain*, *Rent* and *Boeing Boeing*. She is probably best known for being one third of Singapore's favourite cabaret trio, The Dim Sum Dollies. Her directing credits for Wild Rice include *Mama White Snake*, *Boeing Boeing*, *The Emperor's New Clothes* and *Hansel & Gretel*. This multitasking wife and mother is also the frontwoman of Singaporean rock band Ugly In The Morning. Their latest album can be found [here](#).

📷 @pam_oei



JOEL TAN

Lyracist

Joel's recent work in Singapore includes *Tartuffe: The Imposter* (Wild Rice), *Tango* (Pangdemonium), *Mosaic* (M1 Fringe Festival) and *Café* (Twenty Something Theatre Festival). He first worked with Wild Rice in 2011 on the Singapore Theatre Festival premiere of his play, *Family Outing*. In the UK, recent productions include *No Particular Order* (Theatre 503), *When the Daffodils* (Orange Tree Theatre) and *Living Newspaper* (The Royal Court).

He is on commission with Royal Court Theatre, Headlong Theatre and Almeida Theatre.



JULIAN WONG

Composer & Arranger

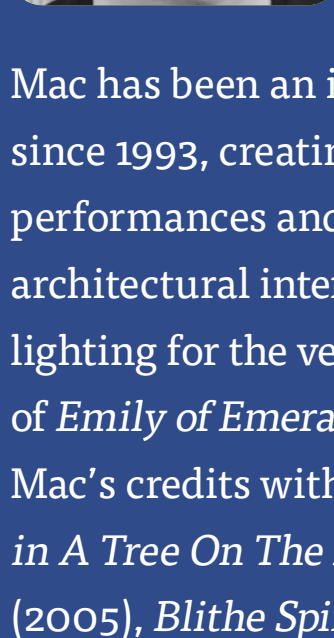
Julian has been making music with Wild Rice since 2007. Recent collaborations include *Don't Call Him Mr. Mari Kita*, Pam Oei's *Faghag*, and Dwayne Lau's *The Amazing Celestial Race*. *Pinocchio* is Julian's fifth collaboration with Joel Tan after *Tartuffe: The Imposter*, *Peter Pan in Serangoon Gardens*, *The Emperor's New Clothes* and *Tropicana The Musical*. He thanks his beloved teachers Mr. Iskandar Ismail, Ms. Sylvia Khoo and Ms. Belinda Foo. He also thanks Pam Oei, Joel Nah and the company of *Pinocchio* from the bottom of his heart.



JOEL NAH

Music Director & Keyboardist

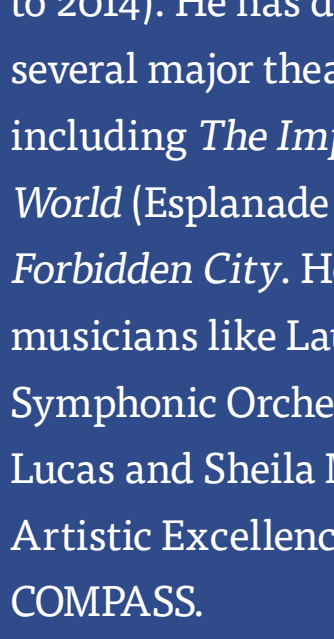
Joel is thankful to once again be working on a Wild Rice pantomime. Selected music directing credits: *Peter And The Starcatcher* (2018), *Forbidden City* (2017), *Rent* (2016), *Next To Normal* (2013), *Hansel & Gretel* (2012). As keyboardist: *Evita* (2018), *Wicked* (2016, 2011), *Phantom of the Opera* (2013), *The Lion King* (2011). Joel is also a composer, specialising in film, TV and video games. He counts his two kiddos, aged eleven and nine, as his best compositions.



GINO BABAGAY

Choreographer

Gino is a full-time dancer and choreographer who has worked with companies like Wild Rice, Dream Academy, Cake Theatrical Productions and Mediacorp. Recent choreography credits of which he is most proud include *Dim Sum Dollies: Still Steam*, *Kumar Locks Down* and *Ceremonial Enactments*, the last of which he assistant-directed.



WONG CHEE WAI

Set Designer

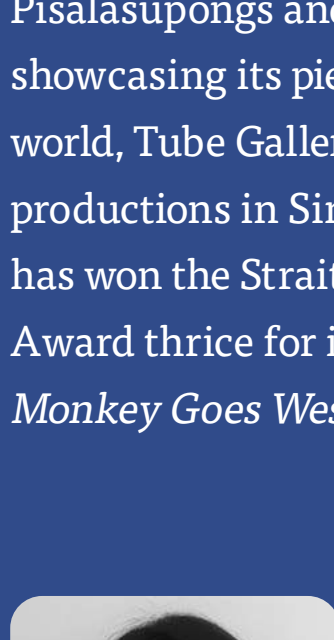
Chee Wai is a full-time freelance set designer. He has designed for and worked with various performing arts companies in Singapore. Some of his recent works with Wild Rice include *Tartuffe: The Imposter*, *The Good Citizen*, *Momotaro and the Magnificent Peach*, *Straight Acting*, *The Amazing Celestial Race*, *Mine*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Merdeka / 獨立 / தந்திரம்*, *Emily of Emerald Hill*, *Supervision*, *Mama White Snake*, *HOTEL* and *Monkey Goes West*.



MAC CHAN

Lighting Designer

Mac has been an independent lighting designer since 1993, creating work not only for theatrical performances and live entertainment, but also architectural interior projects. Mac designed the lighting for the very first Wild Rice production of *Emily of Emerald Hill* in 1999. The long list of Mac's credits with Wild Rice includes *The Woman in A Tree On The Hill* (2001), *Oi! Sleeping Beauty!!* (2005), *Blithe Spirit* (2007), *Beauty World* (2008), *The Importance Of Being Earnest* (2008) and *La Cage Aux Folles* (2012 & 2017).



SHAH TAHIR

Sound Designer

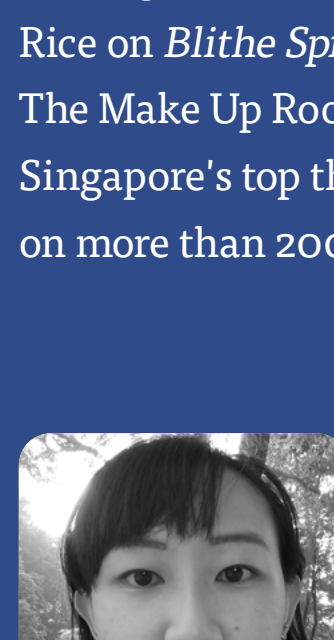
Shah has worked as a sound engineer and designer on projects such as the National Day Parade (2009-2022), the 2016 SEA Games and Child Aid (2010 to 2014). He has designed and mixed audio for several major theatrical productions in Singapore, including *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Beauty World* (Esplanade Theatre), *If There're Seasons* and *Forbidden City*. He has also worked with renowned musicians like Laura Fygi (and the Singapore Symphonic Orchestra), Dick Lee, Jacintha, Prema Lucas and Sheila Majid. In 2015, he was given the Artistic Excellence Award in Sound Engineering by COMPASS.



KOO CHIA MENG

Multimedia Designer

Trained in filmmaking, Chia Meng has been involved in film production and multimedia design since 2009. Chia Meng and co-designer Andrew Robert Ng received the Best Multimedia Design Award for their work on Wild Rice's *Supervision* at the 2019 Straits Times Life! Theatre Awards. Chia Meng is currently the Creative Director of Fiction Shore, a design collective specialising in film and theatre.



MAXIMILIAN LIANG

Multimedia Designer

When he was 10, Maximilian made money editing photo montages on a flip phone for classmates confessing their puppy love. This led to a life obsessed with filmmaking and the power of visual expression. A newcomer in the field of multimedia design, Maximilian's credits include productions by Wild Rice, How Drama, Dream Academy and The TENG Company, as well as various editions of the National Day Parade (2018, 2020, 2021 and 2022).



TUBE GALLERY

Costume Designer

Tube Gallery, a renowned Bangkok-based fashion house, comprises two dynamic designers - Saksit Pisalasupongs and Phisit Jongnarangsin. Beyond showcasing its pieces at fashion shows all over the world, Tube Gallery has designed costumes for stage productions in Singapore, Thailand and Korea. It has won the Straits Times Life! Best Costume Design Award thrice for its work on *881 The Musical*, *Monkey Goes West* and *Private Parts*.

JOYCE GAN

Prop Designer

Joyce is a prop designer and art director for stage and screen. Recent highlights include Wild Rice's *Tartuffe: The Imposter*, *The Amazing Celestial Race* and *Momotaro and the Magnificent Peach*, The Theatre Practice's *The Nursery Rhymes Project 3* and okto's alien sitcom, *What On Earth*.

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 the theatre for the past 20 years. She enjoys the challenge of crafting looks that serve the story, ranging from nude and realistic to colourful and avant-garde. Bobbie first collaborated with Wild Rice on *Blithe Spirit* in 2001. Since then, Bobbie and The Make Up Room have worked with several of Singapore's top theatre companies and arts festivals on more than 200 local theatre productions.

JEANNETTE CHONG

Stage Manager

Jeannette is a freelance theatre production and stage manager. She loves working on projects that challenge her to better her craft. Making processes enjoyable and excitable through paperwork is her obsession. She is affiliated with SAtheCollective, Five Stones Theatre and the Asian Theatre for Young Audiences (TYA) Network.



CREDITS

CAST

Mae Elliessa
Ebi Shankara
Siti Khalijah Zainal
Dwayne Lau
Michelle Ler
Vester Ng

FIRST STAGE KIDS

CAST A

Aerin Chew
Jacob Cotting-Yeo
Isabella Jong
Destinee Tan
Kate Tay
Shannon Teo

CAST B

Teagan Chan
Edward Lysander Clark
Edlin Lim
Aria Rei Tan
Elise Thoo
Zickry Ilhan

MUSICIANS

Keyboardist
Guitarist
Bassists

Joel Nah
Feri Susanto
Colin Yong
Brandon Wong
Rizal Sanip

Drummer

CREATIVE TEAM

Playwright
Director
Lyricist
Composer & Arranger
Music Director
Choreographer
Set Designer
Lighting Designer
Sound Designer
Multimedia Designers

Thomas Lim
Pam Oei
Joel Tan
Julian Wong
Joel Nah
Gino Babagay
Wong Chee Wai
Mac Chan
Shah Tahir
Koo Chia Meng
Maximilian Liang
Tube Gallery
Joyce Gan
Ashley Lim
Bobbie Ng

Costume Designer
Prop Designer
Hair Designer
Make-Up Designer

PRODUCTION TEAM

Producer
Head, Production
Technical Manager
Production Co-ordinators

Koh Bee Bee
Melissa Teoh
David Sagaya
Angela Ee
Victoria Anna Wong
Jeannette Chong
Alethea Koh
Anne Lee
Marilyn Chew
Fithriyaani Binte Zainuddin
Shamirul Aizan
Nearra Tng
Ahmad Hafriz Bin Berkath
Muhammad Azhar Bin Azman
Xu Xin'en
Chap Heng
Howie Kim
Eng Hwee Jien
Patricia Gabriel
Joy Lee
Michelle Wai
Zheng Kexin
Theresa Chan
Ayesha Huda
Noor'Ain Afiqah
Nurul Izazi
Sandra Tay
Audrey Jansen
Irene Jansen
Chua Enlai
Phiz Nasrudin
Mohamad Ridzuan
Muhammad Ghazali B Hassim
Muhammad Syahin Bin Abdul Samad
Nur Aliff Bin Osman
Jayant Daniel Singh
Muhammad Zickry
Syed Almahdali

Stage Manager
Assistant Stage Managers

Stage Assistants

Technicians

Multimedia Producer
Multimedia Motion Graphics Artist
Multimedia Illustrator
Chaperones

Hair Assistant
Make-Up Artist
Wardrobe Manager
Dressers

Sound Engineer
Vocal Coaches

Voice of the Whale
Dance Captain (First Stage Kids)
Technical Crew

Technical Interns



First Stage Kids with the cast and director of Pinocchio

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WILD RICE LTD IS SUPPORTED BY THE NATIONAL ARTS COUNCIL UNDER THE MAJOR COMPANY SCHEME FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1 APRIL 2022 TO 31 MARCH 2025.

THANK YOU!

Crispian Chan

Frankie Malachi Yeo

Jem Toh

Ruey Loon

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Tuckys Photography

Wild Rice Angels

Wild Rice Ushers

ABOUT WILD RICE

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'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
- + New interpretations of world classics

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

- + **Wild Rice Academy** and **First Stage**, which offer drama and training programmes to nurture young talents from the ages of 5 to 12
- + **Singapore Youth Theatre**, which develops and empowers young people aged 13 to 17 through theatre
- + **Young & Wild**, which identifies and develops Singapore's young theatre professionals from the ages of 18 to 30

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

Wild Rice @ Funan is our new home in the heart of Singapore's civic and cultural district, featuring the country's only dedicated thrust stage within The Ngee Ann Kongsi Theatre. Our groundbreaking performing arts complex promises to be an iconic destination theatre for Singapore - one committed to leaving a legacy of artistic excellence for future generations by creating and presenting the best of Singapore theatre, as well as nurturing the artists and audiences of tomorrow.



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MUHAMMAD AZHAR BIN AZMAN
Technician



BE AN ANGEL THIS *Holiday Season!*

As a not-for-profit theatre company, Wild Rice relies heavily on the generosity of our Angels, who have helped us weather the many challenges posed by the pandemic, while continuing to entertain and inspire audiences of all ages and from all walks of life.

If you enjoyed this performance of *Pinocchio*, if you share our passion for brave and brilliant productions that tell uniquely Singaporean stories, if you believe in the power of theatre as a force for good and for change, please consider joining our community of Angels today!

HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

As an Angel, you will be **directly supporting the creative work and outreach efforts of Singapore's leading theatre company**. At the same time, your donation will **support the livelihoods of hundreds of freelance theatre professionals**– from performers and designers to technicians, educators and more.

Furthermore, **you can maximise your impact today!** Donations made from now until 31 January 2023 through our giving.sg campaign could be fully matched thanks to the Tote Board's Enhanced Fundraising Programme.

WILD RICE ANGELS GET CLOSER TO THE DRAMA!



For as little as \$350, you can enjoy benefits such as complimentary tickets, priority booking, special events like backstage tours, and more!

As Wild Rice is a registered charity, you will also enjoy 250% tax deduction on your donation.

BE AN ANGEL TODAY!

We also welcome any donations in support of Wild Rice. **Every contribution, large or small, will make a dramatic difference.** All donations above \$50 are eligible for 250% tax deduction.

DONATE NOW

THANK YOU, WILD RICE ANGELS!

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Ho

**WILD
RICE**

WRITTEN BY
J. B. PRIESTLEY

DIRECTED BY
GLEN GOEI

A man with a beard and dark hair, wearing a dark pinstripe suit, white shirt, and dark tie. He is holding a magnifying glass over his right eye, looking intensely at the viewer. The background is a solid red color.

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CALLS**

FROM 2 MAR 2023

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CONCEIVED & DIRECTED BY **IVAN HENG**

COMPOSED BY **RICHARD MILLS** LIBRETTO BY **JOEL TAN**

3 – 6 MAY 2023

W!LD
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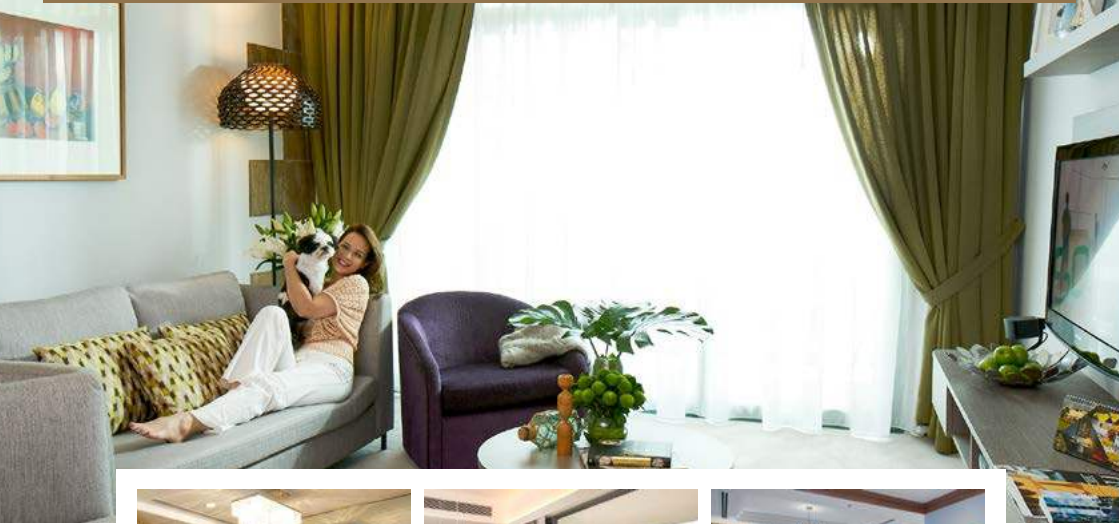


WRITTEN BY
ALFIAN SA'AT & MARCIA VANDERSTRAATEN

DIRECTED BY
IVAN HENG & GLEN GOEI

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WILD RICE ACADEMY

WEEKLY DRAMA CLASSES FOR KIDS AGED 5 TO 12



LEARNING COMES ALIVE THROUGH DRAMA AND STORYTELLING!

At the Wild Rice Academy, we believe that the theatre is a wonderful place where children can play, grow and learn more about themselves and the world around them. Our mission is to help empower children for the next stages in their lives by developing their confidence, creativity and social-emotional intelligence.

WHAT WE OFFER

In our highly experiential classes, children can partake in a host of fun, stimulating and engaging activities – from drama games and role-playing to performance opportunities.

By sharing the transformative magic of theatre and the arts with participants, we encourage them to experiment and make creative decisions in the ways they express themselves and tell stories. Our programmes are also designed to help children pick up foundational language and literacy skills.

We have programmes running throughout the year – from 10-week terms to end-of-year school holiday workshops. Classes are split by age groups (5-8 years and 9-12 years) to cater to children at different stages of their lives.

[FIND OUT MORE HERE](#)



“Through the Wild Rice Academy, I learnt to express my feelings. The class made me become a better actor, and be more hilarious!”

Haley (age 8)



"It's a great programme that enriches our creative world and imaginations, and a great place for us to have a dramatic outlet!"

Lauren (age 11)



“Thank you for making this possible and such an amazing experience! All the kids did really well. So glad to see Anna’s enthusiasm at her classes and to see her play her role with such delight!”

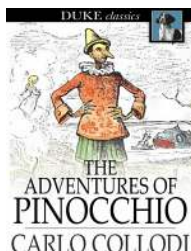
Jez, mother of Annamaria (age 5)



CONTINUE YOUR MAGICAL ADVENTURE WITH FUN READS!

CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF PINOCCHIO?

Scan the QR codes to enjoy more eResources!



The Adventures of Pinocchio

by Carlo Collodi, Carol Della Chiesa

A wooden marionette who is wished to life, Pinocchio gets into all sorts of mischief. He is unable to lie, as his nose grows each time he tries to.



Making Simple Marionettes

by John Roberts

Learn how to make your own marionettes - a dancer, a walking bird and a wooden man in this detailed step-by-step guide!



Photo: Courtesy of National Archives of Singapore



Living It Up at the Capitol

Capitol Theatre was the premier venue for film and stage when it opened in 1930. Discover prewar narratives of the theatre pieced together from oral history recordings.



Photo: Courtesy of National Archives of Singapore



The Theatres of Bangsawan

In the days before cinema, *bangsawan* performances entertained the masses. Find out about the rise and fall of *bangsawan* venues.



CURIOUS ABOUT OUR LOCAL THEATRE SCENE?

Scan the QR codes for interesting nuggets on our theatre scene!

Read eBooks for free on the NLB Mobile app! Download [here](#):



SURVEY

Thank you for attending today's performance of *Pinocchio*!

We would love to find out more about what you think about the show. Your feedback will help us create a better theatre experience for everyone.

This questionnaire will take you no more than 2 minutes to complete.

LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK!



[← BACK TO CONTENTS](#)

A hand holding a wand that emits a trail of golden sparkles against a blue background.

WILD
RICE



wildrice.com.sg