

Psychobitch - Pre-show Notes

Prepared by Seren Chen for Wild Rice

Introduction and Audio Described Show Information

Welcome to this introduction to *Psychobitch*, a thought-provoking play that boldly dissects gender power dynamics while exploring the subtle shades of toxic relationships written by Amanda Chong and presented by Wild Rice.

The audio described performance is at 3pm on Saturday the 12th of August, with a Touch Tour commencing at 1:45pm, an hour and fifteen minutes ahead of the show. Your audio describer is Seren Chen. The performance runs for approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes with no intermission.

Synopsis

Anya Samuel: Over-Achieving Journalist. Level of Excellence: Perpetual. Level of Chill: NIL.

When her tech CEO fiancé accuses her of being “too emotional” and tasks her to explain the four times she has cried in public since they started dating, Anya cannot help but bring her A-game. As she prepares to deliver a slide deck to save her relationship, complete with animated infographics of her menstrual cycle, Anya is forced to confront harsh truths about who she really is and what she actually wants in clearer light.

Directed by Pam Oei, this one-woman show starring Sindhura Kalidas challenges us to examine the concessions we make in our search for love and the secrets we keep in order to live.

Do note that this play is rated IMDA Advisory 16 for some mature content and coarse language.

Creative Team

This play was written by Amanda Chong and directed by Pam Oei. Alfian Sa'at is the dramaturg. The set and multimedia designer is Elizabeth Mak. The lighting designer is Adrian Tan. Max Tan is the costume designer, and Weish, the sound designer. The prop master is Joyce Gan. Ashley Lim is the hair designer and Bobbie Ng, the makeup designer. Finally, the stage manager is Xu Xin'en.

Cast, Characters, and Costumes, together with Set and Setting

Psychobitch stars Sindhura Kalidas, primarily playing Anya Samuel, a Type A journalist we meet in her fiancé's office as she prepares to give her powerpoint presentation to prove to her fiancé that her emotional outbursts were justified after all.

The office looks large, modern, and minimalistic, with four tall, double-height black window frames hung in a row before a brown wooden backdrop. In certain outdoor settings, vertical walls of greenery are lowered behind the two outer window frames, with fairy lights twinkling out when it's dark. Across the middle two window frames is a massive TV screen, more than two metres in length, upon which we are shown Anya's slides.

Under the screen is a large grey desk, almost as long as the screen, with notebooks stacked neatly and other items like stationery and airpods arranged equidistant from each other in a row. Another narrow desk sits behind it, with enough space in between for a grey rolling chair and for Anya to move through. What first appears to be some drawers tucked under the desk is actually a long bench that Anya sometimes pulls out. A brown wooden storage bin is retrieved from a hidden compartment on the side of this bench, containing some props and clothing items. The black floor is mostly covered by a mottled grey carpet, but to the right of this carpet is a tall floor lamp, its slender, curved neck bowing gently in towards the desk.

As she progresses through her story, Sindhura slips in and out of her role as Anya to play everyone else she encounters - her pastor father, her old grandmother, a Chinese real estate agent, her potential future mother-in-law, and of course, her fiancé himself.

We first see her striding into the office laden with things - a smart leather backpack on her back, a massive black tote bag slung over one shoulder, and a shiny coffee tumbler in one hand, all of which she immediately deposits unceremoniously on the tables. She looks professional, her hair pulled back into a french twist, but with a gentle concession to flair in her silvery button-down shirt. This she pairs with black slacks, topped off by a cream-coloured oversized vest, like a blazer without sleeves. Her shiny black loafers glint in the light as she walks.

Her costume changes nod towards different roles and settings without any direct relationship between role and costume. She moves too quickly from role to role in the dialogue for that, her mannerisms and voice chameleoning in an instant as she goes. When she's gearing herself up for the presentation, she removes her over-vest and shirt to reveal a close-fitting, millennial pink waistcoat underneath. At the park, she wears a thin pink sports cardigan. When her grandmother is first introduced, she throws a kelly green and rose pink **dupatta**, a shawl, over her shoulders. In following scenes with her grandmother, there's a pale grey dupatta, then another, striped in pink, red, and gold. A bright cerulean blue blazer makes an appearance when viewing condos, replaced by a dove grey cardigan when making chicken soup.

All these small pieces of clothing and other various props are retrieved either from her massive black tote bag or the storage bin in the bench. When she's done with them, she just leaves them out in the open.

Access Information

Wild Rice aims to provide an excellent experience and service for all patrons who may require additional support to access our venue and enjoy our events.

Wild Rice at Funan is located on the 4th floor of Funan Mall, at 107 North Bridge Rd, Singapore 179105. The nearest parking option is in Funan Mall itself.

For public transport, the nearest bus stops are 04249, Opposite the Treasury; 04168, After City Hall Station Exit B; 04149, Grand Park City Hall; and 04223, Old Hill Street Police Station.

The nearest MRT station is City Hall, on the East-West and North-South lines.

If you are attending the Touch Tour, please have your mobile device and headset with you. Say hello to the friendly Box Office manager and they will gladly assist you.

Wild Rice at Funan and Funan Mall are assistance dog friendly. They are also accessible for wheelchair use, and an accessible toilet is available on the same floor as the theatre, near the lifts.

If you require a wheelchair space, would like to learn more about transferring options, or have any other questions, do contact our venue team at 6971 1051.

The bar will be open before the show, lol serving a variety of beverages and ice cream from Birds of Paradise.

We look forward to welcoming you and hope you have a wonderful time with us!