

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**WILD RICE KICKS OFF 2024 SEASON WITH THREE NEW SHOWS,
EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT BEGINS TODAY!**



8 January 2024 – A 15% **Early Bird discount** is now available until 31 January for Category 1 & 2 tickets to the first three shows of Wild Rice's 2024 season. These include:

- Alfian Sa'at's ***The Death of Singapore Theatre as Scripted By the Infocomm Media Development Authority of Singapore*** (14 to 30 March 2024) – A bold, thought-provoking exploration of the history of censorship in Singapore theatre. (See **Annex A** for more information.)
- Joel Tan's ***Tartuffe: The Imposter*** (from 4 April 2024) – A razor-sharp modern adaptation of iconic French playwright Molière's 1664 classic satire about hypocrisy and moral outrage. Garnered five Straits Times Life! Theatre Awards nominations in 2023 for Production of the Year, Best Original Script, Best Director, Best Ensemble and Best Costume Design. (See **Annex B** for more information.)
- Thomas Lim's ***National Day Charade*** (11 to 27 July 2024) – An irreverent satire about the pomp and pageantry associated with Singapore's National Day that doubles as a love letter to a country with which we all have a complicated relationship. (See **Annex C** for more information.)

For media enquiries, please contact Linda Tan at lindatan@wildrice.com.sg.

WILD
RICE

THE **DEATH** OF [REDACTED]
 SINGAPORE **E** [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED] THE**ATRE**
 AS SCRIPTED BY [REDACTED]
 THE INFOCOMM [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED] MEDIA
 DEVELOPMENT **P** [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED] AUTHORITY OF
 [REDACTED] **SINGAPORE**

WRITTEN BY
ALFIAN SA'AT
 DIRECTED BY
IRFAN KASBAN

14 - 30 MAR 2024

SYNOPSIS

How did you get this past the censors? Was anything cut? Is censorship stricter today than it used to be?

Theatre-makers in Singapore get asked these questions all the time, since a play cannot be publicly performed here without a script first being sent to the Infocomm Media Development Authority of Singapore (IMDA).

This means that, before addressing a public audience, the playwright first addresses an IMDA officer. It is this IMDA officer who can approve the performance license for a play, give it a rating, and ultimately decide if it can be staged.

What if this implicit dialogue between playwright and IMDA officer is made explicit, and turned into a performance?

Written with gut-wrenching insight by Alfian Sa'at, *The Death of Singapore Theatre as Scripted By the Infocomm Media Development Authority of Singapore* is a performance-lecture that traces the history of how theatre has been regulated in Singapore from colonial times to today. It is a chronicle of how moral panic, culture wars, bureaucratic language and political elites have shaped the Singaporean censorship landscape.

Performed as a direct address to an unknown IMDA officer, this darkly hilarious new work reconfigures the faceless encounter between the artist and the censor as a moment of unbearable intimacy.

"You. I know you're reading this. Who else can it be but you?"

FAST FACTS

Playwright	Alfian Sa'at
Director / Set & Lighting Designer	Irfan Kasban
Cast	Farah Ong
Hair Designer	Ashley Lim
Make-Up Designer	Bobbie Ng
Performance Dates	14 – 30 March 2024 Tue – Fri: 7.30pm Sat: 2.30pm & 7.30pm Sun: 2.30pm <u>Previews</u> : 14 & 15 March @ 7.30pm
Ticket Prices	Tue – Thu: \$35, \$45, \$60, \$70 Fri, Sat & Sun: \$40, \$50, \$65, \$75 <u>Previews</u> : \$30, \$40, \$55, \$65
Venue	The Ngee Ann Kongsi Theatre @ Wild Rice
Press Contact	Linda Tan (lindatan@wildrice.com.sg)
Public Sales	From 8 January 2024, 12 noon Early Bird : 15% off on Category 1 & 2 tickets from 8 to 31 January 2024
Discounts	20% off on Category 1 & 2 tickets for Wild Rice Angels 10% off on Category 1 & 2 tickets for Students, Full-Time NSFs & Senior Citizens Group Discounts Available for 20+ Tickets
Ticketing Agent	SISTIC.com Pte Ltd SISTIC Website www.sistic.com.sg SISTIC Hotline (+65) 6348-5555



SYNOPSIS

True to its mission of reimagining the world's classics for today's Singapore, Wild Rice proudly presents ***Tartuffe: The Imposter*** – a refreshingly modern, darkly comic adaptation of iconic French playwright Molière's satirical masterpiece.

A wealthy family starts to unravel when the head of the household, Orgon, befriends Tartuffe – a charming, seductive con artist masquerading as a man of faith. Everyone else smells a rat, even as Tartuffe weasels his way into Orgon's home, heart and bank account. What will it take for Orgon to finally see the light? Can unholy disaster be averted? Or will blind devotion win the day?

Back by popular demand following a sold-out premiere run in 2022, Wild Rice's ***Tartuffe: The Imposter*** remains trenchantly relevant today, in a world populated by scam artists and false prophets. With a devastatingly funny script by Joel Tan and sharply incisive direction by Glen Goei, this is a classic satire on religious hypocrisy and a warning about the calamity that can follow when we turn a blind eye to the dark deeds of the "pious". Desperately trying to untangle vice from virtue is a stellar ensemble cast led by Ivan Heng and Benjamin Chow.

Join us at the theatre for a hell of a good time!

FAST FACTS

Writer/Adapter	Joel Tan
Playwright	Molière
Director	Glen Goei
Dramaturg	Alfian Sa'at
Cast	Ivan Heng, Benjamin Chow, Pam Oei, Oon Shu An, Jo Tan, Brendon Fernandez, Shane Mardjuki & Dennis Sofian
Set Designer	Wong Chee Wai
Lighting Designer	Tai Zi Feng
Composer	Julian Wong
Costume Designer	Frederick Lee
Hair Designer	Ashley Lim
Make-Up Designer	Bobbie Ng
Performance Dates	From 4 April 2024 Tue – Fri: 7.30pm Sat: 2.30pm & 7.30pm Sun: 2.30pm <u>Previews</u> : 4 & 5 April @ 7.30pm
Ticket Prices	Tue – Thu: \$40, \$50, \$70, \$80 Fri, Sat & Sun: \$45, \$55, \$75, \$90 <u>Previews</u> : \$35, \$45, \$60, \$70
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SYNOPSIS

Every year, when 9 August rolls around, we put on our red and white outfits, we hang up our flags and we sing our songs. The Red Lions descend, the F16s roar and the tanks roll across our television screens. The Kallang wave sweeps across the stands, people laugh and dance and cry, and we keep on marching from Third World to First.

For as long as most of us can remember, there has been no other way to think of Singapore's National Day. But what if we could re-imagine how we commemorate and celebrate this historic day? What untold stories would we share? Who would we want to see representing us in our parade? And what songs would we write and sing to one another?

An irreverent satire that doubles as a love letter to a country with which we all have a complicated relationship, *National Day Charade* will make you laugh, think and talk about this place we call home. Don't miss this brand-new play from award-winning playwright Thomas Lim, who has won the hearts of audiences with profoundly insightful modern classics like *Grandmother Tongue* and *Supervision*. Come decked out in red and white and join us for a National Day celebration unlike any you've experienced before!

FAST FACTS

Playwright & Director	Thomas Lim
Cast	Shane Mardjuki, Krish Natarajan, Nurulhuda Hassan & Deonn Yang with Andrew Marko
Lighting Designer	James Tan
Costume Designer	Max Tan
Multimedia Designer	Khoo Chia Meng (Fiction Shore)
Hair Designer	Ashley Lim
Make-Up Designer	Bobbie Ng
Performance Dates	11 to 27 July 2024 Tue – Fri: 7.30pm Sat: 2.30pm & 7.30pm Sun: 2.30pm <u>Previews</u> : 11 & 12 July @ 7.30pm
Ticket Prices	Tue – Thu: \$35, \$45, \$60, \$70 Fri, Sat & Sun: \$40, \$50, \$65, \$75 <u>Previews</u> : \$30, \$40, \$55, \$65
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