Esplanade Presents Baybeats 2023 6 – 8 Oct 2023, Fri – Sun www.esplanade.com/baybeats



Singapore's largest alternative music festival is back this year, bigger and better (and still free for all to enjoy)!

Held from 6 – 8 Oct 2023, the 22nd edition of *Baybeats* is one not to be missed by music lovers as Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay presents an exciting line-up of homegrown and international acts, supported by new partnerships formed with overseas music festivals as well as Principal Sponsor KEEN.

Baybeats remains committed to celebrating and supporting the Singapore music community. We are privileged to be in partnership this year with two esteemed East Asian festivals, Taiwan's Golden Melody Awards and Festival (GMA) and Ear Up Music Festival from Hong Kong, giving us the opportunity to raise awareness of our local talents overseas and profile the festival internationally. These connections also allow us to present outstanding acts such as dream pop and alternative rock band **I Mean Us** from Taiwan and live electronic musician and producer, **hirsk**, one of the four Hong Kong acts who will be performing at *Baybeats 2023*. As part of the partnership, *Baybeats Budding Bands'* alumni, motifs took the stage at GMA earlier in June this year. Just as how we collaborated with Taiwanese music festival LUCfest last year, we continue to seek ways to establish connections with other music festivals or platforms beyond our shores.

At *Baybeats* last year, we were extremely heartened by the overwhelming support and enthusiastic crowd who turned up at Powerhouse² at the Singtel Waterfront Theatre at Esplanade. This year, we continue to explore the versatility of the space and to optimise the audio experience for audiences. Immerse in the full experience of British math rock icons, **Delta Sleep** as well as Filipino indie rock band **Urbandub** now performing live—we could only watch them on our screens previously at *Baybeats 2021* during the pandemic. Others on the bill include Singaporean emo band **Forests** who have been garnering international attention, rising Indonesian punk outfit, **The Jansen**, as well as **Holy Serpent** from Australia, bringing

their brand of heavy psych doom metal. In addition to these (and personally, what I'm most excited about!), is the return of homegrown legends, indie band **The Great Spy Experiment** and grindcore act **Wormrot** featuring Spanish vocalist **Gabriel Dubko** and multidisciplinary artist **weish**.

Those itching to get on their feet and groove along can look forward to the electrifying line-up at the Arena (DBS Foundation Outdoor Theatre at Esplanade). The line-up here includes front runners of the Singaporean ska scene, **Cesspit**, Chinese alternative indie trio, **Orange Ocean**, Thailand's up-and-coming shoegaze / dream pop band, **Death of Heather**, as well as **Sun Cell**, solo project of Singaporean synthpop producer Daryl Hor. Of course, not forgetting the five *Baybeats Budding Bands* from this year's mentorship programme.

Over at the Annexe (Esplanade Annexe Studio), fans will be treated to a myriad of intricate sounds by post hardcore / shoegaze trio from Japan, **MASS OF THE FERMENTING DREGS** and instrumental math rock by our very own **Sphaeras**. For hip hop enthusiasts, watch for **Feez** and **Mary Sue and the Clementi Sound Appreciation Club**.

At the Chillout Stage (Esplanade Concourse), we challenge bands to present their usual hardhitting numbers in unplugged settings. Malaysian psychedelic rock band, **Capt'n Trips and The Kid**, alongside Singaporean alternative rock outfit, **Krunkle** will present a different facet of their music at this space.

Complementing the vibrant music performances is the *Baybeats* festival village. It returns to the Esplanade Lawn, outside Singtel Waterfront Theatre with a *lepak* area at the Esplanade Courtyard, which offer festival goers a space to relax and recharge (and check out the latest KEEN and our unique *Baybeats* merchandise too!).

Last but not least, a huge shoutout to the young writers, photographers, emcees and musicians of our **Baybeats Budding Programmes**. As we speak, they're probably working hard behind the scenes, honing their skills to make their voices heard (figuratively and literally) during the upcoming festival.

Baybeats 2023 will be one for fans and friends from Singapore and around the globe. We cannot wait to rock out with everyone and revitalise that raw energy onsite, so see you in October!

Adeline Lee Programmer, The Esplanade Co Ltd On behalf of the *Baybeats team*

About Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay

Esplanade is Singapore's national performing arts centre. It hosts a year-round line-up of about 3,500 live performances and activities presented by Esplanade, its partners and hirers. As an arts centre for everyone, Esplanade also creates opportunities for seniors, youth, children and underserved communities to experience the arts. More than 70% of the shows that take place each year at the centre are free for all to enjoy.

Esplanade also brings the arts virtually to audiences in Singapore and beyond, through its diverse range of digital programmes on <u>Esplanade Offstage</u>, an all-access backstage pass to the performing arts and guide to Singapore and Asian arts and culture, with videos, podcasts, articles, quizzes and resources.

The centre works in close partnership with local, regional and international artists to develop artistic capabilities and content, push artistic boundaries and engage audiences. Esplanade supports the creation of artistic content by commissioning and producing new Singapore and Asian work for the international stage. It also develops technical capabilities for the industry nationally.

Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay is operated by The Esplanade Co Ltd (TECL), which is a not-for-profit organisation, a registered Charity and an Institution of a Public Character. The Charity Council awarded TECL the Charity Governance Award – Special Commendation for Clarity of Strategy in 2016 and 2022, and the Charity Transparency Award from 2016 – 2019 and 2022. Esplanade is Singapore's first Dementia-Friendly Arts Venue and a certified Dementia Go-To Point, as well as a Guide-dog Friendly centre.

TECL receives funding support from Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth and its Community Programmes are supported by Tote Board Family, comprising Tote Board, Singapore Pools and Singapore Turf Club.

Visit Esplanade.com for more information.

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Issued by The Esplanade Co Ltd.

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Baybeats 2023 Stages

- **Powerhouse**²**^**: The newest and most power-packed addition to the festival grounds, the Powerhouse² invites underground music fans to a headbanging line-up. Mosh pits welcomed!
- **Annexe^:** Ranging across dream pop, ambient, hip hop and more, the Annexe showcases artists in an intimate setting. The Annexe is also a sandbox for international and local collaborations.
- Arena: The Arena is the playground of the *Baybeats Budding Bands* as well as other genres such as funk rock and surf rock.
- **Chillout Stage:** Between the buzz and the hype of the other venues, the Chillout Stage invites you to take a breather and rest your eardrums with a series of acoustic sets.

^Free, by registration.

Priority Registration for *Esplanade&Me* members: 22 Sep 2023, Fri, 12pm Public Registration: 29 Sep 2023, Fri, 12pm



Powerhouse² Singtel Waterfront Theatre at Esplanade Free, Pre-registration is required

The Jansen (Indonesia) 6 Oct 2023, Fri, 7.30pm Powerhouse² (Singtel Waterfront Theatre at Esplanade) Free, Pre-registration is required



Brace yourself for The Jansen's sonic assault as they bring their raw punk energy and anthemic melodies to the *Baybeats* stage for the first time.

Emerging from the city of Bogor in Indonesia, punk band The Jansen's fervent following can be attributed to the band's raw energy, wry humour and anthemic melodies. Comprising brothers Cintarama Bani Satria (guitar, vocals) and Adji Pamungkas (bass) alongside drummer Aduy, the band cites '70s punk bands like Talking Heads, The Undertones, Ramones, The Buzzcocks as key influences, as well as music by label Sarah Records and compilation albums *Killed by Death* and *C86*.

In 2020, The Jansen teamed up with Grimace Records from Texas, USA to begin publishing works on digital platforms, such as the album *Say Say Say*. In April 2022, the band released their third full-length album, *Banal Makin Binal* on tape format, followed by a mini tour to Jakarta. A few months later, they teamed up with Demajors Records to release a CD and promote their third album on digital platforms. The Jansen's line-up was completed with the inclusion of Karina Restiani, filling in on guitar and vocals.

In 2023, The Jansen released their latest work, a maxi single titled *Observasi Sinting*, available only via Bandcamp. Then, they released a split album with two other indie pop bands from Sarah Records, Loon from Semarang and The Caroline's from Surabaya. Titled *Flowery Melancholia*, this album has been released in digital and cassette formats.

FAZI (China)
6 Oct 2023, Fri, 8.40pm
Powerhouse² (Singtel Waterfront Theatre at Esplanade)
Free, Pre-registration is required



Hailing from the ancient city Xi'an, China, post-punk outfit FAZI has toured Asia, Europe and the United States and released several records, while constantly exploring and developing their artistry. FAZI's music is described as flexible and restrained, sharp and fast—heartfelt music that inspire visceral emotions in listeners. Melding inventive melodies and complex instrumental arrangements, FAZI's latest sound marks a new peak of creativity in the band's 10 years of experience.

No Rest For The Weary (Singapore) 6 Oct 2023, Fri, 9.50pm Powerhouse² (Singtel Waterfront Theatre at Esplanade) Free, Pre-registration is required



Homegrown deathcore veterans No Rest For The Weary make their return to the *Baybeats* stage.

No Rest For The Weary is a five-piece deathcore act hailing from sunny Singapore. With more than 10 years of experience in the scene, these veterans have amassed a following and reputation for their hard-hitting and technical riffs, spine-chilling vocals and groovy breakdowns. The band has undergone minor line-up changes over the years and evolved their sound, adopting an aggressive yet melodic overtone. No Rest For The Weary released their single *Oathbreaker* in 2022, marking their return from the pandemic-induced hiatus and doubling down on their symphonic-deathcore identity while incorporating elements of black metal into their sound.

Delta Sleep (UK) 6 Oct 2023, Fri, 11pm Powerhouse² (Singtel Waterfront Theatre at Esplanade) Free, Pre-registration is required



Wade into the eclectic and expansive repertoire of math rock quartet Delta Sleep.

Thirteen years into what started as an earnest foray in music-making, British rock quartet Delta Sleep have risen to the forefront of the genre with tracks that continue to push its boundaries. Continuously surprising their listeners with every release by constantly tweaking and perfecting their sound, the band's expansive repertoire defies to be constrained by any strict sub-genre or category, molding their sound into something that goes beyond the labels of just math-rock.

In 2019, the band's second full length album *Ghost City* saw them approach their intelligent songwriting with guitar driven melodies over jazz-influenced grooves, which garnered them considerable support from fervent fans and critics alike. The record's success saw them land #1 on the Bandcamp Rock Chart and reach over 5M streams on Spotify by the time the year was out.

The result of this daring, future-facing process catapulted them to stages across three continents, touring the US and Canada, parts of Asia such as Japan, The Philippines, Thailand and Singapore, as well as hitting Europe on Mineral's 20th anniversary tour. It was on this same European tour where the band recorded their surprise EP, *Younger Years.*

In 2020, the band released the live album *Soft Sounds*, coupled with a video series that was filmed over the course of four years around the world, featuring intimate unplugged performances of songs taken from their back catalogue. Over the summer of 2020, Delta Sleep locked themselves away in Ireland to work on their third album, *Spring Island*, released in 2021 on their own label, Sofa Boy Records. Touching on themes of global warming and humanity's impact on the world, this conceptual album falls right into Delta Sleep's territory: bleak lyrical content sitting atop a bed of dizzying, uplifting and complex grooves, captivating instrumentation and sweeping ambience.

Baybeats X Ear Up Global – hirsk (Hong Kong) 7 Oct 2023, Sat, 6pm Powerhouse² (Singtel Waterfront Theatre at Esplanade) Free, Pre-registration is required



Immerse yourself in hirsk's abstract soundscapes that combine time-honoured Hong Kong tunes with electronic influences.

Meet hirsk, the Hong Kong-based electronic music producer and alumnus of Berklee College of Music. His genre-defying works meld Hong Kong's timeless classics with abstract influences from electro-acoustic, jazz, club music and musique concrete, creating surreal soundscapes that reflect the city's heartbeat.

hirsk's debut album, *noista/gia*, not only captivated hearts but also attained Producer of the Year, Instrumental at the 32nd Golden Melody Awards in Taiwan. As a dynamic collaborator, his creative synergy knows no limits—evident in his works with pop icons to multimedia artists such as Yoga Lin, AGA, Sophy and Keith Lam. He has also been invited to perform at prestigious festivals like Berlin's Pop Kultur Arts, Munich's Frameworks, and Shanghai's Strawberry Music Festival.

(40mins, no intermission)

About Ear Up Global

Ear Up Global is a project designed to nurture budding music talents from Hong Kong. Initiated by Ear Up Music, this programme offers musicians the opportunity to showcase their original new music on a global stage, all the while building valuable international connections.

Selected participants will be paired with experienced musicians in a mentorship dynamic. These acts will take part in diverse cultural exchange activities with music professionals and institutions in the host city. This includes performing at international music festivals together. Once back in Hong Kong, each act will share their experiences and festival performances with fellow musicians and the public in a dedicated music festival.

Shye (Singapore) 7 Oct 2023, Sat, 7.10pm Powerhouse² (Singtel Waterfront Theatre at Esplanade) Free, Pre-registration is required



Up-and-coming producer and singer-songwriter will have you singing along to her DIY tracks and dreamy, bedroom pop sound.

From the bedroom to the billboard, Shye is a DIY producer and singer-songwriter who also takes on the responsibilities of writing, recording, mixing and mastering from her bedroom.

Self-taught, her music journey is a never-ending learning process and an evolving, continuous exploration of different soundscapes that float between bedroom pop to indie electronic pop and to whatever takes her fancy. Being able to handcraft her own music has allowed Shye to navigate her sonic identity and to find her own voice and personality.

With four albums under her belt, more than 130,000 monthly listeners on Spotify and an appearance on China's *Qing Nian Pai Ji Hua* (青年派计划) music competition, Shye's star continues to climb, making her one to watch.

Forests (Singapore) 7 Oct 2023, Sat, 8.20pm Powerhouse² (Singtel Waterfront Theatre at Esplanade) Free, Pre-registration is required



Photo credit: @ordinary_rice

Time to make a scene with the riotous and raucous emo/math-rock trio, Forests.

Since their formation in mid-2014, Forests has gained a global cult following of listeners through their unique blend of '90s-influenced emo with math-pop perfection. The Singaporebased trio gained a huge increase in global listenership upon the release of their sophomore album *Spending Eternity In A Japanese Convenience Store*, with word-of-mouth buzz from fans and critics alike hailing them as new heroes of the emo/math rock genre.

The group has been featured on publications such as *The Ringer, Stereogum, NME* and *Bandwagon.* They are the only Asian band highlighted on *Vulture's* list of 100 Greatest Emo Songs of All Time as well as *The Ringer's* The Most Important Emo Songs Of Every Year, with *Tamago* named as their pick for 2016's most important emo song—a huge honour to be mentioned alongside legendary genre stalwarts such as American Football, Jawbreaker and Sunny Day Real Estate.

In 2022, alongside their newest member Daniel, the trio released their third full-length album *Get In Losers, We're Going To Eternal Damnation,* well-received by fans and hailed by critics as "Forests at their summit, ready to conquer the world" (NME Asia) and "one of the most instantly enjoyable albums [heard] this year" (Stereogum).

While the band had previously performed in countries like Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Indonesia, China and Malaysia, 2023 saw them embark on a multi-city USA tour alongside Ben Quad and The Others Like Us. While in the US, the band recorded a session for the acclaimed web series *Audiotree Live*, which is set to premiere on 27 Sep 2023. Forests continues to bring their riotous, frantic and exciting live performances across Southeast Asia and the world, causing a scene at legendary venues and intimate club shows alike.

Tres Empre (Malaysia) 7 Oct 2023, Sat, 9.30pm Powerhouse² (Singtel Waterfront Theatre at Esplanade) Free, Pre-registration is required



Having made a comeback in 2022 after a five-year hiatus, experimental/post-hardcore band Tres Empre continues to push boundaries with their evolving sound.

Emerging from Kuala Lumpur, Tres Empre is a dynamic experimental/post-hardcore band who has been active since 2008. Their innovative fusion of sounds spans experimental exploration and raw post-hardcore emotion. The band first released the EP *Division of Dreamers* in 2012 followed by the full-length *Antagonist* in 2014, touring to numerous venues in Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, The Philippines and Japan with these records and playing alongside bands like Underoath, Circa Survive, and Architects.

In 2017, the band collectively decided on a hiatus, returning five years later in 2022 with a renewed sound in the single *Kejar Tuhan*, quickly followed by *Tatkala* and *Jajahan Bangga*. With unwavering creativity, Tres Empre continue to captivate audiences across Asia.

Wormrot featuring Gabriel Dubko and weish (Singapore) 7 Oct 2023, Sat, 10.40pm Powerhouse² (Singtel Waterfront Theatre at Esplanade) Free, Pre-registration is required



Dive into a whirlwind of sonic fury with Singapore's very own grindcore outfit, Wormrot. Prepare for an onslaught of grindcore madness with blistering blast beats, ear-shattering guitar riffs, with Implore's frontman Gabriel Dubko stepping in on vocals. Catch their first ever collaborative performance with multidisciplinary artist weish, melding her unique and ethereal vocals with their signature heavy sound. Brace yourself for an unforgettable night of unadulterated auditory mayhem with Wormrot!

Doldrey (Singapore) 8 Oct 2023, Sun, 6pm Powerhouse² (Singtel Waterfront Theatre at Esplanade) Free, Pre-registration is required



Go berserk with death-punk band Doldrey in this explosive, hell-raising set.

Described as "pure electric ecstasy" (Unite Asia) and "frenzied, guttural music" (Stereogum), Doldrey produces some of the most deafening, nastiest and aggressive music that Singapore has to offer. Combining elements from various scenes—old-school death metal, classic black metal, feral D-beats, punk and more—Doldrey's gnarly, cranked-up music has garnered them a hardcore following in Southeast Asia and beyond.

The band debuted with their self-titled EP in 2017, followed by the mini-album *Invocation of Doom* (2019), finally emerging in 2022 with their first full-length album, *Celestial Deconstruction*, under US label Iron Lung Records. While the album is described as "decidedly more metal" compared to past releases, the album's sound is still one of "pure thrashing nastiness".

With this record in tow, the band set off on tour, first hitting Indonesia in November 2022 followed by their first UK and Europe tour in mid-2023, ending with a set at the long-running Fluff Fest in the Czech Republic. The band also continues to make their presence known in Singapore's underground scene, performing alongside bands like Wormrot, Amateur Takes Control, Marijannah and more.

Bomb at Track (Thailand) 8 Oct 2023, Sun, 7.10pm Powerhouse² (Singtel Waterfront Theatre at Esplanade) Free, Pre-registration is required



Get fired up with Thai quintet Bomb at Track as they deliver nu-metal tracks with hard-hitting bars and their signature heavy metal sound.

Since their debut in 2016, the band has gained immense popularity performing live across Thailand and Asia, going on to release their self-titled EP in 2017, followed by *White* in 2018. Their latest album *Bomb The System* released in 2022 continues the band's approach to their music, reflecting on sociocultural issues faced by Thai youth.

Comprising Tae (vocals), Pakawat "Mesz" Prasertsak (guitar), Pradchayanon "Puii" Yungklang (rhythm guitar), Sart "Khon" Pornmuneesoontorn (bass) and Sirapob "Nin" Lertchavalit (drums), Bomb at Track makes music that is raw, rare and real, encouraging their listeners to drive positive changes in society.

The Great Spy Experiment (Singapore) 8 Oct 2023, Sun, 8.20pm Powerhouse² (Singtel Waterfront Theatre at Esplanade) Free, Pre-registration is required



After an eight-year hiatus, The Great Spy Experiment make their comeback with a fourth appearance on the *Baybeats* stage. Armed with a repertoire of crowd favourites, the band brings their distinct brand of emotive and powerful indie rock to the venue that has been their spiritual home, with the goal to move the hearts of fans once again.

Formed in 2006, The Great Spy Experiment are considered indie rock veterans, having made an indelible mark on Singapore's indie music landscape. Effortlessly blending elements of indie rock, pop, and dance-electronica, their music is as much guitar-led as it is beat-driven, with indie riffs juxtaposing melodies that tug the heartstrings—music created with the dance floor in mind and bedroom at heart.

The band has released two albums, *Flower Show Riots* in 2007 and *Litmus* in 2013, with *Litmus* making history as the first in Singapore to break through iTunes album charts. Prior to their hiatus, The Great Spy Experiment delivered electrifying live performances touring across the world and was the first homegrown band to perform at the acclaimed SXSW Festival in 2007. With their innovative sound and charismatic stage presence, they have earned a dedicated following, making them undoubtedly one of the leading lights of the Singaporean independent music scene. After disbanding in 2015 and following a lengthy hiatus, The Great Spy Experiment is back with a new release *Sanctuary/Secrets*, a two-track single embodying their signature sound—powerful yet poignant.

Holy Serpent (Australia) 8 Oct 2023, Sun, 9.30pm Powerhouse² (Singtel Waterfront Theatre at Esplanade) Free, Pre-registration is required



Hailing from Melbourne, Holy Serpent is a captivating heavy rock band who explores the realms of psychedelic, stoner, and doom metal. With ethereal melodies and hypnotic grooves, their evocative storytelling and haunting soundscapes have garnered a devoted following. After gaining global attention with their self-titled debut released on Riding Easy Records in 2014, they followed up with second album *Temples* in 2016, and released their latest album *Endless* in 2019.

Urbandub (The Philippines) 8 Oct 2023, Sun, 10.40pm Powerhouse² (Singtel Waterfront Theatre at Esplanade) Free, Pre-registration is required



Cebu-based alt-rock stalwarts Urbandub descend on Baybeats with modern interpretations of their time-honoured tunes.

As 2000s rock music icons from Cebu, Urbandub has made a name for themselves as The Giant Sound of the South. With a successful career in the music industry spanning 23 years, the band has amassed a huge following across the Philippines and Asia.

The band's current line-up comprises vocalist and guitarist Gabby Alipe, guitarists John Dinopol and Russell Manaloto, bassist Lalay Lim-Geronimo and drummer Sam Saludsong. Their debut album Birth, which launched them into the spotlight, showcases a raw and heavy sound likened to experimental rock bands such as Deftones. The band continued to release several albums thereafter, receiving multiple awards and nominations at NU Rock Awards, MYX Music Awards and Awit Awards.

Most recently in 2023, Urbandub released a modern reinterpretation of their iconic debut album, titled Rebirth, accompanied by an eight-part docuseries on their YouTube channel which outlines the band's expansive musical journey and its evolution over the years. Come experience the compelling music of this Filipino rock band for yourself in their era of renewal.

Annexe Esplanade Annexe Studio Free, Pre-registration is required

JADE EYES (Taiwan) 6 Oct 2023, Fri, 7.30pm Annexe (Esplanade Annexe Studio) Free, Pre-registration is required



Lose yourself in Taiwanese trio JADE EYES' repertoire of dreamy electronic music.

JADE EYES is an all-female Taiwanese electronic trio. Dreamy and atmospheric, they combine electronic music with retro influences, introspective lyrics and haunting vocals. Be swept away by their lush melodies and delicate vocals in popular tracks such as *VIVIAN* and *Girls in the City*.

From students to friends to band mates, JADE EYES comprises vocalist, bassist and keyboardist Ling Chin, guitarist Yi Hsuan and programmer Yu Hsin. The trio met during their time as students and established a close bond through their love for music. They eventually formed their own band in 2014, developing a unique sound which incorporates dreamy beats with electronic influences. Versatile and adaptable, the band has experimented with a myriad of genres in the past ranging from post-punk to new wave electronic music and deep house.

Their self-titled album, which pays homage to '70s and '80s post-punk and new wave music, was released in 2015 and nominated for Best Electronic Album at the Golden Indie Music Awards. *ADDICT*, their first full-length album released in 2017, incorporated elements of deep house and neo soul with vibrant album art, earning nominations at the Golden Indie Music Awards for Best Electronic Album and Best Electronic Single. They also received recognition from Abilu Music Awards for Best Album of The Year in 2017. JADE EYES has toured extensively across 16 countries and performed internationally at SXSW, Canadian Music Week and Cactus Music Festival, just to name a few. Having gone from a student band to being internationally-recognised the band is one to watch as they continue to grow and tour the world.

Sphaeras (Singapore) 6 Oct 2023, Fri, 8.40pm Annexe (Esplanade Annexe Studio) Free, Pre-registration is required



Don't miss instrumental math-rock band Sphaeras' first live performance since their hiatus in 2019.

Formed over a decade ago, instrumental rock band Sphaeras is led by ever-changing time signatures, blending gorgeous tonality and dramatic crescendos to create lush, textured compositions. After a prolonged hiatus, the band is excited to make a comeback at *Baybeats* and showcase its rapid evolution over the years.

Comprising members Hao Kai, Chun Kit, Zakhran and Bennett, Sphaeras released their first record *Moirai* in 2015, followed by the collaborative project *Sun Seeker* in 2016, which saw the Singapore-based band working with Brazilian math-rock outfit Odradek. While the band has garnered its fair share of fans in Singapore and Asia, they have also made their presence known in other parts of the world, most notably having recorded a set for the acclaimed *Audiotree Live Sessions* series in Chicago, USA, in January 2018. The band is now set to make a comeback after their hiatus from 2019, and look forward to meeting fans again.

MASS OF THE FERMENTING DREGS (Japan) 6 Oct 2023, Fri, 9.50pm Annexe (Esplanade Annexe Studio) Free, Pre-registration is required



Watch this Japanese post-hardcore/shoegaze trio electrify the stage with headbanging tunes.

MASS OF THE FERMENTING DREGS is a post-hardcore/shoegaze trio based in Japan, known for their tightly arranged, guitar-driven style, melodic pop vocals and high-energy stage presence. Armed with their latest album *Awakening:Sleeping*, the band is ready to greet fans in Singapore once more with their driving, hypnotic songs.

Rosalyn (Thailand) 7 Oct 2023, Sat, 6pm Annexe (Esplanade Annexe Studio) Free, Pre-registration is required



Melding dream pop, soul and indie, Thai band Rosalyn promises an electrifying performance.

Immerse yourself in Rosalyn's enchanting blend of dream pop, soul, indie and experimental sounds, with heart-melting vocals that transcend genres. The band's name reflects the intimate nature of their songs, despite being an all-male band. Their hit *LoverFriend* soared across the charts and became one of Thailand's Top 10 hits on Cat Radio. Rosalyn has performed at festivals such as Hola Shaka and Wonderfruit, and promises another electrifying performance on the *Baybeats* stage with their debut album, *Skin.*

SOS (The Philippines) 7 Oct 2023, Sat, 7.40pm Annexe (Esplanade Annexe Studio) Free, Pre-registration is required



Contrasting inescapable rhythms with lyrical themes that explore realist jadedness, Filipino band SOS galvanises with their striking live performances.

SOS (pronounced like "sauce") is an alternative band from Manila, Philippines. Formerly known as She's Only Sixteen, members Roberto Seña (vocals, guitar, synths), Andrew Panopio (guitar), Anjo Silvoza (bass), Ram Alonzo (keys, synths), and King Puentespina (drums, synths) derive their influences from genre-and era-spanning styles: juxtaposing occasionally anthemic, often inescapable rhythms with lyrical themes that explore realist jadedness in almost real-time weariness, as well as human complexities with lush, buoyant production styles.

This irony is at the core of the band's galvanising live performances, where they project human fallibility—strikingly—with both tenderness and animosity. SOS has performed extensively in their home country of the Philippines and across Asia, including Singapore, Thailand, Taiwan, and Japan. Their latest track *Roses* and their upcoming new double EP are their first release under Careless Music.

nkei (Singapore) 7 Oct 2023, Sat, 8.50pm Annexe (Esplanade Annexe Studio) Free, Pre-registration is required



Saturated with raw emotion, the songs of alt-R&B duo nkei are pure expressions of love and life.

Formed in 2020, nkei bonds the songwriting inclinations of Raizel Gonzales and Ian Lee into pure expression of love and life.

With influences spanning R&B, jazz and folk, nkei creates music through earnest songwriting, instrument-driven arrangements, and intention with production.

Saturated with raw emotion, songs like *You* and *No*—as well as arresting live performances—have garnered the duo a fervent cult following in Singapore and beyond.

Mary Sue and the Clementi Sound Appreciation Club (Singapore) 8 Oct 2023, Sun, 6pm Annexe (Esplanade Annexe Studio) Free, Pre-registration is required



Singaporean rapper-producer Mary Sue's evolving soundscape of introspective, stream of consciousness writing juxtaposed alongside sludgy, fractured sample loops has garnered critical praise and a devoted following. With the support of the Clementi Sound Appreciation Club and multiple guest acts, audiences can expect refreshing new takes of songs from his repertoire, while paying homage to the sounds of jazz, soul and hip hop that has inspired his musical journey.

A rapper and producer hailing from Singapore, Mary Sue started making and releasing music during the pandemic. Sue's glitchy, sample-heavy sound paired with introspective lyrics has helped him develop a growing presence in the underground abstract hip hop scenes in the US, UK and Australia, as well as releasing music with London based hip-hop collective Higher Self. Sue released his debut album *KISSES OF LIFE* in February 2022, which was critically praised and featured on multiple online music publications such as Best Hip Hop on Bandcamp, NME, and HipHop-DX.

Baybeats X Ear Up Global – WHIZZ (Hong Kong) 8 Oct 2023, Sun, 7.40pm Annexe (Esplanade Annexe Studio) Free, Pre-registration is required



Formed by four women, WHIZZ creates an atmosphere of groovy and rhythmic music for audiences to immerse themselves into. As an up-and-coming band from Hong Kong, WHIZZ often speaks the hearts of their young peers as they face reality and difficult emotions head on: "Time whizzes past, just listen and enjoy yourself." WHIZZ's light-hearted music has attracted a wide audience to jump along with them.

Besides playing festivals in Hong Kong, Taiwan and the US, WHIZZ has released two albums and are set to perform their first solo show in Taipei this year.

(40mins, no intermission)

About Ear Up Global

Ear Up Global is a project designed to nurture budding music talents from Hong Kong. Initiated by Ear Up Music, this programme offers musicians the opportunity to showcase their original new music on a global stage, all the while building valuable international connections.

Selected participants will be paired with experienced musicians in a mentorship dynamic. These acts will take part in diverse cultural exchange activities with music professionals and institutions in the host city. This includes performing at international music festivals together. Once back in Hong Kong, each act will share their experiences and festival performances with fellow musicians and the public in a dedicated music festival.

Feez (Singapore) 8 Oct 2023, Sun, 8.50pm Annexe (Esplanade Annexe Studio) Free, Pre-registration is required



Hailing from a musically inclined family, Canadian-born R&B and pop artist Feez came to Singapore in 2019 and has since been creating music that unifies both his Canadian and Singaporean roots. Inspired by his singer parents and recording artist sister, Feez has been steadily building momentum over the past three years, performing live and featuring on tracks with other rising artists.

Upon signing with hip hop and R&B imprint label HVT Entertainment, Feez has released four singles: *UNDER* featuring YHBSleepsAlot, *Tipu Lagi, Back Again* featuring YAø and Syaz Smooth, all of which showcase his bilingual capabilities in English and Bahasa Melayu, as well as his latest release, *Balik*, which garnered 10,000 streams in three days. He has also gone on to perform alongside other Southeast Asian acts at local and regional music festivals and concerts such as Majulah Music Night, Majulah Live, Majulah Made in S.E.A and UTOPIASZN.

As a result of his innate love for dancing, Feez is a natural performer, having his performances accompanied by renowned Singapore dance crews at shows such as IGNITE! Music Festival and Majulah Block Party.

With tracks that always keep you moving, Feez creates a style that is uniquely his by marrying together his musical influences such as Chris Brown, Michael Jackson and Drake, as evident in his latest releases. Determined to showcase Singapore's talent to the world, Feez is currently picking up the tempo and expanding on his English releases.

Arena DBS Foundation Outdoor Theatre at Esplanade

Count Vernon (Singapore) 6 Oct 2023, Fri, 7pm Arena (DBS Foundation Outdoor Theatre at Esplanade)



Count on *Baybeats Budding Band* Count Vernon to showcase a high-powered live performance, filled with anthemic tunes and earnest emotion.

Count Vernon is an indie rock project fronted by vocalist and guitarist Eli Ordonez. Joined by Joshua Lau, Marc Ho and Joshua Yong, the band's unique blend of anthemic tunes, glitchy electronics and earnest emotion shines through in their high-powered live performances.

The band dropped the single *Sisyphus* on 25 Aug 2023, and will release their highly anticipated debut album *The Nomad Diaries* in October 2023.

Count Vernon is a Baybeats Budding Band.

Krunkle (Singapore) 6 Oct 2023, Fri, 8pm Arena (DBS Foundation Outdoor Theatre at Esplanade)



Armed with a repertoire of infectious melodies, Singapore four-piece band Krunkle fuses '90s alternative rock with their own contemporary sensibilities.

Singaporean four-piece outfit Krunkle emerges into the scene by embodying the essence of '90s alternative rock, blended with scrappy noise pop influences. Their music resonates with the nostalgia of adolescence, overflowing with infectious melodies that capture the exhilarating journey of self-discovery. With overdriven guitars and evocative leads, Krunkle crafts a sonic tapestry that seamlessly merges the past with contemporary sensibilities, appealing to both nostalgic listeners and those seeking fresh sounds.

Orange Ocean (China) 6 Oct 2023, Fri, 9.10pm Arena (DBS Foundation Outdoor Theatre at Esplanade)



Wade into the lush, romantic ocean landscapes of breakout band Orange Ocean from Qingdao, China.

Britpop-inspired band Orange Ocean stands out in China's burgeoning indie music scene thanks to the yearning nostalgia embedded in their music, which reflect the band's unique worldview. Hailing from Qingdao, China, the band comprises members 2KM (vocals and guitar), Xiao Lu (bass) and Qingxi (drums).

With infectious melodies and ingenious guitar riffs, the band creates lush ocean-romantic soundscapes, evident in their full-length debut record, *Tears in Ocean* (2019). The band saw immediate success with this record, racking up more than 300 million streams on Chinese DSP with breakout tracks *Summer Cozy Rock* and *You Nuan Chi*.

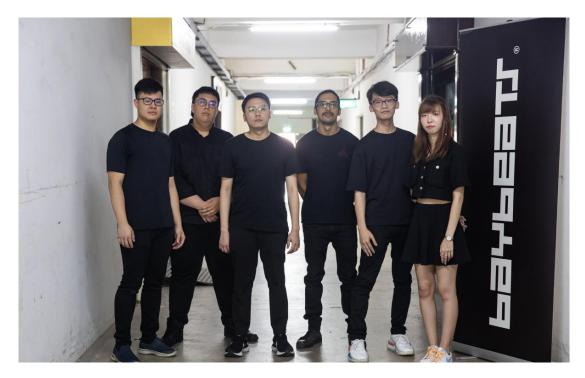
Cesspit (Singapore) 6 Oct 2023, Fri, 10.20pm Arena (DBS Foundation Outdoor Theatre at Esplanade)



Photo credit: Shahrul

Cesspit is a six-piece ska band from Singapore influenced by punk rock, folk, traditional, Latin and reggae. Originally an Oi! band, they formed in 1995 and crossed over to ska with the introduction of a horn section. In 2003, signed under a local established underground record company: STRAITS RECORDS and released their first debut titled *Best Before 050403*. Dishing out originals in their repertoire, the band's catchy tunes and infectious horn lines are sure to captivate and keep the audience grooving with the band!

M.Y.T.H (Singapore) 7 Oct 2023, Sat, 5.30pm Arena (DBS Foundation Outdoor Theatre at Esplanade)



M.Y.T.H is a guitar-forward instrumental rock band with inflections of heavy metal and other eclectic influences, including electronic music, jazz and classical music.

Born from the dreams of two guitar players in Singapore, M.Y.T.H brings together instrumentalists who infuse the sounds of heavy metal and rock with elements of other genres such as electronic, jazz and classical music. Journey with them into an immersive soundscape filled with headbanging rhythms, groove-heavy melodies and wild orchestrations.

M.Y.T.H is a Baybeats Budding Band.

The Workshop (Singapore) 7 Oct 2023, Sat, 6.40pm Arena (DBS Foundation Outdoor Theatre at Esplanade)



Enter The Workshop and slip into the groove of this band's addictive funk and hip hop tunes that are bound to get you moving.

The Workshop opens shop in the Singapore music scene with their adrenaline-inducing presence commanded by the main vocalist himself, San. Each time The Workshop gets on stage, the atmosphere heightens in anticipation of the band's palpable musical chemistry and magnetic stage presence that translate into high-octane sets. Being one of the few hip hop bands in Singapore, The Workshop always has customers waiting to soothe their eardrums with the sounds of the underground.

The Workshop is a Baybeats Budding Band.

Capt'n Trips and The Kid (Malaysia) 7 Oct 2023, Sat, 7.40pm Arena (DBS Foundation Outdoor Theatre at Esplanade)



A six-piece band from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Capt'n Trips and The Kid have become known for their psychedelic and alt-rock sounds, shared with the world through multiple EP and album releases.

With the release of their new album *Synthtech*, the band ventures outside of their usual sonic repertoire, blending their familiar psychedelic boom with hints of electronica, Krautrock and also modern World music. The album has been coined by JUICE Magazine as "an 11-track assemblage of groovy, foot-tapping tunes that integrate the sexiness of bossa nova and the kookiness of early 2000s' electro."

The band embarked on its first ever headlining tour in 2023, the *Invasive Species Tour* which saw them travelling across peninsula Malaysia and Singapore, promoting the release of *Synthtech* with the support of Kyoto Protocol, Cactus Cactus and many other artists.

Paint The Sky Red (Singapore) 7 Oct 2023, Sat, 8.50pm Arena (DBS Foundation Outdoor Theatre at Esplanade)



Be enveloped in the evocative soundscapes of instrumental rock band Paint The Sky Red, as the band previews tracks from their upcoming fourth album, *Tamat.*

In anticipation of their upcoming fourth studio album, *Tamat,* Paint The Sky Red will preview two new tracks in this *Baybeats* set. Fans can also look forward to old favourites from previous releases such as *Not All Who Wonder Are Lost* (2015) and *There is a Tomorrow You Don't Know* (2019).

Formed in 2011, Paint The Sky Red is a four-piece instrumental rock band from Singapore. Drawing inspiration from post-rock and ambient music, the band melds melodic riffs with evocative soundscapes, styling their instrumental tracks as self-reflective narratives. Their music conjures hope, yearning and curiosity, painting potent imageries through memorable guitar melodies and intensely cathartic crescendos. Through their emotive music, Paint The Sky Red hopes to find meaning in moments of uncertainty—nostalgic pasts and anxious futures, fragile moments and personal struggles that reflect life itself.

The band's immersive and enveloping performances have drawn fans from Singapore and around the world, and they hope that their latest release can once again act as avenues for catharsis for anyone who listens to their music.

The Panturas (Indonesia) 7 Oct 2023, Sat, 10pm Arena (DBS Foundation Outdoor Theatre at Esplanade)



Ride the waves with The Panturas as they bring the beach to you with their vintage sound and surf rock melodies from albums *Ombak Banyu Asmara* and *Mabuk Laut*.

The Panturas is a surf rock band from a place nowhere near the ocean—Jatinangor in Indonesia—comprising Abyan (vocals and guitar), Rizal (guitar), Bagus Patria (bass) and Surya (drums). Formed in early 2016 and inspired by the likes of The Ventures, Dick Dale and Eka Sapta, The Panturas brings summer ocean tunes reminiscent of music from the '70s with their own contemporary twist. Their first single *Fisherman's Slut* grabbed the attention of audiences and quickly swept them into the spotlight.

Since the release of their first album *Mabuk Laut* in 2018 and its launch party in Bandung and Jakarta, The Panturas has sailed across various places, performing at micro-gigs to major festivals in Indonesia.

Their second album, *Ombak Banyu Asmara* (2021) took The Panturas to places they have never been before. Just like a ritual, they created another showcase for their new release under the name of Wahana Ombak Banyu Asmara in Bandung, Yogyakarta, and Jakarta. The Panturas successfully presented these sold-out shows with more than 3,000 audience members in attendance, organised independently without supporting sponsors. The band continues to make waves in Southeast Asia and beyond, bringing their Nusantara surf-rock sound to shores everywhere.

Taledrops (Singapore) 8 Oct 2023, Sun, 5.30pm Arena (DBS Foundation Outdoor Theatre at Esplanade)



Taledrops brings the drama with their unique theatricality, driven by a blend of prog-rock, metal and classical music.

Theatricality and drama, with emotionally charged lyrics that touch on themes reflecting social issues and personal growth. Drawing inspiration from artists such as MUSE and Nothing But Thieves, Taledrops's influences range from progressive rock to classical music, constantly evolving as they band experiments with new styles to create a sonic palette that is uniquely their own.

Taledrops is a Baybeats Budding Band.

Thy Howler (Singapore) 8 Oct 2023, Sun, 6.40pm Arena (DBS Foundation Outdoor Theatre at Esplanade)



Conceptually driven and sonically ambitious, Thy Howler is a dynamic alt-rock band that creates elaborate compositions with introspective lyrics.

Hailing from Singapore, Thy Howler is a dynamic alt-rock band comprising five young and talented musicians. With influences such as Deftones, Muse and Nothing But Thieves, the band roots itself in strong conceptual foundations, creating elaborate compositions filled with introspective lyrics about melancholy, hope, ambition and loneliness. Through the raw talent and musicality, they hope to forge a profound connection with their listeners and continue to make waves in Singapore's alt-rock scene.

Thy Howler is a Baybeats Budding Band.

Sun Cell (Singapore) 8 Oct 2023, Sun, 7.40pm Arena (DBS Foundation Outdoor Theatre at Esplanade)



Simultaneously wistful and hopeful, Singapore synth pop act Sun Cell creates lush soundscapes with folk-inspired vocals.

The solo project of artist-producer Daryl Hor, Sun Cell draws from the visceral nature of '80s new wave and post-punk. Their lush soundscape of downtempo electronica along with folk-inspired vocal stylings invokes nostalgia for days gone, and a yearning for days to come.

In his first full-length album, audiences can expect everything from catchy guitar-driven indie rock to introspective soundscapes inspired by shoegaze. A catalogue riddled with peaks and valleys; much like life itself.

Baybeats X GMA – I Mean Us (Taiwan) 8 Oct 2023, Sun, 8.50pm Arena (DBS Foundation Outdoor Theatre at Esplanade)



Citing influences from Sigur Rós, M83 and Agnes Obel, I Mean Us is a Taiwanese band who describes their music as a meeting of dream pop and alternative rock, combining a wide range of musical styles across post-rock, psych rock, shoegaze and classical music.

Following the success from their debut album *OST* and their sold-out debut show, I Mean Us began touring Asia and internationally at notable events such as SxSW (USA), ASEAN Music Showcase Festival (Singapore), Zandari Festa (Korea), Busan International Rock Festival (Korea), among others. Their second album, *Into Innerverse*, received nominations for Best Band at Golden Melody Awards in Taiwan and Best Alternative Single at Golden Indie Music Awards for their soundtrack 24 Years Old of You. They have also gained recognition from Freshmusic Awards (FMA) as well as Taiwan Asean Music Action (TAMA).

Brimming with potential and possibilities, I Mean Us continues to work towards becoming icons for indie and alternative music.

(40mins, no intermission)

About Golden Melody Awards (GMA)

The Golden Melody Festival was first held in 2014 and it will mark a milestone for celebrating its 10th anniversary. The Golden Melody Festival has become the most influential international B2B music festival for Mandarin pop in Asia. Each year, the Golden Melody Festival introduces new industry trends from the global market, offers real opportunities for international exchanges, and promotes Mandarin pop to the global market.

Death of Heather (Thailand) 8 Oct 2023, Sun, 10pm Arena (DBS Foundation Outdoor Theatre at Esplanade)



Bursting onto the Thai indie music scene in 2017, shoegaze soundsmiths Death of Heather quickly garnered a following for their intensity, conviction and emotive delivery. Expect to be engulfed in a barrage of experimental sounds imbued with delicate melodies and soul-reaching honesty.

Comprising vocalist Tay, drummer Non, bassist Thong and guitarist Nune, the band released their first EP *Demo I* in 2018, with the single *I Can Tell* topping Thailand's Cat Radio Chart's Top 20 songs for four weeks straight. In 2019, they were the only Thai band to be invited to South Korea's Asia Indie Music Showcase, and later made their mark internationally with their self-titled album in 2020. In 2022, the band signed with the Bangkok-based Small Room Label.

Chillout Stage

Esplanade Concourse

Tres Empre (Malaysia) 6 Oct 2023, Fri, 6.30pm and 8.30pm Chillout Stage (Esplanade Concourse)



Having made a comeback in 2022 after a five-year hiatus, experimental/post-hardcore band Tres Empre continues to push boundaries with their evolving sound.

Emerging from Kuala Lumpur, Tres Empre is a dynamic experimental/post-hardcore band who has been active since 2008. Their innovative fusion of sounds spans experimental exploration and raw post-hardcore emotion. The band first released the EP *Division of Dreamers* in 2012 followed by the full-length *Antagonist* in 2014, touring to numerous venues in Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, The Philippines and Japan with these records and playing alongside bands like Underoath, Circa Survive, and Architects.

In 2017, the band collectively decided on a hiatus, returning five years later in 2022 with a renewed sound in the single *Kejar Tuhan*, quickly followed by *Tatkala* and *Jajahan Bangga*. With unwavering creativity, Tres Empre continue to captivate audiences across Asia.

Baybeats X Ear Up Global – Lester Lam (Hong Kong) 6 Oct 2023, Fri, 7.30pm and 9.30pm Chillout Stage (Esplanade Concourse)



Bask in the soulful and stirring vocals of genre-fluid singer-songwriter Lester Lam.

Hong Kong based singer-songwriter Lester Lam from Malaysia showcases his flair for storytelling through pensive, heart-wrenching and introspective tunes. Seamlessly fusing R&B, pop and indie sensibilities into his tracks, Lester Lam delivers wistful vocals on his originals such as *Rain On Me* and *Sailing Boat*.

(30mins, no intermission)

About Ear Up Global

Ear Up Global is a project designed to nurture budding music talents from Hong Kong. Initiated by Ear Up Music, this programme offers musicians the opportunity to showcase their original new music on a global stage, all the while building valuable international connections.

Selected participants will be paired with experienced musicians in a mentorship dynamic. These acts will take part in diverse cultural exchange activities with music professionals and institutions in the host city. This includes performing at international music festivals together. Once back in Hong Kong, each act will share their experiences and festival performances with fellow musicians and the public in a dedicated music festival.

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In his first full-length album, audiences can expect everything from catchy guitar-driven indie rock to introspective soundscapes inspired by shoegaze. A catalogue riddled with peaks and valleys; much like life itself.

Krunkle (Singapore) 7 Oct 2023, Sat, 7pm and 9pm Chillout Stage (Esplanade Concourse)



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The band embarked on its first ever headlining tour in 2023, the *Invasive Species Tour* which saw them travelling across peninsula Malaysia and Singapore, promoting the release of *Synthtech* with the support of Kyoto Protocol, Cactus Cactus and many other artists.

Baybeats X Ear Up Global – Club Fiasco (Hong Kong) 8 Oct 2023, Sun, 7pm and 9pm Chillout Stage (Esplanade Concourse)



Influenced by Western synth-pop, Club Fiasco is an electronic duo that aims to bring audiences into new dimensions with punchy beats and abstract synth wave.

The two members of Club Fiasco, electronic musician Fiasco and singer-songwriter Kenneth, have been combining strong rhythms, romantic melodies and cathartic lyrics in response to challenges in their daily lives.

Fresh and full of charisma, Club Fiasco's live performances are known to be uplifting, filled with the band's fun and joyfulness that can be felt from the very first note. Dance with Club Fiasco till the end!

(30mins, no intermission)

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