

Esplanade Presents

## **Jazz in July 2022**

1 – 31 Jul 2022

[www.esplanade.com/jazzinjuly](http://www.esplanade.com/jazzinjuly)



Dear friends of the media,

What is jazz to you? Do you think of a crooner singing to the tinkling of the ivories, and the patter of drum brushes? Or the velvety murmur of the saxophone? Or perhaps it brings to mind a frenetic melody, moving in complex and angular directions?

The difficulty in pinning down what jazz is comes from the fact that it is not one single thing. Its expressions are as varied as the emotions we experience in life. It is steeped in history, yet evolves with every era.

Possibly the longest-running annual jazz event in Singapore, Esplanade's *Jazz in July* is the month when we explore the varied expressions of this music. And this year, we celebrate its 15th edition! We are grateful for the continued support from the Singaporean jazz community, who will be bringing to our stages their diverse offerings, from breezy ballads to edgy free improvisation.

At the same time, we would also like to welcome our guests from the region and further abroad—from Brazil, Indonesia, Hungary, Korea, Thailand, Taiwan, and the United States. Aside from sharing their unique styles of jazz music, we look forward to the friendships and connections that will be formed through the various jams and interactions.

We are set for an exciting 31 days of jazz performances and workshops, and hope you'll come down to join us in this musical celebration. Regardless of your tastes and inclinations, we're sure you'll discover a flavour of jazz that's just right for you.

We look forward to welcoming you at Esplanade!

**Tan XiangHui**

Producer

The Esplanade Co Ltd

## 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. Esplanade also brings the arts virtually to audiences in Singapore and beyond, through its diverse range of digital programmes on [Esplanade Offstage](#), 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.

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.

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.

Turning 20 in 2022, Esplanade marks the occasion with a year-long celebration themed *20 and Beyond: Keeping the Lights On*. In addition to the presentations of its year-long festivals, programme series, and special initiatives and events, there will also be a season of new works by Singapore and Asian artists specially commissioned for the arts centre's 20th anniversary and official opening of its newest venue, Singtel Waterfront Theatre.

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 the Charity Transparency Award for four consecutive years since 2016. 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](https://www.esplanade.com) for more information.

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Issued by *The Esplanade Co Ltd*.

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## **Annexe**

Esplanade Presents

**Jazz in July 2022**

1 – 31 Jul 2022

[www.esplanade.com/jazzinjuly](http://www.esplanade.com/jazzinjuly)

What is jazz?

Jazz is Freedom. Fun. Romantic. Dirty. Classy. Soothing.

And that's what *Jazz in July* is about—a flavour of jazz for everyone! Featuring a diverse range of performances and workshops suitable for the jazz lovers and those who are curious about jazz, the month-long festival digs into the freshest grooves of leading jazz cats from Singapore and abroad.

Jazz is Life.

More programmes to be released soon!

## **TICKETED PERFORMANCES**

**Lucy Yeghiazaryan (Armenia/USA)**

10 Jul 2022, Sun, 8pm

Esplanade Recital Studio



“Lucy has it all, an incredible tone, time that drives the band and that other “something” that makes you say this is the real thing. Definitely one of a kind.” – *Grant Stewart*

Making her debut in Singapore, American-Armenian vocalist Lucy Yeghiazaryan has become a leading voice in straight-ahead jazz by bringing the richness of her heritage together with her love for the American artform. Joining her in this enchanting evening are guitarist Greg Ruggiero and bassist Vince Dupont.

### About Lucy Yeghiazaryan

Lucy Yeghiazaryan is an American Armenian vocalist who has become a leading voice in American straight-ahead jazz by bringing the richness of her heritage together with her love for the ultimate American artform. She is a recipient of grants from the Doris Duke Foundation, Chamber Music America and the New York Foundation for the Arts. She has shared the stage with Harold Mabern, Houston Person, Grant Stewart, Terrell Stafford, Bernadette Peters, Arto Tunçboyacıyan and many more. She works regularly with the Emmet Cohen trio and can be found performing in and outside of the United States with appearances at Jazz at Lincoln Center, Birdland, Mezzrow, Symphony Space and more. She was a top ten finalist in the 2015 Thelonious Monk Competition and holds a degree in World History in addition to being a skilled classical violinist. Her debut album, *Blue Heaven*, was released in 2019 on Cellar Live Records and was followed by the album *In Her Words* on La\_Reserve Records in 2021 which was sponsored by The Women's Fund of New York Foundation for the Arts. Her third album, *Lonely House* will be released in late 2022.

<https://lucyjazznyc.com/>

1hr 15mins, no intermission

\$38

Limited concessions for students, PWDs, NSF's and seniors: \$30

*Esplanade&Me* Specials

Black & White: 15% savings | Discover (Min. 2 tickets): 10% savings

## Aaron Burnett & The Big Machine (USA)

22 Jul 2022, Fri, 8pm

Esplanade Recital Studio



In *Jupiter Conject* Aaron Burnett & The Big Machine there is a very special conjunction of stars that fill the space with unlimited layers of sound. Aaron Burnett's performance is electric with challenging power and energy throughout."

—Begoña Villalobos

If Aaron Burnett makes music that reflects the times we're living in, then the saxophonist's *Jupiter Conject* is an earnest and introspective journey in search of hope, clarity, and momentum.

—Ivana Ng, *Down Beat*

New York City based saxophone wizard Aaron Burnett and his ensemble extends from the lineage of jazz's greatest freeform improvisers. The quartet is a virtuosic collective that purveys a high energy brand of boundary pushing, stream of consciousness sound, manifesting the shape of jazz to come.

Burnette has been featured on two Grammy winning albums—Esperanza Spalding's *12 Little Spells* and *Songwrights Apothecary Lab*. He has also collaborated with leading artists of the jazz world, including Ravi Coltrane, Peter Evans, and more. Attempting to reflect the times we live in, he is on an endless search for new ways to express his music, always moving forward.

### Line-Up

Tenor Saxophone: Aaron Burnett

Piano: Jon Elbaz.

Bass: Nick Jozwiak

Drums: Kush Abadey

1hr 15mins, no intermission

\$38

Limited concessions for students, PWDs, NSFs and seniors: \$30

*Esplanade&Me* Specials

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## Joyce Moreno (Brazil)

29 Jul 2022, Fri, 7.30pm & 10pm  
Esplanade Recital Studio



Making her debut at *Jazz in July* is four-time Grammy nominee and bossa nova doyenne Joyce Moreno. Accompanied by drummer extraordinaire Tutty Moreno, join them as they perform her musical canon from 1968 till today.

### About Joyce Moreno

Born in Rio de Janeiro, four-time Grammy nominee, singer, composer, arranger and instrumentalist Joyce Moreno has over 400 recordings of songs she authored and interpreted from the greatest names in Brazilian popular music—from Elis Regina and Gal Costa to Milton Nascimento, Sergio Mendes, and countless others. Beyond Brazil, Moreno's work has been recorded by Annie Lennox, Wallace Roney, Omara Portuondo, Black Eyed Peas, David Sanchez, Jon Lucien, Claus Ogerman, Gerry Mulligan, Till Brönner and Flora Purim, to name a few.

Moreno's compositions have been featured in film soundtracks such as *The Player* by Robert Altman and *Legally Blonde* by Robert Luketic, Japanese anime *Wolf's Rain*, in partnership with composer Yoko Kanno, TV programmes and theatrical productions. Her music was embraced by DJs all over the world in the early '90s, when her track *Aldeia de Ogum* became a massive worldwide dancefloor hit, with numerous remixes.

Moreno is best known for pioneering first-person, feminine voice in Brazilian music which paved the way for countless other artists. She received four nominations at the Latin Grammys in 2000, 2004, 2005 and 2010, and numerous awards, worldwide and in Brazil. To date, she has released 39 personal CDs and two DVDs, in addition to numerous compilations and guest appearances. Her album recordings and annual tours including the Japanese Blue Note circuit take her all over the world but she never forgets her feminine Brazilian identity.

In 2015, her musical work was honoured in *Joyce Meets Berklee*—a concert where she performed with a 25-piece orchestra at Berklee College of Music.

<http://www.joycemoreno.com>

1hr 15mins, no intermission

\$38^, \$40

Limited concessions for students, PWDs, NSF's and seniors: \$30^

*Esplanade&Me* Specials

Black & White: 15% savings | Discover (Min. 2 tickets): 10% savings

## TICKETED WORKSHOPS

### **Jazz Vocal Masterclass by Lucy Yeghiazaryan**

10 Jul 2022, Sun, 5pm

Esplanade Recital Studio



Learn from Lucy Yeghiazaryan as she guides selected local jazz singers on the technicalities of jazz singing and how to present oneself as a jazz vocalist. Follow along as she shares her knowledge and ideas on the importance of form, sound and voice to master this art form.

#### About Lucy Yeghiazaryan

Lucy Yeghiazaryan is an American Armenian vocalist who has become a leading voice in American straight-ahead jazz by bringing the richness of her heritage together with her love for the ultimate American artform. She is a recipient of grants from the Doris Duke Foundation, Chamber Music America and the New York Foundation for the Arts. She has shared the stage with Harold Mabern, Houston Person, Grant Stewart, Terrell Stafford, Bernadette Peters, Arto Tunçboyacıyan and many more. She works regularly with the Emmet Cohen trio and can be found performing in and outside of the United States with appearances at Jazz at Lincoln Center, Birdland, Mezzrow, Symphony Space and more. She was a top ten finalist in the 2015 Thelonious Monk Competition and holds a degree in World History in addition to being a skilled classical violinist. Her debut album, *Blue Heaven*, was released in 2019 on Cellar Live Records and was followed by the album *In Her Words* on La\_Reserve Records in 2021 which was sponsored by The Women's Fund of New York Foundation for the Arts. Her third album, *Lonely House* will be released in late 2022.

<https://lucyjazznyc.com/>

1hr, no intermission

\$5

## Rhythm & Harmony Workshop by Aaron Burnett

23 Jul 2022, Sat, 3pm

Esplanade Recital Studio



In this workshop, Aaron Burnett discusses the implementation of Venetian school classical techniques and African American rhythmic influences on jazz music. The workshop will also cover voice leading, advanced polytonal harmony and other compositional techniques in the creation of melodic content.

This workshop is recommended for music practitioners and composers.

### About Aaron Burnett

New York City based saxophone wizard Aaron Burnett extends from the lineage of jazz's greatest freeform improvisers. He has been featured on two Grammy winning albums— Esperanza Spalding's *12 Little Spells* and *Songwrights Apothecary Lab*. He has also collaborated with leading artists of the jazz world including Ravi Coltrane, Peter Evans and more. Attempting to reflect the times we live in, he is on an endless search for new ways to express his music, always moving forward.

1hr 15mins, no intermission

\$5

## **Sambajazz & Bossa Nova Workshop by Joyce Moreno**

28 Jul 2022, Thu, 8pm

Esplanade Rehearsal Studio



Join bossa queen Joyce Moreno as she shares tips on playing sambajazz and bossa nova in this intimate workshop.

### About Joyce Moreno

Born in Rio de Janeiro, four-time Grammy nominee, singer, composer, arranger and instrumentalist Joyce Moreno has over 400 recordings of songs she authored and interpreted from the greatest names in Brazilian popular music—from Elis Regina and Gal Costa to Milton Nascimento, Sergio Mendes, and countless others. Beyond Brazil, Moreno's work has been recorded by Annie Lennox, Wallace Roney, Omara Portuondo, Black Eyed Peas, David Sanchez, Jon Lucien, Claus Ogerman, Gerry Mulligan, Till Brönner and Flora Purim, to name a few.

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In 2015, her musical work was honoured in *Joyce Meets Berklee*—a concert where she performed with a 25-piece orchestra at Berklee College of Music.

<http://www.joycemoreno.com>

1hr, no intermission

\$5

## **FREE PROGRAMMES**

### **Date Night Friday: The PLF Connection**

**by Alexandra Hsieh, Teo Boon Chye, Eugene Ang, Ignatius Bong & Pablo Calzado**

1 Jul 2022, Fri

7pm & 8.15pm

Esplanade Concourse



Longtime friends and collaborators, Alexandra Hsieh, Teo Boon Chye, Eugene Ang, Ignatius Bong and Pablo Calzado have performed together in countless shows since 2016. They have built a wonderful camaraderie and chemistry through the past seven years. Vocalist Hsieh anchors the project's live shows with an indefatigable charisma that compliments the band's sensitivity and musical strengths.

This amazing line-up of some of the most engaging live performers in Singapore, come together once again this July, to celebrate another season of friendship and music, recreating some of the most well-loved smooth jazz and groovy fusion tunes. Together, they combine their powers resulting in a brilliant technical display of creative collaboration. Join The PLF Connection for a wonderful repertoire and a most enjoyable evening.

45 mins, no intermission

## Stompin at the Savoy: Dance Music from the Swing Era by Sinclair Ang & His Rhythmakers

1 Jul 2022, Fri

7.15pm & 8.45pm

Esplanade Outdoor Theatre



In the early days, jazz was both popular and dance music—and The Rhythmakers hopes to bring jazz back to the popular consciousness of the modern audience through infectious toe tappin' and feet groovin' tunes!

Together with dancers from Jazz Inc, and the lindy hop community, not often heard tunes like *Christopher Columbus*, *Goody Goody*, *The Big Apple Contest*, and *You Turned the Tables on Me* will be featured for your listening and dancing pleasure.

The Rhythmakers is a collective led by Jazz Inc founder Sinclair Ang and seeks to promote music from the swing era, when jazz was both dance and popular music.

As a jazz specialist and trained educator, Sinclair Ang has presented the music, dance, and history of jazz to people of all ages—through classes, events, festivals, schools, as well as institutions like Esplanade. As a dancer, he has taught and performed authentic jazz and lindy hop in over 20 countries for almost 20 years. He has been a singer and bandleader of The Rhythmakers. He has brought authentic swing dance music to dancers for many years now, and has sat in with some of the best dance bands and musicians around the world. He was mentored by international jazz stars Aaron Goldberg, Matt Penman, and Camilla Meza, and learnt from many local jazz greats as well. His research has not only brought him to understand jazz music and dance historically, but has also been commissioned by Esplanade to write a series of articles on Singapore's jazz scene.

The Rhythmakers line-up for *Jazz in July* sets are:

Amanda (keys, vocals)  
Eriko Murakami (trombone)  
Fabian Lee (bass)  
Liu Yonglun (guitar)  
Raf Soundwalker (drums)  
Sinclair Ang (vocals)  
Xavier Lim (sax)  
Yohei Kanda (drums)

<http://linktr.ee/jazzincsg>

45 mins, no intermission

## Anson Fung Guitar Trio ft. Namie Rasman

2 Jul 2022, Sat

4pm & 5pm

Esplanade Concourse



Join Anson Fung and his guitar trio, along with vocalist Namie Rasman as they bring you a selection of reimagined jazz standards and pop compositions, in an electric jazz setting.

Musicians:

Anson Fung - guitar

Daryl Chen - bass

Anson Koh - drums

Namie Rasman – vocals

### About Anson Fung

Anson Fung is an experienced cross-genre guitarist. Self-taught since age 15, he decided to pursue a career in music and enrolled in LASALLE College of the Arts. Fung was chosen to represent LASALLE in the annual Swissnex Christmas party in conjunction with the Lausanne Conservatory. He was also selected from the entire graduating cohort to be featured in Lianhe Zaobao. Fung regularly performs at events and functions and has also played with several notable local and international artists, such as Benny Golson, Alemay Fernandez and Jeremy Monterio. He currently performs as a session guitarist around town and internationally, in addition to leading, managing and performing with his R&B acts, Grind Effect and Anson Road, his blues band The Blues Initiative, and his jazz acts, the Anson Fung Organ Trio, Guitar Trio and Quartet.

### About Namie Rasman

Singaporean vocalist Namie Rasman started out singing jazz standards in 2015 while pursuing her Bachelor of Arts in Music (Jazz Performance). She has also collaborated with various musicians in different settings, from an acoustic duo to a 20-piece big band! In 2019, she took on the pseudonym NAMIE, performing with her electronic set up. As a solo artist she has released four tracks since January 2020. Her first single *Queenfisher* was featured in the National Day Parade 2020 evening show. She's also part of other bands such as The Jazz Djogets and Namie & The Waves.

30mins, no intermission

## **Sharik Hasan Trio**

2 Jul 2022, Sat

7.30pm & 8.45pm

Esplanade Concourse



This performance will consist of modern interpretations of well-known jazz standards and original compositions by Sharik Hasan.

### About Sharik Hasan

Sharik Hasan is one of the leading pianists and composers of his generation to emerge from India. Based in New York City, he has garnered a reputation for his exceptional virtuosity and versatility, making him the top-call pianist for many well-known bands and venues. He tours much of the year internationally with the world-famous Postmodern Jukebox as well as his own band, MND FLO. In 2021, he joined the faculty as professor at the Berklee College of Music.

This performance will consist of modern interpretations of well-known jazz standards and original compositions by Sharik Hasan, in the classic piano trio format.

45mins, no intermission

## Loop Doctors (Hungary)

2 Jul 2022, Sat

7pm & 8.30pm

Esplanade Outdoor Theatre



Loop Doctors play a medley of different styles, including jazz, drum and bass, jungle, hip-hop and rap, spiced with effects and samples. An overall category could be nu jazz, but Loop Doctors can also be seen in clubs, where people actually dance to the music. Loop Doctors usually perform as a duo with Peter Szendofi on an octa-pad, from which the grooves, bass lines and additional synths are played, and also on the acoustic drums. Aron Romhanyi plays keys, as well as vocals and rap. Since 2006 they regularly tour as a duo, but also with special guests including Gary Willis (bass), Eric Marienthal (sax), Brandon Fields (sax), Chris Hunter (sax), Roalnd Szentpáli (tuba), Llibert Fortuny (sax) and Varga Gergő (sax). In this performance, they will play as a duo and introduce their latest album, *Frontier Science*.

The basic idea for Loop Doctors came in 2005, when founding members of the band, Aron Romhanyi and Peter Szendofi came together with Gary Willis for Szendofi's solo album recording. The band was eventually formed, with special guests Gary Willis on bass and Kornél Fekete-Kovács on trumpet. Together, they recorded the first album *High Voltage*.

### Albums

*High Voltage* featuring Gary Willis on bass was released in 2006, and received best jazz album of the year at the Fonogram – Hungarian Music Awards 2008. Their second album *White Orange Black* (2008) featured classical tuba virtuoso and composer Roland Szentpáli, who broke barriers of modern arrangement with the unique use of tuba as a bass instrument. *Entering a Room* was recorded at Peter Karl Studios, New York City in 2014 and featured Chris Hunter, Gary Willis, Brandon Fields and Roland Szentpáli.

[www.loopdoctors.com](http://www.loopdoctors.com)

45mins, no intermission

## Simplicius Cheong Quartet

3 Jul 2022, Sun

5pm & 6.15pm

Esplanade Concourse



Sydney-based jazz pianist Simplicius Cheong began his career as a musician in 1958, performing in Singapore's historical dance venues such as the Golden Venus, as well as other hotels and clubs. Now approaching his 80th birthday, Cheong returns to *Jazz in July*, leading a quartet that will perform classic standards of the swing era.

Band line-Up:

Rit Xu – Flutist

Eugene Chew – Bassist

Tama Goh – Drummer

Simplicius Cheong – Arranger, Composer and Pianist.

### About Simplicius Cheong

Composer and pianist Simplicius Cheong became a professional jazz pianist at 18, playing in various jazz venues in Singapore. A producer of music programmes on radio and television in Singapore and also at the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC), Cheong has composed a range of works such as his *Symphony No 1*, three flute sonatas and various chamber works.

In 1965, his first Australian jazz quintet The Baroque Jazz Ensemble recorded a Long Playing Album for EMI (Parlophone PMCO 7531), which was released worldwide. His *Movement for 6 Instruments* was premiered live over Minnesota public radio in 1982 by the Australian Chamber Ensemble and his recent composition *Jazz Movement for Flute & Piano* was given its world premiere in London at the Purcell Room.

As an educator, Cheong has conducted courses in jazz, composition and aesthetics in various tertiary institutions, including the University of New South Wales. Turning 80 soon, Cheong now divides his time between music and a daily swim in the ocean near his home in Sydney.

### About Rit Xu

Rit Xu is an internationally recognized flautist, music educator and one of Singapore's most versatile talents who has distinguished himself through his lyrical, thoughtful and emotionally driven performances on the flute. Widely known for his masterful and dexterous ability, he excelled in both jazz and contemporary classical music with elegance and breath-taking virtuosity. As a composer and bandleader, his compositions are known for its artful symmetry, fearless improvisations and a penchant for exploring stylistic boundaries while keeping to an unwavering creative integrity. Xu serves on the faculty at LASALLE College of the Arts, Singapore Raffles Music College as well as ensemble-in-residence at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music.

### About Eugene Chew

Singaporean bassist Eugene Chew is a versatile musician that is not bounded by labels. His journey started at the age of 10 when he taught himself the acoustic guitar. His love for bass playing only started when he was asked to stand in to play electric bass in church. From then on, he made the switch and never looked back. He is currently pursuing classical studies in double bass at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music under the tutelage of Mr Guennadi Mouzyka (Singapore Symphony Orchestra) with a full scholarship.

He attended the Esplanade's *Mosaic Jazz Fellow* program in 2016 where he had the opportunity to learn from Singapore's top jazz musicians Chok Kerong, Andrew Lim, Joshua Wan and Tony Makarome which led to a deep love for the artistry and craft of jazz through the years.

Being interested in composition and arrangement as well, he pursued training with composer Felix Phang through an internship and showcased his originals at The Substation in 2015 with a 6-piece jazz ensemble. He furthered his training in a short stint with Australian jazz arranger Matt Amy. He is now leading his band, Litmus Jazz Ensemble, to advocate for original local jazz works.

### About Tama Goh

Apart from being a percussionist of all kinds of music from jazz and classical to Latin and contemporary, Tama Goh is also a producer for major concerts, Singapore television, music festivals and special events. He has performed with the likes of Jeremy Monteiro, Sandy Lam, Francis Yip, FIR, Laura Fygi, Ronald Keating, Chris Brubeck, James Moody, Ernie Watts, Carmen Bradford, Eric Manriental, Eldee Young, Singapore Symphony Orchestra, Singapore Chinese Orchestra and the Singapore Festival Orchestra. In addition to his role as music advisor to Mus'Art Wind Orchestra and Mus'Art Percussion Ensemble, Goh also mentors young artists and aspiring teachers in music performance and visual arts.

45mins, no intermission

## **Big Band Sunday: Thomson Big Band**

3 Jul 2022, Sun

7pm & 8.30pm

Esplanade Outdoor Theatre



Thomson Big Band plays iconic tunes associated with the Count Basie Orchestra, the Glenn Miller Orchestra, Benny Goodman and the modern day Gordon Goodwin's Big Phat Band.

### About Thomson Big Band

The Thomson Big Band was formed in 1993 by businessman, Eddie Chan. With a passion for jazz, Chan set up a club for likeminded musicians to meet, rehearse and perform. Despite their humble beginnings, the band has risen to establish themselves as Singapore's premier big band.

The band's notable performances include the President's Star Charity, Singapore Jazz Festival, Bangkok Jazz Festival—where they performed for the then King of Thailand, and twice for the Prince of Monaco Charity Ball. The band has also performed at various jazz festivals in India, Southeast Asia and Australia.

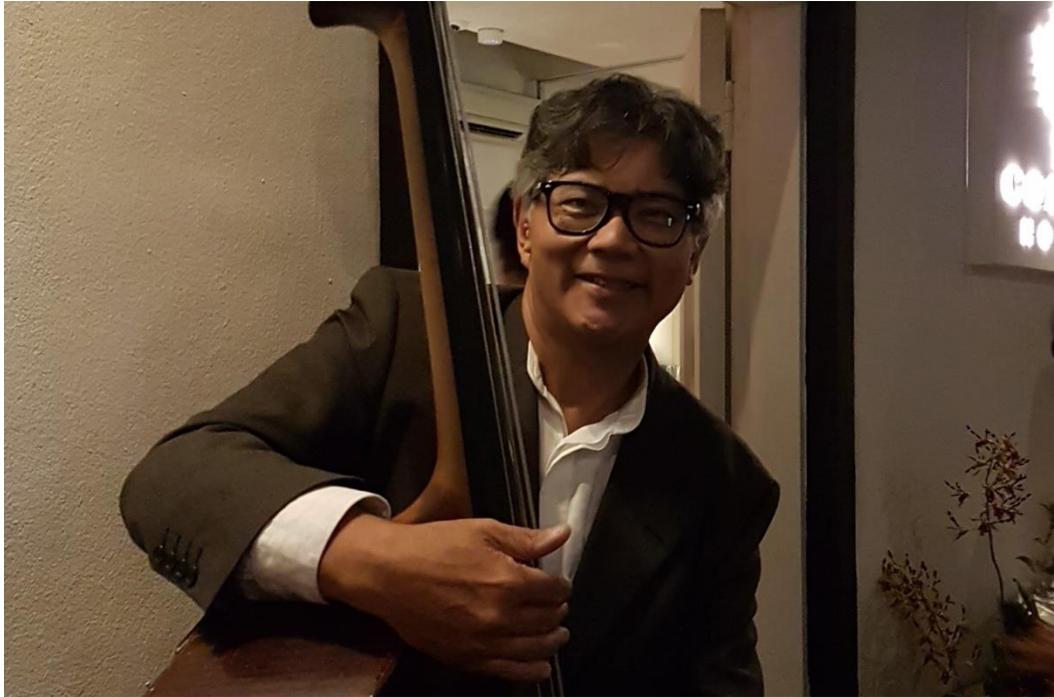
45mins, no intermission

## Jazz 101: Tony Makarome

3 Jul 2022, Sun

2pm

library@esplanade



How does one listen to jazz music? Perhaps you responded positively to a certain kind of music in the past and was told it was jazz. You were intrigued. You wanted to find more of it. You wanted to share your joy with people at the bar or library.

What do we, the jazz musicians listen for? What do we focus on? How can we have a “conversation” about jazz with others?

If you are curious about jazz music but have very little jazz or music background, then this is the talk for you. The best way to learn about any sort of music, is to just jump in and get lost in its beauty and mystery. This short presentation will give you just enough information to get you started on your jazz journey. Learn about the components in a jazz combo, elements of the music’s groove, and some great players you should listen to.

### About Tony Makarome

Dr Tony Makarome teaches at Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, National University of Singapore (NUS). He studied at Berklee College of Music (composition) and received his doctorate from University of South Carolina (orchestral conducting). He was assistant conductor of the Columbia Lyric Opera (South Carolina), and music director of NUS Wind Symphony. His teachers include George Monseur, Attilio Poto, Robert Spano, Miroslav Vitous, Herb Pomeroy, K.R. Shyama, T.R. Sundaresan, R.Karthikeyan. He is currently a mridangam student of Guru Chettiharaveetil Haridas Sreekanth (Singapore Indian Fine Art Society). In 2019, Singapore Symphony Orchestra premiered his Indian music piece *Jewel of Srivijaya*. Other notable compositions include *Rain Konnakkol* which premiered in Baltimore in 2018, *What Pattern?* (2016) in New York City, *Scifi Lounge* (2006) in Bangkok and *Name with No Street* in Shanghai. His opera, *Faybulous* premiered at Pawley’s Island Music Festival and his arrangements of *Seven Steps to Heaven* and *Asiana* were performed by Singapore Chinese Orchestra and China Broadcasting Folk Orchestra (Beijing). As bassist, he has performed with Louis Bellson, Quartet West (Ernie Watts, Alan Broadbent) amongst others. He is bassist and

composer in the jazz-rock band, Varsha and has also performed as a mridangist in Chennai and Carnegie Hall. He is a leading pedagogue of solfège and jazz and has also published a popular article on *konnakkol* in music teaching in the Malaysian Music Journal. In 2019, he completed his diploma at the Singapore Indian Fine Arts Society in Carnatic music studies (mridangam) and received the Vadya Visharad Award as top graduate of mridangam.

1hr 30mins

**Free Jazz: Firewater**  
**by Darren Moore, Yong Yandsen, Tim O'Dwyer, Dharma & Matthew Tan**  
3 Jul 2022, Sun  
8pm  
Esplanade Annexe Studio  
*Pre-registration required.*



Firewater assembles the most adventurous improvisers in the region to present an unbridled night of free jazz.

The group draws from the free music traditions of the US, Europe and ethnic fringes of Asia, situating it in the here and now of Southeast Asia 2022. Firewater features the raucous tenor saxophone of Yong Yandsen, the acerbic alto of Tim O'Dwyer, percussive and textural guitar of Dharma, angular microtonal piano of Matthew Tan and the ardent, incendiary drumming of Darren Moore.

#### About Darren Moore

Darren Moore is a drummer, electronic musician and educator working in the fields of jazz, experimental music and multimedia. He is active in Asia, collaborating in projects with musicians from Southeast Asia, Japan, Australia and Europe. He is based in Singapore where he co-runs experimental music label, LaoBan Records and works at LASALLE College of the Arts as a lecturer in Popular Music.

#### About Yong Yandsen

Yong Yandsen is a free jazz and improvised saxophonist from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Yandsen has released albums through XingWu and Herbal Records in Malaysia, Utech Records (USA), Dream Sheep (Italy), and his solo debut on vinyl through Doubtful Sound (France). He has played at allEars Improvised Music Festival (Norway), Asian Meeting Festival (Japan) and Esplanade's *Mosaic Music Festival* (Singapore), amongst others. Yandsen, together with Darren Moore and Brian O'Reilly, form the improvised trio, Game of Patience. They have toured Japan, Singapore, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. In 2018, he joined another trio with Christian Meaas Svendsen and Paal Nilssen-Love. Yandsen has also done several solo tours to Japan and Taiwan. He is co-founder of Malaysian record label, LaoBan Records, which focuses on releasing contemporary improvised music.

### About Tim O'Dwyer

Tim O'Dwyer is an Australian saxophonist, improviser and composer, and has been a lecturer and Head of Music at LASALLE College of the Arts, Singapore, since 2004. Over the past 25 years, O'Dwyer has been a prolific performer and collaborator traversing jazz, improvised and experimental music, contemporary classical music and cross disciplinary projects, and regularly performs throughout Australia, Asia and Europe. O'Dwyer is currently a member of the two most prestigious and established contemporary music ensembles in Australia—ELISION Ensemble (since 1994) and The Australian Art Orchestra. His ongoing projects include *METASAX*, international collaborative project *The Fold*, with ensembles currently based in Cologne, Germany and Singapore; and his Singapore based soundpainting ensemble, Erik Satay & The Kampong Arkestra. O'Dwyer holds a PhD in composition and philosophy from Queensland University of Technology with his research which draws links between the philosophy of Gilles Deleuze, composition and improvisation.

### About Matthew Tan

Matthew Tan is a pianist, trumpeter and experimental sound researcher who uses code and math to explore sounds and develop software tools for other musicians to explore microtonality.

### About Dharma

Dharma is the guitarist from Singapore avant-rock band The Observatory and also presents his work as a solo improviser and in different configurations with other improvisors. Having toured Europe and Asia, Dharma has also collaborated with improvisors from around the region. His latest release *Portal* was recorded with George Chua. The approach to his playing incorporates extended techniques with various preparations and effects, resulting in percussive and textural sonics that go beyond what one would expect of the instrument.

Recommended for ages 6 years and above.

1hr

**Something Old, Something New  
by Sugar Bees**

4 Jul 2022, Mon

7.15pm & 8.15pm\*

Esplanade Concourse & Online

(\*8.15pm: Also livestreamed, available online until 5 Jul, Tue, 8.15pm)



Inspired by the timeless love of old and new, the Sugar Bees bring you a set of cherished American songbook standards alongside original close-harmony arrangements of their favourite contemporary songs. With something old, something new, something borrowed, and something blue up their sleeves, come listen as the trio celebrate their shared love for jazz music. They are joined once more by their guitarist, Kenzo Nagari.

**Sugar Bees**

Harmony never sounded so sweet... not since The Sugar Bees have been buzzin' about! This close-harmony trio has been dedicated to breathing new life into old-fashioned tunes since 2018.

**Kenzo Nagari**

Kenzo Nagari is an Indonesia-born, Singapore-based guitarist and hip-hop beatmaker. One of his favourite things is to make music with people he loves, The Sugar Bees included. Let Nagari's swinging guitar accompaniment to the sweet harmony of The Sugar Bees get you up and dancing!

<https://www.instagram.com/thesugarbees/>

[https://www.instagram.com/kenzo\\_nagari/](https://www.instagram.com/kenzo_nagari/)

30mins, no intermission

## **The Modern Tradition**

by Eugene Seow

5 Jul 2022, Tue

7.15pm & 8.15pm\*

Esplanade Concourse & Online

(\*8.15pm: Also livestreamed, available online until 6 Jul, Wed, 8.15pm)



Award-winning drummer and multi-instrumentalist Eugene Seow presents *The Modern Tradition* — an intimate 30 minutes of jazz music as it has evolved through the ages.

Accompanying him are Eugene Ang on piano and Dr Tony Makarome on bass. Look forward to exciting swing tunes by artists such as Christian McBride and Chick Corea!

### About Eugene Seow

Eugene Seow graduated from Berklee College of Music, specializing in jazz composition. After that, he attended the Aaron Copland School of Music at Queens College, obtaining a Masters in Jazz Performance on the drum set. Featured in the performance are tunes he wrote during his academic career, songs by his fellow bandmates, and newer tunes by internationally acclaimed jazz musicians that are likely to become jazz standards. The protean musician is currently pursuing a Doctorate in Music Education.

30mins, no intermission

## It Takes 2<sup>2</sup> To Tango by Em Saxophone Quartet

6 Jul 2022, Wed

7.15pm & 8.15pm\*

Esplanade Concourse & Online

(\*8.15pm: Also livestreamed, available online until 7 Jul, Thu, 8.15pm)



Em (pronounced like the letter M) Saxophone Quartet is made up of four versatile and experienced saxophonists who have played a wide variety of gigs across Singapore—from classical wind symphonies and traditional jazz big bands to contemporary music and even Thai pop. Coming together to showcase the infinite timbres and broad spectrum of the saxophone family, Em Sax'o'phone Quartet brings their unique sensibilities to the rarely heard quartet format. Their diverse repertoire has something for everyone and includes jazz, musicals, film scores, tangos, and also cartoon theme music. Pieces include Astor Piazzolla's hauntingly beautiful *Oblivion* as well as the theme song from the movie *Il Postino* arranged for the saxophone quartet.

### About Em Saxophone Quartet

Em Saxophone Quartet consists of saxophonists Teo Boon Chye, Sally Khoo, Udom Kiattivikrai and Edmund Wu.

30mins, no intermission

**MT Trio**  
**by Kenji Nakano, Aaron Lee & Matthew Tan**  
7 Jul 2022, Thu  
7.15pm & 8.15pm\*  
Esplanade Concourse & Online

(\*8.15pm: Also livestreamed, available online until 8 Jul, Fri, 8.15pm)



MT trio presents jazz standards and popular song from various regions and eras, reimagined in the context of present-day Black American music. The trio reinterprets tunes ranging from Jerome Kern's classic, *All the Things You Are* to Brazilian band 5 a seco's hit song *Pra você dar o nome*, in a light-hearted experimentation of rhythm and harmony fit for nourishing your brain and body.

#### About MT Trio

MT trio is Kenji Nakano on bass, Aaron Lee on drums, and Matthew Tan on piano. They have been performing and jamming together alongside peers from Singapore Polytechnic, LASALLE College of the Arts, Dasgefoo, et al., bonding over their shared passion for BAM, weird grooves, lydian dominant, sharing stories, and having fun with music.

30mins, no intermission

## Blue Monks

8 Jul 2022, Fri

7.15pm & 8.45pm

Esplanade Outdoor Theatre



Join this well-loved ensemble as they perform some of their favourite tunes from their jam sessions, including *Recorda Me* by Joe Henderson, *Song for my Father* by Horace Silver and *Old Folks* by Willard Robison, along with other jazz standards like Miles Davis' *Solar*.

### About Blue Monk

For many years, The Blue Monks were a mainstay in jam sessions held at Artistry and Blu Jaz Café.

The Blue Monks comprise of Corey Manders on saxophone, Alvin Wong and Liu Yonglun on guitar, Bani Rahman on bass and Rafeae Mahmood on drums.

45mins, no intermission

## **ColdCut Quartet**

9 Jul 2022, Sat

4pm & 5pm

Esplanade Concourse



Emerged during the decade of local indie and post-rock acts, ColdCut Quartet began as a college band, comprising Luciano Lemus on guitar, Jelene Luar on keyboards, Nicholas Lee on bass and Anson Koh on drums.

Founded by Luar in 2012, the members convened to vent their musical experimentation. What started as a college past time gradually evolved into a goal-driven career. Incorporating elements of jazz, classical, rock and metal, ColdCut Quartet presents its unique brand of fusion that is progressive, yet musical.

### About Anson Koh (Drums)

Anson Koh started playing the drums at the age of four, under the guidance of his eldest brother, Jenson Koh. After shifting his focus to other hobbies, he decided to pick up the sticks again at the age of 16. Koh started teaching and playing professionally at the age of 18 and has since performed locally and also in countries like Jogja, Brunei, Chennai, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Perth. Although he is slightly more interested in R&B, funk and hip-hop drumming, Koh wants to continue to explore other musical grounds to further expand his vocabulary on the drums and to develop his musicality. He is a member of a few local bands including Wicked Aura, Cold Cut Quartet, NeoDomnatrix and plays for local artists Gareth Fernandez and Nathan Hartono. Koh is also the winner of the Singapore Drum-Off 2016.

### About Luciano Lemus (Guitar)

A Bachelor of Arts degree holder with second class honours, Luciano Lemus Perez is a graduate of LASALLE College of the Arts. He is a guitarist with a strong foundation in classical music that has expanded his capabilities and the range of styles that he has played over the years. Lemus is versatile in various genres including classical, Latin, jazz, pop and world music. He has worked with the likes of Kailing Yong in the Elisa Garcia Trio, Stella Seah Hui Xian in the band Juicebox and internationally recognised artist from Indonesia—Bass G and Barry Likumahua. Lemus is interested in music education and music therapy. He has developed his

own method of teaching guitar that uses the concept of music therapy to improve the experience and to maintain his students' interest.

#### About Nicholas Lee (Bass)

Nicholas Lee is a self-taught bassist who started playing bass at the age of 12 in church. He joined the Singapore Polytechnic Jazz Band in 2009 where he was mentored by his instructors Soh Wen Ming, Joshua Wan, Andrew Lim and Melissa Tham. In 2012, Lee joined Esplanade's *Bright Young Things* jazz mentorship programme, which he credits his strong foundation to. Shortly after, he started playing professionally and has since played at various events such as Esplanade's *Mosaic Music Festival*, *Jazz in July* and *All Things New*. He has also played for various artists in Singapore such as The Steve McQueens, Dru Chen, Ffion, Daniel Chia and Afterglow. Lee is currently part of the ColdCut Quartet where he continues to challenge himself technically and musically as he continues to pursue his passion for music. Lee is also a private bass instructor.

#### About Jelene Luar (Keyboards)

A Bachelor of Arts (Hons) degree holder with First Class Honours, Jelene Luar is a graduate from LASALLE College of the Arts. A versatile keyboardist who plays between genres of pop, jazz, R&B and blues, Luar was a recipient of the LASALLE Scholarship and Academic Award of Excellence during her time in school. In 2013, she was selected by Joshua Wan, Chok Kerong and Soh Wen Ming to be under their tutelage for Esplanade's *Bright Young Things* mentorship programme. Working closely with Babes Conde, Luar has performed at the Community Chest Gala Fundraising Event 2014 and Peranakan Arts Festival 2015. She has worked with locally and internationally recognised artists such as Gayle Nerva, Joie Tan, Daniel Chia, Barry Likumahuwa, Bass G and Ezra Brown, and has also played for a number of local television shows including Mediacorp's *The Final 1 Season 2*, *Asia's Got Talent* and *Vasantham LIVE! Samaparnam*. She also teaches extensively as a keyboard/piano instructor in various schools as well as privately, and also works as an accompanist for MOE schools at Singapore Youth Festival Choir 2017 and 2018.

30mins, no intermission

## **Kelapa Muda (Indonesia)**

9 Jul 2022, Sat

7.30pm & 8.45pm

Esplanade Concourse



Kelapa Muda mixes fusion, avant-garde, jazz rock and everything else in between. Be prepared to be amazed.

### About Kelapa Muda

Kelapa Muda hails from Bandar Lampung, Indonesia and comprises of brothers Samuel Song aged 22 on bass, Joshafat Song aged 19 on drums and Abraham Song aged 17 on guitar.

The brothers who have been playing music together since they were kids have released three albums under a different band name.

They participated in several competitions and have won 2nd prize at UPH National Jazz Competition 2021 where Indra Lesmana and Sri Hanuraga were judges, as well as 1st prize at The Papandayan International Jazz Online Competition with Dwiki Dharmawan and Ben van Gelder (Netherlands) on the panel.

More recently, Kelapa Muda was invited by Dutch Cultural Centre (Jakarta) to perform with Jasper Blom, winner of the Boy Edgar Prize 2019, the most prestigious award for jazz and improv in the Netherlands.

45mins, no intermission

**Mad Labs**  
**by Litmus Jazz Ensemble**  
9 Jul 2022, Sat  
7pm & 8.30pm  
Esplanade Outdoor Theatre



Enter the mad labs of Litmus Jazz Ensemble as the band takes you through the processes and experiments behind their music; unveiling the methods to madness behind their solvent sultry solos and pumping acid grooves. Grab your coat and get your goggles ready—lab will be in session.

The Litmus Jazz Ensemble was formed by double bassist and band leader Eugene Chew with a vision to feature and foster the creation of new and exciting Singaporean jazz compositions. Borrowing from their musical roots of improvisation and spontaneity on the bandstand, the ensemble takes on each piece with an adventurous spirit every time and draws their audiences along with them. With a combination of unorthodox instrumentation and dynamic chemistry, Jeffrey Tan on violin, Erwin Tan on trombone, Joel Chua on keyboards, Eugene Chew on bass, and Anson Koh on drums, the Litmus Jazz Ensemble boasts a unique and modern sound with musical energy that sets them apart from others.

<https://rumbledmusicandartists.com/litmusjazz>

45mins, no intermission

**Don Gomes, Louis Soliano & Ben Poh**

10 Jul 2022, Sun

5pm & 6pm

Esplanade Concourse



Don Gomes is one of Southeast Asia's and Australia's finest jazz talents. He is a pianist, vocalist, arranger, musical director, performer and composer. Known for his skilful piano chops, Gomes commutes between Perth, where he has been living, and Singapore and commands a strong following in both countries. For this performance, Gomes performs together with Louis Soliano on drums and Ben Poh on bass.

45mins, no intermission

## **Big Band Sunday: The Horns are Unique Jazz Band**

10 Jul 2022, Sun

7pm & 8.30pm

Esplanade Outdoor Theatre



The Horns Are Unique Jazz Band plays iconic standards by Miles Davis, Charlie Parker, John Coltrane, Chet Baker, Jaco Pastorius and Wes Montgomery.

This evening, the band performs sophisticated arrangements that showcase the horns in particular.

### **Musicians:**

Rick Smith (guitar, special guest)

Fabian Lim, Kartik Raghunathan, Jonathan Lim (saxophone)

Kenneth Lun, Benoit Trouwaert (trumpets)

Muhammad Firdaus (trombone)

Debbie Gan (piano)

Yves Marcel (electric bass)

Jovan Palencia (drums)

### **About The Horns Are Unique Jazz Band**

The Horns Are Unique Jazz Band was founded in Singapore in 2019 by trumpet player Benoit Trouwaert, with the aim of promoting brasswind and woodwind instruments in the community through classic jazz tunes.

In 2022, The Horns Are Unique Jazz Band evolved into a jazz collective with musicians circulating according to various projects.

45mins, no intermission

**What's That Jazz?**  
**by Project Ra: The Vibes Collective**  
11 Jul 2022, Mon  
3pm  
Esplanade Concourse



Ever wondered what makes jazz, jazz? Does it seem too complex to be appreciated by all? Join Project RA: The Vibes Collective as they share their understanding of jazz through familiar tunes and music arrangements. Through their personal stories and short, interactive exercises, the collective hopes to guide you along the ins and outs of jazz!

#### About Project Ra

Formed in 2013, Project Ra comprises a group of friends who have a passion for Latin jazz and making music together. The individual members of the band are specialists and well known in their respective fields, with many years of experience leading and performing, arranging, composing and teaching. The band also previously performed at Esplanade's *Mosaic Music Festival*.

1hr, no intermission

## **Jazz & Hip Hop Connections**

**by Darren Moore**

11 Jul 2022, Mon

3.30pm

library@esplanade



As a jazz drummer who grew up listening to hip hop, Darren Moore draws from his own experience and research to examine the connection between the two forms. In this talk, Moore explores the origins, shared attributes and significant intersections where hip hop and jazz have crossed paths and cross-pollinated.

### About Darren Moore

Darren Moore is a drummer, electronic musician and educator working in the fields of jazz, experimental music and multimedia. He is active in Asia collaborating in projects with musicians from Southeast Asia, Japan, Australia and Europe. He is based in Singapore where he co-runs experimental music label LaoBan Records and works at LASALLE College of the Arts as a senior lecturer in Popular Music.

[www.darren-moore.net](http://www.darren-moore.net)

1hr, no intermission

## **Tropic Green**

11 Jul 2022, Mon

7pm & 8.30pm

Esplanade Outdoor Theatre



There is not one single cover tune in this repertoire. All tunes were written specially for Tropic Green by band leader, Susan Harmer Lauw, giving this horn-led ensemble its distinctive sound. The music is varied from haunting ballads to red-hot Latin rhythms.

### About Tropic Green

Tropic Green was formed in 2011. Since then, they have performed at many jazz festivals in the region including Samui International Jazz Festival, Borneo Jazz Festival, Alcheringa Festival in India and, just before the pandemic, Jazzmandu in Kathmandu. The band has also performed at the Singapore Jazz Festival and at all main jazz venues on the island.

<https://www.facebook.com/Tropic.Green/>

45mins, no intermission

**Tribute to Chick Corea  
by Nita Aartsen (Indonesia)**

11 Jul 2022, Mon

7.15pm & 8.15pm\*

Esplanade Concourse & Online

(\*8.15pm: Also livestreamed, available online until 12 Jul, Tue, 8.15pm)



Nita Aartsen is undoubtedly one of Indonesia's most accomplished and entertaining jazz piano players. Voted AMI's best Female Jazz Artist, Aartsen is a standout regular performer at many Asian, Australian, American and European Jazz Festivals and prestigious international jazz clubs.

Join Aartsen and her band as they present an evening of modern jazz, paying tribute to the great pianist and composer Chick Corea.

About Nita Aartsen

Born in a musical family, Nina Aartsen started singing and playing the piano from the tender age of three. At 17, she was Indonesia's State Pianist.

In the last 30 years, Aartsen has performed on many international stages including Java Jazz Festival (Indonesia), Singapore International Jazz Festival and Boneo Jazz Festival (Malaysia), to name a few. She has also dedicated her time to educating and founding the international jazz camp academy in Indonesia which has been a steppingstone for many young talents. She is currently jazz-culture ambassador of Indonesia.

Aartsen who has three CDs under her belt, records with various artists and arranges for orchestra and big bands. She also curates and leads many festivals in her country, plays and leads the Europe Union-NusantEro big band, and performs with many of the archipelago's best musicians, such as Richard Bona, Gregory Potter, Michael Paulo. She also performs around the world with many other acclaimed jazz musicians and Grammy award winners.

Aartsen continues to give her all on her annual world tours. Come August and September 2022, she will perform with her group at The Tongtong fest (Netherlands), Brazil fest (Stockholm, Sweden) and Soberao jazz fest (Spain).

45mins, no intermission

## Rit Xu (Organ Trio)

12 Jul 2022, Tue

7.15pm & 8.15pm\*

Esplanade Concourse & Online

(\*8.15pm: Also livestreamed, available online until 13 Jul, Wed, 8.15pm)



Enjoy an evening of jazz standards as well as modern original compositions with the Rit Xu Organ Trio. The band—with its unique instrumentation of hammond organ, flute, and drums—is the first of its kind in Singapore and will be making their debut showcase at Esplanade. The evening promises to be masterful, emotional, fresh and creative.

### Band Line-up:

Rit Xu – flute

Chok Kerong – organ

Yap Ting Wei – drums

### Did you know?

The hammond organ was an electric organ invented in the 1930s, and meant to be a cheaper alternative to the pipe organ in churches. It later became popular amongst jazz musicians, and is usually played in trios along with drums, and either a guitar or saxophone.

30mins, no intermission

## **A Space for All the Wanderers by Rachma Lim Fellowship Band**

13 Jul 2022, Wed

7.15pm & 8.15pm\*

Esplanade Concourse & Online

(\*8.15pm: Also livestreamed, available online until 14 Jul, Thu, 8.15pm)



Music is second nature to us all. Some of us enjoy making it, some of us enjoy listening to it. Either way, it helps us greatly as we venture on through our everyday lives. These sounds, rhythms, waves ...colours that cross the boundaries—*A Space for All the Wanderers* teases the boundaries and conventions of traditional and modern jazz. Rachma Lim and her Fellowship Band (R.L.F.B) is a diverse collective of artists, all distinct in their authenticity—interweaving to create vivid, colourful, sonic tapestries that pull the listener on board, to feel thyself. Join her and her band on this ride to the here and now, and fully embrace the deep world as we know it, within. Lim and her band hope for it to be safe and pleasant ride for us all.

### About Rachma Lim Fellowship Band

At the helm of (R.L.F.B), is Rachma Lim who hails from North Sumatra, Medan, a melting pot of diverse arts and musical talents. Even before earning her Masters Degree in Jazz Studies at New York City's Queens College, Lim had performed extensively with jazz big bands and trios. A recording artist and consummate stage performer, Lim journeys comfortably through cross-over world music, as she does with her own compositions. With passion and diligence in her craft, Lim continues to fuel her broadening depth as a musician.

In her recent travels across Europe, Lim teamed up with musicians with the common goal of recording at the reputable Abbey Roads Studios, where her 2nd EP, *Ricominciare - begin again* was born. Her recently released single, *Wishing Well* is available on YouTube, iTunes and Spotify, and is one not to be missed.

Lim hopes to be an integral part of the Singapore jazz community and that the standard of jazz rises to a universal language in the industry.

<https://www.facebook.com/RachmaLimMusic>

30mins, no intermission

## The Joy and Genius of Fats Waller by Amanda Lee Swingtet

14 Jul 2022, Thu

7.15pm & 8.15pm\*

Esplanade Concourse & Online

(\*8.15pm: Also livestreamed, available online until 15 Jul, Fri, 8.15pm)



One of the pioneers of stride piano, prolific songwriter and charismatic entertainer, Thomas 'Fats' Waller (1904-1943) continues to be an inspiration to musicians and audiences all over the world to this day.

Join the Amanda Lee Swingtet as they celebrate the timeless joy and genius of Fats Waller through a selection of curated works including *Honeysuckle Rose*, *Jitterbug Waltz* and *I'm Crazy 'Bout My Baby*.

### Musicians:

Amanda Lee (piano)

Fabian Lim (clarinet)

Judy Tsai (bass)

Raf Soundwalker (drums)

### About Amanda Lee

A protégé of virtuoso pianist Ong Lip Tat, Amanda Lee straddles the classical, pop and jazz worlds with ease. Trained in Kansas City, USA, Lee is known for her joyful and elegant style of swing jazz and improvisation and has performed with household names Dick Lee, Jeremy Monteiro and Louis Soliano. She was a recipient of the 2020 New York Hot Jazz Camp Scholarship and is currently under the mentorship of Dutch-American stride pianist Bram Wijnands. As a holistic artist, Lee also teaches and performs the lindy hop with Jazz Inc.

### About Rafae Soundwalker

A drummer and percussionist since his youth, Raf Soundwalker has had more than 20 years of experience performing in Singapore and across Asia, spanning a wide range of genres including pop, rock, funk, fusion, latin and jazz. He has a particular interest in jazz and

improvisation which has led him to becoming a tireless student, performer and educator in the local music scene. Soundwalker is also Grand Finalist in the Global Drum-off (Rhythm Duo) 2019.

#### About Judy Tsai

Hailing from Taiwan, Judy Tsai is a graduate of the College-Conservatory of Music, University of Cincinnati, USA with a double Masters of Music degree in Cello Performance and Jazz Studies. Tsai's wide-ranging performance experiences include orchestra, string / chamber / cello ensemble, jazz combos, big band and musicals. She was also an active session musician during her years in Cincinnati and Singapore.

30mins, no intermission

## Date Night Friday: Anne Weerapass

15 Jul 2022, Fri

7pm & 8.15pm

Esplanade Concourse



In keeping to the motif of love and date night jazz, hear the classics of jazz greats and composers such as George and Ira Gershwin, Nat King Cole, as well as modern classics from Stacey Kent to scintillate, titillate, captivate, arouse and tease one's body and soul.

### About Anne Weerapass

Anne Weerapass brings her pop-singing perfected vocal into the foray of jazz. She possesses that jazzy quality we prize from the eras of Ella Fitzgerald and Sarah Vaughan, with a stimulating sensitivity that is firmly cultivated in the present era. Utterly inspiring and momentarily playful, her Latin inspired jazz standards will put one's mind at ease which makes for a relaxing night and even gets your feet tapping.

Weerapass performs regularly at various jazz venues in Singapore and Southeast Asia. She presents songs that illustrate the ebbs and flows of love that also showcases her dynamic and versatile vocals, covering genres of jazz, blues, pop and evergreens.

### About Joshua Wan

Joshua Wan has been a familiar face in Singapore's music scene for the last 35 years as pianist, arranger, producer and educator.

### About Tony Makarome

Dr Tony Makarome teaches at Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, National University of Singapore (NUS). He studied at Berklee College of Music (composition) and received his doctorate from University of South Carolina (orchestral conducting). He was assistant conductor of the Columbia Lyric Opera (South Carolina), and music director of NUS Wind Symphony. His teachers include George Monseur, Attilio Poto, Robert Spano, Miroslav Vitous, Herb Pomeroy, K.R. Shyama, T.R. Sundaresan, R.Karthikeyan. He is currently a mridangam student of Guru Chettiharaveetil Haridas Sreekanth (Singapore Indian Fine Art Society). In 2019, Singapore Symphony Orchestra premiered his Indian music piece *Jewel of Srivijaya*. Other notable compositions include *Rain Konnakkol* which premiered in Baltimore in 2018,

*What Pattern?* (2016) in New York City, *Scifi Lounge* (2006) in Bangkok and *Name with No Street* in Shanghai. His opera, *Faybulous* premiered at Pawley's Island Music Festival and his arrangements of *Seven Steps to Heaven* and *Asiana* were performed by Singapore Chinese Orchestra and China Broadcasting Folk Orchestra (Beijing). As bassist, he has performed with Louis Bellson, Quartet West (Ernie Watts, Alan Broadbent) amongst others. He is bassist and composer in the jazz-rock band, Varsha and has also performed as a mridangist in Chennai and Carnegie Hall. He is a leading pedagogue of solfège and jazz and has also published a popular article on *konnakkol* in music teaching in the Malaysian Music Journal. In 2019, he completed his diploma at the Singapore Indian Fine Arts Society in Carnatic music studies (mridangam) and received the Vadya Visharad Award as top graduate of mridangam.

#### About Aaron James Lee

Drummer, Aaron James Lee, an aspiring musician and artist has had the opportunity to grow up amongst national treasures here in the local scene. Musicians such as Don Gomes, Christy Smith, Joshua Wan, Andrew Lim, Tan Wei Xiang, Wen Ming Soh, Chok Kerong and Jeremy Monteiro have paved the way for musicians such as Lee, who has been blessed with the opportunity to work with each of them, to thrive as an artist here in Singapore. Lee has worked with some international acts who have come through Singapore—James Moody, Alex Sipiagin, Tony Lakatos to name a few and as a former band member of The Steve McQueens, has also been brought on the road to Japan, London etc.

30mins, no intermission

## Ladies of Jazz: The Vintage Years by Jordan Wei & Enya Lim

16 Jul 2022, Sat

4pm & 5pm

Esplanade Concourse



*Ladies of Jazz: The Vintage Years*—from Ella Fitzgerald to Billie Holiday, Sarah Vaughn, Dinah Washington and many more, come listen to the female vocal legends from the golden age of jazz. Performed in an intimate jazz duo setting, Jordan Wei and Enya Lim bring you back in time with songs such as *Mack the Knife*, *Bewitched*, *Bothered & Bewildered* and *Orange Coloured Sky*.

### About Jordan Wei

A household name in the Singapore music scene, Jordan Wei is one of the region's most renowned and versatile pianists. He has worked with many artistes including the likes of A-mei, Aisyah Aziz, Dami Im, David Tao, Gentle Bones, Jam Hsiao, Joanna Dong, JJ Lin, Lari Basilio and Taufik Batisah. His playing style blends the classic elements of swing jazz and blues with the more modern neo soul and R&B sounds. Some of his works include collaborations with JASSO, The Teng Company, SMSband and SMU Symphonia. In 2018, he authored a jazz piano book *Finger Tips* and launched it together with *Jazz Ninja*, an online learning music resource centre. Wei is currently based in Singapore while both performing and teaching internationally.

### About Enya Lim

With over two decades of stage performing experience, Enya Lim is sought after for her chameleon-like versatility and powerhouse presence as a vocalist. Her sound has been described as a unique meeting point between sultry, silky and charged. Lim's artistic appearances have garnered critical praise both at home in Singapore, and internationally. She has opened for and performed at prominent arts lifestyle festivals like Newport Folk Festival, Boston GreenFest, Queens Weekend Festival; and locally, Asia Beer Fest, Light to Night, as well as GardenBeats. She has supported household music icons such as Andrea Bocelli, Kristin Chenoweth and Jacob Collier on world-renowned stages including Carnegie Hall, Madison Square Garden, and Boston Symphony Hall.

[www.jordanwei.com](http://www.jordanwei.com)

<https://www.youtube.com/NyaLiMusic>

30mins, no intermission

## The Fusion Motion (Indonesia)

16 Jul 2022, Sat

7pm & 8.30pm

Esplanade Outdoor Theatre



The Fusion Motion is back with a line-up that brings not only jazz standard tunes but also tunes from jazz giants such as Chick Corea, McCoy Tyner, Oscar Peterson, and more. Join the band as they perform their original jazz tunes and explorative improvisations too.

### About The Fusion Motion

The Fusion Motion consists of four musicians that's unified by their same passion in music.

Welly is an Indonesian guitarist who has played on both Indonesian and international stages.

Ray is an eccentric piano player, who also plays many other musical instruments. He performs regularly at jazz events and is a MURI (Indonesia Museum of Record) award recipient.

Bogie is a drummer who has been performing for decades and plays across several music genres including gospel, jazz, pop, and more.

Ezra is a young bass player who recently returned from the USA after learning jazz from many notable lecturers. Besides playing music, he also actively teaches and conducts music workshops.

45mins, no intermission

**Sunny & Julian: Up to Us**  
**by Sunny Rattana Wongsansern & Julian Cary (Thailand)**

16 Jul 2022, Sat

7.30pm & 8.45pm

Esplanade Concourse



*Up to Us* is a project conceived from a simple concept—to add a different sort of freshness to songs that are widely known and loved. These refreshed songs are arranged by Sunny Rattana and Julian Cary, in a style that moves both the body and the brain. This project is quite the meeting of minds; Rattana’s virtuosic keyboard playing, and Cary’s warm, rich tone combined to create a listening experience perfectly suited for a diverse, modern audience.

About Sunny Rattana Wongsansern

Jazz pianist and composer maestro Sunny Rattana graduated in classical piano performance with first class honours from Chulalongkorn University. He had taught himself, before training under Nu Vudthivichai. He has won first, second and third prizes at Thailand Jazz Competition, as well as the H.M. The King’s Trophy for the Jazz Band, Outstanding Musician Award and winner of the outstanding musician award at the Greeley Jazz Festival, USA. He has performed at many jazz festivals including Greeley Jazz Festival (USA), Philippine International Jazz, Ethnic Arts Festival World Youth Jazz Festival (Malaysia), Esplanade’s *Mosaic Music Festival* (Singapore), We love jazz party (Singapore), Sawasdee Jazz Festival and Bangkok Thailand International Jazz Conference (TIJC).

Rattana has released four jazz albums, is a full-time music instructor at Silpakorn University and is founder of Creative Music Studio.

About Julian Cary

Julian Cary is a multi-award winning vocalist, multi-instrumentalist, composer, arranger, producer, and educator. His experience and interest spans across several genres, from jazz, gospel, blues, choral, baroque, and contemporary classical music. He has been featured with several artists such as Javon Jackson, Greg Gisbert, Ingrid Jensen, and Marylynn Gillaspie. Aside from his 2019 solo album *Heaven? Indeed*, he has appeared on over a dozen recordings by other artists internationally. He is currently serving as a full-time professor of Jazz Voice at Silpakorn University, and also runs a full private voice studio at home. He has performed at several major venues across Bangkok, and at major festivals including Chiang Mai Jazz Festival and Thailand International Jazz Festival. He recently co-composed the score and

recorded vocal parts for Baz Poonpiriya's *One for the Road*, and was appointed Vocal Director for YUPP Records and artists such as MILLI and Flowerfar.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/thesunnybebop>

45mins, no intermission

**Free Jazz: BRAM**

16 Jul 2022, Sat

8pm

Esplanade Theatre Studio

*Pre-registration required.*



BRAM was born out of friendship between Bryan Rozario, Matthew Tan, Russell Seow and Aaron James Lee. Having met at Singapore Polytechnic Jazz Band years ago and with the common interest for music from the Black American culture, it was only natural that they banded to make music together.

Each member of this group has explored the music from a wide range of unique cultures through the spirit of discovery, making this show a culmination of individual experiences which are communicated through the medium of sound.

In this show, BRAM explores the development of music from the baroque era to the present, hearing through the lenses of ancient axioms and treatises that affects the creation of music till today.

1hr, no intermission

## **Big Band Sunday: SWS City Swing**

17 Jul 2022, Sun

7pm & 8.30pm

Esplanade Outdoor Theatre



The City Swing big band brings you an evening of tunes including classics from Count Basie to Earth, Wind & Fire.

### About SWS City Swing

The Singapore Wind Symphony (SWS) City Swing big band was formed in 2009. With a wide repertoire of jazz, swing, Latin, pop and rock and roll, SWS City Swing has made its mark in the big band scene in Singapore. The band has performed on various stages including those at Sentosa, Wisma Geyland Serai and Victoria Concert Hall.

<https://instagram.com/swscityswing>

45mins, no intermission

## Ywenna Jazz Trio

18 Jul 2022, Mon

7.15pm & 8.15pm\*

Esplanade Concourse & Online

(\*8.15pm: Also livestreamed, available online until 19 Jul, Tue, 8.15pm)



Presenting a blend of modern jazz sounds and a twist of old jazz, this trio plays a repertoire influenced by standard jazz, pop, R&B and funk as well as Brazilian music, to create a colourful and highly accessible package. Expect bold reinterpretations of familiar pop tunes and be entertained by the trio's high energy.

### About Ywenna Carolin

Ywenna Carolin is a highly accomplished performer and composer, undertaking the roles of a jazz pianist and a soulful vocalist. Based in Singapore, she has performed at numerous jazz festivals, private event launches and gala dinners internationally. Carolin's gutsy versatility and wide repertoire of songs span across various genres from jazz and pop to rock, soul, funk and more. Her multilingualism, adept musical skills and charismatic presence allows her to connect with audiences from various cultures and walks of life. She has shared stages with well-known artists and musicians around the world, such as Australia's Jamie Wilson (concert guitarists for Wang Lee Hom and Jacky Cheung), Malaysian Idol winner Jaclyn Victor, Asia's best drummer Lewis Pragasam, Japanese flutist John Kaizan Neptune, and many more. Carolin and her band, Tokyo Blue have released two instrumental albums and have toured and performed in Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand, China, Korea, Australia and South Africa.

### About Hiroaki Maekawa

Hiroaki Maekawa, better known as Hiro, is one of the most sought after bass players in Singapore. Hiro has performed and collaborated with artists from all over the world such as Sonny Turner and the platters (USA), Rick Sheppard and the drifters (USA), Jayesslee (Australia), Takahiro Miyazaki (Japan) and Eugene Hideaway Bridges (USA) to name a few. He has also performed at numerous International Jazz and Arts Festivals, jazz clubs and concerts. As an artist, Hiro has produced and released two albums consisting of original compositions with his progressive jazz rock band, Tokyo Blue.

### About Tamagoh

Tamagoh, a member of the Jeremy Monteiro Jazz Band since 1989 has performed in countries like Japan, Moscow, USA, Canada and New Zealand. Together with Jeremy Monteiro, he has been working with Terumasa Hino, Carmen Bradford and Eldee Young since 1994. He has performed with pop artists such as Ronan Keating, Frances Yip, Maria Cordeiro, Eric Moo, Coco Lee, Anthony Lun, Sarah Brightman and Sandy Lam. Tamagoh has performed at the Jakarta Jazz Festival, The 2010 London Jazz festival in Pizza Express Jazz Club, Frankfurt's Jazz Keller, and the Wellington Arts Festival 2004.

Tamagoh was conferred the Compass Artistic Excellence Award 2005 for his outstanding artistic contribution to Singapore, and he was recipient of the SOKA Association Golden Lion Award for his contribution to the World Peace movement. In 2005, he received the Singapore Street Festival Tribute Award.

Tamagoh has performed with Chris Brubeck and the Singapore Chinese Orchestra. In 2010 he had the honour of performing with the China Broadcasting Chinese Orchestra featuring the Jeremy Monteiro Trio. Together with Jazz Legends Jon Faddis, Paquito D'Rivera, Roy Hargrove, Russel Malone, Renee Rosnes, Dennis Mackrel, Jeremy Monteiro, Jon Hendricks, and Todd Coolman, Tamagoh was part of James Moody's Scholarship Fund concert in New York City's B. B. Kings Bar and Grill in 2008.

30mins, no intermission

## **Classic Jazz Ballads**

**by Daniel Chia**

19 Jul 2022, Tue

7.15pm & 8.15pm\*

Esplanade Concourse & Online

(\*8.15pm: Also livestreamed, available online until 20 Jul, Wed, 8.15pm)



Daniel Chia and Mei Sheum take you through some of Daniel's favourite jazz ballads from the likes of Lester Young, Coleman Hawkins, Dexter Gordon, Scott Hamilton and John Coltrane.

### About Daniel Chia

Daniel Chia is one of the most in-demand saxophonists and educators in Singapore, with his distinctive sound being a blend of all the different types of music that he loves. He has performed his originals all around the world and has also backed many local and international artists.

30mins, no intermission

## The Joy of Lindy Hop by Mark Yeo Quintet

20 Jul 2022, Wed

7.15pm & 8.15pm\*

Esplanade Concourse & Online

(\*8.15pm: Also livestreamed, available online until 21 Jul, Thu, 8.15pm)



The Mark Yeo Quintet brings a delightful spread of swing music that showcases the joy of lindy hop. Similar to how smell is linked to taste, music is analogous with dance. Lindy hop is an unabashedly joyful jazz dance and it is reflected by the music of the swing era in the late 1920's to the early 1940's. With songs such as *Stomping at the Savoy* and *Woodchopper's Ball*, one might just find their feet tapping or even breaking out into dance!

### About Mark Yeo

Mark Yeo studied flute performance at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, National University of Singapore. With a sprinkle of jazz module here and a dash of jazz band CCA there, Yeo eventually found himself immersed in jazz programmes and orchestras such as Jazz at Red Dot, Esplanade's *Mosaic Jazz Fellows* and Jazz Association Singapore Youth Orchestra. As a holistic artist, he also dances lindy hop with SwingStation. The quintet comprises of fellow musicians on a musical journey through jazz with Yeo on flute, Sneha Menon on vocals, Lee Ann Gie on keys, Lee Wen Rui on double bass and Sam Kong on drums.

### About Sam Kong

Sam Kong has been learning from fellow music enthusiasts, musicians and mentors, and has had the privilege of sharing his passion with them. In 2020, he participated in Esplanade's *Mosaic Jazz Fellows*, where he sharpened his skills under the mentorship of Joshua Wan, Andrew Lim, Chok Kerong and Soh Wen Ming. Kong has been honing his skills by performing at various gigs and concerts to gain industry experience, proving his dedication to music and jazz, in particular. Highly involved in the local music scene, he has played on numerous prominent platforms including Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay.

### About Sneha Menon

Sneha Menon's love for jazz grew out of time spent practicing and performing with her university's jazz band. She also enjoys singing with her friends Marielle and Iman, with whom she forms the close harmony vocal trio, The Sugar Bees.

#### About Lee Wen Rui

Lee Wen Rui is a bassist well-versed in a broad variety of styles, ranging from jazz and pop to R&B. She is no stranger to the local music scene and has played at venues like Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay. She is also an alumnus of the Music and Drama Company, as well as Esplanade's *Mosaic Jazz Fellows* mentorship programme. Lee is currently enrolled in the prestigious Berklee College of Music.

#### About Lee Ann Gie

Lee Ann Gie fell in love with jazz after she was introduced to the genre during her junior college years. She was selected to be part of Esplanade's *Mosaic Jazz Fellows 2017*, under the mentorship of Chok Kerong, Andrew Lim, Joshua Wan and Dr Tony Makarome. She is currently a musician in the Music and Drama Company.

30mins, no intermission

## Mei Sheum Trio

21 Jul 2022, Thu

7.15pm & 8.15pm\*

Esplanade Concourse & Online

(\*8.15pm: Also livestreamed, available online until 22 Jul, Fri, 8.15pm)



Pianist Mei Sheum join hands with bassist Brandon Wong and drummer Rizal Sanip to present an intimate performance of their favourite but less-heard jazz standards from Thelonious Monk, Djavan, John Scofield and more.

### About Mei Sheum

With an impressive performance resume and several music festivals under her belt, Mei Sheum has emerged as the keyboardist of choice for many well-known global, regional and local artists. She has performed with artists such as Sarah Brightman, Laura Fygi, Dave Samuels, Stephen Bishop, Terumasa Hino, Keiko Lee, A-mei, David Tao, Wang Lee Hom, JJ Lin, Sally Yeh, Francis Yip, Chen Chusheng, William So, Anita Sarawak, Corinne May, the Singapore Symphony Orchestra, and the Singapore Chinese Orchestra. Her work has taken her round the globe, performing in stadiums and concert halls in New York, Las Vegas, Chicago, Boston, Paris, Edinburgh, Sydney, Melbourne, Taipei, Hong Kong, Beijing, Shanghai, Nanjing, Hangzhou, Tsingtao, Wuhan, Xi'an, Chengdu, Tokyo, Osaka, Sendai, Bangkok, Jakarta and Malaysia.

In the theatrical scene. Sheum has served as Musical Director in *I Do! I Do!*, and performed in musicals such as *Chang and Eng*, *The Haunted* and *Judah Benhur*. She has also performed in major festivals, including the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, JakJazz Festival, Thailand Jazz Festival, Singapore Jazz Festival, KL Arts Festival, *Mosaic Music Festival*, Chijazz Jazz by The Beach and Heineken Green Room Sessions. She was awarded the Top 10 Songs Award on Radio FM 100.3 in their 1998 songwriting competition.

As a leader, Sheum has released three albums—*I Remember You*, *Come With Me* and *Morning*. She can also be heard on Wang Lee Hom's *Heroes of Earth* live concert DVD, JJ Lin's *Just JJ* world tour 2006, David Tao's *Soul Power* live @Hong Kong 2003, A-mei's *A-Class Entertainment* live DVD 2002, Sally Yeh's *Now's My Prime* DVD, Joanna Dong's *Lullaby Nomad*, Claressa Monteiro's *I Hear Music*, Tanya Chua's *Jupiter*, Greg Chako's *Integration 1* and *Integration 2*, Greg Lyons' *Island To Island*, Camerton's *Remixed*, Sachiyo's *My Life My Songs*, Skye's *Never Say Goodbye* and Aisyah's *Pearls*.

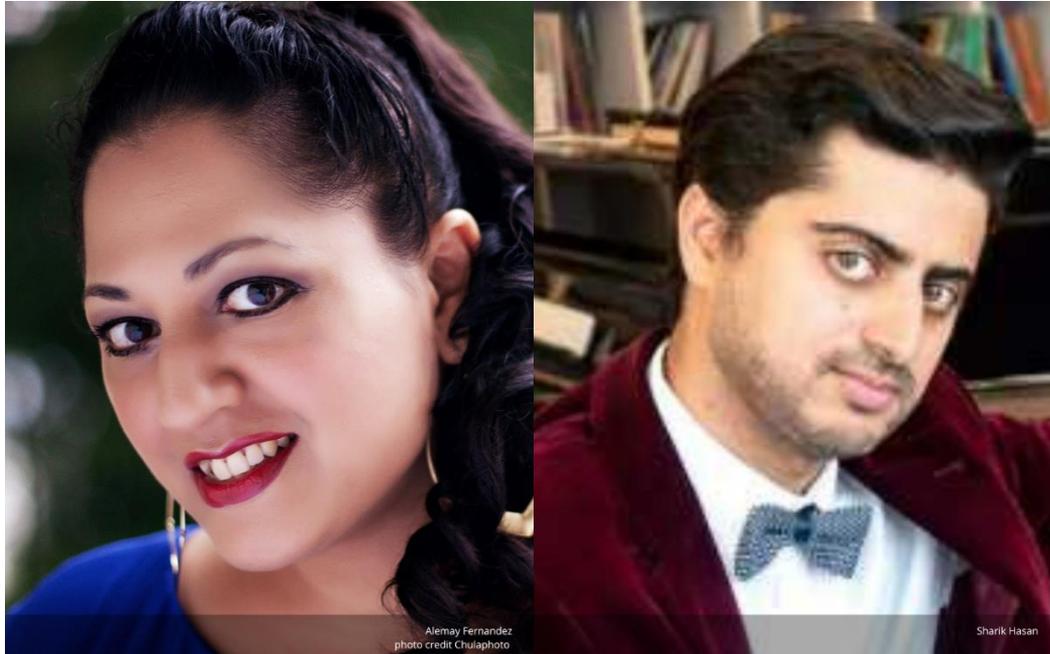
30mins, no intermission

## **Date Night Friday: Alemay Fernandez & Sharik Hasan – An Intimate Evening of Piano & Vocals**

22 Jul 2022, Fri

7pm & 8.15pm

Esplanade Concourse



A rare opportunity to catch these two musician friends in an up-close and personal setting, performing songs that are dear to their hearts. They will also be sharing stripped down acoustic versions of their original material. This performance is one certainly not to be missed.

### About Alemay Fernandez

Hailed by MusicTalks Sydney as "one of the best jazz singers in the world", Singapore vocalist Alemay Fernandez is a veteran performer in the Asian jazz scene. In her illustrious 20-year career, she has performed with the likes of David Foster, Gregory Porter, Incognito, Ray Parker Jr., Nat Adderley Jr., Ernie Watts, Randy Brecker, Antonio Hart, Jay Anderson, Lewis Nash and The Platters' Bobby Soul, while also opening for Laura Fygi and Benny Golson. She has performed with three of the top jazz orchestras in the world at Lincoln Center Orchestra, Count Basie Orchestra and Duke Ellington Orchestra. Fernandez has performed with all manner of Singapore orchestras and bands including the Singapore Symphony Orchestra and the Jazz Association of Singapore Orchestras. As an educator, she has worked with vocal students of all ages, conducting vocal and performance workshops. She is a vocal coach for National University of Singapore's Jazz Band and Lecturer at LASALLE College Of The Arts.

<http://www.facebook.com/alemayfernandez>

<http://www.instagram.com/alemayzing>

### About Sharik Hasan

Sharik Hasan is one of the leading pianists and composers of his generation to emerge from India. Based in New York City, he has garnered a reputation for his exceptional virtuosity and versatility, making him the top-call pianist for many well-known bands and venues. He tours much of the year internationally with the world-famous Postmodern Jukeboxes as well as his own band MND FLO. Hasan is also a Berklee On The Road instructor, traveling globally on behalf of the college conducting clinics, auditions and performances.

He has performed at venues all over the world including Blue Note, Newport Jazz Festival, Panama Jazz Festival, Kriol Jazz Festival, Nancy Jazz Festival, Mondriaan Jazz Festival and Lincoln Center. Hasan has shared the stage with luminaries such as Jeff “Tain” Watts, John Patitucci, Joe Lovano, Wayne Shorter, Terri Lyne Carrington, Sean Jones, Bill Pierce, Adam Nussbaum, Ralph Peterson and David Liebman, among others.

Hasan’s latest album with MND FLO, *From Time*, features his original compositions, which embody an eclectic blend of cultures and acoustic-electric soundscapes. His fluid improvisations convey a natural sense of storytelling, all the while demonstrating an equal fluidity in jazz and Indian classical idioms.

<https://www.facebook.com/sharik.hasan.5>

<https://www.instagram.com/sharikhasan.music/?hl=en>

45mins, no intermission

## GROOVEWORKS

by Greg Lyons

22 Jul 2022, Fri

7.15pm & 8.45pm

Esplanade Outdoor Theatre



This showcase by the Tuesday band hails from the Grooveworks mentorship programme, founded and directed by jazz saxophonist Greg Lyons. The programme which was established in 2008 has helped nurture a new generation of jazz expressionists in Singapore.

Faiz Syazani - drums

Fabian Lee - bass

Rachma Lim - piano

Eriko Murakami - trombone

Chia Zhe Yin - alto saxophone

Greg Lyons - tenor and soprano saxophones

### About Greg Lyons

British saxophonist Greg Lyons developed his eclectic musical style in the London jazz scene of the '80s and '90s. Beyond an initial jazz education, his approach to writing and performance has been fuelled by a passion for the music of Brazil, Cuba and New Orleans.

45mins, no intermission

## Between Friends: Andrew Lim & Weixiang Tan

23 Jul 2022, Sat

4pm & 5pm

Esplanade Concourse



Two jazz musicians of the highest calibre, who have been performing all over the world for decades, meet in a duet setting, to perform their favourite songs, in an intimate musical conversation between friends.

### About Weixiang Tan

Tan Weixiang (“Wei”) is one of the young lions in Singapore’s jazz scene. A latecomer to jazz, Wei started piano studies at 15, and jazz at 21, when he was in law school. A protégé of Thelonious Monk alumnus Victor Gaskin, Wei’s musical career skyrocketed after his first gig at a hotel lounge in Singapore two decades ago.

Wei’s piano-performance credits span major cities around the world, with the biggest names in jazz, including Grammy Award nominees and winners Brian Lynch, Stanley Jordan and Dave Samuels, to name a few. His playing has been lauded by piano virtuoso Jean-Michel Pilc as “ruthlessly inventive.” Wei’s music is informed by a lifelong commitment to jazz knowledge and history, while being inspired by all things interesting and meaningful in life.

### About Andrew Lim

Andrew Lim has been an integral part of the jazz scene in Singapore and abroad since 2001.

Over the years, he has performed on local, regional and international platforms. Playing at these festivals, and in clubs all around the world has enabled him to perform with musicians across all generations.

Lim is currently based in Singapore to serve as a National Arts Council Scholar, and continues to contribute to the local cultural fabric as an educator and musician. Besides lecturing at LASALLE College of the Arts, he is also a mentor in the Esplanade’s *Mosaic Jazz Fellows* program and has touched the lives of many of the younger musicians in the scene. He was recently invited to be a *Mosaic Associate Artist* with Esplanade and has led his trio to play at the 2019 edition of Tokyo Jazz Festival. His reverence to melodies and soulful style have endeared him to audiences throughout the world as well as the musicians he’s worked with.

30mins, no intermission

## Aaron James Lee & Friends

23 Jul 2022, Sat

7pm & 8.30pm

Esplanade Outdoor Theatre



Explore jazz from the post-bop era with drummer Aaron James Lee, as he leads his band comprising some of his closest musician friends including Bryan Rozario and Sean Hong Wei on tenor saxophone, Matthew Tan on trumpet, Sharik Hassan on keys and Russell Seow on bass.

### Aaron James Lee

Drummer, Aaron James Lee, an aspiring musician and artist has had the opportunity to grow up amongst National Treasures here in the local scene. Musicians such as Don Gomes, Christy Smith, Joshua Wan, Andrew Lim, Tan Wei Xiang, Wen Ming Soh, Chok Kerong and Jeremy Monteiro have paved the way for musicians such as Lee, who has been blessed with the opportunity to work with each of them, to thrive as an artist here in Singapore. Lee has worked with some international acts who have come through Singapore—James Moody, Alex Sipiagin, Tony Lakatos to name a few and as a former band member of The Steve McQueens, has also been brought on the road to Japan, London etc.

45mins, no intermission

## Hachul Song Quartet (Korea)

23 Jul 2022, Sat

7.30pm & 8.45pm

Esplanade Concourse



Korean jazz saxophonist Hachul Song makes his Singapore debut at *Jazz in July*. Presenting a selection of his original works from his latest album *Be Yourself*, Song will be joined by pianist Chaesun Yim, bassist Inseop Song and drummer Joo Chan Im in this unforgettable evening.

### About Hachul Song

Hachul Song, started out with the clarinet in elementary school, before picking up the jazz saxophone at age 15. After completing all the basic courses within a year, he became the youngest student ever to join the Postmodern Music Department. He went on to win the Young Chang Music Concours Excellence Prize in 2014 and participated in jazz pianist, Jung Jun's 12th album. He was subsequently pegged a "Rising Star" in popular jazz magazine, *Jazz People*. He has since performed on various stages and festivals including the Jarasum International Jazz Festival and EBS Space.

45mins, no intermission

**Jazz for Kids: Count with Humpty!**  
**by Dawn Wong & The Lost Tribe**

24 Jul 2022, Sun

2pm

Esplanade Concourse



World famous nursery rhyme superstar Humpty Dumpty is back with more jazz. But this time, he's got a different problem—Humpty's forgotten how to count!

Join Dawn Wong & The Lost Tribe, and help Humpty find his rhythm in this hour-long interactive performance. Part of the *Jazz for Kids* series, this follow-up programme features popular nursery rhymes like *London Bridge is Falling Down*, *Walking Walkin*, *Down By The Bay*, and many more jazzed up hit songs to get your preschooler groovin'. This programme was specially created for children aged 4 to 6 years, but can be enjoyed by everyone!

About Dawn Wong

Vocalist-songwriter-creative producer Dawn Wong received the Jazz Association Scholarship, had a baby and graduated top of her class at LASALLE College of the Arts all in the same year. This series of events inspired her to develop content for children, synthesising her experience as a professional performer and music educator. Wong previously performed at the Thailand International Jazz Festival and Kuching Waterfront International Jazz Festival. She currently fronts the Shanghai Jazz Club. Wong's contemporary Mandarin jazz album 《马可萝卜》 is now available on major streaming platforms.

1hr, no intermission

**Night Out**  
**by Ernesto Valerio & Mario Serio**  
24 Jul 2022, Sun  
5pm & 6.15pm  
Esplanade Concourse



Join Ernesto Valerio and Mario Serio as they bring you music from popular movies of the '50s, '60s and '70s, with a jazzy twist.

#### About Mario Serio

Mario Serio is a consummate pianist/ keyboardist from New York City who plays all genres of music with skill and grace. He performed with many jazz, Latin, pop, cabaret and Broadway artists in the US, before residing in Singapore, where he currently teaches, composes, arranges and performs regularly at SimplyJazz. He also runs a Tuesday night jam session. Serio is well known for his sophisticated musical approach, lush harmonic sense, keen accompanist skills and a diverse repertoire.

#### About Ernesto Valerio

Dubbed the "Dean Martin of Singapore", Ernesto Valerio has been performing for over 50 years. He is well-known in the local live music scene and has rubbed shoulders with the best. Through the years, he has broadened his repertoire to include many modern hits from all genres.

<https://www.facebook.com/ernestovalerio60>

45mins, no intermission

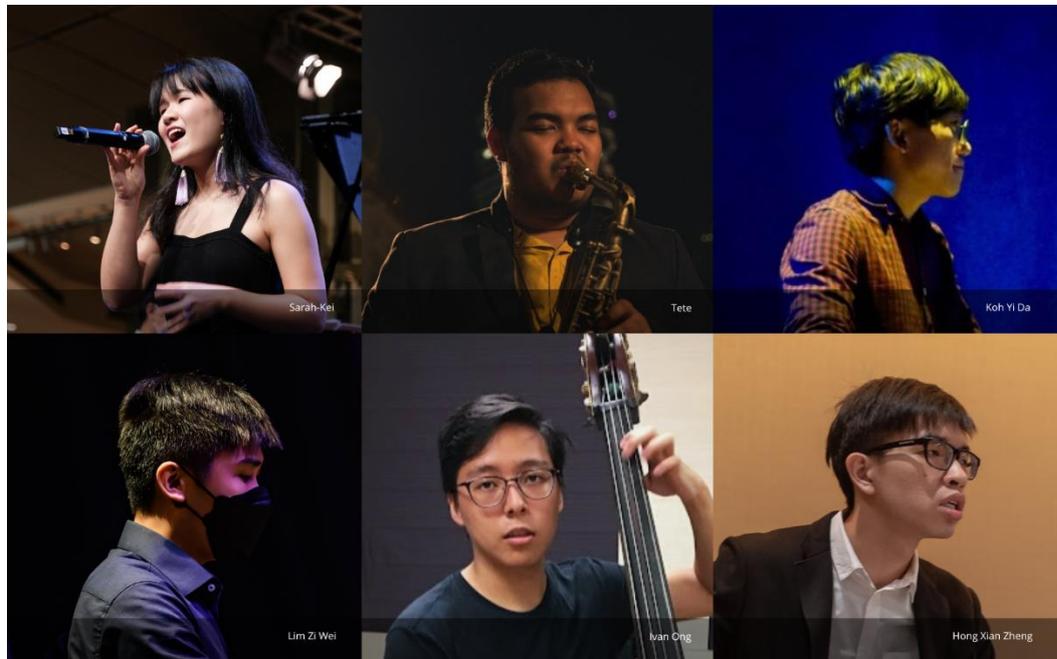
## My Favourite Things! Musical Theatre Meets Jazz by Sarah-Kei & Friends

25 Jul 2022, Mon

7.15pm & 8.15pm\*

Esplanade Concourse & Online

(\*8.15pm: Also livestreamed, available online until 26 Jul, Tue, 8.15pm)



Having grown up with *The Sound Of Music* and Ella Fitzgerald, it's no wonder Sarah-Kei gets excited when the two genres meet. From well-loved jazz standards to new arrangements of musical theatre classics, join her this evening for a few of her favourite things.

Joining vocalist Sarah-Kei are Pongthipok Sootthipong aka Tete Saxman (saxophone), Koh Yi Da and Lim Zi Wei (keys), Ivan Ong (bass) and Hong Xian Zheng (drums). They first met through Esplanade's *Mosaic Jazz Fellows* programme and the National University of Singapore Jazz Band.

30mins, no intermission

**Goodnight Heartache Vocal Jam**  
**by Mario Serio & Anson Fung with Various Artists**  
26 Jul 2022, Tue  
7.15pm\* & 8.15pm\*  
Esplanade Concourse & Online

(\*Also livestreamed, available online until 27 Jul, Wed, 8.15pm)



As much as jazz songs are known for themes of love and romance, songs of heartache and separation are also common. From the bitter *You don't know what love is* and the hopelessly forlorn *I'm a fool to want you*, to the yearful *I'll be seeing you*, there is a jazz ballad for every flavour of sad.

Join us in this light-hearted competition of sorrowful songs, where jazz vocalists from the Singapore scene offer their most tear-jerking rendition of a jazz ballad, and vote for the singer that pushes on your emotional buttons the most.

Hosted by Anson Fung and accompanied by pianist Mario Serio.

#### About Mario Serio

Mario Serio is a consummate pianist/ keyboardist from New York City who plays all genres of music with skill and grace. Performing with many jazz, Latin, pop, cabaret and Broadway artists in the USA, he now lives in Singapore, where he teaches, composes, arranges and performs regularly at SimplyJazz and runs a Tuesday night jam session. Serio is well known for his sophisticated musical approach, lush harmonic sense, keen accompanist skills and a diverse repertoire.

30mins, no intermission

## **Ann Gie Trio**

28 Jul 2022, Thu

7.15pm & 8.15pm\*

Esplanade Concourse & Online

(\*8.15pm: Also livestreamed, available online until 29 Jul, Fri, 8.15pm)



Explore the art of piano trios with compositions and arrangements from Bud Powell, McCoy Tyner, Chick Corea and Bill Charlap. Lee Ann Gie will be joined by Aaron James Lee (drums) and Kenji Nakano (bass).

### **About Lee Ann Gie**

Lee Ann Gie fell in love with jazz after joining her school's jazz club in junior college. Since then, Lee has performed alongside various international and local jazz luminaries, including Louis Soliano, Jeremy Monterio and Tan Wei Xiang, to name a few. Lee is also an avid arranger and composer. She led her own quartet in 2019 and presented a solo performance in 2022 showcasing her compositions and arrangements. She also composed a 2 piano arrangement in tribute to Thelonious Monk for International Piano Month 2020, which she performed with Jeremy Monterio. She is currently a keyboardist at the Music and Drama Company.

<https://www.instagram.com/inndoughmee/>

30mins, no intermission

**Date Night Friday: Waves of Love  
by Namie & the Waves**

29 Jul 2022, Fri

7pm & 8.15pm

Esplanade Concourse



Namie & The Waves bring you their original compositions as well as a mix of covers from Moonchild, Gretchen Parlato, Robert Glasper and the likes to accompany you on your date night. Ride the waves of love, high and low, with groovy, sensual and calming tunes.

About Namie & The Waves

Namie & The Waves is a Singapore-based band whose music is highly influenced by a common love for jazz and the modern sound of neo jazz. Lead singer Namie pens down life experiences and worldly affairs into words and melodies for the band to arrange and perform. Aside from originals, they also work on their own renditions of jazz standards, both classic and modern. The band's innate chemistry and improvisational nature can be observed from their music-making on stage as well as in the studio.

[www.instagram.com/namiewaves](http://www.instagram.com/namiewaves)

45mins, no intermission

## My Favourite Things by Joshua Wan & Friends

30 Jul 2022, Sat

2.30pm & 3.45pm

Esplanade Concourse



When you've been in music for as long as these old coots have, you would have heard and performed a lot of music! Joshua Wan, Eugenia Yip, Jase Sng and Anson Koh share two sets of their favourite songs, including Bill Evans' *Waltz for Debby* and The Beatles' *Blackbird*.

When you've been in the scene for as long as these old friends have, you would have heard and performed a lot of music!

Joshua Wan, Eugenia Yip, Jase Sng and Anson Koh perform some of their favourite songs from an array of artists including Dire Straits, Duke Ellington, Oasis and The Beatles.

### About Joshua Wan

Joshua Wan has been a familiar face in Singapore's music scene for the last 35 years as pianist, arranger, producer and educator.

30mins, no intermission

## **Mario Serio & The UnBroken**

30 Jul 2022, Sat

7pm & 8.30pm

Esplanade Outdoor Theatre



Catch veteran jazz pianist Mario Serio, drummer Jimmy Lee, electric bassist Ignatius Bong and a surprise guest as they perform a combination of originals and jazz classics.

### About Mario Serio

Mario Serio is a consummate pianist/ keyboardist from New York City who plays all genres of music with skill and grace. He performed with many jazz, Latin, pop, cabaret and Broadway artists in the US, before residing in Singapore, where he currently teaches, composes, arranges and performs regularly at SimplyJazz. He also runs a Tuesday night jam session. Serio is well known for his sophisticated musical approach, lush harmonic sense, keen accompanist skills and a diverse repertoire.

### About Ignatius Bong

Formerly from the SAF MDC, Ignatius Bong has performed at many concerts and recorded many albums for Hong Kong and Taiwanese artists namely A-mei, Leslie Cheung, Sandy Lam and Stefanie Sun.

He is a versatile bass player who has performed at ASEAN Jazz Festivals, the Edinburgh Arts Festival and the European legs of MIDEM and WOMAD Festivals.

Well known for his funk and jazz fusion bass playing, Bong is currently Assistant Music Director of Yamaha Music Asia.

### About Jimmy Lee

Born in Singapore and educated in drumming at New York Drummer's Collective, Jimmy Lee has been playing drums since age 17 and is an endorsee of Yamaha Drums and Zildjian cymbals. His talent and professionalism has made him one of the most respected, prolific and experienced live and studio session drummers in the region. As a much sought after sessionist, he has performed and recorded with international stars including A-mei, Jeff Chang, Kenny Bee, Liu Jia Chang, Wynners, Sally Yeh, George Lam, Stephanie Sun, Eric Moo, Dick Lee, Eason Chan, Three Degrees, Lobo, Alex To, William So, Jacky Cheung and many others. His self-authored drum textbooks have been widely adopted as syllabus material by music schools in the region.

45mins, no intermission

## Hope Yeh Trio (Taiwan)

30 Jul 2022, Sat

7.30pm & 8.45pm

Esplanade Concourse



Hailed as one of the most innovative jazz guitarists in Taiwan, Hope Yeh draws influences from European jazz and blends contemporary jazz sounds with elegant sense of humour. Equally prized as a guitarist and composer, Yeh brings about a sound full of warmth, fluency and rhythmic clarity to Taiwan's jazz scene. In this special performance, Yeh presents a selection of originals and covers of Taiwanese folksongs, alongside guest stars Tsung Han Hsieh on bass and Baron Jan on drums.

### About Hope Yeh

Hope Yeh is a multi-faceted guitarist, who became a jazzman after obtaining a degree in electrical engineering from National Tsing Hua University and graduating from The Royal Conservatory of Brussels. He has since become a teacher at the Department of Applied Music in the Tainan National University of the Arts and is adding another string to his bow by training as a chiropractor. On the side, he manages the celebrated fan page Jazz Negative Force, which contributes to promoting jazz music. Yeh's music draws upon his broad and varied life experience to develop multiple layers of emotion with the audience and share his depth of expression.

### About Hsieh Tsung Han

Hsieh Tsung Han started his classical piano training at a very young age. In his growing years, he developed a strong interest in jazz and pop music which led to him picking up the electric bass at age 16. He eventually pursued his interest and graduated with a Masters degree in Jazz from the Royal Conservatory of Brussels in 2019. His music reflects a blend of European and Asian influence, transcending traditional and contemporary jazz sound. Hsieh is currently based in Taiwan as a jazz musician and music educator.

### About Baron Jan

Baron Jan is a drummer from Taipei's up and coming generation of musicians. He first experienced jazz at the age of 13 when he enrolled in Taipei International Summer Jazz Academy (TISJA). In Taipei American School, he joined the high school big band, after which

he went to Canada to study music in the University of Toronto and Humber college. Since then, he has accumulated performance experience spanning across a variety of genres and musical settings in both Taiwan and Toronto.

<https://www.facebook.com/HopeMusicStudio>

45mins, no intermission