

Esplanade Presents

## Mosaic Music Series 2025

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



Dear friends of the media,

For over two decades, *Mosaic* has been a cornerstone of Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay’s music programming, bringing Singapore audiences the best in alternative, jazz, indie, neo-classical, and more. Launched in 2003 as a platform for diverse music experiences, it expanded to include a beloved 10-day festival from 2005 to 2014 before transitioning back to a year-round format in step with Singapore’s evolving music scene. Through it all, *Mosaic* has stayed true to its DNA—introducing both legendary artists and rising stars (many of whom later returned as headliners of other commercial music festivals!).

To kick off *Mosaic Music Series 2025*, we’re bringing in a stellar lineup of artists performing in Singapore for the first time. This week, catch Australia’s funk-infused instrumental quintet **Surprise Chef** and one of the world’s most streamed contemporary pianists, **Joep Beving**.

In April, the energy ramps up with two powerhouse Canadian acts—the electrifying dance-punk duo **Death From Above 1979** and multi-instrumentalist singer-songwriter **Luna Li**. Also making their Singapore debut are Dutch band **YĪN YĪN**, blending psychedelia, funk, and disco with Asian influences. Fans of indie won’t want to miss the return of New York underground favourites **Beach Fossils** too!

We are also thrilled to welcome the legendary jazz guitar virtuoso **Pat Metheny**—who has only ever performed in Singapore at Esplanade’s iconic Concert Hall—back this May.

These acts set the *Mosaic* stage for an exciting year ahead, with more artists to be announced soon. Just as *Mosaic* has showcased luminaries such as Belle & Sebastian, Death Cab for

Cutie, Diana Krall, Gilberto Gil, Girl in Red, Herbie Hancock, Japanese Breakfast, Kings of Convenience, Ludovico Einaudi, Men I Trust, The National and more in Singapore over two decades, we continue to bring you our signature mix of legends and emerging pace-setters in the music world.

Stay tuned and see you at *Mosaic!*

**Lawrence Quek**

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 4,000 live performances and activities presented by Esplanade, its partners and hirers. As an arts centre for everyone, Esplanade also creates opportunities for seniors, youth, children and underserved communities to experience the arts. More than 70% of the shows that take place each year at the centre are free for all to enjoy.

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

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

Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay is operated by The Esplanade Co Ltd (TECL), which is a not-for-profit organisation, a registered Charity and an Institution of a Public Character. TECL received the Charity Governance Award – Special Commendation for Clarity of Strategy in 2016 and 2022, the Charity Transparency Award from 2016 – 2023, and the Charity Transparency Dedication Award in 2024. Esplanade is Singapore's first Dementia-Friendly Arts Venue and a certified Dementia Go-To Point, as well as a guide/assistance 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

### **Mosaic Music Series 2025**

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#### About Mosaic Music Series

*Mosaic Music Series* features exceptional musicians at the forefront of their genres. The series also seeks to deepen audience understanding and appreciation of the musicians and their works as well as inspire Singapore's music community.

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### **Surprise Chef (Australia)**

28 Mar 2025, Fri, 8pm

Esplanade Annexe Studio



From little things, instrumental juggernauts grow.

Hailing from just outside of Melbourne, Australia, the members of Surprise Chef first gathered in 2017 with the modest aim to tape a couple of spontaneous funk jams. Those analogue sessions and recordings went as planned, simultaneously uncovering a chemistry and camaraderie that has come to define the lives of the band members ever since. Utilising time and space to build evocative soundscapes that invite listeners into their world, the quintet's distinct sound pulls from '70s film scores, the funkier side of jazz and the samples that form the foundation of hip hop. There's a little bit of everything in their music: punchy drums, infectious keys, rhythm guitars that emulate a Studio One record, and flute lines akin to those heard in a Blue Note session.

After the release of their first two records, *All News Is Good News* and *Daylight Savings*, the band amassed a die-hard fanbase and brought their sound from their home studio to every corner of the globe. Along the journey they've garnered praise from the likes of Questlove and Jurassic 5's DJ Nu-Mark and were sampled for a collaboration between 88 Rising's Rich Brian and Wu Tang's legendary Ghostface Killah. The band is signed to Big Crown Records, joining a lineage of contemporary and classic sounds that have influenced Surprise Chef's music.

After spending the first half of 2024 immersed in their critically acclaimed re-score of the 1970s Australian cult classic *Wake in Fright*, Surprise Chef found themselves in an entirely new creative space. Fresh from the intensity of that project, the recording sessions for their latest record, *Superb*, were intended to be the opposite process-wise; lighter, less intense, more free and spontaneous. adventurous, funky, experimental and free. Blending the cinematic soul of David Axelrod with the infectious grooves of Timbaland or The Neptunes, this album reflects the band's versatility, virtuosity and creative spirit. Be one of the firsts to catch this band live in Singapore as they make their debut at the Esplanade Annexe Studio.

(2hrs, no intermission)  
Standing room only.

**\$60**

Limited concessions for students, NSFs, seniors and PWDs: \$54

Esplanade&Me Specials available (Limited tickets)

Black: 15% savings

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Discover: 10% savings (Min. of 2)

## Joep Beving (Netherlands)

29 Mar 2025, Sat, 8pm

Singtel Waterfront Theatre at Esplanade



“His combination of solo piano, strings and electronics makes for a warm, rich listen.” – *Exclaim!*

Though seemingly spartan in composition, the music of Dutch composer and pianist Joep Beving carry the weight of tangled, unnameable feelings. Perhaps this is precisely what Beving’s millions of listeners resonate with, described by himself as “simple music for complex emotions”.

Beving’s love for music and the piano can be traced all the way back to his childhood, enrolling into a conservatoire before an injury forced him to pivot his studies entirely. Yet, his passion burned on, and in 2009 he found an opportunity to revisit his love for music after inheriting his late grandmother’s Schimmel piano, a delicate instrument that would later inform many of his compositions. Several years later, at the age of 38, Beving began on the path that eventually led to his global success, playing and crafting minimal pieces informed by classical aesthetics and vocabulary. These pieces materialised on his debut album *Solipsism*, self-released in 2015 after Beving was turned down by the only label he approached. The sound of his piano found its way to the ears of Deutsche Grammophon’s A&R manager Christian Badzura, which led to the signing of Beving to the world’s foremost classical label, and consequently the release of his sophomore album *Prehension* in 2017. To date, Beving has been streamed over half a billion times and has sold out numerous shows around the globe, making him one of the most listened to contemporary pianists today.

2019 saw the release of *Henosis*, Beving’s closing chapter in a trilogy of albums, marking the end of an intensely personal four-year spiritual and philosophical exploration. Continuing his minimalist and occasionally romantic style of writing, the Dutch composer explored new territories by opening up new musical worlds using orchestral and electronic sounds alongside the familiar warmth of his beloved Schimmel piano. While *Solipsism* investigated the self

and *Prehension* the individual's relation to the collective, *Henosis* drew the mind's eye even wider into the scale of the cosmos, in search of "ultimate reality and emptiness of the mind". The album received an Edison Award within the same year of its release.

Beving's fourth and latest record, *Hermetism*, sees him returning to solo piano compositions, once again in search of universal ideas. Written during the dark days of the pandemic and in an age of fear and polarisation, *Hermetism* blends poignant melancholy with an offer of hope, again drawing from Beving's own philosophical explorations much like he did in his previous three albums.

Beving breathes life into these compositions and ideas on the Singapore stage for the first time, inviting fans new and old alike to experience his consummate musicianship and compelling sound live in one spellbinding evening.

(1hr 30mins, no intermission)

**\$88**

Limited concessions for students, NSFs, seniors and PWDs: \$79.20

*Esplanade&Me Specials available* (Limited tickets)

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Discover: 10% savings (Min. of 2)

## Death From Above 1979 (Canada)

20 Apr 2025, Sun, 7.30pm  
Esplanade Annexe Studio



Two decades of absolute electricity culminates in one explosive tour: Beginning in 2024, Death From Above 1979 (DFA 1979) celebrates the 20th anniversary of their debut LP *You're A Woman, I'm A Machine*, a genre-bending iconoclastic cult classic that sounds as fresh today as it did in 2004. Dubbed "dance-punk" by the UK press, their music doesn't merely suggest, it commands those who hear it to the grimy, feverish and dimly-lit dance floor.

To celebrate, the band are playing furiously around the world while endeavouring on a year-long recording project to reinvigorate and honour their iconic flagship album. 20 years is a long time for rock 'n' roll, but the odometer turns slowly for this power duo. As explosive as ever, DFA 1979 summons their fans to the pit to revel in their uniquely infectious, high-octane rock n' roll.

(1hr 15mins, no intermission)  
Standing room only.

### About Death From Above 1979

Death From Above 1979, also known as DFA 1979, is an electrifying Canadian rock duo consisting of the dynamic bassist Jesse F. Keeler and the powerful drummer and vocalist Sebastien Grainger. Hailing from Toronto, Ontario, they burst onto the music scene in 2001, pioneering the unique blend of dance-punk and garage rock that has captivated audiences worldwide. With their infectious energy and relentless drive, they've made a significant impact on the music industry, showcasing a sound that uniquely merges raw punk elements with catchy electronic undertones.

From their groundbreaking debut album *You're a Woman, I'm a Machine* to their more recent releases, Death From Above 1979 has always delivered bold and innovative tracks that resonate deeply with fans. Their connection to vinyl culture is evident, as many music lovers



cherish their limited edition records that embody the excellent sound quality and collectible artwork often associated with vinyl. This duo not only redefined a genre but created an enduring legacy that continues to inspire new generations of artists and vinyl enthusiasts alike.

**\$70**

Limited concessions for students, NSFs, seniors and PWDs: \$63

*Esplanade&Me Specials available* (Limited tickets)

Black: 15% savings

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Discover: 10% savings (Min. of 2)

## Luna Li (Canada)

24 Apr 2025, Thu, 8pm  
Esplanade Annexe Studio



Embarking on her first Asia tour, the magnetic Luna Li returns to Singapore for her first headlining concert here.

A wildly talented songwriter, arranger, vocalist and multi-instrumentalist, Luna Li's sonic universe is a perfect amalgamation of her many talents. Through intricate instrumental melodies and multi-layered arrangements, the Korean-Canadian artist weaves together a sonic universe of dreamy, baroque-pop with elements of soft rock, charming a growing legion of fans with her unique brand of cinematic dream pop.

Having first garnered attention online in 2020, she went on to release her debut EP, *Duality*, featuring the likes of Jay Som, beabadoobee, and Dreamer Isioma. This record generated hits such as *Afterglow*, *Misery Moon* and *Silver Into Rain*, and garnered a Juno Award nomination for Alternative Album of the Year. This rising star went on to open and tour with the likes of Japanese Breakfast, Wolf Alice, and beabadoobee.

But set against *When a Thought Grows Wings*, her debut feels like a stepping stone to her sweet spot. This sophomore album is a snapshot of its creator influx. For the 27-year-old, born Hannah Bussiere Kim, the journey was tumultuous, pivotal and necessary. After splitting with her partner of eight years and leaving her hometown of Toronto for Los Angeles, she found her world opening in new ways.

Weaving her harp-rippled, baroque-pop through with jazz flute and gritty riffs, the album is a testament to Luna Li's prowess as a charismatic front person, songwriter, arranger and continuously curious multi-instrumentalist. Making her debut at Esplanade for her first headline show in Singapore, Luna Li is set to sweep audiences off their feet with her undeniable stage presence and unique sonic palette.

(1hr 15mins, no intermission)  
Standing room only.

**\$75**

Limited concessions for students, NSFs, seniors and PWDs: \$67.50

*Esplanade&Me* Specials available (Limited tickets)

Black: 15% savings

White: 10% savings

Discover: 10% savings (Min. of 2)

## YĪN YĪN (Netherlands)

27 Apr 2025, Sun, 8pm  
Esplanade Annexe Studio



Vibrant, shimmery and irresistibly groovy, YĪN YĪN's cinematic sound has propelled this largely instrumental four-piece band into unexpected global heights.

Hailing from Holland's southernmost city of Maastricht, the band first caught the attention of listeners globally by meticulously crafting a unique sound that married psychedelia, funk, disco with Asian influences. They first burst onto the scene in 2019 with the Thai psychrock-influenced *The Rabbit that Hunts Tigers*, which they performed across several shows to great reception, including at the famed Lowlands festival. During the pandemic, the band wrote and recorded *The Age of Aquarius*, later released in 2022. Described as spiritual and cosmic, the record retained the band's distinct Southeast Asian influence while diving even deeper into dancefloor propulsion and space travel atmospherics.

YĪN YĪN marked yet another evolution with their 2024 album, *Mount Matsu*, the first record collectively created by all members of the band. Deeply informed by both the imaginative sound waves of the cosmos as well as the earthly musical culture of Japan, *Mount Matsu* is infectious, strangely harmonious and highly energetic. The album's sound is somewhat of a synthesis of their first two records, utilising pentatonic scales and vintage synthesisers for their signature sound, built on a solid foundation of psychedelic disco, fat global funk, electronics and tribal experiments.

Making their way to Singapore for the first time, YĪN YĪN invites you into their expansive sonic cosmos: join the fray and let your fantasy run wild, dance your heart out and ascend *Mount Matsu* with YĪN YĪN.

Kees Berkers – drums  
Remy Scheren – bass  
Erik Bandt – guitar

Jerry Scheren – keyboards

(1hr 15mins, no intermission)

Standing room only.

**\$80**

Limited concessions for students, NSFs, seniors and PWDs: \$72

*Esplanade&Me Specials available* (Limited tickets)

Black: 15% savings

White: 10% savings

Discover: 10% savings (Min. of 2)

## Beach Fossils (USA)

28 Apr 2025, Mon, 8pm  
Esplanade Annexe Studio



Rising to prominence in the 2010s amidst a surge of left-of-center indie pop, Beach Fossils quickly amassed a loyal cult following thanks to its dreamy, far-away sound, grounded by dreary, realist lyricism. Throughout the last fifteen years, they have steadily earned their stature as one of the most definitive and enduring bands emerging from the 2010s New York underground. They consistently reach new listeners thanks to the steady evolution of their sound from the DIY solo project of Dustin Payseur to an influential self-produced four-piece dream pop band, where Payseur is joined by core band members Tommy Davidson (guitar), Jack Doyle Smith (bass), and Anton Hochheim (drums).

Now, after seven years, this iconic quartet returns to Singapore with new material alongside fan favourite songs, drawing from beloved albums such as the recently-released *Bunny* (2023), the jangly melancholy of their self-titled 2010 album, the gritty post-punk inspired *Class the Truth* (2013), and many more. Through tone and mood, Beach Fossils communicate a coming-of-age narrative of self-discovery. Payseur's slice-of-life lyrics reflect on depression, love, adventure, loss, mistakes, New York City, friendships coming and going—a mélange of granular pieces in the process of continuing to find yourself.

(1hr 15mins, no intermission)  
Standing room only.

**\$80**

Limited concessions for students, NSFs, seniors and PWDs: \$72

Esplanade&Me Specials available (Limited tickets)

Black: 15% savings

White: 10% savings

Discover: 10% savings (Min. of 2)

## Pat Metheny Dream Box/MoonDial Tour (USA)

30 May 2024, Fri, 8pm  
Esplanade Concert Hall



*“... the man’s display(s) of creative genius not only provides plenty to savour but also delivers far more than just a mere modicum of delightful surprise.”* – Glide Magazine

American jazz guitar virtuoso and composer Pat Metheny returns to Singapore to grace the hallowed Esplanade Concert Hall once again, this time for a concert unlike any other. After decades of honing and perfecting his craft, he spotlights his longtime partner-in-crime, the guitar, in one intimate, spellbinding evening.

Acknowledged as one of jazz’s premier guitarists, this multi-GRAMMY award-winning artist revolutionised the industry for decades, with genre-stretching music that straddles post-bop and contemporary jazz. Creating a multitude of sonic worlds with his musical versatility, Metheny’s deeply emotive style has influenced generations of musicians and drawn in fans from all over the world for decades. He is also known for playing less common instruments, including the 42-string Picassos guitar, 12-string electric guitars and guitar synthesisers.

In 2024, something unusual happened: Metheny conceived, recorded and released a new album in the middle of another tour. Finding inspiration in one of his newer instruments while on his *Dream Box* tour, Metheny entered the studio with only his custom-built nylon-strong baritone guitar and emerged with *MoonDial*. A purely solo album with no overdubs, it features a combination of original tunes inspired by the instrument and standards for which it is the perfect match—including Chick Corea’s *You’re Everything* and the Lennon-McCartney tune *Here, There and Everywhere*.

And so, the *Dream Box/MoonDial* tour was born—which sees Metheny playing over a dozen guitars, offering songs from these two recent recordings alongside those from past albums. Peppering personal anecdotes throughout the show, Metheny gives the performance further dimension through rare storytelling with the audience.

At age 70, Metheny's artistry continues to flourish. This performance marks yet another milestone in his journey, this time highlighting his relationship with his most trusted musical companion. With dexterity and deft skills that reflect his many decades of playing, Metheny brings out the full potential of these guitars, coaxing lush tones and fluid melodies as only he can. Set in Esplanade Concert Hall and supported by its state-of-the-art acoustic features, this *Dream Box/MoonDial* concert promises to be a truly special evening that celebrates the life and art of a beloved jazz veteran.

(1hr 30mins, no intermission)

**\$65\*, \$95\*\*, \$115^, \$135^**

Limited concessions for students, NSFs and seniors: \$55.25\*, \$80.75\*\*

Limited concession for PWDs: \$55.25\*

^Esplanade&Me Specials available

Black: 15% savings

White: 10% savings

Discover: 10% savings (Min. 2 tickets)