# Esplanade Presents **PESTA RAYA – MALAY FESTIVAL OF ARTS 2019** 27 – 30 Jun 2019

www.esplanade.com/pestaraya



Art, culture and tradition have evolved through generations and branched out across the islands and cities of the *nusantara* (Malay Archipelago). Yet the region is still held together by the same rooted beliefs and culture. This unique identity is what makes up the *nusantara* and Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay's *Pesta Raya* – *Malay Festival of Arts 2019* celebrates the richness of art, culture, heritage and history of the Malay Archipelago. Taking place from 27 - 30 Jun 2019 and coinciding with the celebration of Hari Raya Aidilfitri, the 18th edition of the festival returns this year with three newly commissioned works.

We present the festival's first ever commission for the Esplanade Theatre, *Fatih – The Prince & The Drum* by Nadi Singapura and directed by the acclaimed Garin Nugroho, which shines the spotlight on percussion, one of the oldest art forms. We are also proud to present our second co-commission with Asia TOPA: Asia-Pacific Triennial of Performing Arts, a film-to-stage production of *The Seen and Unseen*. This work shares the moving story of a pair of Balinese twins through dance and movement. After the presentation at *Pesta Raya, The Seen and Unseen* will be presented in Australia. And finally, our first ever ticketed and commissioned work for children aged four to seven years old – *Teroka! Kerana Nila* written by Adib Kosnan and directed by Noor Effendy Ibrahim. This interactive children's theatre work follows Sang Nila as he befriends mythical creatures on his journey to find home.

We are proud to share that many of our Singapore artists take centre stage at *Pesta Raya* this year, including Syarif, Akeem Jahat, The Jazz Djogets, P7:1SMA and Perkumpulan Seni. Long-time festival goers and *otais* (old-timers) can also look forward to a night of *keroncong* with Indonesian music diva Hetty Koes Endang and indie darlings from the region Hujan and Padi Reborn who come together for one evening only at the Esplanade Concert Hall. Audiences will also be treated to the rare *kuda kepang* dance at the festival opening at the Esplanade Forecourt Garden, and *Mak Yong* performances through the weekend, an artform encompassing elements of dance, music, acting, singing and storytelling which has been recognised by UNESCO as a Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity.

Over the last 18 years, we have established lasting friendships with various partners and arts groups. More importantly, we have also seen many audiences who have attended the festival and grown with us over the years, many of whom now bring their younger members of the family to the festival as well. We hope this new generation of audiences will continue to create lasting memories at *Pesta Raya*, forging a strong bond with Esplanade and the arts. We look forward to having you with us.

Hanie Nadia Hamzah Programmer, The Esplanade Co Ltd

# About Pesta Raya – Malay Festival of Arts

Celebrate the icons and treasures of the Malay community in its diversity and richness through the best in theatre, dance, and music from the Nusantara (Malay Archipelago).

# **Ticketed Programmes**

An Esplanade Commission Fatih – The Prince & The Drum by NADI Singapura (Singapore) Directed by Garin Nugroho (Indonesia) 29 Jun 2019, Sat, 8pm Esplanade Theatre



NADI Singapura presents an epic tale of trial and tribulation, told through Malay percussion, martial arts, dance, prose and song.

Prince Fatih of the Kingdom of Sritanmira embarks on a journey of self-discovery, and finds himself lost and betrayed, only to be saved by the power of his parents' love. His arduous path, filled with sacrifice and pain, leads to a discovery of a forgotten past, promising peace and glory.

Featuring a creative team from Singapore, Indonesia and Thailand, *Fatih – The Prince & The Drum* is the first large-scale commission of a theatre production by Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay at *Pesta Raya*. An original story and music by Riduan Zalani and NADI Singapura, *Fatih – The Prince & The Drum* is directed by internationally renowned Indonesian director, Garin Nugroho, who last presented the sold-out *Setan Jawa* at *Pesta Raya* in 2017. It is written by Singapore playwright Zulfadli Rashid, who was also behind *Alkesah*, the critically acclaimed rollicking music theatre production commissioned by Esplanade for *Pesta Raya* in 2018.

Original Story and Music: Riduan Zalani & NADI Singapura Director: Garin Nugroho (Indonesia) Playwright: Zulfadli Rashid Starring: NADI Singapura | Riduan Zalani | Nizar Fauzie | Rizman Putra | Izzathy Halil | Norisham Osman | Wirastuti Susilaningtyas (Indonesia) | Nan Jombang Dance Company (Indonesia)

(1hr 30mins, no intermission. Performed in Malay with English surtitles.)

#### \$25\* / \$40\*\* / \$55^ / \$70^ Limited concessions for students, NSFs and seniors: \$20\*, \$32\*\*

An Esplanade Co-commission The Seen and Unseen by Kamila Andini (Indonesia) 28 & 29 Jun 2019, Fri & Sat Fri: 8pm | Sat: 3pm & 8pm Esplanade Theatre Studio



One day, 10-year-old Tantri comes to realise she will not have much more time with her bedridden twin brother Tantra, who is losing his senses one by one. Grappling with this reality, Tantri finds solace in the deepness and the darkness of night. Under a full moon, she dances, finding herself between reality and imagination, loss and hope. Tantri experiences a magical and emotional journey into womanhood that eclipses Tantra's fading life.

*The Seen and Unseen (Sekala Niskala)* is a new performance work, a cross-cultural collaboration between artists from Indonesia, Japan and Australia. Inspired by Indonesian filmmaker Kamila Andini's film *The Seen and Unseen*, which has been described as "a truly singular film" (*Cinema Scope*) and "a haunting and hypnotic interpretation...rooted in Balinese arts and culture" (*Variety*).

This live theatrical production is a visual feast incorporating dance, live music and song, and features an electronic score, creating a blend of traditional Balinese dance movement with a contemporary approach to theatre. Driving this production is the Balinese philosophy of Sekala Niskala ("the seen and unseen"), a fundamentally dualist spiritual structure that describes what we cannot see as having equal value to what is seen in the world.

Directed by Kamila Andini (Indonesia), *The Seen and Unseen (Sekala Niskala)* features an all-child cast from Komunitas Bumi Bajra. The production also features a cross-cultural creative team that includes choreographer Ida Ayu Wayan Arya Satyani (Indonesia), composer Yasuhiro Morinaga (Japan), designer Eugyeene Teh (Australia), lighting designer Jenny Hector (Australia), dramaturgy by Adena Jacobs, theatre director and artistic director of Fraught Outfit (Australia).

A co-commission by Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay and Asia TOPA: Asia-Pacific Triennial of Performing Arts with Arts Centre Melbourne

Produced by Performing Lines

In collaboration with Fourcolours Films, Komunitas Bumi Bajra, Fraught Outfit, Komunitas Salihara

Supported by the Sidney Myer Fund, the Playking Foundation, and the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory body, and the Department of Communication and the Arts with advice from the Australia Singapore Group.

Directed by Kamila Andini

Choreographed by Ida Ayu Wayan Arya Satyani

Performed by Komunitas Bumi Bajra

## About the artists

#### Kamila Andini | Director

Kamila Andini is an Indonesian scriptwriter and film director with a borderless perspective of cinema. She released her first feature in 2011 called *The Mirror Never Lies*, which has been screened at more than 40 festivals and received more than 15 awards. Her two short films *Following Diana* and *Memoria* explore women's perspectives both in urban Jakarta and the rural areas of Timor Leste. *The Seen and Unseen* is her second feature film, and it has won best feature film at the Berlinale Generation Kplus. Her concern for art, social culture, gender equality and environment issues combine to create a distinctive perspective in storytelling.

## Ida Ayu Wayan Arya Satyani | Choreographer

Born in Denpasar, Indonesia in 1977, Ida is a choreographer actively teaching in the Department of Performing Arts, ISI Denpasar. Ida was involved in *Body Tjak The Celebration* by Prof. Dr. I Wayan Dibia and Keith Terry (San Francisco, 1999), was choreographer in *The Missing Sun* by Nelson Chia (Singapore, 2000–2001), and was involved in the Cultural Olympiad with Maha Bajra Sandhi (Athens, 2004). She was choreographer in the project Recovery Bali in six European countries (2006), and her latest choreography work is featured in Kamila Andini's film *The Seen and Unseen* (2016).

#### Komunitas Bumi Bajra

Komunitas Bumi Bajra community is a creative platform for vocal, theatre, dance, and percussion explorations and collaborations. It was formed with traditional values and established in 1991 in Batukandik, Denpasar, Bali, under the guidance of Perguruan Yoga Musik Maha Bajra Sandhi. Komunitas Bumi Bajra was formed to give space for the creativity for the younger generation. Highlights include participation in the 2006 Pencitraan Kembali, Bali di Mata Eropa, promoting and reviving the traditional values of Bali in Europe (Belgium, Germany, Paris, Amsterdam, and Luxembourg). In 2011, Komunitas Bumi Bajra was featured in the choreographic process of Kamila Andini's film *The Seen and Unseen* (*Sekala Niskala*).

(1hr, no intermission. Performed in Balinese, with minimal dialogue.)

#### \$35<sup>^</sup> Limited concessions for students, NSFs and seniors: \$25

An Esplanade Commission Teroka! Kerana Nila Explore! Because of Nila Written by Adib Kosnan Directed by Noor Effendy Ibrahim 28 & 29 Jun 2019, Fri & Sat Fri: 11am | Sat: 4pm Esplanade Recital Studio



Set sail with King Nila and his friends!

King Nila sails the high seas and discovers a mysterious island. On this island, he makes friends with a boy, a mermaid and a lion, and they journey together, weathering storms. Will they reach their destination? Will they find a home?

This tale is a retelling of how Sang Nila Utama discovered Singapore, and with his friends, travelled to find home.

Starring: Dalifah Shahril, Hassan, Gloria Tan and Farez Najid Music: Syed Ahmad and Suryana Norddin

Recommended for ages 4 – 7 years old. (1hr, no intermission. Performed in Malay.)

\$20^

^Esplanade&Me Specials PIP's Club: 10% savings for 2 or more tickets

## Hetty Koes Endang (Indonesia)

28 Jun 2019, Fri, 8pm Esplanade Concert Hall



Indonesian music diva Hetty Koes Endang takes to the Esplanade Concert Hall stage to present a selection of her iconic evergreen hits including *Jodoh*, *Kasih*, *Berdiri Bulu Romaku* and many more!

Be enthralled in this one-night-only concert as Hetty Koes Endang shares keroncong classics and pop favourites with special guest, her daughter, the rising pop star Afifah Yusuf.

Last performing at Esplanade in 2012 in *Keroncong Gala*, the 61-year-old Hetty Koes Endang continues to be active in the entertainment scene as a performer and a judge on reality singing competitions.

(1hr 30mins, no intermission. Performed in Indonesian.)

## \$45\* / \$65^\*\* / \$85^# Meet & Greet (post-show) with Cat 1 ticket + autographed poster: \$110

Limited concessions for students, NSFs and seniors: \$35\*, \$55\*\*

Esplanade&Me Specials ^Black & White Card: 15% & 10% savings #JOYears: 10% savings

#### Hujan x Padi Reborn (Malaysia & Indonesia) 30 Jun 2019, Sun, 8pm Esplanade Concert Hall



Veteran indie darlings, Hujan from Malaysia and Padi Reborn from Indonesia, join forces for a one-night-only performance at the Esplanade Concert Hall.

Don't miss this opportunity to catch these two icons live and sing along to hits such as *Kotak Hati, Empayarmu, Semua Tak Sama, Kasih Tak Sampai* and many more.

(2hrs 20mins, including 20mins intermission. Performed in Malay and Indonesian.)

## \$55\* / \$80^ Meet & Greet (post-show) with Cat 1 ticket + autographed poster: \$110

#### \*Limited concessions for students, NSFs and seniors: \$40

#### Syarif – Up Next Syarif – Dan Seterusnya (Singapore) 28 Jun 2019, Fri, 8pm Esplanade Annexe Studio



Syarif, one-half of the award-winning hip hop duo SleeQ, makes his debut solo performance at *Pesta Raya*! He takes the stage to showcase his new sound, featuring his own R&B and soul originals.

Co-directed with Trisno Ishak, former lead singer of Urban Xchange, this intimate showcase sees Syarif sharing his life and musical journey over the years in a soulful and dynamic performance.

Syarif began his career in the Singapore entertainment industry as part of SleeQ. After the duo decided to go down their individual paths in 2015, he took a break from music, and ventured into business and acting. At the same time, Syarif worked closely with Trisno Ishak finding and creating his own music identity. After two years of working and refining his music, now is the time for Syarif's reintroduction to the Singapore music scene.

(1hr, no intermission. Performed in Malay.)

\$27<sup>^</sup> Limited concessions for students, NSFs and seniors: \$21

# THE JAZZ DJOGETS SHOW – SINGAPURA BOLEH DJOGET! (Singapore)

28 Jun 2019, Fri, 10.30pm Esplanade Annexe Studio



The seven-piece power kampung ensemble The Jazz Djogets dance their way to *Pesta Raya* for a *joget* extravaganza!

Highly entertaining and with a penchant for musical experimentation, The Jazz Djogets present their groovy and infectious renditions of Malay, Indonesian, English and Japanese classics and hits from the '50s to the '70s.

The Jazz Djogets is a Singapore-based septet who plays a mix of Malay, Indonesian, English, Brazilian and Japanese music, and some of the finest jazz standards and beyond. The inception of the group came about when frontman and crooner Rudy Djoe, the "*gila* (crazy) Japanese jazz pianist" aka "Minah Jepun" Aya Sekine and jazz songbird Namie Rasman had a post-event *makan* (eat) session in the heart of Kampong Glam, followed by even more brainstorming while sipping on *teh halia* (ginger tea) and *teh tarik*. And as they say, the rest is history!

(1hr, no intermission. Performed in English and Malay.)

\$27<sup>^</sup> Limited concessions for students, NSFs and seniors: \$21

**Kunto Aji – Mantra Mantra Live (Indonesia)** 27 Jun 2019, Thu, 8pm Esplanade Annexe Studio



Kunto Aji makes his Singapore debut at *Pesta Raya*! With his warm and smooth vocals, he presents a groovy evening with *Mantra Mantra Live*, where he performs a selection of favourites from his latest album *Mantra Mantra* and his debut album *Generation* Y.

Known as Aji to his fans, Kunto Aji is a rising star in the Indonesian music scene who wins over his crowd with heart-wrenching lyrics. He first came into the public eye on *Indonesian Idol* in 2008, and went on to release his debut single *Terlalu Lama Sendiri*, which became one of the most played songs in Indonesia in 2014. The following year, his debut album *Generation* Y came out, and he was named the Breakthrough Artist of the Year at the Indonesian Choice Awards. After dropping the *Overthinker* EP in 2017, Kunto Aji released his sophomore album *Mantra Mantra* in 2018, showcasing his maturing artistry and relatable songwriting.

(1hr 20mins, no intermission. Performed in Indonesian.)

\$30<sup>^</sup> Limited concessions for students, NSFs and seniors: \$25

## Akeem Jahat & The Mobbin Hoodies (Singapore)

29 Jun 2019, Sat, 10pm Esplanade Annexe Studio



Budak Jahat Budak Jahat! (Bad Boy Bad Boy!)

Akeem Jahat is a rapper/songwriter/producer who is known for his raw and streetwise works in the mixtape circuit. Akeem began mixing around in the perimeters of Woodlands. He was at every street, avenue and corner, gradually becoming the product of his environment. This has given him the ability to understand and engage diverse situations accordingly.

In 2014, Akeem released *SeluDOPE*, the well acclaimed 20-track mixtape. The impact was almost instantaneous as soon as the mixtape hit the internet. Songs like *Nora Danish*, *Duit Rokok* and *Ribena* even caught attention outside of the hip hop scene, turning Akeem into more than just an underground act. He gradually garnered the attention of the internet with his unique bilingual Malay-English compositions.

The Mobbin Hoodies join Akeem on stage at *Pesta Raya* performing tracks off his mixtape such as *Woodlands*, *Level 22s* and *Gua love minahs*. Come through and party with them!

(1hr 30mins, no intermission. Performed in English and Malay.) Advisory: This performance contains some coarse language.

## \$27^ Limited concessions for students, NSFs and seniors: \$21

# <u>Workshops</u>

Join NADI Singapura as they share the music of *Fatih – The Prince and The Drum* in exciting workshops exploring a variety of Malay drums and percussion instruments commonly found in Singapore, like the *rebana, kompang, hadrah, jidur* and *gong.* 



Rhythms of Fatih – A Malay Percussion Workshop (Parent-Child) by NADI Singapura 30 Jun 2019, Sun, 10am Esplanade Rehearsal Studio

Be enchanted by hypnotic drum beats together with your child and try your hand at the basic drum beats performed in *Fatih – The Prince and The Drum*. Through these rhythms, participants young and old gain a better appreciation of Malay musical heritage.

Recommended for ages 6 years old and above. (1hr, no intermission. Conducted in English and Malay.)

1 Adult & 1 Child: \$26 \*Package of 3: \$39 \*Package of 4: \$52 \*With a minimum of 1 accompanying adult

Rhythms of Fatih – A Malay Percussion Workshop (Adult) by NADI Singapura 30 Jun 2019, Sun, 11.30am Esplanade Rehearsal Studio

Level up your love for percussion from being a casual listener to becoming a drummer! Participants will learn the vibrant drum beats featured in *Fatih – The Prince and The Drum* and gain a better appreciation of Malay musical heritage through these rhythms.

For ages 12 years old and above. (1hr 30mins, no intermission. Conducted in English and Malay.)

\$18

# Free Programmes – Highlights

Festival Opening KUDA KEPANG by ASK Dance Company 27 – 30 Jun 2019, Thu – Sun 6.45pm (15mins) Esplanade Forecourt Garden



© RIUH IN THE CITY

Celebrate *Pesta Raya* with a *kuda kepang* dance performance! Join the herd of dancers in a procession as they gallop around the centre.

## About ASK Dance Company

Founded and led by Artistic Director Joseph Gonzales, ASK Dance Company is a professional dance collective that specialises in traditional and contemporary dance performances and educational outreach programmes based in Malaysia. All dancer-choreographers are graduates from the National Academy of Arts, Culture and Heritage.

#### Mak Yong by Pusaka and Kumpulan Mak Yong Cahaya Matahari 28 – 30 Jun 2019, Fri – Sun Fri: 8.30pm & 9.30pm (30mins) Sat: 6pm & 9pm (30mins) Sun: 6pm & 8.15pm (30mins) Esplanade Courtyard



Photo Courtesy of PUSAKA, photography by Ahmad Fikry Mohd Anwar

Kumpulan Mak Yong Cahaya Matahari presents a Mak Yong performance featuring the *Menghadap Rebab*, the opening sequence of *Salutations to the Rebab*, and excerpts of the story *Dewa Pechil*.

Mak Yong is a Malay dance-drama tradition found primarily in the northeastern Malaysian state of Kelantan and the Pattani region of southern Thailand. Recognised by UNESCO in 2005 as a Masterpiece of the Oral And Intangible Heritage of Humanity, Mak Yong encompasses elements of dance, music, acting, singing, and storytelling.

#### About Kumpulan Mak Yong Cahaya Matahari

Kumpulan Mak Yong Cahaya Matahari is one of the most renowned Mak Yong groups in Malaysia. Founded by the late Che Ning, whose charisma and status as a Mak Yong primadonna is legendary, the group is now helmed by Che Siti binti Dollah, a veteran Mak Yong actress who is the main custodian of the Mak Yong in her community. The performers of this group trace their Mak Yong lineage back seven generations and are committed to the transmission of the Mak Yong tradition to succeeding generations. Kumpulan Mak Yong Cahaya Matahari features the granddaughter of Che Ning, Rohana Abdul Kadir, in the principal Pak Yong role, alongside her sisters, her father and other seasoned Mak Yong performers. The music ensemble is led by master gendang player Pak Su Agel, one of the most accomplished musicians of Kelantan.

#### About PUSAKA

PUSAKA is a cultural organisation that works intimately with the leading custodians of ritual and traditional performing arts in Malaysia and the region. PUSAKA is dedicated to creating a comprehensive documentary archive of traditional performing arts in Malaysia, while strengthening the viability of these traditions at the community level. We revitalise cultural traditions through organising regular performances and youth instruction projects in local communities, ensuring the transmission of these traditions to a succeeding generation.

#### Gemadah di Pesta Performed by Traditional Malay Music Consortium Music Arrangements by Aliff Azman and Zulkifli Mohamed Amin 27 Jun 2019, Thu 7pm & 8.45pm (1hr) Esplanade Outdoor Theatre



Catch the musicians from *Gemadah* – *Traditional Malay Music Festival* as they make a comeback this year at *Pesta Raya* with a one-night-only concert at the Esplanade Outdoor Theatre.

Come witness the collaborative ensemble, formed by the top talents of homegrown Malay music ensembles, share their love for traditional Malay music through a myriad of classic and contemporary Malay tunes.

Enjoy familiar classics made anew and also more experimental takes, featuring the works of notable arrangers with their own unique interpretations of Malay traditional music.

#### About Aliff Azman

A multi-instrumentalist with a strong foundation in tradition, Aliff Azman has established himself as a Malay music accordionist since 2012, performing in numerous events such as Muara Festival (2016–2018). Aliff started his involvement in the Malay music scene in 2003 when he was part of the well-known Siglap Nusantara Orchestra led by the late Mohamed Khamis Bin Selamat. He also performs regularly for Orkes Mutiara, a Malay traditional music band. Aliff undertook formal music education with a Diploma in Music in 2015 at LASALLE College of The Arts.

#### About Zulkifli Mohamed Amin

Zulkifli Mohamed Amin is widely acknowledged as a proponent of Malay music and traditional instruments, having served as music director of the youth section of Orkestra Melayu Singapura since its inception in 2005 till present. In 2015, he embarked on a new project, co-founding Nusantara Arts as a platform for young musicians to hone their musical sound and voice, and collaborate with artists from other disciplines. The company draws influences from the Malay Archipelago and moulds them into something that is uniquely Singaporean. He is the recipient of the National Arts Council's Young Artist Award 2018.

#### Pesta Dangdut by Zaleha Hamid, Masnie, Rahilah Rashun & The Band

28 Jun 2019, Fri 8pm, 9pm & 10pm (30mins) Esplanade Outdoor Theatre



Dance your evening away with Malaysia's Queen of *Dangdut* Zaleha Hamid, Singapore *dangdut* princess Masnie, with rising star and alumni of the *Dangdut Academy Asia 3* competition Rahila Rashun! Catch them live in this special collaboration!

*Dangdut* is a popular folk music style that emerged in Indonesia since the late 1960s, and has evolved over the decades. It is synonymous with energetic, percussion-driven pop music that is greatly influenced by Hindustani and Arabic music.

## About Zaleha Hamid

Hailed as the Queen of Dangdut in Singapore and Malaysia during the 1980s, Zaleha Hamid (born in 1957) is one of the pioneers of *dangdut* music, and is known for hits such as *Dangdut Reggae, Kerana Pengalaman*, Jangan Segan Segan, Sakit Tapi Asyik and Teruna Idaman.

#### About Masnie

Masnie, whose real name is Masni Mohamed (born in 1979), is well known in the Singapore *dangdut* circuit. She participated in *Asia Bagus* in 1991 before becoming a recording artiste and acted in 2007 Telemovie *Pawang Putih Pawang Merah*. With more than 10 years of experience singing in clubs, Masnie currently performs at Scarlet City Club and Happy Days Club with the Kalahari band.

#### About Rahila Rashun

Nurul Rahila Rashun, better known as Rahila Rashun (born in 1996), is known for her participation in Malaysia singing competition *Akademi Fantasia 2016*. She reached the semi-finals stage of the competition and emerged as one of the top six. She also participated in *Dangdut Academy Asia 3*, competing with contestants from Indonesia, Malaysia, Timor Leste, Thailand and Brunei. She was the first Singapore contestant to make it into the top seven.

### Salammusik

29 Jun 2019, Sat 8.30pm (30mins), 9.30pm (30mins) & 10.30pm (45mins) Esplanade Outdoor Theatre 30 Jun 2019, Sun 7.30pm, 8.30pm & 9.30pm (30mins) Esplanade Concourse



When you fuse cultural with modern beats, you get Salammusik, a band from Malaysia that gives music a breath of fresh air, with not only addictive rhythms but also with lyrics that yearn to be heard.

Salammusik expresses ideas and emotions in significant forms through the elements of rhythm, melody, harmony, and colour.

#### About Salammusik

Salam received his first (AIM) Music Award in 2010 for Best Hip-Hop Song. In 2012, Salammusik received the most prestigious (AIM) Music Award for The Best Album of the Year, and in the following year, they released their second album O, which was nominated for Best Engineered Album and Best English Song, and received the award for Best Hip-Hop Song. Salammusik has performed at festivals in Belgium, UK, The Netherlands, Singapore and Malaysia.

"We are thankful that we are able to express through music", says Salam. "Music brings us together. It speaks a universal language that we can hear and feel. 'Salam' means 'peace' and that's what we bring in our way."

#### Gema Seni by Perkumpulan Seni

30 Jun 2019, Sun 7.30pm, 8.45pm & 10pm (45mins) Esplanade Outdoor Theatre



Perkumpulan Seni presents an evening of Malay music, dance and poetry, showcasing new works alongside various iconic pieces from recent years as they pay homage to notable Malay artists who were from the group.

Encompassing their belief of "Seni Untuk Masyarakat" (Arts for the Community), the group shares their rich history through the camaraderie amongst its members as they revisit dances such as *Serampang Dua Belas*, *Zapin Gelombang* and *Masri Kini*.

### About Perkumpulan Seni

The meeting of various arts activists on 8 July 1956 led to the founding of Perkumpulan Seni, with its main objective of expanding and preserving the originality and artistic values of various Malay art forms. With the motto "Seni Untuk Masyarakat" (Arts for the Community), one of their objectives is to guide and build artistic understanding towards the community.

Apart from staging productions and publishing its own books, Perkumpulan Seni is actively involved in various Malay arts activities, mostly in drama, dance and literature, locally and internationally.

Amongst its pioneers are Usman Awang (poet and writer), A. Ghani Hamid (writer, poet, visual artist), Bani Buang, "The Father of Malay Drama" who introduced Malay drama on television, and Zubir Said, composer of Singapore's national anthem.



Have you cast your votes? Watch participants step into the spotlight as they sing live accompanied by a backing band.

These contestants have posted videos of themselves on social media and have been shortlisted to attend a live recording audition. Now they are ready to *nyanyi* (sing) for u!

Hosted by Fiza O with special guest performer, Syed Azmir.

For more details please visit <u>www.esplanade.com/pestaraya</u>

BBNU – Budak Baru Nak Up by Amir Hassan, Bunga, KucaiMars & Andi Bernadee (Malaysia) 29 Jun 2019, Sat 7.30pm, 8.45pm & 10pm (30mins) Esplanade Concourse



Be prepared to be blown away by these exciting new rising singers from Warner Music Malaysia!

Meet Amir Hassan, the poetic singer songwriter; Bunga, the baju kurung wearing rapper; KucaiMars, the heartbreaker smooth singer; and Andi Bernadee, the suave Latin-inspired singer. Young, talented, vibrant and creative, these artists are making a name for themselves in Malaysia, and are about to take Singapore by storm.

#### About the artists

Amir Hassan was discovered through Instagram when he did a cover of an Indonesian hit song called *Akad* by Payung Teduh. His debut single was *Bicaramu*, a beautiful love song that was composed by Haikal Zarin, Rudy Nastia and himself. His second single GYKT (*Gadis Yang Ku Tunggu*), written by Aizat Amdan, was released recently and is making waves on the Malaysia radio.

Noor Ayu Fatini—better known as **Bunga**—is a 19-year-old girl who has her own trademark, being the only female rapper wearing a hijab and baju kurung at all her live performances. She started getting noticed after posting a 16-bar rap video on her Instagram. Her video on the YOUTUBE show *16 Baris* received a large amount of views and reposts from Malaysianlocal hip hop fans who called her the next big thing for Malaysian hip hop. She will be releasing her debut single in July 2019.

Amirul Husyairi—better known as **KucaiMars**—has been making big waves in the Malaysian university scene. 2018 was a big year for him as he started gaining lots of attention in the digital world with his covers. His social media followers grew to a staggering 150,000 within months. Now with the release of his latest single *Jawab*, he has been traveling throughout Malaysia performing at universities.

Andi Bernadee is an amazing talent and was discovered from a mobile karaoke platform, Smule. He became a recording artiste with the release of his first single *Tiada Lagi Maaf*, and has since broken out into the mainstream with *Satu Peluang*, which became a massive hit.

His current new single *Donde* topped all the charts on all Malaysia radio stations and Singapore, with his lyric video hitting the 1 million views mark in just 48 hours. Since then, he has been performing non-stop and is now making waves in Singapore.

#### MJ12 @ Pesta Raya by DJ KC 27 Jun 2019, Thu 8pm, 9pm & 10pm (30mins) Esplanade Concourse



Radio's most popular night show *MISTERI JAM 12* is back at Esplanade. If you have always loved his radio programme and listened to his show at night, this is your chance to see him sharing his supernatural and thrilling stories live! Audiences will get to see how he adds an extra dimension of spookiness with chilling music and sound effects which accompany these stories.

Bantal Busuk by P7:1SMA 29 & 30 Jun 2019, Sat & Sun 2pm & 4pm (30mins) Esplanade Courtyard



© Joseph Nair

Take a breather. Rest your mind. Relax, play and dance.

P7:1SMA invites everyone to take a breather from our world's disorder, our inner unrest, work and worries. Follow as we pay tribute to our *bantal busuk* ("smelly pillow", also known as "*chou chou*" in Chinese), as with it nothing else matters except comfort and security.

## PESTA BERPESTA! with DJ Itch and DJ RAH

28 Jun 2019, Fri DJ Itch: 7.30pm (30mins) & 9pm (45mins) DJ RAH: 9.45pm (45mins) & 11.30pm (30mins) Esplanade Annexe Plaza



Photo designed by Rizman Putra

Based in Singapore, Itch is a sound selector and a music explorer through a mixture of sound from various countries and genres—including ambient, lounge, jazz, '60s and '70s garage, psyche, soul/funk, Asian City Pop, etc.—from his eclectic and quirky personal selections.

Since 2018, he has been actively collecting vinyls, inspired by his passion for "local exotic funk a-go-go" music from the '60s to early '80s in Singapore, the Nusantara, and around the region, such as Nanyang a-go-go or Hala-Hala, Melayu-Indo funk-soul, Chinese disco, pop yeh yeh, Asian city pop, and other rare Asian groove music. His vinyl DJ set specialises in Asian sound and exotic music introducing forgotten local music gems from the past to modern listeners, and brings back nostalgic vibes for old-timers. Itch has appeared in various events in Singapore, Indonesia, Japan, and Taiwan. He has also collaborated with DJs/performers from Singapore and around the region.



© Ungku Ibrahim

RAH's foray into electronic music began with her fascination with rolling Amen Breaks and drum patterns in drum and bass. This formative pursuit naturally progressed to the turntables, which triggered her ability as a selector.

Her sound has since developed to a distinct, eclectic style that has reached out to audiences across Asia, Europe and America. She recently made her debut at international festivals Dimensions 2018 in Croatia and Wonderfruit 2018 in Thailand.

RAH is part of two independent movements in Singapore—Darker Than Wax and Revision Music—where she explores alternative sounds the likes of Afrobeat, jazz, hip hop, funk, soul, dub, and bass and everything else in between. This is a mixed bag of fun that aims to please both herself and the dancing crowd.

# Walang Weh by RENTA Collective 29 & 30 Jun 2019, Sat & Sun

29 & 30 Jun 2019, Sat & Sun 1.30pm & 3pm (30mins) Esplanade Concourse



© Daniel Halim

Based on the *Malay Annals*, *Walang Weh* presents the story of Raja Suran, who meets a Chinese envoy on the island of Temasek and is deceived into not attacking China.

**Design & Bake** 29 & 30 Jun 2019, Sat & Sun 1pm, 2pm, 3pm & 4pm Esplanade Concourse



Create your own shrink art keychain in this crafty workshop led by Mr. Mohammad and bring your unique *Pesta Raya* souvenirs everywhere with you! Choose from three unique Malay cultural designs and use them as templates for your shrink art work, and watch as your unique designs magically shrink as you bake them.



#### **Ceria! Cik Kak Boleh by Wahana Deksu** 29 & 30 Jun 2019, Sat & Sun 4.30pm & 5.15pm (30mins) Esplanade Outdoor Theatre

Wahana Deksu, joined by vocalists Sarah Syazlina and Zahrah, will take audiences through the various moods and emotions of *dikir barat*. This presentation will include the various rhythms, beats and sounds of the traditional spoken word art form, and its less-known traits. Enjoy this interactive performance where you could even get the opportunity to come onstage to try your hand out at *dikir barat*!

#### Ragam Rebana

by Wahana Deksu 29 & 30 Jun 2019, Sat & Sun 2.30pm & 3.30pm (30mins) Esplanade Festival Corner

Wahana Deksu showcases a pairing of the *rebana* (Malay tambourine) with melody, presenting classics from Malay classical music.

Together with the Malay percussion exhibition at the Esplanade Festival Corner, Wahana Deksu introduces you to Malay percussion music, which forms the backbone of all Malay music.

Nek Selampit and The Amazing Animals by The Nek Selampits 29 & 30 Jun 2019, Sat & Sun 1pm & 3.15pm (30mins)

PIP's PLAYbox



Nek Selampit takes you on a magical journey through the animal kingdom! Join her as she tells stories of the importance of kindness and teamwork.

Si Petir, a foal who loves the outdoors, has wandered off to a forest and gotten lost! Meanwhile, Grandfather Bear is hungry and goes looking for fish in the river, clever Mr Mouse and Mr Cat are hatching a plan to not get eaten, and the elephants and bees are arguing again!

Last updated: 6 Jun 2019

### About Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay

Esplanade is Singapore's national performing arts centre. It has a year-round line-up of about 3,500 performances 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 non-ticketed. 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.

To bring even more of the arts to a wider audience, and provide more platforms to support Singapore's next generation of artists, Esplanade is building a new theatre with at least 550 seats along its busy waterfront, opening in 2021.

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 three consecutive years since 2016.

TECL is funded by 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 <u>www.esplanade.com</u> for more information.

~ End ~

Issued by The Esplanade Co Ltd.

For more information, please contact:

Gina Koh Communications Specialist The Esplanade Co Ltd Tel: 6828 8332 Email: kgina@esplanade.com

Jeanne Toh Arts Marketing Strategist The Esplanade Co Ltd Tel: 6828 8358 Email: <u>tjeanne@esplanade.com</u>