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SHOWTIME PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

JEREMY MONTEIRO

Quintessential Quintet

CONCERT PROGRAMME

22 SEP 2023, FRI, 7.30PM & 9.45PM
ESPLANADE RECITAL STUDIO

JEREMY'S MESSAGE

It is such a pleasure to be back performing at the Esplanade Recital Studio with my quintessential quintet and guest vocalist, Melissa Tham.

We had meant to do this concert at the Esplanade Concert Hall on 24 Feb 2023 but I was struck with some health issues then.

I very much wanted this concert to see the light of day and I am glad that we are here and able to do two shows now that I am feeling all better again.

I performed in Bangkok in July of 2022 with the members of my Thai music family, saxophonist Mark Kiripart Chartsayam, bassist Tae Siriwat Pliansanthia, drummer Hong Chanutr Techatananan and also flutist Rit Xu, and I was struck by how classy and quintessential the band sounded. They had a genuine “band sound” rather than the sound of a pick-up group of musicians, no matter how good that may sound. It is rare that such a “band sound” is achieved. I decided then that I wanted to keep this band together and bring it to Singapore.

Unfortunately, our flutist Rit Xu is touring with a Canto-pop superstar so he can't be with us on this show. Thankfully, the world-class trumpeter Alex Sipiagin is in town and so I invited him to play in this quintet.

We will be playing mostly original tunes of mine tonight with a few vocal tunes performed by our featured guest vocalist Melissa Tham. Melissa is one of my favourite singers and I am constantly astonished by her impeccable phrasing and classy delivery.

The word quintessential means quality or class. I hope that you will enjoy my quintessential quintet and our classy guest vocalist.

A big thank you to the Principal Sponsor of these shows—EFG Bank—who have supported my international touring and recording career for the past 15 years and to OUE Limited, our supporting sponsor.

With Love,

JEREMY MONTEIRO

*on behalf of all the performers and
all of us at Showtime & Esplanade*

PROGRAMME

Lion City

Jazzybelle's Shuffle

Blame it On My Youth

by Oscar Levant, lyrics by Edward Heyman

Inner Voice

Boogaloo Hullabaloo

From Paris to Segré

by Jeremy Monteiro and Eugene Pao

This I Dig Of You

by Hank Mobley

Featuring guest singer Melissa Tham:

I'm Glad There Is You

by Jimmy Dorsey & Paul Madeira

Detour Ahead

by Herb Ellis, Johnny Frigo & Lou Carter

All tunes by Jeremy Monteiro except where indicated

(1HR 15MINS, NO INTERMISSION)

ARTIST'S BIO



Jeremy Monteiro (PIANO)

Dubbed “Singapore’s King of Swing,” Cultural Medallion recipient Jeremy Monteiro has garnered critical acclaim all over the world. In 1988, he put Singapore jazz on the world map when he became the first Southeast Asian to play and lead a band of established international jazz musicians in a group named Monteiro, Young & Holt and Friends on the main stage of the Montreux Jazz Festival.

Monteiro started his career in 1976 at a local hotel and then as a pianist and bandleader at the famed Club 392 jazz club in Singapore in 1977. November 2021 marks the 45th year of his career.

Monteiro has performed and/or recorded with the likes of James Moody, Benny Golson, Michael Brecker, Bobby McFerrin, Randy Brecker, Lee Ritenour, Herbie Mann, Paulinho DaCosta, Ernie Watts, Charlie Haden, Terumasa Hino, Carmen Bradford, Matt Monro, Toots Thielemans and Simon & Garfunkel, to name a few. He has also played on the main stages of the EFG London Jazz Festival and is the only Southeast Asian jazz musician to have had an album, *Jeremy Monteiro & Alberto Marsico – Jazz-Blues Brothers* released with the iconic Verve record label.

Monteiro has 46 albums to his name, of which 11 albums including *Brazilian Dreams*, *Montage*, *With A Little Help from My Friends*, *Yesterday Once More – A Jazz Tribute to The Carpenters*, and *Jeremy Monteiro and Friends: Overjoyed – A Jazz Tribute to the Music of Stevie Wonder* were released in the past 10 years.

His album, *Live at No Black Tie – Kuala Lumpur* released in early 2021 with bassist Jay Anderson and drummer Lewis Nash is his 45th jazz album. The album maintained a Top 50 position for 10 consecutive weeks in the Jazzweek Charts, the most respected jazz chart in the United States. He has also played on more than 300 pop albums in the Asian region and received Silver Medal for Best Music Score in 1991 at the International Radio Festival of New York.

His latest album, *Jazz-Blues Brothers* released in October 2021, is a collaboration with top Italian organist Alberto Marsico.

On 9 Aug 2021, Monteiro was awarded the National Day Honours Award—the *Pingat Bakti Masyarakat* (PBM) or Public Service Medal in recognition for his decades of service to the arts and the community in Singapore.

Monteiro is also a writer, with a volume of essays titled *Jeremy Monteiro: Late-Night Thoughts of a Jazz Musician* published by Marshall-Cavendish in 2018. The book received two literary Golden Door Awards—a 3rd Prize in the main category and a Bronze Medal in the Rex Karmaveer category for integrity in writing.

Since 2012, he has served as the International Arts Ambassador for EFG Bank, headquartered in Switzerland and sponsor of one of the most prominent jazz festivals in the world, the EFG London Jazz Festival. In addition, he is a Fellow of the London College of Music and the Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (RSA) in the UK, and Visiting Professor of the University of West London.

He is also a founder of the Composers & Authors Society of Singapore Limited (COMPASS), an organisation responsible for the protection of music copyrights in Singapore. In September 2021, he was elected 6th Chairman of the Board of COMPASS.

In 2016, together with a few jazz supporter friends, Monteiro established the Jazz Association (Singapore) (JASS), to bring jazz to people in all parts of Singapore, help raise its level of excellence, especially in the area of youth development and work towards making Singapore a leading jazz city of the world. Monteiro serves as Executive Director and Music Director. Today, Monteiro continues to bring jazz to all corners of Singapore, and Singapore jazz to countries all around the world with his musician friends and with the JASS orchestras.



Melissa Tham

(VOCALS)

Melissa captivates her audiences with her large repertoire and impeccable delivery of songs from *The American Songbook*.

Beginning in 2013, Melissa has been working extensively with Jeremy Monteiro, Singapore's most eminent jazz musician and entrepreneur, at his sold-out concerts and tours as a guest vocalist. She was featured in his *Three Dinas* Southeast Asian tour (Hong Kong, Thailand, Taiwan, Indonesia) as one of three featured jazz vocalists, alongside Nancy Kelly and Eileina Dennis. Since then, Melissa has

performed and continues to perform with many international jazz artists, most notably with the Asian All-Stars Power Quartet (AASPQ: Jeremy Monteiro, Eugene Pao, Tots Tolentino, Hong Chanutr Techatananan).

In the fall of 2014, Melissa toured with AASPQ in Europe, and was featured in the Jeremy Monteiro Trio at the Queen Elizabeth Hall for EFG London Jazz Festival. She was also the opening act for Kenny Barron and Dave Holland. Jazz writer Ian Patterson of allaboutjazz.com praised her for having "won over the Queen Elizabeth Hall".

In 2015, Melissa released her debut solo album produced by Jeremy Monteiro titled *Falling in Love Again* to critical acclaim. The album saw Melissa returning to her roots—her love for traditional jazz genres such as swing, bossa nova and the quintessential jazz ballad. It comprises many of her favourite standards such as *A Sleepin' Bee*, *Just Squeeze Me* and *My Ideal* to name a few. Through the encouragement of her mentor and producer, Melissa also wrote lyrics to the album title, which was originally written as an instrumental piece by Jeremy. The album was recorded in Darmstadt with some of Germany's finest jazz artists like Tony Lakatos, Rudi Engel, Axel Schlosser and Jens Bunge, and Hong from AASPQ.

Melissa received the Vocalist of the Year award at the annual Singjazz Festival 2015. She kicked off the evening with an intimate duo performance with well-known US-based bass player Joseph Lepore.

To date, Melissa has recorded as guest vocalist on many of Jeremy Monteiro's albums, namely *Brazilian Dreams*, the Beatle's Tribute album *With A Little Help from My Friends*, and *Yesterday Once More*, a tribute album to the Carpenters.



Alex Sipiagin

(TRUMPET)

Jazz festivals worldwide have seen Alex Sipiagin performing with the likes of Dave Holland, Michael Brecker, Gonzalo Rubalcaba, the Mingus groups and many more. In 1990, Alex participated in the Interna-

tional Louis Armstrong Competition sponsored by the Thelonius Monk Institute in Washington DC, winning top honors. After living in New York City for over 30 years, he has now relocated to Italy.

In his early career, Alex became a favoured player for various bands including the Gil Evans Orchestra, Gil Goldstein's Zebra Coast Orchestra, the George Gruntz Concert Jazz Band, drummer Bob Moses' band Mozamba, the Mingus Big Band as well as the Mingus Dynasty and Mingus Orchestra, and the Dave Holland Big Band, Sextet and Octet groups.

In 2003, he recorded with the Michael Brecker Quintet and toured with the Michael Brecker Sextet. Alex has also worked with Eric Clapton, Dr John, Aaron Neville, Elvis Costello, Michael Franks, Dave Sanborn, Deborah Cox, legendary producer Phil Ramone and Gonzalo Rubalcaba among other artists. Many of the recordings he has been involved in have been nominated for and/or won Grammy Awards. He is part of the Grammy award-winning albums *What Goes Around* and *Overtime* by the Dave Holland Big Band, Michael Brecker Quintet's *Wide Angles*, and the Dafnis Prieto Big Band's *Into the Sunset*.

As a soloist, Alex boasts a discography of over 20 recordings, some of which include jazz greats like Mulgrew Miller and Chris Potter. He has toured extensively throughout Europe, the United States, Asia and New Zealand with his own groups. He held a professorship at New York University (NYU) for seven years, and a residency at the Amsterdam Conservatory. He currently holds residencies at Academy of Music in Basel Switzerland and Siena Jazz in Italy.



Mark Kiripart Chartsayam (SAXOPHONE)

Mark Kiripart Chartsayam is a highly accomplished tenor saxophonist and bandleader born and based in Bangkok, Thailand. Mark's remarkable dedication to his instrument has propelled him to the pinnacle of his field, earning him multiple awards in both local and international competitions, such as the Thailand International Jazz Solo Competition and the Hengquin Cup Jazz Solo and Ensemble competition. He has recorded with several of the most talented artists in the area, as well as several international artists. He has also been featured in major performances by the Asian All Star band at the Java Jazz Festival, and at the Lion City Jazz Festival with Benny Golson and Jeremy Montiero.



Tae Sirirat Pliansanthia (BASS)

Tae Sirirat Pliansanthia has been a part of the Faculty of Music, Silpakorn University, in the jazz department since 2008. He has participated in many national and international competitions such as the Thailand International Jazz Conference and the Thailand Jazz Competition of which he won First Prize and was awarded a trophy by His Majesty the King of Thailand. In subsequent years, he also won awards in the Ensemble category as well as the Individual Performance category.



Hong Chanutr Techatananan (DRUMS)

Chanutr Techatananan (Hong) is regarded as one of the most innovative and exciting drummers to emerge recently in the Asian jazz scene. He is best known for his groovy swing juxtaposed with exciting polyrhythmic embellishments.

Hong has previously performed with several reputable ensembles at various local and International jazz venues such as the Thailand International Jazz Festival

(i.e. Huahin Jazz Festival), Tsunami Benefit Concert in London, Lincoln Center Festival 2006 in New York, Japan-Thailand Commemorative Jazz Concert at the invitation of the Royal Thai Embassy in Tokyo, Kota Kinabalu Jazz Festival in Malaysia, Miri International Jazz Festival in Borneo, Penang Island Jazz Festival, JAVA Jazz Festival and London Jazz Festival.

PRODUCTION CREDITS

Jeremy Monteiro

Music Director and Executive Producer

Melissa Tham

Producer

Benny Goh

Production Manager

Sunil Kumar

Technical Director

Kelly Tan

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Marci Delfin

Programme Design & Artwork



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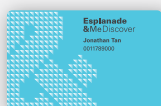


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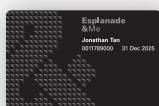
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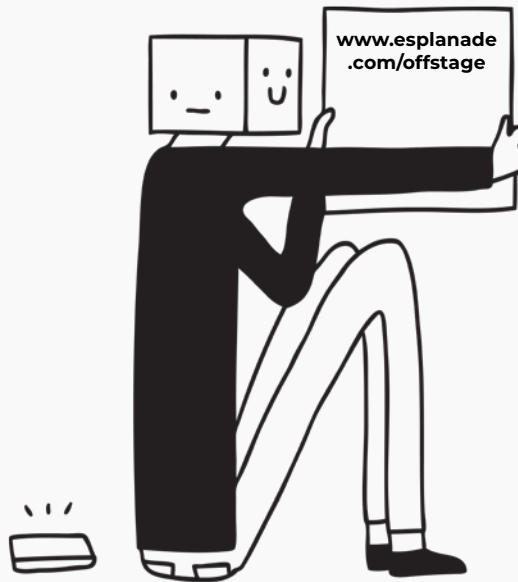
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