

45 RPM JEREMY'S JAZZ JOURNAL

1 & 2 JUL 2022, FRI & SAT, 7.30PM
ESPLANADE CONCERT HALL

This concert is presented as part of *PopLore* - A year of Singapore popular music,
in celebration of Esplanade's 20th anniversary.

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About Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay

Esplanade is Singapore's national performing arts centre and one of the busiest arts centres in the world. Since its opening in 2002, the centre has presented more than 50,000 performances and activities, drawing an audience of 32 million patrons and 114 million visitors. This architectural icon, with its distinctive twin shells, houses world-class performance spaces complemented by a comprehensive range of professional support services.

Esplanade's vision is to be a performing arts centre for everyone and its programming is guided by its social mission—to entertain, engage, educate and inspire. It seeks to enrich everyone's lives, including seniors, youth, children and underserved communities, through the arts. The centre's year-long calendar of about 3,500 arts performances and activities span different cultures, languages and genres including dance, music, theatre, and more. Of these, more than 70% are presented free for all to enjoy. Esplanade's visual arts programmes at its public spaces also allow visitors to view and explore art works for free.

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.

Esplanade regularly presents world-renowned companies and artists that attract international attention and add to Singapore's cultural vibrancy. The centre is also a popular performance home for arts groups and commercial presenters who hire its venues to stage a wide range of programmes. These carefully curated presentations complement Esplanade's own diverse offerings for audiences.

Esplanade works in close partnership with local, regional and international artists to develop artistic capabilities, push artistic boundaries and engage audiences. The centre supports the creation of artistic content by commissioning and producing new Singapore and Asian work for the international stage. As an Approved Training Organisation (ATO) of the SkillsFuture Singapore (SSG), Esplanade conducts a range of courses that 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 for more information.

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Esplanade is a proud member of



WELCOME MESSAGE



Lam Soon Singapore has continuously supported the arts and culture scene through our various outreach and CSR efforts. This time round, one of our brands, UFC Refresh is proud to be a Principal Sponsor of *PopLore* – A Year of Singapore Popular Music from the 1960s to the present and beyond to mark Esplanade’s 20th anniversary.

Through *PopLore*, we hope everyone can come together to celebrate Singapore’s popular music history across generations and galvanise the nation as we emerge from the pandemic and spur our way forward.

We hope you will enjoy *PopLore*, both online and in person!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wang Shang Ying". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Mr. Whang Shang Ying
Executive Chairman
Lam Soon Singapore Pte Ltd.

ABOUT UFC REFRESH

UFC Refresh is a No.1* brand in Singapore, well known for its natural rehydration properties with no added sugar and refreshing taste. It is 100% natural, produced from fresh coconuts harvested from Thailand’s “coconut belt” areas where the best coconuts are cultivated.

**Based on Nielsen Singapore MarketTrack value sales for coconut-flavored Asian drinks category MAT Jun’16*

Tunes performed for tonight's show will be selected from this list

Theme from Flintstones

Composed by: Hoyt Curtin, Joseph Barbera and William Hanna

Bach-Gounod Ave Maria sur le 1er Prélude de J. S. Bach

Composed by: Johann Sebastian Bach and Gounod | Arranged by: Oscar Straus

You Are Always On My Mind

Composed by: Wayne Carson, Johnny Christopher and Mark James | Arranged by: Michael Veerapen

Never, Never, Never

Composed by: Tony Renis | Lyrics by: Norman Newell | Arranged by: Michael Veerapen

Bluesette

Composed by: Toots Thielemans | Lyrics by: Norman Gimbel

Swing Medley by Stardust

Stardust - Composed by: Hoagy Carmichael | Lyrics by: Mitchell Parish

Tuxedo Junction - Composed by: Erskine Hawkins, Bill Johnson & Julian Dash | Lyrics by: Buddy Feyne

Chattanooga Choo Choo - Composed by: Harry Warren | Lyrics by: Mack Gordon

In The Mood - Composed by: Joe Garland | Lyrics by: Andy Razaf

Lullaby Of Broadway - Composed by: Harry Warren | Lyrics by: Al Dubin | Choreography by: Ronald Low and Jennifer School

Brothers

Composed by: Jeremy Monteiro

Spain

Composed by: Chick Corea

One People, One Nation, One Singapore

Composed by: Jeremy Monteiro | Lyrics by: Jim Aitchison | Arranged by: Michael Veerapen

My Funny Valentine

Composed by: Richard Rodgers | Lyrics by: Lorenz Hart

Blues for the Saxophone Club

Composed by: Jeremy Monteiro

One for T-Bone

Composed by: Chok Kerong

On The Sunny Side of The Street

Composed by: Jimmy McHugh | Lyrics by: Dorothy Fields | Arranged by: Michael Veerapen

Brazilian Dreams

Composed by: Jeremy Monteiro | Lyrics by: Melissa Tham

Nostalgia

Composed by: Jeremy Monteiro | Arranged by: Scott Routenberg

Orchard Road

Composed by: Jeremy Monteiro & Ernie Watts | Arranged by: Scott Routenberg

From Paris to Segré

Composed by: Jeremy Monteiro & Eugene Pao | Arranged by: Scott Routenberg

Falling in Love Again

Composed by: Jeremy Monteiro | Lyrics by: Melissa Tham | Arranged by: Scott Routenberg

Josefina

Composed by: Jeremy Monteiro | Arranged by: Michael Veerapen

(2hrs 30mins, with 20min intermission)

JEREMY MONTEIRO



Dubbed “Singapore’s King of Swing,” Jeremy Monteiro is a leading figure of Singapore’s jazz music scene. He started his career in 1976 at a local hotel, then as a pianist and bandleader at the famed Club 392 jazz club a year after. He marked his 45th year of his career in November 2021.

He gained critical acclaim after helping to put Singapore in the world history of jazz in 1988, when he became the first Southeast Asian to play and lead a band of established international jazz musicians on the main stage of the Montreux Jazz Festival, performing as “Monteiro, Young & Holt and Friends.” Monteiro has also performed and 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 released 46 albums with 11 albums released in the past 10 years, 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*. 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 as leader. The album reached the Top 20 on the most respected jazz charts in the United States, the Jazzweek Charts, and remained on the Top 50 of the jazz charts for more than 10 weeks. His latest collaborative album with top Italian organist Alberto Marsico, *Jeremy Monteiro & Alberto Marsico – Jazz-Blues Brothers*, was released on 1st October 2021 and attained a number 12 spot on the US Jazzweek charts as of January 2022. This album also marks the first album by a Southeast Asian jazz musician to be released on the iconic Verve record label.

In 1991, Monteiro received the Silver Medal for Best Music Score at the International Radio Festival of New York for his classical-folk piece, *Overture in C Major: The Story of Singapore*. He then received the pinnacle award of the arts in Singapore, the Cultural Medallion, in 2002. On 9th August 2021, Singapore’s National Day, Jeremy 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 to the community in Singapore.

Monteiro is also a writer and has written a volume of essays, which was published as *Jeremy Monteiro: Late-Night Thoughts of a Jazz Musician* by Marshall-Cavendish in September 2018. The book received two literary awards from the Golden Door Awards in 2020, 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. EFG Bank is also the sponsor of one of the most prominent jazz festivals in the world, the EFG London Jazz Festival, of which he has had the pleasure of performing in multiple times. 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 the 6th Chairman of the Board of COMPASS. In 2016, together with a few supporters and friends from the local jazz scene, he established the Jazz Association (Singapore) (JASS). The organisation aims to bring jazz to people in all parts of Singapore, help raise its level of excellence especially in youth development and work towards making Singapore a leading jazz city.

Today, Jeremy 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.

LOUIS SOLIANO



Hailed as the “Godfather of Singapore Jazz,” Louis Soliano is virtually an institution in the Singapore music culture scene. An accomplished percussionist and vocalist in a career that has spanned six decades, his musical journey reads like a history book of the music scene in Singapore and the region from the 1960s to present. He is as famous for his magical touch on the drums as he is for his scatting, with a vocal style often compared to that of Johnny Hartman and Nat King Cole.

Since embarking on his musical career at age 16, Soliano has toured East Asia, Europe and America. He has performed with numerous international jazz luminaries and celebrities including international acts such as The Platters, American drummer Buddy Rich, English crooner Matt Monro, jazz saxophonist Stan Getz and singers Anita O’Day and Sarah Vaughn. He has also backed regional and homegrown stars including Hong Kong Cantopop singers Frances Yip and Roman Tam, Filipino singer-actress Lea Salonga, the late pianist and composer Iskandar Ismail, and Singapore veterans S K Poon, Dick Lee and Jeremy Monteiro.

At the height of the Vietnam war, he performed with artists like Jane Russell and Bette Davis as they entertained the US troops. Returning to Singapore in 1973, Soliano made waves with his group named Louis Soliano Trio playing in Singapore and Southeast Asia. He then played drums and percussion with the SBC Orchestra for 10 years and was a regular feature at the Singapore International Jazz Festival in the 1980s.

For his outstanding musicianship and contributions to the development of the local jazz music scene, Soliano was awarded the COMPASS Artistic Excellence Award in 1997.

In recognition of his long involvement in the Singapore music, Soliano was conferred a Lifetime Achievement Award at the inaugural Singapore International Jazz Festival 2014.

JERAMZEE



JERAMZEE was formed in 1983 by Jeremy Monteiro together with bassist Ramli Shariff and drummer Tony Zee. Their names formed the acronym JERAMZEE.

Ramli left in 1986 soon after the recording of JERAMZEE's first album *Back to Basics* and was replaced by Eddie Jansen. Stephen Rufus also joined the band after as the saxophonist for the group.

Back to Basics was Singapore's first ever digitally recorded album and had guest musicians like Chicago jazz men and Grammy winners Eldee Young & Redd Holt, Leroy Jones who later became Harry Connick Jr's trumpeter in his big band, and local vocalist Stephen

Francis who still guests with JERAMZEE on their reunion shows.

Their second album *Faces & Places* was a seminal album in the local jazz scene. It was released on the Warner-Electra-Atlantic (WEA) label and in its year of release in 1988, it sold 17,000 copies, a significant number for a local jazz release.

The album featured the legendary Herbie Mann as guest flutist and Brasil 66's percussionist Paulinho da Costa. The album was recorded in Singapore, Los Angeles and New York and was mixed by famed recording engineer Michael Mancini.

JERAMZEE split up in 1992, but the band gets together for a reunion every two or three years since the early 2000s, and have pledged to get together more often starting 2022.

2023 will be the 30th Anniversary of JERAMZEE.



STARDUST

Stardust was a breath of fresh air when it was first staged. In 1978, a group of 20 friends came together to raise funds for the Breadline Group, who provided food and cash to the destitute elderly. These 20 friends came together to stage one of the earliest English-language musical shows with an all-local cast, written, produced and directed by Singapore's very own Pat Chan.

Described by reviewers as offering "mad moments of uninhibited fun" and "an enjoyable excursion into yesteryear, reliving evergreen music from the past 50 years". Firm friendships were forged during the production, and six of the cast members continued to perform together as Stardust, singing nostalgic favourites and standards from the 30s to 50s. The original six members were Jacintha Abishegenaden, Gerry Rezel, Faridah Ali, Farid Ali, Robert Fernando, and Pat Chan. Clement Chow joined the group not long after, and the band also saw the addition of singer Ann Hussein after Pat's second production, *I Remember Broadway* (1983).

The group eventually collaborated with the young, emerging talent of their time, Jeremy Monteiro, who honed his prodigious musical chops crafting superb arrangements for Stardust in many sell-out shows.



TONY LAKATOS

Tony Lakatos was born to a family of musicians in Budapest, Hungary, on 13 November 1958. His father and younger brother, Roby, were famous gipsy violinists. His musical study began on the violin at the early age of six and he began playing the saxophone when he was 15 years old.

In 1977, Lakatos became a professional musician when he won a national jazz competition. He graduated from the jazz department of the Bela Bartók Conservatory in Budapest in 1979. Shortly after, he moved to Germany and became one of the most respected saxophone players in Germany and on the global stage. He performed as a saxophone soloist in numerous jazz, pop and rock recordings, and concerts. From 1985 to 1996, Lakatos was a member of the successful PILI-PILI

Band led by Jasper Van't Hof. He also had a television broadcast made with him in Zurich, Switzerland in 1991 featuring guest musicians Terri Lynne, Anothy Jackson, David Whitham and Peter O'Mara. In 1993 he moved to Frankfurt an Main and worked as a soloist in the Frankfurt Radio Big Band (hr-Bigband) station. In 2002, he signed an exclusive contract with SKIP RECORDS and recorded *I Get Along With You Very Well* with the legendary Jimmy Scitt in New York. In 2017, he formed a new super group Web-Web, together with Roberto DiGioia, Christian Von Kaphengst and Peter Gall. To date, he has an estimated 280 recordings playing the saxophone as a leader or as a sideman.

Lakatos was the first Hungarian musician who appeared on the Gavin Report Top Ten in the American Jazz Music Radio with his CDs. In 2014, his song *Standard Time* won the *deutsche schalplattenpreis*. In 2020, Lakatos received the Hessen Jazz Prize, one of the most honoured prizes in Germany.

Lakatos has continuously toured Europe, US, Japan, South Africa, India, Singapore, Indonesia and many other regions globally. He has also participated in major jazz festivals around the work like North Sea Jazz Festival in Holland, Pori Jazz Festival in Finland, Berlin Jazz Festival, Athens Jazz Festival in Greece, Moscow Hermitage Garden in Russia, Hachinohe in Japan and the Borneo Jazz Festival in Malaysia. He also gives master classes in jazz at Rotterdam, Arnheim in Holland, Graz, Wien in Austria, Fredericksburg Mary Washington Collage in the US, Royal Academy of music London in UK, Birmingham Music Department in UK, Bela Bartok Music Academy Budapest in Hungary, Freies Musikzentrum Munich in Germany, Yamaha School Hamburg in Germany, Ishimori Saxophone Store in Japan, and Silpakorn University, Saxophone Society in Thailand.



Photo Credit: Marc Obin

NICOLAS FOLMER

Nicolas Folmer is an international jazz artist, trumpeter, composer, conductor.

Nicolas grew up in Albertville in the French Alps. At the age of 17 he joined the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris where he taught a few years later. In 1997, Nicolas co-founded and directed the Paris Jazz Big Band (PJBB), unanimously considered the most emblematic French big band, as much for its creativity as for its level of execution and originality.

He co-directed and composed on eight albums of the PJBB, who sold out the mythical venue of L'Olympia for the release of the disc *Mediterraneo*.

As a soloist, he joined the National Jazz Orchestra in 1997 for three years to move on with Dee Dee Bridgwater for an album and several tours.

Between 2004 and 2020, he also recorded nine albums as a soloist and composer.

His work was rewarded with a Victoire de la musique, and the French Minister of Culture Frédéric Mitterrand made him Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres for his body of work. He has shared the stage with artists such as Wynton Marsalis, Dee Dee Bridgewater, Diana Krall, Natalie Cole, Kyle Eastwood, Lucky Peterson, Marcus Miller, Dave Liebman, Bob Mintzer, John Lewis, Georges Russel, Michel Legrand, Lalo Shiffrin, Richard Galliano.

His musical inspiration is broad and spans from the fusion of jazz with world music to contemporary innovative jazz. His playing shows great technical mastery and heightened sensitivity, his compositions are filled with French lyricism and testify to a great mastery of writing and orchestration.

He also created four international jazz festivals in France with the SPEDIDAM.

Nicolas lives in Toulon on the French Riviera, which he considers one of the most beautiful regions in France. He teaches at the Regional Conservatory of Toulon where he founded the jazz department.

With his unique talent, Nicolas Folmer embodies and promotes a jazz that's Made in France throughout the world.



MAHANI MOHAMED

No stranger to the Malay music scene in the '70s, Mahani Mohamed began her singing career in 1969 when she entered the English Talentime contest by Singapore Broadcasting Corporation. A successful recording artist since 1973, she has six EPs and six LPs to her name, and has also lent her voice to cover songs and jingles.

Mahani was also very much involved in Singapore's night life. One of the more significant periods in her career was between 1977 and 1978, where she sung regularly at Club 392 with Jeremy Monteiro, who led the band and played piano. Mahani also represented Singapore in Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan, India and Holland as an Ambassador with Singapore Tourist

Promotion Board, now known as Singapore Tourism Board.

Today, Mahani continues to be active as a performer in gigs and as on televised programmes.



MELISSA THAM

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

Beginning in 2013, Melissa started working extensively with Jeremy Monteiro, Singapore's most eminent jazz musician and entrepreneur, at his full-house concerts and tours as guest vocalist. She was featured in his "Three Divas" South-east Asian tour (Hong Kong, Thailand, Taiwan, Indonesia) as one of the three featured jazz vocalists, together with Nancy Kelly and Eileina Dennis. Since then, Melissa has performed and continues to perform with many international jazz artistes, most notably with the Asian All-Stars Power

Quartet (AASPQ: Jeremy Monteiro, Eugene Pao, Tots Tolentino, Hong Chanutr Techatana-nan).

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, opening 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 of many of her favourite standards such as *A Sleepin' Bee*, *Just Squeeze Me*, *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 artistes like Tony Lakatos, Rudi Engel, Axel Schlosser and Jens Bunge, and Hong from AASPQ.

2015 was also the year Melissa received the award for "Vocalist of the Year" at the Singjazz Festival held annually at Marina Bay Sands. She opened the night 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.



Photo Credit: Chulaphoto

ALEMAY FERNANDEZ

Hailed by MusicTalks Sydney as “one of the best jazz singers in the world”, homegrown Singaporean veteran performer Alemay Fernandez is known for her sultry tone, powerhouse vocals and an captivating onstage presence. She has the distinction of being the only Asian singer to have performed with three of the world's best jazz orchestras: Wynton Marsalis' Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, The Count Basie Orchestra & The Duke Ellington Orchestra. She has also performed with industry heavyweights like David Foster, Gregory Porter, Ernie Watts, Randy Brecker, Lewis Nash and Antonio Hart to name a few.

An ambassador of Singapore jazz, she tours internationally and headlines notable jazz festivals and venues worldwide. A respected member of the Asian jazz scene, she performs regularly in the local circuit and with all manner of orchestras, including the Singapore Symphony Orchestra. She works regularly with Singapore's King of Swing, Jeremy Monteiro, as well as with JASSO's orchestras. Fernandez is entertainment of choice for visiting celebrities and world leaders including former U.S. President Barack Obama. As an educator, she has worked globally with vocal students of all ages, conducting vocal and performance workshops. She is currently Vocal Coach for National University of Singapore Jazz Band and Vocal Lecturer at the LASALLE College of the Arts Singapore.



RICHARD JACKSON

Richard Jackson has over two decades of incredible experience in mesmerising audiences across the world. His signature velvety smooth voice and convincing vocal trombone is synonymous with vocal legends such as Luther Vandross, Barry White, Marvin Gaye and Ronald Isley.

Skilled in combining incredible tone with intelligent phrasing and heartfelt intensity across a variety of genres including rhythm & blues, smooth jazz as well as soul music, Jackson has successfully opened for various legendary acts including The Stylistics, Regina Belle, Tuck & Patti, Peabo Bryson, Will Downing, Jennifer Holiday, George Clinton, Incognito and Bob James.



STEPHEN FRANCIS

Stephen is the youngest of the musically-inclined Francis family. Stephen made his stage debut when he was just 11 years old, singing alongside his elder brother Ambrose and elder sister in a group known as AMMO, which was dubbed as the Jackson 5 of Singapore.

After nearly five decades, Stephen still performs with a repertoire comprising jazz and pop tunes in a number of bands such as Thunderstorm, Blue Notes, Status, Singapore Swing featuring Anita Sarawak, Bits and Bytes featuring Kuo Po, Jeramzee, Silk Band featuring Irene Francis and Music Director for St. James Power Station The Bellini Combo Band and The Bellini Grande Orchestra.

Through the years, Stephen has produced albums and sang with stars like Chiyi, Ma Yu Fen and Sarah Chen, featured in the movie soundtrack for *Tiger's Whip* as well as Jeremy Monteiro's first album, *Back to Basics*, and *Overjoyed* just to name a few.

He continues to perform at corporate events and fundraisers, as well as at Esplanade for events such as *Coffee Morning & Afternoon Tea* and *A Date With Friends*.



JOE FERDINANDS

An established singer, musician, composer and author, Joe first made his mark as part of the duo Mel & Joe and the band Gypsy. He has continued to make an impact on the entertainment scene with a career spanning five decades, with numerous appearances on television, radio, concerts, local and international music festivals and studio recordings. Joe is also the co-author of the book "Mel & Joe - I Play & Sing" which was released in 2011. In 2012, Joe Ferdinands was the recipient of the "Artistic Excellence Award" from COMPASS.



DANNY LOONG

Danny Loong is the founder and CEO of Timbre Group. He has been a supporter of the live music scene since the early 2000s, through ventures such as Ublues and Timbre. Timbre Group's eco-system of businesses includes brands such as Timbre Bar and Restaurant, Timbre+ concepts (One North and Eastside), Timbre Music Academy and Beerfest Asia.

Given his long involvement with Singapore's entertainment scene, Danny was conferred the "Tourism Entrepreneur of The Year" award by the Singapore Tourism Board at the Singapore Experience Awards 2010.

Loong was also a blues musician with Ublues till 2005, and currently plays with Raw Earth. He has performed on the same bill in festivals with legends such as James Brown, Robert Plant, Buddy Guy, BB King, Bonnie Raitt, Paul Simon and many more, and has performed in Spain, Italy, America, Australia, and around Asia. He is also involved with several other band projects and other genres such as soul and Motown, as well as several tribute bands.

CHOK KERONG



Chok Kerong has established himself as one of Singapore's most versatile musical talents. Traversing the numerous genres under the umbrella of popular music with equal aplomb, he has distinguished himself as a swinging, harmonically inventive pianist and organist, while also emerging as a composer of extraordinary clarity and depth.

Chok's compositions and arrangements have been performed by luminaries like Jeremy Monteiro, Rani Singam, T'ang Quartet, Singapore Wind Symphony and his own chamber ensembles. In 2017, he wrote *Disquiet*, commissioned by the Singapore Symphony Group for the Victoria Concert Hall Organ Series. In 2018, his compositions for an 11-piece chamber ensemble were featured in Hong Kong. That same year, he wrote *Sketches of Miles*, commissioned by Jazz Association (Singapore), an episodic work for big band that showcases his fresh approach to orchestration and complex harmony. In 2019, Chok presented *PITCH*, his second chamber ensemble project, featuring new compositions that meld 20th century chromaticism, soul, swing and Brazilian music.

More recently, Chok was commissioned by the Singapore International Festival of Arts in 2021 to write a chamber work, *The Light Behind Us*, performed by the musicians of the Singapore Symphony Orchestra, in collaboration with Singapore Dance Theatre, choreographed by Christina Chan. His latest work, *Waves: Concerto for Flute and Orchestra*, was commissioned by flautist Rit Xu, and released in March 2022.

Chok has performed as a leader of his own group at events such as Tokyo Jazz Festival, Melbourne International Jazz Festival, Singapore International Festival of Arts and Macau Jazz Week. Additionally, he has served as organist/keyboardist for singer-songwriter Charlie Lim for close to a decade, where his many stylistic influences coalesce with his foundational sensibility as a pop musician. With Charlie Lim and the Mothership, Chok has performed all over the world, including cities such as Hong Kong, London, Manila, Tokyo, Kuala Lumpur and Jakarta.

Chok is also a Mosaic Associate Artist, whom the Esplanade has committed to providing tailored, intensive support.



SITI NUR IMAN

Siti Nur Iman is a young, up-and-coming jazz vocalist born and raised in Singapore. A recent alumnus of Esplanade's Mosaic Jazz Fellows (2019), she performs regularly with her quartet MOONSOCKS, as well as her close-harmony trio, The Sugar Bees.



TOBY TAN KAI RONG

Toby Tan Kai Rong started composing at age six and started learning to play the piano at age seven. In 2017, he won the first prize at the American Protégé Competition with an original composition. He made his debut at the Capitol Theatre playing the opening theme song of the film *7 Letters* at its premiere event in celebration of Singapore's Golden Jubilee. Since then, he has been invited to play solo recitals in Singapore, Indonesia, Bangkok, Greece, New York, Ottawa, as well as a piano concerto in Korea at the Kim Young Ui Hall, Ewha Womans University. He has performed in many charity events and festivals such as ChildAid, Color(Y)Our World, MILK Charity Gala, President Stars, the Movie Premier of Green Book, Jazz

Night @ Marriott Medan, North Sumatra Jazz Festival and Youth4Climate Concert organised by CDL in celebration of Singapore's Climate Action Week, where he composed his own piece *Tomorrow* for the event.

During the pandemic, Tan continued to share his music on the live stage through various events. This includes *Love and Hope* Tribute Gala Concert to the Front Liners at Singapore Conference Hall (Dec 2020), Richard Wagner's *Der Ring des Nibelungen* at Esplanade Recital Studio (Mar 2021), *Grieg Piano Concerto* for The Young Artists Concert with the Kid's Philharmonic Orchestra, playing at Victoria Concert Hall, (May and Aug 2021), *Best Haydn* for the Winner Gala Concert for the Joyeux International Piano Competition at the Esplanade Recital Studio (Oct 2021), Richard Wagner's *War of the Romantics* at Esplanade Recital Studio (Jan 2022), *Appalachian Spring* orchestra collaborations with Yong Siew Toh Conservatory, Decoda (NYC) and Kid's Philharmonic at the Yong Siew Toh Concert Hall (Mar 2022) and *Golden Memories 3* by Huaxia Cultural Hub at Esplanade Recital Studio (Apr 2022).

Toby is also active in competitions and has won numerous Grand and First Prizes including the Best Chopin, Best Liszt and Best Haydn Awards. He was invited to perform in Vienna and Warsaw for the Winners' Concert Gala in April 2022, and will be performing at the Perugia Festival in Italy this July.



JAZZ ASSOCIATION SINGAPORE YOUTH ORCHESTRA (JASSYO!)

The Jazz Association Singapore Youth Orchestra (JASSYO!), the youth wing of the Jazz Association (Singapore) or JASS, was set up with the objectives of engaging, nurturing and developing youth musicians, and grooming the future generations of jazz musicians. It currently comprises around 20 jazz musicians below the age of 35.

JASSYO! made its debut at the inaugural Lion City Youth Jazz Festival (LCYJF) in May 2017 in Singapore, returning each year since then to perform. The orchestra held its maiden public outreach concert at the Singapore Botanic Gardens in April 2018 to commemorate UNESCO International Jazz Day and reprised its performance in the 2019 iteration. That year, JASSYO! also held public concerts at Esplanade, and at the Singapore Night Festival in collaboration with the National Library Board. In March 2019, JASSYO! held a concert at the UOB Plaza Atrium as part of the *Musical Bento Box* series by Si Chuan Dou Hua Restaurant. The orchestra capped off 2019 with a combined concert with JASSO at the opening of the Eurasian Heritage Gallery in September.

With the pandemic halting live performances, JASSYO! joined forces with JASSO and performed in JASS' first livestream, *JASS@Home: Celebrating UNESCO International Jazz Day 2020, Singapore Edition*. In January 2021, led by JASS Associate Music Director, Weixiang Tan and featuring vocalist Siti Nur Iman, they premiered four new tunes including *Come Fly with Me* and *Taking Flight* in *JASS@Home: Taking Flight*.

JASSYO! reinstated the LCYJF in 2021 with the theme *The Count and The Duke* for its hybrid Finale Concert on 24 April, held in conjunction with UNESCO International Jazz Day. Outstanding youth musicians from the orchestra had the opportunity to hone their skills under the guidance of local and international mentors who also joined them virtually onstage at the Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre (SCCC).



RE:SOUND

Resound Collective Limited is a Singapore-based musicians' collective and registered charity that promotes music for small orchestra and chamber ensembles. The company organises re:Sound, the first professional chamber orchestra in the country, and the Concordia Quartet, which made its debut in February 2020.

Members of the collective are conservatory-trained music majors, most of whom have attained post-graduate training around the world. They are among Singapore's most talented and dedicated musicians, who share the vision of enriching the classical music landscape by performing at the highest level.

Resound Collective Limited is supported by the National Arts Council, Singapore under its Seed Grant scheme for the period from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2022 and the Major Company Grant scheme from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2025.

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SHOWTIME PRODUCTIONS

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FARES ALJUNIED

Lighting Designer

WAN ZHONG WEI FOR DANCING LEGS PRODUCTION

Videography

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Production and Artist Manager

BENNY GOH

Production & Musicians Manager

MAY KHOO

Artist Liaison Officer

ALEXIS HO

Stage Manager

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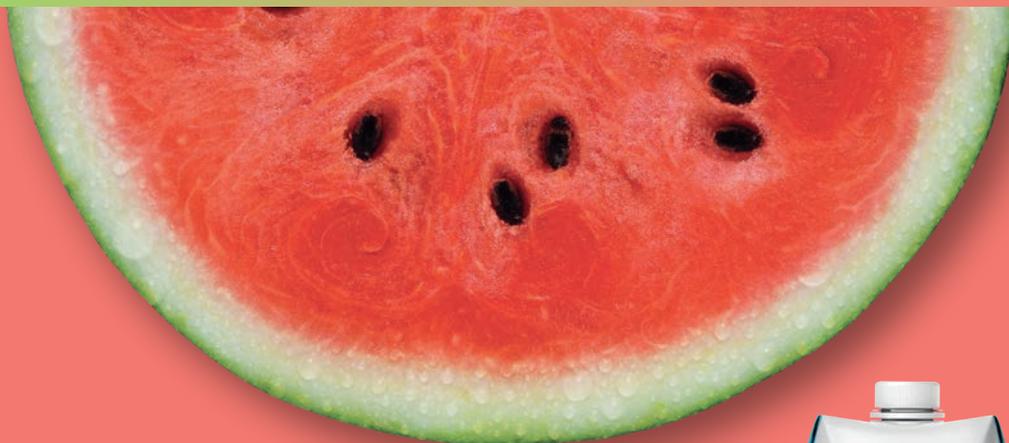
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Aaron Burnett & The Big Machine (USA)

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Joyce Moreno (Brazil)

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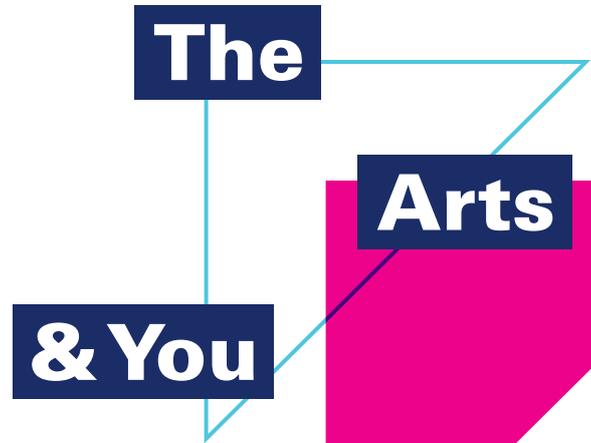
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to our Esplanade partner, arts benefactor, donors and sponsors for believing in our vision to be a performing arts centre for everyone. They made all these possible!^



1,276

activities took place at Esplanade.

Ticketed



412

Non-Ticketed



864

223,399



People attended our activities at the centre.

Ticketed

18,081

Non-Ticketed

205,318

We believe that everyone should be able to experience the joy of the arts, including children, youth, seniors, migrant workers and individuals with special needs. Our community engagement activities bring the arts to those in need.



185
Activities

4,357
Participants

*Figures for Esplanade's activities from Apr 2020 to Mar 2021.

Your contribution* will make a difference.

On behalf of the communities we serve, thank you!
Find out how you too can make a difference through the arts at Esplanade.

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To find out more, email us at donations@esplanade.com or speak with us at 6828 8321.

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In 2022, we mark our 20th anniversary of being an arts centre for everyone. We thank everyone who has been a part of our journey. You have helped us bring joy, inspiration and positive impact to Singaporeans from all walks of life.

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