



**Esplanade
Presents**

**Feed Your
Imagination**



Day Out@Esplanade: SOUNDING OUT THE ARTS

Presented by Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay

Featuring NADI Singapura, KULCHA

with support from National Arts Council

**22–24 May 2018
Tue–Thu**

HELLO EVERYONE!

Welcome to Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay! We are super excited to have you with us at Esplanade today.

For many, this may be your first time at Esplanade but for those who have been here before, you may often enter the performance venue directly without discovering what else is around. However, today is the day where you will get a chance to experience and discover more at Esplanade, from the performing arts to the visual arts.

So, how can you get the most out of your day out at Esplanade? Here are a few handy tips!

- 1. Be curious** – It's okay to wander (but not too far) but it's even better to wonder! Think about how the arts are present in everyday science and vice versa. Let the gears in your head turn and give your grey matter a workout!
- 2. Ask questions** – Curiosity may have killed the cat, but the cat has nine lives! If you have a burning question in your head, speak up – it would not cost you a thing. Ask the performers, the workshop facilitators, Esplanade staff or teachers.
- 3. Participate** – The experience becomes even better when you get knee deep in the fun. Engage and participate!
- 4. Show your appreciation** – If you have enjoyed the performance, workshop or tour, a smile or a thank you goes a long way! *Day Out@Esplanade* can only happen with the help of your teachers, the artists and facilitators!

So, let your hair down (you can pin it up if it gets too warm), enjoy the sights and sounds and you will find that art is all around.

THE ESPLANADE CHILDREN & YOUTH TEAM

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Serentak Senusantara

NADI Singapura



DID YOU KNOW?

Drums are one of the earliest instruments. They have been used for many different purposes throughout history.

In ancient China, they were used in religious ceremonies and rituals. They were also used in war to set a marching beat for soldiers.

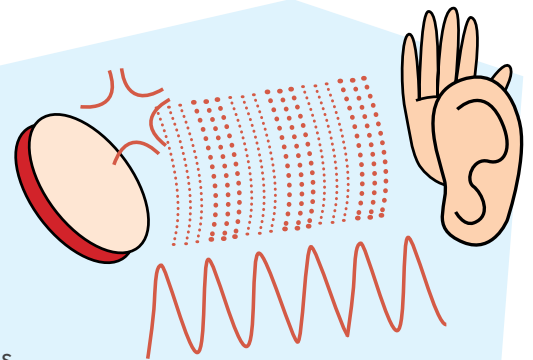
SOUNDS LIKE SCIENCE!

WHAT IS SOUND?

Sound is a series of waves caused by **vibrations**.

HOW IS SOUND CREATED?

Sound occurs when a **force** is applied. This force causes a movement or **vibration** in the air. Some vibrations cause air to move, to create **sound waves** that we can hear. Our ears, which act like a sound antenna, capture the sound waves.



WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A DRUMMER HITS A DRUM?

When a force (from a hand or drumstick) strikes the surface of a drum, the skin or material vibrates up and down. This vibration moves the air molecules above it, which moves the air molecule above it, and so on and so forth! This in turn creates sound waves that our ears will receive.

You can represent the vibration of air particles as waves!

INTRODUCTION TO TRADITIONAL MALAY PERCUSSION

Traditional Malay music is known for its use of percussion instruments. How are traditional Malay percussion instruments categorised and what are the differences between them? Find out more.

WHAT'S THAT WORD?

Serentak (*se-ren-taak*)

one beat

Senusantara (*se-noo-sun-taa-rah*)

the Malay world

Classified into
2 categories



Membranophone

stretched
skin vibrates

- a thinly stretched skin vibrates, producing sound
- the skin is usually made from animal skin
- skin is stretched over a frame
- the skin can be struck or scraped



Idiophone

solid
material
vibrates

- sound is produced when the solid material vibrates
- solid material is made from metal or wood
- sound is created through a variety of ways including striking, stamping, scraping or shaking the instrument

ACTIVITY 1

IDENTIFY AND MATCH

Identify the traditional Malay percussion instruments. Then, match it to the category it belongs to.

KOMPANG GONG REBANA JIDUR HADRAH



Categories:

A. MEMBRANOPHONE

B. IDIOPHONE

Answers: 1. membranophone – 2. gong – 3. rebana – 4. kompang – 5. rebana – 6. idiophone

FIVE CORE RHYTHMS

In traditional Malay music, there are **five main rhythms**. They are often used to accompany the five basic Malay dances of the same name.

Rentak Inang

- The term *inang* refers to the *Mak Inangs* who worked in the palaces during the Malacca Sultanate era (1400–1511). A *Mak Inang* is the chief maiden who is responsible for the royal children.
- The dance, *Tarian Inang*, was popularly performed in palace celebrations and festivities.

Rentak Masri

- Was introduced to the [Malay Peninsula](#)¹ by Arab settlers.
- The rhythm was widely used in *Nasyid* songs (Islamic devotional songs) as well as *Bangsawan* (Malay opera) performances.

Rentak Zapin

- Arab traders and missionaries from Southern Yemen brought over *rentak zapin* to the Malay Peninsula during the 14th century.
- The Malay people took the original rhythm and created their own version of *Zapin Melayu*.

Rentak Joget

- Joget* means "dance" in Malay.
- Brought over to the Malay Peninsula by the Portugese during the 16th century.

Rentak Asli

- Asli* means "original" in English.
- This rhythm was originally created by the Malays.

WHERE IS THAT?

1 Malay Peninsula

An area of land that includes the southernmost tip of Myanmar, Southern Thailand and West Malaysia.

DRUMMING ON THE REBANA

The *rebana* is an important instrument in traditional Malay music. It can produce different tones when you hit different parts of the instrument. Some of the tones on the *rebana* can be mimicked through body percussion. Here's how you can mimic some of the tones.

Tone of the Rebana

Hand Position

Syllables

Call Signs

Body Percussion

Rim Tone

Side Sweep

Tak & Ke

t / k or tk

Pat on Thigh

Gong Tone

Side Tap

Tung or Toun

T

Clap

Bass Tone

Center Tap

Doh

D

Pat On Chest

Slap Tone

Center Slap

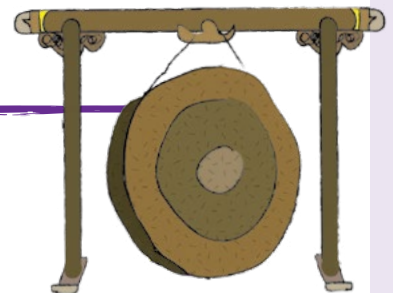
Pang or Pak

P

-

ACTIVITY 2 LISTEN TO THE BEAT

The rows below show you the beat cycles for the five traditional Malay rhythms. Listen to the musicians as they play the different rhythms. Mark a "G" on the beat where the gong comes in.



1. Rentak Inang

	Beat							
	1	n	2	n	3	n	4	n
Rebana	T		t	k	t	D	D/P	
Gong	G							

4. Rentak Joget

	Beat					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Rebana	D	t	k	t	D/P	
Gong						

2. Rentak Masri

	Beat							
	1	n	2	n	3	n	4	n
Rebana	T	t		t	D		t	
Gong								

5. Rentak Asli

	Beat							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Rebana	D		t		t		t	
Gong								
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Rebana	t	D		_D	D	D	_P	_D
Gong								

3. Rentak Zapin

	Beat							
	1	n	2	n	3	n	4	n
Rebana	T		t	tk	t	D	tk	t/P
Gong								



Answers:
2-4. Rentak Masri, Zapin and Joget
5. Rentak Asli

Sounding Out The Arts Workshop

KULCHA

ACTIVITY 3 WHAT'S THAT WORD?

Match the following musical terms to the meanings.

1. TIMBRE



A. Also known as the musical notes.

For example, do, re, mi or C, D, E are known as notes.

2. PITCH



B. This describes the unique quality of a sound. If you play the same note on a piano and on a guitar, each instrument sounds different because of this unique quality.

3. TEMPO



C. This refers to how soft or loud a sound is.

4. DYNAMICS



D. The speed at which a piece of music is played.

Answers: 1b • 2a • 3d • 4c

SOUNDS LIKE SCIENCE!

WHAT MAKES A SOUND LOUD OR SOFT?

FORCE!

When you apply a greater force to a drum, the sound produced will be louder.

This also means that the air molecules around it will vibrate even more.

You can represent the loudness of a sound through the height of a sound wave. This is called the **amplitude**. The louder the sound, the greater the height of the amplitude.

Softer

Amplitude

Louder

Amplitude

High
Pitch

Short wavelength

Time

Low
Pitch

Long wavelength

Time

WHAT IS PITCH?

Pitch is how high or low a note sounds. Sing the song Do-re-mi from the *Sound of Music*. Each syllable (do-re-mi) is a different pitch.

WHY ARE SOME NOTES HIGH AND OTHERS LOW?

Sound is a series of vibrations that create sound waves. When the vibrations are faster, you hear a higher note. When the vibrations are slower, you hear a lower note. Pitch can be represented through the wavelength of a sound wave.

ACTIVITY 4 WE'VE GOT THE BEAT

Now that you've made your own instruments, get your friends together, make up a band and come up with a rhythm of your own.

Decide which instrument comes in at which beat and fill it in the tables below. A 4-beat cycle has been given to help you and your friends notate your rhythmic creation.

1. Write down the **name** of the instrument you and your friends have made and **sketch** a picture of each instrument in the box.
2. Mark an **X** on the beat each instrument comes in.
3. Play your rhythm together as one!



My Band Name

Title of our Creation

Instrument: _____	Beat			
	1	n	2	n
	3	n	4	n

Beat				Instrument: _____
1	n	2	n	
3	n	4	n	

Instrument: _____	Beat			
	1	n	2	n
	3	n	4	n

Beat				Instrument: _____
1	n	2	n	
3	n	4	n	

TAKING THE STAGE

The Esplanade Concert Hall and Esplanade Theatre are the two biggest performing arts venues in the centre. These two performance halls are housed under **two big spiky domes**.

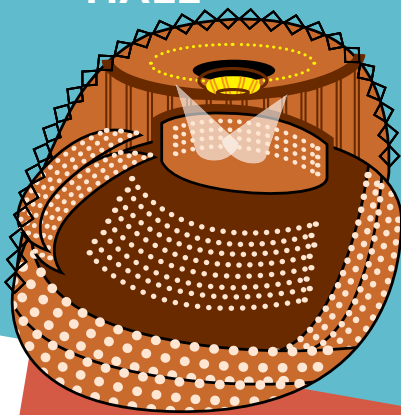
Here are a few more things you might not know about the two halls.

DID YOU KNOW?

Esplanade sits close to the underground MRT rail system as well as the F1 circuit. So how are these noises and vibrations kept out?

The answer lies in rubber pads. The two halls sit on 1,328 rubber pads so that there is no direct contact with the ground. This absorbs the vibrations and prevents noise from getting into the halls.

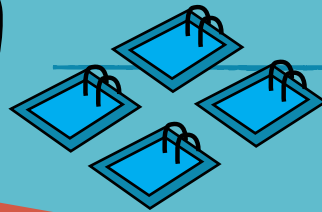
ESPLANADE CONCERT HALL



Up to **1,827 PEOPLE** can be seated in the hall.

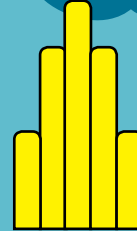
The hall houses a German-made Klais pipe organ which weighs more than

25,000 KILOGRAMMES.



The pipe organ has **4,740 PIPES.**

The largest pipe on the organ is **11 METRES** long while the smallest one measures **4 MILLIMETRES** only.



The spaceship-looking contraption above the stage is an **acoustic** canopy which weighs about

17,000KG EACH (about the weight of **5 BUSES**).



The earth-toned textured walls located on both sides of the hall are actually **DOORS**. The doors open into a **reverberation** chamber which wraps around the Concert Hall.

The reverberation chamber spans **3 LEVELS** and has a total volume of **4 OLYMPIC-SIZED SWIMMING POOLS.**

ESPLANADE THEATRE



Up to **1,950 PEOPLE** can be seated in the Theatre.

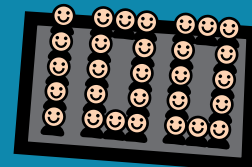
The Theatre has **4 LEVELS OF SEATS.**



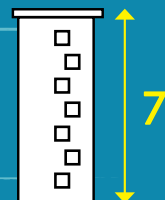
The **HORSESHOE-SHAPED** hall ensures that audience members will feel close to the stage even if they are in the back row. In fact, the furthest seat from the stage is only **40 METRES** away.



The Theatre has an orchestra pit that can fit up to **100 MUSICIANS.**



The Theatre has a **7-STOREY HIGH** fly tower with **107 fly bars.**



The Theatre is made up of three full-sized stages – main stage, side stage and back stage. The main stage alone can fit a **BOEING 737.** Thats HUGE!



WHAT'S THAT WORD?

Acoustic – The qualities of a room (for e.g. size or shape) that make it easy or difficult for people inside to hear sounds clearly

Reverberation – An effect that occurs when sound is produced in an enclosed space, causing sound waves to bounce off, build up and blend together

Fly bars – On stage, fly bars help to hold up and move components such as curtains, scenery and lights.

ABOUT NADI SINGAPURA



NADI, which refers to 'pulse' or 'flow of consciousness' is a newly formed ensemble made up of young, dynamic and impartial musos who believe in uplifting their traditional drums and percussions like no other. *Kompong*, *rebana*, *jidur* and *gendang* are some of the most common Malayan drums found in Singapore, and NADI Singapura proudly features these drums in their performances, in perfect rhythm and harmony.

Led by *rebana* artist, Yaziz Hassan, together with prominent drummer / percussionist, Riduan Zalani, NADI Singapura strives to instill a different approach on these Malay Archipelago drums. Dedicated to upholding while pushing the craft, they simultaneously utilize various polyrhythmic ideas, structures and techniques, adding a new breath of freshness to their presentation.

DISCOVER MORE

Malay Instruments & Music

Listen

NADI Singapura

– youtube.com/user/NadiSingapura/videos

Rentak Asli

Makan Sirih Instrumental
– youtu.be/LAmXflYak4M

Rentak Inang

Selendang Mak Inang
– youtu.be/oDbR_TiM-zs

Rentak Joget

Joget Pahang
– youtu.be/2plxshT8o1U

Rentak Masri

Tari Tualang Tiga
– youtu.be/wgd6NBW954O

Rentak Zapin

Zapin Telok Blangah
– youtu.be/JsV76LaTay8

Read

– rickshriver.net/instrumenthome.htm
– srimahligai.com/articles/tour.htm

ABOUT KULCHA



KULCHA is a modern fusion music outfit defying categorisation. With an arsenal of musical instruments including the Chinese *pipa*, Indian *bansuri*, Indonesian *angklung*, and Middle Eastern *gambus*, they weave richly textured contemporary soundscapes.

Formed in 2014, Kulcha is made up of Serene Tan, or Stan on keyboards and *angklung*; Joseph Chian, or Soap, on drums and the Sundanese *kendang* (two-headed drum); Ismahairie Putra Ishak, who plays the violin, *gambus* and the Middle Eastern drum, the *darbuka*; bassist Yazeid Rahman; Ragahavendran Rajasekaran on the *bansuri*; and *pipa* player Gildon Choo.

The band's name — which is also the name of an Indian flatbread — is a playful spin on the word "culture" and is pronounced the same way.

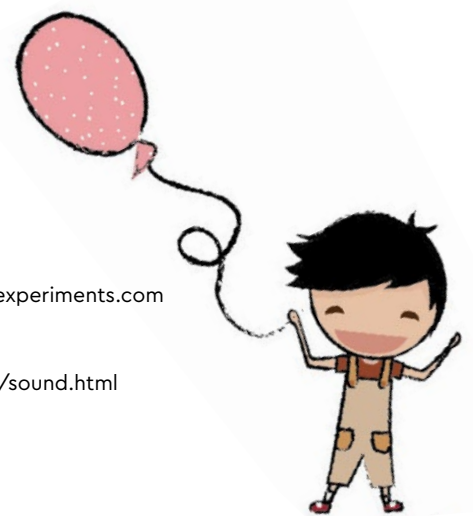
Science

Play

– musiclab.chromeexperiments.com

Explore

– sciencekids.co.nz/sound.html



Interested to learn more about the arts?

Check out www.esplanade.com/learn for more resources!