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Another **Esplanade Presents** Programme

UEN: 199205206G



FAMILY DUET presented by **SPELL#7**

31 May & 1 Jun 2013
Fri & Sat, 8pm | Sat, 3pm
Esplanade Theatre Studio

In collaboration with Esplanade — Theatres on the Bay as part of

Esplanade Presents
the studios
11 APR – 27 JUL 2013

CEO's Message

Dear Audience,

The Studios celebrates its 10th year in 2013. Over the past 10 years, it has been a platform to inspire our audiences with innovative works from international artists and a space where our local artists can explore and experiment. We are proud to have grown with our artists over the years.

This season, we have invited companies who were regular fixtures in *The Studios* over the past decade, as well as some artists whose works we have not seen for a while. Themed Future/Past, the season is about re-staging and recollecting. While we are inspired by and celebrate our past and memories, we also contemplate future possibilities.

Cake Theatrical Productions and spell#7 return with *One Day in this Place* and *Family Duet* respectively, two new pieces which build on their previous works presented here. The season also sees the Singapore premiere of *Curry Tales* by Rasa. This one-woman play marks the homecoming of the unforgettable Rani Moorthy who makes her appearance on the Singapore stage after an 18-year absence.

Bringing you award-winning plays which have not been performed in recent years, Panggung Arts and Orangedot Productions invite you to revisit ...*dan tiga dara terbang ke bulan* and *Machine*. Both productions feature all new casts that comprise the younger generation of actors in Singapore.

Also returning for an encore run is The Finger Players and Teatri Sbagliati's *The Book of Living & Dying*, a cosmic odyssey in time that will take you deep into the subjects of karma, reincarnation and past lives. Finally, delving into histories and memories, new theatre collective The Seven-Headed Dragon presents their multi-disciplinary work *In the Curve of the Wanton Sea*.

For RAW this year, we are also thrilled to showcase two new works-in-progress by emerging artist Tara Tan and new collective, INDEX, who bring you the respective performance-installation pieces, *Cloud* and *IN:dex*.

As you journey through the crevices of memory with us and encounter these exciting works, we hope that *The Studios* will continue to inspire and enrich your life well beyond our theatre walls.

Yours sincerely,



Benson Puah
Chief Executive Officer
The Esplanade Co Ltd

Our Vision

Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay is a performing arts centre for everyone.

We will be internationally recognised for our creativity and sense of adventure.

We will set exceptional standards of service that will position us as a world leader.

Our Mission

To entertain, engage, educate and inspire.

BOARD MEMBERS

Mrs Theresa Foo (Chairman)

Mr Benson Puah (Chief Executive Officer)

Mr Patrick Ang

Dr Beh Swan Gin

Mr Peter Chay

Mrs Rosa Daniel

Mr Lee Tzu Yang

Mrs Clara Lim-Tan

Mrs Christine Ong

Mr Ramlee Bin Buang

Ms Saw Phaik Hwa

Mr Andreas Sohmen-Pao

Mrs Mildred Tan-Sim Beng Mei

directors' message

When you are working with people of different generations, especially with kids, you can't plan things too carefully. The trick is to create a framework that is loose enough to accommodate everyone's interests and abilities, but strong enough to create a performance that is coherent and artistically satisfying.

In creating *Family Duet*, our goal has been to understand how life's big questions are present in the seemingly small and ordinary world of the family. The home is where you can 'be yourself'. But it is also a place of ritual and repetition, of conflict and confusion, of familiar objects and strange choreographies. These are, of course, very theatrical things, so instead of dramatizing our lives, we have been working on bringing out the theatricality inherent in the domestic world.

We have interviewed each other around the dining table, created picture-stories about the houses we have lived in, and made up dances about scooters and satellites. We also use toys and other household objects to create simple scenes that explore the themes of time and identity, living and dying, and the oddly-shaped emotional rollercoaster that parent-child relationships take you on.

We present this show in loving memory of Ron Rae (1948-2010).

Paul Rae and Kaylene Tan



spell#7

Spell Seven Performance Club was established by Paul Rae and Kaylene Tan in 1997. The company creates theatre and site specific performances exploring the intersections of history, identity and daily life.

Duets is a series of pseudo-autobiographical performances about the power of two in a world of many. They have been presented in Singapore and internationally, in theatres and on audio. Over the years, Paul and Kaylene have duetted together (*Duets*, 2004-2005), alone (*Duets 2*, 2006), with trees (*Tree Duet*, 2007-2010) and with the sky (*Sky Duet*, 2008). *Family Duet* is the latest addition.

Other theatre performances include *National Language Class* (2005-2008), *Dream-Work / Dream-Home* (2010-2011) and *Epic Poem of Malaya* (2011). A comprehensively documented version of *National Language Class* is now available for purchase on DVD. Contact paul@spell7.net for details. In 2010, spell#7 received an NAC Arts Creation Fund, and developed an audio-video walk, *Ghostwalking*. Set on the North-East Line MRT, *Ghostwalking* is available for download at www.ghostwalking.sg.

For more information about spell #7, check out the article 'Two Trick Pony' in the special Singapore Theatre issue of Australian online journal *Performance Paradigm* at <http://www.performanceparadigm.net/category/journal/issue-8/>

FAMILY DUET presented by SPELL#7

Introduction: The first time I was on stage, I wasn't even born
Picture parade

Act 1: Getting out of the house
People parade

Act 2: Both of us in me
Shelters parade

Act 3: World condo
Emergency noodle sing song

credits

Family Duet is devised, written and performed by
Fiona Rae • Lola Rae • Paul Rae • Summer Rae • Eleanor Song • Kaylene Tan

Music

Zai Kuning

Lighting Design

Low Kee Hong

Floor Design

Ling Hao

Directorial Advice

Claire Devine

Photographer

Tan Ngai Heng, The Pond

Production/Stage Manager

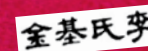
Liu Yong Huay

Assistant Stage Manager

Teo Xuan Xuan

Supported by

National Arts Council
Lee Foundation



Special thanks to: Linie Braga, Samantha Rae, Evan Tan, Anirban Sen

Family Duet features the following songs:

The Moldy Peaches, 'Little Bunny Foo Foo', The Moldy Peaches (Rough Trade Records)
이춘희, '창기타령', 경기민요 Vol. 2
Anadorei, 'Girls Anthem', Pussy Cannibal Holocaust (Captain Trip)
Samsimar, 'Indang Pariaman', Folk and Pop Sounds of Sumatra Vol. 1 (Sublime Frequencies)

Zai Kuning

Music

Zai Kuning is a multi-disciplinary artist who paints, writes, dances, performs and plays music. Zai collaborated with spell#7 for their 2011 production, *Epic Poem of Malaya* and worked on the original *Duets* in 2005.



Ling Hao

Floor pattern

Ling Hao is an architect with his own practice. He has worked with spell#7 on numerous projects including *Bud* (1998), *Visitor Centre* (2005), and *Ghostwalking: Take Possession* for the Prague Quadrennial (2011).

Paul Rae

Paul Rae is co-artistic director of spell#7, and teaches on the Theatre Studies Programme at the National University of Singapore. He is the author of *Theatre & Human Rights* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2009), and Associate Editor of the journal *Theatre Research International*. He recently created a fully documented DVD of spell#7's critically acclaimed performance *National Language Class*, and is currently writing a book entitled *Real Theatre: Essays in Experience*.



Eleanor Song

Performer/Writer

Eleanor Song is a retired stockbroker and grandmother of eight. She is a core member of The Necessary Stage's (TNS) Theatre for Seniors group, where she went through three years of theatre training. She has performed in their *Encore 2* and *Encore 3* presentations, and will be in the upcoming *Encore 4*. In 2012, she was in TNS's main season show, *October*. Eleanor has been in several films, television programmes, skits and regularly performs in TNS Theatre For Seniors community outreach shows.

Low Kee Hong

Lights

Kee Hong was the General Manager for the Singapore Arts Festival and the Singapore Biennale. From 2002 to 2005, he was Associate Artistic Director of TheatreWorks. During his time there, he initiated a new laboratory called the DAVINCIPROJECT. From the lab, he staged several performances in collaboration with Paul and Kaylene: *pulse: I am alive* (2003), *Balance: Space•Time•Movement* (2003), and *Ma: Moment* (2004). In the 4th Straits Times Life! Theatre Awards, *Balance* won the Best Director and Best Set Design awards for Kee Hong, and Best Original Script for Paul and Kaylene. Kee Hong designed the lights for *Duets* in 2005.



Lola Rae

Performer/Writer

Lola is 8 years old, and goes to Singapore Chinese Girls School. She has been in the WILD RICE pantomimes, *Aladdin* (2011) and *Hansel and Gretel* (2012), as well as several episodes of *Club Magic* (okto).



Drawings by Summer Rae

Kaylene Tan

Over the years, Kaylene has created a range of audio and site-specific works as a writer, director and performer with the performance company, spell#7. She was the Creative Director for the National Museum of Singapore History Gallery and in 2008 received the NUS-FASS and The Old Parliament House (TOPH) Writing Fellowship.

She has taught at NUS and LaSalle College of the Arts and worked with young writers on projects for the NUS Arts Festival (2012, 2013) and Singapore Arts Festival (2012). She is currently writing and producing documentaries for The National Art Gallery of Singapore.

Fiona Rae

Performer

Fiona is a retired solicitor and a grandmother of four. She plays the piano and sings in two choirs in Horsham in the UK.

Teo Xuan Xuan

Assistant Stage Manager

Xuan Xuan is studying on the Theatre Studies Programme at NUS. She recently completed her internship at The Necessary Stage, where she worked on the Training For Senior Trainers Workshop. She has co-produced a forty-minute film, *Like Fish* in 2011 and stage managed for *Fallen: The Musical* in 2010 with New Creation Church. She directed two ten-minute plays in Nanyang Junior College's 2009 drama night, *Time Pieces*. Her interests are in design, directing and stage management.

Tan Ngiap Heng

Photographer

Tan Ngiap Heng is a self-taught photographer whose love of dance led him to be a performing arts photographer in Singapore. He is widely known for his publicity and documentary photos for local performing arts groups. In his personal work, he delves into the identity and history of portrait subjects and continues to use dance photography to explore personal issues and human physicality. His photography has been exhibited in Singapore and overseas, has won awards, and has been featured in numerous publications. For further details, visit: www.thepond.com.sg.

Biography

Summer Rae

Performer/Writer

Summer is 6 years old, and goes to Littlewoods Montessori. She has been in school concerts and episodes of *Club Magic* (okto). She likes to swim and draw, and when she grows up she wants to make cars and do lift announcements.

Liu Yong Huay

Production/Stage Manager

After graduating in Theatre Studies from the National University of Singapore, Yong Huay joined NUS Centre For the Arts as an arts administrator. She is currently a freelance production stage manager and lighting assistant. She was the lighting operator for *Roots* by The Finger Players and lighting assistant for *CONTACT 2012* by THE Dance Company. She recently designed lights for *Face to Face III: Full Circle* under a mentorship programme as part of NUS Arts Festival 2013. She plans to study lighting design in the near future.

Family Duet is part of Tan Ngiap Heng's 'Work-in-Progress' project to document the rehearsal process of performing arts groups in Singapore using photography, video and interviews. Funded by the National Arts Council with the support of La Salle College of the Arts, the aim of the project is to provide insight into the practices of performing artists in Singapore, the breadth of the work being staged and an understanding of how local performing arts has evolved. It will also provide insight into the conditions under which performing arts groups are operating, and the themes that are inspiring art-making processes in Singapore.

what were your shoulders made for?

Once there was a girl who fell in love with a man who lived across the sea. She told her father: "I want to marry him. He's home to me."

Her father was very sad because he loved her with all his heart.

And because he did, he went to his garden and chopped down the biggest tree and made it into a table for her. "Every house needs a table," he said.

The table was very big and heavy but because her father insisted, the girl carried the table on her back and went on her way.



Evrrrrybody evrrrrybody
look at me look at me.
I'm going to make my
first announcement!



Emergency Noodle Sing Song

When you're all alone
When you're far from home
When you need a taste
Of what you know

When you're far away
On holiday
When sand and sun
Are no go

Emergency
Emergency
Emergency
Noodles

The dog and pig
The fox and friends
They'll be with you
Till the bitter end

The panda
Is all you need
When you need a fix
When you need to feed

Emergency
Emergency
Emergency
Noodles

One person, one noodle
Two person, hot water
Three people, four people
A family entangled
A family emergency



Don't miss the rest of these shows in The Studios season!


*All performances held at Esplanade Theatre Studio.
The workshop is held at Esplanade Bay Room.*



CURRY TALES

13 - 16 Jun 2013
Thu - Sun, 8pm
Sat, 3pm

Workshop



**Metaphor to Magic:
Creative Writing
Workshop
by Rani Moorthy**

16 Jun, Sun, 2pm

CLOUD

RAW : Cloud

22 Jun 2013
Sat, 3pm & 8pm

BOOK NOW!

www.thestudios.com.sg

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**THE BOOK
OF
LIVING AND DYING**

4 - 7 Jul 2013
Thu - Sat, 8pm
Sat & Sun 3pm



MACHINE

18 - 20 Jul 2013
Thu - Sat, 8pm



**In The Curve
of The Wanton Sea**

25 - 27 Jul 2013
Thu - Sat, 8pm
Sat, 3pm

Tickets from Esplanade Box Office and SISTIC's authorised agents, SISTIC hotline: 6348 5555. Group booking of 20 or more: 6828 8389. A SISTIC booking fee applies to each ticket. Latecomers will only be admitted at suitable breaks if any. No admission of infants-in-arms and children below six years. Tickets are required for all patrons.