

australia 1994 february 18-march 13

# *festival* of Perth



*Ruano*



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# 1994 festival of Perth

18 February - 13 March

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'... IT DEPICTS, MOST  
POTENTLY, THE PAINFULLY  
REAL SINGAPOREAN  
EXPERIENCE.'  
The Straits Times



**PLAYHOUSE THEATRE**  
19, 21-26 February 8pm

Duration: Approx. 2 hours with interval  
\$28 (F \$24 S/P/U \$20 Schools \$15)

**FORUM APPEARANCE**  
Tuesday 22 February 1pm  
Terrace Level Foyer  
**PERTH CONCERT HALL**

Sponsored by Alcoa  
Qantas Airways Ltd  
and Friends of the Festival

**Australian Premiere**

## LAO JIU (THE NINTH CHILD)

Written and translated by Kuo Pao Kun

### Theatreworks Singapore

**I**nto a family of eight daughters a son is born - the Ninth Child. The child is clearly a boy of outstanding intelligence. Sacrifices are made for him. He is nurtured to achieve the honour of academic success. As so often happens his heart is elsewhere and he turns his back on his family's ambitions, choosing instead to take up the dying art of puppetry.

Using a multitude of art forms including traditional Hokkien glove puppetry, shadow puppetry, Chinese Opera and martial arts, *Lao Jiu* brings to life the clash of East and West cultures, the merging of the old and the new and the breakdown of the family unit.

In this powerful and emotive work, Singapore's best-known company, Theatreworks, explores the issues of power play, psychological pressure, guilt and the choice between family and destiny. It is a spectacular production embracing a large cast of actors, puppeteers and musicians and has justifiably received wide acclaim throughout Asia. *Lao Jiu* is a play which strikes many parallels in our own Australian society.

Performed in English with occasional Hokkien, Cantonese, Mandarin and Hakka dialect.

**'ONCE IN A LIFETIME COMES A  
PLAY THAT LEAVES YOU  
SEEKING THE SPIRITUAL AND  
EMOTIONAL TRUTH IN YOUR  
OWN LIFE. LAO JIU IS A STORY  
BOTH UNIQUE AND,  
PARADOXICALLY, UNIVERSAL.'**

8 Days Magazine



*Every day  
in thousands  
of ways the  
Lotteries Commission  
helps make  
our world  
a little more  
welcoming.*



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