

Stained

Thank  
you Juliana

ROCKY  
XOXO

Sebastian  
tan hand!

THEATREWORKS  
Presents

# Haunted

Thank  
you  
8/7

The New Singapore Musical

A Haunted Ghost  
A Once Grand Family  
A Fateful Love Affair  
One Night of Passion, Deceit and Revelation

Thank you for your  
support!  
☺ Cheryl

For Jeff & Selma

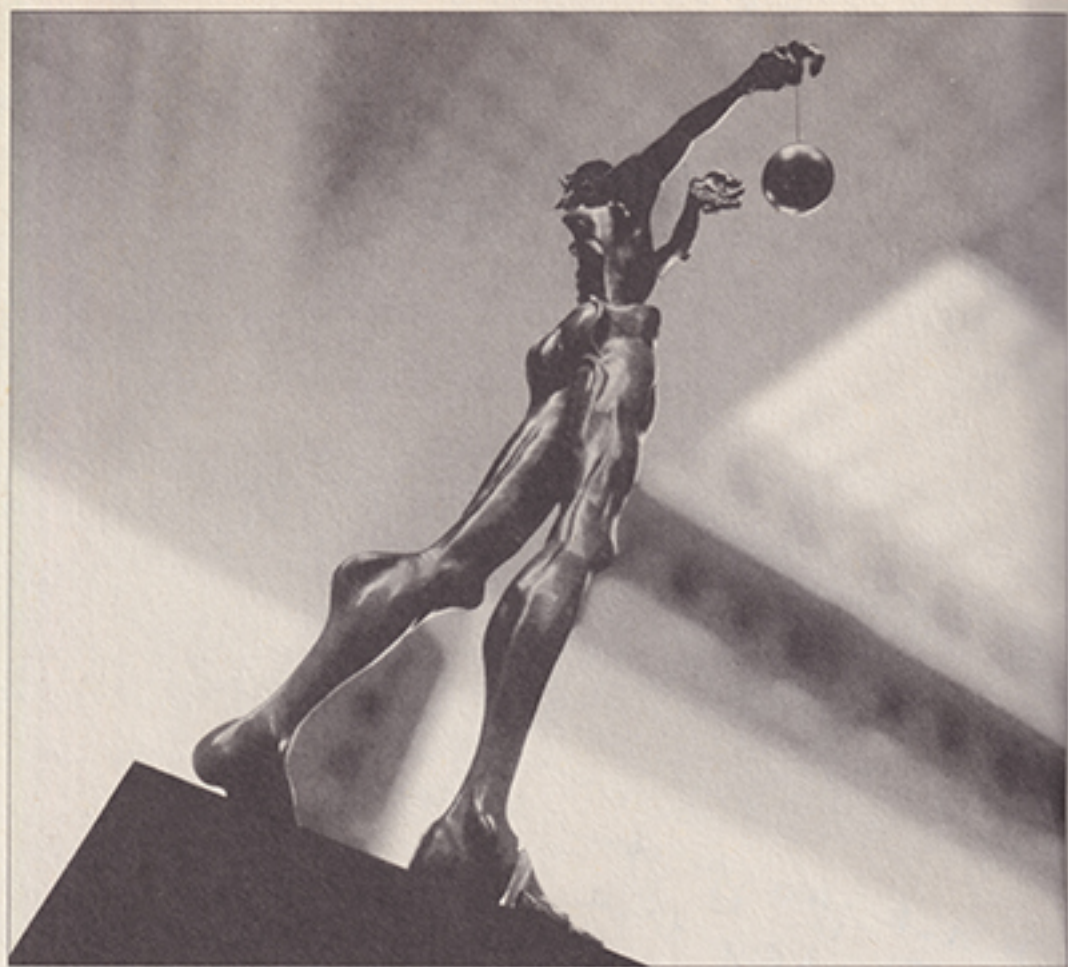
Thanks A million,  
Sharon

Thank U!

Music And Lyrics By Mark Chan  
Book By Ovidia Yu  
Directed By Casey Lim

29 July to 8 August, 1999  
Victoria Theatre  
Nightly, 8p.m.  
Saturday Matinees, 2.30p.m.





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It is very difficult to write about something that has been so close to my heart and which I have been working on forever, or so it seems. But the one thing I am very sure that I want to do is create a musical that comes from the hearts of Singaporeans and which will touch the hearts of people (and ghosts, I hope).

Why a musical about a ghostly love story? I remember being told many ghost stories by my school friends, neighbors, army buddies and family members. Everyone has their favourite ghost story, don't you?

Ghost stories are so deeply entrenched in our Asian culture that whether we like it or not they are difficult to dismiss. Stories from our parents and neighbors; stories traded and created during camp-fires, recess periods in primary school, between camp mates in field camps have all the essence of high drama.

Like most Singaporeans, as I grow older, I question the ideas of love, how love is manifested or not especially in a multi-generational family. In this sense, "Haunted" puts together two aspects that are very much part of Singaporean life.

## A SINGAPORE MUSICAL ABOUT GHOSTS?

In addition, I wanted to put on stage the types of rhythms and the musical influences that are popular in Singapore. In Singapore, we tend to benefit from influences from all over and yet we have managed to synthesize them into our own unique hybrids. With Mark's songs and Joshua's arrangement, there is a strong musical structure in "Haunted" that allows for a range of musical styles from the snazzy

pop and rock songs to stirring lush melodies.

Musicals seem to have a special place in theatre and are a big challenge to stage. There are so many elements involved in creating a

musical; the music, the singing, the acting, the script, the staging, the costuming and the list seems endless. And all these elements must gel together in a seamless whole and appear effortless. But it is all worth it because when all the pieces start to fit together, you feel that you want to do all over again.

Hence the process of creating this musical has been a rewarding one, albeit a difficult one. It is one of those evolving experiences in which the work develops and grows at each rehearsal and at production meetings. I must say this musical will not be possible without the help and support from my friends, the staff, the talented cast, the design and production teams. Most of all, a big thank you to my inspiring collaborators, Mark and Ovidia.

This show truly belongs to everyone who believes in the magic of theatre. Open your mind and heart and be haunted.

*Casey Lim*  
Associate Artistic Director  
TheatreWorks

## Casey Lim

### Biography of Casey Lim

Casey Lim is TheatreWorks' current Associate Artistic Director. A multi-talented and focused individual, he joined the corporate world upon graduation with a degree in Computer Science. He became a managing director of an IT consultancy firm before deciding to take the plunge into a full-time theatre career as a performer. He ventured into directing 5 years ago. Not only an accomplished theatre artist, Lim is also a talented musician and composer. A pianist and clarinetist at heart, Lim has composed several musical pieces for the piano and bands.

Lim made his directorial debut with "The Buried" in 1996. He then continued with "Lao Jia", and the 1998 "Beauty World" (in collaboration with TCS for the President's Star Charity, as well as the stage version). In 1999, he directed the Singapore Director Award winning "Pan Island Expressway".

Lim was also the Festival Director of TheatreWorks' 1998 overnight theatre event, "got to go ... play till dawn" (1998). This highly successful event was seen as an ideal platform to encourage young theatre practitioners in Singapore.

As a performer, Lim has acted in memorable productions like "The Complete Space Traveller's Guide to Singapore (Abridged)", "Lao Jia", "Longing", "Undercover", "Broken Birds: An Epic Longing", "The Yang Family"; as well as the premiere performance of "Descendants of the Eunuch Admiral". The latter production was presented at the 1996 Cairo International Festival for Experimental Theatre where Lim won the Critic's Award for Best Actor.





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I believe.

In love. In the power of love to change things, to change lives. In how people, animals, even plants bloom and blossom in the light of love. And in how horribly twisted and dark everything becomes when denied it. Or when love is abused or lost.

I believe.

In ghosts. I have seen them, smelled them, felt them, heard them.

I still feel them. Is it the so called third eye? It doesn't really matter <grin>. But I do know that many of the ghosts that I have seen have asked me for help or comfort or have just felt lonely and wanted company <shiver> And I can't deny the strange, the weird, the uncanny, the fearful feelings that I experience every time I come into contact with the 'supernatural'. It is not the stuff of Casper.

I also believe in laughter. That keeping a sense of humour in the midst of danger, sadness and despair is about the only defence or medicine that has worked for me in dark times...that and my belief in something greater than me, more wise, more patient, more loving - more everything!

So I have poured my laughter, my loneliness, my pain, my love, my tears into this musical. It reminds me of many things in my own life, my past, my family. It has been both gift and privilege to work on it. The superb cast of actors/singers has completely inspired me, every single one of them, and Casey and Ovidio have been both supportive and difficult enough to bring out the best in us. I thank all of them from the bottom of my heart. It has been my good fortune to be here, haunted together with all them!

Singapore is often called a gray and shallow place. Maybe that's because we artists and creators haven't worked hard enough to find the depth, beauty, humanity and love that underpins all great societies. To find it and to glorify it. To create the myths and legends and poetry that we need to become a real culture. I have been reminded in 'Haunted' that there are so many things to laugh about, cry about, be frightened about in Singapore. I have been shown that we can find passion and hope and inspiration. A timely reminder in a gray time.

*Mark Chan*  
Composer

## Mark Chan

### Biography of Mark Chan

Mark Chan is a unique composer and recording artist. He has released 7 solo albums: "Face to Face" (1985), "Book of Dreams" (1987), "China Blue" (1991), "The Other Actor" (1993), "Nature Boy" (1996), "Travelling Under the Light of The Full Moon" (1997), and "Tattoo" (1999). "The Other Actor" and "Tattoo" were produced with TheatreWorks, with the former being the first Singaporean CD of music composed for the theatre.

Chan has been the Resident Composer for TheatreWorks for the last 8 years. For TheatreWorks, Chan has written music for "Three Children" which was performed in Singapore, Malaysia and Tokyo, "Madam Mao's Memories" which was performed in Singapore and at the Edinburgh Festival of Arts (1992), "Under the Bed", a TheatreWorks' collaboration with One Yellow Rabbit from Canada in 1994, and "Lao Jie" which was performed in Singapore and at the Festival of Perth (1995).

Chan has composed, performed and recorded music for numerous Theatre productions (35 to date) working with almost all the leading theatre companies in Singapore including "The Day I Met the Prince", "The Kiss of the Spider Woman", "Art", and "M. Butterfly".

He was also the Music Director and the co-composer for "Lear", the international production directed by Ong Keng Sen, the Artistic Director of TheatreWorks, which completed highly successful Asian and European tours in 1999.

His first musical was "Robbers from Nutmeg Town" a children's musical in Chinese written 11 years ago. "Haunted" will be Mark's first English musical.



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Supernatural voices echoing within the hollow (well, semi-hollow) chambers of playwright's skull:

"Let's do a piece about the supernatural,"  
"Yeah! Ghosts and spirits and magic potions? We must! We must!"  
"I don't know that I really..."  
"And a haunted house-yes! We must have a really grand, old haunted house!"  
"Or a haunted castle, a really old haunted castle with a castle ghost?"  
"No lah. No castles in Singapore..."  
"All right, you want Singaporean-then a pontianak-or pontianaks! A whole bunch of pontis that drowned themselves in wells and are all coming back to take revenge!"  
"But-but if they drowned themselves, who are they coming to take revenge on?"

*(But the gentle hesitant voice of the playwright is ignored.)*

"I know, I know-a family haunted by a deep dark secret... something from the past!"  
"Right! Or haunted by several deep, dark secrets! Each family member hiding something..."  
"I don't even watch X-Files regularly, I'm not sure if I can..."  
"Oh, I see ghosts all the time, don't worry! Come, tonight we go ghost hunting!"  
"But-but-where? How?"  
"We'll go to a haunted house, of course! Maybe that will give you some inspiration!"  
"Maybe she'll get some ghostly inspiration!"

*(Raucous laughter, most damaging to sensitive playwright's psyche.)*

"Wait-wait-wait... you're not serious, right, about ghosts and haunted houses?"  
"Of course we're serious!"  
"About the show also we're serious!"  
"I WAS talking about the show..."  
"Of course, sometimes you don't really see them..."  
"Whew! For a moment there I really believed!"  
"Sometimes you just sense them. You can feel this presence...sometimes its a certain smell..."  
"Oh..."

*(Playwright looks around nervously.)*

"And you know what? Let's make it a musical!"  
"Have a singing ghost?"  
"Have everybody singing, including the ghost! Great idea! Let's do it!"

"Yes... yes! Spirits from the past and present expressing their longing for love, for revenge, through song-yes!"  
"We'll have to get actors who can sing..."  
"Or singers who can act..."  
"Hmmm..."

Fortunately Theatreworks rounded up a cast that both sings and acts and was a real inspiration to write for. I learned a lot during the working out of *Haunted* from Casey Lim and Mark Chan (two people who seem to go through life without sleeping) as well as from any other forces they may have been summoning up assistance from (never have my scripts typed themselves out so fluently...)

But for the fact that this script got written so quickly, I must thank Mark Chan, whose swiftly produced music and lyrics provide the framework that supports everything else in this piece.

Ovidia Yu  
Playwright

## Ovidia Yu

### Biography of Ovidia Yu

A familiar name in the local theatre scene Ovidia Yu has been a prolific writer filling houses with many of her thought-provoking works. Since 1990, the plays she has written for TheatreWorks include "The Woman in a Tree on a Hill", "3 F Virgins Unassembled", "Be the Food of Love (play on...)" and "Therese Raquin".

Having received numerous awards like the Japan Chamber of Commerce & Industry Young Artist Award (1996), the National Arts Council Young Artist Award (1996), the Singapore Youth Award for Arts and Culture (1997); as well as Edinburgh Fringe First for her "The Woman in a Tree on a Hill".

Yu's other popular plays which have played to full houses include "Six Lonely Oysters", "A Twist of Fate" and "Breast Issues".

Yu's many credits have made her unique in a league of local writers who, according to her, "...try to present the Singaporean point of view of Singapore to Singaporeans and the rest of the world".



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## Haunted

### Scene By Scene

#### Prologue

Welcome to the House on the Hill and a once grand family.

Song: "Haunted"

#### One

As the Loong family gather for dinner, Ping produces a surprise.

#### Two

In the garden, a heart-wrenching romance is revealed.

Song: "There Will Always Be"

#### Three

Lilian, the ghost, appears. Meanwhile, in the kitchen, two lovers embrace.

Song: "One, Two, Three, Four"

#### Four

Old man Loong acknowledges a long lost grandson as Ming and Ping, the two sisters, bicker on. Exposure of a past affair is threatened.

Songs: "If (part 1)" & "Halo Around the Moon"

#### Five

Memories are revived as Lilian's letters to Old man Loong are read. Lilian, the ghost speaks.

Song: "My Lover"

#### Six

The clock strikes twelve and an unnatural death occurs!

Song: "Dreams"

#### INTERVAL

#### Seven

Another side of Ping is revealed. Rachel decides to leave the cursed house with her lover, Rafiq.

Songs: "Rich Girl, Bitch Girl", "If (part 2)" & "Haunted (Reprise)"

#### Eight

Lilian sings of how it was on the night she died.

Songs: "If I Could Sing of Love" & "The Night I Died"

#### Nine

Lilian appears as Ping lashes out at the family. Lilian is finally liberated together with Old man Loong.

Songs: "I Wake" & "Watching the Sunrise"

#### Ten

More haunting memories are buried in the garden of the House on the Hill.

Song: "There Will Always Be (Reprise)"



# Haunted

Music And Lyrics  
By Mark Chan

## Prologue

*Sung by Rafiq, Joanne, Ming, Ping, Chin Chew & Rachel*

I can hear the darkness falling  
and cast its magic spell  
The time of day when love is calling  
We know it so well

Here is the house on the hill  
The family that's still caught in a past  
it never lets go  
A dream of love that cannot wake  
Somewhere in my heart I break

I can hear the voices calling  
The secrets they could tell  
The sound of lonely petals falling  
into an endless well

Here is the house on the hill  
A passion that's still caught in a past  
It never let go  
A dream of love that can't forgive  
Somewhere in her heart it lives

[chorus]  
Haunted by love so long ago  
Caught in a dream that won't let go  
Why are we running so fast  
Ghosts from the past  
Will come back at last  
Tonight...

Welcome into my world  
The dream of a lonely girl  
Dreaming of love I have never seen  
Places I have never been

Here in the House on the Hill  
The family that's still haunted by secrets  
Never revealed  
A lover's promise never kept  
Fifty lonely years not slept

I can hear the voices calling/whispering  
The secrets I could tell  
The sound of hungry phantoms calling  
From (within) an endless well

Here is the house on the hill  
The family that's still caught in a past it never  
let go  
A dream of love that cannot wake  
Somewhere in my heart I break...

\* [repeat chorus]

How can a love so long ago  
Come back and live within the soul?  
How can you run from the night  
Hide from the light?  
Make it all right?  
Tonight...

## Scene 2

*Sung by Old man Loong & Joanne*

I know I am young  
I know everyone thinks I'm just beginning  
to learn how things get done

But inside my heart I'm growing fast  
and I know what's true  
and what will and will not last

Don't be afraid  
You've been given so much  
Now is the time to love, to love what you touch

And through the things you fear  
you'll find you're growing strong  
in this garden of tears....

[chorus]

There will always be  
A heart that breaks  
Somewhere in time, somewhere in space  
There will always be  
Another wish to make  
I wish on your star  
To be where you are  
I wish on the light that shines  
from your eyes  
I wish on the love that binds me to you  
in this place....

Your day will come  
Just give it some time  
Your life is beginning,  
I'm leaving mine behind me

So many mistakes that I still regret  
So many unfinished dreams that won't let,  
Won't let me forget...

Don't be afraid,  
at the end of the day  
I do believe that love  
Love will find a way

And through the things we fear

We'll find we're growing strong  
in this garden of tears...

\*[repeat chorus]

I give you my heart,  
I give you my soul  
This I will pledge to you as I grow old  
Don't be afraid  
All that we are  
Someday will come  
As sure as I wish on that star...

# There Will Always Be



## Scene 2

Sung by Old man Loong & Joanne

I know I am young  
I know everyone thinks I'm just beginning  
to learn how things get done

But inside my heart I'm growing fast  
and I know what's true  
and what will and will not last

Don't be afraid  
You've been given so much  
Now is the time to love, to love what you touch

And through the things you fear  
you'll find you're growing strong  
in this garden of tears....

[chorus]

There will always be  
A heart that breaks  
Somewhere in time, somewhere in space  
There will always be  
Another wish to make  
I wish on your star  
To be where you are  
I wish on the light that shines  
from your eyes  
I wish on the love that binds me to you  
in this place...

Your day will come  
Just give it some time  
Your life is beginning,  
I'm leaving mine behind me

So many mistakes that I still regret  
So many unfinished dreams that won't let,  
Won't let me forget...

Don't be afraid,  
at the end of the day  
I do believe that love  
Love will find a way

And through the things we fear

We'll find we're growing strong  
in this garden of tears...

\*[repeat chorus]

I give you my heart,  
I give you my soul  
This I will pledge to you as I grow old  
Don't be afraid  
All that we are  
Someday will come  
As sure as I wish on that star...

# There Will Always Be

Sung by Chin Chew

If you could see in my heart  
If we could make a start  
If there's a lucky star above me now  
I would pray

If you could cast your spell  
The thing you do so well  
If you could trace the steps to show me how  
I fell...

(chorus)  
Come what may  
This is my life  
Come what may  
It's all I know  
When every road that takes me  
Takes me farther  
When will I find my home?  
Come what may  
This is my life,  
This is my life  
for me to change  
And every choice I make  
is my future  
destiny to take

$$I_{f(\text{Part I})}$$

*Sung by Ming, backed by Ping, Joanne and Rachel*

There's a halo round the moon tonight  
The moth flew round the room again tonight  
There's something in the air  
I don't know if I dare  
I daren't look in the mirror tonight

*Be prepared! Be prepared!*

There's perfume in the air tonight  
Flowers blooming in the dead of night  
There's whispering in the trees  
The scent of history  
A mystery's unfolding tonight

[chorus]  
Tonight, there's something in the air  
Tonight, there's danger everywhere  
Walking under ladders  
Things will just get modder  
Don't go in the garden tonight!  
(Don't you dare!)

**Sewore! Sewore!**

There's a halo round the moon tonight  
A secret box of letters opened wide  
There's creaking on the stairs  
when nobody is there  
Don't you sleep alone tonight!

**Be prepared! To be scored!**

There's a stranger in the house tonight  
 Trouble brewing in the air tonight  
 The sighing on the breeze sings a melody  
 That's looking for an answer tonight

\* [repeat chorus]

(bridge)  
If you hear a sound  
Don't turn around  
Don't you be foolish  
It might be ghoulish!

If there's the scent of flowers in the air  
And no one there  
Best beware, she may be there...!!!  
Screeeeeeeeeee!!!!

\* [repeat chorus]

**Beware! Beware!**

# Halo Round The Moon

There's a halo round the moon tonight  
A pin drops in the room and I take fright  
There's knocking at the door  
Footsteps 'cross the floor  
The hungry ghosts are stirring tonight!

*Be prepared! Be prepared!*

There's a halo round the moon tonight  
The moth flew round the room again tonight  
There's something in the air  
I don't know if I dare  
I daren't look in the mirror tonight...

*Be prepared! Be prepared!*



# My Lover

Scene 5  
Sung by Lilian

My lover do you ever see  
The depths of you inside of me  
Blood-red is the colour I see  
Inside of me

My lover can you fathom deep  
The secrets that we keep  
The tears in the rain locked away  
My heartbeat

[chorus]  
And all this time trapped in your love  
You're everything I've been dreaming of  
And tonight I woke up and see  
Somebody else touching me  
There's somebody else touching me  
My lover

My lover will you ever hear  
The whisperings in your ear  
Time turns and you're still asleep  
To my heartbeat

My lover will I ever see  
The sunrise in the east?  
Each night ends and I must fly  
Each dawn I die

\* [repeat chorus]

## Scene 6

Sung by Joanne, Charles, Ming, Ping and Rachel

There's a thousand white love letters  
Floating in my sleep  
A trembling ghostly figure  
Blood red roses at her feet  
And she's calling to me  
Singing to me  
Trouble she is bringing to me

Can you tell me, my dream  
Tell me what you mean?

There's a thousand stolen kisses  
I've tasted in my sleep  
My heart is pounding madly  
It doesn't miss a beat  
Then you touch me and I'm falling  
Down like a broken leaf

Can you show me, my dream  
Tell me what you mean?

I'm floating over water  
Sliding over ice  
Standing in the rain  
Trapped (here) in a vice

The walls have started crawling  
I fear the ghost is calling inside

Can you tell me, my dream  
Tell me what you mean?

There's a thousand broken promises  
I never meant to keep  
A thousand lies and whispers / rumours  
that haunt me in my sleep  
Will you catch me if I'm falling  
Down in this broken dream?

Will you catch me my dream  
Tell me what you mean?

There's a thousand drops of rain  
falling in the night  
She is running in my dream  
She's searching for the light  
And I'm tossing and I'm turning  
Old sins are returning to me...

Can you wake me, my dream?  
Can you break the spell?  
You're under my skin  
You know me so well

In my dreams.....

# Dreams



## Rich Girl, Bitch Girl

### Scene 7

Sung by Ping

Do you think that it's easy to be a rich girl?  
I work so hard at it  
Do you think that it's easy to be such a bitch  
girl?

I was born right into it  
(I was born in the thick of it)

Do you think that I got this far  
Sitting and wishing on some lucky star?  
I really had to work for it  
Give me more, give me more

I really had to sweat for it  
Give me more, give me more

I'll never have enough  
You can never be too tough  
There's just not enough to spare  
And I don't wanna share...

Do you think that it's easy to be a rich girl?  
You got to hold on to it  
Do you think that it's easy to be such a bitch girl?  
Not everyone can do it!

Do you think I was never nice  
I was not born as cold as ice (oh no!)  
I really had to work at it  
Give me more, give me more  
But I guess I'm kind of proud of it!  
Give me more, give me more

(If) Greed is the answer  
I am your dancer  
I play my own tune  
I don't need no full moon  
Let the ghost come tonight  
I'm in the mood for a fight  
I am scratching my itch  
Let's see who's the bitch!

You dress me pretty in lace  
To hide the tears on your face  
Yes I was young but I saw  
The secrets behind closed doors

You dress me pretty in lace  
We both were trapped in this place  
Yes I was young but I knew  
The torture that you went through

## If (Part 2)

### Scene 7

Sung by Charles & Ming

If you could see in my heart  
If we could make a start  
If there's a lucky star above me now  
I would pray

If you could cast your spell  
The thing you do so well  
If you could trace the steps to show me how  
I fell...

[chorus]  
Come what may  
This is my life  
Come what may  
It's all I know  
When every road that takes me  
Takes me farther  
When will I find my home?  
Come what may  
This is my life,  
This is my life  
for me to change  
And every choice I make  
is my future  
destiny to take

If you could see me now  
If I could show you how  
How much you mean to me  
You dreamed to me  
in your own way

With every corner I turned  
With every bridge I burned  
I always thought somehow,  
Someday love  
would return

\*[repeat chorus]

If you could see in my heart  
If we could make a start  
If there's a lucky star  
above me now  
I would pray

If we could turn back the time  
If I could change my mind  
If I could find the will  
to leave it all behind

\*[repeat chorus]

## Haunted (Reprise)

### Scene 7

Sung by Joanne, Rafiq & Rachel

I can hear the sounds of morning  
Break the midnight spell  
The dawn of day when love is calling  
We know it so well

Here in the house on the hill  
The family that's still caught in a past  
it never let go  
A dream of love that must forgive,  
Somewhere in my heart it lives...

Haunted by love so long ago  
Haunted by dreams that won't let go  
Why are we running so fast  
Ghosts from the past will come back at last  
Tonight...

#### Scene 8

Sung by Lilian as prologue to "The Night I Died"

I swear if I could sing of love  
I'd sing of how my life did break  
I swear if I could tell my life  
I'd tell of how love turns to hate  
and waits  
to turn again...

I swear if I could turn back time  
I wouldn't know where I would start  
My life has stopped here in the darkest night  
My life is trapped here in the darkness of my  
heart...

## If I Could Sing Of Love

#### Scene 8

Sung by Charles

In a world so full of strangers  
Left here on my own  
I went on a date with danger  
I came/went to your home

Carrying the child of our love  
Searching for a sign from above  
I closed my door, I stepped into the night  
The rain came down like pearls the night I died

With my heart full of madness  
Under blood-red skies  
Walking down the streets of sadness  
Walking into their lies

Carrying the child of our love  
Searching for a sign of your love  
I reached your door, it would not open wide  
"He's not at home, he's left for good"  
They lied

And they held me fast and they held me tight  
And they held me strong  
And I tried my best to fight

And the ground was wet as I ran away  
and they caught me, yes they caught me  
And they pushed me, yes they pushed me  
And I fell, yes I fell  
Against the stones I fell  
into my hell  
The rain came down like pearls the night I died

In this house full of strangers  
A garden grown from tears  
They dug my grave, they made my manger  
Silent fifty years

Carrying the child of our love  
Waiting for a sign of your love  
I'm at your door, it will not open wide  
The rain came down like pearls the night I died

## The Night I Died



## I Wake (I Am Here)

### Scene 9

Sung by Lilian

In the quiet of the night  
I am gathering like a storm  
I am burning

In every corner of the house  
I am spinning like a top  
I am turning

All the blood in my soul  
is turning to gold  
I dream of light  
I Wake

In the silence of the grave  
I have waited all my life  
Not sleeping

In the secrets of their deeds  
I was buried like a thing  
Not breathing

And the blood in my soul  
Runs so cold  
I dream of light  
I wake  
(I wake)

Hey, Hey, Heya, Heya...  
Here I am here...

In the middle of the night  
I have dreamed a thousand dreams  
No more dreaming!

In the middle of their hearts  
I have seen a thousand schemes  
No more scheming!

And I reached for love  
And I died for love  
And I wake for love  
I wake...

## Watching The Sunrise

### Scene 9

Sung by Old man Loong & Lilian, backed by  
Joanne, Charles, Ming & Ping

Please let the morning come

Let the rising sun  
Set me free

Through these eyes that once were blind  
Let me climb  
through the window and see  
Where did I go wrong?  
Why was I not strong?  
Strong enough to believe?

Love, take away these chains  
Wipe away the rain in my eyes  
No more time for looking back  
No regrets  
Now is our time to fly  
Touch me, I am real (touch me, make me feel)  
Hold me, make me feel (make me real)  
Kiss my lips  
and bring me back to life!

(chorus)  
I'm watching the sunrise for the first time  
Catching the wind within my sails  
In a world of lies and pain  
Through the cold and through the rain  
It stays the same  
I'm watching the sunrise for the first time  
Catching the song out on the breeze  
Play it fast or play it slow,  
play it anyway you know  
It stays the same  
It stays the same  
It stays the same  
It stays the same

Love, take away these chains  
Wipe away the rain in my eyes  
No more time for looking back  
No regrets  
Now is our time to fly  
Touch me, I am real (touch me, make me feel)  
Hold me, make me feel (make me real)  
Kiss my lips  
and bring me back to life!

\* (repeat chorus)

Touch me, I am real  
(touch me, make me feel)  
Hold me, make me feel (make me real)  
Kiss my lips  
and bring me back to life...

**Scene 10**

*Sung by Joanne & Charles*

Don't be afraid you've been given so much  
Now is the time to love,  
To love what you touch

Your day will come  
Just give it some time  
Your life is beginning  
So leave the pain behind

Inside my heart  
I've grown so fast  
And I know what's true  
And what will and will not last

And through the things we fear  
we'll find we're growing strong  
in this garden of tears

[chorus]

There will always be  
A heart that breaks  
Somewhere in time, somewhere in space  
There will always be  
Another wish to make  
I wish on that star  
No matter how far  
I wish on the light that shines from your eyes  
I wish on the love that binds me and  
you to this place.  
I wish on the love that binds me and you to this  
place

## There Will Always Be



## Cast

(In Alphabetical Order)

Jocinta Abisheganaden  
Gani Abdul Karim  
Lim Siaw Chong  
Pam Oei  
Denise Tan  
Tan Kheng Hua  
Sebastian Tan  
Selena Tan  
Wee Tze Lin

Lilian, the ghost  
Rafiq, Rachel's lover  
Old man Loong - the patriarch  
Rachel, the Maid  
Joanne, Daughter of Ming & Chin Chew  
Ping, Old man Loong's Second Daughter  
Charles, the long-lost grandson  
Ming, Old man Loong's Eldest Daughter  
Chin Chew, Ming's Husband

## Creative And Design Teams

Director  
Composer/Music Director  
Playwright  
Music Arranger/Music Director  
Choreographer

Set  
Lighting  
Sound Engineering  
Digital Images  
Costumes  
Hair  
Make Up  
Print

### Musicians

On keyboards

On bass guitar, electric  
guitar, steel & nylon guitar  
& the guzheng  
On drums & percussion

Background Vocals

Casey Lim  
Mark Chan  
Ovidia Yu  
Joshua Wan  
Gani Abdul Karim

Salvador Bernal  
Chad McArver  
Sydney Tan  
Chan Man Loon  
Hayden Ng  
Ashley Lim  
Jacqueline Yu  
Ng Boon Chew

Joshua Wan  
Mei Sheum  
Kenn Chua

Tama Goh

Deborah Png

Production Manager  
Production Assistant  
Set Co-ordinator  
Technical Assistant  
Asst. to Set Designer  
Assistant to Lighting Designer

Jodie Koh  
Elvan Ong  
Dorothy Png  
Rosdi Subdi  
Annie Yim  
Dorothy Png  
Andy Lim

## Production Team

Stage Manager  
Asst. Stage Managers

Lighting Operator  
Sound Operator  
Follow-Spot Operators

Wardrobe Mistress  
Crew

Karen Loh\*  
Annie Yim  
Malcolm Thum  
Andy Lim  
Mohd. Sharil  
Richard Koh  
Amy Wee  
Eve Tan  
Valerie Oliveira  
Kevin Lee  
Keef Siew  
Tan Shou Chen  
Gary Tang  
Amy Wee  
Joyce Yoo

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Publicity Assistant  
Marketing Manager  
Marketing Assistants

Ticketing Assistant  
Program  
Front of House Manager

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Melvin Lim  
Traslin Ong  
Liew Pei Ling  
Kevin Ou  
Evonne Koh  
Lucilla Teoh  
Lynn Wong

## Publicity And Marketing Team

\* Karen Loh appears courtesy of Empire M&C Consultants.



Beauty World cha cha cha    The music  
Beauty World cha cha cha    The prices  
Beauty World cha cha cha    The finest cabaret  
Beauty World!

Fried Rice Paradise,  
Nasi Goreng very nice

Are you the one I've waited for?  
The one who will come to me some day  
Are you the one behind a secret door?

Musicals have a way of creating magic on stage and sending the audience into the night humming memorable songs long after the last sequin has been packed away. When 'Beauty World' burst on the scene in 1988, it seized the imagination of the general public garnering standing ovations on its opening night. With its memorable tunes and lovable characters, it set the stage for other musicals to follow like 'Bugis Street - The Musical', 'Sing to the Dawn', 'Kampong Amber', 'Chang and Eng' and 'Mr. Beng'.

Many of the characters in 'Beauty World' have since become icons for generations of musical lovers; the still single in Singapore Rosemary Joseph with her pen pals, the sweet Ivy Chan Poh Choo from Batu Pahat and the luscious number one cabaret girl Lula. These parts have become the roles that young actors cut their teeth on much like the red-haired moppets singing about the sun shining tomorrow and forlorn looking vagabonds lamenting about their dream castle in the cloud.

## With A Song In My Heart



Singaporeans' fascination with the musical form is evident from the strong support given to both local and foreign musicals. The musical is perhaps the antidote to life's realities. When TheatreWorks mounted its second musical 'Fried Rice Paradise', it sold out before it opened. Before long, audiences were singing about mahjong and the virtues of fried rice and nasi goreng.

This fascination with the musical form is universal as can be seen from the proliferation of musicals from the Showboats, Carousels, South Pacifics to the Phantoms, Cats, Les Miserables to the current Rents, Lion King and Chicago. In the past ten years in Singapore, theatre companies have been working and experimenting on creating a musical form that we can call our own with local stories and beautiful memorable songs. 'Mortal Sins' was one such attempt to examine more serious subjects like censorship and to break away from preconceived notions of a musical.

'Haunted' is the latest musical to arrive on the scene and it is another step in the development of the Singaporean musical. Featuring a story line based on ghosts and a feuding family, the concerns are very Singaporean. The songs range from the grand to the pop reflecting the characters singing the songs. Using a tight ensemble of 9, yes, that's right, there are no chorus girls, this musical is an attempt to craft an intimate musical with the larger than life concerns that we have come to associate with the form. And like all other musicals before and after it, the audience will leave the theatre with a song in their hearts.

**Lucilla Teoh**

## Beauty World

Beauty World first premiered in 1988 for the Singapore Festival of Arts. It was the first Singapore musical produced for the main stage.

Beauty World was the first musical to be created by Michael Chiang, Dick Lee, Ong Keng Sen and Najip Ali.

Beauty World was the first Singapore musical to tour. It was performed in Japan in 1992.

Beauty World was the first Singapore musical to be broadcast on television when it was selected for the President's Star Charity in 1998. It helped raise more than \$2 million dollars.

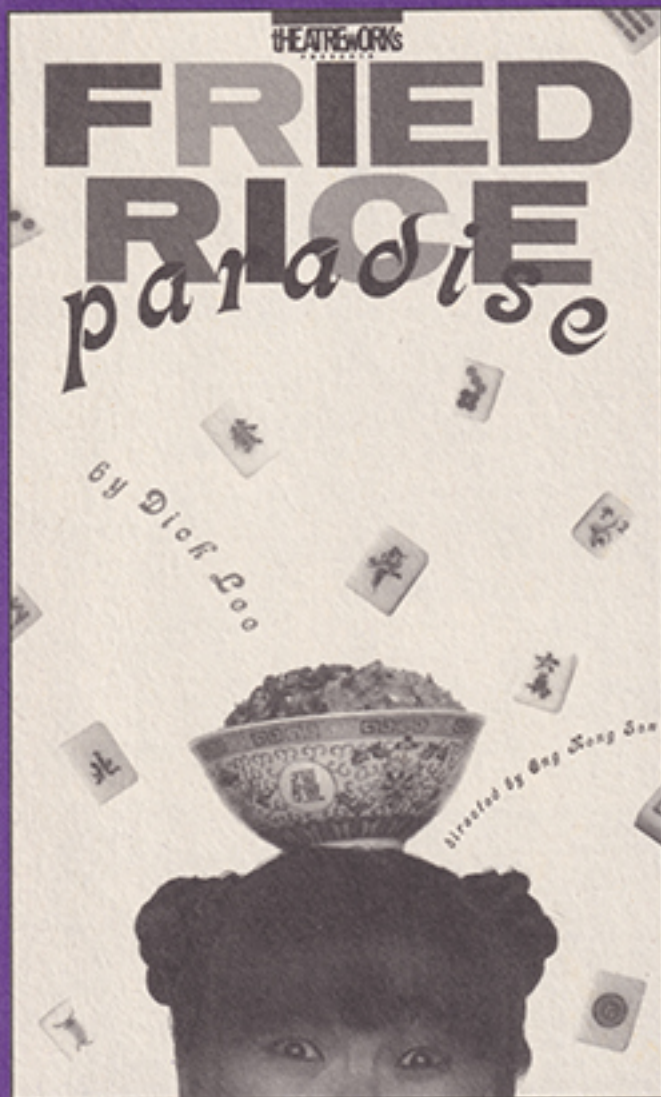
The Beauty World alumni includes Jacintha Abisheganaden, Claire Wong, Christina Ong, Lim Kay Siu, Tan Kheng Hua, Deborah Png, Ivan Heng, Lok Meng Chue, Margaret Chan, Eleanor Wong, Koh Chieng Mun, Gani Abdul Karim, Cindy Sim, Rosita Ng, Lim Yu-Beng, Emma Yong, Sharon Au, Hossan Leong, Darren Lim, Gurmit Singh, Evelyn Tan, Nora Samad, Jack Neo and Denise Tan.



# Beauty World



# Fried Rice Paradise



## Fried Rice Paradise

Fried Rice Paradise premiered in 1992.

Fried Rice Paradise was Dick Lee's first musical in which he wrote the music and the script. It was directed by Ong Keng Sen and choreographed by Najip Ali.

Fried Rice Paradise sold out all its shows before it opened.

Fried Rice Paradise alumni includes Jacintha Abisheganaden, Lydia Look, Rosita Ng, Lok Meng Chue, Neo Sweet Lin, Lim Kay Siu, Lin Yu-Beng, Koh Chieng Mun, Gerald Chew, Loong Seng Onn, Jeremiah Choy, Lee Weng Kee, Norleena Salim, Koh Boon Pin and John Lee.

# Mortal Sins



## Mortal Sins

Mortal Sins first premiered in 1995.

Mortal Sins was the second musical by the "Beauty World" team of Michael Chiang, Dick Lee, Ong Keng Sen and Najip Ali.

Mortal Sins was the first attempt to create a Singapore musical that looked at serious issues. It involved abstract stage design and choreography.

Mortal Sins alumni include Jacintha Abisheganaden, Wendy Kweh, Emma Yong, Richard Chia, Gani Abdul Karim, Norlinah Mohammad, Low Kee Hong, Jeremiah Choy and Pam Oei.



## Cast Biographies (In Alphabetical Order)

### JACINTHA ABISHEGANADEN as Lilian

As one of the founding members of TheatreWorks, Jacintha has always championed original Singaporean work beginning with the groundbreaking "Nurse Angamuthu's Romance", for which she won Best Actress in 1981. She has consistently worked with Michael Chiang, Dick Lee, Mark Chen and Ovidio Yu.

Jacintha has starred in "Beauty World," "Fried Rice Paradise" and "Mortal Sins". With "Haunted," she would have been in all four of TheatreWorks' landmark original musicals. Other TheatreWorks productions she has appeared in include: "Love and Belachan," "Long Green Socks," "Pit," "Mixed Signals," "Miami Fan," "Trip to the South," "3 Fat Virgins Unassembled," "The Lady of Soul and Her Ultimate 'S' Machine," and "Longing." She also performed the first reading of Yu's "The Woman in a Tree on the Hill."

Jacintha has also been in productions like "Hot Pants," "Nagaland," "Mind Your Gap" and her own "One Woman Show." She was chosen for the role of Grizabella with the Really Useful Group's Asian tour of "CATS." Jacintha has also worked as a TCS artiste from 1994-1997.

As a singer, she has guested for Terumasa Hino in Japan and has formed her own band "Divo." She has narrated "Peter and the Wolf" for the SSO and sang with the New York Philharmonic Orchestra under the baton of Zubin Mehta. Last year, she cut her first jazz album in Los Angeles entitled "Here's to Ben." She will be returning to L.A. to cut her second album in September under the label Groove Note.

### GANI ABDUL KARIM as Rafiq

Gani is a versatile artist trained in contemporary performance, as well as traditional Asian art forms. Ever since his stint in the SAF Music and Drama Company in 1992, he has been active with choreography work and his work include "Little Shop of Horrors", "Dance Space - Loos Joint" (conceived and produced by Najip Ali), "Ko-Ro-You-OK?", "Sing to the Dawn", "Want United People", "got to go...play till dawn" overnight theatre carnival and "Guys and Dolls" (co-choreographed with Richard Chio).

Gani played the role of the retainer in Japan Foundation Asia Center's highly acclaimed "Lear" directed by Ong Keng Sen, Artistic Director of TheatreWorks.

Gani is also the choreographer for "Haunted".

**LIM SIAUW CHONG** as Old Man Loong

A Founder Member of TheatreWorks and its first Artistic Director, Siau Chong originally studied film at the London Film School in the late 70's. To subsidise his school fees, he signed an actor's contract for 2000 performances with the London Palladium's production of "The King and I" featuring the late Yul Brynner.

On his return to Singapore, he worked for 6 years as a television producer and continued his interest in theatre mainly through directing plays in the mid-80's. The plays include the inaugural production of "Army Daze", "Not Afraid to Remember", "Picf", "The Elephant Man" and "Bumboot!" which was specially commissioned for the Singapore Arts Festival.

Siau Chong's talents came to the Singapore public's attention when he, together with his sister and Jacintha, formed the group Vintage which went on to win the top prize in Talentime in the early 80s.

Stage performances are rare for him now although he remains a dedicated theatre supporter. Currently, Siau Chong is a freelance film producer.

**PAM OEI** as Rachel

Pam Oei is an actress who has enjoyed success both on stage as well as in film. She was last seen in the local film "Forever Fever" and "Peggy Sue" which was a B.B.C. production.

Pam's stage credits include "Broken Birds - An Epic Longing", "Mortal Sins", "The Yang Family", "BALLS!", and "Ah Kong's Birthday Party". She has shown her vocal prowess as the lead vocalist of the folk rock band "Peculiar Remedies". She has also appeared in "Live on 5", "Acoustic Vibes 98", "Enviro - Youth Explosion", and the Jim Brickman Concert.



**DENISE TAN** as Joanne

Denise graduated with Honours from the University of Leeds with a degree in English Literature and Theatre Studies in 1997. While in UK, she performed in musicals including "Hair", "Little Shop of Horrors", "Cabaret", "Fiddler on The Roof", "Chess", "Guys and Dolls" & "Sweet Charity". Denise has created new work including "Unbecoming", a devised collaborative performance between 4 women of colour, and "Bo(a)rdline", a critically acclaimed one-woman-show which she conceptualised, wrote and performed in. Back in Singapore, Denise has appeared on television in "The Donny Lee Show", and "PCK Pte. Ltd."

Denise made her professional stage debut in TheatreWorks' "Beauty World" in 1998 as the cabaret singer. This was followed by "Ko-Ro-You-OK?", "Chang & Eng", "The Knot", "M. Butterfly" and "Nursesense".

**TAN KHENG HUA** as Ping

A familiar face on both tv and theatre, Kheng Hua is best remembered for her role as the eccentric Margaret Phua in the popular sitcom "PCK Pte. Ltd." Her other memorable TV appearances include "Triple Nine", "Happy Bally" and the first local English drama series, "Masters of the Sea".

Her involvement with TheatreWorks date back to the days of the 1988 and 1992 "Beauty World"; and also "Mad Forest", "Trojan Women", "Three Children", "Lao Jiu", "Broken Birds - An Epic Longing", and "Descendants of the Eunuch Admiral". She has also appeared in the musicals "Hot Pants" and "Guys and Dolls".

**SEBASTIAN TAN** as Charles

Better known by his Chinese name Chen Rui Biao, Sebastian won the TCS' Talent Search in 1996. He also sang the award winning song "The Price of Peace" during the Star Awards in 1997.

Since then, he has taken to the stage in various productions like "Sing to the Dawn", "December Rains", "Ko-Ro-You-OK?" and "Mr. Beng", which ended its successful run at this year's Festival of Arts. His debut with TheatreWorks was in "Pan Island Expressway".

**SELENA TAN** as Ming

"Haunted" sees Selena's debut with TheatreWorks. A seasoned actress as well as a professionally trained singer, Selena is best remembered for her role as Nok (the mother) in "Chang & Eng". Her other productions include the film "Rogue Trader" and plays like "BALLS!", "A Twist of Fate", "Ah Kong's Birthday Party" and "Nonsense".

She has had two solo comedy acts "Selena EXPOSED!" and "Broadway Baby Kailan" which have received good reviews. Currently, she is playing the role of Anita Chow, who is Paul Tan's love interest in the hit sitcom, "Under One Roof", and is frequently spotted as the quirky opera diva in a tv commercial.

**WEE TZE LIN** as Chin Chew

Wee Tze Lin recently graduated from LA SALLE-SIA College of the Arts with a QUT degree in drama. Before graduation, he has been active in the theatre scene in productions like "Ko-Ra-You-OK?", "Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf?", and "Char Siew Pau". The latter was a monologue which he wrote and performed for TheatreWorks' "got to go...play till dawn" overnight theatre carnival last year.







# *The Loong Family*



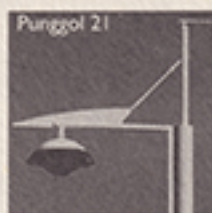
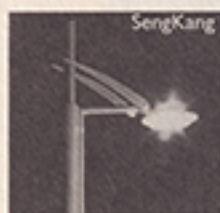
Top Row (left to right): Charles (Sebastian Tan), Chin Chew (Wee Tze Lin), Lillian (Jocinta Abisheganaden)  
Second Row (left to right): Joanne (Denise Tan), Ming (Selena Tan), Old man Loong (Lim Siow Chong), Ping (Tan Kheng Hua), Rachel (Pam Oei)  
Rafiq (Gani Abdul Karim)



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#### Salvador Bernal - SET

Salvador Bernal obtained his first degree at the Ateneo de Manila University in 1966 and his Master of Fine Arts in Theatre Arts: Scene Design at the Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, 1973. From 1970 - 1972 he was also a scenery assistant at the Drama Department. He was a theatre lighting designer and lighting instructor from 1972 - 1973.

He was a Fulbright scholar from 1970-1973. As a British Council Scholar in 1976 - 1977, Bernal observed theatre work in England with the Royal Shakespeare Company at Stratford-upon-Avon and the Royal Opera House at Covent Garden. Bernal started designing sets and costumes for Ballet Philippines as the resident set and costume designer from 1974 - 1992.

At present he is an Associate Professor in the Inter-disciplinary Studies Programme at the Ateneo de Manila University. He is also the president of the newly organised PATDAT (Philippine Association of Theatre Designers and Technicians) and OISTAT - Philippines, the local centre of the international organisation for stage designers, theatre architects and technicians.

#### Chad McArver - LIGHTING

Chad McArver is a New York based lighting and set designer. He received a BA from the University of North Carolina in 1985, and a M.F.A. from the Tisch School of the Arts (University of New York) in Scenic and Lighting Design in 1993.

McArver has worked with several American theatre companies; "The Crucible" (1994: La Guardia Performing Arts), "Jesus Christ Superstar" (1994: The Yale University Theatre), "A Christmas Carol" (1996: StageWest), and "Guys and Dolls" (1999: Fordham University). He has also worked on Broadway as an Associate Lighting Designer on "High Society" (1998: The St. James' Theatre) and Harold Prince's "Parade" (1998: The Vivian Beaumont Theatre).

McArver is a full time Assistant Professor of lighting and design in the Department of Theatre and Visual Arts at Fordham University.

## Design Team Biographies





#### **Joshua Wan - MUSIC ARRANGEMENT / MUSIC DIRECTION**

Joshua Wan has been a familiar name in the local music scene for the last 10 years. A graduate of the Berklee College of Music in 1989, he has been involved in the studio recording scene as producer/arranger for artistes such as Tracy Huang, Su Rai, Dick Lee, Jackie Cheung, Jacintha, Eric Moo, Sky Wu, Jeff Chang and of course Mark Chan.

Wan is currently finishing post-production work on an album from new-comer TCS actress Evelyn Tan, which features this year's National Day song "Together".

Apart from the hectic studio scene Wan is also active in the local jazz scene. A regular sessionist on piano and bass, he has just completed a 5 month stint with Chicago bass legend Eldee Young and local jazz giant Jeremy Monteiro. He has played extensively with local jazz luminaries Christy Smith, Greg Chako, Rick Smith, Stephen Rufus, Orie Barnett and Billy Martinez.

#### **Sydney Tan - SOUND ENGINEERING**

Sydney Tan is a medical doctor who loves music. Since 1984, he has worked on various musical productions and albums such as "Beauty World" (1988), "Hot Pants" (1998), "A Twist of Fate" (1998), and also two theme songs for "Snow Wolf Lake" (the 1998 Jackie Cheung musical starring Kit Chan). Tan is also a regular arranger for Dick Lee's albums.

#### **Hayden Ng - COSTUMES**

Hayden Ng is a self-taught award-winning designer who has become a popular costume designer in local theatre. A versatile designer, he began designing for the stage with costumes for TheatreWorks' "Beauty World" (1992, 1998). He went on to design for "The Lady of Soul and Her Ultimate 'S' Machine" (1993), "Longing" (1994), "Mixed Signals" (1997) and "The First Emperor's Last Days" (1998). He has also designed costumes for "Ah Kong's Birthday Party" (1998), "M. Butterfly" (1999) and "Fabric" (1999).

#### Ashley Lim - HAIR

Ashley Lim is a self-taught hairstylist with Botticelli Salon since 1986. He started his first theatre project in 1988 and has since been actively involved in the stage scene. He has worked with many of Singapore's well-known theatre companies including TheatreWorks, Action Theatre, Singapore Repertory Theatre and the Toy Factory. Lim has also made a name for himself for his work for TV, commercial hair design and bridal hair designs.

Lim's collaborations with TheatreWorks include: "Lao Jiu" (1993), "Mortal Sins" (1995), "Broken Birds - An Epic Longing" (1995), "Descendants of the Eunuch Admiral" (1995), and "Beauty World" (1988, 1998).

#### Chan Man Loon - DIGITAL IMAGE DESIGN

A freelance illustrator, Chan Man Loon's interests include comics, mural painting, prop/costume/set design and creating sculptures. Sets which he has designed for TheatreWorks' productions include: "3 Fat Virgins Unassembled" (1992), "Us in Singapore" (1993) and "The Lady of Soul and Her Ultimate 'S' Machine" (1993).

#### Ng Boon Chew - PRINT DESIGN

Ng Boon Chew graduated from the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts where he pursued studies in print, media and design.

Currently working in a local publishing firm, "Hunted" is Ng's first foray into theatre print design.





## THEATREWORKS (S) Ltd

*TheatreWorks is an independent Singaporean theatre company that develops and nurtures professional theatre skills.*

*It is dedicated to reaching a broad section of the community and to taking Singaporean theatre abroad.*

*The Company recognises its responsibility in encouraging awareness of human and social issues.*

*Ultimately, TheatreWorks is inspired by and dedicated to sharing the Magic of Theatre!*

TheatreWorks (S) Ltd, established 1985, is a non-profit company limited by guarantee with charity status. Since then, TheatreWorks has created and presented for Singaporeans over 140 productions which have become important landmarks in local theatre history and which have contributed to the corpus of local work. These include the musicals; *Beauty World*, *Fried Rice Paradise* and *Mortal Sins*, comedies; *Army Daze*, *Private Parts*, *Mixed Signals*, *3 Fat Virgins*, *Unassembled and Undercover*, dramas; *M. Butterfly*, *Mergers and Acquisitions*, *Six of the Best* and *Lao Jiu*, site-specific shows; *Longing*, *Destinies of Flowers in the Mirror* and *The Yang Family*, and theatre festivals like *Theatre Carnival on the Hill*, *Longing and got to go...play till dawn* (an overnight theatre carnival).

In the international arena, TheatreWorks has toured *Be My Suzhi Tonight* (Malaysia, 1985), *Madam Mao's Memories* (Edinburgh Fringe

Festival, 1992), *Beauty World* (Japan, 1992) and *Three Children* (Japan and Malaysia, 1992), *Descendants of the Eunuch Admiral* (Cairo International Festival, 1996, Sommer Theatre Festival in Hamburg, 1998, House of World Cultures in Berlin, 1998) and *Eat Me* (Journey to the East in Hong Kong, 1998, and 5th Performance Studies Conference in Wiesbaden 1999).


TheatreWorks' Artistic Director, Ong Keng Sen, directed the groundbreaking multicultural Japan Foundation Asia Centre production, *LEAR*, which premiered in Tokyo in 1997 and was presented in Singapore in 1999 on its Asian tour. *LEAR* has completed a successful European tour in June of the same year.

Apart from theatrical productions, the Company has set up programs to nurture and develop theatre practitioners: the Writers' Laboratory, the Directors' Laboratory, the Resident Artist scheme, the Associate Artist scheme, the Springboard Series and workshops by established international and local theatre professionals.

In 1996, TheatreWorks embarked on a 6 year international research and development project for traditional and contemporary artists entitled *The Flying Circus Project*, the brainchild of Artistic Director, Ong Keng Sen. The next phase of this project will be in the year 2000, involving artists from Hong Kong, China, Taiwan, Mongolia, Tibet, Philippines and Papua New Guinea.

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website: [www.theatreworks.org.sg](http://www.theatreworks.org.sg)





# On Mercury's Wings:

## Choose Your Reality

What if the realities of society overwhelm you? What if there is a place where reality is what you make of it, where you can dictate the rules and be whoever you want to be? Who would you be? What would you choose?

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Jad, a reserved kind of guy, tries to find the answers through his tentative interactions on the IRC. It all begins when Jad joins a new department headed by Henry who only seems interested in holding long and boring meetings and eyeing CC, the single sexy sinuous female in the department.

### Sound familiar?

A bit too daring and bold for Jad, CC is pursued by Johnny, the fourth member of the department. Johnny isn't just loud, he practically screams for attention, an antithesis to Jad's understated nature. Jad starts to feel the stress of Henry's exacting demands and discomforting undercurrents. Plus, Jad is confused about his feelings for CC. The confusion is compounded when CC herself seems to take an active interest in Jad.

### What would you do if you were in Jad's shoes?

To make matters worse, CC's closeness with Jad draws unwanted attention from Henry. A person who does not appreciate any competition, real or imagined, Henry strikes at Jad with more work and unrealistic demands. Dying for an avenue to release his stress, Jad turns more and more to the company's intra-IRC. The anonymity suits him to a 'T'. He feels comfortable just listening to others and expressing himself the way he really wants, when he wants.

### But can you really, truly be anyone you want to be in cyberspace?

The relief is short-lived when Jad finds that certain matters he chats about in IRC begin to leak into real life. Increasingly, suspicions are thrown Jad's way. While Jad tries to do damage control and find out why all this is happening, he is barraged with more pressure from everybody. Just when Jad feels his heart opening up to CC, a startling revelation shatters him completely.

### Have I got your attention and interest now?

Log on now to "On Mercury's Wings", surf's up at the Drama Centre, from 23 September to 3 October 1999.

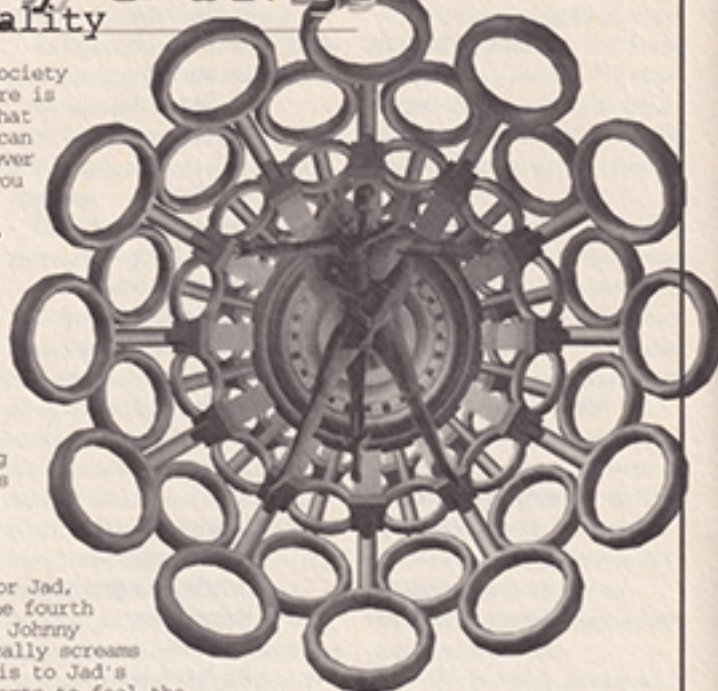
WRITTEN by Tan Mei Ching

DIRECTED by Casey Lin

23 September - 3 October 1999

Drama Centre

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### Hauntingly

*TheatreWorks would like to thank the following persons and organizations for their contribution and support for Haunted:*

**Mr. Steve Thio** and his assistant for styling the photoshoot

**The National Parks Board** for use of the gallery for the photo-shoot

**Mr. Wesley Loh** for doing the photoshoot

**Simon and Dorothy** of Sinomex Electronics Pte Ltd for the loan of keyboards

**Willy Beh** of Essans Rental for his assistance

**Mr. Ricky Chiang** of Singapore Woodcraft Manufacturing Company Pte Ltd for the partial loan of furniture

**Mr. James Foo** of Pioneer Marketing and Instrumentation Pte Ltd and **Mr. Robert Chew** and **Mr. Alvin Zechariah** of Berta Services (Sea) Pte Ltd for their generosity and kind assistance with stage mechanisms

**Mr. and Mrs. Tony Teo** of Tony Teo Import & Export Pte Ltd for their sponsorship of chinaware for display on the set

**Mr. Nicholas Chia** and **Ms. Chia Ai Leng** of Radioquip Communications for the loan of walkie-talkies

**Mr. Er Ker Jia** for assistance in painting the set.

**Mr. Allan Poon, Siow Hong, Selvan, Salim** and all other members of staff at Victoria Theatre for their tremendous assistance

Our spirited volunteers; **Adeline, Christian, Darren, Deborah, Evonne, Kim, Louisa, Mei Yin, Yang** and **Vanda** for their assistance with marketing and publicity

**Members of the press** for their support

And all others who have helped in one way or another but whose names we have had to leave out due to print deadlines.



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