

Esplanade Presents

DEDICATED  
TO YOU

# NATIONAL BROADWAY COMPANY

CONCEIVED, WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY  
ONG KENG SEN, Artistic Director, TheatreWorks

12 – 14 OCT 2012, FRI – SUN

ESPLANADE THEATRE



Photo: Yikrazey Lim

CELEBRATING LIFE

SERVICE SERVICE SERVICE SERVICE


  
esplanade  
theatres on the bay  
singapore

10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Anniversary Partner




Anniversary Patron

 KWAN IM THONG  
HOOD CHO TEMPLE

Arts Benefactor

  
PATEK PHILIPPE  
GENEVE





## 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

Mr Patrick Daniel

Mr Lee Tzu Yang

Mrs Clara Lim-Tan

Mrs Christine Ong

Mr Ramlee Bin Buang

Ms Saw Phaik Hwa

RADM(NS) Sim Gim Guan

Mr Andreas Sohmen-Pao

Mrs Mildred Tan



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## CEO'S MESSAGE

Dear Audience,

A decade ago, on 12 October 2002, after almost 10 years of planning and preparation from the company's formation through its construction, Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay opened, marking a new chapter for the arts and Singapore.

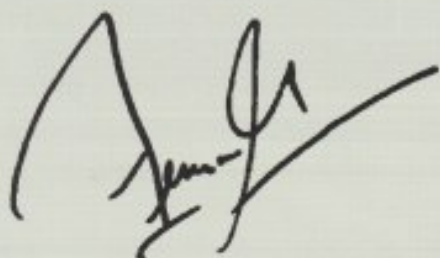
The centre strove from the start to be a performing arts centre for all. Through the years, we sought to serve the community through a diverse multi-genre and multicultural programme calendar that developed and grew with learning, a developing audience and time. Thus far, your responses to our programmes and the increasing audience attendance have been heartwarming. They have spurred us on through all challenges, reaffirming our vision – an arts centre for everyone.

This year, the centre turns 10. From 11 to 14 October 2012, Esplanade will celebrate with a long weekend of birthday celebrations, commemorating a decade of bringing the arts and the community together.

In keeping with the centre's vision, these programmes offer something for everyone, spanning genres and generations. Each celebrates Singapore's performing arts scene through collaborative or ensemble performances. Together, they pay tribute to a broad artistic community that has helped to shape the development of the arts in Singapore, as well as honour our community, our audience, whose warm engagement has been so vital in helping to keep our passion aflame.

These 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations are dedicated to you. Thank you for a wonderful decade of inspiration, growth and support. Everyone is invited!

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Benson Puah', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

**Benson Puah**  
Chief Executive Officer  
The Esplanade Co Ltd



## MESSAGE FROM NO SIGNBOARD SEAFOOD RESTAURANT

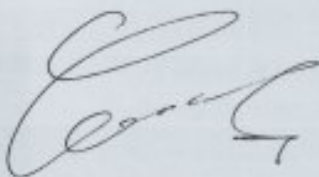
No Signboard Seafood Restaurant warmly welcomes you to Esplanade's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary weekend, *Dedicated to You.*

Over the past 30 years, No Signboard Seafood Restaurant has grown to become an established Singapore brand. In the past decade, Esplanade has also become a well-known Singapore brand and one of the world's busiest performing arts centres. I am, therefore, delighted to be able to contribute and play a part in celebrating Esplanade's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2012.

The arts scene in Singapore has developed tremendously over the last ten years and this has created a vibrancy in the appreciation of arts and culture. The arts are now more valued by society and this progress will make a difference to future generations. Our children will benefit greatly from how the arts can further shape their creative thinking and imagination.

I am heartened that Esplanade is dedicating the weekend's celebration to Singapore arts and artists. The myriad cultures and stories being presented celebrate our society's diversity. Over the four days, you will be treated to a series of commissioned performances cutting across the different genres of dance, music, theatre and visual arts. From a production that dramatises the development of musicals in Singapore to a concert that pays tribute to the composer of Singapore's National Anthem, these programmes paint a vibrant picture of how far the arts have come locally.

I invite you to enjoy a weekend of splendid programmes and to celebrate life through the arts!



**Mr Sam Lim**  
Managing Director  
No Signboard Seafood Restaurant

## MESSAGE FROM GENEVA MASTER TIME MARKETING LLP

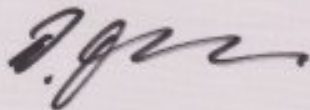
Welcome to *Dedicated to You*, a weekend of celebrations to commemorate the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay.

*Patek Philippe* and Esplanade have enjoyed a close association from the centre's very beginning. Through the partnership, we are proud to have played a role in bringing some of the best artists in the world to the Esplanade stage. From acclaimed singers, to renowned pianists, violin soloist and most recently, Mariinsky Ballet, audiences have been inspired by many of these artists.

In line with our belief in nurturing the arts for the next generation, we are pleased to partner Esplanade on this special occasion. Over these four days, we invite you to enjoy performances from some of Singapore's best artistic talents, across the different genres of the arts. By supporting the centre's celebration of local arts and artists during its anniversary weekend, we hope to plant the seeds for Singapore's next generation of artists and audiences.

We wish you a most enjoyable time.

Yours sincerely



**Mr Dirk Paulsen**  
Board Member  
Geneva Master Time Marketing LLP



## Celebrating Life - Service

10 years ago on 12 Oct 2002, Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay opened our doors to welcome the first patrons and visitors. It has been an extraordinary journey steeped in meaning and significance.

To commemorate this milestone, we have a year-long celebration in 2012 where we bring focus to how the arts celebrate life through highlighting key values in our festivals.

For the anniversary weekend from 11–14 Oct 2012, we sought to do something that would inspire us for the future. So at a time when there is renewed interest in who we are and where we came from, and a confidence in what we should be, our birthday is a timely occasion to celebrate the arts and artists in Singapore.

From paying tribute to those that have built our arts scene, to inviting artists to share their moving journeys, this special weekend consists entirely of new productions that have been commissioned just for you.

So this weekend is *Dedicated to You* — the people who have dedicated their lives to the arts in Singapore and the audiences with whom we have journeyed over these 10 years.

### **SERVICE** Act of assisting another

*The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.* – Mahatma Gandhi

All works of art are acts of service. In creating their art, artists hope to provoke thought and thoughtfulness, sparking debate and spurring us towards a better world.

# NATIONAL BROADWAY COMPANY

CONCEIVED, WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY

**ONG KENG SEN**, Artistic Director, TheatreWorks

**Music Director/Conductor** ..... Iskandar Ismail

**Choreographer** ..... Zaini Mohd Tahir

Composers ..... Dick Lee  
Ken Low  
Mark Chan

Scenic Designer ..... Myung Hee Cho  
Lighting Designer ..... Scott Zielinski  
Costume Designer ..... Kaye Voyce

Associate Director ..... Lok Meng Chue

Sound Designer ..... Shah Tahir  
Hair/Wig Designer ..... Ashley Lim  
Make-up Designer ..... The Make Up Room

Choral Mistress ..... Babes Conde

Executive Producer ..... Tay Tong



***It is sometime in the near future of Singapore. The National Broadway Company (NBC) has been established and the search for the Artistic Director is on. Amongst those vying for the position is the who's who of Singapore's theatre industry. From hairdresser to entertainment icon to deputy public prosecutor to politician, the story of the pioneering musical theatre in Singapore unfolds as they sing their hearts to the top.***

Based on specially conducted interviews with Dick Lee, Pamela Oei, Michael Chiang, Jacintha Abisheganaden, Ivan Heng, Koh Chieng Mun, Najip Ali, Eleanor Wong and Hossan Leong, this production features characters inspired by these artists' personal stories and recollections, performed by a cast of both young emerging talents as well as established artists. With celebrated songs from Singapore's favourite musicals composed by Dick Lee, Ken Low and Mark Chan, such as *Beauty World*, *Fried Rice Paradise*, *Chang and Eng*, *Haunted*, *Mortal Sins*, and *Forbidden City*, laughter and tears are never far away. Personal tragedy, individual strife, comic turns and artistic triumph are the stuff of dreams. *National Broadway Company* reflects on the search for identity that was prevalent in the first musicals and gives us a glimpse into the future.

(Approx. 2hrs 50mins, including 20min intermission)

*National Broadway Company* is commissioned by Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay as part of *Dedicated to You*, Esplanade's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary weekend celebrations.

**This evening's performance is based on interviews with the following who were involved in TheatreWorks' productions of *Beauty World* 1988 that premiered at the *Singapore Festival of Arts* and its subsequent restaging in 1992 and 1998 including its tour to four cities in Japan in 1992 and the 1998 President Star Charity. We would like to thank them specially for their time and for sharing their stories.**

- |                       |                          |                     |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| • Alec Tok            | • Eleanor Wong           | • Najip Ali         |
| • Ashley Lim          | • Gani Abdul Karim       | • Noorlinah Mohamed |
| • Cara Chan           | • Hossan Leong           | • Ong Keng Sen      |
| • Christina Ong       | • Ivan Heng              | • Pamela Oei        |
| • Crystal Tay         | • Jacintha Abisheganaden | • Robin Goh         |
| • Dick Lee            | • Koh Chieng Mun         | • Tan Kheng Hua     |
| • Ekachai Uekrongtham | • Michael Chiang         |                     |

The *National Broadway Company* is fictitious and the auditions for the Artistic Director did not take place. The individuals who inspired the characters in this performance did not attend any auditions for the position of Artistic Director of the National Broadway Company.



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# Your Choice:

Artistic Director

National Broadway Company

— cast your vote for your favourite candidate!

To vote, SMS

**NBC<space><candidate code> to 73333**

Closing date: 14 Oct 2012, 6.30pm

*(Only one vote per phone number. Normal network operator charges apply)*

Results will be announced during the 8pm performance on **Sunday, 14 Oct 2012** and posted online the next day.

Visit

[www.celebratinglife.com.sg](http://www.celebratinglife.com.sg)

[www.esplanade.com/NBC](http://www.esplanade.com/NBC)

[www.facebook.com/dedicatedtoyou.sg](http://www.facebook.com/dedicatedtoyou.sg)

to find out.

## Candidates (in order of appearance)

|                        |    |                        |                 |
|------------------------|----|------------------------|-----------------|
| Denise Tan             | as | Pamela Oei             | (Code: PAM)     |
| Leena Salim            | as | Gani Abdul Karim       | (Code: GANI)    |
| Dwayne Tan             | as | Robin Goh              | (Code: ROB)     |
| Benjamin Kheng         | as | Dick Lee               | (Code: DICK)    |
| Gani Abdul Karim       | as | Lulu                   | (Code: LULU)    |
| Tabitha Nauser         | as | Jacintha Abisheganaden | (Code: JA)      |
| Jacintha Abisheganaden | as | Jacintha Abisheganaden | (Code: JA)      |
| John Lee               | as | Michael Chiang         | (Code: MICHAEL) |
| Karen Tan              | as | Koh Chieng Mun         | (Code: KCM)     |
| Glory Ngim             | as | Eleanor Wong           | (Code: EL)      |
| Amanda Tee             | as | Noorlinah Mohd         | (Code: NOOR)    |
| Chua Enlai             | as | Ong Keng Sen           | (Code: KS)      |
| Jonathan Lum           | as | Ivan Heng              | (Code: IVAN)    |
| Rayve Tay              | as | Hossan Leong           | (Code: HOSSAN)  |
| Lim Yu-Beng            | as | Alec Tok               | (Code: ALEC)    |
| Erwin Shah Ismail      | as | Najip Ali              | (Code: NAJIP)   |
| Aw Yeong Peng Mun      | as | Ashley Lim             | (Code: ASH)     |
| Julia Abueva           | as | Emma Yong              | (Code: EMMA)    |

## THE HOST

Dick Lee

## NBC DANCERS

Chang Yao Chung  
Elle-May Patterson  
Farah Dawood  
Francesca Harriman  
Gino Babagay  
Hafeez Hassan  
Jackie Ong  
Jennifer Pau  
Lei Hoi  
Liz Fong  
Lu Wit Chin  
Marie Shirl  
Natalyn Goh (Dance Captain)  
Samantha Kan  
Tay Wei Liang  
Trev Neo  
Zhang Minggao

## MUSICIANS

Brandon Wong  
Daniel Chai  
Han Oh  
Jacob Dalager  
Joel Nah  
Jonathan Lim  
Kenneth Lun  
Leo Jeoh  
Meah Tze Chuan  
Natasha Liu  
Ramu Thiruyanam  
Soh Wen Ming  
Syawaludin Kassim  
Tan Kian Wee  
Vuk Krakovic

## MUSIC ARRANGERS

August Lum  
Bang Wen Fu  
Ernest Thio  
Iskandar Ismail  
Joel Nah  
Julian Wong  
Syawaludin Kassim

## MUSIC COPYISTS

Ernest Thio  
Joel Nah  
Su Wen Li  
Syawaludin Kassim

## SESSION SINGERS

Juwanda Hassim  
Gerald Tan  
Hazrul Nizam  
Lim Huimin  
Quek Li Huan  
Simone Khoo  
Yap Shili

## PRODUCTION TEAM

### Executive Producer:

Tay Tong

### Production Manager:

Grace Low

### Assistant Music Director & Répétiteur:

Joel Nah

### Stage Manager:

Valerie Oliveira

### Technical Manager:

Joe Holbrook

### Voice Coach:

Wendy Tan

### Video Producer:

Fran Borgia

### Projection Design:

Hana Kim

### Assistant to Executive Producer:

Mervyn Quek

### Assistant Stage Managers:

Jasmine Ng, Phua Yun Yun,  
Stanley Ng, Suan Yip Ling

### Assistant Stage Managers (Bauprobe):

Cody Chen, Sarah Sim, Victoria Lim

### Assistant Lighting Designer:

Gabriel Chan

### Assistant to Set Designer:

Chan Silei

### Assistant to Sound Designer:

Sandra Tay

### Staging:

Danny Hones

### Wardrobe Mistress:

Yvette Ng

### Production Assistant:

Tan Xiang Yi

### Assistants to Hair/Wig Designer:

Jane Neo, Michelle Wai

### Wardrobe Assistants:

Cheryl Ho, Sophia Foo

### Rehearsal Crew:

Norashid B Zulbahary, Muhd Hidayat



## A MEDLEY OF SINGAPORE MUSICALS

### FEATURED IN NATIONAL BROADWAY COMPANY



#### Beauty World

Set in the swinging sixties in Singapore, *Beauty World* tells the story of country bumpkin Ivy Chan Poh Choo who travels to the city in search of her long-lost father. Along the way, she finds herself entangled with a vengeful cabaret singer, a kooky pen friend, and learns lessons on life, love, and loss.

1988

#### Fried Rice Paradise

One of our nation's favourite dishes stars in this seasoned musical about famous fried rice stall owner Choo Bee Lian, who has to mediate between her two warring daughters.



1991

1995



#### Mortal Sins

*Mortal Sins* fuses together a hedonistic set of scenarios where fantasy and censorship collide. Censor Chief Jackie Atria meets 1960s' stripper Rosie in an otherworldly nightclub and unexpectedly, forms a bond.

#### Chang and Eng – The Musical

This much-loved musical tells the tale of the Siamese twin brothers, Chang and Eng. Their dramatic life unfolds over continents as they find themselves exhibited as circus freaks in America, and then after their escape, their happy marriage to a pair of sisters. Tragedy befalls them after Chang becomes paralysed with illness.

1997



#### Haunted

Skeletons-in-closets shroud the haunted Loong mansion, which is occupied by the ghost of a spurned lover, Lilian. About love, family and betrayal, *Haunted* is centred on themes of truth and illusion.

1999

#### Forbidden City: Portrait of an Empress

A story about one of the greatest women in Chinese history, Empress Cixi, seen through the eyes of American painter Kate Carl, who was commissioned to draw her portrait. About love, power, betrayal, ambition and loss, it charts the rise and fall of power within the royal family.

2002





## SONGS PERFORMED IN NATIONAL BROADWAY COMPANY (in order of appearance)

### **One Two Three Four**

from **Haunted**

Composer: Mark Chan

Lyricist: Mark Chan

Original Arranger: Joshua Wan

### **Nothing Gets In My Way**

from **Beauty World**

Composer: Dick Lee

Lyricist: Dick Lee

Original Arranger: Sydney Tan

### **There Will Be A New You**

from **Beauty World**

Composer: Dick Lee

Lyricist: Dick Lee

Original Arranger: Sydney Tan

### **Time Reprise** from **Mortal Sins**

Composer: Dick Lee

Lyricist: Dick Lee

Original Arranger: Iskandar Ismail

### **Beauty World Cha Cha Cha**

from **Beauty World**

Composer: Dick Lee

Lyricist: Dick Lee

Original Arranger: Sydney Tan

### **I Don't Care** from **Mortal Sins**

Composer: Dick Lee

Lyricist: Dick Lee

Original Arranger: Iskandar Ismail

### **From Now On**

from **Chang and Eng –**

**The Musical**

Composer: Ken Low

Lyricist: Ken Low

Original Arranger: Ken Low

Song is taken from *Chang and Eng – The Musical*, conceptualised, produced and directed by Ekachai Uekrongtham with music and lyrics by Ken Low and book by Ming Wong. Performed with permission from & special arrangement with ACTION Theatre.

### **Waiting Reprise** from **Mortal Sins**

Composer: Dick Lee

Lyricist: Dick Lee

Original Arranger: Iskandar Ismail

### **NEW COMPOSITION:**

**The National  
Broadway Company**

Composer: Dick Lee

Lyricist: Dick Lee

Original Arranger: Iskandar Ismail

### **Memory** from **Cats**

Composer: Andrew Lloyd Webber

Lyricist: Trevor Nunn

Original Arranger: David Cullen

### **It Wasn't Meant To Be**

from **Beauty World**

Composer: Dick Lee

Lyricist: Dick Lee

Original Arranger: Sydney Tan

### **Fried Rice Paradise**

Composer: Dick Lee

Lyricist: Dick Lee

### **Dreams** from **Mortal Sins**

Composer: Dick Lee

Lyricist: Dick Lee

Original Arranger: Iskandar Ismail

### **Only If I Could**

from **Fried Rice Paradise**

Composer: Dick Lee

Lyricist: Dick Lee

Original Arranger: Babes Conde

### **No Class** from **Beauty World**

Composer: Dick Lee

Lyricist: Dick Lee

Original Arranger: Sydney Tan

### **Single in Singapore**

from **Beauty World**

Composer: Dick Lee

Lyricist: Dick Lee

Original Arranger: Sydney Tan





**Not A Hero Anymore**

from **Beauty World**

Composer: Dick Lee

Lyricist: Dick Lee

Original Arranger: Sydney Tan

**Time** from **Mortal Sins**

Composer: Dick Lee

Lyricist: Dick Lee

Original Arranger: Iskandar Ismail

**Truth Will Conquer All**

from **Beauty World**

Composer: Dick Lee

Lyricist: Dick Lee

Original Arranger: Sydney Tan

**Wishes** from **Mortal Sins**

Composer: Dick Lee

Lyricist: Dick Lee

Original Arranger: Iskandar Ismail

**My Only Chance**

from **Forbidden City**

Composer: Dick Lee

Lyricist: Stephen Clark

Original Arranger: Bang Wenfu

**Friends** from **Mortal Sins**

Composer: Dick Lee

Lyricist: Dick Lee

Original Arranger: Iskandar Ismail

**Welcome to Beauty World**

from **Beauty World**

Composer: Dick Lee

Lyricist: Dick Lee

Original Arranger: Sydney Tan

**Translation of opera excerpt  
performed by Aw Yeong Peng Mun**

**Pear Flowers Fall**

from the opera

**Tale of Burning Incense**

*Pear flowers fall*

*Apricot flowers blossom*

*I miss you night after night*

*Till the morning mist covers the moss*

*At night*

*I wander outside your study*

*Fearful of the emptiness*

*Afraid to open the door*

*To see the clothes you left behind*

*Reminding me of your presence*

*But where are you now?*

*I wait, day after day*

*Still no news from you*

*Not a single letter arrives*

*I recall the beginning of April*

*The exam results should be published*

*I pray at the Sea God's temple again*

*I beseech the Sea God*

*"Please bless my husband*

*May he be renowned throughout the land*

*Bless his career with resounding success*

*Oh Sea God*

*My love is deep as the ocean*

*My love is wide as the sea*

*Make my wish come true"*

*The messenger arrives*

*To announce the arrival of my husband*

*Winner of the Imperial Examinations*





# A STAGE IN TIME

by Tara Tan

4 June 1988. Singapore.

The curtains rose on Singapore's first homegrown musical, *Beauty World*.

Written by Michael Chiang, composed by Dick Lee, and directed by Ong Keng Sen, *Beauty World* tells the story of Ivy Chan Poh Choo, a small-town girl who finds herself in the big city. Staged by TheatreWorks at the World Trade Centre Auditorium, the musical broke new ground and was a watershed event in the history of Singapore theatre.

It ran for 11 shows in the *Singapore Festival of Arts*, and performed to an audience of 9,800 who came to hear their story sung, danced, and played out on stage. Did those in the theatre – cast, crew, and audience – know they were making history by being there? Did they sense this milestone being etched in time?

Over two decades later, as part of Esplanade's 10<sup>th</sup> year anniversary celebrations, we re-look at the Singapore musical with *National Broadway Company (NBC)*.

Call it a retrospective. Call it a documentary. Call it a sentimental walk down memory lane. *NBC* could mean so many things to so many people. It is, in essence, a living and breathing archive. A story about the blood, sweat, and tears from the people who built Singapore's arts scene, you could say, from scratch. An oral history told from those who worked in the "Golden Years" of Singapore theatre. Sewing together interviews, transcripts, and songs, *NBC* weaves together the fabric of human connections, artistry, and sheer dedication that defines the Singapore arts industry.

From *Chang and Eng – The Musical* (1997), the hugely popular tale of the Siamese twins, to *Mortal Sins* (1995), the multimedia metaphor about dreams and censorship, *NBC* time-travels through a spectrum of Singapore musicals. In that decade, over 15 Singapore musicals were brought to life from pen to stage. It was a hugely prolific period in Singapore theatre history, one that was largely fuelled by passion, despite being short on resources.

In the late 1990s, the productions from arts companies like TheatreWorks, Singapore Repertory Theatre, and The Theatre Practice grew to such a scale and level that they were able to travel. Shows such as *Chang and Eng*, for instance, toured to China, Hong Kong, and Thailand, as did *Beauty World* and *Nagaland* to Japan in 1992.

Our blockbuster musicals rose in prominence in the region, with pop stars such as Kit Chan, and William So headlining shows such as *Forbidden City* (2002), and *Shanghai Blues* (2008). Many might fondly remember West End star Laura Michelle Kelly, best known for her role as Mary Poppins in London, who starred in Singapore Repertory Theatre's *A Twist of Fate*.

Above all, the Singapore musicals told our stories. From the effervescent, Hokkien-sprouting *Mr Beng* (1999) to the poignant Mandarin musical *December Rains* (1996), the Singapore stage turned the spotlight onto local histories, language, and culture.

*NBC* is not the Great Singapore Musical, stresses director Ong Keng Sen. Rather, it is a celebration of the musicals that made Singapore theatre great.

You would hear about gruelling rehearsals that ran late into the night, aspiring actors who would volunteer to be backstage crew, and hair designers who ran their salon in the day, and the dressing room at night. You would hear about dreams and disappointments. Big breaks, and big falls.

*NBC* seeks to breathe new life into the ghosts of songs past, to resurrect memories in this definitive theatre hall. Rather than being a mere re-enactment of musical hits, it seeks to re-invent the musical form with a context relevant to Singaporean identity. It is at once a reflection on our past, and a forecast of our future.

You would probably recognise some familiar faces onstage. Some characters may even remind you of yourselves. Their stories may sound familiar, because they echo your own. It is perhaps poignant to note that Singapore's first musical was about a young woman struggling to find herself. *NBC*, which harks back to the making of that first musical, is, similarly, about a young arts scene finding its own voice. A young nation defining its foothold in the world.

See how far we've come.





# SOME MILESTONES OF SINGAPORE MUSICALS

## **Beauty World** (1988)

by TheatreWorks  
Book: Michael Chiang  
Music & lyrics: Dick Lee

## **MAKANPLACE**

### **a Singapore Musical** (1988)

by ACT 3  
Book: R Chandran  
Music: Saedah Samat-Alkaff  
Lyrics: Jasmin Samat Simon

## **Fried Rice Paradise** (1991)

by TheatreWorks  
Book: Dick Lee  
Music & lyrics: Dick Lee

## **Nagraland** (1992)

by Music & Movement  
Book: Dick Lee  
Music & lyrics: Dick Lee

## **Bugis Street** (1994)

by Pacific Theatricals  
Book: Koh Buck Song & Tan Hwee Hua  
Music: Raymond & Edmund Ooi  
Lyrics: Tan Hwee Hua & Mock Pak Lum

## **Kampung Amber** (1994)

by Music & Movement  
Book: Catherine Lim  
Music & lyrics: Dick Lee

## **Big Bang!** (1995)

by Pacific Theatricals  
Book: Stephen Yan  
Music: Ken Lyen & Desmond Moey  
Lyrics: Desmond Moey

## **Mortal Sins** (1995)

by TheatreWorks  
Book: Michael Chiang  
Music & lyrics: Dick Lee

## **Corporate Animals** (1995)

by Action Theatre  
Book: Desmond Sim  
Music & lyrics: Ken Low

## **December Rains** 《雨季》 (1996)

by Brink Creative Company  
Book & lyrics: Liang Wern Fook  
Music: Jimmy Ye & Liang Wern Fook

## **Sing to the Dawn** (1996)

by Singapore Repertory Theatre  
Book: Ho Minfong & Stephen Clark  
Music: Dick Lee  
Lyrics: Stephen Clark

## **Hot Pants** (1997)

by Music & Movement  
Book: Dick Lee  
Music & lyrics by Dick Lee

## **Chang and Eng – The Musical** (1997)

by Action Theatre  
Book: Ming Wong  
Music & lyrics: Ken Low

## **A Twist of Fate** (1997)

by Singapore Repertory Theatre  
Book: Stephen Dexter & Tony Petito  
Music: Dick Lee  
Lyrics: Anthony Drewe

## **24 Hours – A Musical** (1999)

by The Necessary Stage  
Book: Haresh Sharma  
Music: Babes Conde and  
SAF Music & Dance Company  
Lyrics: Haresh Sharma

## **Mr Beng** (1999)

by DramaBox  
Book: Otto Fong  
Music: Iskandar Ismail  
Lyrics: Lim Poh Poh & Kok Heng Leun

## **Haunted** (1999)

by TheatreWorks  
Book: Ovidia Yu  
Music & lyrics: Mark Chan

## **Women on Canvas** (2000)

by Action Theatre  
Book & lyrics: Jonathan Lim  
Music: Bang Wenfu

## **Re-Mix** (2002)

by Singapore Repertory Theatre  
Book: Dick Lee, Cheek & Paul Tan  
Music & lyrics: Dick Lee

## **Forbidden City:**

**Portrait of an Empress** (2002)  
by Singapore Repertory Theatre  
Book: Stephen Clark & Dick Lee  
Music: Dick Lee  
Lyrics: Stephen Clark

## **Admiral Odyssey** (2005)

by Action Theatre  
Book: Jean Tay  
Music: Ken Low  
Lyrics: Ken Low & Jean Tay

## **Lao Jiu: The Musical** (2005)

by The Theatre Practice  
Original Play: Kuo Pao Kun  
Music: Jonathan Price  
Lyrics: Xiao Han, Wu Xi & Yang Qian

## **The Snow Queen** (2005)

by Singapore Repertory Theatre  
Book & lyrics: Tracie Pang  
Music: Darren Ng Tzer-Huei

## **Shanghai Blues** (2008)

by Toy Factory Productions  
Book: Raymond To Kwok-Wai  
Music: Philip Tan

## **If There're Seasons** (2009)

by The Theatre Practice  
Book: Raymond To  
Music/lyrics: Liang Wern Fook

## **Sleepless Town** (2009)

by Toy Factory Productions  
Book & lyrics: Benjamin Lee (Mr Miyagi)  
& Mark Richmond  
Music: Don Richmond & Jason Tan

## **Sing Dollar! The Musical Comedy about Money** (2009)

by The Dream Academy Productions  
Book & lyrics: Selena Tan  
Music: Elaine Chan

## **Liao Zhai Rocks** (2010)

by The Theatre Practice  
Book: Wu Xi  
Music: Eric Ng  
Lyrics: Xiao Han

## **881 – The Musical** (2011)

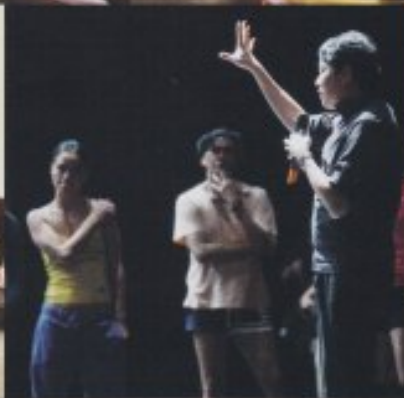
by Toy Factory Productions  
Adapted from film by Royston Tan  
Music: Benny Wong  
Lyrics: Goh Boon Teck

This list is correct as far as we are able to ascertain from our sources. It is not intended to be an exhaustive or complete list of Singapore musicals but a general timeline on the subject.



NATIONAL BROADWAY COMPANY

# BEHIND THE SCENES







Photos: Yuen Chee Wai

NATIONAL BROADWAY COMPANY

# BEHIND THE SCENES







Photos: Yuen Chee Wai



### **Ong Keng Sen** Director/Playwright

Ong Keng Sen, artistic director of TheatreWorks (Singapore), is a well-known performance director and has actively contributed to the evolution of an Asian aesthetic as well as its subsequent transglobalisation in contemporary arts. He studied intercultural performance with the Performance Studies Department at Tisch School of the Arts, New York University, and holds a law degree. Presently he serves on the Awards Committee of the Prince Claus Fund for Culture and Development in Amsterdam. An important part of his work is in research with emerging artists, the latest being the mentorship programme for the *Spielart Festival Munich* and his upcoming curation of Sri Lankan contemporary dance makers in Colombo. He also takes part actively in lecture and conversation programmes, as well as teaching in various universities which include Das Arts Amsterdam (2004), UCLA (2007), the University of Amsterdam MA International Performance Research Programme (2011 and 2012) as well as currently being Adjunct Associate Professor with the National of University of Singapore.

After 15 years of international productions encompassing music theatre and opera, Keng Sen returns to the Singapore musical, a form that he pioneered in 1988.

A Fulbright Scholar, Keng Sen is also the first and only Singapore artist to have received both the Young Artist Award (1992) and the Cultural Medallion Award (2003) for Singapore. He was awarded the prestigious Fukuoka Asian Arts and Culture Prize 2010 for his work in Asian contemporary performance.



### **Iskandar Ismail** Music Director/Conductor

Iskandar Ismail is well-known for his musical compositions and arrangements for National Day Parades. With an illustrious record of music masterpieces, this accomplished and much sought-after composer, producer, music arranger, music director, conductor and orchestrator has to-date worked with many local and foreign artistes, including Dick Lee, Jacintha Abishegenaden, Kit Chan, Tanya Chua, JJ Lin, Aaron Kwok, Sandy Lam, A Mei, Lea Salonga and Sarah Brightman.

Iskandar's theatre credits include creating orchestral arrangements for a number of Singapore musicals such as *Mortal Sins*, *Kampung Amber*, *Hot Pants*, *Sing to the Dawn*, *Chang and Eng* and *A Twist of Fate*.

He has also arranged and orchestrated for the much acclaimed Dick Lee/Jacky Cheung musical *Snow, Wolf, Lake* (1997) in Hong Kong. Iskandar has conducted and worked with numerous orchestras including Singapore Symphony Orchestra, Singapore Chinese Orchestra, Malaysia's Istana Budaya Orchestra, Bangkok Symphony Orchestra, China National Opera and Ballet Symphony Orchestra, Guangdong Symphony Orchestra, Xiamen Symphony Orchestra, Bratislava Symphony Orchestra and Opus Posth Ensemble (Moscow). His recent composition project for Marina Bay Sands Outdoor Laser and Light Show entitled *Wonderfull* is being shown nightly at the venue itself. (It was awarded Best Tourist Attraction for South East Asia 2012).

Iskandar graduated from Berklee College of Music (Boston, USA). He was awarded the London College of Music Fellowship (TVU, UK) and is a Cultural Medallion Recipient 2008 (Singapore).





### Zaini Mohd Tahir Choreographer

Zaini Mohd Tahir started dancing at the late age of 19 when he joined the SAF Music and Drama Company. Since then, he has performed in many productions including TheatreWorks' original *Beauty World* and *Private Parts* and Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical, *CATS*, with the Really Useful Company, which toured Australia, Singapore, Hong Kong and Seoul.

As Founder and Artistic Director of NUS Dance Ensemble since 1992, he has led the company of over 120 dancers to acclaim, evident in their annual concerts *Next Wave* and *Evocation*, and at performances for ASEAN University Cultural Forum (Jogjakarta, 2005 and Phnom Penh, 2007), *New Prague Dance Festival* (2009), *Hong Kong Teens Dance Festival* (2011) and *ObservAsian* (Manila, 2012). His other choreographic works include *Aladdin* (Wild Rice, 2004), *CABARET* (Toy Factory, 2006), *Singapore Day* in New York (2007), *Sleepless Town* (Toy Factory, 2009) and *MIDEM Music Festival* (2012). Currently the Associate Artistic Director of The Republic Cultural Centre at Republic Polytechnic, Zaini is thrilled to be back with TheatreWorks after many years.



### Myung Hee Cho Scenic Designer

Myung Hee Cho is a set and costume designer for theatre, opera, dance and other entertainment productions. She is pleased to be back in Singapore. She has collaborated with director Ong Keng Sen on *Mortal Sins*, *Awaking* and *Fear of Writing* for TheatreWorks; *The Good Person of Szechuan* at the Landestheater, Linz, Austria; *A Language of Their Own* by Chay Yew at the NYSF/The Public Theater. She has also designed *RED* at the Singapore Repertory directed by Chay Yew. Myung Hee has recently designed set and costume for *I Am An Emotional Creature* by Eve Ensler at the Berkeley Repertory, Linney Theatre and The Market Theatre, Johannesburg directed by Jo Bonney; *The Magic Flute* at the Canadian Opera Company directed by Diane Paulus. Other design credits include: *Yellow Face* by David Henry Hwang at the Mark Taper Forum and NYSF/The Public Theater; *The Golden Mickeys* for Disneyland, Hong Kong; *Le nozze di Figaro* at the Chicago Opera Theater and many more. Myung Hee Cho is a Professor of Stage Design at UCLA, School of Theater, Film and Television.

## CREATIVE TEAM



### **Scott Zielinski** Lighting Designer

Scott Zielinski lives in New York and has designed lighting for theatre, dance, and opera throughout the world. In New York, he designed productions for Broadway, Lincoln Center, and The Public Theater, amongst many others. His designs have also been seen extensively at theatres throughout many other cities in the United States. Work outside the U.S. includes productions for *Adelaide Festival* (Adelaide), *De Nederlandse Opera* (Amsterdam), *Festival d'Avignon* (Avignon), *In-Transit* (Berlin), *Bregenzer Festspiele* (Bregenz, Austria), *Edinburgh Festival* (Edinburgh), Fukuoka Art Museum (Fukuoka, Japan), *Goteborg Festival* (Goteborg, Sweden), *Sommertheater Festival* (Hamburg), *New Vision Arts Festival* (Hong Kong), iDance (Istanbul), Landestheater (Linz), English National Opera, ICA, Lyric Theatre Hammersmith, Royal Court, Royal National Theatre, Royal Opera House (London), Biennale de la Danse (Lyon), Arts Centre (Melbourne), Centre Dramatique National (Orleans), Dansens Hus, National Theater (Oslo), *Canada Dance Festival* (Ottawa), Centre National de la Danse, Theatre Gennevilliers (Paris), National Theater of Iceland (Reykjavik), Rotterdamse Schouwburg (Rotterdam), Opera de Rouen Haute Normandie (Rouen, France), Theater St. Gallen (St. Gallen, Switzerland), *Singapore Arts Festival*, TheatreWorks (Singapore), Dansens Hus (Stockholm), Stuttgart Ballet (Stuttgart), *Luminato Festival*, National Ballet of Canada, Canadian Opera Company (Toronto), Schauspielhaus, Tanz Quartier (Vienna), Lithuanian National Opera (Vilnius), Theatre Neumarkt, Theatre Spektakel Zurcher (Zurich), among others. Scott received his Master of Fine Arts in Theatre Design at the Yale University School of Drama. His first work with TheatreWorks was for the musical *Mortal Sins* in 1995.



### **Kaye Voyce** Costume Designer

Kaye Voyce is a New York City-based designer working in theatre, opera, dance and performance. She is honoured to be making her Singapore debut. Her work has been seen on Broadway (*Shining City*), and at venues including the New York City Opera, *Spoletto Festival USA*, Royal Shakespeare Company, the Public Theater (NYC), Theatre National du Chailot, Paris, Teatro Olimpico, Rome, the Brooklyn Academy of Music, the *Festival d'Automne a Paris*, the Hebbel am Ufer, Berlin, the 2012 Whitney Biennial, the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, Wiener Festwochen, Staatstheater Braunschweig, Theater Bonn, Staatstheater Bern, Kunstenfestivaldesarts, Brussels, La Batie, Geneva, and many theatres in New York and throughout the USA.





## Lok Meng Chue Associate Director

Lok Meng Chue has been involved in many of TheatreWorks' productions between 1985 and 1995, including numerous performances on stage, both locally and overseas; and backstage as director, stage/production manager, workshop coordinator and administrator. After a five-year break from the stage, she returned to performance in Ong Keng Sen's production in the late Kuo Pao Kun's *The Spirits Play* both in Singapore (2000) and Japan (2001). An associate artistic director of TheatreWorks in 2003, she managed the company's *Continuum Asia Project* (CAP), a two-year project spearheaded by Ong Keng Sen, focusing on people-to-people collaboration in Luang Prabang.



## Shah Tahir Sound Designer

Shah Tahir has been involved in the audio and music industry for over 20 years. As a musician, he has performed on guitar for numerous local and regional artists such as Dick Lee, Kit Chan, Jeremy Monteiro, Zainal Abidin, Sheila Majid, JJ Lin, Chris Ho, Sandy Lam and many others. As a music producer, Shah has been involved with talents like Humpback Oak, Oddfellows, Heritage, Trob, Sweet Charity, Michaela Therese, Prema Lucas, Jacintha Abisheganaden and others. He arranged and composed the soundtrack for Channel 8's television drama series *Beautiful Connection*, which was nominated for Best Drama in 2002. Currently, Shah Tahir is very much involved with live performances and has been the Audio Consultant/Sound Designer for the National Day Parade from 2009 to 2012. He has been designing and mixing audio for many major theatre productions and musicals such as *881 The Musical*, *Into the Woods*, *Kumar The Queen*, *The Hossan Leong Show*, *December Rain*, *Full Monty*, *Dim Sum Dollies*, *The Importance of Being Earnest* and many more.



## Ashley Lim Hair/Wig Designer

Ashley Lim began his hairstyling career in 1986 and set up Ashley Salon in 1999 to further pursue the art of hairdressing, especially in theatrical work. Ashley became involved with the theatre in 1987 and has since worked with more than 200 productions of local and international standards. Ashley has a wide range of experience working with leading professional theatrical companies in Singapore. He has had the opportunity to create hair designs from a diverse range of different cultures and periodic eras. He is privileged to be widely recognised by the local theatre community as a veteran in his artistry. Ashley is particularly thrilled to have participated in *Broadway Beng! Jiak Liu Lian* (Dream Academy), *Beauty & The Beast* (WILD RICE), *Victor/Victoria* (Zebra Crossing) and *The Monster Show* (Universal Studios Singapore), just to name a few. Ashley also participated in the inauguration of Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay in October 2002 and was the Creative Hair Designer for the premier of the musical *Forbidden City: Portrait Of An Empress*. Apart from theatre, Ashley's work also extends to TV shows and advertorial works for leading local fashion magazines, as well as bridal and fashion projects.



## CREATIVE TEAM



### **The Make Up Room**     Make-up Designer

The Make Up Room was started by Bobbie and Jyue Huey, who have been passionately involved in make-up for the past 14 years. The Make Up Room conducts make-up classes for women who are keen to learn personal make-up techniques, as well as professional make-up courses for aspiring make-up artists. Apart from conducting personal and professional make-up courses, they also provide make-up services for a clientele that includes Corona Beer, Goldheart, Tangs, AllDressedUp, ION Orchard, Wacoal, Tianpo and Sunsilk. They also collaborate with Singapore and international theatre productions, and recent shows include *La Cage Aux Folles*, *Happy Ever Laughter*, *Twelfth Night* as well as Universal Studio shows. On the runway, they have worked with Issey Miyake, Dolce & Gabbana, Emporio Armani, Louis Vuitton and Chanel. The Make Up Room regularly contributes to leading fashion magazines, including *Harper's Bazaar*, *Style* and *Her World*.



### **Babes Conde**     Choral Mistress

Babes Conde is a double-degree holder of Music (Piano and Music Education) and flowed into the mainstream of the Singapore music scene when she moved here in 1985. She immersed in theatre and the performing arts in productions like *Beauty World* (including the four-city tour of Japan), *Fried Rice Paradise*, *Sing to the Dawn* and *Forbidden City* in various capacities as Musical Director, Arranger, Pianist and Vocal Coach.

As Composer, she has written for *Teenage Textbook*, and *godeatgod* for which she received the DBS Life! Theatre Awards 2003. She was commissioned to write the very first NTUC Musical *Labour of Love* performed on May Day 2007. She was composer and the voice behind TV commercials of *8days* and *Manja*. Amongst her various passions has been to bring in world-class artists like Scott Henderson, Dennis Chambers, Jeff Berlin, Frank Gambale, and regional artists such as Kris Dayanti, The New Minstrels and Anuar Zain to perform in Singapore.

### **Joel Nah**     Assistant Music Director & Répétiteur

Joel Nah has been making music for the theatre stage since 2005. He studied classical piano under virtuoso Ong Lip Tat, took jazz masterclasses with Jeremy Monteiro, and has a Master Certificate in Arranging and Orchestration with Berklee College of Music's online school. Selected credits include: *Spring Awakening* (Singapore, 2012), *Wicked* (Singapore, 2011-12), *La Cage Aux Folles* (Singapore, 2012), *The Lion King* (Singapore, 2011), *Aladdin* (2011), *Into The Woods* (Singapore, 2011), *December Rains* (2010), *The Full Monty* (Singapore, 2010), *Victor/Victoria* (Singapore, 2009), *Dim Sum Dollies: The History of Singapore* (2007-08), *Forbidden City: Portrait Of An Empress* (2006). Joel was the music director in *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* (Singapore, 2011), *Crazy Christmas* (2010 & 2008), *Broadway Beng: Jiak Liu Lian!* (2009), and helmed the keyboards in JJ Lin's 2009 World Tour stopover in Singapore. Apart from stage work, Joel teaches music at Raffles Girls' School (Secondary).



## PERFORMERS (in order of appearance)



### Denise Tan

Denise Tan was trained in Theatre Studies at Leeds University, pursuing roles that include *Guys and Dolls*, *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Sweet Charity*. She also staged two original works at Leeds Workshop Theatre. In Singapore, Denise was most recently seen in leading roles in *Into the Woods*, *Fried Rice Paradise*, *Animal Farm*, *The Full Monty*, for which she received a Life! Theatre Awards Best Supporting Actress nomination. Other local theatre credits include *Beauty World*, *The Little Shop of Horrors*, *Ka-Ra-You-OK*, *M. Butterfly*, *Lovepuke*, *Aladdin*, *Chang and Eng* and *Broadway Beng*. Singing credits include *Singapopera*, *Crazy Christmas* and two sold-out *Dashboard Divas* concerts at Esplanade. Denise hosts *The Lunchtime Jukebox* on MediaCorp Radio's Gold 90FM.



### Leena Salim

Leena Salim is a household name in Singapore and throughout Asia as an actor, a singer and a host/stand-up comedian. She has won numerous awards including Best Comedy Actress for the Asian Television Awards. Best known for her role in the sitcom *Under One Roof* and *Boom Boom Room* comedy club, her career has spanned more than 20 years. At the height of her career in 2003, she moved to Australia to pursue her first love – singing. Honing her talent as a jazz chanteuse, she was then chosen to be the first and, to date, the only Asian to sing with the HALCATS touring Europe, the US and the Bahamas. Leena took everyone by surprise when she returned with a completely new look – a sleeker image with a warm and soulful voice, while remaining a performer extraordinaire.



### Dwayne Tan

Dwayne Tan graduated from New York's American Musical & Dramatic Academy. He was in this year's *Spring Awakening*, *Romeo & Juliet* and *Army Daze*. Earlier theatre credits include *Beauty World*, *Snow White*, *Jack & the Beanstalk*, *Pinocchio*, *Much Ado About Nothing* and *Forbidden City*. In the US, Dwayne was on the Junie B. Jones national tour and played 'Ching Ho' in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. For Esplanade's *Flipside 2010*, he wrote and produced *Fairy Tales: The Full Picture*. Being a finalist on *Singapore Idol* led to his self-produced EP, *Moments Alone*. He also co-hosted Okto's *Sunshine Station*.



### Benjamin Kheng

Benjamin Kheng's career started out with freelance acting and voice work on the side. His tenure on Lush 99.5FM as a Producer/Presenter started when he was 18, where he produced and hosted *The Art of Lush* and *The Lush Lab*. As a stage performer, he was involved in *The Little Prince*, playing the titular character, and toured Shanghai as part of the *Shanghai International Children's Theatre Festival*. His other recent theatrical projects include *Short + Sweet 2010*, *UNLEASHED!*, and *BOOM*. Ben is also actively involved in the local music scene. His new music initiative *The Sam Willows* has been featured on Obscured.sg, and is in the midst of cutting their first EP.



## PERFORMERS



### Gani Abdul Karim

Gani Abdul Karim is a multi-disciplined performance-artist as well as a sought-after choreographer, director and arts-educator who has over two decades of professional experience both locally and abroad. He has delved into almost every genre of performance and theatre such as opera, cross-cultural, musical-theatre, physical-theatre, dance-theatre, Shakespeare, devised-theatre. He had his first professional debut as an original cast member of *Beauty World* in 1988 as well as the touring cast of 1992. Since then, he has been involved in numerous TheatreWorks' productions with Ong Keng Sen, which include *Lear*, *Broken Birds: An Epic Longing*, *Mortal Sins*, as well as the *Flying Circus Project* between 1997 to 1999. As a choreographer, he worked on this year's *City Night Songs* and Singapore Management University Indonesian Society's *Luminary: Gaya 2012*. Other productions he was involved in included *Kampong Amber*, *Sing to The Dawn*, *Haunted*, *Romeo & Juliet* and *La Cage Aux Folles*.



### Tabitha Nauser

Tabitha Nauser is a natural-born performer with powerhouse vocals, and she emerged as 2nd runner-up in *Singapore Idol 2009*. This has brought her opportunities such as performing alongside first Singapore Idol Taufik Batisah during the 2010 *Chingay Parade* finale. Tabitha's first step into the international limelight began when she was appointed to represent Asia for the inaugural Youth Olympic Games theme song *EVERYONE* together with Sean Kingston, Steve Appleton, Jessica Mauboy and Jody Williams. Performing for 1.2 billion international audience members at the Opening Ceremony of the *Youth Olympic Games* was a once-in-a lifetime opportunity for her.



### Jacintha Abisheganaden

Jacintha Abisheganaden is a founding member of TheatreWorks. She acted in several of its productions including *Beauty World*, *Fried Rice Paradise*, *Mortal Sins*, *Long Green Socks*, *Three Fat Virgins*, *Trip to the South*, *The Lady of Soul & Her Ultimate "S" Machine*, *TheatreGames*, *The Woman in a tree on a hill*, *Mimi Fan*, *Longing* and *The Songbird of Syonanto*. She is a critically acclaimed jazz audiophile recording artiste with Groove Note Records. In the US, she has sold over 100,000 CDs and recorded *Here's to Life* for movie *Play it to the bone* starring Antonio Banderas and Woody Harrelson. She performed at the first *Mosaic Music Festival* at Esplanade, and has sung in many jazz concerts with James Moody and Jeremy Monteiro in Esplanade Concert Hall. Jacintha was chosen to perform the Singapore national anthem at the 117<sup>th</sup> International Olympic Committee session, which was beamed live to 226 million people around the world.



## PERFORMERS



### Chua Enlai

Chua Enlai is one of the most-watched faces in Singapore's arts and entertainment circles. He has performed in over 40 theatre productions and has twice received a Straits Times Life! Theatre Award – Best Supporting Actor (*The Importance of Being Earnest*) and Best Actor (*Shopping & F\*\*\*ing*). *National Broadway Company* will mark Enlai's fifth production with TheatreWorks. Their past collaborations were *120, Shanty: Follow That Dream, Lovepuke, Meena & Me* and *Snakeskin*. He is probably best known for his work on the International Emmy-nominated series *The Noose*. He was named Best Actor (Comedy) at the Asian Television Awards for his performance in the series. Other television credits, as both actor and host, include *Same But Different, Silver Lining, Sayang Sayang, Heartland Getaways, Parental Guidance* and *My Sassy Neighbour*. His film credits include *The Ghosts Must Be Crazy* and *Already Famous*.



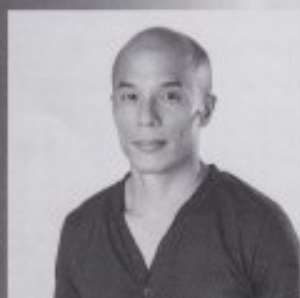
### Jonathan Lum

Jonathan Lum trained at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music & Drama in Glasgow where he graduated with an MA (Distinction) in Musical Theatre Performance. He then spent a year "bringing the Lum into lumbering" across the length and breadth of the UK in the deep, dark woods of *The Gruffalo*. He has since played in numerous productions in the UK and Singapore. *National Broadway Company* is Jonathan's first show in Esplanade since returning to Singapore last year.



### Rayve Tay

Rayve Tay is widely known for his role as Sham the Adventure Boy on the hit television series *Club M.A.G.I.C.* He is the first ever Asian male graduate from the Robert Wilson Watermill International Summer Programme and a graduate of the BA (Hons) Musical Theatre programme from LASALLE College of the Arts. Rayve's work in theatre includes *Spring Awakening, You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown, Lucky Stiff, SIREN* and *Sweet Charity*. With a strong passion for the screen, he has appeared in various prominent local film and television productions.



### Lim Yu-Beng

Lim Yu-Beng won Best Actor in 2005, Best Supporting Actor in 2004, and was part of the Best Acting Ensemble in 2002 in the Life! Theatre Awards. In 2005, he was nominated for Best Actor in the Asian Television Awards. He has worked professionally in Singapore theatre since 1987, in plays such as *Animal Farm, Bent, Members Only, Doubt, The Lover, The Dumb Waiter, Lear, The Yang Family*, and *Broken Birds*. He has played leads in numerous Singaporean and international films, notably *Singapore Dreaming*, and *Solos*. He frequently plays leads on Singapore television shows such as *Do Not Disturb, The Second Singapore Short Story Project*, and *The New Home*; and is still remembered by many from the police series *Triple 9*. In 1994, he was awarded the British Council Fellowship for his work in local theatre, primarily with TheatreWorks. He continues to work extensively as an actor, director, acting coach, lighting designer and fight choreographer for stage and screen.



## Erwin Shah Ismail

Erwin Shah Ismail is a computer engineer-turned-actor, and graduated from LASALLE College of the Arts' BA (Hons) Acting programme. On stage, Erwin has performed various international works for audiences in Malaysia, Philippines, Peru and Scotland. In Singapore, he performed in *Romeo & Juliet*, *Spring Awakening* and more recently, *BOOM*. He recently performed at the 2012 *Edinburgh Fringe Festival*. He also sang and danced in the genre-busting award-winning TV series, *The Kitchen Musical*, which aired in 19 countries.



## Aw Yeong Peng Mun

Aw Yeong Peng Mun is the only male *huadan* in Singapore who has been given recognition by acclaimed Cantonese opera artist Madam Hong Xian Nu for emulating and incorporating her unique style of singing into his own. Peng Mun has come to be associated with the classic repertoire of Hong Xian Nu. His rendering of the *huadan* role is unique. Peng Mun specialises in the *qingyi* role (virtuous and chaste woman), which emphasises singing techniques and graceful movements. His most memorable roles include those of tragic maidens such as Jiu Kwei-ying in *Thrashing the Sea God* and Wang Bao-chuan in *Peng Kwei Bids His Wife Farewell*. He has performed in China, Japan, Malaysia, Egypt, London, Russia and Canada.



## Julia Abueva

At 16, Julia Abueva has an impressive string of credits to her name. She opened for the 23rd *South East Asian Games* at age 10, was featured on Oprah Winfrey's show at 12 as one of the world's most talented kids, performed for President Obama at 14, and most recently performed with David Foster and Michael Bolton just before turning 16. Her first foray into performing was at the tender age of seven for Cat Ong's concert at Esplanade and she has since done hundreds of concert performances in Asia and the USA, including a solo concert at Esplanade at the age of 13. Her big love, however, is theatre and Julia was bitten by the theatre bug at age nine, performing as one of the fairies for the *Peter Pan* musical. She has since done 11 musicals, including her latest musical, *Spring Awakening*.



## THE HOST



### Dick Lee

Dick Lee is a multi-talented artist, performer, and composer known throughout Asia, and beyond. His works champion the inclusion of Asian elements in pop music, most notably in *The Mad Chinaman* (1989), which achieved platinum status in Singapore in just three months. In 1990, Dick moved to Japan where he collaborated with top Asian artists like Hong Kong crooner Sandy Lam and Japanese group Zoo. To date, he has written songs for artists such as Andy Lau, Anita Mui, Aaron Kwok and Miyazawa Kazufumi, amongst others. Dick also penned one of Singapore's most beloved national songs, *Home*, performed by Kit Chan in 1998, as well as *We Will Get There* (2002). He has also written many stage musicals, including *Beauty World* (1988), *Fried Rice Paradise* (1991), *Kampong Amber* (1994), *Sing To The Dawn* (1997), *Forbidden City* (2003), *Snow.Wolf.Lake* (1997), and *Nagaland* (1992), which toured Japan, Singapore, and Hong Kong in a sold-out season. Dick has been the Associate Artistic Director of the Singapore Repertory Theatre since 1998, and was appointed Artistic Director of the People's Association performing arts group, PA Talents. Dick is a board member of the National Museum of Singapore and St. James Power Station, as well as Chairman of the *Audi Fashion Festival*.

## NBC DANCERS



### Chang Yao Chung

Chang Yao Chung graduated from Taipei National University of the Arts in 2006, with a major in modern dance. He was a company member with Cloud Gate Dance Theatre performing solos and in the ensemble. Other credits include performing in contemporary dance companies like Godot Theatre Company, All Music Theatre, Workshop in Heaven and Tai GU Tales Dance Theatre. In 2008, he was invited to work with Albert Tiong in *Checkmate* in Esplanade's *da:ns Festival*. Besides being a dancer, Yao Chung is also a budding choreographer and dance teacher with several dance studios in Taipei.



### Elle-May Patterson

Elle-May Patterson studied Performing Arts at the prestigious Brent Street Studios in Sydney, and holds a BA (Hons) degree in Musical Theatre from LASALLE College of the Arts. Her performance credits is wide-ranging and includes work on *Australian Idol*, *Australia's Got Talent*, and an AFI award winning film *The Black Balloon*. Her stage credits include the Sydney season of *Showboat*, live dance tours throughout America and Asia. Elle-May just travelled to the United States to play in *Texas* and the infamous *Cabaret* with the Napa Valley Broadway Playhouse.



### Farah Dawood

Farah Dawood has been a professional performer for the past 10 years. Some of her notable projects include Dick Lee's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert, *The Snow Queen*, *Cabaret*, *Beauty World*, *Shanghai Blues*, and *If There Are Seasons*. Farah's consummate professionalism has led her to explore and train in new dance forms including hip hop, belly dance, African dances, Fire Dancing, Brazilian Samba and Capoeira, and being an honoured "baptised" student of Grupo Bantus Capoeira in Singapore.



### Francesca Harriman

Francesca Harriman trained at the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts and is an accomplished Singapore-based dancer/choreographer who has worked extensively in the international scene. Her credits include performing with international artistes like Coco Lee, Sandy Lam, Aaron Kwok; numerous platforms overseas as well Singapore productions that include *Beauty World*, *Magic of Love* tour, *Victor/Victoria*, *Fried Rice Paradise* and *WOMAD*. Francesca recently choreographed *Dreams of Dragons* for *Flipside* at Esplanade.



### Gino Babagay

Gino Babagay started as a hip hop dancer with the Fantastic Four. His performing credits include the recent *Army Daze*, T-Net Musical and the *Youth Olympic Games* ceremony in Auckland. Very much a self-taught dancer and choreographer, Gino is now exploring new dance genres and theatre.



### Hafeez Hassan

Hafeez Hassan is a self-taught dancer and choreographer. He started dancing on the streets of Singapore, in void decks, and the Youth Park. He won a number of coveted dance competitions including the Break Dance Competition, Mark Echo Hip Hop Dance Competition and the Singapore Hip Hop Championship. He is the official choreographer for local rapper Sheikh Haikal and has been actively involved in a number of performances with him. Hafeez is currently teaching Hip hop and break dancing to a new generation of dancers.



## NBC DANCERS



### Jackie Ong

Jackie Ong graduated from Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts dance programme in 2011 and was awarded a full scholarship during his studies. In 2009, he joined T.H.E Second Company and has since performed extensively with the company including the provocative *As It Fades*. Jackie has forged an international presence by performing in dance festivals in New York, New Delhi, Poland and Guangzhou and by working with internationally acclaimed choreographers from Asia, North America and Europe.



### Jennifer Pau

Jennifer Pau completed her Diploma in Dance from LASALLE College of the Arts where she was awarded the Outstanding Student Award. She went on to obtain a Degree in Fine Arts (Dance) from the Queensland University of Technology. Since then, Jennifer has worked extensively in various dance productions and toured with some of these productions. Her performing credits include *Old Sounds*, *Victor/Victoria* and the opera *Carmen*.



### Lei Hoi

Lei Hoi started her formal dance training in her late teens and has since trained intensively in many genres of dance from Ballet, Contemporary, Abstract, Jazz, HipHop, Tap, Lindy Hop, Salsa and Pole Dancing. Currently a Communications Studies student at NTU, Lei Hoi is very involved in numerous theatre productions and performances in Singapore.



### Liz Fong

Liz Fong received her professional dance training with the New Zealand School of Dance, where she had the opportunity to work with illustrious New Zealand and Australian choreographers like Michael Parmenter, Daniel Belton and Leigh Warren. After returning to Singapore, Liz became actively involved with T.H.E Second Company both as a choreographer and a dancer in numerous productions. Awards include winning the 2010 edition of Sprouts, a platform for young choreographers.



### Lu Wit Chin

Lu Wit Chin graduated with a Degree in Contemporary Dance from The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts where he was offered a scholarship. Wit Chin was awarded the EBS Award to study ballet in Japan, and also won the Sansha - Modern Dance award. In 2010, his work *L'etranger* was invited to the *Busan International Arts Market*, and he also performed at the *Seoul International Arts Festival*. His recent work *Something Shifted* jointly choreographed with Christina Chan won the most promising work for emerging choreographer in the *Sprouts Singapore 2011*. Wit Chin has performed extensively both in Singapore and internationally.



### Marie Shirl

Marie Shirl graduated with a Bachelor Degree in Contemporary Dance from the National Conservatory of Paris. She also has a Diploma of Music and Dance Technology from the Ministry of Education, a Degree in Fine Arts from The University of Paris-La Sorbonne and a Degree in Performing Arts from the University of Paris-St Denis. Marie has worked with a wide range of companies and choreographers, covering various styles of dance from contemporary to hip-hop to jazz. She toured extensively in Europe. In Singapore, her work comprises choreography, dance and cabaret. *National Broadway Company* is her first musical in Singapore.



### Natalyn Goh Dance Captain

Natalyn Goh started dancing at age three and subsequently joined the Dance Society of Saint Andrew's Junior College and NUS Dance Ensemble where she was Dance Captain from 2007 to 2008. Natalyn has participated in many dance productions and dance festivals like *Rapture The Next Wave* and *O School Recital*.



### Samantha Kan

Samantha Kan began training in dance from age four and is trained in Chinese dance, jazz and gymnastics, and continues to explore other dance genres. Her work has seen her performing beside Sandy Lam, Jeff Cheung, Alex Toh, Jacky Cheung, Andy Lau and others. For the stage, Samantha has performed in *MagicBox*, *Vagina Monologues*, *Victor/Victoria*. She performs extensively overseas as well.



## NBC DANCERS



### Tay Wei Liang

Tay Wei Liang graduated with an Honours degree in English Literature from Nanyang Technological University and is an associate member of NUS Dance Ensemble, where he performed in productions such as *The Next Wave* and *Evocation*. Wei Liang's major dance productions include: *Platform Campus*, *Contact 2010*, *DANCE TEENS Festival 2011*. Besides being a performer, he also choreographed *Flower Nymphs*, the opening of Gardens by the Bay and Singapore Pavilion's National Day Performance for *World Expo Yeosu, Korea 2012*. His theatre credits include *December Rains*, *881*, *Strauss's Salome*, *Decimal Points 0.01*, and recently, *Lao Jiu: The Musical*.



### Trev Neo

Trev Neo is trained in the field of dance and musical theatre, and has been actively involved in Singapore's performing arts for the past 8 years. Having worked mostly as a Performing Arts educator and choreographer, his stage credits include being in *Sing to the Dawn*, *Lao Jiu* and the puppet performance, *A Fine Day*. His choreography credits include the first TV musical series in Singapore, *School House Rockz*.



### Zhang Minggao

Zhang Minggao studied dance at the Shanghai Dance School, where he was trained in Chinese classical dance and folk dance. Zhang graduated from the LASALLE College of the Arts with a Bachelor of Arts (Hons). He became a professional dancer with the Shanghai Orient Youth Dance Company and has worked with some eminent Chinese and international choreographers including Graeme Murphy (artistic director of Sydney Dance Company), Willy Tsao (artistic director of City Contemporary Dance Company), Ming-Lung Young (of Trisha Brown Dance Company from 1992 to 1999), and Albert Tiong (Cloud Gate Dance Theatre, Taiwan).

## MUSICIANS

### Brandon Wong

Performing professionally since age 18, Brandon Wong is a performer encompassing both musical and technical abilities on the Acoustic and Electric Bass. His sensitivity to various genres of music from classical to jazz soon led to a decade of performances and experience. In 2005, Brandon was awarded a Distinction in ABRSM Diploma Double Bass Performance. Brandon currently maintains a schedule of performing in musicals, classical concerts, television shows, jazz gigs, recording sessions and teaching both privately and in schools. Performance credits includes *The Wedding Banquet*, *No Regrets: A Tribute to Edith Piaf, Jacques Brel*, *A Twist Of Fate*, *Beauty World* (2008), Anita Sarawak & Ismail Haron Concert, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Don't Forget The Lyrics*, *Singapore Idol*, *Anugerah*, *The Lion King*, *Spring Awakening*, *Wicked*, *A Chorus Line*, amongst many others.

### Daniel Chai

Daniel Chai is an award-winning graduate of Musicians Institute, Los Angeles. He has toured and worked with artists including Corrinne May, Stefanie Sun, A Mei, Sandy Lam, JJ Lin, Tanya Chua, Frances Yip, Iskandar Ismail, Elaine Chan, Siti Nurhaliza, Dick Lee, Ramli Sarip, as well as the Singapore Symphonic Orchestra, amongst many others. Daniel has worked on over 30 musical theatre productions. Notable credits include Wildrice's *Pantomimes*, *A Singaporean in Paris*, *December Rains*, *881*, *Fried Rice Paradise*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *The Lion King*, *A Chorus Line*, *Spring Awakening* and *La Cage Aux Folles*. Daniel has produced, arranged and written music for TV sitcoms/serials and telemovies. He recently arranged and produced songs by Liang Wern Fook, Li Feihui and Chen Jia Ming. He has also been in bands for *Singapore Idol*, *Don't Forget the Lyrics* and *Suria's Konsert Solo* series.

### Han Oh

One of Singapore's most versatile musicians, Han Oh has performed with acclaimed international artists ranging from the classical T'ang Quartet to iconic pop-rock legends such as Jay-Z, Linkin Park, David Foster and Paul McCartney amongst many others. Han made his mark as the first musician from his home country to have performed in top international festivals and awards such as the Grammy's, *Coachella Valley Music Festival* and *Lollapalooza*. He was also the first Singaporean to have performed with the American Idol Band and had multiple appearances performing on *Tonight Show with Jay Leno*, *Late Show with David Letterman* and *Late Night with Conan O'Brien*. Since his homecoming to Singapore after a successful thirteen-year stint in the United States, Han has been actively involved in the local and international performing arts scene, contributing his vast expertise to various arts groups such as the T'ang Quartet, Singapore Lyric Opera Orchestra, and Singapore Festival Orchestra.



## MUSICIANS

### Jacob Dalager

Jacob Dalager, a Minnesota native, attended St. Olaf College, where he graduated magna cum laude in 2009 with a B.M. in Trumpet Performance and a B.A. in Music Theory/Composition. After college, Jacob volunteered for one year as an English and music teacher at a foster home in rural Malaysia. In 2010, he began his M.M. at the Eastman School of Music, where he was equally active as a classical musician, jazz musician, teacher, and composer. After graduation, Jacob accepted a teaching position with Partners in Brass in Singapore.

### Jonathan Lim

Jonathan Lim is a classically trained saxophonist who is versatile in all voices of the saxophone from soprano to baritone. He received his Licentiate in Saxophone Performance from Trinity College of Music (Distinction) in 2004. He co-founded SaxPress, a saxophone ensemble whose repertoire ranged from Bach to jazz and contemporary works. Other ensembles he performs with include Summertime's Big Band and Jeremy Monteiro Big Band, where he doubles on the flute and clarinet as well. Jonathan has held the lead role of tenor sax/flute in *Crazy Christmas* 2011 and Reed 4 (Tenor/Baritone sax/Flute/Clarinet) chair in the musical *A Chorus Line* Singapore tour in May 2012. Jonathan teaches the art of saxophone playing as well, and currently coaches the NUS Big Band, SMU Concert Band, Raffles Girls School and Nanyang Girls' High School.

### Kenneth Lun

Kenneth Lun graduated from the prestigious Peabody Institute of the John Hopkins University with a Bachelor of Music (Major in Trumpet Performance and Minor in Jazz Trumpet). Taught under Wayne Cameron, David Bilger, Andrew Balio, Edward Hoffman and Chen Jia Min, Kenneth won highly coveted positions with the Peabody Symphony Orchestra, Peabody Concert Orchestra, Peabody Jazz Ensemble as well as the Peabody Wind Ensemble. Kenneth has also performed in countries such as the Netherlands, Germany, Australia and Malaysia. Since coming back from the USA, Kenneth has had a distinguished career in the music scene, freelancing with the Singapore Symphony Orchestra and Brass Quintet. He has also appeared as a soloist with the Philharmonic Winds. He also serves as principal trumpet of the Singapore Lyric Opera. Kenneth has also performed as a trumpeter in a number of musicals, including *Wicked* and *A Chorus Line*, *Cabaret*, *West Side Story*, *The King and I*, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, *Beauty World*, *Fried Rice Paradise* and *La Cage Aux Folles*.

### Leo Jeoh

Leo Jeoh started studying the trombone when he was eight years old. Since then, he has had the opportunity to perform with an array of notable artist, bands, orchestras and productions in Taiwan, New York, Singapore and Asia. Influenced by the allure of jazz in Manhattan, he began actively pursuing jazz performance concurrent to his university studies under the wing of trombonist Glenn Franke, and arranger/composer Bruce Rogers. Currently a freelance trombonist in Singapore, Leo can be found playing all sorts of jazz, classical, and musical performances around the island, and also as a tutor for the National University of Singapore (NUS) Jazz Band.

### Meah Tze Chuan

Meah Tze Chuan started learning the violin at age seven and attained Grade 8 (ABRSM) in violin when she was only 12. She joined the Singapore Youth Orchestra when she was 13, and has been performing ever since. During her university years, she was the founding first violinist of Fritz Quartet, an amateur string quartet which she also managed. With particular interest in the fusion of Literary Arts and Music, she enjoys performing for theatre. Her theatre credits include *Duck and Dive* and *La Cage aux Folles*. She also performs regularly with the Singapore Lyric Opera Orchestra. Meah is equally proficient on the Electric Violin and is currently the first violinist of Piezo Quartet, Singapore's very first professional electric string quartet and the first of its kind in regional Asia.

### Natasha Liu

Trained in Japan, Denmark and the UK, Natasha Liu graduated with a MMus (Distinction) from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. As a soloist and chamber musician, her performance credentials include cello recitals at St. Mark's Cathedral (Venice), a successful tour of Denmark with broadcasts on Danish Radio, a showcase at St. Catherine's Dock (London) in celebration of the *Singapore Season* and a performance on UK ITV for Queen Elizabeth II on the *Royal Variety Show*. Natasha has performed as a solo cellist for the *Spotlight Singapore* series in Bratislava (2012), Cape Town (2011) and Moscow (2008), the inaugural President's *Command Performance* (2009), and the Singapore National Day Parade (2009).



## MUSICIANS

### Ramu Thiruyanam

Known for his dedication to music education, Ramu Thiruyanam is considered by many to be one of the top up-and-coming young percussion specialists and is a widely sought-after performer/clinician throughout Asia. A Summa Cum Laude graduate from Berklee College of Music, he has had many successful concerts both as a soloist and as a supporting percussionist in countries such as Indonesia, Taiwan, Australia, Europe and the USA and worked with many international artists such as Andrea Bocelli, SHINee, Evelyn Glennie and Delta Goodrem; and has performed with the Singapore Symphony Orchestra, Singapore Lyric Opera, Boston Civic Orchestra and The Philharmonic Winds to date. An adjunct faculty at SOTA, he is on the Vic Firth Education Team, a Vic Firth Education endorsee and an Alternate Mode affiliate.

### Soh Wen Ming

Soh Wen Ming is a drummer and a graduate of the Berklee College of Music and is a recipient of both the Singapore National Arts Council Overseas Bursary and the Berklee World Tour Scholarship. Since returning to Singapore he has pursued an active performing career. He performed with the Jeremy Monteiro Trio at APEC 2009, where they performed for 21 world leaders including president Barack Obama. In January 2010, Wen Ming became the new resident drummer at Harry's at Boat Quay. He also held a residency as the drummer for Jeremy Monteiro's organ trio at INK bar. He has also performed with international jazz artists Theo Croker, Sylvain Beuf, Nicholas Folmer and Andromeda Turre. He is also an instructor mentor for Esplanade's *Bright Young Things* programme, where professional musicians are brought in to mentor promising new talented musicians.

### Syawaludin Kassim

Syawaludin Kassim graduated from LASALLE College of the Arts in 2006 with a Diploma in Music, majoring in Piano (Classical). He started piano lessons at the age of four and attained his ABRSM Grade 8 in Piano at the age of 15. He joined the Orkestra Melayu Singapura that year as a pianist and keyboard player, and took up the accordion. He attained Trinity Grade 8 in clarinet with a distinction when he was serving in the Singapore Armed Forces Band. In 2002, Syawal had the opportunity to learn music arrangement with Belinda Foo and Jeremy Lum (2004). Throughout the last 12 years of his music career, he has been working closely alongside Singapore's well-known musician, Mr Iskandar Ismail. He has also worked with well-known musicians like Tama Goh, Elaine Chan and Indra Shahrir. Active in the musical scene, Syawaludin has been involved in several shows such as *The Admiral's Odyssey* (2005), *Man of Letters* (2006), *Beauty World* (2007), *MAGICBOX* (2008), *Victor/Victoria* (2009), *Fried Rice Paradise* (2010) and *La Cage Aux Folles* (2012).

### Tan Kian Wee

Tan Kian Wee is a renowned pianist and organist whose work has taken him to many countries around the world. Having won awards of international competitions, he has a strong reputation as a soloist and accompanist. He has played in concerts for Malaysian Idol, as well as for local English and Chinese theatre and musical productions like *Beauty World*, *Chang & Eng*, *Wicked*, *King & I*, *Wizard of Oz*, *Victor/Victoria* and more.

### Vuk Krakovic

Vuk Krakovic was born in Belgrade, Serbia, where he started playing the violin at the age of four. He received his Bachelor of Music Degree in Austria, and continued his Postgraduate Studies in Guildhall School of Music in London. He was awarded the Masters of Music Degree in 2001. Vuk has won several music competitions, including 1<sup>st</sup> Prize in Santiago de Compostela, Spain for the "Joaquin Rodrigo" International Competition in 1996, 1<sup>st</sup> Prize in Slovenia's National Music Competition in 1992 and a special award *The Best Violinist in All Categories*. As guest soloist, Vuk has performed with orchestras in the UK, Germany, Austria, Italy, Serbia and Slovenia. He has recorded for BBC, RAI (Italy), Austrian, Slovenian and Serbian television. Since 2004 he has been working as a solo violinist for Cirque du Soleil's show, *Varekai*.





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