

# THE HAPPINESS EVENT



@7 SEPTEMBER 2013, 6PM GARDENS BY THE BAY

# The Happiness Event is an hour that revolves around Happiness

The Happiness Event will share short performances and personal stories of Happiness

The Happiness Event will demonstrate the 12 Steps to Happiness

### **FOREWORD**

The Happiness Event is an extension of LIFT: LOVE IS FLOWER THE, a devised theatre performance produced by TheatreWorks (Singapore) to be staged at 72-13 Mohamed Sultan Road from 17 - 22 September 2013. The LIFT artistic team had an idea of extending their own exploration of the same theme with people from various walks of life and ages. TheatreWorks then took the idea further and suggested presenting an event at the Gardens by the Bay. Before long, the ideas came together as a sunset performance at the Supertree Grove.

So in July, we set out to gather 80 performers, whom we affectionately call, The Supernumeraries. Over six Saturdays, we played games, created and shared stories. They conceptualised and devised their performances. Some expressed themselves through movement. Another through song. Others crafted monologues and dialogues. All in response to this one question: What is happiness to you?

Here we are, this evening at the Supertree Grove, presenting 13 short performances, marking, reflecting and celebrating 'happiness' in its many forms, ways and moments. We invite you to watch and listen, and perhaps you too will be persuaded to do the same.

Noorlinah Mohamed
LIFT: LOVE IS FLOWER THE Artistic Collaborator

### TITLE THE HAPPY TRIO

Performed by: Pearl Wong, Jasmine Kong, Alice Cheah

Alice, Jasmine and Pearl decided to join in the fun of a picnic cum participating in 'The Happiness Event' at Gardens by the Bay. Jasmine, who loves to bake, will be bringing her yummy home-made apple crumble to share with her friends. Alice is happy styling her own hair and often thinks she looks like Elizabeth Taylor. Pearl loves karaoke and dancing.

Alice, Jasmine and Pearl had their happy moments.

They wondered about others' happiness...

'When was the last time they were happy'?

'What makes them happy'?

What is happiness to them'?

### TITLE POCKETS

Performed by: Al Hafiz Sanusi

'Pockets' by Al Hafiz Sanusi, is a spoken word poetry that deals with a personal meaning of happiness. It pays tribute to another aspect of happiness: the self-sacrificial of one's present happiness for the future happiness of another. We often forget that happiness does not lie in what we want, but more often than not, in what we give to others and what we are content with. This performance hopes to share my personal sense of happiness, of what lies in my pocket.

### TITLE: QUOTE UN QUOTE

Performed by: Jacyntha England, Mastura Hamid, Rita Teo, Tren

How can we find happiness in the urban jungle? Can happiness come from within, no matter what else is around us? How do we build a sense of community and communion when our lives are already so busy? Will finding the simple things, the snatches of happiness, in life . . . really bring us contentment? How . . . and when?

Drawing from the tradition of playback theatre, this piece seeks to explore how four strangers from very different walks of life can fnd happiness together. By sharing stories and experiences both from their own lives and the lives of the audience, the performers will take you all on a journey that will, hopefully, lead you to celebrate the joy laughter amongst new friends can bring us.

### TITLE R U OK?

Performed by: Za Elizabeth Choo, Sam, Beryl Leong, Ahmad Ezzat Alkaff, Pearlyn Wee, Louise Lee, Michael Soh

Happiness comes in many forms; materialistically, emotionally etc. However, true happiness can only be felt when we've experienced a downturn of some sorts. 'Are You Okay' explores these downturns, and what makes happiness stand out.

### TITLE: RUN FOR YOUR LIFE

Performed by: Brian Tan, Tiara Mia, Toh Wee Peng, Elise Lim, Celine Lim, Ong Chin Hwee, Cassandra Cheong

With the odds stacked against them, eight individuals run the race of their lives. For emancipation, for liberty, for triumph, they run for their lives.

## TITLE: THE BUTTERFLY THAT WANTED TO BE A RABBIT

Performed by: Ahmad Musta-ain, Nur Shakirrah, Al Hafiz, Marianne Sim, Siti Rafidah

The Butterfly that wanted to be a Rabbit' by Cyril Wong, encapsulates the zeal of the pursuit of happiness. The main protagonist, the Butterfly, seeks for happiness all her life, and goes in search of it by transforming into its Other - Firstly, a Rabbit, and then, Bear, and finally, a Woman. After her many rebirths, she discovers that her trappings of happiness has only disillusioned her pursuit of true happiness. She then discovers that true happiness thrives in loss and love. The story is performed via story-telling and physical work.

### TITLE THE SUNSHINE GANG

Performed by: Benedict Leong, Joel Su, Eddy Ismail, Tricia Tang, Stephanie Loh, Vinise, Srieena, Melody Ling

Happiness is said to be a state of well-being characterized by emotions ranging from contentment to intense joy. So the question is: "What makes us happy?".

This piece takes you back to the time when you were nothing than an innocent young sprout who've just taken your first step and have just understood what the word "vocabulary" means to the dashing young man or stunning lady that you are today.

Each individual will share with you what makes them happy personally and music, animals, roller coaster rides are just some of the things that we are going to visit. At the end of the day, we hope to provoke you to get out here and find your happiness by saying: "We hope that you find your own happiness too".

### TITLE: WHITE'S SONG

Performed by: Tahir Ahmed, Nur Farhana, Marcia Lee, Sarah Lim, Sarah Chua, Tan Yan Ru

"Once upon a time..." was the phase that gave rise to many stories of princes and princesses braving terror and grave perils, defeating monsters and evil beings, resulting in happy endings where everyone lived happily ever after. These fairy tales were told to us in our childhood allowing us to escape reality, believing there are happy endings in the world! Now let us share our story and whisk you away to fairyland.

### TITLE: MAGIC BEANZ

Performed by: Daniel Chan

"A monologue about growing up and chasing dreams."

### TITLE: CHOICES

Performed by: Bennett Ong, John Lim, Ong Shao Bin, Phyllis Wong, Ng Bi Yu, Germaine Quek, Su Chi

What to eat? Where to go? What to do? Ever had to make decisions with too many choices? What will you do? Join us as we make happy choices, find out what makes you happy!

### TITLE: BRING YOUR OWN HAPPINESS

Performed by: Yolanda Tan, Arlette Teo, Chen Yun, Alvin Lim, Anita Tiwari, Kugapriya, Goh Kian Hong, Kwang Wan Yi

A baby is born into this world.

Sweet, carefree and oblivious, a mother's love is no longer sufficient for an adult with obligations and needs.

Will he become a slave to his colorful pursuits of life?

Will he find happiness?

### TITLE LIFE'S MOMENTS

Performed by: Joyce Komaran, Catherine Ho, Paulene Kwek, Wong Yu Chien, Chong Lee Khim, Priscilla Su. Divitra Sukumaran

We are so caught up with life pursing those things that will contribute to having a better life that we lose sight of what we may lose along the way. Time is spent achieving goals but do they really lead to happiness?

### TITLE REMEMBERING HAPPY

Performed by: Khairul Nizam, Danial Hanafi, Yi Ling, Yin-Mei Lenden, Owen Tan

In the midst of our busy, bustling lives, trapped in the mundanity of daily existence, we yearn for Happiness. Yet just what Happiness is, or where it can be found is something no one can agree upon. If only there were a map...

So when a map is discovered, can the people now find Happiness? Or does it only become another rat race as they out-run and chase each other for possession of the map?

Or can the chase become fun?

Can the people ever be Happy?

The Happiness Event is an initiative that accompanies TheatreWorks' production of LIFT: LOVE IS FLOWER THE.

The Happiness Event is a means to encourage our audiences to reflect on the concept of Happiness and the pursuit of Happiness; which are the key thematics of LIFT.

The Happiness Event is a result of numerous workshops specially tailored for the 'performers' most of whom began this process with little or no performing experience.

The Happiness Event marks a milestone for the ensemble performers: they have created their own short performances for the event.

The Happiness Event is produced by TheatreWorks (Singapore) in conjunction with its production LIFT: LOVE IS FLOWER THE and the Garden Series.

### ABOUT THEATREWORKS ENGAGEMENT

TheatreWorks Engagement deepens the engagement of our patrons and stakeholders; and engages new audiences through its Programmes. Engagement Programmes are developed to encourage audiences to appreciate theatre and secondly, use theatre as a forum to raise and discuss taboo, and yet, critical issues facing us today.

### STARRING

Pearl Wong, Jasmine Kong, Alice Cheah, Al Hafiz Sanusi, Jacyntha England, Mastura Hamid, Rita Teo, Tren, Za Elizabeth Choo, Sam, Beryl Leong, Ahmad Ezzat Alkaff, Pearlyn Wee, Louise Lee, Michael Soh, Brian Tan, Tiara Mia, Toh Wee Peng, Elise Lim, Celine Lim, Ong Chin Hwee, Cassandra Cheong, Ahmad Musta-ain, Nur Shakirrah, Al Hafiz, Marianne Sim, Siti Rafidah, Benedict Leong, Joel Su, Eddy Ismail, Tricia Tang, Stephanie Loh, Vinise, Srieena, Melody Ling, Joyce Komaran, Catherine Ho, Paulene Kwek, Wong Yu Chien, Chong Lee Khim, Priscilla Su, Divitra Sukumaran, Daniel Chan, Bennett Ong, John Lim, Ong Shao Bin, Phyllis Wong, Ng Bi Yu, Germaine Quek, Su Chi, Yolanda Tan, Arlette Teo, Chen Yun, Alvin Lim, Anita Tiwari, Kugapriya, Goh Kian Hong, Kwang Wan Yi, Tahir Ahmed, Nur Farhana, Marcia Lee, Sarah Lim, Sarah Chua, Tan Yan Ru, Khairul Nizam, Danial Hanafi, Yi Ling, Yin-Mei Lenden, Owen Tan

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We will also like to thank Mr Cyril Wong for allowing us to use material from his literary work, Let Me Tell You Something About That Night (Transit Lounge, 2009 | Ethos Books, 2012) for The Happiness Event

Visit The LIFT Blog at http://LIFT2013.wordpress.com

www.theatreworks.org.sg www.72-13.com 72-13, Mohamed Sultan Road Singapore 239007

All tickets for the showing of LIFT: LOVE IS FLOWER THE from 17 - 21 SEP 2013 have been snapped up!

By popular demand, TheatreWorks has added an additional performance of LIFT: LOVE IS FLOWER THE on 22 SEP 2013, 4PM @ 72-13 Mohamed Sultan Road

Tickets are going from \$18

To purchase tickets, please call 6737 7213 or send an email to tworks@singnet.com.sg