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THEATREWORKS

PRESENTS

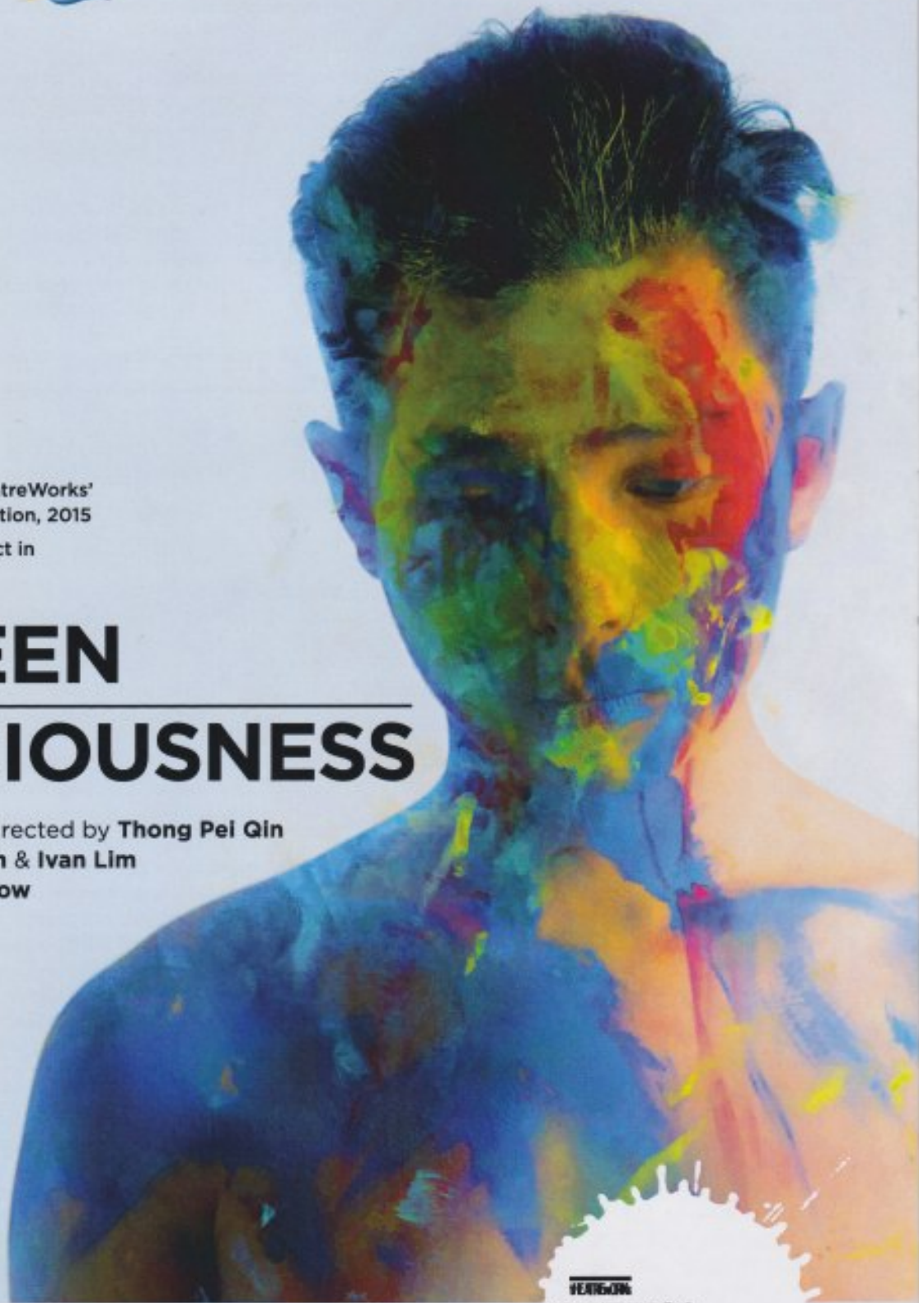


First prize winner of the TheatreWorks'
24-Hour Playwriting Competition, 2015

Touring the South East District in
February and March 2016

BETWEEN CONSCIOUSNESS

Written by **Isaac Lim** | Directed by **Thong Pei Qin**
Featuring **Al-Matin Yatim & Ivan Lim**
Set Design by **Gerald Leow**



FREE ADMISSION

Mountbatten CC

25 - 27 Feb 2016, 3pm
26 Feb 2016, 8pm

Siglap South CC

3 - 5 Mar 2016, 3pm
4 Mar 2016, 8pm

Marine Parade CC

17 - 19 Mar 2016, 3pm
18 Mar 2016, 8pm

THEATREWORKS
**WRITING &
COMMUNITY**

WRITING & COMMUNITY

Writing & Community is one of the many strands of TheatreWorks Engagement programmes. It is a holistic and unique writing programme that serves the community while at the same time harnesses the talents and creativity in the community. The presentation of *Between Consciousness* is part of TheatreWorks' **Writing & Community** in partnership with the South East CDC to nurture and develop new playwrights from the community.

Writing & Community:

- Is a process-based writing programme designed for the community
- Seeks out potential playwrights from within the community through the annual 24-Hour Playwriting Competition
- Invites theatre professionals to work on the winning scripts from the competition and develop scripts into full productions
- Provides pre-competition workshops / talks to harnessing potential creativity from the community
- Winning Playwrights are nurtured and developed
- Return these productions to the community by the way of the annual Performance Tour with free performances in the community, primarily of the South East District
- Enables the play to become a catalyst for the community to reflect and discuss important issues related to living in Singapore

For more information on **Writing & Community**, please visit <https://writingandcommunity2016.wordpress.com>

Synopsis

A father struggles with his child who has autism and people's ignorance.

A son, oblivious to how others view him, creates a fantastical world of his wildest imagination.

Both whimsical and poignant, *Between Consciousness* is about the mental in each of us; about the random thoughts we have in our heads. Is it "normal"? How does one express the most innate desires within us all? When will one confront one's deepest fears?

Performed in English | Approximately 40 minutes
There will be a post-show dialogue after each performance

Playwright's Message

It was in June 2015 that I was walking around a lush green garden in Buangkok, and giving serious thoughts about something that I've always been curious about. Are mental patients all emotional beings with tendencies to act violent?

Of course not.

It was there that I got the chance to understand that there is a broad spectrum of mental health disorders, and people with mental illness can be very normal, like you and me. Don't each of us have a voice in our head sometimes, clashing over our every act? Are we all mental too? *Between Consciousness* is about that little quirky bit inside all of us.

I am thankful to the team at TheatreWorks for believing in my writing, and willing to bring it from page to stage. Pei Qin, Ivan, Matin, and the rest of the creative and production team have also been great to work with. Thank you all for bringing alive these characters that popped out from my head.

Here's that you will enjoy this crazy fun show! It's all in your head!

- Isaac Lim

Director's Message

When I first read *Between Consciousness*, I was gripped by how it does not shy away from the hard truths of people living with diagnosed mental conditions, and the issues faced by their care-givers. This is a piece of work I strongly believe in, as it challenges our pre-conceived notions of people with special needs, and presents us with alternative ways of seeing from different points-of-view. Our team discovered a fascinating world of a child with autism; the complex inner mind of his single father having to care for him; and how the rest of society views them.

Above all, this is a tale of a hard-won love between father and son, and how these characters are as human as you and I. When we do not understand things or people different from us, irrational fear, stigma and discrimination tend to develop. Hence we attempted to look at how similar we are to the characters instead. Through our explorations, we are closer to getting in touch with the most human part of ourselves.

We invite you to join us.

- Thong Pei Qin



Isaac Lim

Playwright

Isaac is a bilingual actor and writer, and aspiring director. Apart from plays, he also dabbles in poetry, short stories and journalistic writing, both in English and Chinese. He holds a Diploma

in Chinese Media and Communication from Ngee Ann Polytechnic, and is currently a final year undergraduate majoring in Theatre Studies at the National University of Singapore. He has worked on various projects as director's assistant and stage manager. He is also an avid theater goer, and is a theatre reviewer under Centre 42's Citizen's Review program. Isaac was last seen performing in *Incarnation of the Beast* by TheatreWorks, and on screen in the movie *Young & Fabulous*. Isaac is excited to be part of this exciting process of putting the words he wrote in 24 hours unto the stage.



Thong Pei Qin

Director

Thong Pei Qin's selected directorial credits include Natalie Hennedige's *Nothing*, The Studios: fifty's *Family Relations in Singapore Theatre*, Ovidia Yu's *Life Choices*, David Schneider's

premiere of *Making Stalin Laugh* (London), and an original devised piece, *Re: Almost Left Behind*, commissioned by the Singapore Arts Festival. Pei Qin has also obtained an M.A. degree with distinctions in Theatre Directing from the University of Essex (London), and a Theatre Studies B.A. degree with honours from the National University of Singapore. She is currently an Adjunct Lecturer of performance studies at the National Institute of Education. Pei Qin is one of the directors on board The Finger Players' "Watch This Space" programme (Directors' Cycle 2014-16). She is excited to be working with TheatreWorks on bringing an original new play to Singaporean audiences.



Al-Matin Yatim

Actor

Al-Matin Yatim is a graduate from Intercultural Theatre Institute. He first began his first craft as an actor in 2007 from Temasek Polytechnic Malay Arts Group, Titisan Temasek. Ever since, he has

worked with theatre and dance companies and organisations like Teater Kami, Cake Theatrical Productions, Drama Box, Esplanade Co. and several arts festivals.



Ivan Lim

Actor

Ivan Lim is an actor who holds a BA (Hons) in acting from NAFA partnership with University of Essex. He has accumulated much valuable work experience during and after his graduation, from

being a prop-assistant and actor of *The Returning Lady* (directed by Yue Mei Qin), to being part of an ensemble for *Mama looking for her cat* (directed by Benjamin Ho).



Ali Anwar

Actor (Understudy)

Ali Anwar caught the theatre bug when he landed the lead role on his Secondary school's musical production *The Best Years of Our Lives*. Since then went on to play roles like Oedipus (*Oedipus the King*),

Ramanujan (*Abstraction*), and the Shepherd in Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale* when he attended Lasalle College of the Arts. He made his professional theatrical debut with TheatreWorks' *Incarnation of the Beast* and quickly went on to play Sgt Mustaffa in Dick Lee and Michael Chiang's *Beauty World*.



Gerald Leow

Set Designer

Gerald Leow creates sculptures for theatre sets. As an artist he works with visual culture and uses it to shed light on the nature of authenticity, culture & identity. His interests include

anthropology and the study of material cultures. He is currently designing props for the National Day Parade in 2016.



Stephen Kwek

Lighting Designer

Former Technical Theatre Student from LaSalle College of the Arts, Majoring in Lighting. The last project he was involved with was T.H.E Dance Theatre's M1 Contact Contemporary Dance Festival,

as Lighting Designer for Diversity and Continuum and as Technical Manager for T.H.E Main Company Triple Bill, THE 2nd Company Asian Exchange. He feels passionate about working towards technical precision and professionalism of the projects he undertakes as well as how lighting influences the mood and receptiveness of audiences to a particular work. Steve also deeply appreciates you, for taking your time to read this very short write up about him.

About South East Community Development Council

South East CDC was set up on 24 November 2001. It oversees the Marine Parade Group Representative Constituency (GRC), East Coast GRC, Fengshan Single Member Constituency (SMC), Mountbatten SMC and MacPherson SMC, and serves a population of about half a million residents. At the helm of South East CDC is Mayor Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman, who steers efforts in achieving the three strategic thrusts that guide the work of the CDCs. Termed the "ABCs of Community Bonding" – Assisting the Needy, Bonding the People and Connecting the Community – South East CDC initiates and manages programmes in collaboration with both community and corporate partners along these three strategic thrusts, so as to nurture a vibrant and self-reliant community.

For more information on South East CDC, visit www.cdc.org.sg/SouthEast or be our Facebook fan at www.facebook.com/secdc.

Watch *Between Consciousness* at:

Mountbatten Community Club, Performance Centre

35 Jalan Satu

25 February 2016, Thurs, 3pm

26 February 2016, Fri, 3pm & 8pm

27 February 2016, Sat, 3pm

Siglap South Community Centre, Multi-Purpose Hall

6 Palm Road

3 March 2016, Thurs, 3pm

4 March 2016, Fri, 3pm & 8pm

5 March 2016, Sat, 3pm

Marine Parade Community Club, Theatre

278 Marine Parade Road

17 March 2016, Thurs, 3pm

18 March 2016, Fri, 3pm & 8pm

19 March 2016, Sat, 3pm

Between Consciousness Team

Playwright	Isaac Lim
Director	Thong Pei Qin
Performers	Al-Matin Yatim Ivan Lim Ali Anwar
Set Designer	Gerald Leow
Lighting Designer	Stephen Kwek
Publicity Designer	Chang Sheau Ling
Production Stage Manager	Natasha May
Stagehand	Megan Sin

TheatreWorks Team

Artistic Director (on leave of absence)	Ong Keng Sen
Managing Director	Tay Tong
Project Manager	Mervyn Quek
Engagement Executive	Ezzat Alkaff
Production Coordinator	Ganesh Jayabal
Administrator	Ong Soo Mei
Finance & Accounts	Rosalyn Zaldua
Ambassadors' Coordinator	Lee Wei Ting

We would like to thank our partners and sponsors for their support

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Mountbatten CC
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Marine Parade CC



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And we would like to thank many others who made this tour possible

Members of the Press & Media
TheatreWorks' dedicated Ambassadors