

In Partnership With

THEATREWORKS



Mixed

Written by
Raemae Koh

Directed by
Tan Shou Chen

Touring the South East
District from 23 February
to 11 March 2017

FREE ADMISSION

THEATREWORKS
WRITING &
COMMUNITY

<http://writingandcommunity2017.wordpress.com>

Photography by Law Kian Yan

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 *Mixed* 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 harness potential creativity from the community
- Winning Playwrights are nurtured and developed
- These productions return to the community by the way of the annual **Performance Tour** with free performances at venues in the community, primarily of the South East District
- The plays become the catalyst for the community to reflect and discuss important issues related to living in Singapore

For more information please visit <https://writingandcommunity2017.wordpress.com>

SYNOPSIS

Growing up Chindian in Singapore has not been easy for Anika Lee. Her parents, Cassandra and Lee, have fought hard their whole life to protect their kids from racial tensions both in their family and out. At 21, Anika has cultivated a fire in her that allows her to navigate the difficulties of being mixed. Now a teacher-in-training, she is whole, and ready to fight for what she believes in. She even has her eye on a guy at the job she loves...

Mixed scrutinises a racial divide that is supposedly cracked, bringing to light fragments that still have the power to cut. *Mixed* is a play about loss, it's also about love – it's about falling. And it's about getting back up.



PLAYWRIGHT'S MESSAGE - RAEMAE KOK

Whenever I meet someone, they always ask me first... "what are you?" And I always found that question very interesting, because it always seemed to matter so much. Like what I was or wasn't would impede our friendship in some way... And whenever I told them I was mixed they'd always be like "I loved mixed people" or "mixed people are so pretty" and that's very nice, but it always just made me think of how hard my parents had to fight to get to the point where they were even allowed to be married, and that isn't nice or pretty. I have seen and heard the words people throw at you because of who your parents are, because of who you love, because of where you come from. Those words aren't very pretty either. This play is my campaign for kindness, and it's a love letter; to my parents first, and to a boy that should've learned to be brave by now.

Raemae first started writing in Secondary 3, and it was the best decision of her life. She is thankful to all the people who made her write and who give her things to write about.



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE - TAN SHOU CHEN

We can't always talk about race or privilege in an honest and open manner. I sincerely believe that the only way to bridge any chasm: sincere personal experiences shared and listened with open unjudging hearts, no matter how much we don't agree with something. Theatre offers us that, welcome.

Tan Shou Chen is a recognised theatre practitioner. Shou Chen's full bio can be found at www.shouchen.net

WHAT DOES *MIXED* MEANS TO YOU?



GABRIELE GOH KOON HUI

Mixed is a piece that touches on the subtle racism in Singapore. It made me think about my position as a Chinese Majority in Singapore.

Gabriele Goh has been acting since 2013. He was last seen in *Geylang* under WILD Rice Singapore Theatre Festival and *White Bird* under Method Production.



GRACE KALAISELVI

Mixed is a piece that touches on the need to be colour blind, on being sensitive to others and above all being human more than a race. I always thought being mixed is unique and gives you the best of both cultures and identity. But only when I dug deeper did I realise that being mixed can also be a sad, confused and lonely world where one is ostracized by both cultures and identity. Let's embrace instead of hurt.

Kalaiselvi Grace graduated from Intercultural Theatre Institute in 2014. She hopes to create intercultural works and give importance to voices of the minority and suppressed.



JOEL LOW

Mixed the play, made me aware of the implicit privilege that we Chinese, being the majority, have in Singapore. Unlike racism in other countries, racial prejudice in Singapore tends to be indirect and casual like the mindless passing remarks seen in this play. This goes back to the age-old saying that words are powerful, no matter how casual, thoughtless or brief they may be.

Joel is a final year Musical Theatre graduate from LASALLE College of the Arts. His highlights at LASALLE include playing Moritz Stiefel in *Spring Awakening* the Musical, Agwe in *Once On This Island*, and Iachimo in *Cymbeline*.



SNEHA SUDHA SANJAY

Mixed is so much more than a play with a message about interracial relationships - it's a bittersweet story about love, loss and hope. This piece explores the complexities of being human and got me thinking about how our words mean so much more than we think they do.

Just having graduated from Junior College, *Mixed* marks Sneha's debut as an actor in the professional theatre industry. She aspires to pursue her passion in acting further and looks forward to new experiences with an open mind.



SHERILYN TAN

Mixed touches on a 'mixed breed', like me, having to justify my skin colour to my name/race.

"You're too tanned for a Chinese", "oh, you can speak mandarin?", "so, what are you?", "So, your father is?, your mother is?"

Mixed is ...my skin isn't a dartboard.

Sherilyn graduated from NAFA in 2009. She was last seen in *Yesteryears CC* by PassionArts, *Letter to Juliet* by Bellepoque, *Under The Dragon Moon* by ITheatre: Creative Edge (Ace Festival), *Toy Factory's Romeo & Juliet* and *People* by ITheatre: Creative Edge.

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.

Mixed will be at...

Marine Parade Community Club, Theatrette

23 Feb, Thu, 8pm
24 Feb, Fri, 8pm
25 Feb, Sat, 12pm & 3pm

The Eurasian Community House, Multi-Purpose Hall

2 Mar, Thu, 8pm
3 Mar, Fri, 8pm

Mountbatten Community Club, Performance Centre

9 Mar, Thu, 8pm
10 Mar, Fri, 8pm
11 Mar, Sat, 3pm & 8pm

Register at <http://mixed2017.eventbrite.sg>

MIXED TEAM

Playwright	Raemae Kok
Director	Tan Shou Chen
Performers	Gabriele Goh Koon Hui Grace Kalaiselvi Joel Low Sncha Sudha Sanjay Sherilyn Tan
Lighting Designer	Stella Cheung
Set Designer	Grace Lin
Stage Manager	Chen Ruiyu
Production Intern	Nadira Pillay

THEATREWORKS TEAM

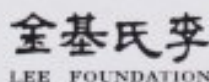
Artistic Director (On leave of absence)	Ong Keng Sen
Managing Director	Tay Tong
Project Manager	Mervyn Quak
Engagement Executive	Ezzat Alkaff
Production Coordinator	Ganesh Jayabal
Administrator	Ong Soo Mei
Finance & Accounts	Rosalyn Zaldua

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

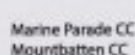
Community Partner:



Engagement Programme Sponsor:



Venue Partners:






With Support From:



**And we would like to thank many others who made this tour possible:
Members of the Press & Media
TheatreWorks dedicated Ambassadors**

www.theatreworks.org.sg | www.72-13.com

Like us at TheatreWorksSg   

TheatreWorks (S) Ltd is a recipient of the National Arts Council Major Grant for the period from 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2019.