

Presented by

**THEATREWORKS**  
ARTISTIC DIRECTION ONG KENG SEN



In Partnership with



# THE GOOD FARMER

**Written by Christopher Chee**  
**Directed by Grace Kalaiselvi**

**Touring the South East District from 8 – 24 March 2018**  
**Free Admission**



Photo: Nadeya Photography

**'WE SHARE THE SAME BIRTHDAY. BUT...'**



## 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 through harnessing its talents and creativity.

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
- Nurtures and develops winning playwrights
- Return these productions to the community with an annual performance tour with free performances in the community, primarily in the South East District
- Enables the plays to become the catalyst for the community to reflect and discuss important issues related to living in Singapore

The presentation of *The Good Farmer* is part of TheatreWorks' Writing & Community programme in partnership with the South East CDC to nurture and develop new playwrights from the community.

## SYNOPSIS

Jacob Teo and Joseph Teo are identical twins born minutes apart. Jacob on 30th June and Joseph on 1st July. Out of convenience, their birthdays are celebrated on the same day each year on 1st July... starting from when they were 11, the age they were separated into EM1 and EM2, all the way till adulthood. One child excelled in his studies while the other struggled to keep up. Average Jacob Teo versus Public Service Commission scholar Joseph Teo. Was it favouritism or inferiority complex that made them different? And what happens when one child goes missing?

## PLAYWRIGHT'S MESSAGE: CHRISTOPHER CHEE



I am thankful to TheatreWorks and the production team of *The Good Farmer* for granting the characters who first came into existence as indistinct words in my mind the opportunity to be transformed into what you see on stage today. I was once told that words set free from the mind, having life breathed into them, no longer exclusively belong to anyone. I am thankful for my mother and younger brother, for the words first belonged to them. Lastly, to you the audience, thank you for being here; now these "words" belong to you too.

Christopher has been in love with the theatre from as early as he can remember and has played different roles from acting to directing in his schools. *The Good Farmer* is his first play staged in public. He is humbled to share a little of his understanding of the world.



**DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE:  
GRACE KALEISELVI**



A simple action or a choice of word, seemingly trivial, can easily break family bonds. Before you know it, the damage is done and sometimes it's irreversible. Sibling rivalry is never an easy thing to deal with. But it's important to acknowledge and address it. Thanks to Christopher, the playwright, we are able to look at the intricacy of sibling rivalry and the role parents play to either fuel it or quell it. My sincere thanks to the wonderful team that helped me bring this play to life.

Kalaiselvi Grace, an Intercultural Theatre Institute (ITI) graduate, focuses on creating works with importance given to voices of the minority and suppressed. She is the Artistic Director of Ver Theatre and dabbles in acting, creating, directing and writing in different combinations for the stage.

**DESMOND SOH**



Desmond is a recent graduate from the Intercultural Theatre Institute. He was also from the 2nd batch of ARTivate, the youth wing of Drama Box. He is excited to be part of this show, sharing and exploring theatrical structures and how they can create spaces for conversations in the community.

**VICK LOW**

Vick graduated from LASALLE College of the Arts with a Bachelor of Arts in Music in 2015. Since then, he has composed and designed for dance and theatre. The influences for his compositions come from ambient and minimalist musicians like Brian Eno and Ryuichi Sakamoto.

**JERAMY LIM**



Jeramy enjoys learning about people and the society through acting. Some of his theatre credits include Zachariah in *The Wedding Pig* (The Second Breakfast Company) as well as Damien in *Grey Matters* (TheatreWorks). He also holds a First Class BA(Hons) in Acting from LASALLE College of the Arts, Singapore.

**STEV.E K | ARTFACTORY**

Stev.e majored in lighting in Technical Theatre whilst at LASALLE College of the Arts. Stev.e feels passionate about working towards technical precision in the projects he undertakes and how lighting influences the mood and receptiveness of audiences. Recent credits include: *Softmachine* (Choy Ka Fai), *Running with Strippers* (CAKE), *Forbidden City* (SRT), and *LITANY* (CAKE).



## ABOUT THEATREWORKS

TheatreWorks, established in 1985, is an independent and international performance company based in Singapore and is unique for its reinvention of traditional performances through a juxtaposition of aesthetics. TheatreWorks has two main red lines in its work: the first is the creation and presentation of inter-disciplinary and intercultural programmes, and the second being documentary performances. TheatreWorks reflects a concern with negotiation, synergy, and artistic sharing between individuals and societies. TheatreWorks has consciously created 72-13, a space, to have more diverse and inclusive dialogues. TheatreWorks intends to share the transcendental potential of art through innovative contemporary performances engaging audiences with uncommon alternatives.

## 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, connects stakeholders 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 hence, we brand ourselves the "Social Broker".

The Good Farmer will be at...

[Marine Parade Community Club, Theatrette](#)  
8 Mar 2018, Thu, 8pm  
9 Mar 2018, Fri, 8pm  
10 Mar 2018, Sat 3pm & 8pm

[Mountbatten Community Club, Performance Centre](#)  
15 Mar 2018, Thu, 8pm  
16 Mar 2018, Fri, 8pm  
17 Mar 2018, Sat, 3pm & 8pm

[SingPost Centre, Theatrette \(Level 5\)](#)  
23 Mar 2018, Fri, 3pm & 8pm  
24 Mar 2018, Sat, 3pm & 8pm

Register at [thegoodfarmer2018.eventbrite.sg](http://thegoodfarmer2018.eventbrite.sg)

## THE GOOD FARMER TEAM

Playwright: Christopher Chee  
Director: Grace Kalaiselvi  
Performers: Desmond Soh, Jeremy Lim  
Lighting Designer & Technical Advisor: steve k | ARTFACTORY  
Sound Designer: Vick Low  
Production Stage Manager: Jeannette Chong  
Production Intern: Rachyl Lim

## THEATREWORKS TEAM

Artistic Director: Ong Keng Sen  
Managing Director: Tay Tong  
Producing Director: Grace Low  
Project Manager: Mervyn Quek  
Engagement Executive: Ezzat Alkaff  
Administrator: Ong Soo Mei  
Finance & Accounts: Rosalyn Zaldua  
Interns: Izzul Irfan, Shazwini Rosli

Presented by:



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

Community Partner



Venue Partners



Marine Parade CCMC  
Mountbatten CCMC

With Support From



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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

[www.theatreworks.org.sg](http://www.theatreworks.org.sg) | [www.72-13.com](http://www.72-13.com)

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