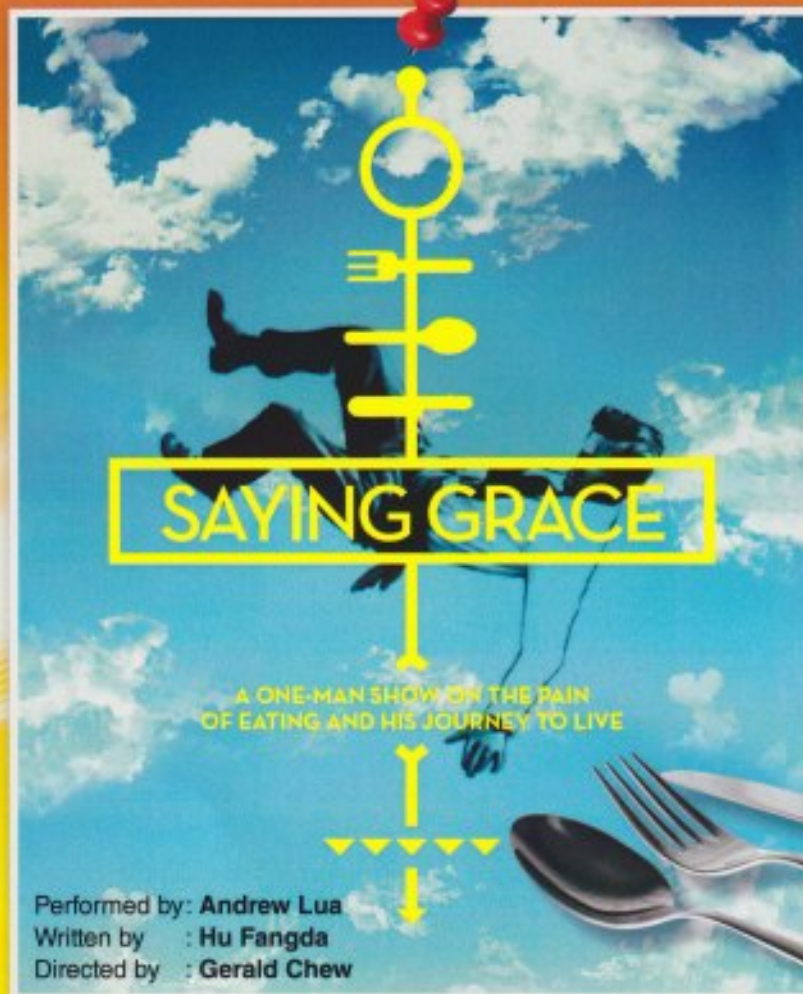


Jointly & Proudly Presented by
Siglap South Indian Activity Executive Committee,
Siglap South Neighbourhood Committee &

THEATREWORKS



Performed by: **Andrew Lua**
Written by : **Hu Fangda**
Directed by : **Gerald Chew**

A TheatreWorks Writer's Lab Community Project in partnership with the
South East Community Development Council

Guest-of-Honour
Grassroots Adviser Mr Charles Chong
Deputy Speaker of Parliament
Member of Parliament for Joo Chiat Constituency

Saturday 24 March 2012, 7.30pm
Auditorium, Siglap South CC

Message

from Guest-of-Honour

I am delighted that the Siglap South CC is steadily moving towards achieving its goal of being a Centre of Excellence in Performing Arts! This has been possible mainly due to the unstinting encouragement and support of the National Arts Council. We regularly present our own arts groups in our events and activities to liven up and bring together our residents. We also bring established arts groups to our community to stimulate interest and assist in developing arts appreciation, encourage the learning of the various art forms in our country and help our own arts groups benchmark themselves and raise their standard of performance.

SSCC is a very apt location to present thematic plays which encourage ethnic and intergenerational bonding as Joo Chiat is extremely colourful with its multi ethnic and sub ethnic resident population. We warmly welcome back TheatreWorks, in partnership with the South East Community Development Council in their presentation of *Saying Grace*.

Theatre is one of Singapore's favourite art form with a huge following. We at Joo Chiat Constituency also hope to nurture this love with commencement of regular classes on theatre for children and adults, at our CC in the future.

Have an enjoyable evening!



Grassroots Adviser
Mr Charles Chong You Fook
Deputy Speaker of Parliament
Member of Parliament for
Joo Chiat Constituency

THE SIGLAP SOUTH INDIAN ACTIVITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (IAEC) has been actively involved in organising performing arts events to bring together its very varied resident population living mainly in condos and landed properties. The underlying objective is to foster arts appreciation in the community and to promote bonding of residents irrespective of cultural or other differences. With the staunch and steady support of the National Arts Council, the IAEC has been able to showcase some of Singapore's leading artistes and raise the standard of arts presented at the SSCC as well as bringing arts to the community's doorsteps. The IAEC is indeed delighted to present *Saying Grace* - yet another milestone in making Siglap South CC truly a Centre of Excellence in Performing Arts.

THE SIGLAP SOUTH NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMITTEE organises events and activities to build, bridge and bond communities irrespective of different backgrounds. It extends outreach through engagement with many partners both within and outside the SSCC. In this manner the SSNC joins SS IAEC as a catalyst for the realisation of our goal to bring arts to the community. A wide variety of activities are organised regularly to bring residents together and to obtain feedback, and necessary action taken to address residents' concerns and needs. The performing arts play a major role in this as the majority of residents in Siglap South live in condos or landed properties and are avid arts lovers. Presenting *Saying Grace* is a sure way to meet the artistic cravings of the residents.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Eating disorders are rarely discussed, brought up in social or official circles, much less recognized as a treatable malady. Although in our country it is categorized as a form of 'mental' illness and treated as such. Fangda's intriguing play charts its effects on a man with such a condition and provides a unique insight into what it is to live with bulimia nervosa. It is also funny, bittersweet, heart-warming and a fine effort from this talented young playwright who won the Youth Category in the 24-Hour Playwriting Competition 2011. It has been a pleasure directing Andrew in the titular role, consulting with Fangda who sat in on rehearsals, and working with the extremely hardworking and capable production team. Thank you Kuan Cien our Project Manager, Robin our dramaturg, and Tay Tong of TheatreWorks for his vision and advice. I hope that this play will open up discussion on issues that the play raises; and allow for some diversity and inclusion in society of what is normally seen as 'fringe', 'marginal' or even taboo.

Gerald Chew - Director

Trained at the Central School of Speech and Drama, London, Gerald is an established actor of stage, film and television. He won a Life! Theatre Award for Best Actor in *Everything But The Brain* (Action Theatre), and has performed in Ho Tzu Nyen's *The King Lear Project* to critical acclaim. As a theatre director, he has previously directed *A Christmas Adam* (The Arts House); Tan Tarn How's *The Lady of Soul and Her Ultimate "S" Machine* (TheatreWorks); and *The Everyman Project* which participated in the Toronto Fringe Festival. In 2011, he attended the La MaMa Symposium for Directors in Umbria, Italy.



Andrew Lua - Performer

Andrew's versatility as an actor has seen him cast in vastly different roles across mediums. Filming an Indie German film in the Himalayas, as well as hosting a travelogue in Hokkaido and Taiwan are some of his personal highlights. He has also acted in various local and international commercials, and is part of the Fly Entertainment family. His first love, however, brings him on stage with credits such as *Aladdin* (Wild Rice), *Fried Rice Paradise* (Singapore Repertory Theatre & People's Association), *Off Centre* (The Necessary Stage), *The Full Monty* (Pangdemonium Productions), and *Turn By Turn We Turn* (The Finger Players).



Hu Fangda - Playwright

Fangda is a 17-year-old aspiring playwright from Raffles Institution. An active member of his school's drama society, he has written plays and acted under instructors such as Kenneth Kwok and Matthew Lyon. He also writes articles for the student paper where he has a regular column in addition to other publications. *Saying Grace* was drawn largely from unfortunate personal experiences and long struggles with severe mental illness in his family.



CREDITS

Director	Gerald Chew
Playwright	Hu Fangda
Performer	Andrew Lua
With initial dramaturgy by	Robin Loon
Set Designer	Chan Silei
Lighting Designer / Technical Consultant	Yeo Hon Beng
Graphic Designer	Francis Nirmalan
Producer	Tay Tong
Administrator	Ong Soo Mei
Project Manager	Hoo Kuan Cien
Stage Manager	Nadya Noordin
Assistant Stage Manager	Deborah Hoon
Production Crew	Ng Siaw Hui
Project Assistants	Lyra Tan Ai-Ling, Marcia Vanderstraaten
Front-of-House Team	Cassandra Teo, Sherry Yeu
Archivist	Don Aravind Rajah

FORTHCOMING EVENTS at Siglap South CC

- Commencement of Prabhu Deva Dance Academy **Bollywood Dance classes** from 28 March 2012 at our SSCC
- **Story Telling session** by Roger Jenkins Saturday 14 April 2012 , 430pm to 6pm, at SSCC
- **An Evening with Budding Bollywood Dancing Stars** @ SSCC on Saturday 21 April 2012 from 6pm to 8pm featuring students of "Sampada" Dance Studio - an evening of fun and bonding through dance.
- **"SHAMMA - E-MEHFIL" a A Hindustani Vocal Recital** by a reputed artiste Madhuvanti Bhide on Friday 4 May 2012 , 730pm to 9pm, at our SSCC .
- **Bollywood Dance Wokshop** in June 2012.
- **"Singing Nite"** in August 2012 – come together and sing favourites from Beatles, The Carpenters, Simon & Garfunkel.

Organised By



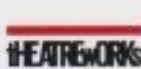
Siglap South I&EC



Siglap South CC



Siglap South
Neighbourhood Committee



In Partnership With



With Support From



NATIONAL ARTS COUNCIL
SINGAPORE



Singapore Heritage Foundation