

PRESENTED BY



NUS Arts Festival 2016

11 - 26 March



Wonderous Measure



Wonderous Measure

NUS Theatre Studies Year 3. Directed by Dr Lee Chee Keng

Fri & Sat 18 & 19 Mar | 8pm | Yale-NUS Blackbox

Sat 19 Mar | 3pm Matinee

Venue Partner: **YaleNUS College**



ABOUT NUS CENTRE FOR THE ARTS

Established in 1993, NUS Centre For the Arts (CFA) is a vibrant space for the appreciation of the arts and nurturing of the creative and inquiring spirit. It supports student engagement with the arts and the integration of the arts into the life of the University.

NUS CFA encompasses the NUS Museum, NUS Baba House and a Talent and Development arm that oversees 22 student arts excellence groups. Through its myriad of programmes, practices, exhibitions, workshops and outreach, such as NUS Arts Festival and the ExxonMobil Campus Concerts, the Centre enhances and augments the university experience and contributes to the building of knowledge and transformation of students.

CFA also manages facilities such as the University Cultural Centre, with its 1600-seat Hall and 450-seat Theatre, and rehearsal spaces in Runme Shaw CFA Studios and University Town.

For more information, visit www.cfa.nus.edu.sg.

ABOUT THE THEATRE STUDIES PROGRAMME

Established in 1992, the Theatre Studies Programme examines the practical and theoretical aspects of theatre, in both Eastern and Western traditions.

In the foundational module, students are introduced to tools of dramatic and performance analysis such as semiotics, dramaturgy and contemporary theories of performance. This is complemented by practical work in stage space, design, technical production, acting and directing. Subsequently, students majoring in Theatre Studies select modules from amongst four main groups - namely Survey, Topics in Theatre, Theory and Practice, and Performance and Cultural Studies.

TS3103 Play Production represents the culmination of a student's training in theatre. The production project provides the graduating cohort with the collaborative experience of mounting a professional theatre production as a company. Working under the guidance of a different guest director each year, students develop creative and practical skills in the various aspects of the production process as actors, stage designers, and production and marketing teams.

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Shakespeare is so entrenched in various education systems that each year millions read the Bard's work for the first time in school. This will be the beginning of various new adventures for some but will provide credence for many to say "I hate Shakespeare."

What would you remember of your education more than a decade after stepping out of your last class? That question set the devised process for *Wonderous Measure* in motion as we remember, re-examine, and rethink the means and meaning of education, and our experiences of it. Does education open up new horizon? Or does it condition, frame, or even limit, our perception and sensitivity?

In the early stages of guiding the students in devising workshop, I became sharply aware that I was framing their understanding and imagination of theatre making. I started to recall how various mentors I had the privilege to work with or observe closely often appear to offer a certain way of theatre making only to break it before I could learn it like a recipe. The spirit and aesthetics of this work have been inspired by the Indonesian theatre artist Putu Wijiya, to whom I would like to dedicate this work to.

I am blessed to be working with such an inquisitive, engaged, and energetic team. This has perhaps been a curious journey for them, and I hope they have discovered their views.

Lee Chee Keng

CREATIVE TEAM



LEE CHEE KENG (DIRECTOR)

Dr Lee Chee Keng has deep interests in actor training as well as the intersection of written text and physical body. He enjoys working on classics as well as devising text, and has worked locally and internationally with both professional and student actors. Dr Lee received his PhD (Directing) from the Central Academy of Drama in Beijing.



NORA SAMOSIR (PRODUCER)

Instructor, specialising in Acting and Voice Studies in the Theatre Studies programme, Department of English Language and Literature, NUS. Postgraduate Diploma in Voice Studies, Central School of Speech and Drama, London; MA in Theatre Studies, National University of Singapore; BA (Honours), York University, Toronto.



PEARL WEE (STAGE MANAGER)

Pearl's theatre interests began at the tender age of 12 where she performed in her first WILD RICE production. Since then, she's studied theatre in SOTA, and is currently pursuing a theatre degree in NUS. Being backstage excites her just as much as being onstage does and she hopes to have a future career in stage management.

CREDITS

Creative Team

Lee Chee Keng	Director
Nora Samosir	Producer
Pearl Wee	Stage Manager
Mac Chan	Lighting Designer
Teow Kwang Hay	Lighting Co-Designer, Set Designer
Lim Chin Huat	Choreographer

Cast List and Production Roles

All cast members listed below also support other production aspects.

Daniel Sim	Actor, Production Assistant
Emily Chee	Actor, Costume
Ezra Lee	Actor, Trailer
Hazelle Teo	Actor, Graphic Design
Joseph Teo	Actor, Trailer
Joshua Gay	Actor, Publicity
Lara Tay	Actor, Publicity, Marketing
Lee Min Jie	Actor, Photography
Phan Yi-Wen	Actor, Production Assistant
Sarah Arumugam	Actor, Graphic Design
Soh Rui Yi	Actor, Costume

Special Thanks

Mr Abdul Rashid Bin Woodi for his assistance with rehearsal venues, and his unfailing support for us from the technical room at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

Our friends and family for their encouragement and support, and for being a wonderful audience.

CAST

DANIEL SIM



Daniel has worked in theatre in various roles. Recent credits in 2015 include designing, coordinating and building the puppets, set and props for shows such as *The Spirits Play*, *Off Centre* and *Words & Music: A Love Story Told in Jazz*. Daniel is currently also pursuing directing.



JOSEPH TEO

Joseph is an avid Teh Peng connoisseur who is constantly looking forward to his next encounter with milk tea. Joseph hopes that he would one day create theatre that would inspire young people to find joy and hope in their lives. He is thankful to his parents for supporting his passion for theatre.



PHAN YI-WEN

Theatre and dance have transformed this once quiet science geek who hides in libraries into a mildly-crazy stage addict who loves performing with and for children. Yi-Wen is extremely thankful for past opportunities with Eusoff Hall, Big Boat Studio, community theatre groups and now, her Wonderous #myTSmates in NUS Theatre Studies.

EMILY CHEE



Apart from her experiences of performing as part of her school choir, Emily has only been involved in one theatre production as of date. She enjoys performances that break down barriers between audiences and actor, and thus hopes that everyone can come together as one to enjoy this graduation piece.



JOSHUA GAY

Joshua is, basically, your typical class clown. Like Mr Bean, he hopes to fill the theatre with laughter and good cheer, and infect the people around him with his contagious energy. When he isn't catching up on schoolwork while guzzling coffee, Joshua enjoys singing, making music, and making mischief with his wacky theatre friends.



SARAH ARUMUGAM

Holding a Diploma in Arts Business Management from Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Sarah enjoys working behind-the-scenes at arts events. She was the Vice-Chief of her cohort's inaugural one day arts festival, *Verve 2011*, and interned at the Singapore Symphony Orchestra's Marketing and Communications department. *Wonderous Measure* marks her first official theatre performance.

EZRA LEE



Ezra is no stranger to the performing arts. From crooning along to jazz tunes to contemporary dance, he covers all the bases for a musical (this is a not-so-subtle hint at his ambitions). Theatre, his current passion, was realised only recently and he hopes to pursue it in the future.



LARA TAY

Lara has lived in seven countries but she feels most at home onstage. With a strong passion for music and theatre, her inspiration comes from meeting new people and working with children. She loves traveling, singing, songwriting, her guitar-lele, acting, and directing. Lara hopes to pursue a career combining the arts and events management.



SOH RUI YI

Soh Rui Yi, a Year 3 Theatre Studies Major in National University of Singapore, is delighted to have her theatre debut in *Wonderous Measure*. To her, theatre has the ability to bring the audience into the world of the story, and temporarily leave their own lives. This magical experience is what draws her strongly to theatre.

HAZELLE TEO



It has always been Hazelle's dream to perform. At the age of 22, she has acted on screen in a movie, a drama series and a few advertisements. However, this is only the second time she will be performing theatre on stage, and she cannot be more psyched!



LEE MIN JIE

Min Jie's love for the arts began in CJC when he dabbled in Chinese Drama. Theatre's ability to immerse one in another world was what captivated him. To revisit that magic post-production, he typically pens his thoughts down. He is part of 2016's cycle of citizen reviewers with Centre 42.



ABOUT NUS ARTS FESTIVAL

As the flagship arts platform of NUS, NUS Arts Festival brings together students and alumni in collaboration with international and local professional artists, inspiring fresh insights and compelling artistic works with unique Asian influences.

This 2016, the Festival theme of WONDER encourages us to consider how our capacity for wonder and imagination is affected as our interactions increasingly take place via mobile screens and computers. We ask "Can fresh discoveries of the world through emerging sciences like quantum physics reawaken our delight in the world and re-ignite wonder?"

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