

ArtsPicks

Olivia Ho Arts Correspondent recommends



ROLEX PERPETUAL MUSIC
This series of online concerts, launched by luxury watchmaker Rolex, will take place in Italy, Germany and France, but play to viewers in more than 180 countries over streaming service Medici TV.
Mexican opera singer, stage director and author Rolando Villazon (above), French violinist Renaud Capucon, Bulgarian-Swiss soprano Sonya Yoncheva (right) and Peruvian tenor Juan Diego Florez will host the concerts, which will involve about 100 artists.
Rolex director of communication and image Arnaud Boetsch says: "Our aim is to support the world of music

and provide the opportunity to musicians and singers to have their art live on by performing at prestigious venues with the finest acoustics.
"Within the context of these unprecedented circumstances, this project is also a way for us to help keep music as an essential element in our daily lives."
WHERE: medici.tv
WHEN: Today (Florez at Teatro Rossini); Sept 1 (Yoncheva at Berlin Staatsoper) and Sept 3 (Villazon and Capucon at Opera National de Paris). All concerts will be available to stream until the end of October
ADMISSION: Free



GENTLE DAYLIGHT
The intricate, delicate hand-cut paper sculptures (left) of Ashley Yeo's solo exhibition revolve around themes of lightness and slowness. Yeo, the first Singaporean artist to be shortlisted for the Loewe Craft Prize, works with colour in these new sculptures.
WHERE: Mizuma Gallery, 01-34 Gillman Barracks, 22 Lock Road MRT: Labrador Park **WHEN:** Tomorrow to Sept 13, 11am to 7pm (Tuesdays to Saturdays); 11am to 6pm (Sundays); closed on Mondays and public holidays **ADMISSION:** Free
INFO: www.mizuma.sg



PHOTOS: DAHLIA OSMAN AND PLURAL ART MAG, FARIS NAKAMURA AND PLURAL ART MAG, ASHLEY YEO, ROLEX, THE COMMUNITY THEATRE

OUR HEARTLANDS
This online exhibition, developed by Plural Art Mag as part of the #SGCulture Anywhere campaign, features works by 100 local artists about sites in Singapore close to their hearts.
In charcoal and coloured pencil, Dahlia Osman puts down on paper the memories of Istana Woodneuk (above), an abandoned two-storey palace near the former Tyersall Park which her grandfather was chief caretaker of and where her parents were married.
Faris Nakamura's sculpture From Now On You Will Not Be Alone (above, right) depicts Shaw Lodge Dormitory, a purpose-built dormitory for migrant workers which was gazetted as an isolation area during the Covid-19 outbreak. The artist seeks to question the artificial social divides between the workers and the wider Singaporean community.



In summoned by the forest spirit along the yellow trail, Priyageetha Dia places a Mylar blanket in her signature gold hue amid the foliage of Bukit Timah Nature Reserve, one of Singapore's few remaining stretches of tropical primary rainforest.
Many of the works are for sale, while others are only for show. A jackpot button leads you to a work at random.
INFO: ourheartlands.pluralartmag.com

THE COMMUNITY THEATRE 5TH ANNIVERSARY

Voluntary welfare organisation Beyond Social Services marks the fifth anniversary of its arts outreach programme, The Community Theatre (TCT), with a digital line-up of performances and workshops.
TCT's interactive performances involve young artists from rental flat neighbourhoods and low-income backgrounds.
Community worker Izzaty Ishak, 29, says: "We provide a space for our youth where we see their experiences and stories as strengths or gifts to help others learn and reflect.
"Oftentimes, these stories are used to provoke sympathy or to ask for help, but TCT wants to disrupt that narrative. We stop seeing our youth as participants, clientele or even beneficiaries. We start seeing them as young people who can contribute and be volunteers or leaders for their community."
The line-up includes a reading of an original script, Something In The Air, as well as an online screening of last year's docu-performance The Block Party (above, right) by Rizman Putra in collaboration with local cinema The Projector.
In Human Library, audiences pick



two out of five "books", in which various youth volunteers, social workers and artists share stories over Zoom and invite viewers to join in the conversation.
In one such "book", Mossamad Sobikun Nahar and Muhd Aiman Yusri talk about navigating issues such as drug addiction, family problems and mental health through applied drama, writing and photography.
Aiman, 16, says: "I want to share how theatre allowed me to express my

thoughts, emotions and stories on stage. We do this in Youth Stories (a TCT programme) a lot and I learn that when we do this, we get to see the bigger picture of the issue."
WHERE: Facebook and Zoom
WHEN: Tomorrow to Aug 28, various timings
ADMISSION: Free. Registration required for Human Library at bit.ly/TCTHumanLibrary
INFO: www.beyond.org.sg/TCT and facebook.com/beyondsocialservices

SINGAPORE LITERATURE PRIZE

Tune in to the first virtual ceremony for the Singapore Literature Prize, which will be live-streamed from the Singapore Book Council's Facebook and YouTube pages.
The award, which is Singapore's oldest ongoing literary prize in all four official languages, goes on this year despite the Covid-19 pandemic, albeit with drastic cuts to the prize money from \$10,000 to \$3,000 in the 12 categories of fiction, creative non-fiction and poetry in Chinese,

English, Malay and Tamil.
For the first time, members of the public will get to vote for their favourites in the inaugural Readers' Favourite category. The winning writers will receive \$1,000 in cash, while voters stand a chance to win book vouchers.
WHERE: Singapore Book Council's Facebook and YouTube pages
WHEN: Thursday, 8pm
ADMISSION: Free
INFO: Go to bookcouncil.sg or www.facebook.com/singaporebookcouncil

ARTS

BOOKS

E-Book Launch: Voyageurs, Explorateurs Et Scientifiques: The French And Natural History In Singapore

Sir Stamford Raffles' arrival in Singapore in 1819 set in motion a period of momentous scientific contributions by the French. French explorers, naturalists, diplomats, traders and noblemen visited Singapore and played a part in its natural history. This book is filled with such stories and records and produced in collaboration with the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum and the Museum national d'Histoire naturelle in Paris.
WHERE: Download at lknhm.nus.edu.sg/publications/books-by-the-museum
INFO: bit.ly/3iWCoST

Book Lovers Club: Uncovering The Hidden Prejudice That Shapes What We See, Think, And Do by Jennifer L. Eberhardt

In this online event by the National Library Board, explore ideas by Jennifer L. Eberhardt, an expert on unconscious bias and how it affects society. Participants will discover how implicit bias can affect those who wish to treat all people equally.
WHEN: Tomorrow, 3pm
ADMISSION: Free, registration required **INFO:** eventbrite.com

CONCERTS

Altenburg Arts Goes Digital: L'Invitation Au Voyage – Recital By Zhou Zhengzhong

In this online streaming, catch a replay of rising star baritone Zhou Zhengzhong's Singapore debut recital, L'Invitation Au Voyage, at the Victoria Concert Hall last year. Zhou's recital debut featured a selection of operatic arias and art and folk songs, including music by Rossini, Verdi and Bizet.
WHERE: Sistic Live Stream
WHEN: Till Sept 20 **ADMISSION:** Pay as you wish: \$10 to \$60

EXHIBITIONS (GALLERIES)

Exploring Southeast Asia: A Journey Through Art And Time

This curated showcase from the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts' (Nafa) permanent collection offers a glimpse of the art practices and cultural hallmarks of the region as interpreted by artists in Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand. The exhibited works span from 1949 to last year and are grouped by themes.
WHERE: The Ngee Ann Kongsi Galleries 1 & 2, Nafa Campus 1, 80 Bencoolen Street
MRT: City Hall/Bugis
WHEN: Till Oct 25, 11am - 7pm (closed on Mon)
ADMISSION: Free
INFO: E-mail artgalleries@nafa.edu.sg

THEATRE

The Importance Of Being Earnest By Wild Rice

Wild Rice presents its award-winning, gender-bending production of Oscar Wilde's The Importance Of Being Earnest. Director Glen Goel casts an all-male ensemble, including Ivan Heng, Hossan Leong and Chua Enlai. For a small contribution of US\$10 (\$S13.90), you can enjoy the production at home for 48 hours. The proceeds help contribute to the theatre company's survival and protect the livelihoods of its staff.
WHERE: On demand via Vimeo
WHEN: Till Aug 30
ADMISSION: US\$10 (\$S13.90)
INFO: bit.ly/31cTyg1

The Peranakan Association Singapore Presents Bibiks Behind Bars, Kena Again!

This is a screening of an original musical first staged in 2015 at The Peranakan Arts Festival and commissioned by the Peranakan Association. The raucous and hilarious musical tells the lives of vivacious, fun-loving, and cherki-and-mahjong-mad bibiks in Joo Chiat. The screening celebrates the association's 120th anniversary.
WHERE: Peranakan Association's Facebook page **WHEN:** Till Sept 19
ADMISSION: Free, but viewers can make a donation at peranakan.org.sg/donate
INFO: bit.ly/31e5oGC

OPEN CALL

Write For Kindness 2020

Secondary school and tertiary students are invited to take part in this competition. Form a team of five (storywriting and illustration) or two (poetry writing and illustration) within your school. All teams must attend online workshops to learn fundamental skills in writing and illustrating for a younger audience which are conducted by established local writers and illustrators. Prizes worth up to \$250 are up for grabs. The winning story will be published for pre-school centres and the winning poem will appear in the Singapore Kindness Movement's children's newsletter. The organisation is partnering the Singapore Book Council for the workshops, in conjunction with Open: Young Writers Lab.
WHERE: Online Zoom sessions
WHEN: Dates for workshops: Sept 7, 10am - noon (poetry writing & illustration); Sept 8 & 9, 2 - 4pm (storywriting & illustration)
ADMISSION: Registration required
INFO: bit.ly/3g9oZMh

Networking Travel Programme In Germany

The Goethe-Institut has launched an initiative that will allow both established and emerging founders, leaders and managers of art spaces from South-east Asia, Australia and New Zealand to network with their

counterparts in Germany. The programme focuses on art spaces and collaborative projects.
WHEN: Apply by Aug 31
INFO: bit.ly/34juR3k

HDB Cool Ideas Hack 2020 – Designing Ideas For The Heartlands Of Tomorrow

This three-day online "hackathon" challenges innovators from all walks of life to come together and develop technology-enabled solutions that encourage smart and sustainable living in Housing Board estates. Shortlisted teams will move on to the four-week Pre-Accelerator programme, designed to help them build their business models and bring their ideas to life with guidance and mentoring from global leaders and partners.
WHEN: Sept 18, 5pm - Sept 20, 9pm
ADMISSION: Free
INFO: thestartupx.com/hdb-cool-ideas-hack

COMEDY

Punchliners Comedy Show Featuring Devesh Dixit Live In Singapore

Devsh Dixit is a Delhi-based stand-up comedian who has been writing and telling jokes for more than four years. His act, like his life, revolves around himself. The show will be performed in a mix of English and Hindi.
WHERE: Zoom Space
WHEN: Aug 30, 9pm **ADMISSION:** \$10
INFO: sistic.com.sg

OTHER ARTS EVENTS

Between 5 Cows And The Deep Blue Sea

In this dramatised reading by Brown Voices, Girl walks a tightrope between traditional arranged marriages and today's modern dating culture as she struggles to establish her identity and independence. Brown Voices is Singapore's first collective of Indian theatre practitioners and playwrights that supports, encourages and trains the writing of quality scripts for the stage. As there is some mature content and coarse language, this reading is recommended for those aged 16 years and older.
WHERE: esplanade.com
WHEN: Till Sept 11, 4pm
ADMISSION: Free

baca skrip: #Causeway

This is an online Malay reading of Alfian Sa'at's earlier work that explores the relationship between Singapore and its closest neighbour, Malaysia. Written at age 21, it won him a Commendation Award by the Malay Language Council in 1998. Consisting of eight chapters performed by a cast of seven, the reading will take the audience on a tour of common histories and shared pop culture. In Malay with accompanying Malay text and English subtitles.
WHEN: Aug 28, 8pm
ADMISSION: \$10
INFO: bacaskripcauseway.peatix.com