

## PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Centre 42 presents:



*Experience a medley of text-based performances under one roof as part of the Singapore Night Festival 2017*

**Singapore, 10 July 2017** – Centre 42 is presenting two magical nights of free textual adventures and performances, as **Late-Night Texting** returns as part of the Singapore Night Festival. Following the success of the inaugural edition in 2016, which was attended by over 3,000 people, Late-Night Texting will be held on **25 & 26 August 2017** this year.

As a theatre development space, Centre 42 is committed to supporting independent and up-and-coming performing arts groups. Late-Night Texting is one of several in-house programmes that provides artists with a platform to play with new ideas and showcase their works. It's also a great opportunity for members of the public to experience a wide spectrum of performances that involve the use of text in a casual setting within the charming enclave of Waterloo Street.

Says company manager Ma Yanling: "The seed for Late-Night Texting was planted in 2016 when some artists approached us with ideas to try out short performances that are easy to stage and are fun for both the performers and audiences. By situating this event alongside the annual Singapore Night Festival, we wanted to contribute to the vibrancy of Waterloo Street during the precinct-wide event. We also hoped to bring new audiences into our blue house to get to know text-based works presented by local artists. Last year's inaugural edition was a hit – the positive responses exceeded our expectations! So this year, we're hoping that with two nights, more people can encounter a greater number of new works and come back for seconds."

A line-up of **over 30 performances** from **seven groups** will keep visitors enthralled from **6pm** all the way to **11pm** on both nights. Whether it's receiving a customised typewritten poem, watching exciting new short plays performed for the first time, or laughing out loud with a bunch of improv comedians, there's a whole lot of fun to be had at Late-Night Texting.

This year's programme line-up sees the return of some familiar names. This includes ONE MIC STAND by **destination: INK**, who's back with a night of improvised poetry, stories, and movement. EAT MY SHORTS by **Dark Matter Theatrics** will be taking to the stage again with more ten-minute short plays written by young local playwrights. We will also be welcoming back the gang from the **Proletariat Poetry Factory (PPF)** for NIGHT SHIFT, which will see a stable of "poetry factory workers" crafting poems based on words provided

by the audience. PPF had previously transformed the blue house into a poetry-making factory in its 2015 Singapore Night Festival event, Alt-Topia.

Newcomers to this year's edition of Late-Night Texting include **The Latecomers**, a group of improv comedians who will be turning audience members' suggestions into jokes on the spot in TEXT WITH ME. Meanwhile, playwright collective **Main Tulis Group** will showcase nine nine-minute plays in Malay and English in ETA: 9 MIN. For something more intimate, **Telling Stories Live** will present #NOFILTER, where storytellers will be sharing strange but true stories about things that go bump in the night.

Independent bookshop **BooksActually** will be returning as a pop-up store selling a range of books, magazines, and other knickknacks. On top of that, the team will also host a new programme titled BETWEEN THE LINES, where author Tania de Rozario and Daryl Yam will be sharing excerpts from their work.

Last but not least, **Coffee Bandits** will once again be bringing their food truck back to keep revellers going late into the night with snacks and tipples.

Please refer to the annexes below for further information.

**For interview opportunities and other media enquiries, please contact:**

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## **ANNEX A – About**

### **Centre 42**

Centre 42 is a non-profit organisation with IPC status committed to the creation, documentation and promotion of texts and writings for the Singapore stage. We incubate original writing for production development; provide space for artists and new work creation; and develop a functional archive documenting the histories and processes of Singapore theatre. Centre 42 is developed in collaboration with the National Arts Council, and officially opened in 2014.

### **destination: INK**

destination: INK is Singapore's longest running open-open mic and an incubator for original literary/visual/sonic experiments. It is held every second Monday of the month at Blujaz Cafe (8pm). This year's line-up for One-Mic Stand at Late-Night Texting includes Ang Shuang, Harini Vee, Joses Ho, Laika Jumabhoy, Max Pasakon, Pranamika Subhalaxmi, Praval Visvanath, Will Beale and Charlene Shepherdson.

### **Dark Matter Theatrics**

Dark Matter Theatrics is a theatre collective interested in the uncommon in common stories. They search for the magic in the mundane, focusing on creating contemporary theatre that interests, inspires and invigorates the common folk. They aim to foster artistic development in the people involved in their productions with an emphasis on local playwrights. They also aim to create universality through specificity with the stories that come from the common folk, in hopes of giving voice to a generation of people who have much to say about the society and world they live in. This edition of Eat My Shorts at Late-Night Texting premieres plays by young playwrights mentored by Marcia Vanderstraaten and Faith Ng.

### **Proletariat Poetry Factory**

Appearing in flea markets, music festivals and literature events, the Proletariat Poetry Factory is committed to making poetry available to the public. Give them a word to inspire the poem, leave a name behind, collect the typewritten poem and pay any amount for it. A constant audio feed by The Board of Supreme Controllers via headphones aims to maximise productivity, by maintaining servility of poet labourers and complete mental submission to the system.

### **The Latecomers**

The Latecomers are an international improvisational comedy troupe based in Singapore. Founded in 2014, they create songs, sketches and memorable characters on the spot, based on suggestions from the audience and their own wondrous minds. The team is led by stand-up and improv comedian Joanna Sio, and stars fellow stand-up comedians from Singapore and beyond.

### **Main Tulis Group**

Main Tulis Group (translated literally as "Play Write Group") is a writers' circle for playwrights who create work in English and Malay. It is a safe space where Malay playwrights of various ages can meet to share their works-in-progress, exchange ideas and provide critique, with the view to produce more original writing for the stage. Centre 42 is the home of Main Tulis Group. Its current members are: Adib Kosnan, Ahmad Musta'ain, Farhanah Mohid, Hazwan Norly, Jonny Jon-Jon Zahari, Nabilah Said, Nessa Anwar, Nur Sabrina Dzulkifli and Zulfadli Rashid (Big). ETA: 9 MIN is Main Tulis Group's first outing as a collective presenting new short plays.

### **Telling Stories Live**

Founded by two passionate story hounds who discovered their mutual love for consuming podcasts and audio stories at a cast party, Shireen Abdullah and Petrina Kow formed Telling

Stories Live as a platform to showcase true stories told in front of a live audience. They firmly believe that with a little help, everyone can tell a great story, and with an open mind and a listening ear, we can build a more compassionate and communicative society. Part performance, part therapy and a whole lot of love, come and experience what it's like to be swept away by the beauty and simplicity of Telling Stories Live.

### **BooksActually**

BooksActually (est. 2005) is an independent bookstore specialising in Literature (including obscure and critical works). In their bookstore, you can often find literary trinkets in the form of stationery and other lovely tchotchkes. They publish and distribute books under their imprint Math Paper Press, and they also hand-stitch notebooks and produce stationery under Birds & Co.

### **Coffee Bandits**

Coffee Bandits is Singapore's only coffee specialty food truck. Besides coffee, they serve food and pride themselves on great service. This is the third year Coffee Bandits is partnering with Centre 42 for the Night Festival event; fuelling visitors with night bites, caffeine and alcohol to last the texting experiences.

**ANNEX B – Fact Sheet**

**Title:** Late-Night Texting

**Date:** Friday 25 August & Saturday 26 August 2017

**Time:** 6pm – 11pm

**Venue:** Centre 42, 42 Waterloo Street, Singapore 187951

**Admission:** Free

**Website:** <https://centre42.sg/LNT2017>

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