

PRESS RELEASE
For immediate release

Centre 42 presents:



Fun, bite-sized theatre performances created by up-and-coming theatre makers take centre stage at Singapore Night Festival event this year

Singapore, 12 July 2018 — Centre 42's **Late-Night Texting** is back for its third edition as part of the Singapore Night Festival on **24 and 25 August 2018**. This year, visitors are invited to experience two nights of theatrical magic at the blue house at 42 Waterloo Street. They will be treated to over 30 performances by four newly-formed or up-and-coming local groups, which will be taking place in various spaces around the compound from sunset at **7pm all the way until 11pm**.

As a theatre development space, Centre 42 supports the creation, documentation, and promotion of text-based works for the Singapore stage. The previous two editions of Late-Night Texting experimented with the possibilities of text-based performances to include genres such as improv comedy and spoken word poetry, and over 6,000 visitors attended the 2017 event. For this year, bite-sized theatre performances will take centre stage.

Says Ma Yanling, Centre 42's company manager: "Having built a following and anticipation for Late-Night Texting over the past two years, we want to bring the focus back to our core medium this time: the dramatic text. It will allow audiences – especially new ones – to acquaint themselves with more local plays, and grow positive experiences about Singapore theatre. Among the diverse offerings of the Singapore Night Festival, Late-Night Texting will be the place to go to for good ol' theatre."

At Centre 42, relationships with artists and their growth are the key ingredients that drive partnerships and collaborations. This is reflected in the line-up of Late-Night Texting, and this year's programme comprises work by a mix of returning and new artist-collaborators. They include:

"Eat My Shorts" by Dark Matter Theatrics: Enjoy bite-sized theatre in which the unofficial rule is "minimal fuss, maximum fun"! "Eat My Shorts" is a series of 10-minute short plays written by local playwrights and performed by a small cast of four actors.

“ETA: 9MIN” by Main Tulis Group: Seven playwrights from the playwright collective will present dramatised readings of original nine-minute Malay- and English-language plays in two recurring sessions, themed “Arrival” and “Departure”.

“Legends of the Islands” by GroundZ-0: Singapore is not just one island, but made up of many, many islands! “Legends of the Islands” tells the stories of four of these islands in the style of a multilingual street *wayang* performance, performed in English, Malay, Mandarin and Hokkien.

“Lovebites” by The Second Breakfast Company: What does it mean to love and be in love in Singapore? Have our ideas of love changed over time? “Lovebites” explores the universal theme through four pairs of excerpts from old and new Singaporean plays.

For something more literary, independent local bookshop **BooksActually** will return with a pop-up store selling a range of books and magazines, as well as a curation of programmes such as panel discussions and book launches. **Coffee Bandits** will also bring their bright yellow food truck back to our courtyard to keep visitors full and hydrated through the night.

Admission to all Late-Night Texting programmes is free, and on a first-come, first-served basis.

More information about this year’s programme can be found [here](#).

A video of the 2017 edition can be viewed [here](#).

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. Find out more at: www.centre42.sg

Dark Matter Theatrics

Dark Matter Theatrics is a theatre collective interested in the uncommon in common stories. Founded by playwright-director Christopher Fok, actor Lian Sutton, and playwright Marcia Vanderstraaten, 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.

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).

GroundZ-0

GroundZ-0 is a newly-formed multilingual experimental inter-space initiated by Zelda Tatiana Ng, which aims to explore, research, promote and produce intercultural and cross-genres/disciplines works in Singapore. GroundZ-0 is interested in the experimentation of traditional arts forms (especially Chinese Opera and Japanese Noh) in contemporary theatre. It also seeks opportunities to work with various international artists in order to share research and learn knowledge across nationalities, races and cultures. Through explorations and experiments, GroundZ-0 aspires to find, define and redefine the Singaporean and global identities.

The Second Breakfast Company

The Second Breakfast Company is a youth-initiated theatre group that started in 2016. One of the tenets of The Second Breakfast Company is to stage local works in order to build a consciousness of the local canon. In the same way that international plays are read, staged and re-staged, the company hopes that the Singapore audience too will understand local works in the same way. Its second tenet is to support new works written and performed by young artists of their generation.

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 24 August & Saturday 25 August 2018

Time: 7pm – 11pm

Venue: Centre 42, 42 Waterloo Street, Singapore 187951

Admission: Free

Website: centre42.sg/LNT2018

Late-Night Texting is presented by Centre 42 as part of the Singapore Night Festival.

LATE-NIGHT TEXTING
IS PRESENTED BY:



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