

A FESTIVAL FOR EVERYONE

GEORGE
TOWN
FESTIVAL™
PENANG • MALAYSIA

15
30
JULY
2023

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www.georgetownfestival.com



Message by
YAB Chow Kon Yeow
The Chief Minister of Penang

George Town Festival (GTF) has had a remarkable journey, especially in the past three years, where the challenges of the pandemic required various forms of adjustment. As a result, we have experienced three very different versions of GTF, from the digital to hybrid and a scaled-back physical edition in 2022. Despite these challenges, the Festival has remained a testament of support and encouragement to creativity, featuring new and original works with many responding to, and communicating the changes around us.

The overwhelming positive response to GTF proves its relevance; its dedication to the arts has resulted in its recognition as the "main highlight on the global arts calendar" (Tatler Asia, 2022) and one of the "best music [and arts] festivals in Southeast Asia" (Lifestyle Asia, 2022).

This year, GTF 2023 marks another chapter as a fully live event celebrating the complexities of our human experiences, beautifully crafted and presented through varied art forms. I am also excited to experience the diverse artistic representation, which repositions the Festival as a vibrant international stage for arts and culture.

Even more so, I am happy that GTF 2023 continues to be a people-centric platform that has thrived on community spirit. The past few iterations have been driven by the overarching theme, 'A Festival For Everyone' - an apt approach to broadening local engagement with the arts. One of these measures is organising arts events in neighbourhoods located beyond the inner city of George Town, held outdoors to facilitate community gatherings. This contributes to the concept of bringing arts to the doorstep, thereby increasing community engagement and deepening the awareness and appreciation for the arts.

I express my heartiest congratulations to the organiser and all those involved in ensuring George Town Festival remains a platform that continues to impact our society. As we revel in the empowering influence of the arts, I hope all of us will take time to explore the rich tapestry of artistic expressions, deepen our appreciation for the arts and expand how we see ourselves in a new light, translated by the infinite power and possibilities of the arts.

This is the movement we celebrate today.



Message by

YB Yeoh Soon Hin

Penang State EXCO

for Tourism and Creative Economy (PETACE)

Penang is a dynamic epicentre of tourism, renowned for its culture, heritage, naturescapes, food and lifestyle. Throughout the year, Penang comes alive with a multitude of cultural events and festivities, captivating and enthralling visitors from all corners of the globe.

The State, through PETACE, is committed to enhancing the creative economy ecosystem with various initiatives and strategies, including the production of the Penang Tourism Master Plan 2021-2030 to steer growth and sustainable development for tourism. Envisaging the arts, culture and heritage as an asset to economic development and social enrichment, the State has consistently endorsed and supported various cultural, religious events and large-scale festivals.

As such, George Town Festival (GTF) 2023 remains an integral part of the local arts ecosystem as a platform that enhances the value of arts, culture and heritage. This is seen primarily through the various partnerships and collaborations among local and international art practitioners, expanding the opportunities for cultural exchange, networking among creatives and stimulating the creative economy by serving as an avenue for new ideas and productions. These aspects positively contribute to job creation and employment, especially in the arts and culture industry, and are also linked to objectives to promote tourism.

In addition, GTF 2023 hosts performances in niche venues, lesser-known spaces and outdoor environments across localities in Penang, thereby expanding the experiences of the arts and our local heritage while increasing the visibility of these spaces. This is a distinctive feature of the Festival. The continued presence of GTF also helps distribute economic benefits to local businesses by encouraging footfall, boosting the hospitality sector, and increasing vendor opportunities.

As the State continues its commitment to build, nurture and strengthen its creative industry, I encourage you to join us in the effort to invest in our collective strands of creativity for the benefit of the state and country. I hope that you will have an inspiring experience throughout GTF 2023.



Message by

Dr Ang Ming Chee

General Manager

George Town World Heritage Incorporated (GTWHI)

In 2008, the George Town Heritage City was inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site for its Outstanding Universal Values (OUV) in multiculturalism, evidenced in the city's tangible and intangible heritage. From its historical roots to its current urban environs, the inner city has demonstrated a succession of this unparalleled value, retaining its authenticity in the presence of globalisation and urbanity.

The people of George Town bear testimony to being a living multicultural heritage with harmonious spaces throughout the cityscapes for people of different religions and cultures to coexist. This has influenced and inspired much of our heritage, including the historic and religious buildings, languages, food and the arts. While traces of this can be observed and felt in everyday life around the city, they are best experienced and witnessed through platforms such as George Town Festival.

The Festival paves the way for the complex expressions of heritage through the arts, all unique and creative expressions of storytelling, cultural perspectives and human experiences. This facilitates increased interactions among stakeholders like you and me while catalysing newer experiences that inspire and transform, encouraging us to learn from each other and build on these relationships for better futures.

Of paramount importance, George Town Festival has proven to be a vital avenue for the public to participate in conserving our multiculturalism while expanding perspectives of heritage and shared narratives from around the world. This increases engagement and spurs discourse on the value of multiculturalism in our society, especially among the youth and children, thereby encouraging the continued safeguarding of our beloved city. George Town Festival, therefore, speaks the language of remembrance and celebration of our personal and collective heritage and cultures and calls for the continued sustainability and vitality of culture and heritage in our lives in the days to come.

I take this opportunity to thank TLM Event and the team, led by Mr Jack Wong, for their tremendous commitment and professionalism in executing George Town Festival since 2019. I also express my appreciation to all the participating artists, crew members and volunteers for helping to realise this event. Thank you for making this a festival for everyone!

Message by
Jack Wong
Festival Director



Experiencing the depth and breadth of the arts is one of humankind's privileges and the driving force behind George Town Festival. For the past five years, I have stood at the helm of the Festival to extend its offerings to different communities so that more local audiences can experience the arts and celebrate the incomparable diversity and multiculturalism in Penang.

As such, 'A Festival For Everyone' was developed in 2019 to broaden accessibility to the arts and has remained the direction for the Festival since. One of the ways we have implemented this is by expanding GTF to various neighbourhoods and cityscapes in Penang. By bringing arts to public spaces where residents and communities gather, we have reached out to wider audiences across generations, thus increasing the visibility and relatability of the Festival to local audiences.

This year, the Festival culminates with *Light in the City* - a vibrant and fantastic display of the arts on every street corner. We also invite everyone to colour the street under the spectacular outdoor projection mapping by Immersio. What a wonderful way to create lasting memories and celebrate the power and possibilities of the arts as a community.

We have also seen how the Festival has expanded the different ways productions can be presented. Many of our programmes are held at non-traditional and pop-up venues, often within heritage spaces in the inner city, making many shows and experiences inimitable. We hope this approach continues to create conversations between local artists, collectives and venue spaces so that more productions and events can be organised and devised on-site and outdoors beyond the Festival season.

There is something endearing about the soul and spirit of George Town Festival and how it inspires community and togetherness. If anything, the Festival shows that the arts bring meaning beyond language, continuously creating spaces for belonging and empowering more people to take ownership of the purpose and identity of the Festival here in Penang.

I wish to thank the Penang State Government and GTWHL for their support and trust, as well as everyone who has contributed and shown love towards the growth of George Town Festival. And to all those with us this year, I hope you allow yourself to experience all that GTF 2023 has to offer; you will immerse yourself in the myriad of exceptional artistic works that bring new perspectives, disrupt and question the things around us and help build and guide us to a better future.

This is art in all its glory. A festival for everyone, as it should be.

About Us

Our story began in 2010 when George Town Festival was founded as an arts-centric project under the George Town World Heritage Incorporated (GTHWI). It was mooted to commemorate the inscription of George Town as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, a designation honouring the city's Outstanding Universal Values (OUV) in multiculturalism. Throughout the years, George Town Festival (GTF) has remained dedicated to elevating the visibility of arts and culture and fostering a deeper appreciation for heritage in Penang and beyond.

Currently in its 14th edition, George Town Festival celebrates our human experiences and the power and possibilities of the arts. From 15 – 30 July 2023, festival goers and arts enthusiasts can attend over 50 programmes held across various cityscapes and localities, promising a Festival for everyone to enjoy.

As an influential voice of the arts, culture and heritage, GTF 2023 features outstanding works by Malaysian and international artists ranging from traditional, experimental and multidisciplinary productions of varied art forms, including music, dance, theatre and the visual arts. Through collaborations and partnerships, the 16-day festival (re)creates spaces for all to witness and experience the many narratives, colours, textures and portrayals of characters and identity(s) shaped by indigenous, ethnic and intercultural perspectives.

Here at GTF, we believe that the arts not only prompt community togetherness but have the power to inspire and transform the way we see ourselves and our relationships with each other. To extend our commitment to community engagement, we have included family-friendly and community-based performances and events in several localities within Penang. Our firm and continuing vision is to create a festival that promotes inclusivity, accessibility and diversity, uniting local communities and festival-goers across generations, backgrounds and nationalities around a shared love of the arts and the stories they tell.

The programmes are also curated to bridge aspects of our tangible and intangible heritage. By holding performances and events in various locations, including lesser-known spaces, outdoor environments and niche venues, we continue to challenge and spur discussions on how the arts can be performed and viewed. This way, the Festival catalyses newer experiences in the arts.

Collectively, George Town Festival 2023 positions art as the thread that weaves tradition, culture and heritage, creating a tapestry of human experiences through the arts and the things that hold us together.



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Festival Calendar

EXHIBITIONS

- **Penang Heritage Photography Fiesta 2.0: Photography Exhibition**
The Whiteaways Arcade
1 - 16 July 2023 | 10am - 10pm
- **The Library of Unread Books**
Blank Canvas
8 July - 3 Sept 2023 | 12pm - 9pm
- **Leaving Traces**
Hin Bus Depot | 15 - 30 July 2023
Weekdays: 12pm - 7pm | Weekends: 11am - 7pm
- **Riso Art Jam: Exhibition**
The Whiteaways Arcade
15 - 30 July 2023 | 11am - 7pm
- **Immersio: Digital Art Gallery**
The Whiteaways Arcade
22 - 30 July 2023 | 12pm - 9pm

PRE-FESTIVAL

- **Macam Macam Berapit**
Berapit Public Market
1 July 2023 | 6pm
- **George Town Discovery Walk**
Beach Street, George Town
7 July 2023 | 7am
- **Sounds from the East**
Design Village Outlet Mall
8 July 2023 | 7pm
- **Panggung Semar: Geliga Embun**
Dewan Budaya, USM
8 July 2023 | 8.45pm

15 JULY 2023 (SAT)

- **Bansan: Rasa-Rasa Pasar**
Experiential Bansan: Chowrasta Market | 9am
- **Open Gameplay:** Chowrasta Market | 1pm
- **GTF Summer School: Music Masterclasses**
FUNdanMENTAL Singing
Hikayat | 1pm
- **GTF Summer School: Music Masterclasses**
Jazz for Classical Pianists and Musicians
Hikayat | 3pm
- **A Night at Hin**
Hin Bus Depot | 5pm
- **Macallum 360**
Taman Kejiranan Macallum | 6pm
- **Three's Company:**
Junji Delfino, WinnieHO, Kirana Kay
Majestic Theatre | 8pm

Festival Calendar

17 JULY 2023 (MON)

- **Sharing Session with David Bridie & Charles Maimarosia**
The Whiteaways Arcade | 8pm

18 JULY 2023 (TUE)

- **Bansan: Rasa-Rasa Pasar**
Experiential Bansan: Air Itam Market | 9am

20 JULY 2023 (THU)

- **Renaissance & Baroque Gems**
Chapel @ St Jo's Level 2, Gurney Paragon Mall | 8pm
- **Material Woman in the Beauty World**
Auditorium C, KOMTAR | 8pm
- **A Night with Chelsea Guo**
Auditorium, Penang Stonyhurst International School | 8pm

22 JULY 2023 (SAT)

- **Material Woman in the Beauty World**
Auditorium C, KOMTAR | 3pm & 8pm
- **Music, Tea and Heritage**
An Evening with Asia Pacific Youth Choir
Cheong Fatt Tze - The Blue Mansion | 4.30pm

- **Isle to Isle**
Inspirations from the Southeast — Penang, Malaysia
GSC, Gurney Plaza | 5pm

- **A Night at Hin**
Hin Bus Depot | 5pm

- **Joy in George Town**
Seh Tek Tong Cheah Kongsi | 7pm

- **Isle to Isle**
pulu'em & Luna
Dewan Budaya, USM | 8pm

23 JULY 2023 (SUN)

- **Warna Warni George Town**
India House, Beach Street | 10am
- **Isle to Isle**
Inspirations from the Southeast — Penang, Malaysia
GSC, Gurney Plaza | 2pm & 5pm
- **Material Woman in the Beauty World**
Auditorium C, KOMTAR | 3pm
- **Little Macam Macam**
Taman Kejiranan Desa Mawar | 5pm
- **Joy in George Town**
Seh Tek Tong Cheah Kongsi | 7pm
- **Isle to Isle**
pulu'em & Luna
Dewan Budaya, USM | 8pm

● Dance and Theatre

● Comedy

● Community

● Experiences

● Visual Arts

● Literary Arts

● Series

● Dance and Theatre

● Comedy

● Community

● Experiences

● Visual Arts

● Literary Arts

● Music

● Series

Festival Calendar

26 JULY 2023 (WED)

- **The House of Doors: Tan Twan Eng in Conversation with Karina Robles Bahrin**
Majestic Theatre | 8pm

27 JULY 2023 (THU)

- **BAKAWALI: An Atypical Journey**
COEX, Hin Bus Depot | 8pm

28 JULY 2023 (FRI)

- **My Ugly Duckling**
Auditorium A, KOMTAR | 8pm
- **BAKAWALI: An Atypical Journey**
COEX, Hin Bus Depot | 8pm
- **bhumiMATA**
Penang Institute | 8.30pm

29 JULY 2023 (SAT)

- **Hikayat Workshop: Bangsawan Set Design with Kakiseni**
Penang House of Music | 10am
- **Hikayat Storytelling: Rahman's Big Break Storybook**
Penang House of Music | 10.45am
Jetty, Penang CAT Bus | 4.30pm
- **Riso Art Jam: Bazaar**
The Whiteaways Arcade | 11am
- **Riso Art Jam: Forum**
W Life Cafe | 11am

Festival Calendar

30 JULY 2023 (SUN)

- **Warna Warni George Town**
Chinese Chamber of Commerce | 10am
- **Riso Art Jam: Bazaar**
The Whiteaways Arcade | 11am
- **Riso Art Jam: Forum**
W Life Cafe | 11am
- **Hikayat Workshop: Bangsawan Set Design with Kakiseni**
Penang House of Music | 2pm
- **My Ugly Duckling**
Auditorium A, KOMTAR | 3pm
- **The Monkey King Adventures: Love of Onibaba**
Majestic Theatre | 3pm & 8pm
- **Hikayat Storytelling: Rahman's Big Break Storybook**
Jetty, Penang CAT Bus | 4.30pm
- **Light in the City**
Beach Street | 5pm
- **Immersio: Outdoor Projection Mapping**
Beach Street | 7pm
- **Queens of Asia**
SPICE Convention Centre | 8pm
- **The Monkey King Adventures: Love of Onibaba**
Majestic Theatre | 8pm
- **bhumiMATA**
Penang Institute | 8.30pm
- **Light in the City**
Beach Street | 5pm
- **Immersio: Outdoor Projection Mapping**
Beach Street | 7pm
- **Batik Showcase: A Modern Interpretation**
Beach Street | 7pm



- Dance and Theatre
- Visual Arts

- Comedy
- Literary Arts

- Community
- Music

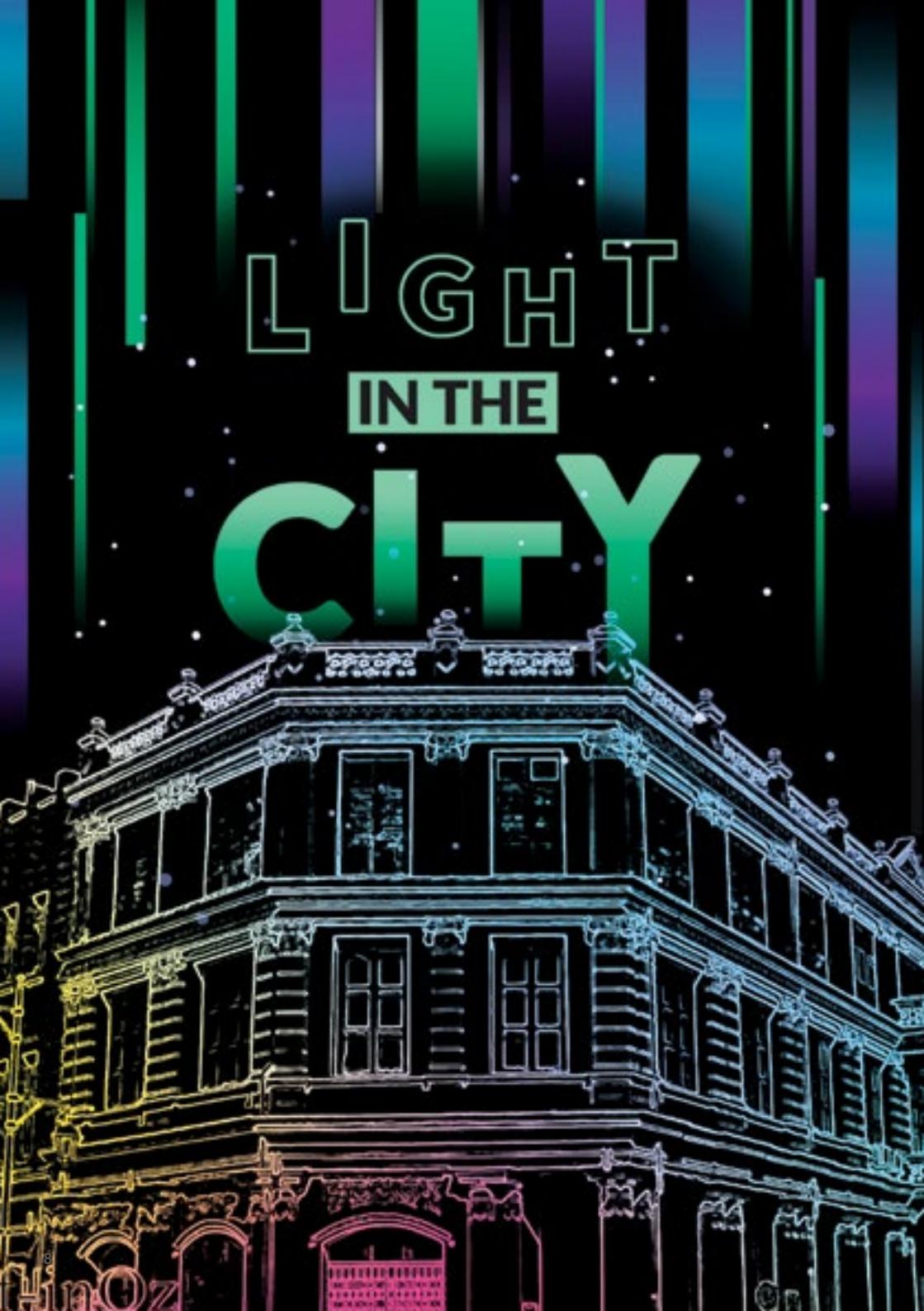
- Experiences
- Series

- Dance and Theatre
- Visual Arts

- Comedy
- Literary Arts

- Community
- Music

- Experiences
- Series



29 & 30

July 2023

5pm

Beach Street,
George Town

FREE ADMISSION

Light in the City

Light in the City marks the culmination of all we have experienced throughout George Town Festival 2023. Located on Beach Street, one of George Town's most iconic streets, the programme acts as a grand finale to the Festival - a tribute to the presence, power and endless possibilities of the arts in Penang.

The magic of *Light in the City* is centered around creativity, with a plethora of activities, live performances and events taking place at every corner of the street. We encourage everyone to join in the collective artistic expression and colour the street under the outdoor projection mapping by *Immersio*. Join us in creating an extraordinary canvas of spellbinding fusion of lights, colours, patterns, sounds and visuals.

Light in the City is also a celebration of the arts and how it brings communities together. It is a reminder of hope and joy, colouring the city with life, belonging and lasting memories.

**This is a moment
for everyone
to see, listen, feel and
be a part of the Festival,
illuminating how the arts
can inspire and transform.**



Community

Macam Macam Berapit
Macallum 360
Little Macam Macam



Macam Macam Berapit

Macam Macam Berapit is a community event aimed at making the arts accessible to people from all walks of life to witness and experience arts and culture. It features spectacular performances, including the drum circle by 1Drum, amazing acts by The Crafty Circus and a traditional Wayang Kulit theatre performance by the Wak Long Music and Art Centre.

Cahaya XR also makes an appearance with their interactive and immersive digital storytelling, using VR, AR and mixed reality to explore worlds imagined by children. The event wraps up with a vibrant performance by Culture Shot, a homegrown traditional-contemporary band, set to wow us with a lively atmosphere to end the day.

So find a cosy spot and lepak with us for cherished moments and an unforgettable arts experience at *Macam Macam Berapit*.

Macam Macam Berapit is presented by George Town Festival in collaboration with Pusat Khidmat KADUN Berapit.

Date
1 July 2023

Time
6pm

Venue
Berapit Public Market

FREE ADMISSION



Macallum 360

At George Town Festival, we believe in the power of community togetherness and are committed to carving out spaces where people can freely express themselves and experience the beauty of art in their familiar surroundings.

Prepare to groove to an amazing line-up of music, song and dance right in the middle of Macallum's vibrant neighborhood padang. From local talents to renowned performers, Macallum will come alive with a range of music performances that cater to various tastes and preferences.

Date
15 July 2023

Time
6pm

Venue
Taman Kejiranan Macallum

Macallum 360 is also a family-friendly event, inviting you to bring your loved ones and friends along. Pack a picnic and settle down on the lush green grass as you immerse yourself in the captivating performances. This is a unique neighborhood party that fosters a sense of community, happiness and connection.

So mark your calendars and join us for this one-of-a-kind event. Don't miss the opportunity to create lasting memories and forge new friendships. See you there!

Macallum 360 is presented by George Town Festival in collaboration with Pusat Khidmat KADUN Pengkalan Kota.

FREE ADMISSION



Little Macam Macam

Date
23 July 2023

Time
5pm

Venue
Taman Kejiran Desa Mawar

We believe it is important to engage with young children to help them cultivate a deeper awareness and inspire a love for the arts, culture and heritage. Join us at *Little Macam Macam*, the ultimate kids-friendly event specially curated for children and young families. There's a feast for the senses at all corners of *Little Macam Macam*, with plenty of hands-on resources and exciting workshops. Immerse yourself in a world of arts, culture and live performances while having a blast and learning something new.

Watch mesmerising performances, including ventriloquism performances by Mr John, a concert-dance theatre by the award-winning Dr Esther Shin-Chuang, and groove to the cultural music and dance of Kicau Bilau. Our storytelling corner also takes children on captivating adventures presented by the Giving Tree Story House.

Let the young unleash their imagination and creativity with CahayaXR and their immersive activities, including Tilt Painting, and explorations of a virtual gallery walk. Families will also have tons of interactive arts and crafts to bond over.

It will be an unforgettable day of fun, education and laughter for the whole family. More importantly, this is a day for our children to learn about our arts and culture right at their doorsteps. Don't miss out on this fantastic adventure, only at *Little Macam Macam*!

Little Macam Macam is presented by George Town Festival in collaboration with Pusat Khidmat KADUN Air Itam.

FREE ADMISSION

The arts pull people together, creating a community who speak the language of togetherness.

Community events at George Town Festival are curated to bring the arts to the doorstep and provide greater accessibility for local communities to engage with the arts. This way, we expand the Festival experience to neighbourhoods, increase a sense of belonging and togetherness and empower local communities to have greater awareness and appreciation of the arts and culture.





Series

Isle to Isle

**GTF Summer School:
Music Masterclasses**

GEORGE
TOWN
FESTIVAL
PENANG - MALAYSIA

白嶼
島嶼
BILU
TIAO

《得力量 x 路納》
桑布伊 x 布拉瑞扬舞团
<pu lu' em & Luna> by
Sangpuy x Bulareyaung
Dance Company

《南国启示录——马来西亚
槟城》纪录片放映会
<Inspirations from the
Southeast - Penang,
Malaysia> Documentary
Screening



Isle to Isle

Isle to Isle marks its fifth edition in 2023, continuing George Town Festival's artistic partnership with the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Malaysia. The series explores the multilayered aspects of cultural narratives through the arts within the framework of connecting two islands — Penang and Taiwan — together. This provides increased spaces for the local community to enjoy and experience the arts and culture of Taiwan.

For GTF 2023, festival-goers can immerse themselves in *pulu'em*, a concert by renowned indigenous singer Sangpuy, and *Luna*, the award-winning theatrical dance performance by the Bulareyaung Dance Company. Both present narratives that explore indigenous and natural heritage as a pathway to reflect on our past in modernity.

Another highlight is *Inspirations from the Southeast*, a documentary screening capturing the stories of city makers in George Town - our living heritage who shape and transform our experiences of tangible and intangible heritage within the inner city.

Join us in this immersive journey of the past and the present between two isles.



pulu'em & Luna

Dates
22 & 23 July 2023

Time
8pm

Venue
Dewan Budaya, USM

Tickets
RM70, RM252 (Group of 4)
RM90, RM324 (Group of 4)

Age Suitability
All Ages

In an enduring music and dance performance, *pulu'em* & *Luna* celebrate Taiwan's indigenous artistry and vitality with masterful and evocative narratives inviting audiences on a journey of self and collective reflection. The performance starts with *pulu'em* by Sangpuy, a musician from Taiwan's Pinuyumayan tribe, who pays tribute to the cultural, natural and spiritual heritage of Taiwan's indigenous peoples with songs from his latest album '*pulu'em*', along with his biggest hits and other soulful native tunes.

The show continues with *Luna*, performed by the highly acclaimed Bularayaung Dance Company. Their 2018 milestone production integrates contemporary dance with inspiration from the rituals and singing of the Bunun people, also listed as a cultural heritage in Taiwan.

Together, *pulu'em* & *Luna* offer an otherworldly experience that transports audiences on an immersive journey of self-reflection in the beauty and calm of time, nature and life.

Grab a copy of the **Isle to Isle** booklet to learn more about the artists and their creative journeys.

pulu'em & *Luna* is presented by George Town Festival 2023 in partnership with the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Malaysia. It is part of an ongoing series titled *Isle to Isle*.

TICKETED



Inspirations from the Southeast — Penang, Malaysia

Date
22 & 23 July 2023

Time
2pm & 5pm

Venue
GSC Cinema, Gurney Plaza

Age Suitability
All Ages

*Pre-registration is required.
Kindly refer to the GTF 2023 website.

FREE ADMISSION

Inspirations from the Southeast is a captivating documentary series featuring places in Southeast Asia, the region in the south of Taiwan. By blending the old with the new, the documentary captures the wisdom of Southeast Asia and their histories, providing insight into the significance of preserving one's own culture. The current screening focuses on Penang, Malaysia, with an exposition on the city makers of George Town.

As a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the residents of George Town aim to make their city a living heritage. Whether it's the stained walls of the street houses, the smells of various spices in the market, or the sound of the Songkok maker paddling the sewing machine, these essential historical and cultural elements of Penang are making the old city new. By portraying the stories of the living heritage, the documentary offers perspectives on everyday life and how city makers continuously shape and transform our experiences of tangible and intangible heritage within the city.

George Town Festival
Hikayat
Impress Creative and Editorial
present

GTF Summer School Music Masterclasses

Saturday 15 July 2023
1.00-2.30 pm
WinnieHO
The FUNdanMENTAL Singing

Sunday 16 July 2023
3.00-4.30 pm
Junji Delfino
All about the Singer and the Song

Saturday 15 July 2023
3.00-4.30 pm
Tay Cher Siang
Jazz for Classical Pianists and Musicians

Sunday 16 July 2023
3.00-4.30 pm
Adriel Wong and AJ Popshuvit
We Ain't Swingers

Free | Pre-registration is required
Refreshments will be served

Hikayat
236 Beach Street, George Town, 10300 Penang
To register and for more information, visit
www.georgtownfestival.com

Image credit: freepik.com

HIKAYAT **IMPRESS**

GTF Summer School: Music Masterclasses

Dates

15 & 16 July 2023

Time

1pm & 3pm

Venue

Hikayat

*Pre-registration is required.
Kindly refer to the GTF 2023 website.

The George Town Festival Summer School welcomes members of the public of all ages and levels of artistic experience to Hikayat's series of music masterclasses – created and taught by guest artists who are leaders in their fields. This year's Summer School focuses on jazz – the singer and singing, jazz piano for everyone and the vibe between drums and bass. Discover your creative passion, learn a new skill or develop your knowledge, guided by our expert tutors and in the company of your peers.

FREE ADMISSION

The FUNdanMENTAL Singing

WinnieHO

15 July 2023, Saturday | 1pm – 2.30pm

Masterclass | Singing

Singing is both rewarding and challenging, a journey and not a destination. We often feel defeated and struggle with singing's complexities. We tend to forget the fun, joy, passion and creativity that drew us to singing in the first place. Singing should not only be restricted to the technical side, but it should also encompass the many different aspects that make up our complete singing experience, such as expressing feelings, managing nervousness, vocal fitness and more. This masterclass covers the following: a general understanding of our singing instrument; vocal health and maintenance; song selection and interpretation. Stay encouraged and inspired by the beautiful and mysterious bond that life and singing share.

All about the Singer and the Song

Junji Delfino

16 July 2023, Sunday | 1pm – 2.30pm

Masterclass | Jazz vocals

This masterclass is for singers and teachers wanting to delve deeper into what it takes to be a jazz singer. Get to understand more about the voice, and how to manage microphone technique, phrasing, style and improvisation. The focus is also on what it means to be a singer, learning to create a repertoire and how to direct, interact and groove with an instrumental ensemble. An ideal opportunity for those who want to explore the intimate relationship between the singer and the song with a true professional.

Jazz for Classical Pianists and Musicians

Tay Cher Siang

15 July 2023, Saturday | 3pm – 4.30pm

Masterclass | Jazz

Many feel that people who improvise or play jazz are special. If they are special, it is because they have spent their time wisely learning the tools of improvisation. A few of the tools are: scales, chords, patterns, licks, songs (standards and originals), ear training, listening to recordings of jazz greats and any other thing which they feel will contribute to the growth of a well-rounded musician. In this masterclass, we look at how to learn and practise musical tools that open up the doorway to jazz and improvisation.

We Ain't Swingers

Adriel Wong and AJ Popshuvit

16 July 2023, Sunday | 3pm – 4.30pm

Masterclass | Drums and bass

In jazz, the bass and drums collaborate in a similar way. The drums provide a rhythmic pulse in the music, while the bass provides a harmonic foundation. In jazz improvisation, both the bass and drums play an important role. As part of the rhythm section, they usually act as the cornerstone for how a tune is performed and progresses. Harmonic and rhythmic tensions and resolutions are also created as a result of their collaboration. This masterclass explores the possibilities of this unique musical relationship and engages with a key question: Is everything swingable? Come and find out as Adriel Wong and AJ Popshuvit break the standards.



Dance and Theatre

Panggung Semar: Geliga Embun

Material Woman
in the Beauty World

BAKAWALI: An Atypical Journey

bhumiMATA

My Ugly Duckling

The Monkey King Adventures:
Love of Onibaba
西遊後傳：鬼婆の愛

Hikayat Storytelling & Workshop:
Rahman's Big Break

pulu'em & Luna

Refer to page 20



Panggung Semar: Geliga Embun

Date
8 July 2023

Time
8.45pm

Venue
Dewan Budaya, USM

Tickets
RM30, RM108 (Group of 4)

Age Suitability
All Ages

Language
Kelantanese Malay
with English surtitles

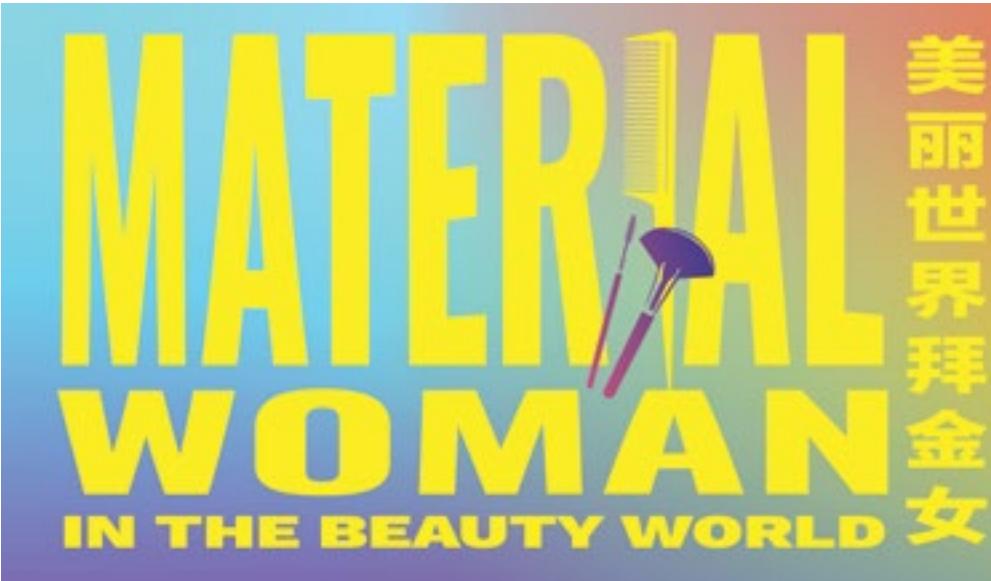
TICKETED

Panggung Semar: Geliga Embun is a one-of-a-kind production presented by Dewan Budaya, Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) and the Arjuna Sukma Academy.

Panggung Semar is a form of traditional Malay theatre in the Malaysian performing arts industry. The production unites two principal theatre genres: the Mak Yong and the Wayang Kulit, with Dikir Barat, a traditional musical art form. All three are intertwined to carry the narrative of the performance, beginning with the Mak Yong and gradually transitioning to Wayang Kulit, with Dikir Barat functioning as the narrator.

Geliga Embun will be performed by 20 talented practitioners, including three Adiguru trainers, a Tok Dalang as the master puppeteer, a Tok Jogho, the movement director, a Tukang Karut as a master storyteller and 13 skilled musicians known as the Panjak.

Join us on 8 July at Dewan Budaya (USM, Penang) for this unique and creative fusion of traditional arts with contemporary storytelling that will revolutionise how we learn and experience these timeless art forms.



Material Woman in the Beauty World

Dates
20 July 2023, 8pm (Mandarin)
21 July 2023, 8pm (English)
22 July 2023, 3pm (Mandarin)
22 July 2023, 8pm (Mandarin)
23 July 2023, 3pm (English)

Venue
Auditorium C, KOMTAR

Tickets
RM50, RM180 (Group of 4)

Age Suitability
12 years and above

Languages
English; Mandarin

TICKETED

"People like me are everywhere – but nobody really sees us. We look ordinary. We fit in."

Material Woman in the Beauty World considers the sociological portrait of an 'ordinary' woman in her 50s. The main character is a beautician who shares the many aspects of her life, predominantly seen through her work. She invites us into the beauty world with narratives about clients and friends supplemented by stories of laser hair removals, facials, full-body massages and weight loss regimes.

She also gives us a glimpse into her life - her interests in fengshui and fortune-telling, her attitude towards money, the complexities of her relationships with the people in her life and her attempts to divorce during the Covid-19 pandemic.

What adds value to the play is its use of language. *Material Woman in the Beauty World* features two productions, one in English and the other in Mandarin. This crosses the invisible divide between language users and communities and expands the way we understand the play - the story of the same character, with its portrayal and narrative challenged by the use of two different languages. This presents a truly unique way of experiencing and embracing the play.

Written by Leow Puay Tin, directed by Tung Jit Yang and performed by Ling Tang, *Material Woman in the Beauty World* premieres in Penang, promising a thoughtful reflection on what it means to be the ideal woman.



BAWAKALI: An Atypical Journey

Dates

27 & 28 July 2023

Time

8pm

Venue

COEX, Hin Bus Depot

Tickets

RM108, RM388 (Group of 4)

Age Suitability

18 years and above

Language

Multilingual

The BAWAKALI: An Atypical Journey is an experimental production by Lee Swee Keong and a group of artists and performers from Penang and Kuala Lumpur. The production invites participants to examine the relationship between meditation, creativity and knowledge exchange framed by the notion of mindfulness. Here, Swee Keong and the artists will lead a process of conversations and interactions between participants to facilitate the exchange and development of ideas and suggestions. These are expressed with actions like retreating, watching, listening and paying attention - strategic tools to enhance creativity. The production proposes to blur the separation between performance and non-performance, encouraging participants to nurture a more profound and sustainable use of body and mind for creative outcomes.

The BAWAKALI: An Atypical Journey is a theatre of mindfulness, devised and produced by the 'BAWAKALI artists' exchange', an initiative curated by Lee Swee Keong which brings artists from various disciplines together to explore meditation techniques in performance and art-making.



bhumiMATA

Dates

28 & 29 July 2023

Time

8.30pm

Venue

Penang Institute (10 Jalan Brown)

Tickets

RM50, RM180 (Group of 4)

Age Suitability

12 years and above

bhumiMATA is a dance production incorporating elements of classical, ritualistic and contemporary dance forms to uncover and embody the woman's voice across generations. Premiering at George Town Festival, the piece features community, pre-professional and professional dancers, taking audiences on an exploration of cross-cultural and intergenerational exchange to interrogate and reintroduce concepts of femininity, our relationship with nature and the hidden and neglected narratives of women. Experimenting with various bodies and rhythms, bhumiMATA tethers culture, tradition and heritage to explore themes of survival, protection, spirituality and sacrifice through the female lens, a journey into the soul and spirit of a woman through the ages.

Follow the team on their Instagram and Facebook pages as they document their journey in creating the piece.

Instagram: @bhumiMATA2023

Facebook: bhumiMATA: Redefining the feminine in mother earth's embrace

bhumiMATA is presented by George Town Festival and is produced by Ombak Ombak ARTStudio, in collaboration with WindRiver Productions, and in partnership with Penang Institute, School of the Arts USM and Euphoria Penang.

TICKETED

TICKETED



My Ugly Duckling

Dates
29 & 30 July 2023

Time
3pm & 8pm

Venue
Auditorium A, KOMTAR

Tickets
RM50, RM180 (Group of 4)

Age Suitability
All Ages

Language
Mandarin

TICKETED

My Ugly Duckling is a captivating children's play about a young girl who finds meaning and acceptance through an unlikely friendship. Yaya loves reading and drawing. Her favourite book is 'The Ugly Duckling.' Her happiest moments are spent sketching and colouring. Unfortunately, her mother does not seem to like her drawings. Yaya feels defeated, convinced that she can do nothing right. But one day, Yaya meets an awkward yet endearing ugly duck and their companionship becomes a source of healing for her wounded heart as they embark on a whimsical journey together. Inspired by the much-loved fairytale, 'The Ugly Duckling', *My Ugly Duckling* is a compelling exploration of love, acceptance and forgiveness, transforming struggles and challenges into hope.



The Monkey King Adventures: Love of Onibaba

西遊後傳：鬼婆の愛

Dates
29 & 30 July 2023

Time
29 July 2023, 8pm
30 July 2023, 3pm & 8pm

Venue
Majestic Theatre

Tickets
RM50, RM180 (Group of 4)

Age Suitability
All Ages

Languages
Hokkien, Japanese and Malay, with Mandarin and English surtitles

TICKETED

The Japanese Team ITO collaborates with Penang's Ombak Potehi to stage a localised sequel to the literary classic *Journey to the West*. As in the original story, Tang Sam Tsong, the legendary Tang dynasty Buddhist monk, travels to India to look for sacred scriptures. He is accompanied by Sun Ngoo-khong (Monkey King), Tu Pat Kai (Piggy) and Sua Tseng (Friar Sandy). However, on their return journey from India, they are tricked by Onibaba, a female supernatural monster in Japanese folklore, to disembark at Penang Island. Disguised as a beautiful lady, Onibaba dances and sings about how she has fallen in love with Tang in her dream. She orders her yokai (supernatural monsters) to kidnap Tang. The Monkey King and his friends frantically look for Tang and fight with the yokai monsters in a series of spectacular battles. Who wins? Is Onibaba's love for Tang ever returned? See the show to find out the answers. Be captivated by the thrilling fighting scenes featuring string puppets that split into two and flying potehi glove puppets!



Hikayat Storytelling & Workshop: Rahman's Big Break

Dates
29 & 30 July

Age Suitability
All Ages

Language
English

The Hikayat Series is co-published by Kakiseni and MPH Publishing to kindle an interest and increase curiosity in Malaysian traditional art forms. It aims to capture the allure and magic of local traditional art by weaving them into storytelling through illustrated storybooks, live performances and hands-on activities. The team worked with local authors and illustrators with guidance from traditional art practitioners to produce the tales to inspire children and parents to love traditional art forms.

The current production at George Town Festival features 'Rahman's Big Break' - the third installation of the Hikayat Series. 'Rahman's Big Break' is based on Bangsawan theatre in Penang; written by David Chin and illustrated by Leong Wai Khong. The story revolves around the colourful world of Bangsawan in the 1920's, representing the multi-ethnic characters as you follow Rahman on his journey.

The Hikayat Series & Workshop is an initiative by Kakiseni.

Hikayat Workshop

Date
29 July 2023

Time
10.45am

Venue
Penang House of Music

Age Suitability
9 years and above

Duration
1 hour

***Registration fee to RSVP**
minimum RM20 donation

***Kindly refer to the GTF 2023 website.**

Bangsawan Set Design with Kakiseni

In this workshop, participants will learn the elements of stage settings unique to Bangsawan theatre. The session includes designing and creating props and building the set, like the lembing (spear), kota bam (side wing of the stage) and kipas kerawang (filigree fan). All materials are provided, and each participant will receive a copy of 'Rahman's Big Break'. Participants will be able to take their creations home.

Hikayat Storytelling

Date
29 & 30 July 2023

Time
4.30pm

Venue
Jetty (Penang CAT Bus)*

***Kindly refer to the GTF 2023 website.**

Join us in this live storytelling journey while you enjoy the scenery of George Town as we narrate Rahman's adventure in becoming the best Bangsawan actor inside the Free Central Area Transit (CAT) bus! You will stand a chance to win a free copy of 'Rahman's Big Break' by answering our quizzes at the end of the session.

The storytelling session will be presented by local actors/arts practitioners in Penang. Let's relive the glory days of Bangsawan in Penang.

FREE ADMISSION



Music

The Senses

Sounds from the East

Three's Company: Junji Delfino, WinnieHO, Kirana Kay

A Night with Chelsea Guo

Renaissance & Baroque Gems

Asia Pacific Youth Choir Concert

**Music, Tea and Heritage:
An Evening with Asia Pacific
Youth Choir**

pulu'em & Luna

Refer to page 20



The Senses

The Senses brings an evening of reconnection, reconciliation and renewal through a mosaic of indigenous, ethnic and cultural musical heritage nestled within the canopy of our exceptional tropical biodiversity at The Habitat Penang Hill. This year's line-up includes David Bridie (Australia), Charles Maimarosia (The Solomon Islands) and Sangpuy Katatepan of Taitung's Pinuyumayan community. Ushering a deeper awareness of East Malaysia are Meruked and Sada Borneo, who bring to life the spirit and rhythms of Borneo.

Date
16 July 2023

Time
4.00pm

Venue
Curtis Crest Tree Top Walk @
The Habitat Penang Hill

Tickets
RM150, RM540 (Group of 4)
**Inclusive of Fast Lane
Funicular Train Passes &
Entrance Fee

Age Suitability
4 years and above

TICKETED



SHARING SESSION

There will also be a sharing session with David Bridie and Charles Maimarosia on 17 July 2023, 8.00pm at The Whiteaways Arcade. The event is free to attend, but pre-registration is required. Kindly visit the GTF website for more details.



Audiences also get the opportunity to bask in the sensory and immersive experience while enjoying 360-degree views of the island from Curtis Crest Tree Top Walk - the highest viewing point on Penang Island.

Together, *The Senses* offers an unparalleled opportunity for a shared-experience to honour and embrace the vitality and value of our intangible heritage.



Sounds from the East

Date
8 July 2023

Time
7pm

Venue
Outdoor Car Park, Design Village Outlet Mall

Age Suitability
All Ages

Sounds from the East is a live music concert with bands hailing from the beautiful states of Sabah and Sarawak, offering a mesmerising fusion of healing sounds, tranquil melodies and rich cultural heritage. The pre-festival programme presents unique Bornean indigenous cultural influences, infusing music with a deep sense of authenticity and history. Performances will also see the use of traditional instruments in contemporary arrangements and the blending of ancient melodies with innovative compositions. Together, *Sounds from the East* is a powerful tribute to the rich musical heritage of East Malaysia's indigenous communities, preserving and celebrating their vibrant traditions.

Sounds from the East also offers festival-goers and local residents an avenue to deepen our understanding of East Malaysia and strengthen our ties to Malaysian cultures and heritage. The family-friendly event is more than music; there will be food and nature – the perfect opportunity for families, friends and children to spend quality time together while learning about each others' culture and our shared heritage.

Sounds from the East is presented by George Town Festival and is supported by Design Village Outlet Mall.

FREE ADMISSION



Three's Company: Junji Delfino, WinnieHO, Kirana Kay

Dates
15 & 16 July 2023

Time
8pm

Venue
Majestic Theatre

Tickets
RM90, RM324 (Group of 4)

Age Suitability
All Ages

TICKETED



A Night with Chelsea Guo

Date
20 July 2023

Time
8pm

Venue
Auditorium, Penang Stonyhurst International School

Tickets
Upper Tier
RM90, RM324 (Group of 4)
Lower Tier
RM110, RM396 (Group of 4)

Age Suitability
6 years and above

TICKETED

Chelsea Guo takes the stage to serenade us with her exceptional skills in piano and voice, bringing a mesmerizing night of musical expressions that beautifully capture the essence of music from the Romantic era. Presenting works by Johannes Brahms, Robert Schumann and Clara Schumann, revered composers of the period, Chelsea showcases a deep understanding of their sophisticated harmonies and range of tone. She infuses every phrase and melody with passion and heartfelt emotion. Witness the rare and fascinating talent Chelsea gifts as she effortlessly weaves together her rich piano playing and beguiling voice, promising an unforgettable experience of the beauty and emotion of music.

A Night with Chelsea Guo is presented by Salad Hauz and is supported by George Town Festival.

About Chelsea Guo

Cultivating a passion for piano and a love of singing from an early age, Chelsea Guo has had an illustrious journey to becoming a rising star, gaining international recognition as a pianist and soprano of remarkable giftings. Chelsea excels in both piano and voice and often combines the two talents in a single performance. She was a Young Scholar recipient of the Lang Lang Foundation, a young artist of the Artemisia Akademie at Yale, and a recipient of the US Chopin Foundation scholarships. Chelsea graduated with honours from the Juilliard School's Pre-College programme and is pursuing a Bachelor of Music in piano at Juilliard. In 2022, she was named one of the four winners of the 2022 Young Concert Artists (YCA) and was included in "Classic FM's Rising Stars: 30 Brilliant Musicians We're Celebrating in 2022".



Renaissance & Baroque Gems

Dates
20 & 21 July 2023

Time
8pm

Venue
Chapel @ St. Jo's Level 2, Gurney Paragon

Tickets
RM90, RM324 (Group of 4)

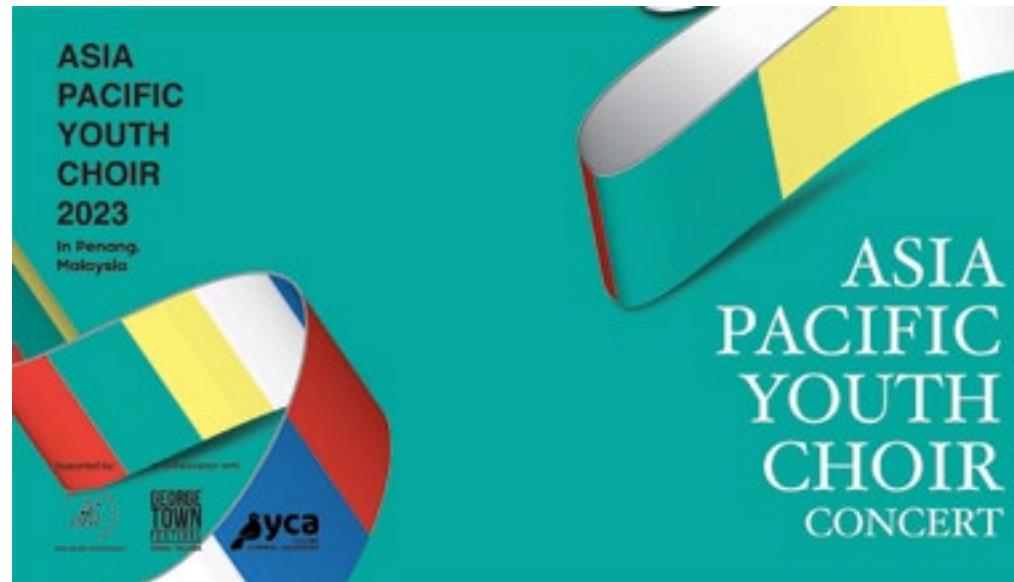
Age Suitability
12 years and above

TICKETED

Renaissance & Baroque Gems is a historically informed performance exploring an anthology of compositions from the High Renaissance to the Baroque periods. The experience is an exposition of compositions by celebrated and prominent figures such as Tallis, Byrd, Morley, Dowland, Purcell and Handel. Bask in the rich tones, shifts in rhythm and progression of melodic lines presented through acapella, vocal and period instruments, including the Renaissance Lute, Baroque Violin, Viola da gamba, Guitar and Spinett. Within the soundscapes of St. Jo's Chapel, this instalment of Renaissance & Baroque Gems is for lovers of the art and its representations of humanity, religion and spirituality.

About VerSeS Music Ensembles

The VerSeS Music Ensembles is a Malaysian collective of musicians formed in 2002. Based in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, VerSeS features a wide range of musical interests led by Artistic Director & Vocal Coach, Scott Woo. The soloist ensemble is dedicated to performing and promoting various solo classical vocal, choral and instrumental music, covering music from the Renaissance to modern-day original compositions. VerSeS is active in non-profit education programs such as "The Singing Balcony" and several long-running lecture recital series (such as Renaissance & Baroque Gems, Art Song Artistry, Sounds of Iberia) and historically informed concert programs, often delivered in collaboration with tertiary education institutions, art galleries and independent venue hosts.



Asia Pacific Youth Choir Concert

Date
21 July 2023

Time
8pm

Venue
Majestic Theatre

Tickets
RM 50, RM180 (Group of 4)
*All proceeds contribute to the APYC touring programme

Age Suitability
All Ages

TICKETED

Renowned for their exceptional musicality and commitment to artistic excellence, The Asia Pacific Youth Choir is a unique and innovative choral ensemble that brings together exceptionally talented young singers from the Asia Pacific region. With an age range of 18 to 28 years, this diverse group of singers represents a wide range of cultures, languages and musical traditions, creating a rich tapestry of harmonies, choral tone and choral performance expression.

This year, the 31-piece choir makes its debut performance in Penang at George Town Festival 2023 with choristers from Japan, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand and Malaysia. The choir will be led by Chi Hoe Mak (Malaysia) and Tracy Wong (Malaysia/Canada) and will be presenting a repertoire rich in European, Canadian and Malaysia choral pieces including Getaran Jiwa (Juliette Lai), Oleh Oleh Bandung (Vivian Chua), O Salutaris (Jacob Narverud), Laetentur coeli (William Byrd), and Christus factus est (Anton Bruckner).



Music, Tea & Heritage: An Evening with Asia Pacific Youth Choir

Date
22 July 2023

Time
4.30pm

Venue
Cheong Fatt Tze - The Blue Mansion

Tickets
RM100

Age Suitability
All Ages

TICKETED

Performing a selected repertoire, the Asia Pacific Youth Choir brings the gift of music to the grandiose spaces of The Blue Mansion for an evening of gossamer and soulful tones. Immerse yourself in the atmosphere of serene acoustics lifted by the echoes of choral music as history, heritage and cultural legacy take centre stage through the voices of a generation of talented and remarkable young singers from across the Asia Pacific region.

About the Asia Pacific Youth Choir (APYC)

Formed in 2011, the Asia Pacific Youth Choir (APYC) brings talented young singers aged 18-28 from Asia Pacific together to be instruments of peace and understanding. This highly competitive program offers a week of intensive rehearsals and performances with prominent international choral conductors. APYC was selected as Ambassador for the International Federation for Choral Music (IFCM) for 2013, 2014 and 2015, and has established itself as one of the most remarkable musical and intercultural experiences for promising young musicians in the Asia Pacific region.



Visual Arts

Penang Heritage
Photography Fiesta 2.0
Leaving Traces
Riso Art Jam
Joy in George Town
Immersio



Penang Heritage Photography Fiesta 2.0

Dates

8 April - 16 July 2023

Held in line with George Town UNESCO World Heritage Day, the highly anticipated *Penang Heritage Photography Fiesta 2.0 (PHPF 2.0)* returns bigger than before. Aimed to increase awareness of the historical significance of Penang's tangible and intangible culture, *PHPF 2.0* uses photography and videography as tools to document George Town's heritage, whilst empowering youths and enthusiasts with practical photography skills.

This year's theme highlights the rich historical and architectural legacy of the heritage buildings in George Town and pays tribute to the artistry of Penang's traditional practitioners and craftsmen.

Besides the competition, which features four categories with attractive prizes, there are also three workshops on street photography and videography led by SONY experts. Closing the campaign is a photography exhibition of winning entries from 1-16 July at New World Park.

PHPF 2.0 is jointly organised by PPB Group Berhad and its property division – PPB Properties, SONY Malaysia and George Town Festival.

For more information,
please visit <https://www.penangheritagephotofiesta.com.my/>

FREE ADMISSION

15 - 30 JULY 2023
Hin Bus Depot

Curated by Ivan Gabriel



Leaving Traces

Dates

15 - 30 July 2023

Weekdays

12pm - 7pm

Weekends

11am - 7pm

Venue

Hin Bus Depot

FREE ADMISSION



Leaving Traces is a group exhibition exploring the visual art form of drawing. Drawing is a speculative and exploratory process, with many contemporary artists testing the parameters of what a drawing can be. Typical drawing instruments such as charcoal, pencil and ink have now been supplemented with non-assuming materials such as wire, wood and steel. Artists have also been experimenting with methods of presentation, such as installation and video works.

This exhibition captures a moment in contemporary drawing practices in Malaysia, thus inviting viewers to viscerally engage with drawing through an expanded field that opens up new possibilities. Several works are site-specific and constructed on-site over time. All works are experimental and explorative, holding an authenticity and sensitivity to the core of drawing practice.

Leaving Traces is a group exhibition curated by Ivan Gabriel featuring the following artists:

Ajim Juxta | Annabell Ng | Azmi Hussin | bibichun | Ch'ng Kian Kiean | Charis Loke | Cheng Hao Yuan | Christine Das | Dhavinder Singh | Dipali Gupta | Dolores de Sade | ERYN | Esther Geh | George Burchett | Haslin Ismail | Hoo Fan Chon | Izzard Padzil | Khairudin Zainudin | Liew Kwai Fei | Mark Tan | Milline Low | Queen Lee | Sheena Liam | Shiela Samsuri | Silas Oo | Sliz | sumidik | Syahbandi Samat | Trexus | Zunar



Riso Art Jam

Riso Art Jam celebrates its national premiere with the vibrant Riso art scene in our community and brings together artists and art enthusiasts from around the world. The programme features three components, including a forum, a bazaar and an art exhibition – all based on Risography. It offers a unique platform for artists to showcase their Riso print works and engage with a wider audience of like-minded people, creating an enriching experience for artists and the community. Join us as we bring the excitement of Riso art to Malaysia and Penang for the very first time!

Riso Art Jam is proudly presented by Tsubaki Studio, Hasuriso Riso Experience Centre, and other partners who share a passion for this beautiful printing method, originating from Japan.

Riso Art Jam | Art Exhibition

Dates

15 - 30 July 2023

Time

11am - 7pm

Venue

The Whiteaways Arcade

FREE ADMISSION

We are thrilled to invite artists with Riso prints to contribute their artwork to this one-of-a-kind exhibition. This curated exhibition is created by Riso art lovers for Riso art lovers, and we're expecting to showcase over 100 pieces that will blow your mind with their beautiful and vibrant Riso colours.

Discover the endless possibilities of Riso printing and marvel at the unique textures and vivid colours that are only possible with this innovative technique. So mark your calendars and join us for a celebration of Riso art prints that will leave you feeling inspired and in awe of the incredible talent on display.

Riso Art Jam | Art Bazaar

Dates

29 & 30 July 2023

Time

11am - 10pm

Venue

The Whiteaways Arcade

FREE ADMISSION

Our bazaar will feature artists with their Riso print works as well as other art mediums of their own. Not only will you be able to add to your personal art collection, you'll be discovering new talents and supporting independent artists. From postcards and posters to all sorts of prints and mixed media pieces, our Riso art bazaar has something for everyone. Join us for two days of creativity and inspiration at our upcoming Art Bazaar!

Riso Art Jam | Forum

Dates

29 & 30 July 2023

Time

11am - 4pm

Venue

W Life Cafe

Tickets

1-Day Pass: RM 60

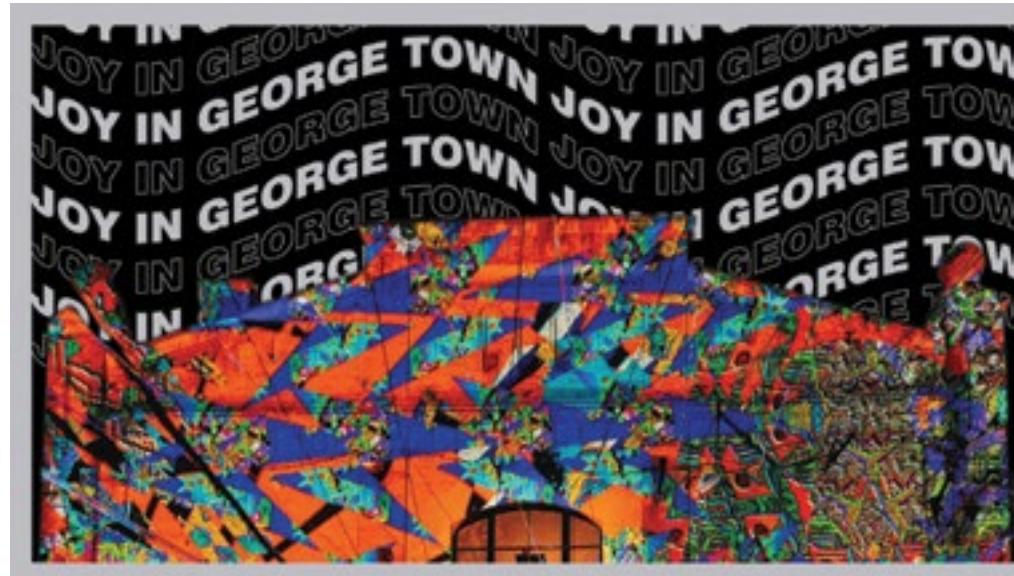
2-Day Pass: RM 100

TICKETED

Are you a design enthusiast looking for an exciting event that brings together some of the most innovative voices in the Riso art scene? Look no further than our upcoming forum. For two days, we'll be hosting a gathering of renowned Riso studios from Thailand, Singapore and beyond to explore the theme of "Riso makes the world go round".

Our engaging speakers will discuss how they utilise Riso printing technology to create fun, whimsical and unique designs that push the boundaries of traditional printing techniques. Whether you're a professional designer, an art enthusiast, or just someone looking for a good time, this event is not to be missed. You'll have the chance to learn from some of the most exciting and creative minds in the field, discover new techniques and explore the vibrant world of Riso printing.

Join us for two days of lively discussions, networking opportunities and inspiring presentations that are sure to spark your creativity and leave you feeling inspired. Come see how Riso makes the world go round and explore the endless possibilities of this innovative printing technique.



Joy in George Town

Emotions Catch

Dates

20 & 21 July 2023

Time

6pm

Venue

Seh Tek Tong Cheah Kongsi

Interactive Art Projection

Dates

22 & 23 July 2023

Time

7pm

Venue

Seh Tek Tong Cheah Kongsi

FREE ADMISSION

In *Joy in George Town*, media artists Juliana and Andrey Vrady will produce an artwork that examines and elucidates a dialogue between technology, art and our increased interactions with the digital. By examining aspects of computational coding and its connection to creativity and art, the artists ask pertinent questions like how technology perceives human beings and how, through the lens of the artists' computational codes, humanity might be seen as art.

There are two parts to *Joy in George Town*:

Emotions Catch

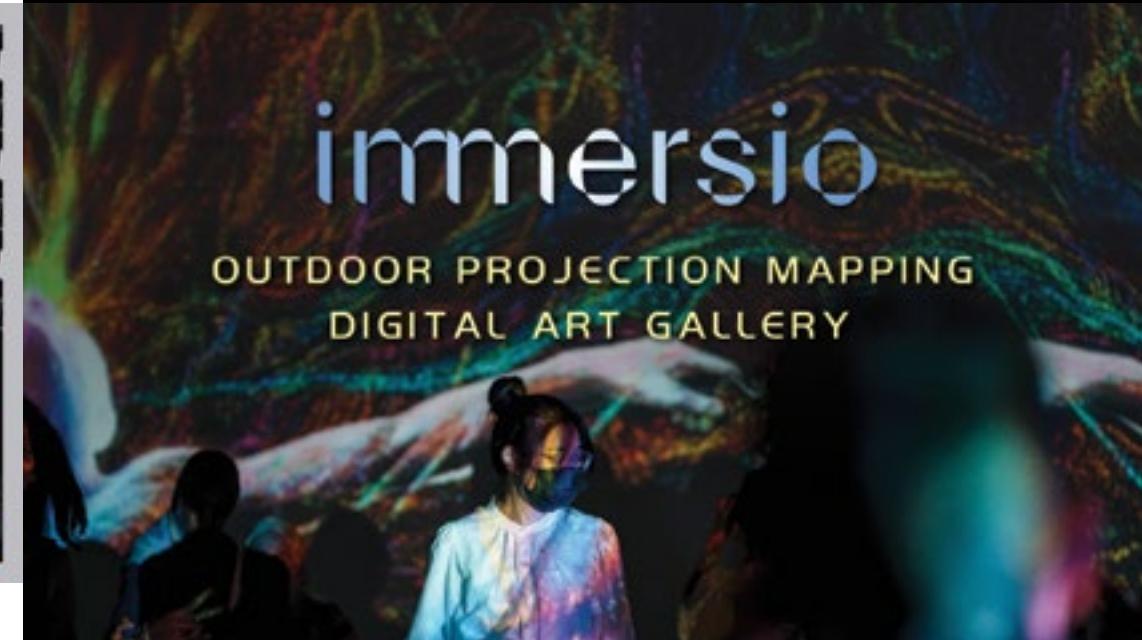
The artists will connect audience members to an AI mood converter through a webcam. Using facial action coding software, the emotions of participants will be visible. The software then reads the mood and reactions of the guests' faces and converts them into biometric data that will be produced as AI-generated artwork.

Interactive Art Projection

Artworks generated from the data collected at **Emotions Catch** will be projected on the walls of Cheah Kongsi as a digital artwork of humanity, technology, light and colours.

Media Artists: Juliana and Andrey Vrady.

Data is coded with love by Andy Junginger.



immersio, derived from the word "Immerse" and "i.o." (a technical term for input and output), is a platform dedicated to showcasing the work of young, emerging digital and new media artists. Activated by Filamen, which also curated and supported the production, *immersio* provides a space for these artists to exhibit their creations. *immersio* at GTF23 aims to bring the world of new media and digital art closer to the people of Penang. This unique pop-up activation features two installations that will captivate festival attendees.

Both installations will feature an array of digital art exhibitions by talented new media artists, representing local talents and international creators. These vibrant displays will undoubtedly leave a lasting impression on visitors, providing them with a unique and immersive encounter with the world of digital and new media art.

immersio is presented by George Town Festival In collaboration with Filamen and powered by EPSON.

About Filamen

Filamen is a dynamic Audio Visuals collective that provides a thriving platform for individuals of all backgrounds and interests to connect and engage with one another. They foster an inclusive community where audiovisual enthusiasts from various disciplines can exchange ideas and showcase their talents to a wider audience.

Filamen is also a resource hub for clients seeking assistance with their audiovisual projects. Their goal is to facilitate successful collaborations and contribute to the expansion and development of the audiovisual industry as a whole.



Immersio: Digital Art Gallery

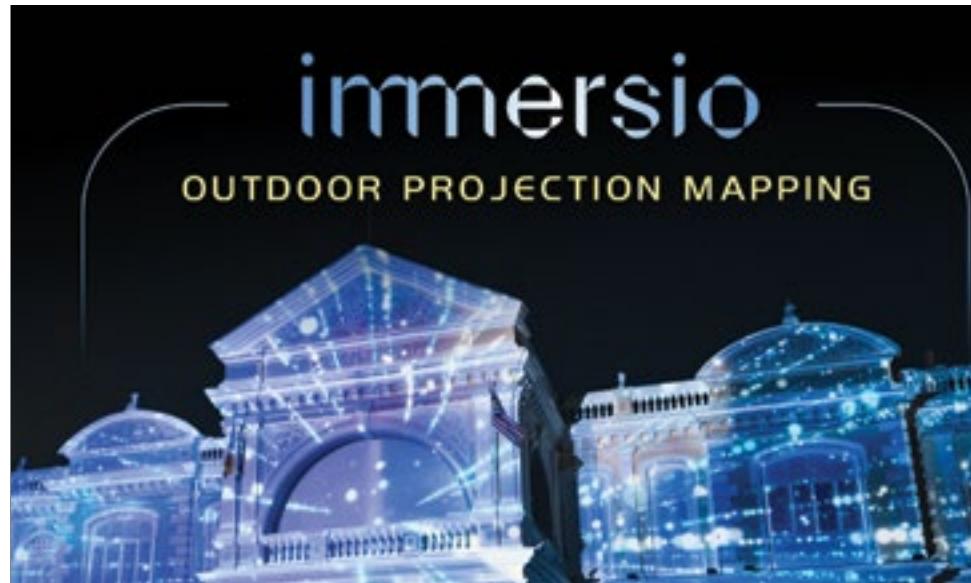
Dates
22 - 30 July 2023

Time
12pm - 9pm

Venue
The Whiteaways Arcade



FREE ADMISSION



Immersio: Outdoor Projection Mapping

Dates
29 & 30 July 2023

Time
7pm

Venue
Beach Street, George Town



FREE ADMISSION



Comedy



Queens of Asia

Date
29 July 2023

Time
8pm

Venue
SPICE Convention Centre

Tickets
RM70, RM252 (Group of 4)
RM90, RM324 (Group of 4)

Age Suitability
18 years and above

Language
English

TICKETED

Queens of Asia features the very best female stand-up comedians from the region. The show kicks off with Aditi Mittal, India's Top 10 stand-up comedians (Times of India), with TWO Netflix specials under her helm and Singapore's trailblazing first full-time female comedian, Sharul Channa. Joining the list are Malaysia's comedy stars, including the multi-hyphenated titan of screen and stage, Shamaine Othman and the Queen of Comedy herself, Joanne Kam Poh Poh!

Combining these powerhouses of comedy, Queens of Asia is a spectacular of hilarity and empowerment. Experience this side-splitting tour de force with Asia's comedy royalty, bringing true fire and zest in an explosion of laughter. This is a show you don't want to miss!



Literary Arts

Tan Twan Eng was born in Penang, Malaysia. His debut novel *The Gift of Rain* was longlisted for the Man Booker Prize in 2007 and has been widely translated. *The Garden of Evening Mists* won the Man Asian Literary Prize 2012 and the 2013 Walter Scott Prize for Historical Fiction, and was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize 2012 and the 2014 International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award. *The House of Doors* (Canongate) is his third novel and has been received with great critical acclaim.

George Town Festival
Gerakbudaya Bookshop
Inpress Creative and Editorial
present

Tan Twan Eng
The House of Doors

The House of Doors

with readings by
Marina Tan, Gareth Richards, Aoife Sacker Ooi

Wednesday 26 July 2023 | 8.00 pm

The Majestic Theatre
50 Jalan Phee Choon, George Town
10550 Penang
T: 04 261 9001

Free | Pre-registration required
www.georgetownfestival.com

CANONGATE ponsing VIBES INPRESS

The House of Doors: Tan Twan Eng in Conversation with Karina Robles Bahrin

Date
26 July 2023

Time
8pm

Venue
Majestic Theatre

Booker Prize-shortlisted Tan Twan Eng returns home to Penang to discuss his first novel in more than a decade with the award-winning novelist Karina Robles Bahrin. Mainly set in Penang in 1921, love and betrayal and the tensions between the public and the private lie at the heart of *The House of Doors*. Driven by the narrative of a very finely drawn character, Lesley Hamlyn, the story brings together the lives of three contrasting historical personalities: the celebrated English writer W. Somerset Maugham; the renowned Chinese revolutionary leader Sun Yat-sen; and Ethel Proudflock, condemned to hang for murder. Beautifully detailed and drawing out a range of compelling themes – patriarchy, political turmoil, concealed sexuality, illicit love affairs – *The House of Doors* is a superb story of many layers.

The event features readings from the novel by Marina Tan, Gareth Richards and Aoife Sacker Ooi.

Kindly register and collect your event tickets at Gerakbudaya Bookshop@Hikayat (226 Beach Street). If you are unable to collect the tickets, or for any further inquiries, please contact 04 - 261 9001 or email info@gerakbudayapenang.com

*Pre-registration is required.

FREE ADMISSION



Experiences

George Town Discovery Walk

The Library of Unread Books

Bansan: Rasa-Rasa Pasar

Warna Warni George Town

A Night at Hin

Batik Showcase:
A Modern Interpretation



George Town Discovery Walk

The inner city of George Town is a myriad of sights, smells and sounds best experienced by walking through the various streets and enclaves within the city. Celebrate the 15th anniversary of George Town's UNESCO site listing with a shared-community exploration of our history and heritage this 7 July.

From architectural legacy, historical notes, cultural and traditional practices to our street art and informative iron-rod sculptures, the 5-km George Town Discovery Walk is a way to discover the character, identity and significance of its tangible and intangible heritage.

Join us in an experience of community engagement and exchange to witness, learn and cherish George Town's outstanding value as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

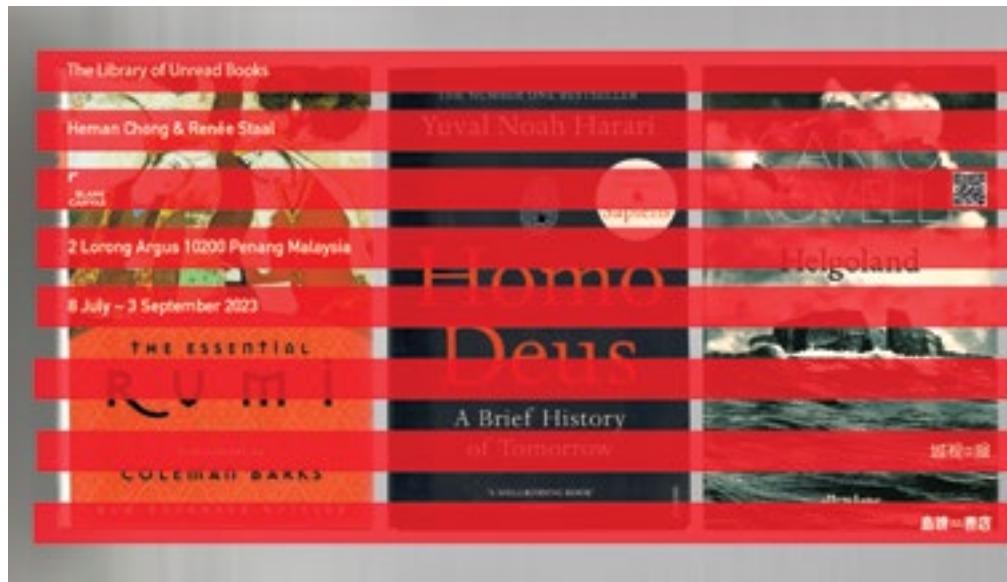
Date
7 July 2023

Time
7am

Venue
Beach Street, George Town

Registration Fee
RM35

TICKETED



The Library of Unread Books

Dates
8 July - 3 September 2023

Time
12pm - 9pm

Venue
Blank Canvas

If you have a book that you have not read, donate it to us, and someone else will read it for you.

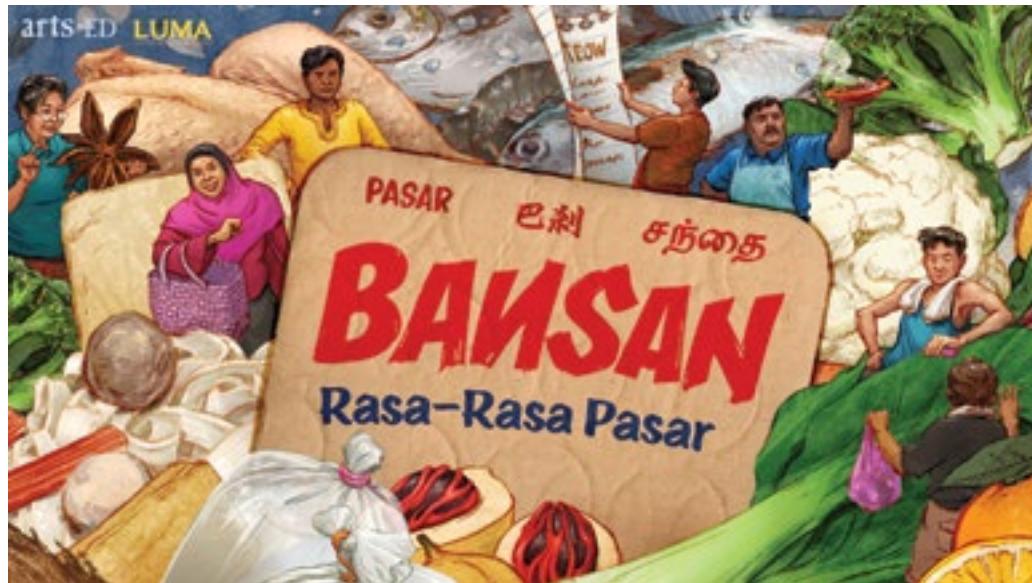
Each book in *The Library of Unread Books* was previously owned as private property, and someone has decided to give up that exclusive status with the book and donate it into this common pool.

By receiving and revealing that which people choose not to read, *The Library of Unread Books* is a collective gesture that addresses the distribution, access, and surplus of knowledge.

The Library of Unread Books is a travelling public reference library hosted within art spaces and museums around the world. It has surfaced in cities such as Manila, Utrecht, Milan, Prague, Dubai and Singapore.

We insist that our library functions like an epiphyte that grows on the surfaces of other institutions. We hope that it will seduce these institutions into dreaming of producing a common space for people to gather, common tools for people to utilise, and ways of working that don't exhaust common resources and exhaust the possibility of community.

FREE ADMISSION



Bansan: Rasa-Rasa Pasar

*Experiential Bansan

9am - 12pm
15 July - Chowrasta Market
16 July - Seberang Jaya Market
18 July - Air Itam Market

*Kindly refer to the GTF 2023 website.

Age Suitability

15 years and above

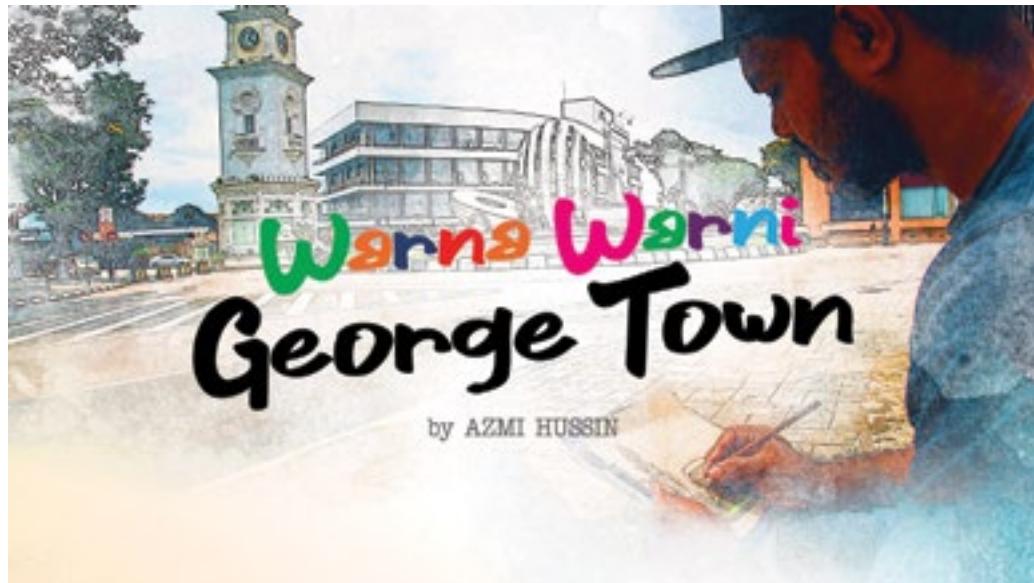
Open Gameplay

1pm - 4pm
15 July - Chowrasta Market

Age Suitability

All Ages

FREE ADMISSION



Warna Warni George Town

Dates
23 & 30 July 2023

Time
10am

Venue
India House (23/7), Chinese Chamber of Commerce (30/7)

***Registration fees**
RM20
(includes a copy of Warna Warni George Town colouring book)

Age Suitability
13 years and above

*Kindly refer to the GTF 2023 website.

TICKETED

With a successful career spanning a decade, Azmi Hussin, a professional artist, leads two colouring workshops in conjunction with the publication of his latest book, *Warna Warni George Town*. Each workshop is a unique learning opportunity with Azmi and provides an avenue to enhance your artistic skills, explore creativity and reimagination while deepening your appreciation for our local tangible heritage.

These sessions are open to participants aged 13 and above and registration can be made via the GTF 2023 website. Kindly note that the registration fee includes a copy of *Warna Warni George Town*, which can be collected on the day.

About the Book

Renowned Malaysian artist Azmi Hussin captures the essence of Penang's rich cultural diversity in *Warna Warni George Town*, a colouring book of historical buildings and key sites within the George Town UNESCO World Heritage Site. With his keen eye for detail and artistic flair, Azmi transforms these architectural marvels into stunning illustrations that represent the spirit of Penang's tangible heritage. The book is a compilation of buildings dating from the late 19th century to recent years, all of which have served a range of purposes and facilitated varied interactions across generations.



A Night at Hin

Venue

Hin Bus Depot

Week 1

Fly Me to the Moon: Retro and Vintage

15 July 2023 | 5pm

Clothing styles include looks from the 1950s or 1960s such as flared skirts, high-waisted pants and cat-eye glasses, OR astronaut costumes or space-themed outfits for a more futuristic look.

Week 2

Future Fantasy: Future and Imagination

22 July 2023 | 5pm

Guests are encouraged to channel clothing styles of movies like Blade Runner, The Matrix and Tron.

Week 3

Launcher: Traditional and Future Combination

29 July 2023 | 5pm

Think fusion of classic and modern elements celebrating the best of traditional and future stylings!

FREE ADMISSION



Batik Showcase: A Modern Interpretation

Batik Showcase: A Modern Interpretation brings a new wave of Batik in contemporary fashion, with various apparel and styles showcasing its versatility. The showcase is curated by Ivan Choo, director of Velvet Signature and features homegrown talents and leading Malaysian designers, including Aden Yong, Aliza Rezki, Edric Ong, Eric Choong, Hassan Abu Bakar, Koay JiTong, NaimButek, Tri Siswanto and Zack Lee.

Date

30 July 2023

Time

7pm

Venue

Beach Street, George Town

Buoyed by the rhythms of the ethno-pop duo Buddha Beat, watch as the inner city comes alive with beautiful colours, intricate designs, complex patterns and techniques unique to the art form, all displayed before our eyes as the city transforms into a fashion runway.



Arts in Penang



There is so much to explore and discover about the local arts community in Penang. Be sure to catch these shows and programmes happening alongside the Festival and show your support for our thriving local arts scene!

*All information provided by the artist(s) or organiser(s).



Culture Colours: Of Rhythm and Rouge Chinese Opera Exhibition

20 May - 31 August 2023

10am - 7pm (Last entry at 6:15pm)

Ming Art Gallery
Level 2, St Jo's Building, Gurney Paragon Mall

Culture Colours: Of Rhythm and Rouge Chinese Opera Exhibition pays tribute to the remarkable legacy of Mr Leong Soo and Kar Li Cantonese Troupe's contribution to the cultural landscape of Penang. Their contributions to the Lion and Dragon Dance scene are also highlighted through the archives.

The trove of pieces from the troupe's store reveals an intricate tapestry of culture and traditions that define the Cantonese variation of Chinese Opera. From the design of the costumes to the mesmerising makeup, every aspect is steeped in significance and symbolism.

Visitors will have the opportunity to get up close with the vintage items and have a sneak peek into life in the 1980s. The dazzling costumes and enthralling stories unravels why Chinese Opera is an enduring masterpiece in the performing arts.

Entrance Fee: RM 50, via tickets from The Straits and Oriental Museum



Pencil Exercises 一只铅笔还是一支铅笔?

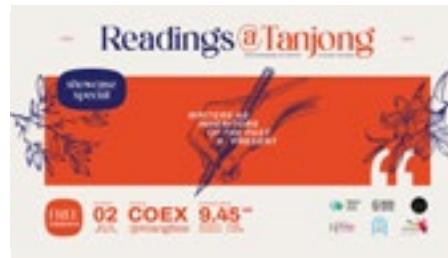
24 June - 30 July 2023

3pm - 5pm

ChinaHouse Main Gallery
153 and 155 Beach Street, 183B Victoria Street, 10300 George Town

The Back Room, ChinaHouse, and cloud projects are proud to be jointly presenting the Penang launch of *Pencil Exercises*, a solo exhibition by celebrated Malaysian artist Liew Kwai Fei.

Over a two-month period in 2021, artist Liew Kwai Fei conducted a series of Drawing Exercises, using pencils (both graphite and coloured) to draw variations on the theme of pencils on graph paper. Through the two deceptively simple elements of a pencil and a grid, Liew explores the limits of gridded form, composing scenes of rebellion, community, and pleasure that are irreverent and profound in equal measure. The drawings have been collated in a new book titled *Pencil Exercises 一只铅笔还是一支铅笔* by local publisher, cloud projects.



Readings@Tanjong: Showcase Special

2 July 2023

10am - 12:30pm
2:30pm - 5pm

COEX@Kilang Besi

Held once every two months, *Readings@Tanjong* is a platform where readers and writers gather and surround themselves with stories, poetry, and the rhythms and melodies of words and languages. It is a long-term community engagement project designed to provide a platform for Penang-based poets and writers to share their works with a wider audience, thereby increasing the readership of local literary works.

Readings@Tanjong is organised by the Malaysian Writers Society and produced by Dabble Dabble Jer Collective.

Follow their Facebook page for more information:
<https://www.facebook.com/readingsattanjongpg>



It may contain traces of art by Dhavinder Singh

12 - 26 July 2023

Mon - Thurs: 9am - 6pm
Fri - Sun: 9am - 9pm

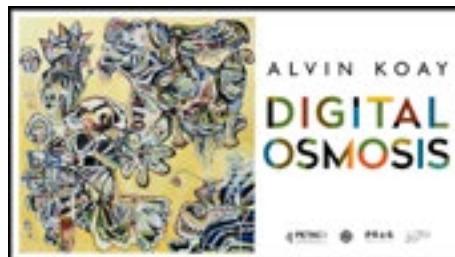
Mano Plus

It may contain traces of art is an extension of Dhavinder Singh's recent showcase, *Please Do Not Sit - A Show About Chairs*, which was a culmination of his six-month long residency at Rimbun Dahan in 2022.

Dhavinder Singh is a Kuala Lumpur-based multidisciplinary artist whose art practice, deals with the repurposing and reconfiguring of materials, through paintings, animation, assemblage and site-specific installations.

Trained at the Malaysian Institute of Art (MIA) and later, the Cardiff School of Art & Design in Fine Art, Dhavinder finds himself testing the parameters of his practice and the mediums he engages with. His body of work serve as an intuitive expression and communicates the concepts through using visual metaphors of his response based on a particular space and subject matter.

Dhavinder is currently the artist in residence at Hin Bus Depot till September. The residency will result in an exhibition where he'll be showcasing works created as a response to Penang.



Digital Osmosis

15 July - 7 August 2023

9am - 5pm
Closed on Public Holiday and Fridays

Dewan Sri Pinang, Level 3
Penang State Art Gallery

Digital Osmosis is a solo art exhibition by the artist Alvin Koay that boasts the convergence of digital animation and physical painting.

The exhibition invites visitors to dive into an immersive experience where each artwork tells a tale. The works illustrate the tangible manifestation of Alvin's memories, hopes, expectations, and worries. Every piece carries a personal narrative of Alvin's life story, embodied in abstract expressionism.

Complementing these are animated versions of selected works, deepening the exploration of Alvin's psyche. These renderings bring new dimensions to the original pieces, inviting visitors to interact with the art in a dynamic and intimate manner.

Video projections will also be on display showcasing a glimpse into the artist's creative process. Experience Alvin Koay's world where life itself is a canvas, and art serves as the ultimate form of self-expression.



Penang Hidden Gems

15 July 2023

Rifle Range Food Court

Another one-of-a-kind experience that is truly worth sharing: *Nanyang Coffee Experience* by tourist guide, Tger Tatt.

A full-fledged experience. Drinking different types of Kopi at a local kopitiam in Rifle Range food court while listening to Tger's story of the origins of Nanyang coffee and its variants.

Learn how to make your own Nanyang coffee using traditional methods to bring home and enjoy!

Registration Link: <https://bit.ly/nanyangcoffeeexperience>

For more information: <https://www.facebook.com/PenangHiddenGems>



From Bulan to Prachan

15 to 30 July 2023

11am - 7pm

Jetty 35, Hall 1
35 Pengkalan Weld
10300 George Town

From Bulan to Prachan is an art exhibition and exchange program curated by Monthatip Suksopha from Thailand and Queen Lee from Malaysia. This pilot show aims to foster an exchange of ideas, and cultural experiences between female artists from Penang, Malaysia, and Chiang Mai, Thailand. By bringing together diverse perspectives and artistic expressions, the exhibition celebrates the power of art to transcend borders and create connections.

Through a series of dialogues, workshops, and collaborative projects, the artists will engage with each other's cultures, artistic practices, and local communities. The exhibition will feature a diverse range of artworks, including paintings, sculptures, installations, and multimedia pieces, allowing visitors to immerse themselves in the vibrant artistic expressions from both Penang and Chiang Mai.

From Bulan to Prachan aims to be a platform for cross-cultural dialogue, encouraging audiences to appreciate the alternative perspectives and artistic traditions of both regions. The exhibition promises to be a captivating and thought-provoking experience that showcases the diversity and strength of female artistic voices from Penang and Chiang Mai.



Sound on Screen

17 to 23 July 2023

6:30pm

Hikayat,
226, Beach Street
10300 Georgetown

The Music Film Festival – *Sound on Screen* – showcases a week of the finest films about the world of music, featuring some of the greatest performers from different musical genres.

Four full-length documentaries cover the life of singer-songwriter Leonard Cohen; the story and work of the legendary jazz pianist Oscar Peterson; a cinematic odyssey exploring David Bowie's creative journey; and the life and times of the unique jazz singer Ella Fitzgerald.

Three outstanding feature films: a joyous, emotional, heart-breaking celebration of the life and music of Whitney Houston, one of the greatest female R&B pop vocalists of all time; the life of American music icon Elvis Presley, from his childhood to becoming a rock and movie star; and the rise of Aretha Franklin's career from a child singing in her father's church choir to her international stardom.



Malam Takdir

21 - 23 July 2023

21 & 22 July 2023, 8:30pm
22 & 23 July 2023, 3:00pm

KOMTAR Level 5, Auditorium A



Broadway Academy Festival Choir of KL

22 July 2023

7pm

St. George's Church Penang

Malam Takdir is a new opera by Johan Othman that is inspired by the Mahabharata. It was first presented as a play in Penang in 2019, directed by Chee Sek Thim, and featured Hilyati Ramli and Noor Rizwan Zolkepli as actors. The play is a contemporary expression to a story inspired by a piece of classical text that is common to the South-East Asian region. By using a combination of music, movement and the national language, the opera refreshes tradition and carves out new relevance for our inherited cultural heritage.

Ticket: RM50, RM140 (buy in package of 4 before 7 July 2023)

Penang Ticket link: <https://forms.gle/CBKcQh2tJZS3Z2Yt7>

The Broadway Academy Festival Choir of KL brings *Sing on Through Tomorrow*, a choral concert featuring pieces composed by John Rutter, Mark Hayes and more. The repertoire is a mixture of sacred and secular choral pieces with solos pieces, including Puccini's *Nessun Dorma*, the most famous aria of all time.

Listen to choral music accompanied by an organ, with the choir directed by Dr Casey Broadway, who specialises in Musical Theater and the physiology of voice.

For more information, contact Jason William at +6016 415 9544.



Full Fathom Five

July 2023

All Day

Armenian Park

Full Fathom Five is a captivating exploration of the human mind, embracing the tension between light and darkness, surface and depth, real world and augmented reality. Delving into the metaphor of Full Fathom Five, this exhibition dives into the intricate complexities of the human mind that lie beneath the surface, revealing the true nature of our thoughts, fears, and desires. Through the evocative artworks of BODHI and Kai Ting, the exhibition delves into the depths of the mind, shining a light on the often-unseen aspects of our existence.

Check out Perk Reality for more information.



Taiwan LAUNCHER

29 - 30 July 2023

COEX, Hin Bus Depot

Programme

Music Concert

Date: 29th July 2023

Time: 5:30pm - 10:30pm

Venue: Hin Bus Depot

Cultural Exchange Sharing and Workshop

Date: 29th & 30th July 2023

Venue: COEX, Hin Bus Depot

Taiwan LAUNCHER is an international cross cultural exchange, featuring the intangible cultural heritage - folk music, from Hengchun (Taiwan) & Penang (Malaysia). Showcasing music bands from both regions that are known for blending pop sensibilities into folk music, the event is the choice for those who favour a unique fusion taste. Be sure to catch this music feast and ease your ears with some Minnan folk tunes & the classic Nanyang oldies from Penang, with a fresh twist.

Visit Facebook page - Folker Island for more information.



Sundown Sounds & Sips

7 to 9 July

5 pm - 11 pm

Design Village Outlet Mall,
Outdoor Carpark

Sundown Sounds & Sips is the ultimate place to spend your weekend. The festival brings music and food to centre stage, creating an unforgettable experience for everyone to enjoy. The event is a haven for music lovers with an exciting lineup of live performances to groove to under the setting sun. There will also be tons of culinary delights to discover with the delectable food offerings available at the festival. There is something for everyone at Sundown Sounds & Sips, so head to Design Village Outlet Mall for a weekend of joy and celebrations.

Sundown Sounds & Sips is part of Sundown Penang. For more information and other events, visit their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/sundownpenang>



Fine Arts Showcase 2023 by School of the Arts, USM

10 July to
23 September 2023

9am - 4pm

Fine Arts Showcase 2023 is an annual exhibition held to showcase works of final year students from fine arts department of school of the Arts, USM. This year's showcase will feature works from 37 final year students, ranging from paintings, printmaking, photography to installations and video art. Participating students engage with individual creativity and artistic representation based from literature whilst experimenting with unconventional mediums and media, producing groundbreaking works which challenges their previous practice and assignments.

For more information, check out [finearts_usm](https://www.facebook.com/finearts_usm)



Malaysia Day 60th Anniversary Photowalk in George Town, Penang.

8 July 2023

8am

In front of LINE Clear Bistro,
Jalan Masjid Kapitan Keling

Join us on the 8th of July as we celebrate the 60th Anniversary of Malaysia Day with a captivating Photowalk in Georgetown, Penang. This event aims to embrace diversity and inclusion in Malaysia, fostering connections and understanding among participants. Lace up your walking shoes and embark on a healthy stroll, while seizing the perfect opportunity to capture the compelling stories of people, places, and traditions in Malaysia. We challenge each participant to showcase their best shots, sharing the unique perspectives that highlight the beauty of our nation's people, locations, and practices to the world. Don't miss this chance to make a visual statement and create lasting memories!



Penang Hill Festival 2023

21 - 23 July 2023

Penang Hill

Penang Hill's iconic event – the Penang Hill Festival (PHF) – is back for its fourth edition from 21 – 23 July 2023! PHF2023 aims to promote and bring about greater awareness of Penang Hill's nature, history and cultural heritage. What's more, this is the memorable year in which we are celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Penang Hill Railway.

We promise a myriad of fun-filled yet educational programmes ranging from insightful talks and interesting walks to hands-on workshops and informative exhibitions. PHF's signature event, "Music on the Hill – East meets West", will also return on 23 July 2023 (Sunday).

So gather up your family and friends and come join us to "See the Nature, Feel the History"!

For more information, visit: <https://www.penanghill.gov.my/phf/>

Message from the Team

We are incredibly grateful to all of you for being a part of GTF 2023. Thank you for sharing this journey with us.

To the artists and creatives, thank you for your strength and courage and for creating works that move and grip us with truth. You inspire and spur change, taking us to different realms and newer ways of understanding.

To all the crew and volunteers, we are overwhelmed by your response, zest, skills and eagerness to contribute to the Festival. Thank you for helping to make GTF 2023 a success and we hope you had an enjoyable experience this year!

Finally, to YOU - thank YOU for embracing the Festival and what the arts have to offer. We hope that your journey with the arts continues beyond this Festival and that you will share its joys with all those around you, creating a true and memorable celebration of the arts.

Because you have actively participated and embraced our vision, you have enabled everyone to be a part of George Town Festival.

This is the power and possibilities of the arts. Together, we make this A Festival for Everyone!

Festival Team

Connie Chan Mern Ye	Low Zhi Kai
Esther Yeon	Miriam Devaprasana
Ewe Chor Keat	Ng Chek Tun
Fish Lim	Nisa Amalia Mukhtar
Heng Sin Yeat	Ong Le Rou
Jack Wong	Seow Jia Ying
Kent Teh	Teh Hoay Ying
Lim Han Yin	Teng Huey Chuin

Acknowledgements

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****Programmes are subjected to change without prior notice.**