

GEORGE
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PENANG • MALAYSIA

2025
GEOTOWN

www.georgetownfestival.com



Message by

YAB Chow Kon Yeow
Chief Minister of Penang

Since it first kicked off in 2010, George Town Festival has become something many of us look forward to every year. It's more than just an arts festival—it's a space where Penangites and people from all walks of life come together to share stories, celebrate creativity, and connect through culture.

This year's theme, "Connection," says it all. In a time when the world often feels divided, the arts remind us of what we have in common—our hopes, our struggles, and our sense of place and belonging. It's also a reflection of the Penang2030 vision: to build a state that is smart, green, family-focused, and one that truly inspires.

What's exciting is that this year's festival features over 50 programs across George Town—with 80 percent of them free to attend. That means more opportunities for everyone to take part. Whether it's *Macam Macam Berapit*, *Bedtime Stories*, or *Kongsi Party*, these events bring art right into our communities, right into our everyday spaces. You don't need to be an art expert—just come with an open heart!

I want to thank the GTF team for once again putting together a festival that feels both world-class and wonderfully local.

To all Penangites and friends from near and far—come join us. Bring your family, your neighbors, and your friends. Let's celebrate what makes Penang special: our culture, our creativity, and most of all, our connection to one another.


Message by

YB Wong Hon Wai
 Penang State EXCO
 for Tourism and Economic Office (PETACE)

Welcome to George Town Festival 2025.

Since its beginning in 2010, the George Town Festival has evolved into one of the region's most dynamic cultural and arts showcases. It has grown beyond a heritage event to become a leading creative platform for Southeast Asia—and a vital contributor to Penang's identity as an international city of the arts.

This year, the festival will feature a total of 50 diverse and thoughtfully curated programmes. Among these, 18 are international presentations, bringing to Penang bold new works from some of the world's most exciting creators. We will also showcase 32 programmes from across Malaysia, celebrating the artistic diversity of our nation. Most significantly, 22 of these programmes involve Penang-based artists and groups, highlighting our strong commitment to nurturing and uplifting local voices. This balance—global, national and local—reflects the role George Town Festival plays in shaping Penang's cultural ecosystem: as both an international stage and a home for local creativity.

To all attendees—Penangites, Malaysians, and international guests—we invite you to see the city anew. Explore George Town through fresh perspectives. Let its walls, streets, and stages tell stories that are both familiar and surprising. And let the George Town Festival 2025 remind us all that art, in its many forms, continues to shape how we connect, remember, and move forward together.

Thank you.


Message by

Dr Ang Ming Chee
 General Manager
 George Town World Heritage Incorporated

George Town Historic City has proudly held its place as a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2008. As we celebrate the 17th anniversary of our beloved city's inscription on the World Heritage List, we recall the importance of bonds and relationships forged throughout the years. Indeed, George Town's Outstanding Universal Value has always been centred around its people—their stories, aspirations, and values that embodies the long history of George Town.

This year, the George Town Festival 2025 adopts the theme "Connection", signifying the Festival's long-standing commitment of serving as a living platform in bridging cities, ideals, and peoples across time and space.

The Festival weaves a tender thread to draw the global community into the intimate embrace of George Town's cultural heritage and vibrant artistic heart—a quiet convergence where diverse traditions and contemporary artistry intertwine, creating an unforgettable experience for both residents and visitors alike. Through a myriad of performances, visual exhibitions, and musical events, the Festival unveils the beauty of George Town's multicultural heritage to the world.

Stepping into the town is a start of a journey; a place can only be appreciated by knowing its people. Behind every door are well-preserved stories, waiting eagerly to be told. You might ask: where do we begin?

A true journey commences with the simplest of human interactions: a welcoming "Selamat Datang", a friendly wave, or a warm handshake. It is within these initial points of connection that the most profound relationships begin. And at the bottom of these meaningful encounters lies the open-heartedness to discover the universal strings that tie all of us together: our joys, hopes, and appreciation of a continued existence. This recognition of our shared humanity is the ultimate catalyst for genuine connection, fostering a sense of belonging, mutual respect, and collective progress.

We aspire for George Town Festival to continue to grow as a courageous platform that pioneers avenues for talented and promising artistic exploration and expression, inspiring us all to live more meaningful and fulfilling lives.

I would like to thank the Penang State Government, the George Town World Heritage Incorporated Board of Directors, and the PETACE office for their continuous support. My deepest appreciation also goes to the dedicated organising team from TLM Event, the artistic advisory panel, participating artists, collaborators, crew members, volunteers, and all supporters whose passion brings this festival to life.

Wishing all of us will enjoy the "connection" during George Town Festival 2025!



Message by

Jack Wong

Festival Director

George Town Festival 2025

This year, we celebrate the theme of "Connection"—something we all crave a little more of these days. Whether it's connecting with people, places, or ideas, we hope this year's Festival sparks moments that bring us closer together.

Connection can mean so many things. It's that shared laugh at a performance, a conversation sparked by an artwork, or simply walking through the streets of George Town and feeling part of something bigger. This Festival is a space for people to meet, to reflect, and to rediscover the joy of being present—with each other, with the city, and with the arts.

It's been exciting to see the Festival grow—not just in scale, but in how and where art is experienced. From pop-ups to heritage venues, each space adds something unique. We hope this spirit of experimentation keeps inspiring collaborations beyond the Festival.

There's something special about the George Town Festival—how it brings people together and creates a sense of belonging. It shows how the arts can speak across boundaries and invite everyone in.

I hope you take time to explore all that George Town Festival has to offer. You'll find bold, moving works that challenge, inspire, and open up new ways of seeing the world.

We're grateful to the Penang State Government, Penang State EXCO for Tourism and Creative Economy, and George Town World Heritage Incorporated for their continued support, and to our artists and partners for walking this journey with us. To the Festival team—thank you for your heart, creativity, and belief in what we do.

Lastly, from all of us at George Town Festival, thank you for being part of this incredible journey. Let's celebrate the power of connection—see you around the Festival!

About Us

George Town Festival (GTF), one of Asia's leading arts and culture festivals, returns for its 16th edition from 2 to 10 August 2025. This year's theme, "Connection", explores the powerful relationships between the arts, the city, and the human experience.

This year's Festival features 50 programmes spanning music, dance, theatre, visual arts, photography and more. From international premieres to bold new local works, George Town Festival 2025 transforms over 20 indoor and outdoor venues across George Town and greater Penang into stages of creativity and connection.

Whether you're a seasoned art lover or just festival-curious, there's something waiting for you here. So come laugh, move, feel, and connect—because George Town Festival 2025 isn't just a festival, it's an invitation to be part of something bigger.

George Town Festival 2025 is a project by George Town World Heritage Incorporated (GTWHI), organised by TLM Event, endorsed by the Penang State Government and Penang State EXCO for Tourism and Creative Economy (PETACE), and supported by City Council of Penang Island (MBPP), Seberang Perai City Council (MBSP) and Penang Global Tourism (PGT).



Festival Calendar

PRE-FESTIVAL

25 JUN 2025

Production Workshop by Blank Canvas
Blank Canvas | 10am - 6pm

19 JUL 2025

Macam Macam Berapit
Berapit Public Market | 5pm - 11pm

**Faces of Connection:
A Canon x USM Community
Portrait Project**
Berapit Public Market | 5pm - 11pm

Future Blender

Berapit Public Market | 5pm - 11pm

26 & 27 JUL 2025

Art Writing Workshop by Blank Canvas
The Whiteaways Arcade | 10am - 6pm

30 JUL 2025

**“puzzles” - A Collaborative Dance x Live
Music Guided Jam Session with 129BPM**
Penang Youth Centre | 8pm

1 AUG 2025

**And All That Jazz
- Stories of Malaysia and Taiwan**
Majestic Theatre | 8pm

2 AUG 2025 (SAT)

**TIDES OF TRADITION:
Coastal Fishermen and the Soul
of Penang’s Shores**
The Whiteaways Arcade | 10am

Safari Ticketed

Loft 29 | 3pm & 8pm

After Dusk

Padang Kota Lama | 5pm - 11pm

A Market Under a Starry Night
Padang Kota Lama | 5pm - 11pm

Between Departures: 1Drum
Jalan Padang Kota Lama
5pm, 6pm, 8pm, 9pm

**Three Generations,
One Jazzy Heartbeat** Ticketed
Majestic Theatre | 8pm

Rhythms & Roots
Padang Kota Lama | 8.30pm & 9.30pm

Festival Calendar

3 AUG 2025 (SUN)

The Kung Yu 5 Checklist Workshop
Pusat Penang 2030 KADUN Komtar
2pm - 5pm

My Cloud Ticketed

Loft 29 | 3pm & 8pm

After Dusk

Padang Kota Lama | 5pm - 11pm

A Market Under a Starry Night
Padang Kota Lama | 5pm - 11pm

Between Departures: 1Drum
Jalan Padang Kota Lama
5pm, 6pm, 8pm, 9pm

**Three Generations,
One Jazzy Heartbeat** Ticketed
Majestic Theatre | 8pm

Rhythms & Roots
Padang Kota Lama | 8.30pm & 9.30pm

5 AUG 2025 (TUE)

**From Inspiration to Performance:
The Journey of a Song**
Hikayat | 1pm

**Contemporary Puppetry
as a Tool for Intergenerational
Dialogue Performance**
The Whiteaways Arcade | 8pm

**The Malaysian Real Book:
Page to Performance** Ticketed
Majestic Theatre | 8pm

**129BPM - Contemporary Hip Hop
Dance Theatre** Ticketed
Dewan Sri Pinang | 8pm

6 AUG 2025 (WED)

**Music, Life, Trumpet and Jazz:
Exploring the Versatility of Brass**
Hikayat | 1pm

Totsu-totsu Dance - like art, like care
Hin Bus Depot | 8pm

**The Malaysian Real Book:
Page to Performance** Ticketed
Majestic Theatre | 8pm

4 AUG 2025 (MON)

**The Malaysian Real Book:
Documenting Our Musical Heritage**
Hikayat | 1pm

The Kung Yu 5 Checklist Workshop
Pusat Penang 2030 KADUN Komtar
2pm - 5pm

**129BPM - Contemporary Hip Hop
Dance Theatre** Ticketed
Dewan Sri Pinang | 8pm

The Art of Jazz Drumming
Majestic Theatre | 8pm

7 AUG 2025 (THU)

Totsu-totsu Dance - like art, like care
Hin Bus Depot | 8pm

Festival Calendar

8 AUG 2025 (FRI)

WARIS

Pengkalan Nelayan Paramount | 6pm

A Night in Spain

Loft 29 | 8pm

9 AUG 2025 (SAT)

Stories in Motion:

A Videography Workshop by Canon

The Whiteaways Arcade | 9am - 2pm

Sharing Session with Michiyuki Ishita

Bangunan U.A.B | 10am

The South Paradise:

Rong-ngeng Folk Dance

Hin Bus Depot | 12.30pm

Seh Tek Tong Cheah Kongsi | 6pm & 9.30pm

Between Light & Grey:

A Double Bill of Puppetry

Ticketed

The Whiteaways Arcade | 3pm & 8pm

Between Departures:

Sundal Malam Ensemble

Jalan Padang Kota Lama

5pm, 6pm, 8pm, 9pm

Bedtime Stories

Taman Kejiranan Desa Mawar

6pm - 10pm

Kongsi Party

Seh Tek Tong Cheah Kongsi | 6pm - 11pm

WARIS

Pengkalan Nelayan Paramount | 6pm

Birdy

Ticketed

Dewan Sri Pinang | 8pm

10 AUG 2025 (SUN)

Drum Together

Lebuh Pantai | 9am - 11am

Framing Real Moments:

A Photography Workshop by Canon

The Whiteaways Arcade | 9am - 2pm

TERANG: Forum Discussion

Bangunan U.A.B | 10am

Heritage in Style

Loft 29 | 1pm

Between Light & Grey:

A Double Bill of Puppetry

Ticketed

The Whiteaways Arcade | 3pm

Between Departures:

Sundal Malam Ensemble

Jalan Padang Kota Lama

5pm, 6pm, 8pm, 9pm

Kongsi Party

Seh Tek Tong Cheah Kongsi | 6pm - 11pm

The South Paradise:

Rong-ngeng Folk Dance

Seh Tek Tong Cheah Kongsi | 6pm & 9pm

Birdy

Ticketed

Dewan Sri Pinang | 8pm

17 AUG 2025 (SUN)

GTF at Paya Terubong

6pm - 10pm

Festival Calendar

EXHIBITION

23 JUL - 10 AUG 2025

Time-Places-People

Book Island | 11am - 6pm

30 JUL - 31 AUG 2025

Rebecca Duckett-Wilkinson:

A Travelling Artist's Diary

Hikayat | 11am - 6pm

1 - 24 AUG 2025

Rapid Change

O Sculpture, Hin Bus Depot | 10am - 6pm

2 AUG - 1 SEPT 2025

A Debt of Time

Sia Boey Urban Archaeological Park

10am - 7pm

2 - 10 AUG 2025

Symbiosis: Crab Chronicle

The Whiteaways Arcade | 11am - 7pm

The City of Willows

Ng Fook Thong Temple | 2pm - 7pm

IMMERSIOx

Bangunan U.A.B | 11am - 7.30pm

Free Face Scan

Art Lane | 11am - 6pm

5 - 10 AUG 2025

Living the Tanjong Life

LUMA | 10am - 6pm

7 - 10 AUG 2025

Printed Connections

- A Living Photo Wall by Canon and USM

Bangunan U.A.B | 11am - 7.30pm

PROJECTION MAPPING SHOWCASE

2 - 10 AUG 2025

TERANG

Town Hall | 8pm - 11pm

Highlighted Programmes



After Dusk



After Dusk is kicking off George Town Festival 2025 with an unforgettable celebration of lights, music, and creativity after dark! See the Town Hall lights up with "TERANG", a stunning projection mapping showcase by Filamen, featuring works from this year's competition themed "Rojak". Head to Municipal Fountain Park for the dazzling diabolo act "Starry Night" by Diabolution and the powerful performance "Transmute: Dengung Dalam Sepi" by Muhd Sharul Mohd and NAMIE. Catch "Rhythms & Roots", where Culture Shot and Straw blend folk and contemporary beats in one electrifying show. Shop, snack, and explore at "A Market Under a Starry Night" at the Esplanade. And don't miss "Between Departures", a moving concert on a city bus featuring 1Drum and the Sundal Malam Ensemble. The city will glow with stories, sounds, and surprises that connect us all—will you be there to experience it?

Date
2 & 3 August 2025

Time
5pm - 11pm

Venue
Padang Kota Lama

Free Admission

TERANG

Projection Mapping Showcase

Dates 2 - 10 August 2025

Time 8pm - 11pm

Venue Town Hall

"TERANG", meaning *bright* in Malay, is a projection mapping showcase by Filamen that transforms George Town's historic Town Hall into a glowing canvas of digital artistry. Featuring works from this year's projection mapping competition themed "Rojak", this projection mapping showcase lights up the historic building with wild visuals, daring ideas, and colourful collisions of culture. Expect the unexpected as digital artists turn this heritage building into a canvas of moving masterpieces.

At its core, "TERANG" is a platform for creative experimentation, where artists bring stories to life through light, movement, and sound. Their work bridges past and present, illuminating the architecture of Town Hall while sparking fresh conversations about history, identity, and place.

By spotlighting this historic gem, "TERANG" invites the public to see Town Hall not just as a relic of the past, but as a living part of our cultural fabric. Each projection is both a tribute and a transformation—an imaginative reawakening of a building we thought we already knew.

More than an art show, "TERANG" is a celebration of creativity, connection, and the shared spaces that shape us.



Rhythms & Roots

A Market Under a Starry Night

"Rhythms & Roots" is a powerful musical performance that bridges land, lineage, and identity. Featuring Culture Shot (Penang) and Straw 林水草 (Sabah), the show reimagines Southeast Asian folk traditions through contemporary sound. Experience two distinct voices merging in a moving finale—a night of deep roots, shared rhythms, and the spirit of home and connection.

We're lighting up the night at George Town Festival 2025, and you're invited to experience the magic of "A Market Under a Starry Night"! Step into two unforgettable evenings under the stars, filled with whimsical art, vintage finds, handmade treasures, tasty street eats, and Penang's creative soul on full display.

Curated by Moondiri Market and Kung Bros Collectors Market, this enchanting night market is one of the must-see opening highlights of George Town Festival 2025. Whether you're a curious explorer, a food lover, or a fan of all things local and creative, "A Market Under a Starry Night" is your place to wander, discover, and soak in the festival vibes.



Transmute: Dengung Masih Dalam Sepi

"Transmute: Dengung Masih Dalam Sepi" marks the third collaborative work between Muhd Sharul Mohd (performer and choreographer) and NAMIE (performer and composer). Their previous pieces, "The Being: Katanya Dia Aku Adalah" (2021) and "The Being: Dua Diriku" (2022), were presented at Singapore's Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay. Together, their creative process embraces structured improvisation, balancing organic shifts with intentional, curated moments.

In this latest work, the duo delves into the mental, emotional, and physical states evoked by silence. Silence that offers space for reflection. Silence that lingers after a confrontation. Silence that soothes in meditation. And silence that isolates—cold and aching.

"Transmute: Dengung Masih Dalam Sepi" invites you to turn inward and reflect: how does silence connect—or disconnect—with you in the moment?

Starry Night

Performed by Diabolition, "Starry Night" transports audiences to a dreamlike realm—a fantastical space where stars are within reach, and wonder floats in the air. It is a place to touch, to feel, and to wander beneath the magic of night.

This diabolo performance begins at golden hour, as daylight softens and night quietly arrives. One by one, diabolos and sticks light up, spinning and soaring through space like celestial bodies in motion.

Set to modern contemporary music, Diabolition combines the elegance of dance with the technical artistry of diabolo manipulation. The movements build in beauty and intensity—culminating in a moment of magic as a diabolo tangles high above, then slowly falls like a glowing blue butterfly.

With its breathtaking visuals, emotive storytelling, and a touch of starlit magic, "Starry Night" is not to be missed.

For the full programme lineup of After Dusk, visit George Town Festival's website or social media.

KONGSI PARTY

9 & 10 August 2025 | 6pm - 11pm

Seh Tek Tong Cheah Kongsi



Kongsi Party

Experience a night of music, heritage, and harmony at *Kongsi Party*—an atmospheric concert set in the stunning courtyard of the historic Seh Tek Tong Cheah Kongsi! From the dreamy harmonies of The Impatient Sisters to the spirited sounds of Planet Canto Rock and the eclectic energy of Kool Kongsi, this vibrant lineup brings together artists who celebrate identity, language, and cultural roots through music.

As melodies echo through the historic clanhouse, *Kongsi Party* becomes more than just a performance — it's a celebration of connection, shared stories, and the rhythms that unite us across time and tradition.

Dates
9 & 10 August 2025

Time
6pm - 11pm

Venue
Seh Tek Tong Cheah Kongsi

Free Admission

Art has the power to gather hearts and voices, connecting a community through the shared language of togetherness.



ISLE 島嶼島 TO ISLE

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Isle to Isle 2025

Ever wondered how rhythm and culture can intertwine across islands? Find out at *Isle to Isle* 2025 at George Town Festival 2025! This cultural exchange connects Penang and Taiwan through three inspiring programmes for an artistic celebration! Look forward to the "Three Generations, One Jazzy Heartbeat" by The Stacey Wei Quartet featuring Rich Huang and Tay Cher Siang, engage in thought-provoking conversations at the "And All That Jazz—Stories of Malaysia and Taiwan" sharing, and don't miss "Birdy," a captivating dance performance by Lai Hung-Chung, which reflects on themes of freedom and constraint through mesmerising movement. With such an incredible lineup, *Isle to Isle* 2025 promises to be a transformative experience for music enthusiasts and culture lovers alike!

Three Generations, One Jazzy Heartbeat

2 & 3 August 2025

BIRDY

9 & 10 August 2025



駐馬來西亞臺北經濟文化辦事處
TAIPEI ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL OFFICE IN MALAYSIA

George Town Festival
Spotlight Taiwan

www.georgetownfestival.com

Three Generations, One Jazzy Heartbeat

Refer to page 19 for more information.

Birdy

Refer to page 25 for more information.

And All That Jazz - Stories of Malaysia and Taiwan

Refer to page 29 for more information.

Ticketed Shows



Safari

What if the wilderness came alive—without a single word? “Safari” by Talentshow Theatre is a playful mime and object theatre performance that brings animals and nature to life through expressive movement and minimal props. “Safari” sparks imagination, curiosity, and joy through pure visual storytelling—perfect for young audiences and families.

Date

2 August 2025

Times

3pm & 8pm

Venue

Loft 29

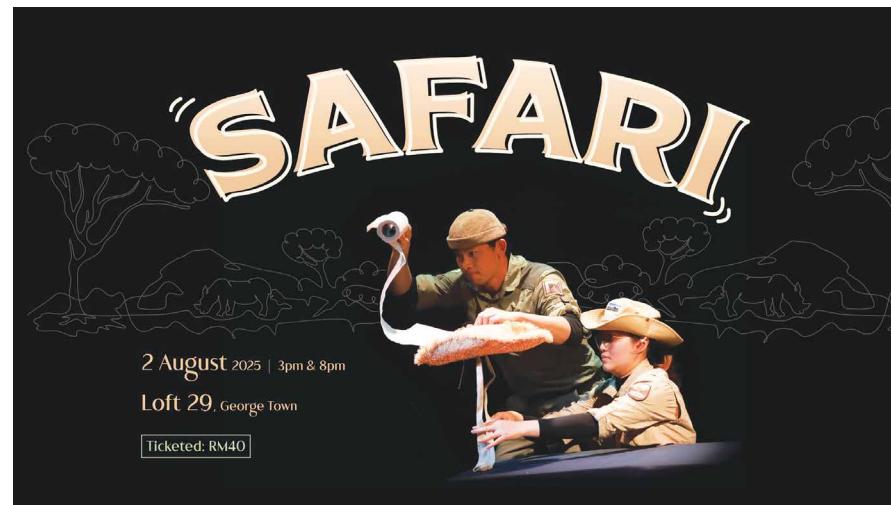
Age Suitability

4 years old and above

Ticket Price

RM40

Ticketed



Three Generations, One Jazzy Heartbeat

Experience “Three Generations, One Jazzy Heartbeat”—a live performance by The Stacey Wei Quartet—at George Town Festival 2025. This unique band, formed specifically for the festival, features four talented musicians spanning three generations: Stacey Wei on trumpet, Rich Huang on drums, Guras Batu on piano, and Liu Yu-Chia on double bass. Joining them is Tay Cher Siang, a renowned jazz pianist and composer from Malaysia. Together, they present a vibrant snapshot of Taiwan’s evolving jazz scene, performing original works and carefully selected pieces that speak to the hearts of audiences across generations and borders.

Dates

2 & 3 August 2025

Time

8pm

Venue

Majestic Theatre

Age Suitability

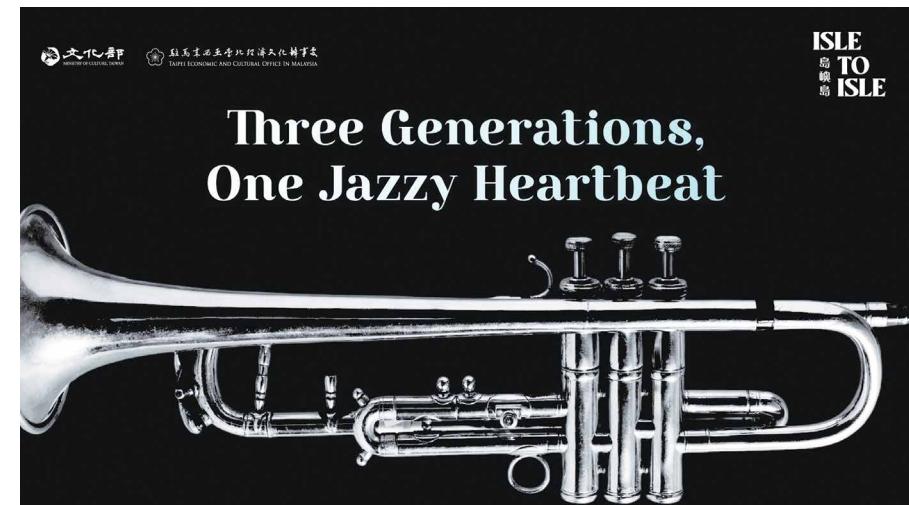
10 years old and above

Ticket Price

RM100

Ticketed

“Three Generations, One Jazzy Heartbeat” is part of the *Isle to Isle* series, presented by George Town Festival in partnership with the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Malaysia.



My Cloud

Ready, set, imagine with "My Cloud"! Performed by Paper Monkey Theatre, the performance follows a young child and their talking cloud as they set off on a lively journey filled with courage, curiosity, and wonder. With vibrant storytelling, playful interaction, and gentle life lessons, this engaging show is perfect for children aged 3 and up.

It's a joyful adventure that lets young imaginations soar!

Date

3 August 2025

Times

3pm & 8pm

Venue

Loft 29

Age Suitability

3 years old and above

Ticket Price

RM40

Ticketed



129BPM - Contemporary Hip Hop Dance Theatre

Produced by H2Q Dance Company and managed by MORUA, "129BPM" is a striking 70-minute performance that blends street dance, Vietnamese contemporary folk music, and fabric sculpture. Choreographed by Vietnamese-French artist Bui Ngoc Quan, the work explores identity, tension, and the challenge of living together in a rapidly urbanising world. As bodies are pushed to their limits, a powerful question emerges: Can we move together, even in our differences?

Marking Vietnam's debut at George Town Festival and Quan's Southeast Asian premiere after 25 years with Les Ballets C de la B, "129BPM" pulses with heart and urgency.

Dates

4 & 5 August 2025

Time

8pm

Venue

Dewan Sri Pinang

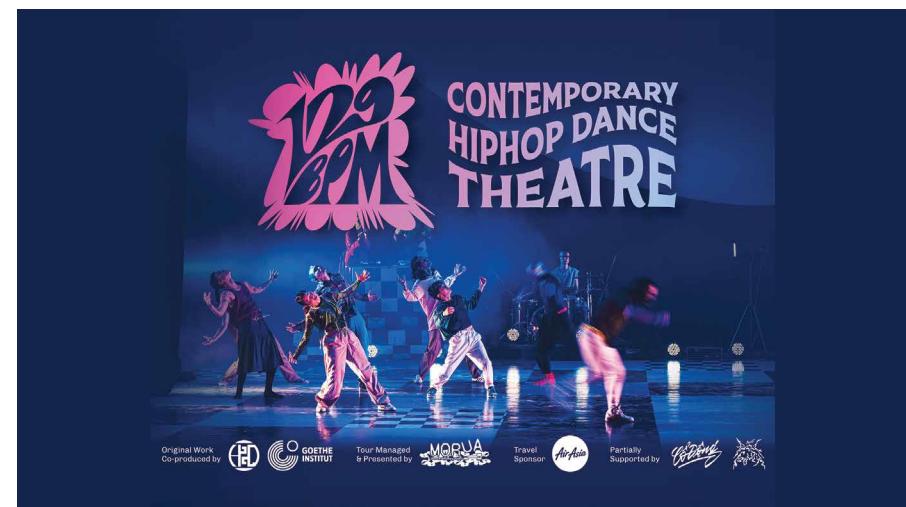
Age Suitability

8 years old and above

Ticket Prices

RM60, RM80, RM100

Ticketed



The Malaysian Real Book: Page to Performance

What does Malaysian jazz sound like? Find out in "The Malaysian Real Book: Page to Performance"—a tribute to our musical roots and modern voices. Featuring soulful Alwagera, elegant May Mow, and the award-winning WVC Jazz, this concert brings iconic songs and fresh originals to life in Malay, Chinese, and English. It promises to be a vibrant journey through the past and present in one unforgettable evening.

Dates

5 & 6 August 2025

Time

8pm

Venue

Majestic Theatre

Age Suitability

Unrestricted

Ticket Price

RM100

Ticketed



Alwagera



May Mow 媚毛



WVC JAZZ

The Malaysian Real Book
Page to Performance

Tuesday 5 August 2025 | 8.00 pm
Wednesday 6 August 2025 | 8.00 pm

featuring **Alwagera | May Mow 媚毛**
WVC Jazz

Tay Cher Siang | AJ Popshuvit | Adriel Wong
with Rizal Tony | Eddie Lim | Eddie Wen

Photo credit: Unsplash, Freepik, Vectors

Between Light & Grey: A Double Bill of Puppetry

"Between Light and Grey: A Double Bill of Puppetry", performed by Ong Aik Lee and Lim Yun Xin, is a poetic exploration of memory, identity, and human connection. In *The Tiny Light*, a child chases a flickering glow through the forgotten corners of their past. *Greyscale* shifts the lens to collective memory: in a world drained of colour, an old man searches for meaning amid silence and control. Combining handcrafted puppets, expressive movement, and an original score, this intimate performance gently weaves together the invisible threads that connect us all. A beautifully crafted experience—not to be missed.

Dates

9 & 10 August 2025

Times

9 August 2025 | 3pm & 8pm

10 August 2025 | 3pm

Venue

The Whiteaways Arcade

Age Suitability

7 years old & above

Ticket Price

RM40

Ticketed

Between Light & Grey

A Double Bill of Puppetry



Birdy

What does it mean to seek freedom in a world filled with constraints? "Birdy," a captivating dance performance by Lai Hung-Chung, delves into this question while exploring the complexities of Taiwanese society. Using rich metaphors of cages and dreams, it examines the tension between individual aspirations and community narratives. Lai creatively reinterprets traditional Chinese opera elements to symbolize personal struggles and societal roles. With a mesmerising blend of traditional and contemporary movements, paired with an eclectic score, "Birdy" invites the audience to reflect on the delicate balance between aspiration and limitation in the universal quest for identity.

Dates

9 & 10 August 2025

Time

8pm

Venue

Dewan Sri Pinang

Age Suitability

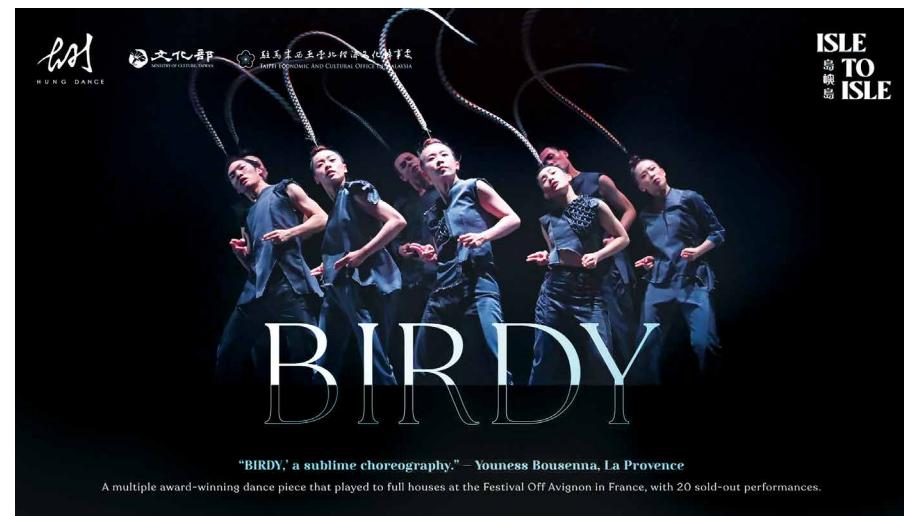
6 years old and above

Ticket Prices

RM60, RM80, RM100

Ticketed

"Birdy" is part of the *Isle to Isle* series, presented by George Town Festival in partnership with the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Malaysia.





Flip on
— the excitement's
just getting started!

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“puzzles” - A Collaborative Dance x Live Music Guided Jam Session with 129BPM

Renowned choreographer Quan Bui Ngoc returns with a dynamic workshop exploring the intersection of dance and other disciplines. Drawing on his experience with Les Ballets C de la B, Quan guides participants through precise, layered movement and the concept of “physical communication.” Blending structured exercises with improvisation, the workshop invites movers of all backgrounds to explore, express, and connect through the language of the body. Discover new creative possibilities in this open, exploratory space.

Date

30 July 2025

Time

8pm

Venue

Penang Youth Centre

Free Admission

Pre-registration is required.

And All That Jazz - Stories of Malaysia and Taiwan

Join us for the talk “And All That Jazz—Stories of Malaysia and Taiwan,” where the transformative impact of jazz in the Asian region. Stacey Wei, a leading trumpeter and educator, has significantly contributed to the development of jazz talent in Taiwan. Rich Huang, regarded as a national treasure, shares insights from his diverse career across various genres. Adding a contemporary edge, celebrated pianist and composer Tay Cher Siang draws from his extensive connections in Southeast Asia’s music education community. Together, they promise a dynamic discussion on the evolution of jazz.

Date

1 August 2025

Time

8pm

Venue

Majestic Theatre

Free Admission

Pre-registration is required.

“And All That Jazz—Stories of Malaysia and Taiwan” is part of the *Isle to Isle* series, presented by George Town Festival in partnership with the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Malaysia.



Totsu-totsu Dance - like art, like care

"Totsu-totsu Dance" – like art, like care" is a heartfelt collaboration between people with dementia, their care-partners, and dancers. Now returning to Malaysia after four years, the project invites you to experience its moving journey. Through performances, talks, workshops, and films, "Totsu-totsu Dance – like art, like care" explores connection, memory, and everyday movement. Join us in celebrating this quiet yet powerful art form—where care becomes art, and every step tells a story.

Dates

6 & 7 August 2025

Time

8pm

Venue

Hin Bus Depot

Duration

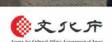
90 minutes, no interval

Free Admission

Pre-registration is required.

**Totsu-totsu-Dance
-like art, like care-**

Hin Bus Depot
6th & 7th August 2025, 8PM

torindo  EPSON

WEB Instagram

A Night in Spain

Experience "A Night in Spain" at George Town Festival—a captivating concert that brings the soul of Spanish classical music to life. Pianist Foo Mei Yi, violinist Bartosz Woroch, and cellist Ivan Torres lead you through a rich tapestry of fiery flamenco, lyrical folk melodies, and evocative regional sounds. From intimate solos to dynamic trios, this unforgettable evening celebrates the warmth, drama, and timeless elegance of Spain's *música clásica*.

Date

8 August 2025

Time

8pm

Venue

Loft 29

Duration

60 minutes, no interval

Free Admission

Pre-registration is required.

"A Night in Spain" is presented by George Town Festival in partnership with the Embassy of Spain in Malaysia.

Foo Mei Yi
Piano

Bartosz Woroch
Violin

Ivan Torres
Cello

A Night in Spain
Piano Trio Concert



WARIS

Presented by WindRiver Productions and the School of the Arts, USM, in collaboration with Pengkalan Nelayan Paramount, "WARIS" is a powerful site-specific performance along Paramount Beach. Developed through a two-week artistic lab, it merges dance, memory, and ritual—honouring the rhythms of the sea and the ancestral wisdom of the last living *waris*. Don't miss this evocative journey of movement and memory.

Dates

8 & 9 August 2025

Time

6pm

Venue

Pengkalan Nelayan Paramount

Free Admission

The South Paradise: Rong-ngeng Folk Dance

"The South Paradise: Rong-ngeng Folk Dance" brings the rhythms of Southern Thailand to George Town Festival 2025! In collaboration with Pakk Taii Design Week, this vibrant showcase celebrates Rong-ngeng—a traditional Malay folk dance shared across ASEAN. Audiences will be swept away by dazzling costumes, rich musical heritage, and soulful choreography in two parts: *The Charm of Songkhla* and *From Penang to Songkhla*. Don't miss this joyful cultural encounter between Malaysia and Thailand, only at GTF2025!

Date

9 August 2025

Times

12.30pm | Hin Bus Depot
6pm & 9.30pm | Seh Tek Tong Cheah Kongsi

Free Admission

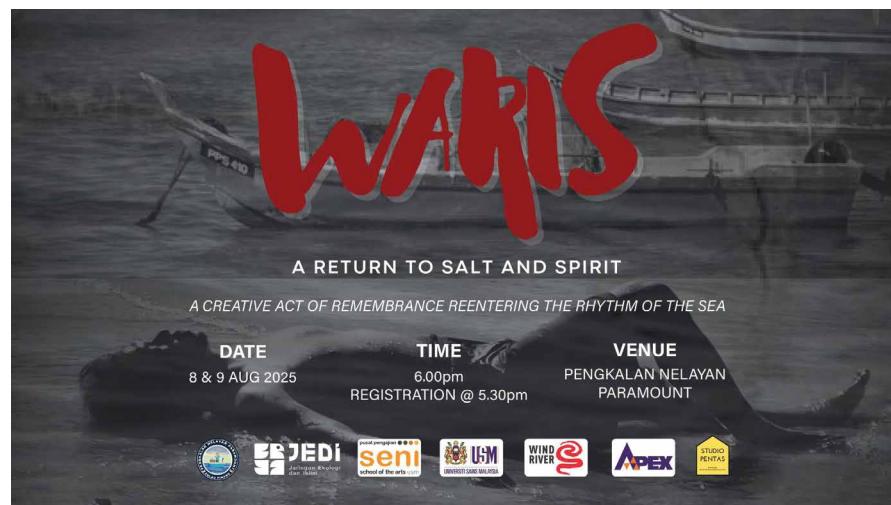
Date

10 August 2025

Time

6pm | Seh Tek Tong Cheah Kongsi

Free Admission



GTF Summer School: Music Masterclasses

Dive into the vibrant world of jazz with this year's "GTF Summer School: Music Masterclasses"! Led by top regional talents, these sessions offer creative and technical insights for aspiring and practising musicians. Learn from Rich Huang (drums), Tay Cher Siang (keyboards), Alwagera (vocals), and Eddie Wen (trumpet) as they share their unique approaches. Open to all with a passion for music—priority given to those with experience. Don't miss this chance to sharpen your craft!

**Malaysian Real Book:
Documenting Our Musical Heritage**

Tay Cher Siang

4 August 2025 | 1pm | Hikayat

The Art of Jazz Drumming

Rich Huang

4 August 2025 | 8pm | Majestic Theatre

**From Inspiration to Performance:
The Journey of a Song**

Alwagera

5 August 2025 | 1pm | Hikayat

**Music, Life, Trumpet and Jazz:
Exploring the Versatility of Brass**

Eddie Wen

6 August 2025 | 1pm | Hikayat

Free Admission

Pre-registration is required.



Contemporary Puppetry as a Tool for Intergenerational Dialogue Performance

Discover how puppetry bridges generations in "Contemporary Puppetry as a Tool for Intergenerational Dialogue Performance"—a cross-cultural exchange featuring Ombak Potehi (Malaysia), Talentshow (Thailand), Paper Monkey Theatre (Singapore), and Penang artists Lim Yun Xin and Ong Aik Lee. Through diverse styles and stories, these artists explore how contemporary puppetry passes on heritage, challenges norms, and connects communities. Join this engaging dialogue celebrating puppetry's power to inspire, engage, and spark meaningful conversations across cultures, generations, and time.

Lim Yun Xin and Ong Aik Lee (Malaysia)

Ombak Potehi (Malaysia)

Talentshow (Thailand)

Paper Monkey Theatre (Singapore)

Date

5 August 2025

Time

8pm

Venue

The Whiteaways Arcade

Free Admission

Pre-registration is required.



Between Departures

Hop on “Between Departures”—a moving live music experience on a city bus! Enjoy intimate, unplugged performances by 1Drum and Sundal Malam Ensemble as you cruise through George Town’s streets. Running 2–3 & 9–10 August, this one-of-a-kind musical journey transforms everyday transit into something unforgettable.

Dates

2, 3, 9 & 10 August 2025

Times

5pm, 6pm, 8pm, 9pm

Venue

Jalan Padang Kota Lama

Free Admission



Heritage in Style

“Heritage in Style” is where tradition meets trend in a stunning fashion showcase. From Penang to Vietnam, designers reimagine heritage through bold couture, upcycled pieces, and handcrafted detail. Featuring fashion houses, colleges, and indie talents — it’s an evening of cultural pride, creativity, and style that speaks from the soul. Don’t miss it!

Date

10 August 2025

Time

1pm

Venue

Loft 29

Free Admission

Pre-registration is required.



Time·Places·People

"Time·Places·People" is a heartfelt return to painting by Penang-born artist Joshua Foo, after 22 years away from the brush and nearly three decades away from home. Spanning over 30 years of work, this intimate exhibition reflects on memory, belonging, and creative rebirth. From early watercolours of Penang to recent portraits and personal tributes, each piece tells a story of reconnection—with art, with place, and with self. A quiet, moving journey that speaks to the soul.

Dates

23 July - 10 August 2025

Time

11am - 6pm

Venue

Book Island, COEX

[Free Admission](#)

Rebecca Duckett-Wilkinson: A Travelling Artist's Diary

Step into the colourful world of "A Travelling Artist's Diary", where art and life intertwine in vibrant, unexpected ways. This captivating exhibition features never-before-seen works by Rebecca Duckett-Wilkinson—paintings, mobiles, sketchbooks, and installations inspired by her travels, family, and Malaysia's lush natural beauty. For one whole month, Hikayat becomes her open studio: drop by to see her in action, explore her creative process, and discover the stories behind each piece. Don't miss this rare opportunity to engage with the artist and experience her personal journey through art—up close and in real time.

Dates

30 July - 31 August 2025

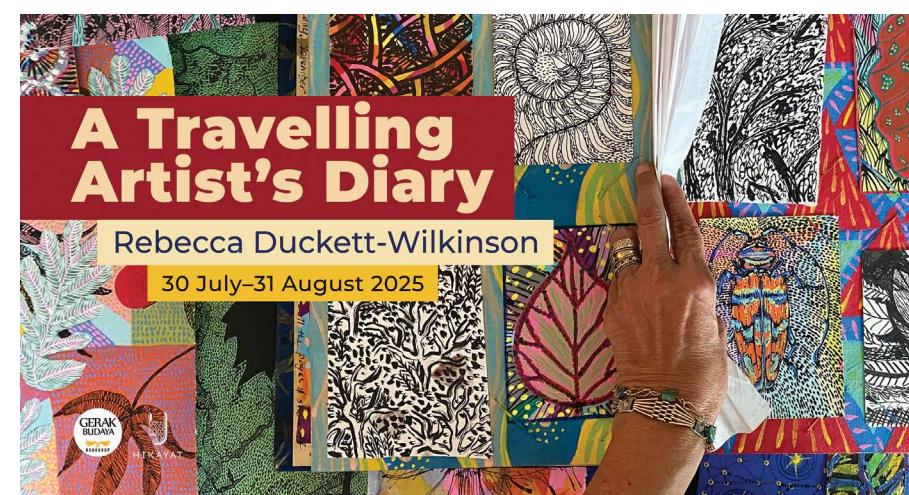
Time

11am - 6pm

Venue

Hikayat, George Town

[Free Admission](#)



Rapid Change

“Rapid Change” is a photographic journey by Chong Kok Choon through a small town straddling the Kedah–Penang border, capturing an often-overlooked feature of everyday life: bus stops. Using the Artivive app, these images are brought to life with embedded video clips, inviting you to pause, look closer, and reflect on what progress leaves behind.

Dates

1 - 24 August 2025

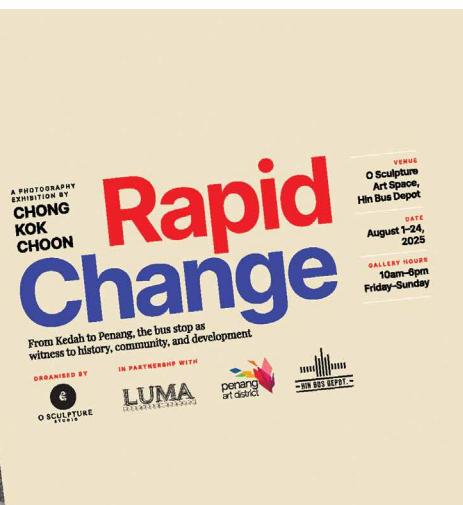
Time

10am - 6pm

Venue

O Sculpture, Art Space Hin Bus Depot

Free Admission



IMMERSIOx

What happens when digital art takes over real-world spaces? “IMMERSIOx” is a bold platform connecting audiences to immersive new media experiences across multiple locations. From interactive installations to projection mapping, it supports artists with the tech and tools they need to bring digital visions to life. Seamless, scalable, and deeply engaging, “IMMERSIOx” makes new media art more accessible—and impossible to ignore.

Dates

2 - 10 August 2025

Time

11am - 7.30pm

Venue

Bangunan U.A.B

Free Admission



Free Face Scan

Be part of "Free Face Scan", a project by Filipino collective TRIANGULUM! Sit for a face scan at locations around George Town and take home a printed portrait. These scans—combined with textures, food, and architecture from Penang—form a vibrant wheat-pasted mural celebrating people and place. The final work, along with prints and behind-the-scenes moments, will be unveiled in a special exhibition. A playful, hands-on experience where technology meets street art—and you become part of it.

Face Scanning Sessions

Dates & Times

2, 4, 5, 6 August 2025 | 11am - 6pm
Art Lane

Date & Time

3 August 2025 | 11am - 6pm
Hin Bus Depot

Mural Making

Dates

6 - 10 August 2025
Art Lane

Exhibition

Date

Opens 10 August | On view until further notice... or until it peels.
Art Lane

Free Admission

The City of Willows

Experience "The City of Willows", a playable art installation by Chong Yan Chuah and Simon Soon, with curatorial direction by Wei Ming. Presented by Cultprint for George Town Festival, this art installation is inspired by the hidden histories of 19th-century Chinese secret societies. The installation reimagines Triad initiation rites as a journey through ritual portals and Southeast Asian landscapes. Explore durian stalls, temple courtyards, rainforests, and a towering pagoda inspired by Kek Lok Si. Enter a dreamlike world shaped by migration, memory, and myth—where heritage comes alive through interactive storytelling.

Dates

2 - 10 August 2025

Time

12pm - 7pm

Venue

Ng Fook Thong Temple

Free Admission

FREE SCAN JOB

AN ART HAPPENING BY TRIANGULUM

FACE SCANNING SESSIONS | COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT | MURAL CREATION | EXHIBITION

GEORGE
TOWN
FESTIVAL™

PENANG • MALAYSIA



ARTISTS: E.S.L. CHEN, FRELAN "PAKZ" GONZAGA, KARINA BROOKE GONZAGA AND PAIGE SEÑERES

DATE: 2-10 AUGUST 2025

VENUE: ART LANE

127, BEACH ST, 10450 GEORGE TOWN, PENANG

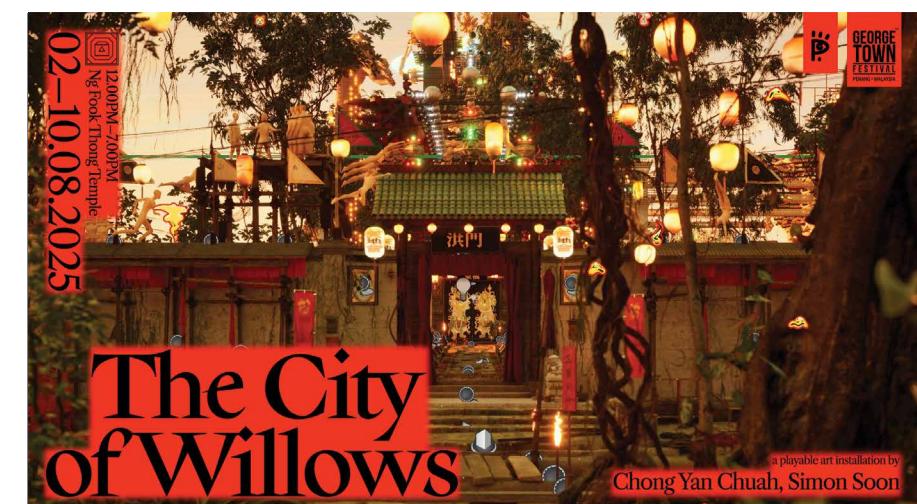
ART
LANE

BELARMINO
PARTNERS

CHINA
HOUSE

FOR
THE
LAB

TRI:NGULUM



Living the Tanjong Life

Celebrate the legacy of Azmi Hussin with "Living the Tanjong Life"—a heartfelt tribute to the late cartoonist's beloved *Tanjong Life* series. Featuring his witty, warm illustrations of Penang life and a work-in-progress documentary, this exhibition honours Azmi's humour, struggles, and deep love for storytelling through ink.

Dates

5 - 10 August 2025

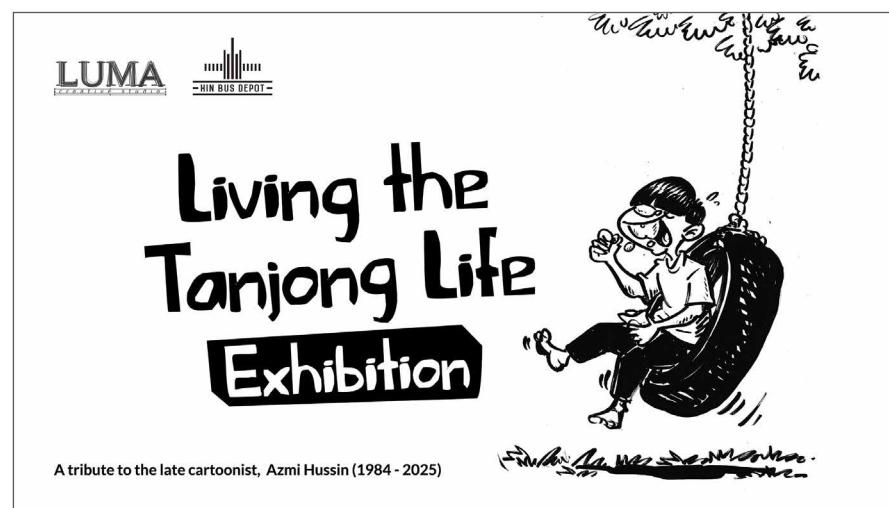
Time

10am - 6pm

Venue

LUMA

Free Admission



A Debt of Time

"A Debt of Time" by Neoh Shin Yen is a contemplative art installation that explores the transformative power of words, reflecting on themes of impermanence, connection, and the quiet persistence of memory. Text appears only when illuminated—flickering into view as sunlight shifts, then vanishing just as quickly. This delicate interplay of shadow and word captures the fleeting nature of memory, connection, and gratitude. Evocative and quietly powerful, the work invites viewers to pause, reflect, and witness meaning revealed in a moment.

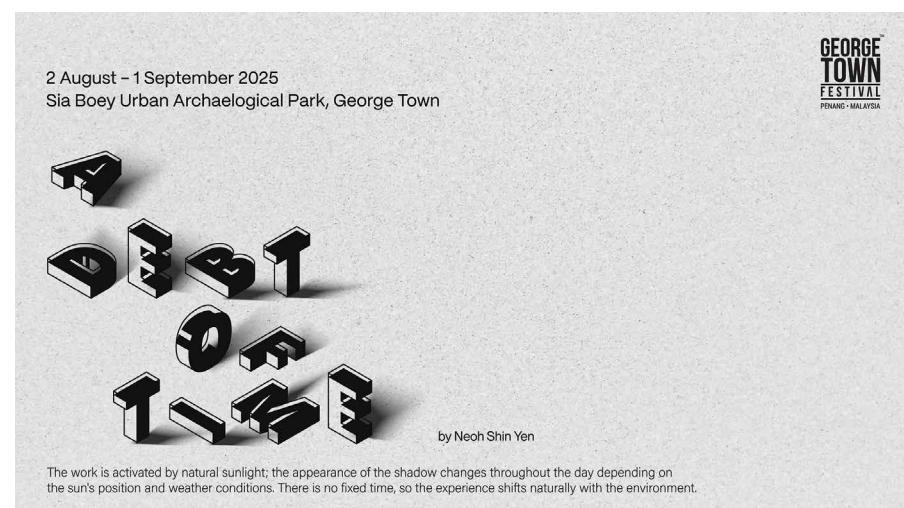
Dates

2 August - 1 September 2025

Venue

Sia Boey Urban Archaeological Park

Free Admission



Symbiosis: Crab Chronicle

"Symbiosis: Crab Chronicle" is a virtual reality journey through Penang's shifting ecosystems—told from the perspective of its crabs. Guided by native and invasive species, visitors journey from the rainforest of Penang Hill to coastal sands and underground tunnels—encountering stories of biodiversity, disruption, and resilience. Inspired by fieldwork with local fisherfolk, this immersive project offers a powerful reflection on environmental change and the fragile balance between human development and marine life.

Dates

2 - 10 August 2025

Time

11am - 7pm

Venue

First Floor, The Whiteaways Arcade

Free Admission



TIDES OF TRADITION: Coastal Fishermen and the Soul of Penang's Shores

Discover the untold stories of Penang's coastal fishermen with Andrew Han, social filmmaker and community organiser. Through vivid storytelling and powerful visuals, this talk reveals their deep-rooted traditions, struggles, and resilience—offering a rare, eye-opening look at a vanishing way of life shaped by the tides of culture, ecology, and change.

Date

2 August 2025

Time

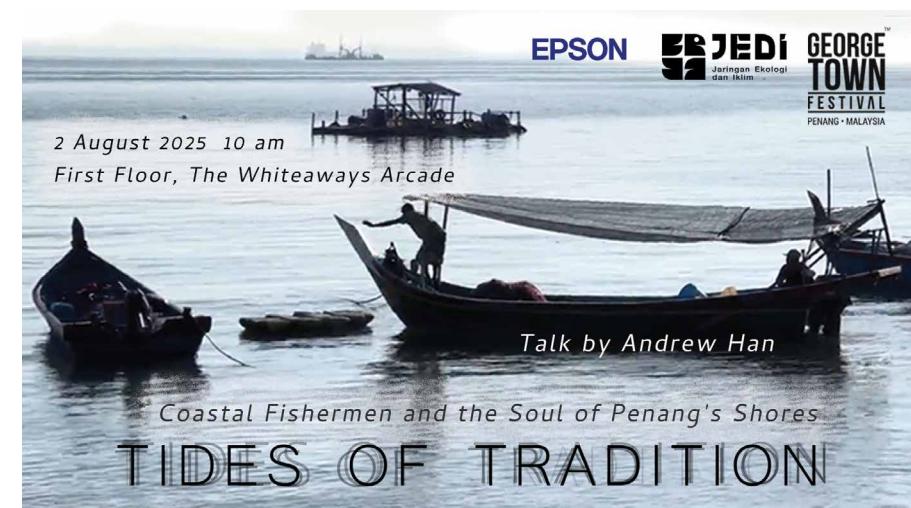
10am

Venue

First Floor, The Whiteaways Arcade

Free Admission

Pre-registration is required.



Workshop 101 Series

Looking to build a career in the visual arts? "Workshop 101 Series" is a new initiative by Blank Canvas offering hands-on training for aspiring art professionals. Held in the lead-up to George Town Festival 2025, this pilot edition features workshops in Art Exhibition Production (Tan Wah Chew) and Art Writing (Hung Duong). Open to all, the series combines theory and practice to support Penang's emerging arts scene and strengthen its creative ecosystem from the ground up.

Art Exhibition Production

Date

25 June 2025

Time

10am - 6pm

Venue

Blank Canvas

Art Writing

Dates

26 & 27 July 2025

Time

10am - 5pm

Venue

The Whiteaways Arcade

Free Admission

Pre-registration is required.

The Kung Yu 5 Checklist Workshop

Discover a new way of seeing with "The Kung Yu 5 Checklist Workshop"—a hands-on session led by renowned Malaysian artist Liew Kung Yu. Learn his practical, accessible method for analysing contemporary art, and gain the tools to engage in deeper, more confident conversations about visual culture.

Dates

3 & 4 August 2025

Time

2pm - 5pm

Venue

Pusat Penang 2030 Kadun Komtar

Free Admission

Pre-registration is required.



Printed Connections – A Living Photo Wall by Canon and USM

Celebrate connection through the power of photography with "Printed Connections" and "Faces of Connection"—two inspiring Canon x USM collaborations at George Town Festival! Visit the vibrant photo wall exhibition at Bangunan U.A.B (7–10 August), featuring stunning festival moments captured by USM student photographers. Then, step into the spotlight at *Macam Macam Berapit* (19 July) and *Bedtime Stories* (9 August), where you'll receive a free portrait and share what connection means to you. Don't miss this heartfelt fusion of creativity, community, and Canon innovation!

Dates

7 - 10 August 2025

Time

11am - 7:30pm

Venue

Bangunan U.A.B

Free Admission

**Faces of Connection:
A Canon x USM Community
Portrait Project**

Date & Time

19 July 2025 | 5pm - 11pm
Macam Macam Berapit

Date & Time

9 August 2025 | 6pm - 10pm
Bedtime Stories



George Town Festival x ElsiewithLove Stamp Rally

Embark on a creative city adventure with the "George Town Festival x ElsiewithLove Stamp Rally"! Collect stamps at selected venues, unlock exclusive rewards, and discover the festival's vibrant spirit along the way. Perfect for all ages, this fun-filled journey invites you to explore George Town through art, play, and meaningful connections—one delightful stop at a time.

Dates

19 July - 10 August 2025





Art speaks in the rhythm of
togetherness, binding hearts
across every difference.

Macam Macam Berapit

Kick off George Town Festival 2025 with *Macam Macam Berapit*—a vibrant pre-festival celebration in Berapit! Experience the rich tradition of Jikey through workshops and a live showcase, feel the pulse of Malaysian rhythms with “Colour of Sounds”, and imagine tomorrow with “Future Blender”, an interactive light installation. Don’t miss a thrilling fire and limbo performance by Kanta Sasaki from Japan. From cultural heritage to futuristic dreams, this high-energy event brings communities together through creativity, performance, and play!

Date

19 July 2025

Time

5pm - 11pm

Venue

Berapit Public Market

[Free Admission](#)



Bedtime Stories

Because every great dream begins with a spark of imagination, *Bedtime Stories* is a specially curated evening that invites children to explore, create, and play before winding down for the night. Designed to inspire wonder and lasting memories, the programme blends performance, storytelling, rhythm, and craft into a magical family experience. Enjoy the whimsical blend of mime and object theatre from Thailand, alongside interactive storytelling, a lively drum circle, and a hands-on workshop. *Bedtime Stories* is where little ones can run wild with imagination, ending their day wrapped in laughter, creativity, and the beginnings of new dreams.

Dates

9 August 2025

Time

6pm - 10pm

Venue

Taman Kejiranan Desa Mawar

[Free Admission](#)



Drum Together

Feel the rhythm, join the beat! "Drum Together" is a pop-up community drum circle led by a facilitator from 1Drum, inviting people of all ages to connect through spontaneous music-making. No experience? No problem. Whether you bring your own drum or use one provided, everyone is welcome to take part, listen, or simply move with the rhythm. Come as you are and discover the joy of collective percussion—where every beat adds to the shared pulse of community.

Date

10 August 2025

Time

9am - 11am

Venue

Lebuh Pantai

[Free Admission](#)

GTF at Paya Terubong

"GTF at Paya Terubong" is a vibrant celebration of the nation's cultural diversity—brought to life through a dynamic showcase of music, dance, and heritage arts. Experience the ancient storytelling of wayang kulit, graceful classical dance and music, energetic dhol rhythms, and a line-up of multicultural performances that reflect Malaysia's rich artistic traditions. This lively programme invites audiences of all ages to revel in the colours, sounds, and stories that make up the Malaysian identity. Whether you're drawn by nostalgia or curiosity, "GTF at Paya Terubong" promises an unforgettable journey through unity in cultural expression.

Date

17 August 2025

Time

6pm - 10pm

[Free Admission](#)





Also 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 and show your support for our thriving local arts scene!

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



**GEORGE
TOWN
LITERARY
FESTIVAL**
**28 • 29 • 30
NOVEMBER 2025**
#GTLF2025

Organiser: **PENANG LITERARY FESTIVAL**
Platinum Sponsor: **GREATECH**
Official Media: **PENANG MONTHLY**
Gold Sponsor: **HSBC**

Urban Myths and Memories

georgetownlitfest.com

George Town Literary Festival 2025

28-30 November 2025

10am - 6pm

UAB Building and WOU City Campus

GTLF returns for its 15th year, bringing together writers, poets, performers, and readers in the historic city of George Town.

This year's theme, Urban Myths and Memories, explores the stories that shape the places we live.

What myths form the unconscious fabric of our urban lives? How do memories communal, contested, or concealed—shape how we inhabit cities? Can literature unearth the stories buried beneath our streets, signs, and skylines?

We are especially drawn to writing that dismantles official narratives in favour of lived ones, reclaims erased or minoritised histories, and sees the city as haunted, spiritual, emotional space.

To remember is to resist erasure.



TANAH AIR
水

PENANG PUPPET FESTIVAL 2025

Date: 13th-24th Aug 2025
Venue: COEX Penang

Logos of sponsors and partners including The Edge, The Star, and various local and international organizations.

Penang Puppet Festival 2025

13 - 24 August 2025

COEX Penang

FB: <https://www.facebook.com/OmbakPotehi>

In Malaysia, a land rich in diverse ethnicities and cultures, the characteristic of "diversity" nurtures various forms of puppetry performance arts. These rooted, locally developed art forms have blossomed into unique expressions. While traditional puppetry and performance arts have their origins in the ancestral homelands of different ethnic groups, once they took root here, they grew and flourished, shaped by the land's unique environment and culture.

This year's puppetry festival aims to gather a variety of regional puppetry styles, showcasing the multifaceted nature of puppetry as it has evolved in this land. It will be a vibrant, artistic garden of diverse voices, much like a bouquet of flowers in full bloom.



PHOTOGRAPHY Exhibition

4 – 23 August 2025
10AM - 10PM

The Whiteaways Arcade

Jointly organised by
PPB GROUP BERHAD PPB PROPERTIES

In collaboration with
SONY

Strategic Partners
Penang Green Council
GEORGE TOWN
FESTIVAL

Penang Heritage Photography Fiesta 4.0 Exhibition

4 - 23 August 2025

10am - 10pm

The Whiteaways Arcade

Immerse yourself in the beauty of Penang's natural heritage at the Penang Heritage Photography Fiesta 4.0 Exhibition, happening from 4 to 23 August 2025 at The Whiteaways Arcade. This captivating showcase features over 50 finalist photographs selected from more than 200 entries across youth and open categories, along with 30 photographs from two notable professional photographers.

Jointly organised by PPB Group Berhad, PPB Properties and SONY Malaysia, and supported by Penang Hill Corporation, Penang Green Council and George Town Festival, the exhibition highlights Penang's rich biodiversity and green heritage.

The highlight of the exhibition includes a collection of 15 curated photographs from renowned photojournalist David ST Loh, showcasing his interpretation of this year's theme. Kiah Ng, a SONY Alpha Guru, will also be displaying 15 photographs of various wildlife for public viewing.

Visit and be inspired by the stories, talent and environmental beauty captured through every lens.



We Need To Talk by Ernest Zacharevic

5 July - 31 August 2025

12pm - 7pm

Cultprint- 35, Lebuh Melayu,
10300 George Town, Penang.

CULTPRINT, 35 LEBUH MELAYU,
10300 GEORGE TOWN, PENANG

BOARD TO SUPPORT:



Artist Ernest Zacharevic speaks out against art exploitation in Southeast Asia in a bold new exhibition, We Need To Talk. It explores how corporations routinely lift and rebrand artwork for commercial gain, leaving the true creators unpaid and uncredited. The exhibition is inspired by Zacharevic's own legal battle over repeated unauthorised reproductions of his George Town murals, including the famous Kids on Bicycle.

Happening every Friday to Sunday until 31 August, the exhibition invites the public to explore an immersive airport-themed experience that blends visual installations with performance art. Admission is free. Visitors will also have the opportunity to purchase themed "Boarding Passes"—special packages that unlock limited-edition merchandise, collectable art, and tongue-in-cheek souvenirs. Proceeds support Zacharevic's pursuit of justice.

As part of the exhibition, a free IP Clinic will run on 9th & 10th August, offering one-on-one consultations with an intellectual property lawyer. Contact Cultprint to schedule your appointment.



Echoes Of Time

10 July - 30 August 2025

Monday - Friday (9am - 5pm),
Saturday (by appointment)

Muzium & Galeri Tuanku Fauziah,
Universiti Sains Malaysia

Echoes of Time is a group exhibition showcasing works by final year Fine Art students from Universiti Sains Malaysia. Developed in collaboration with the Centre for Global Archaeological Research (PPAG), the exhibition draws upon field visits to Sungai Batu and Lembah Bujang, archaeological sites rich with historical significance. Through these encounters, the artists reflect on how time, memory and heritage intersect.

Organised into three sections Resonance, Continuum and Traces, the exhibition traces a conceptual and emotional journey. It begins with personal and cultural reflections, moves through the fluidity and transformation of time and concludes with fragments of the past that remain embedded in material and memory.

Across various media and perspectives, the works question what endures, what fades and how the past continues to inform the present. Echoes of Time invites reflection on how history lingers quietly around us, not as distant fact but as something intimate, shifting and still alive.



Have Pun Malaysia

1 & 2 August 2025

8.30pm

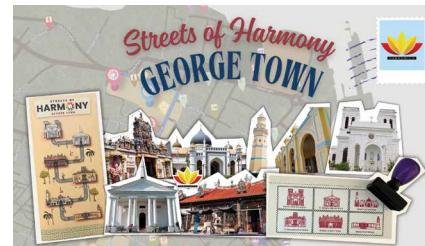
1 August: The Founders (17 Jalan Hutton)
2 August: Most Wanted Creaminal (53G-1-7, Wisma Soon, Jalan Burma)

After years of playful rivalry, it's finally happening PENANG vs KL, the ultimate showdown in Malaysian stand-up comedy!

Two cities, one stage, and a killer lineup featuring award-winning comedians like Shaq, Danial Sham, and Garu, along with rising stars Zoey, Jash, Siva Prakash, and a few surprise acts. Expect sharp punchlines, wild comebacks, and non-stop laughs as KL and Penang go head-to-head.

Catch the chaos on Friday, 1 August 2025 at The Founders, Jalan Hutton, and Saturday, 2 August 2025 at Most Wanted Creaminal, Wisma Soon.

See you There!



Street of Harmony George Town

6 locations involved: Church of the Assumption, St. George's Church, Goddess of Mercy Temple, Sri Mahamariamman Temple, Kapitan Keling Mosque and Acheen Street Malay Mosque.

The Streets of Harmony George Town brochure is a self-guided exploration brochure that helps you discover the rich cultural and religious diversity of George Town, Penang. It highlights six iconic Houses of Worship: Church of the Assumption, St. George's Church, Goddess of Mercy Temple, Sri Mahamariamman Temple, Kapitan Keling Mosque and Acheen Street Malay Mosque.

Each representing a different faith and reflecting the city's long-standing tradition of coexistence. Newly introduced in August 2025, the brochure includes short descriptions, a route map, and interesting facts to guide visitors through the trail. It also includes a special stamping activity that lets visitors collect stamps at each stop on the included postcard as a meaningful keepsake or something to share.

Brochures are available at all six sites, so you can start your journey from any point. Whether you're a local or a visitor, this trail invites you to walk through the heart of the city and learn how people of different backgrounds have lived side by side for generations — a living harmony that continues to shape George Town today.



Hanfu Model Search 2025

新中式十二花神

10 August 2025

12pm

Ground floor, 1st Avenue Penang

For the fourth consecutive year, Hanfu Model Search 2025 returns—with a twist. This year's spotlight shines on locally redefined modern oriental style, artfully curated by Malaysia's own creative talents. Experience tradition reborn, right from the cultural heart of George Town.

Message from the Team

Thank You for Being Part of GTF 2025!

From all of us at George Town Festival—thank you from the bottom of our hearts for making this journey so special.

To the amazing artists and creatives: your passion, courage, and sincerity in your work moved us deeply. You brought new perspectives, sparked emotions, and reminded us that art can bring into our lives. Thank you for sharing your gift with us.

To our hardworking crew and wonderful volunteers: we truly couldn't have done it without you. Your energy and dedication made the Festival come alive. We're so grateful for your support and hope it was as meaningful an experience for you as it was for us.

And to you—our audience, community, and biggest cheerleader—thank you for showing up, being curious, and embracing everything the arts have to offer. Whether you watched a show, joined a workshop, or simply shared a smile, you helped create the warm, joyful spirit that George Town Festival is all about.

This Festival was made possible because of each and every one of you. You've shown us what it means to connect through art—and we hope this feeling stays with you, long after the curtains close.

Until we meet again, keep celebrating creativity, keep sharing the love, and keep the arts alive in your everyday life.

With heartfelt thanks,
The GTF Team

Festival Team

Connie Chan
CK Ewe
Emilia Ismail
Evon Saw
Goh Yen Ling
Jack Wong
Kent Teh
Leonard Loh
Lim Chun Shen
Lim Han Yin
Lim Wei Ming
Lok Xiang Ni
Mok Syuen
Ng Chek Tun
Nisa Amalia Mukhtar
Nur Amni Hakimah
Nurfarahani Abdullah Abdul Hadi
Ong Le Rou
Seow Jia Ying
Sharen Cheok
Sherwynd Kessler
Thum Chia Chieh

Artistic Advisory Panel

Aida Redza
Goh Choon Ean
Grace Leong Yit Ming
Prof. Tan Sooi Beng

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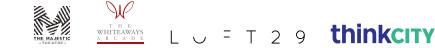
IMAGING PARTNER



TICKETING PARTNER



VENUE PARTNERS



PROGRAMME PARTNERS



Festival Venues

Art Lane

127, Lebuh Pantai, 10450 George Town

Bangunan U.A.B

Gat Lebuh China, 10300 George Town

Book Island

COEX, 123 Jalan Timah, 10150 George Town

Dewan Sri Pinang

Jalan Tun Syed Sheh Barakbah,
10450 George Town

Hikayat

226 Lebuh Pantai, 10300 George Town

Hin Bus Depot

31A, Jalan Gurdwara, 10300 George Town

Loft 29

29, Gat Lebuh Gereja, 10300 George Town

LUMA

37, Jalan Kampung Jawa Lama,
10150 George Town

Majestic Theatre

31, Jalan Phee Choon, 10050 George Town

Ng Fook Thong Temple

407, Lebuh Chulia, 10200 George Town

O Sculpture, Hin Bus Depot

31A, Jalan Gurdwara, 10300 George Town

Padang Kota Lama

Jalan Tun Syed Sheh Barakbah,
10200 George Town

Padang Medan Angsana, Farlim

Medan Angsana, Bandar Baru Air Itam,
11500 Ayer Itam

Penang Youth Centre

Lebuh Aceh, 10450 George Town

Pengkalan Nelayan Paramount

48 F, Jln Sultan Ahmad Shah,
10050 George Town

Public Market Berapit

Jalan Berapit, Berapit, 14000 Bukit Mertajam

Pusat Penang 2030 KADUN Komtar

Tingkat 3, 2-3-1, Jalan S.P. Chelliah,
10150 George Town

Seh Tek Tong Cheah Kongsi

8, Lebuh Armenian, 10200 George Town

Sia Boey Urban

Archaeological Park

50, Jalan Dr Lim Chwee Leong,
10100 George Town

Taman Kejiranan Desa Mawar,

Ayer Itam

Lintang Kampung Melayu 2,
Bandar Baru Air Itam (Desa Mawar),
11500 Ayer Itam

The Whiteaways Arcade

Lebuh Pantai, 10300 George Town

Town Hall

Jalan Padang Kota Lama,
10200 George Town

**You made it
to the last page**

Thank you! We hope this booklet offered a meaningful insight into the people, passion, and artistry that bring GTF 2025 to life.

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