

MEDIA FACTSHEET

LEGENDS OF SINGAPORE

For the first time, Gardens by the Bay is holding free performances at the outdoor gardens this August, to create more opportunities for the community to enjoy themselves amidst nature.

In the Legends of Singapore series, which is happening across two weekends, two local fables, The Scourge of the Swordfish and The Friendly Snake, are brought to life with music, actors and puppets.

The Scourge of the Swordfish tells the tale of how Bukit Merah got its name. A quiet fishing village comes under attack by ferocious swordfish, and it takes an ingenious idea to save the villagers from these fierce creatures of the sea.

In The Friendly Snake, a little girl and a snake living in a tree develop a beautiful friendship. But as their friendship grows, the village’s livestock begin to mysteriously disappear. Could it be the snake?

Legends of Singapore is produced by Dick Lee Asia, with creative direction by Dick Lee and costume design by Yang Derong. The scripts were penned by Jean Tay, and directed by Lewin Bernard, with Bright Ong serving as assistant director and puppet consultant. Music for The Scourge of the Swordfish is by Orkestar Trio and music for The Friendly Snake is by SAtheCollective.

Performance schedule

Date	Legend	Time	Location
Fri, 2 Aug – Sun, 4 Aug Fri, 16 Aug – Sun, 18 Aug	The Scourge of the Swordfish	4.00pm – 4.10pm	Malay Garden
		4.50pm – 5.00pm	
		5.40pm – 5.50pm	
		6.30pm – 6.40pm	
	The Friendly Snake	4.25pm – 4.35pm	Lattice at Bayfront Plaza
		5.15pm – 5.25pm	
		6.05pm – 6.15pm	
		6.55pm – 7.05pm	

Details: Admission is free

For more information, visit www.gardensbythebay.com.sg/legends.

The People behind Legends of Singapore



Scriptwriter: Jean Tay

Jean Tay graduated with a double-degree in creative writing and economics from Brown University, USA. She has written over 20 plays and musicals, including Chinatown Crossings, The Shape of a Bird, Senang, Sisters, Everything but the Brain, Boom and Plunge. Jean also wrote the books for the musicals Great Wall: One Woman's Journey, The Admiral's Odyssey, and Man of Letters. Her plays have been performed in Singapore, US, UK, and Italy. She has been nominated four times for Best Original Script for the Life! Theatre Awards, and won for Everything but the Brain in 2006. Everything but the Brain and Boom have been used as 'O' and 'N' Level literature texts for secondary schools. Jean is the founding Artistic Director of Saga Seed Theatre, which aims to provide a platform for new writing in Singapore.



Director: Lewin Bernard

Lewin Bernard co-founded We Colour Theatre (WCP) with Tian Lye in 2008. From 2008 to 2014 Lewin worked as Managing Director at WCP producing shows and workshops. He has collaborated and learned from theatre-makers such as Polyglot Puppet Theatre (Australia), Kazenoko Kyushu Theatre Company (Japan), Cleveland Theatre Company (UK), Tuida (South Korea), Papon & Tonino (Argentina), Darryl Beeton Productions (UK), La Barraca – Testoni Ragazzi (Italy), Act 3 International, Agni Koothu, DramaBox, The Theatre Practice, Ver Theatre, The Necessary Stage and Wild Rice. Since 2008, Lewin has directed over 33 plays.



Assistant Director and Puppet Consultant: Bright Ong

Bright is a performance-maker, actor and puppeteer who is based in Singapore and hails from Malaysia. In his work as a puppetry creative and a voice-over artist, he played Latif on ZooMoo, an international children’s cable channel, and was the Resident Director and Puppetry Supervisor for Ninjago: The Realm of Shadows, at Legoland Malaysia (2015 to 2018). A participant member of the Closed Community of Artists under The Paperboats Collective (Australia), Bright has performed for several festivals around the world. He is also an Associate Director with Five Stones Theatre (Singapore, UK), and Associate Artist with Mascots and Puppets Specialists (Singapore).



Music for The Scourge of the Swordfish: OrkeStar Trio

OrkeStar Trio explores the versatility and context of music in the Malay Archipelago and fuses this with an understanding of the modern world. Made up of Alhafiz Jamat, who plays the seruling and synths, Ismahairie Putra Ishak who plays the oud and violin, and Riduan Zalani who plays the drums and percussion, their compositions feature a mash-up of various musical styles, reflecting the diversity of identities and interests among them. As soloists or as a group, they have represented Singapore on numerous local and international platforms, in countries such as Malaysia, Indonesia, India, Japan, Turkey, Israel, Slovenia, Brazil and USA.



Music for The Friendly Snake: SAtheCollective

SAtheCollective is a non-profit performing arts, research, and education collective focused on exploring the psychological, spiritual and cultural elements of sound. It collaborates with music and visual artistes across traditional and contemporary genres. The collective also recognises its responsibility in engaging the public in the boundless potential of music and is dedicated in spreading their passion in meaningful ways. SAtheCollective is a NAC Major Company Grant recipient (2019 to 2022) committed to uncovering new territories and transcending disciplinary boundaries with their soundscapes