



Arts Policy, Cultural Democracy and Artist Communities

A conversation around arts & culture, policy & civil society

Dates and Times:

Saturday, January 12, 9:00am – 5:00pm

Sunday, January 13, 8:30am – 2:00pm

Venue: Panggung Experimen, Cultural Centre, Universiti Malaya

SCHEDULE

Day 1: Saturday, January 12, 2019

- 9:00-9:30 Registration
- 9:30-9:45 **Welcoming and Opening Remarks**
- Associate Prof. Mohd Nasir Bin Hashim, Director, Cultural Centre Universiti Malaya
 - Audrey Wong, Head, School of Creative Industries, LASALLE College of the Arts, Singapore
- 9:45-11:15 **Setting the Scene - Malaysia: Past, Present and Future**
- Sunitha Janamohanan, Conversations Convener
- History of Culture and Creative Policy in Malaysia (1957 – 2000s)**
- Kathy Rowland, Managing Editor, ArtsEquator.com
 - Thomas Barker, Associate Professor and Head of Film & Television, University of Nottingham Malaysia
 - Respondent: Terence Gomez, Department of Administrative Studies and Politics, Universiti Malaya
- Q+A
- 11:15-11:45 Break
- 11:45-12:45 **Artist Communities and Working with Governments**
- June Tan, producer, Five Arts Centre, and committee member, ReformARTsi, a coalition of the performing arts.
 - Bernice Chauly, writer, poet, literary activist and educator
 - Intan Rafiza, performance artist and curator
 - Brian Johnson Lowe, co-founder/director My Performing Arts Agency (MyPAA)
- 12:45- 2:00 Lunch
- 2:00-3:30 **Small group discussions**
Process facilitator: Jac sm Kee
- 3:30-4:00 Break
- 4:00-5:00 **Feedback and summary**
- End of day 1

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Day 2: Sunday, January 13, 2019

- 8:30-9:00 Registration
- 9:00-9:10 **Scene setting - Regional Experiences**
- 9:10-9:30 **Views from the periphery: decentralised access to arts support in the Philippines**
▪ Jason Vitorillo, Lecturer, LASALLE College of the Arts, Singapore
- 9:30-10:10 **Structures and government support – the Singapore perspective**
▪ Audrey Wong, Head of School of Creative Industries, & Programme Leader of the MA Arts and Cultural Leadership, LASALLE College of the Arts Singapore
▪ Alvin Tan, Founder of The Necessary Stage and founding member of Arts Engage
- 10:10-10:50 **Cultural Democracy and Civil Engagement in Taiwan**
▪ Jerry Liu, President, Taiwan Association of Cultural Policy Studies, and Professor & Director Graduate School of Arts Management and Cultural Policy, National Taiwan University of Arts
▪ Ku Shu Shiun, Assistant Professor at the Department of Cultural and Creative Industries at the National Pingtung University, Taiwan, and CEO of the 2017 National Cultural Congress & Culture White Paper, Taiwan
- 10:50-11:30 Q + A
- 11:30-12:30 Lunch
- 12:30-2:00 **Final Summary and Closing Remarks**
- End-

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BIOGRAPHIES

Alvin Tan

Alvin is the Founder and Artistic Director of The Necessary Stage and a leading proponent of devising theatre in Singapore, having directed more than 80 plays which have been staged locally and at international festivals. He has also been the Artistic Director of Peer Pleasure, an annual youth theatre festival in Singapore presented by ArtsWok Collaborative from 2015-2017, and is the recipient of numerous awards including the Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres by the French Ministry of Culture in 2010 and the Cultural Medallion for his artistic excellence and contribution to Singapore's arts and cultural landscape in 2014.

Audrey Wong

Audrey Wong is Head, School of Creative Industries, and Programme Leader, MA Arts and Cultural Leadership, at LASALLE College of the Arts, Singapore. She served as artistic co-director at The Substation, an independent non-profit arts centre, from 2000 – 2010, and has been a board member of the Singapore Art Museum, a Council Member of the National Arts Council, and is currently serving on the board of independent theatre company Nine Years Theatre. In 2009, she was nominated by the arts community for a Nominated Member of Parliament post, and served as Arts NMP from 2009- 2011.

Bernice Chauly

Bernice Chauly is an award-winning writer, poet, literary activist and educator. She directed seven editions of the George Town Literary Festival, which won the London Book Fair's International Excellence Awards 2018, and is currently in the process of setting up Malaysian PEN. She has published six books of poetry and prose, runs the KL Writers Workshop, and teaches creative writing at the University of Nottingham Malaysia.

Brian Johnson Lowe

Brian is the Co-Founder of My Performing Arts Agency (MyPAA), Malaysia's leading arts intermediary, a privately funded agency with the express goal of supporting the continuing development of artistic and cultural efforts in Malaysia. MyPAA is now regarded as the go-to organisation for high impact arts and culture ecosystem improvement initiatives by local and international government organisations, corporations, arts councils, advisory boards as well as global arts networks.

Intan Rafiza

Intan Rafiza is a performance artist and has been active since 2004 till the present. She is also a curator who has worked on projects in Malaysia and abroad.

Jac sm Kee

Jac sm Kee is a feminist, activist and writer with a focus on internet governance, sexuality, women's rights and feminist movement building in a digital age. She heads the Women's Rights Programme of the Association for Progressive Communications (APC), and is the co-founder of Take Back the Tech!, a collaborative global campaign to end online gender-based violence. She is currently serving as a board member for CREA, co-director of Centre for Independent Journalism Malaysia and founding member of the Malaysia Design Archive.

Jason Vitorillo

Jason Vitorillo holds an MA in Arts Administration from Teachers College, Columbia University in New York. He has been in the academe for over ten years and he is currently teaching in the Arts Management Programme at LASALLE College of the Arts, Singapore. His research interests include international cultural policy, models of arts funding, arts and cultural management education, and intangible cultural heritage of indigenous communities in the Philippines.

Jerry Liu

Jerry Liu is Professor and Director of the Graduate School of Arts Management and Cultural Policy at the National Taiwan University of Arts. He is also the President of the Taiwan Association of Cultural Policy Studies. He is the author of *ReOrient: An East Asian Approach on Cultural Policy and Cultural Governance* (2018, in Chinese), and *The Mapping of Cultural Rights in Taiwan* (2015, in Chinese).

June Tan

June Tan is a producer and a member of Five Arts Centre, an arts collective whose work reflects on Malaysian contemporary issues via performances, exhibitions, seminars, discussions and workshops. She is also part of ReformARTsi – a coalition of the performing arts, looking at reforms in the areas of education, access to funding and enlarging creative expression.

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Shu Shiun Ku

Shu-Shiun Ku is an assistant professor in the Department of Cultural and Creative Industries at National Pingtung University (Taiwan). She was the CEO of the 2017 National Cultural Congress and Culture White Paper Project commissioned by the Ministry of Culture in Taiwan. Her current research focuses on cultural democratization, cultural economy, the contemporary evolution of cultural and creative industries, and cultural policy in East Asia.

Kathy Rowland

Kathy Rowland is the Managing Editor of ArtsEquator.com, which she co-founded with Jenny Daneels. The site is dedicated to supporting and promoting arts criticism with a regional perspective in Southeast Asia. She is a member of the International Programme Advisory Committee of the 8th World Summit on Arts and Culture, 2019. Kathy has worked in the arts for over 25 years, running arts and culture programs and arts media platforms.

Sunitha Janamohanam

Sunitha Janamohanam has been an arts manager, curator, producer, venue manager and heritage manager. She is currently teaching in the Programme in Arts and Cultural Management at LASALLE College of the Arts, Singapore. Her research interests include community and socially engaged arts practice, and local arts management models in developing Southeast Asia.

Terence Gomez, Department of Administrative Studies and Politics, Universiti Malaya

Dr. Terence Gomez is Professor of Political Economy of the Faculty of Economics & Administration at Universiti Malaya. He specializes in state-market relations and the linkages between politics, public policies, and capital development – a subject on which he has published extensively, writing not only for academia but also more widely. Terence has undertaken various research projects, convened numerous international conferences, and serves on the editorial board and advisory committee of several international journals: Terence is also editor of the “Chinese Worlds” Series and the “Malaysian Studies” Series for Routledge, London & New York.

Thomas Barker, University of Nottingham Malaysia

Thomas Barker is Associate Professor and Head of Film and Television at the University of Nottingham Malaysia. Thomas researches and writes about the Indonesian and Malaysian film industries, creative industries, Islamic pop culture, and transnational Asian cinema. His monograph *Indonesian Cinema after the New Order: Going Mainstream* will be published by Hong Kong University Press in 2019.

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