

**singapore writers fest**
**SINGAPORE WRITERS FESTIVAL**

A nine-day event celebrating writers and writing from a range of genres, including fiction, poetry, film, music and the visual arts. There will be a series of free and ticketed activities such as panel discussions, meet-the-author sessions, literary performances and workshops. This year's theme is Transaction. Organised by the National Arts Council and sponsored by Singapore Press Holdings and Singapore Press Holdings Foundation. See Page C4.

**Where:** Singapore Management University, National Museum of Singapore, Singapore Art Museum, School of the Arts & The Arts House **MRT:** Dhoby Ghaut/Bras Basah/ City Hall **When:** Till Sun, various timings **Admission:** \$16 for a Festival Pass and from \$11 for other tickets **Info:** www.singaporewritersfestival.com

**OFF THE PAGE: WHEN HARRY MET SALLY**

Singles can meet new friends at this speed-dating event which kicks off with a segment involving a quiz on popular literary works, genres and print-to-screen movies. Refreshments and food will be provided.

**Where:** tcc @ Singapore Management University, Stamford Road/Bras Basah Road **MRT:** Dhoby Ghaut/Bras Basah **When:** Today, 7 - 8.30pm **Admission:** Free **Info:** E-mail Ying\_Yi\_Fong@nlb.gov.sg to register. Spaces are limited

**OFF THE PAGE: SINGERS AND SONGWRITERS (FEMMES FATALES)**

Singers Alicia Pan and Michaela Therese will perform their original compositions, while other singers, Dominic Wong and Eugenia Yip, will showcase their songs.

**Where:** Singapore Management University, School of Information Systems, Big Steps, Bras Basah Road/ Stamford Road **MRT:** Dhoby Ghaut/Bras Basah **When:** Today, 6 - 9pm **Admission:** Free

**WHY SO SERIOUS?**

Find out how to maintain a good sense of humour in your writing at this session where British author Neil Humphreys (Premier Leech), Australian artist-writer Tom Cho (Look Who's Morphing) and Malaysian author Chuah Guat Eng (Days Of Change) will share how they strike the right balance in their approach towards humour.

**Where:** Singapore Management University, Transaction Pavilion, Campus Green, Stamford Road/Bras Basah Road **MRT:** Dhoby Ghaut/Bras Basah **When:** Tomorrow, 11.30am - 12.30pm **Admission:** \$16 for a Festival Pass

**FROM STAGE TO SCREEN**

Actress and stage producer Tan Kheng Hua will helm this discussion about the art of screenwriting and print-to-screen adaptations. Also, find out how screenwriters create screenplays for blockbusters and indie hits.

**Where:** Singapore Management University, Transaction Pavilion, Campus Green, Stamford Road/Bras Basah Road **MRT:** Dhoby Ghaut/Bras Basah **When:** Tomorrow, 2 - 3pm **Admission:** \$16 for a Festival Pass **Tel:** 6348-5555

**NEW BOOKS: A DAUGHTER REMEMBERS**

Author Ho Minfong speaks on behalf of her mother, Li Lien Fung, a writer and former Straits Times columnist who died in August this year, about coming to terms with her parents' separation.

**Where:** Singapore Management University, Transaction Pavilion, Campus Green, Stamford Road/Bras Basah Road **MRT:** Dhoby Ghaut **When:** Tomorrow, 3.30 - 4.30pm **Admission:** Free

**OFF THE PAGE: FIRST PAGE: BUY IT OR BIN IT**

How gripping is your story and will it excite a literary agent or publisher? These are some of the questions that the Arts Creation Fund's fiction recipients will have to deal with as they perform the first pages of their manuscripts before judges, writer and academic K.K. Seet and New York literary agent Fran Lebowitz. Each first page will be dissected, praised or trashed.

**Where:** Singapore Management University, Transaction Pavilion, Campus Green, Stamford Road/Bras Basah Road **MRT:** Dhoby Ghaut/Bras Basah **When:** Tomorrow, 10 - 11am **Admission:** Free

**WRITING ACROSS CULTURES: FICTION THROUGH A FOREIGN LENS**

This panel session featuring novelists Kunal Basu, Meira Chand, Justin Hill and Dawn Farnham examines how they overcame cross-cultural challenges to inject realism into their tales. Helmed by Straits Times Life! writer Deepika Shetty.

**Where:** Singapore Management University, Transaction Pavilion, Campus Green, Stamford Road/Bras Basah Road **MRT:** Dhoby Ghaut/Bras Basah **When:** Tomorrow, 5 - 6pm **Admission:** \$16 for a Festival Pass **Tel:** 6348-5555

**OFF THE PAGE: A TAXI SIFU SPECIAL – GHOSTLY TALES**

They will take you on a ride of a chilly kind. Some taxi drivers turn storytellers to entertain with stories of unexplained phenomena from their personal experiences. In Mandarin.

**Where:** Singapore Management University, Transaction Pavilion, Campus Green, Stamford Road/Bras Basah Road **MRT:** Dhoby Ghaut/Bras Basah **When:** Tomorrow, 7 - 8.30pm **Admission:** Free

**MEET THE AUTHOR: VIKAS SWARUP**

Diplomat and award-winning author Vikas Swarup is the author of two novels, Q&A and Six Suspects. Q&A was adapted into the Oscar-winning film, Slumdog Millionaire. Deepika Shetty, a writer with The Straits Times Life!, will ask him how he balances the demands of diplomacy and the discipline required for creative writing.

**Where:** Singapore Management University, School of Information Systems, Seminar Room 2-3, Stamford Road/Bras Basah Road **MRT:** Dhoby Ghaut/Bras Basah **When:** Sun, 10 - 11am **Admission:** \$16 for a Festival Pass **Tel:** 6348-5555

**MEET THE AUTHOR: NG KING KANG**

Lianhe Zaobao's Ng King Kang, who is the author of 15 books, will speak about his latest book, 2359, a collection of his essays and reflective pieces. He has written Mandarin songs for singers such as Jacky Cheung and Andy Lau. In Mandarin.

**Where:** Singapore Management University, School of Information Systems, Seminar Room 3-1, Stamford Road/Bras Basah Road **MRT:** Dhoby Ghaut/Bras Basah **When:** Sun, 11.30am - 12.30pm **Admission:** \$16 for a Festival Pass **Tel:** 6348-5555

**MEET THE AUTHOR: FAHD RAZY**

Emerging young talent Fahd Razy shares his poems, which are thought-provoking and touch on social and religious themes. It will be followed by a Q&A session with him. Moderated by Juffri Supa'at. In Malay.

**Where:** Singapore Management University, School of Information Systems, Room 2-4, Stamford Road/Bras Basah Road **MRT:** Dhoby Ghaut/Bras Basah **When:** Sun, 3.30 - 4.30pm **Admission:** \$16 for a Festival Pass **Tel:** 6348-5555

**THE SECRET TO TIME TRAVEL**

Find out how successful writers leap across the years to create characters and places that ring true. Justin Hill discusses Tang-dynasty China and mediaeval England, while Kunal Basu explores opium addicts, the secret lives of biographers in the Mughal courts, and foreigners facing the Boxer Rebellion. Moderated by Deepika Shetty.

**Where:** Singapore Management University, Transaction Pavilion, Campus Green, Stamford Road/Bras Basah Road **MRT:** Dhoby Ghaut/Bras Basah **When:** Sun, 3.30 - 4.30pm **Admission:** \$16 for a Festival Pass **Tel:** 6348-5555

**FESTIVAL DIRECTORS TALK**

Directors of literary festivals in Singapore, Hong Kong and France – Paul Tan, David McKirdy and Jacques Rancourt – will shed light on how a festival is organised at this panel session moderated by Mary Loh.

**Where:** Singapore Management University, School of Information Systems, Seminar Room 2-3, Stamford Road/Bras Basah Road **MRT:** Dhoby Ghaut/Bras Basah **When:** Sun, 11.30am - 12.30pm **Admission:** \$16 for a Festival Pass **Tel:** 6348-5555

**FREE YOUR MIND: WRITING AS THERAPY**

Learn the link between psychological well-being and writing as Francois Lelord, a French writer trained in medicine and psychology, and American sci-fi author Joe Haldeman give their views.

**Where:** Singapore Management University, School of Information Systems, Seminar Room 2-4, Stamford Road/Bras Basah Road **MRT:** Dhoby Ghaut/Bras Basah **When:** Sun, 2 - 3pm **Admission:** \$16 for a Festival Pass **Tel:** 6348-5555

**CLOSING DEBATE: THIS HOUSE WOULD TRADE ENGLISH FOR SINGLISH**

The Singapore Writers Festival closes with a debate by two teams of mystery speakers on the motion, This House Would Trade English For Singlish.

**Where:** Singapore Management University, Transaction Pavilion, Campus Green, Stamford Road/Bras Basah Road **MRT:** Dhoby Ghaut/Bras Basah **When:** Sun, 6.30 - 7.30pm **Admission:** Free