

About MoonShadow Stories:

MoonShadow Stories celebrate the art of oral storytelling, especially for adults. We invite you to sit back, listen to the beauty of the spoken word, and collectively experience a few moments of quiet contemplation... **MoonShadow Stories** are also available for storytelling for adults in the workplace, storytelling for children, private events, and more. For enquiries, please contact Kamini Ramachandran (Tel: 9273 2383. Email: kamini@moonshadowstories.org).

About the Storytellers:

Storytelling has always been vital for **Kamini Ramachandran**, from her earliest memories of her grandparents telling her stories to her efforts in continuing this storytelling tradition with her two young sons everyday since they were six months old. In 2004 Kamini joined forces with Verena Tay to found **MoonShadow Stories** to promote the lost art of the oral narrative. They strongly believe that children will benefit if the beauty and wonder of storytelling is first re-introduced to adults. Hence, they were the first contemporary storytellers in Singapore to focus on storytelling for adults. The Singapore media is also fond of featuring Kamini's talents as a professional storyteller. Not only has she been interviewed on various radio programmes about her work as a storyteller but she has been a regular guest telling stories 'live' on radio since 2005. Kamini is the current President of the Storytelling Association (Singapore) as well as a founder member.

An Associate Artist with The Substation (Singapore's first multidisciplinary arts centre) since 2002, **Verena Tay** has spent more than two decades acting, directing and writing for English-language theatre, working at various times with The Necessary Stage, Action Theatre, TheatreWorks and Practice Theatre. Since 1997, she has been concentrating on solo performances, most of which have been featured at The Substation with its support. In addition, Verena uses all her theatrical background to bring stories vocally and physically alive in her unique fashion. Together with Kamini Ramachandran with whom she founded **MoonShadow Stories** in November 2004, Verena has been telling stories at The Substation, the Armenian Church, local museums and within the community, much to the delight and enjoyment of adults and children. From Aug to Nov 2007, Verena was an Honorary Fellow with the renowned International Writing Program (University of Iowa, USA), gaining much insight on the craft of writing from her peers around the world; in the US, she told tales from Southeast Asia, entertaining and fascinating audiences in New York state and New Orleans. For more information, please visit <http://verenatay.com>.

Look Out for More Storytelling for Adults:

The Untold: A Revealing Night of Indian Stories Collected by A.K. Ramanujan

Fri 26th & Sat 27th June 2009; 8 pm
Classroom 2 (2nd Floor), The Substation
Ticket: \$12 Limited Seating Available

To register:

Please contact Kamini Ramachandran (Tel: 9273 2383. Email: kamini@moonshadowstories.org).

<http://www.moonshadowstories.org>

Happiness IN HARD TIMES

~ STORYTELLING FOR ADULTS ~

Featuring:

Verena Tay

Fri 3rd & Sat 4th April 2009

8 pm

Classroom 2 (2nd Floor), The Substation

Ticket: \$12

A  PRESENTATION

References

The Old Widow

Knappert, Jan. (1999). 'The Old Woman and the Fishes'. *Mythology and Folklore in South-east Asia*. ISBN: 983-56-0054-6. Kuala Lumpur: Oxford University Press, pp. 272–274.

Koutsoukis, Albert (Trans.) (1970). 'The Widow and the Gabus Fish'. *Indonesian Folktales*. Adelaide: Rigby Limited, pp. 26–32.

Parvatibai vs. the Dacoits

Ragan, Kathleen (Ed.). (1998). 'How Parvatibai Outwitted the Dacoits'. *Fearless Girls, Wise Women, and Beloved Sisters: Heroines in Folktales from Around the World*. ISBN: 0-393-04598-6. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, pp. 170–172.

Sankaranarayanan, Vasanti. (July 2002). 'Indian Folk Tales: The Woman who Outwitted the Dacoits'. *At A Glance*. Newsletter by Global Adjustment.com. <http://www.globaladjustments.com/njul02.htm#rit> (last accessed: 17 July 2003).

Sang Kancil vs. the Crocodile

Alibasah, Margaret Muth. (1995). *Indonesian Mouse Deer Fables* (3rd ed.). ISBN: 979-428-230-8. Jakarta: Penerbit Djambatan. ['Mouse Deer and Crocodile', pp. 1–3; 'Mouse Deer Crosses the River', pp. 9–13; 'Crocodile Again', pp. 29–32]

Fourot, Jeanette L. (1995). 'Mouse-Deer Tales'. *Asian-Pacific Folktales and Legends*. ISBN: 0-684-81197-9. New York: Touchstone, pp. 51–52.

Two Dogs

Tegetthoff, Folke. (2002). 'Thousand Mirrors'. *Tales from Heaven: About God and the World*. ISBN: 3-485-00949-0. Austria: Nymphenburger, p. 200.

The Fisherman's Wife

Manheim, Ralph (Trans.). (1983). 'The Fisherman and His Wife'. *Grimms' Tales for Young and Old: The Complete Stories*. ISBN: 0-385-18950-8. New York: Anchor Books, pp. 70–76.

Isbell, Rebecca & Raines, Shirley C. (2000). 'The Fisherman and His Wife'. *Tell It Again! 2: Easy-to-Tell Stories with Activities for Young Children*. ISBN: 0-87659-208-6. Beltsville, MD: Gryphon House, pp. 38–43.

Dawn

An original tale self-written in 2008.

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- The Substation for its support;
- Audrey Wong, Annabelle Aw, Chris Ong, Terence Lau, Hu Chun Lai, Elly Ardi and Mrs Chua for their assistance;
- And everyone else who has contributed to the success of this evening's storytelling.

What is happiness? Why do we always seek it, in good times and even more so in bad times? Why does it always seem elusive: sometimes here, sometimes not? Why can't it be attained once and for all? Is permanent happiness ever possible? Come listen to these tales from many lands and discover the answers for yourself...

Order of Stories

The Old Widow (Indonesia)

A poor old widow and her neighbour discover whether money really brings happiness or not...

Parvatibai vs. the Dacoits (India)

Keeping one's wits about you sometimes brings you peace and contentment. Listen to this tale about a gentle housewife's encounter with the toughest bandit that ever lived...

Sang Kancil vs. the Crocodile (Indonesia/Malaysia)

Sometimes, happiness is just living and surviving a day at a time. When you're a small mousedeer in the jungle surrounded by creatures hungry to make a tasty snack out of you, you'd better think fast—always...

Two Dogs (a tale from the Buddhist/Hindu Tradition)

Perhaps happiness is merely your frame of mind? Two dogs have very different reactions to the Temple of a Thousand Mirrors...

The Fisherman's Wife

(an adaptation of a tale from the Brothers Grimm)

Remember the tale of a fisherman who catches and releases a magic fish, only to be pestered continually by his wife to extract ever more extravagant wishes from the magic fish? But ever wonder why the fisherman's wife is such a harpy and a harridan? Listen and find out...

Dawn (an original tale)

A man walks into a pub, expecting to wind down at the end of a hard day. But does he find the solace that he needs there?