

Production

Stage Manager:	Foo Kok Lim
Front-of-House Manager:	Sol Foo
Front-of-House Crew:	Nicole Cheng
Ticketing:	The Substation
Publicity Photographer:	Subramaniam V.
Photographer (for print material):	Verena Tay

Acknowledgements

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the neighbourhood spa

MoonShadow Stories would also like to thank the following:

- Kiran Shah and Sheila Wee of the Asian Storytelling Network for gracing this event with their storytelling;
- Thomas Manhart, artyfakt and members of the NUS Singa Nglaras Gamelan Ensemble for their wonderful music;
- Audrey Wong, Cyril Wong and Hatta Moktar of The Substation for their belief and backing in this event;
- Foo Kok Lim, Sol Foo, Nicole Cheng and the many other people who have worked tirelessly behind the scenes for *Archipelago!*;
- Celena Tay and Sheila Wee for helping with the refreshments;
- the audience; and
- everyone who contributed to the success of this evening's performance.



Present:

Archipelago!

Southeast Asian Island Stories and Music

~ A Celebration of Our Region's Rich Cultural Heritage ~

12 & 13 Aug 2005, 8 pm

The Armenian Church

Tickets: \$18

Free Seating

Featured Storytellers:

Kamini Ramachandran & Verena Tay
of MoonShadow Stories

Guest Storytellers:

Kiran Shah & Sheila Wee
of Asian Storytelling Network

Guest Musicians:

Thomas Manhart of artyfakt
& members of the NUS Singa Nglaras Gamelan Ensemble
(NUS Centre for the Arts)

About MoonShadow Stories

Comprising Kamini Ramachandran and Verena Tay, **MoonShadow Stories** celebrate the art of oral storytelling for adults and children. We invite you to sit back, listen to the beauty of the spoken word, and collectively experience a few moments of quiet contemplation...

Kamini Ramachandran studied English Literature & Language at The University of Reading and taught Speech and Drama privately in Kuala Lumpur before becoming a mother of two boys to whom she began telling stories from the age of 6 months. Kamini participated in the Storytellers' Course (May–June 2003) organised by the National Book Development Council of Singapore and the Asian Storytelling Network. In August 2003, she collaborated with Verena in *Women Who Act: Asian-Pacific Folktales (Distressed Damsels Not Wanted)*, collectively spearheading storytelling for adults at The Substation. She is an active teller in the Society of Reading & Literacy's Storytellers' Circle and a member of ASN's Talespin group, performing regularly at these organisations' events throughout 2004. She also loves storytelling to children and has been telling at pre-schools and private parties.

Verena Tay has acted, directed and written for local English-language theatre since 1986. An Associate Artist with The Substation since 2002, she began exploring two new areas of artistic expression in recent years. The first is voice and speech production, which led her to pursue an MA in Voice Studies at the renowned Central School of Speech and Drama (London) during 2003/04. The second is the craft of storytelling through membership of the Storytellers' Circle and Talespin. Meeting Kamini during the 2003 NBDCS/ASN Storytellers' Course, she found a ready collaborator to tell stories initially in August 2003 and to form **MoonShadow Stories** together in November 2004.

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: moonshadowstories@yahoo.com).



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About MoonShadow Stories' Guest Performers

Sheila Wee's work as a professional storyteller takes her to schools, libraries, museums, shopping centres, festivals and other community events, telling to children, families and adults. In October 2004, Sheila was a guest storyteller at the Scottish International Storytelling Festival in Edinburgh. In 2005, she has performed at the Isle of Skye Festival in Scotland and will be performing and conducting workshops at the Australian National Confest in September.

Kiran Shah is a teacher trainer and a professional storyteller, telling stories to anyone, anywhere. She has performed at Australia's National Storytelling Confest in Brisbane in 2003 and will be doing so again in Perth in September this year. In July 2005, she also performed at the Children's Storytelling Festival in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Thomas Manhart is a singer and vocal coach as well as an ethnomusicologist. For five years in Singapore now, he has appeared in many concerts, among others at the University Cultural Centre, the Asian Civilisations Museum, the Esplanade, both as countertenor and instrumentalist of Asian Music, mainly Javanese Gamelan. Thomas was trained at the Music Academies in Vienna and Munich and holds an MA in musical education specialising in Baroque Voice. He has also freshly graduated with a doctorate in Southeast Asian Arts from the National University of Singapore, the fulfilment of which included field trips to several areas in Indonesia, mainly Sumatra. He is now a part-time lecturer at Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts and the NUS Centre for the Arts. Early this year, he founded **artyfakt** (<http://www.art-y-fakt.de/>), his long-term dream, initiating a centre for intercultural music education and performance.



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Story References

The Magic Crocodile

Terada, Alice M. (1994). 'The Magic Crocodile'. *The Magic Crocodile and Other Folktales from Indonesia*. ISBN: 0-8248-1654-4. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, pp. 135–141.

The Rivals

Brown, C.C. (Trans.) (1970). *Sejarah Melayu*. Kuala Lumpur: Oxford University Press, pp. 21–23 & 41.

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Sang Kancil

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Mahsuri

_____. (2005). *Sumpahan Mahsuri: Legenda Malaysia Yang Populer ~ Legenda dari Kedah*. ISBN: 983-3281-81-8. Kuala Lumpur: Kohwai & Young/Rhythm Publishing Co. Sdn. Bhd.

Kbo Iwo

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Aman, Dra. S.D.B. (1995). 'Kbo Iwo'. *Folk Tales from Indonesia (7th ed.)*. Jakarta: Penerbit Djambatan, pp. 56–60.

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The First Shaman

Batin Long bin Hok. (2003). 'The Tale of the First Shaman'. *Bes Hyang Dney and Other Jah Hut Stories*. Transcribed, translated & annotated by Duncan Holaday, Chin Woon Ping & Teoh Boon Seong. ISBN: 983-40042-2-2. Subang Jaya, Malaysia: Centre for Orang Asli Concerns, pp. 55–87.

The Strong Man of Singapura

Brown, C.C. (Trans.) (1970). *Sejarah Melayu*. Kuala Lumpur: Oxford University Press, pp. 25–29.

Chia, Noel. (1993). 'Badang the Mighty War Chief'. *Legends from Old Singapore*. ISBN: 981-00-4507-7. Singapore: Cobee Publishing House, pp. 81–91.

Leyden, John. (Trans.) (2001). *Malay Annals*. ISBN: 967-9948-18-8. Kuala Lumpur: Malaysian Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, pp. 53–63.

Join ***MoonShadow Stories*** and friends for an evening of enchantment! Amidst the evocative atmosphere of Singapore's oldest church, listen to stories and music from Singapore and the Indo-Malayan archipelago and be transported back to a different era...

As modern Singapore commemorates its 40th anniversary this year, let's not just celebrate our present-day achievements, but also take the opportunity to re-discover the richness of our folklore and culture. ***Archipelago! Southeast Asian Island Stories and Music*** is an open invitation to one and all from the age of twelve upwards.

Order of Stories and Music

1. Song: ***Daget*** (Mek, Irian Jaya)

2. ***The Magic Crocodile*** (Irian Jaya): Retold by Kamini

How a magic crocodile helped Tua and his family survive a great flood and prosper.

3. ***The Rivals (Sejarah Melayu)***: Retold by Verena

The Majapahit empire was a major obstacle in Singapura's rise as a rich city during the fourteenth century. This story recounts how the second and fifth Rajas of Singapura reacted differently towards the Majapahit threat, thereby affecting the city's survival.

4. Music: ***Khangkhao Kin Kluai*** (Thailand)
– Ranaat Eek Instrumental Solo by Dr Jan Mrazek

5. ***Sang Kancil*** (Indonesia): Retold by Kiran

Sang Kancil, the small mousedeer well known in Indonesian and Malaysian folklore as a trickster figure, uses his ingenuity to scare the King of the Tigers and survive.

6. ***Mahsuri*** (Langkawi): Retold by Kamini

When the beautiful Mahsuri is wrongfully accused of adultery, she curses the island of Langkawi for seven generations.

7. Music: ***Mugi Rahayu*** (Indonesia)
– Javanese Gamelan

BREAK

Order of Stories and Music

8. Music: ***Moncer*** (Indonesia) – Javanese Gamelan

9. ***Kbo Iwo*** (Bali): Retold by Verena

When Kbo Iwo, a giant, became a threat to the people of Bali, they subdued him, and in the process, created Lake Batur, which today forms the source of many of Bali's rivers.

10. ***Raja Suran (Sejarah Melayu)***: Retold by Sheila

The story of Raja Suran, the Indian ruler who dreamt of conquering China, is a combination of legend and myth that takes in a whole sweep of Asia, but is also intimately concerned with the earliest history of Singapore.

11. ***The First Shaman*** (Jah Hut/Orang Asli, Pahang):
Retold by Kamini

Bongsu, a young boy, is the 'chosen one' who goes on a special spiritual journey and becomes the first shaman or 'puyang' of the Jah Hut people, able to fight the 'bes', or spirits, that cause disease and suffering among his people.

12. ***The Strong Man of Singapura (Sejarah Melayu)***:
Retold by Verena

How Badang, a humble slave, becomes the strongest man alive and fulfils his potential as a war chief of the third Raja of Singapura.

13. Music: ***Ricik-ricik*** (Indonesia) – Javanese Gamelan

THE END