

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: moonshadowstories@yahoo.com).

About the Storytellers:

Kamini Ramachandran studied English Literature & Language at The University of Reading (UK) 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 six 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. In addition, she loves storytelling to children and has been telling at pre-schools and private parties.

Rosemarie Somaiah is a storyteller, teacher and writer who thinks that 'trying to be a decent human being, who can laugh now and then' is a mission statement. She currently leads the Storytellers' Circle which is a special interest group of the Society of Reading & Literacy.

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 (conferral pending) 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 NBDACS/ASN Storytellers' Course, she found a ready collaborator to tell stories initially in August 2003 and to form MoonShadow Stories together in November 2004.

Look Out for MoonShadow Stories':

All about  S: Storytelling for Adults

25th to 27th February 2005, 8 pm, The Blue Room, The Substation

To reserve a place, please contact Kamini Ramachandran
(Tel: 9273 2383. Email: moonshadowstories@yahoo.com)

Strong Women

~ Storytelling for Adults ~

Featuring:

Kamini Ramachandran

Verena Tay

Guest:

Rosemarie Somaiah

Fri 14th, Sat 15th & Sun 16th Jan 2005

8 pm

The Blue Room (1st Floor), The Substation

Payment: By Donation

Presented By:



— Illuminating your life through story —

References

The Starry Loom

Larson, Jean Russell. (2000). 'The Starry Loom'. *The Fish Bride and Other Gypsy Tales*. ISBN: 9-780208024749. North Haven, Connecticut: Linnet Books, p. 5.

Wiles vs. Wits

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Ragan, Kathleen (Ed.). (1998). 'Women's Wiles'. *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. 371–374.

Arakkal Bibi

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Sankunny, Kottarathil. 'Arakkal Bibi'. *Aithiyamala: The Garland of Legends*. Translated by Rukmini Sekhar. Illustrated by Subir Roy. ISBN: 81-88251-10-0. New Delhi: Vivalok Comics/The Viveka Foundation, pp. 19–23.

Faithless Woman

Pijoan, Teresa. (1992). 'Faithless Woman'. *White Wolf Woman, and Other Native American Transformation Myths*. ISBN: 9-780874832006. Little Rock, Arkansas: August House, p. 135.

The Origins of the Water Splashing Festival

Han, Carolyn & Han, Jay (Translator). (1995). 'The Demon King of the Dai: The Story of the Water Splashing Festival'. *The Demon King and Other Festival Folktales of China*. ISBN: 0-8248-1707-9. Honolulu: University of Hawaii, pp. 1–8.

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The Wrestler & the Three Strong Women

Zipes, Jack. (1998). 'The Three Strong Women'. *Creative Storytelling: Building Community, Changing Lives*. ISBN: 0-415-91272-5. New York: Routledge, pp. 88–91.

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National Book
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- Nicole Cheng for being in charge of Front-of-House;
- Celena Tay for the loan of her hotpot and water dispenser;
- And everyone else who has contributed to the success of this evening's storytelling.

Welcome...

Sit down, make yourself comfortable and listen to this evening's selection of folktales from the four corners of the world and judge for yourself how to measure a woman's strength...

Order of Stories

***The Starry Loom* (Gypsy): Retold by Kamini**

In traditional Gypsy culture where young girls are expected to stay home, this is a cautionary tale about Sikri, a wilful girl, and her encounter with a Wise Woman.

***Wiles vs. Wits* (Arab): Retold by Verena**

Men shopkeepers, beware the wrath of women if you dare put out a sign that says, "Men's wits beat women's wiles"...

***Arakkal Bibi* (Kerala): Retold by Rosemarie**

In Asia, when a man meets a woman, courtesy and decorum must prevail at all costs. And then perhaps, things will turn out as they should...

***Faithless Woman* (Iroquois): Retold by Kamini**

About a woman who one day became 'tired and uninterested' in being a wife and mother and defied all codes of conduct to do what she pleased...

BREAK

***The Origins of the Water Splashing Festival* (Yunnan): Retold by Verena**

How a Demon King and a brave young maiden gave rise to the water splashing festival practised in Yunnan.

***Dagger Claws* (China): Retold by Kamini**

How a girl, simply known as 'Shaky', confronts and defeats a monstrous creature.

***The Wrestler & the Three Strong Women* (Japan): Retold by Verena**

A wrestler learns how to transform brute strength into a creative and harmonious power from three women.