

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:

When he got off the train from KL 18 years ago, *Ferlin Jayatissa* never thought that one day he would grow up to study law, toil away at private law practice, prosecute the darker side of human nature and now lecture law to impressionable young minds. Neither did he imagine he'd be playing doctor on a TV medical drama series, nor assume the role of a theatre actor and director in real life. These days, Ferlin simply enjoys writing TV scripts and the errant article or two for print, and yes, he tells stories.

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; she also loves storytelling to children and has been telling at pre-schools and private parties. A founding member and current pro-tem Secretary of the newly formed Storytelling Association (Singapore), Kamini was a major organiser and consultant for the first Singapore International Storytelling Festival organised by the National Book Development Council of Singapore for Aug-Sep 2006; she also performed during the festival's Storytelling Showcase.

Verena Tay brings stories vocally and physically alive in her unique fashion, drawing from her twenty-year experience in acting, directing and writing for local English-language theatre as well as her training in voice and speech (MA in Voice Studies, Central School of Speech and Drama, London, 2005). 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. In particular, *MoonShadow Stories* has done much to push the boundaries of storytelling for adults in Singapore. An active storyteller with Talespin and the Storyteller's Circle, Verena is also a founding member of the Storytelling Association (Singapore). Apart from storytelling, Verena is a published, award-winning playwright. Her first book, *In the Company of Women: Selected Plays*, published by SNP Editions, was launched on 22 July 2004. On 1 June 2005, Verena's play, *The Car*, won Action Theatre's Theatre Idols 2005 by being awarded both the Jury Prize and the Audience Choice Award for 'Best New Play'; *The Car* was fully staged at The Esplanade Theatre Studio by Action Theatre in late July 2006. An Associate Artist with The Substation since 2002, she is also the President and a founding member of Magdalena (Singapore) that organised *Crossroads 2006*, an international women's theatre festival in July 2006.



Presents:

Witches, Sirens & Crones: Tales of Magickal Women

~ Storytelling for Adults ~

Featuring:

Kamini Ramachandran

Verena Tay

Guest:

Ferlin Jayatissa

Fri 6th & Sat 7th Oct 2006

8 pm

Classroom 2 (2nd Floor), The Substation

Payment: By Donation

This is an event of **the Substation** Sessions
A Home for the Arts

References

The Werewolf

Carter, Angela. (2006). 'The Werewolf'. *The Bloody Chamber*. ISBN: 9780099588115. London: Vintage/Random House, pp. 126–128.

The Girl Who Married a Ghost

Cole, Joanna. (1995). 'The Girl Who Married a Ghost'. *Best-loved Folktales of the World*. ISBN: 0-385-18949-4. New York: Anchor Books, pp. 699–704.

My Love is Forever...

A personal re-telling of a story from the horror movie anthology, *Bangkok Haunted* (2001), directed by Oxide Pang and written by Pisut Praesangeam.

Puteri Gunung Ledang

Gan, Linda & Kwan Shan Mei. (1991). 'The Magical Princess'. *A Treasury of Asian Folktales*. ISBN: 981-01-0620-3 Singapore: Earlybird Books/Federal Publications (S) Pte Ltd, pp. 30–37.

Sabri Zain. 'Puteri Gunung Ledang: The Fairy Princess of Mount Ophir'. <http://www.sabrizain.demon.co.uk/malaya/melaka3.htm> (last accessed: 3 June 2003).

Zakaria Bin Hitam & Harmer, Susan. (1989). 'The Princess of Mount Ophir'. *Folk Tales of Malaysia*. London: Macmillan Publishers, pp. 27–35.

The Midwife of Dakar

Raglan, Kathleen. (1998). 'The Midwife of Dakar'. *Fearless Girls, Wise Women & Beloved Sisters: Heroines in Folktales from Around the World*. ISBN: 0-393-32046-4. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, pp. 340–341.

The Two Sister Cronas

Bushnaq, Inea. (Translator & Ed.) (1986). 'One-Tooth, Two-Teeth'. *Arab Folktales*. ISBN: 0-394-50104. New York: Pantheon Books, pp. 169–171.

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- Nicole Cheng and Caroline Yong for being in charge of Front-of-House;
- And everyone else who has contributed to the success of this evening's storytelling.

Shhh... Beware... Be careful and tread softly...

Welcome into another realm where anything is possible...

Let MoonShadow Stories guide you through this world...

Let us weave you tales about women of power...

Let us conjure up tales about women of mystery...

Let us charm you with tales about women of magick...

Order of Stories

The Werewolf (England): Retold by Kamini

In olden times, how did people identify witches? An extra nipple or an odd wart could get you stoned to death. When a girl journeys into the woods, is the wolf she meets all that it seems to be?

The Girl Who Married a Ghost (Native American): Retold by Verena

After declining many marriage offers, a village chief finally agrees to let his eldest daughter marry a handsome stranger...

My Love is Forever... (Thailand): Retold by Ferlin

Magick is always neutral, never judging the outcome. Only the seeker's intent is to be cautioned... If you possess a very powerful magic love potion, just how much will you give up for love?

BREAK

Puteri Gunung Ledang (Malaysia): Retold by Verena

When the Sultan of Malacca listens to the siren call of the magical princess of Mount Ophir (or Gunung Ledang), chaos ensues...

The Midwife of Dakar (Senegal): Retold by Kamini

One stormy night, a stranger visits an old wise midwife, asking for help. Terrified, the old woman has no choice but to accompany the stranger...

The Two Sister Cronas (Arab): Retold by Verena

When an ugly crone somehow marries a young handsome prince, how will she keep her beloved?