

2025.08.16 (Sat)
2025.08.17 (Sun)

ARTS ALLEY IN THE

21 TANTONG PAGAR ROAD



Event
Guide

81

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Arts in the Alley: Walks of Life

A Journey Through Time, Told Through Art

Step into the heart of Tanjong Pagar, where every alley tells a story, and every shophouse holds a memory. From its roots as a bustling maritime hub in the late 19th century to its lively present as a hotspot of culture, nightlife, and creativity, this district has seen the footsteps of countless lives—traders, dockworkers, artists, dreamers.

In our fast-paced city, we walk with purpose—but how often do we truly look? We pass by doorways weathered by time, corners rich with memory, people moving in rhythm with their own stories.

Yet rarely do we pause. Rarely do we notice.

When was the last time you stood still—just long enough to feel the heartbeat of a place?

This August, as we celebrate SG60, “Arts in the Alley: Walks of Life” invites you to slow down and rediscover this iconic neighbourhood through a fresh lens.

◆ Where history meets art – Walk the same five-foot ways that once buzzed with traders and coolies, now reimagined through theatre, poetry, food experiences, and art installations.

◆ Take a different kind of walk. One that encourages you to linger. To listen. To see the people, places, and histories that often go unnoticed in the rush of daily life.

Whether you're a long-time local or a curious visitor, this is your invitation to walk through history, creativity, and community—all in one journey.

- 📍 Start Point: Ann Siang House
- 📍 Main Installation & Activities:
21 Tanjong Pagar Road
- 📍 End Point: Kesa House

**Come for the art.
Stay for the stories.**



“The Art is Inside Now”

the art is inside now.
beyond new canvas,
stretched through spaces
and memories of this cityscape
and its inhabitants.
allow your humble gaze
to look closer at the details
and be proud of how footsteps
have led to flight.
weathered shelters,
corners for the connected,
unique cadence finding ways
to be in the collective of
the same roaring ebb and flow.
trust me, inside the pause
is an entire experience
that expands and beckons
you closer to breathe,
to appreciate, to contribute
to the
masterpiece of
the present
that carries centuries
of footsteps inside it.

**Adam Tie,
The Novel Encounter**

Programme Schedule

2025.08.16

Saturday

	ANN SIANG HOUSE	21 TANJONG PAGAR ROAD	KeSa HOUSE
2-2.30pm	Scriptwriting Masterclass by Singapore Repertory Theatre	Art Installations*	Sambal and Keropok Tasting^A by Museum of Food
2.30-3pm			
3-3.30pm		Coffee and Music Fiesta by Beans and Beats	Book Sharing and Signing by Shawn Seah
3.30-4pm			
4-4.30pm	Chinese Puppet Show# and Workshop by Paper Monkey Theatre		
4.30-5pm			
5-5.30pm			
5.30-6pm			
6-6.30pm		Live Poetry Session by The Novel Encounter	
6.30-7pm			
7-7.30pm			
7.30-8pm			

2025.08.17

Sunday

	ANN SIANG HOUSE	21 TANJONG PAGAR ROAD	KeSa HOUSE
2-2.30pm	Acting Masterclass by Singapore Repertory Theatre	Art Installations*	Jams and Toast Heritage Food Tasting[^] by Museum of Food
2.30-3pm		Live Music by Cloud & Party	
3-3.30pm			
3.30-4pm			
4-4.30pm			
4.30-5pm			
5-5.30pm	Chinese Puppet Show# and Workshop by Paper Monkey Theatre		
5.30-6pm			
6-6.30pm			
6.30-7pm			
7-7.30pm	Live Poetry Session by The Novel Encounter		
7.30-8pm			

*Art Installations will be available throughout the day at 21 Tanjong Pagar Road

^A Food Demo will be conducted on an hourly basis between 2 - 6pm

Chinese puppet show will be performed in Mandarin



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ANN SIANG HOUSE

Ann Siang Road was once a Chinese migrant settlement in the 1890s, named after Chinese sawmiller Chia Ann Siang.

Originally designed by E.C. Seah and built in 1927, Ann Siang House then became home to wealthy businessman Lo Po Yuen. This unique unit walks the line between the 'Classical' and 'Art Deco' style of shophouse- well-proportioned construction, elegant Greek-style columns at street level, and its original five-foot way. Peranakan components have been added to the exterior to seamlessly express cultural symbiosis.

The interior space of Ann Siang House has been reconfigured to be spacious yet homely for hotel guests. It's restored façade fuses local history with modern design and smart features. Nestled amongst other heritage shophouses, and minutes away from convenient transportation options, Ann Siang house is the ideal location for a long or short term stay as you explore Singapore.



centre for
creative
learning

Founded in 1993, Singapore Repertory Theatre is one of the leading English language theatre producers and presenters of Asia. SRT strives to perform stage theatre of the highest caliber, and inspire, engage and entertain audiences of all ages to establish a strong theatre scene in Singapore.

Scriptwriting Masterclass, 16 Aug 25

Perfect for hungry writers to sharpen their skills under the supervision of creative masters, this workshop introduces the concept of the “script munchie”- short, powerful scenes that stand alone of spark bigger ideas. Whether you’re building towards a full-length play or just looking to explore the art of storytelling, this workshop is perfect for you!



Acting Masterclass: *Fried Rice Paradise- The Makan Party*, 17 Aug 25

Inspired by a local classic, this dynamic masterclass invites participants to explore the fundamentals of acting through the show’s larger-than life characters, playful script, and celebration of Singaporean culture. Perfect for anyone looking to dive into the world of theatre, participants will be exposed to voice work, movement, and script exploration, bringing a vibrant world to life.

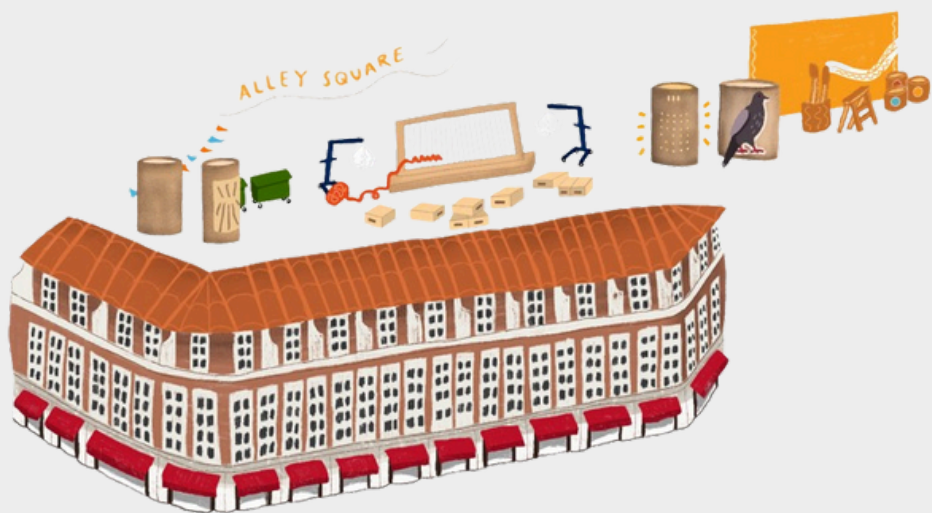


Inaugurated in 2008, Paper Monkey Theatre is Singapore’s only bilingual puppetry theatre, putting on shows in both English and Mandarin. The theatre prides themselves on being a magical place where both children and adults alike are educated, enlightened and entertained, while preserving Asian values through traditional and modern puppetry.

The Wolf of Mr Dong Guo

The latest adaptation of a Chinese classic by Paper Monkey Theatre, which strives to educate children on the consequences of being too trusting. This play tells the story of a kind scholar named Dong Guo who rescues a wolf from a hunter. However, instead of showing gratitude to his kind act, the wolf wants to eat Dong Guo to satisfy his hunger! How will Dong Guo avert this crisis and handle the situation?







Tanjong Pagar, meaning “cape of stakes” in Malay, reflects the regions origins as a prominent fishing village on a former promontory turned nutmeg plantation.

Designed by Swan and McLaren and built in 1927, 21 Tanjong Pagar Road features fair-faced brickwork, stucco-framed windows, and a shark’s tooth parapet wall. The units reflect the expressionistic tendencies of the Amsterdam School, a style of architecture that was popular in the Netherlands between the 1910s and 1930s.

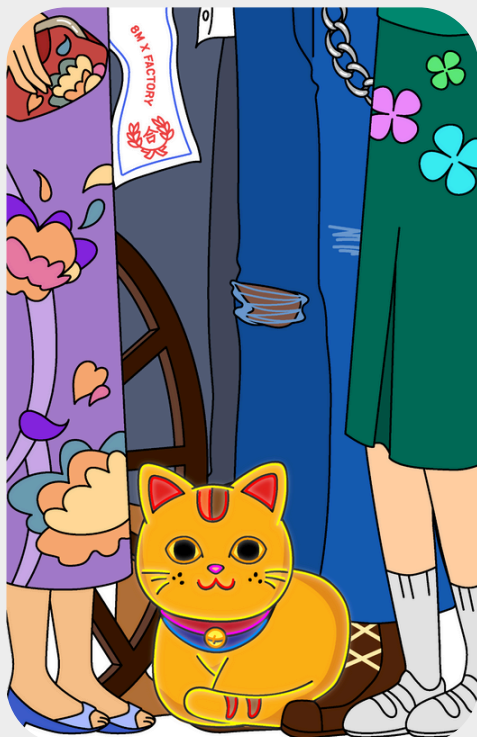
Being 8M’s largest asset cluster comprising 21-43 Tanjong Pagar Road, this building plays hosts to two murals on its facade, both by local artists, Ripple Root and Aeropalmics.

Arts in the Alley set the stage for its third mural, The Alley’s Keeper.

21 Tanjong Pagar Road

Unveiling “The Alley’s Keeper”

A lighted mural installation in the back alley of
21 Tanjong Pagar Road



There's a saying that goes: “If a cat sits at your feet, you're meant to stay awhile.”

It's not just any cat. It's an observer — of stories passing through shophouse backdoors, through bootprints, clogs, heels, and school shoes.

Delivery men, dancers, dockhands. Each pair of legs carries a different rhythm.

Each pause a chance for the cat to nestle, just for a moment.

The mural's story begins from the ground — from the quiet witness curled beneath us all.

FACTORY, 2025

As the founder and Creative Director of FACTORY, Roy has been immersed in fine arts since childhood. His approach to his craft is rooted in the belief that the lines between art and design are meant to be blurred to create profound and impactful experiences.



21 Tanjong Pagar Road

SUPPER
HOUSE

Supper House is a creative drawing room. Conceived as a sanctuary for artists by founder Ashley Chiam, the independent arts platform creates opportunities for creatives of all stripes, from visual artists to scent makers, to converse and collaborate. Committed to its cross-disciplinary, no-holds-barred approach and mission to connect artists and publics, Supper House runs as a pop-up residency.

CURATED PANEL OF ARTISTS

Cherine Wee

A scent artist and creative communicator, Cherine explores the presentation of scent as an expressive medium. Her works explore the concept of time and draw attention to the mundanity of details.



Agatha Lee

Agatha is a textile artist who creates collages and 3D textures that are vibrant, dynamic, and captivating to viewers. As an environmental advocate, she aims to bridge the gap between sustainability and art, and reconnect people with the environment.



DaO.o

DaO.o is an illustrator who specializes in whimsical and expressive line art drawings. By illustrating the seemingly simple and quirky sides of everyday life, Dao encourages city dwellers to observe, appreciate and find joy in everything they do.



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Zeharn and Zeherng

Lim Zeharn and Zeherng are identical twin artists based in Singapore, whose collaborative practices hinge on a mix of absurdist satire, existential inquiry, and an acute interest in the quotidian.

Wang Xi Jie

Wang Xi Jie is a Singapore-based artist whose practices explore the multiplicities of place, its agents, and the contextual residues it carries. Xi Jie embraces conversations as a method to bridge embodied experiences, bodily labours, and the aesthetics of empathy.



Sim Meng Yi

Working primarily with drawings, sculptures and installations, Meng Yi is interested in utilizing speculative design as a means to deconstruct lived experiences and ethnographic observations.



Natalia Tan

Natalia Tan is an advocate of sustainability and socially-engaged art-making. She uses salvaged waste materials in public co-creation projects, inviting participants to explore narrative memory, creative reimagination, and sensorial play through art facilitation practices.





Mirul

Muhammad Amirul Adli is a Singaporean artist whose work probes the boundaries of social perception. Drawing on humour, sarcasm and absurdity, he skilfully navigates the complexities of social critique.

Lim E-Lynn Joanne

Joanne Lim is a Singapore-based visual artist who is interested in translating and visualising data that she collects in long-term projects involving community collaboration, and using various mediums to address current social issues.



Dennis Ng U Yang

Dennis is a botanical designer with an interest in the weird and overlooked. His work often includes obscure botanical pickings and deals with ideas surrounding context and visual provocation.



Chew Ziyang Hans

Hans is a ceramic artist based in Singapore, who makes functional pottery and creates objects in search of his identity. His sculptures deal with the themes of foreignness, discord and nostalgia.



PERFORMANCES

Coffee Rave by Beans&Beats



Founded in 2024, Beans&Beats is the creation of 3 best friends - Ethan Lee, Aden Low, and Matteo Lie. Their vision was to emulate the fun and excitement of the clubbing atmosphere, while substituting the alcohol and hangover for specialty coffee. Together, they create unique social gatherings that give young people a place to connect, sans the intoxication. From retail stores to café pop-ups, Beans&Beats is revolutionising the nightlife scene, creating safe and fun spaces for everyone.

Live poetry from The Novel Encounter



Adam Tie is a published poet and founder of The Novel Encounter. Known for live typewritten poetry, Adam brings enchantment to events hosted by brands & corporations, and weddings. Watch him craft personalised poems in under 3 minutes, creating a unique and memorable keepsake just for you.



Busking by Cloud & Party



Cloud & Party is a home-grown Singaporean music band consisting of dynamic duo Krystal and Jayden. Performing in a range of dialects and genres, Cloud & Party touches the hearts of the young and old alike, creating unforgettable experiences for their audiences.



KESA HOUSE



KE S A H O U S E

Located in Keong Saik road in the iconic Chinatown, these shophouses once sat in the heart of a residential turned red light district in the 20th century. The area was named after Tan Keong Saik, the co-founder of the Straits Steamship Company, who owned several houses in the area.

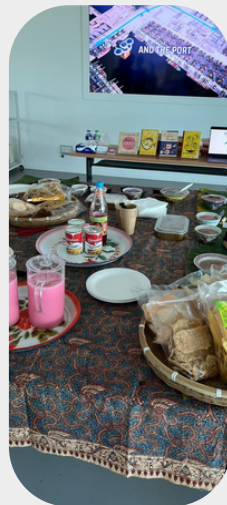
Keong Saik Road was redeveloped in the 1990s to become a thriving F&B and lifestyle destination. KeSa house is now used as a boutique hotel that is the perfect host to your exploration in Singapore. Its current architecture merges the traditional 1950s style with a modern yet homely vibe, catering to the ever-changing needs of its guests.



The Museum of Food lives by their mission that that Singaporean food belongs to all her people, and that heritage food education must be accessible to all pockets of society. MoF is constantly conduct research, test recipes, and design experiences to reach a range of age groups, uniting the country through our universal love of food.

Heritage Cooking Utensils Showcase and Food Sampling

Discover how everyday kitchen tools shaped Singapore's food heritage at this showcase. From traditional grinders to old-school enamelware, get a close-up look at the tools of the past! Not to forget, enjoy tasty samples like keropok with sambal, and classic jam and toast as part of this nostalgic experience.



Heritage Stories with Shawn Seah

Join author and speaker Shawn Seah for a heartfelt sharing on his personal journey through Singapore's history, heritage, and family stories. Shawn will share why our past matters and how we can keep Singapore's stories alive. He will also do a book reading of his children's books on Seah Eu Chin and Tan Seng Poh, who are remembered in street names at nearby Tiong Bahru.

There will also be a meet-and-greet and book signing session, with his collection of books, including *Seah Eu Chin: His Life & Times*, *My Father's Kampung*, *Our Amazing Pioneers*, and *Our Amazing Heroes*.

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