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**Media Release****NUS ARTS FESTIVAL 2017 REVEALS BRAVE NEW WORLDS****Friday 6 January 2017**

NUS Arts Festival will return for its 12<sup>th</sup> edition in March 2017. The flagship arts event of the National University of Singapore (NUS), NUS Arts Festival is a bold, youth-driven festival that focuses on unusual collaborations, creative exploration and a firm commitment to academic endeavour.

In 2017, the NUS Arts Festival will feature more than 25 events across dance, theatre, music and film. The programme is diverse, with highlights from the NUS student community, academic thought leaders and local and international artists.

"*Brave New Worlds* is our call to the future," says Festival Director, Mary Loh, "The festival challenges artists to consider what they want tomorrow to be like. It is a conversation about directions and aspirations, as we ask participants to realise their own *Brave New Worlds*."

The Festival will run between **10 and 25 March 2017** at locations across NUS' Kent Ridge Campus, including the University Cultural Centre, University Town and Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music. Additional performances will also be held at the Esplanade – Theatre by the Bay and School of the Arts Concert Hall.

"The NUS Arts Festival is the biggest arts event on the NUS calendar," says NUS Centre For the Arts Director, Sharon Tan, "Creativity, collaboration and the ability to

embrace ideas are critical skills for modern students. Our Festival melds the academic breadth of Asia's leading university, with the unfettered exploration of ideas."

Creative partnerships for specific pieces within the Festival have been forged with NUS' Department of Geography, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, the Department of Architecture, School of Design and Environment, the Centre for Quantum Technologies and the Centre for Biomedical Ethics, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine.

NUS Arts Festival is presented by NUS Centre For the Arts.

*Brave the change ... Embrace the new ... In future worlds*

Tickets will be on sale from Friday, 13 January 2017 at [nusartsfestival.com](http://nusartsfestival.com)

### **Critical Conversations**

To support inquiry and debate on the *Brave New Worlds* theme, NUS Centre For the Arts will host a series of open discussion panels between January and March 2017. This series, called *Critical Conversations*, will feature opinion and debate from eminent artists, festival administrators and academics from our region, who will question, interpret and celebrate the arts and the promise of the future.

*Critical Conversations* will begin on 24 January with the panel discussion ***Looking to The Past for The Future: Arts Festivals in Context*** at 7.30 pm at NUS Museum, 50 Kent Ridge Crescent.

This panel will feature ***George Town Festival Director, Joe Sidek***, and ***Vice President (Academic), LASALLE College of the Arts, Venka Purushothaman*** who will discuss the role of history and heritage in festival-making, and how these will inform the future of the field.

Details on further *Critical Conversations* will be available shortly.

### **Special media access**

Media fact sheets, along with key points of interest and hi-res images for each festival show can be accessed online at [bit.ly/NUSAF2017Media](http://bit.ly/NUSAF2017Media). These sheets, and the accompanying resources will be updated periodically as the festival draws closer.

For early access to the Festival website, and to discuss opportunities to interview creative leads or alternative requests, please contact:

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### **About the Centre For the Arts**

Established in 1993, NUS Centre For the Arts (CFA) is a vibrant space for the appreciation of the arts and nurturing of the creative and inquiring spirit. We support student engagement with the arts and the integration of the arts into the life of the University.

We comprise the NUS Museum, NUS Baba House and a Talent and Development arm that oversees 22 student arts excellence groups. Through our myriad of programmes, practices, exhibitions, workshops and outreach, such as NUS Arts Festival and the ExxonMobil Campus Concerts, we enrich the university experience and contribute to the building of knowledge and transformation of students.

We also manage facilities such as the University Cultural Centre, with its 1600-seat Hall and 450-seat Theatre, and rehearsal spaces in Runme Shaw CFA Studios and University Town.

For more information, visit [cfa.nus.edu.sg](http://cfa.nus.edu.sg)