

## PRESS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### **Re-Awakening the Dream & the Journey**

#### ***Dreamtalk 話夢 by Ranice Tay & Ang Gey Pin and other shows from the postponed NUS Arts Festival 2020 transformed for the virtual stage.***

*Singapore, 20 August 2020* — You are warmly welcome to be part of a journey of discovery when the virtual theatre curtain rises on Dreamtalk 話夢 presented by NUS Centre For the Arts on 4 & 5 September.

Dreamtalk 話夢 unfolds in a house of shapeless things, where everything is born and everything wanes. Here, a dreamer is half-asleep, and a rousing guardian stands watch. A journey is waiting in the shadows. Organically blending movement, text and song, Dreamtalk 話夢 is indeed a quest to confront the transience of living as the dreamers whisper “Are you willing to ‘see’ beyond physical sight? Will you resist, or can you surrender to the flow of life? Are you truly awake, or are we all just passing-by in a dream?”

Originally scheduled as part of the cancelled NUS Arts Festival 2020: Ways of Seeing, Dreamtalk 話夢 is a practice-as-research project to explore the transformative potential of an actor’s body. Created collaboratively by NUS Performing Visual Arts Scholar, Ranice Tay, and the seasoned theatre pioneer, Ang Gey Pin through various phases of development, the current iteration with the talents of spatial designer, Kow Xiao Jun will be an intimate online theatre experience that invites you to embrace your inner world even as the external world seems changed beyond recognition. Tickets at \$15 or \$10 (Pay-as-you-wish) are available from SISTIC. Post show dialogues will follow performances.

Besides Dreamtalk 話夢, Blindspot by NUS Chinese Drama directed by Judy Ngo has been reworked for online presentation on 8 October in conjunction with World Sight Day. Films such as John Krasinsky’s A Quiet Place, Josh Oppenheimer’s An Act of Killing and Makoto Shinkai’s Weathering With You have been scheduled for September 2020 as part of the ExxonMobil Campus Concert Series. Finally, NUS Ilsa Tari’s exploration of issues concerning women in dance, Layaran Sukma will be presented in January 2021 preceded by a symposium in December organised by the Department of Malay Studies, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. More details can be found at [cfa.nus.edu.sg/whats-on](http://cfa.nus.edu.sg/whats-on)

Said Ms Sharon Tan, Director, NUS Centre For the Arts, “When it was announced that NUS Arts Festival 2020 would be cancelled due to concerns of community spread of COVID-19, it was a major disappointment to the students and the artists who had put in great efforts to prepare for their shows. In the interim, they have had time to gestate the work further and draw out new insights in response to the new world that still evolving. We are proud to present these works that show the creativity and resilience in the arts stand us in good stead through difficult times. We are all on that journey to discovering and reawakening wonder once again.”

For more information on Dreamtalk 話夢, please visit <https://cfa.nus.edu.sg/whats-on/dreamtalk/>

For the artists' biographies, please refer to Annex A.

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## **Annex A: About the Creatives**

### Ang Gey Pin

Ang Gey Pin (pedagogue, director and actress), is best known locally for her title role in *The Silly Little Girl and The Funny Old Tree* (1987). She began her apprenticeship with Practice Theatre Ensemble in 1986, and was the artistic director (1995-1998) of Theatre OX. She performed lead roles and toured with the Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards, Italy (1994/1998-2006) on Project *The Bridge*: developing theatre arts. Ang initiated *Sourcing Within* (since 2006), comprising of research and work sessions in embodied practice in performing arts and anthropology. A recipient of NAC Young Artist Award (1999), she holds a PhD Drama by Practice-as-Research (University of Kent, UK).

### Ranice Tay

Ranice Tay is a NUS Performing & Visual Arts Scholar (2015 – 2019) at the National University of Singapore, where she graduated with an Honours (Distinction) in Theatre Studies. As a performer, creator and voyager of the wilderness within, Ranice has worked both locally and abroad, collaborating avidly with *Sourcing Within* on embodied practice. She has performed in *A Mouthful of Birds* (World-In-Theatre), *The Silly Little Girl and The Funny Old Tree* (Young People's Performing Arts Ensemble), and *Benches* (Poetry Festival Singapore). More recently, Ranice's encounters with the Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards, has led to intensive work on dramaturgy, voice, and performance craft, through masterclasses in Pontedera, Italy and Beijing, China.

## **Annex B: About NUS Centre For the Arts (CFA)**

Established in 1993, NUS Centre For the Arts 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.

CFA includes the NUS Museum, NUS Baba House and a Talent and Development arm that oversees 21 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 1700-seat Hall and 425-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)

## **Annex C: About National University of Singapore (NUS)**

A leading global university centred in Asia, the National University of Singapore is Singapore's flagship university, which offers a global approach to education and research, with a focus on Asian perspectives and expertise.

NUS has 17 faculties and schools across three campuses. Its transformative education includes a broad-based curriculum underscored by multidisciplinary courses and cross-faculty enrichment. Over 38,000 students from 100 countries enrich the community with their diverse

social and cultural perspectives. NUS also strives to create a supportive and innovative environment to promote creative enterprise within its community.

NUS takes an integrated and multidisciplinary approach to research, working with partners from industry, government and academia, to address crucial and complex issues relevant to Asia and the world. Researchers in NUS' Schools and Faculties, 30 university-level research institutes and centres, and Research Centres of Excellence cover a wide range of themes including: energy, environmental and urban sustainability; treatment and prevention of diseases common among Asians; active ageing; advanced materials; risk management and resilience of financial systems. The University's latest research focus is to use data science, operations research and cybersecurity to support Singapore's Smart Nation initiative.

For more information on NUS, please visit [nus.edu.sg](https://nus.edu.sg)