

THE THEATRE PRACTICE LTD

ANNUAL REPORT

FROM 1st APRIL 2015 TO 31ST MARCH 2016

The Theatre Practice Ltd (TTP) w.e.f. 28th Jan 2010 (formerly known as Practice Performing Arts Centre Ltd) was set up in 1st June 1988. It was registered under the Charities Act on 27th November 1990 as an Institution of A Public Character (IPC).

IPC No : 198801755D

Unique Entity Number (UEN No) : 198801755D

Registered Address : 54 Waterloo Street
Singapore 187953

Board of Directors/Management Board:

Name of Director	Occupation	Date Appointed	Designation
Mr Goh Wei Fen	Managing Director	30 th Nov 2009	Co-Chairman
Mr Samuel Seow Theng Beng	Lawyer	30 th Nov 2009	Co-Chairman
Ms Kuo Jian Hong	Artistic Director	12 th Nov 2010	Artistic Director
Dr Quah Sy Ren	Associate Professor	29 th May 2003	Director
Ms Wong Yen Yee	Retired	4 th Aug 2003	Director

Members: : Mr Ho Khee Tong (Appointed 30th Aug 1988)
Mr Teo Liap Chee (Appointed 30th Aug 1988)
Ms Wong Yen Yee (Appointed 30th Aug 1988)

Banker : United Overseas Bank – Rochor Branch

Auditor : Mr Chan Tuck Chee
Lo Hock Ling & Co
101A Upper Cross Street
#11-22
Singapore 058358

Other Adviser(s) : Mr Samuel Seow Legal Adviser

VISION

To be an Arts Company which is central to the creative life of Singapore, spearheaded by the highest standards of artistic achievements, while grounded on the principles of public engagement and education.

MISSION

1. To have a strong presence in the arts scene and the scale to include a diverse range of voices and expression.
2. To establish a strong repertoire of works that has both depth and breadth.
3. To reach out to a wider spectrum of people through different means. To connect with a more diverse audience both locally and internationally.
4. To provide an environment which inspires freelance theatre makers and staff and to help each of them reach their potentials
5. To strengthen management capabilities and financial sustainability.

GOVERNING INSTRUMENT

TTP is governed by the Memorandum and Articles of Association. It was set up as a Company by Guarantee with Members' need to guarantee an amount not exceeding the sum of S\$1.00. The number of directors shall be determined by the Board of Directors but shall not be less than three at one time.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activities of the company are to promote and develop performing arts and to produce and present drama, dance and other cultural activities.

REVIEW OF YEAR 2015/2016

TTP runs the regular classes for both adults and children.

The regular courses conducted during the year were Chinese Aerobics for the Women, Mandarin Speech & Drama Courses called Story Banq for ages 7 to 9, Drama Class for ages 10 to 12, and Play-In-Arts for ages 4 to 6.

An in-house performance called *The Little Windmills Take The Stage* involving the Mandarin Speech & Drama Students was held at Queenstown Community Centre Auditorium to showcase the progress of the students to their parents.

Student intake for 2015/2016 (as at 31st March 2016) was:

(1) Chinese Aerobics	31
(2) Story Banq	43
(3) Drama Class	28
(4) Play-In-Arts	42
Total	<hr/> 144

TTP produces Chinese and English productions held at various locations for different audiences ranging from adults to children. We remain committed to stage entertaining, accessible and yet provocative works for our audiences.

To commemorate our 50th Anniversary, we started off the year with an original Wu Xia play, *Legends of The Southern Arch*. It was a bold attempt at bringing a genre more familiar to us on television and film. The outcome was an exciting stage interpretation that was received

The second half of the year saw the return of *M1 Chinese Theatre Festival*. This year's festival was made up of 6 main programs, and we continued to reach out across the spectrum to bring something for all kinds of audiences. As we accumulated experiences from previous years, the fringe activities this year were also more diverse, and that is supported by a Green Room that was present throughout the entire festival as a place to find information as well as a space to mingle and dialogue with artists and fellow audience members.

TTP Lab embarked on its 3rd year, ending 2015 with an impressive showcase of 10 monologues all created by members of the Actors' Lab in the production *Upstream*. Reviewers' Lab continued to build its critical muscles with works published on line through the portal *re-Viewers*.

On the education front, we continue to accumulate on the projects that we have been growing over the years. The *National Story Challenge* reached out both through the annual competition as well as in schools through performances and workshops. Similarly, our outreach efforts through guiding CCA activities, theatre exposure programs and touring performances continued throughout the year

For the 6th time, we held the *Philippe Gaulier Master Class* in collaboration with the NAC. The Master Class is part of TTP's education and outreach initiative, and shows

our continuing commitment to nurture, develop and train our artists and practitioners with exciting and challenging programmes.

This year, in partnership with NAC, we were able to engage in a different way through re- starting our corporate program, *Setting the Stage For Service*. Using elements from actors training, we worked with companies to train their service staff. The outcome was very encouraging and we hope to develop this area of our capabilities further.

To commemorate our anniversary this year, we also decided to begin publishing some of our original works that were created in the last 10-12 years. Intended as an ongoing series, so far we have printed 3 volumes, they are *Lao Jiu: The Musical*, *The Bride Always Knocks Twice* and scripts from *Poor Theatre*.

TTP's work is currently supported by 7 full time artistic and production staff, 11 full time administrative, marketing and education staff, 1 part-time Education and Outreach Advisor and 1 part-time finance officer.

Calendar of Events from 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016:

- Apr Staging of *Legends of the Southern Arch* at the Drama Centre Theatre from 27th March to 12th April.
- May *Crash- A-Course* Enrolment for new students for Weekend classes held on 30th May.
- Jul/Aug *M1 Chinese Theatre Festival 2015 held at LASALLE College of the Arts, Various Theatres*
Staging of *The wee Question Mark and the Adventurer* at Flexible Performance Space from 9th July to 19th July.
Staging of *Chronology on Death* at Creative Cube from 9th July to 12th July.
Staging of *The Struggle: Years Later* at Creative Cube from 16th July to 26th July
Staging of *Into the Flood* at Flexible Performance Space from 22nd July to 26th July
Staging of *The Last Supper* at Flexible Performance Space from 30th July to 2nd Aug
Staging of *1 Table 2 Chairs – Experimental Series* at Creative Cube from 30th July to 2nd Aug
Fringe Activity *Ineract – In the Living Room* held at Centre 42 on 11th July. Greenroom interaction opened for the whole period from 9th July to 1st Aug held outside the space next to Creative Cube
- Aug *Philippe Gaulier Master Class* held at Centre 42 Black Box from 15th Aug to 19th Aug.
- Oct/Nov *Poor Theatre Series 2015 – Upstream* presented by The Practice Lab was performed at Stamford Arts Centre from 14th Oct to 24th Oct.
Crash-A-Course Weekend class enrolment for 2016 held on 31st Oct.
Staging of Year-end performance *The Little Windmills Take The Stage* by the Students of weekend classes at Queenstown Community Centre, Auditorium on 24th Nov.
- Mar 16 Story Challenge Competition for Schools held at ITE College Central. The finals was held on 12th Mar.
Staging of *Liaozhai Rocks!* at the Drama Centre from 31st Mar to 17th Apr

Review of Financial State, Explanation of Major Financial Transactions and Reserves

We recorded a surplus \$ 536,546 for the year with a total income of S\$ 2,705,495 against a total expenditure of S\$ 2,168,949.

TTP is on a 3-year major grant scheme with the NAC and the current grant period extends to March 2017.

TTP's assets and reserves are held solely for the use of the charity. Our reserves as at 31st March 2016 is \$ 1,910,418. We have recorded a 0.88: 1 ratio of Reserves to Annual Operating Expenditure (Target 3 : 1). We are constantly monitoring our income streams by doing a forecast/budget for the next year and looking for new income sources while keeping tabs on the expenditures balancing Artistic and financial decisions.

Annual Remuneration of the highest paid staff of more than \$100K but less than \$150K:

1. Kuo Jian Hong Artistic Director

Policy relating to the Management and Avoidance of Conflict of Interest

All transactions for TTP are approved by two officers in charge (according to the Delegation of Authority Matrix). All business transactions are done at arms length. The Board of Directors have signed a declaration form to declare any conflict of interest. The Board of Directors will refrain from voting if there is a conflict of interest issue arise.

Future Plans and Commitments

Our office and rehearsal space will be relocated to a new premise on 54 Waterloo Street on 27th June 2016. We will have our very own black box called *The Practice Space*.

TTP's regular classes for adults and children will continue and we will look into the possibility for expansion. We will continue to review our curriculum in order to be relevant to the current needs of students.

Investment into training of actors, playwrights and theatre audience outreach with the Practice Lab, will be strengthened further.

2017 brings back a 1st rerun of the Musical *Lao Jiu* and the return of Chinese Theatre Festival 2017 with a line-up of more exciting shows from Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan and China.