

# THE THEATRE PRACTICE LTD

## ANNUAL REPORT

FROM 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2014 TO 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2015

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

IPC No	: 198801755D
Unique Entity Number (UEN No)	: 198801755D
Registered Address	: 155 Waterloo Street #02-06 Stamford Arts Centre Singapore 187962
Board of Directors	: Mr Goh Wei Fen ( Appointed on 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov 09 ) Dr Quah Sy Ren ( Appointed on 29 <sup>th</sup> May 03 ) Ms Wong Yen Yee ( Appointed on 4 <sup>th</sup> Aug 03 ) Mr Samuel Seow Theng Beng ( Appointed on 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov 09 ) Ms Kuo Jian Hong (Appointed on 12 <sup>th</sup> Nov 10)
Management Board	: Dr Quah Sy Ren Ms Wong Yen Yee Mr Samuel Seow Mr Goh Wei Fen Ms Kuo Jian Hong
Banker	: United Overseas Bank – Rochor Branch
Auditor	: Ms Lo Wei Pin 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.

## 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 2014/2015

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 2014/2015 (as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015) was:

(1) Chinese Aerobics	33
(2) Story Banq	39
(3) Drama Class	22
(4) Play-In-Arts	28
Total	<hr/> 122

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.

In this year, the first main-stage performance was a revival of *If There're Seasons....* With its third staging, we were able to bring the production to a high artistic level. It was also an opportunity to nurture new talents as well as elevate the more seasoned performers. It was a success again as we sold out its 29 show run.

We returned with another instalment of M1 Chinese Theatre Festival (CTF) at Lasalle College of the Arts. This year, the programme expanded to 6 productions with an even mix of local and overseas productions. We also created fringe activities like *Interact* and *Focus* as platforms for the exchange of ideas and sharing of knowledge as we reached out to more artists as well as audience.

With the formation of Practice Lab (formerly known as TTP Lab) in 2013, Actors Studio and Playwrights Studio went into full swing. *Playwrights Boot Camp* and *Poor Theatre* became the two key platforms for these participants to experiment, explore and present. This year ended with the production of *3 Rooms*, three site-specific pieces that were created by the members of the Actors Studio, led by Lab Director Liu Xiaoyi.

TTP also has a project wing. Established in 1994, the Student Theatre education Program (STEP) continues its theatre outreach to schools in the form of school performances or long term and short term drama related courses. 4 shows were offered to the schools in 2014/15. They included *Textbook Storytelling*, *Mulan*, *A Different Childhood* and *The Great Campus Story Challenge*. As one of the very few companies that produce Chinese language productions for schools, we continue to undertake the mission of exposing students to the language as well as the culture.

March 2015 saw the return of *Story Challenge* Tournament held at River Valley High School for the 8<sup>th</sup> year since 2008. It is a storytelling competition where participants are given 15 minutes to create an original story. It has expanded to include the Malay language category in 2014 and we have started the Tamil category in 2015. The event had a wonderful turnout for both individual and group categories for Primary and Secondary Schools

For the 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

TTP's work is currently supported by 7 full time artistic and production staff, 9 full time administrative, marketing and education staff, 1 part-time Education and Outreach Advisor and 1 part-time finance officer.

## Calendar of Events from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015:

- Apr Re-staging of *If There're Seasons...* at the Drama Centre Theatre from 3<sup>rd</sup> April to 27<sup>th</sup> April.
- May *Crash- A-Course* Enrolment for new students for Weekend classes held on 31<sup>st</sup> May.
- June/Jul *M1 Chinese Theatre Festival 2014 held at LASALLE College of the Arts, Various Theatres*  
Staging of *Nini In Changi Village* at The Singapore Airlines Theatre from 26<sup>th</sup> June to 6<sup>th</sup> July.  
Staging of *The Mark Behind The Ear* at Creative Cube from 26<sup>th</sup> June to 29<sup>th</sup> June  
Staging of *Fluid* at Flexible Performance Space from 3<sup>rd</sup> July to 12<sup>th</sup> July  
Staging of *Mo Gu Notes* at Creative Cube from 9<sup>th</sup> July to 13<sup>th</sup> July  
Staging of *Casting Sword* at Flexible Performance Space from 17<sup>th</sup> July to 20<sup>th</sup> July  
Staging of *1 Table 2 Chairs – Experimental Series* at Creative Cube from 17<sup>th</sup> July to 20<sup>th</sup> July  
Free programmes *Interact* held at Lowercase on 12<sup>th</sup> July, *Focus* held at Dance Studio Level 1 on 13<sup>th</sup> July and *Story Challenge* held at Lowercase on 19<sup>th</sup> July
- Aug/Sep *Philippe Gaulier Master Class* held at Goodman Arts Centre from 6<sup>th</sup> Aug to 10<sup>th</sup> Aug.  
  
*Playwrights' Boot Camp* held at Studio 4 of Stamford Arts Centre over 4 Mondays from 11<sup>th</sup> Aug to 1<sup>st</sup> Sep.
- Oct/Nov *Poor Theatre Series 2014 – 3 Rooms* presented by The Practice Lab was performed at Stamford Arts Centre from 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct to 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov.  
  
Staging of Year-end performance *The Little Windmills Take The Stage* by the Students of weekend classes at Queenstown Community Centre, Auditorium on 19<sup>th</sup> Nov.  
  
*Crash-A-Course Weekend* class enrolment for 2014 held on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov.
- Mar 15 Story Challenge Competition for Schools held at River Valley High School. The finals was held on 14<sup>th</sup> Mar.  
  
Staging of *Legends of the Southern Arch* at the Drama Centre from 27<sup>th</sup> Mar to 12<sup>th</sup> Apr

## **Review of Financial State and Explanation of Major Financial Transactions**

We recorded a surplus \$ 476,867 for the year. We wish to thank our donors, supporters and volunteers who have made significant contributions to us. 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.

### **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**

The preparation of relocation of office and rehearsal space to a new premise on the same road will happen in the second half of 2015 and the move would be completed by the beginning of 2016.

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.

2016 brings back a 1<sup>st</sup> rerun of the Musical *Liaozhai Rocks* and the return of Chinese Theatre Festival 2016 with a line-up of more exciting shows from Singapore, Hongkong, Taiwan and China will be held at our very own blackbox in the new premise.