

For Immediate Release

TRAVEL IN TIME ON “FOUR HORSE ROAD”

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Be prepared to go on a theatrical adventure along one of Singapore’s oldest street this year with Singapore’s longest-standing theatre company The Theatre Practice. Conceptualised by The Theatre Practice’s Artistic Director Kuo Jian Hong and playwright Jonathan Lim, *Four Horse Road* will run from 4 – 28 April across 3 heritage buildings on Waterloo Street.

This 2-hour immersive theatre piece features stories inspired by real events from the past and present, going as far back as 1870s, to take a nostalgic look at Singapore’s rich multicultural heritage and history.

“Waterloo Street is a living container of so many human stories of old Singapore,” said Kuo, also the director of *Four Horse Road*. “Upon encountering them, I am interested in seeing what happens when we use our eyes of the present to look at our past.”

Four Horse Road – a literal translation of Waterloo Street’s commonly known Chinese name “四马路” (Fourth Road), imagines the life of fictional denizens that once lived, studied and worked on the street, from Jewish families to Catholic nuns and priest, prisoners to school boys and girls, bringing alive various forgotten landmarks, including Nantina House and the Bras Basah Gaol where Singapore Management University now stands.



“While the audience experiences a time warp (during the show), I hope that they will also be acutely aware of the street’s sharp contrast to the now,” Kuo continued.

Lim has made it a point to introduce to audiences the Waterloo Street that he discovered during research and how he remembered it during his days as a St. Joseph Institute student, which he recalls to be much more than just the Chinese temple.

“We tried to look at the street’s stereotype from completely different angles,” said Lim, “so you will see history in a larger context and from a surprising perspective that will make you think twice of what you thought you knew.”

The Theatre Practice’s biggest and possibly the most intricate attempt yet, *Four Horse Road* will literally walk audiences through multiple sites located across three buildings – Centre 42, Chinese Calligraphy Society and The Theatre Practice.

Audiences will “travel in time” as they move from scene to scene, get up close and personal with the characters, and even be part of the stories.

Director Kuo is very excited about all kinds of storytelling possibilities in this atypical theatrical experience.

Four Horse Road features a large, diverse and multiracial cast of talents including some of local theatre powerhouse including Al-Matin Yatim, Frances Lee, Jo Tan, Johnny Ng, Shafie, Sugie Phua, Yazid Jalil, and many more.

Tickets (S\$68) are available at all SISTIC outlets and online at www.sistic.com.sg. More information on *Four Horse Road* can be found on www.practice.org.sg.

For media enquiries, interviews and visuals, please contact:

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Fast Facts

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| Title: | <i>Four Horse Road</i> 《四马路》 |
| Dates: | 4 – 28 April 2018 |
| Time: | 7.30pm (Tue – Sun) |
| Venue: | The Theatre Practice (54 Waterloo Street, Singapore 187953) |
| Language: | Multilingual including Mandarin, English, Malay, Japanese, Dialects |
| Ticket Prices: | \$68 (excl. SISTIC fees) |
| Duration: | Approximately 2 hours |
| Ticketing: | www.sistic.com.sg/events/cfour0418 |
| Information: | www.practice.org.sg/en/performance/fourhorseroad |
| Rating: | TBC |

About *Four Horse Road*

See an unlikely friendship blossom through two sides of a prison fence.

Solve the mysterious age-old disappearance of a priceless stained glass window.

Take a chance on tikam wheel and see what tales our Tuckshop owners can spin.

Unmask a spy hidden in plain sight and uncover a shocking conspiracy.

*Travel across time and space and inhabit the worlds of *Four Horse Road*.*

This year, we remain true to the Practice spirit of good play, taking a bigger, bolder look at identity and our sense of belonging. Inspired by real historical events that once took place on Waterloo Street, *Four Horse Road* peels away the layers of one of Singapore's oldest streets to uncover decades of buried stories and forgotten people. Conceptualised by The Theatre Practice's Artistic Director Kuo Jian Hong and playwright Jonathan Lim, *Four Horse Road* is an intimate experience on an epic scale.

2 Centuries. 10 Locations. 3 Heritage Buildings. 50 artists. 1 unique theatrical adventure. This is an awe-inspiring theatrical event you need to be part of.

Welcome to *Four Horse Road*.

About The Theatre Practice

The Theatre Practice (TTP) is the longest-standing professional bilingual theatre group in Singapore. In 1965, theatre doyen Kuo Pao Kun and dancer/choreographer Goh Lay Kuan founded Singapore Performing Arts School, The Theatre Practice's earliest incarnation.

Over the years, TTP continues to dedicate itself to critique life objectively; to entertain the audience respectfully; to explore new frontiers in art unceasingly through its strong repertoire of local productions and overseas works. Over the last 53 years, TTP has presented and collaborated in over 300 productions ranging from classics embodying Singapore's diverse cultural backgrounds, to lauded Chinese musicals and experimental works focused on exploring an alternative voice in theatre.

TTP strives to embrace the diversities of the local multicultural landscape, bringing you theatrical works which are entertaining, original and thought-provoking.