

MEDIA RELEASE

SING'THEATRE TRANSFORMS SGH INTO A MASSIVE PERFORMANCE STAGE FOR EVERYONE

The Fifth MusicFest @ SGH Features a Full Day Music Extravaganza



Presented by



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In collaboration with



Singapore, 22 May 2017 – Sing'theatre, Singapore's leading musical revue specialist, transforms the Singapore General Hospital (SGH) Campus into a colossal stage with the fifth edition of *MusicFest @ SGH*. In collaboration with SGH, and presented by Novartis, *MusicFest @ SGH* features over 54 hours of live music and dance packed into one day! The full day extravaganza will take place from 10.30am on 26 May 2017, culminating into a high-powered finale concert at 7pm. Part of Sing'theatre's 10th anniversary celebrations, *MusicFest @ SGH* underscores Sing'theatre's commitment to performing for a better society.

Boasting a new theme 'All of SGH's a Stage – Starring everyone', this edition of *MusicFest @ SGH* turns the spotlight on to members of the staff and public at SGH. Over 250 performers – from professional artists and dancers to the SGH Campus' staff choir – will take the stage at seven different locations within the SGH Campus. Patients, staff and visitors are also welcome to participate in singing classes and open mic

sessions organised for the festival.



"We are thrilled to once again be working with SGH and Novartis to bring the patients, caregivers and staff a fun-filled day of music and dance. *MusicFest @ SGH* was conceived with the belief that music has the ability to stimulate the senses and heal and uplift the spirit. Sing'theatre is committed to making music and theatre universally accessible, even to the most isolated and physically unwell patients" says Nathalie Ribette, Artistic and Executive Director and Founder of Sing'theatre.

Singing Doctors and Nurses

Committed to nurturing musical theatre enthusiasts from all walks of life, Sing'theatre collaborated with SGH to set up the first ever SGH Campus Choir. Comprising doctors, nurses and other members of the hospital's staff, the SGH Campus Choir has undergone weekly vocal training conducted by the Sing'theatre Academy since April 2017.

The SGH Campus Choir will make their debut at *MusicFest @ SGH* and will perform familiar songs such as *Stand By Me*, *Home*, *Chan Mali Chan* and *Fried Rice Paradise*. They will also be part of the exciting line up of performers at the finale concert.

All Music and Dance, All Day

Filling the lobbies with soulful music all around SGH are local performers Cat Ong, LA Benjamin, Leandra Leandra and Peter Diaz, amongst others. Presenting music of various genres and languages, the artists will take the audience down memory lane with a repertoire of familiar and nostalgic tunes. Audience is also welcome to participate in Sing'fling, a series of singing classes, in the morning and sing on stage with music veterans Nathalie Ribette, Peter Diaz and Cat Ong at the open mic sessions in the afternoon.

At the National Heart Centre, dancers from the esteemed Bhaskar's Arts Academy will dazzle patients, staff and visitors with their sharp and rhythmic classic Indian dance routines. Professional dance company Frontier Danceland will engage the audience through agile contemporary dance moves and masterful technique.

Patients in the wards are also in for a treat: renowned local personalities Hossan Leong, Daphne Khoo and Leandra Leandra will bring songs and cheer straight to the bedsides of patients. Hossan Leong, Daphne Khoo and Leandra Leandra – along with other performers – will roam from ward to ward and entertain and interact with patients and their caregivers.

Theatre and television personality Hossan Leong will make an appearance again in the evening as the host of the finale concert. Based around the theme of Singaporean Composers, the finale concert will feature Suhaimi Yusof, Elaine Chan and Lauren Yeo, amongst others, who will belt out familiar numbers that everyone in the audience can sing along to. Held at SGH Deck on 9, the finale concert is set to end the exciting day of activities on a high note.

“Novartis Singapore has been collaborating very closely with Sing'theatre and the Singapore General Hospital in *MusicFest @ SGH* since 2013. Following the fantastic success of *MusicFest @ SGH* over the last four years, we are delighted to once again support this year's *MusicFest* at SGH. At Novartis we place an important emphasis on activities that bring us closer to the communities within which we live and work,” says Chris Snook, Novartis Country President Singapore. He adds, “*MusicFest* represents a perfect opportunity to help us with this aim. We are really pleased too, that many of our associates will be able to help out on the day, in providing a day's entertainment and enjoyment that we know will be another really

great day to remember."

Alice Billy, Project Manager of *MusicFest @ SGH* and Community Outreach Manager of Sing'theatre, remarks, "I am very grateful to be a part of this mammoth project. It is our great desire to offer a moment – or more – of joy to everyone present at *MusicFest*, which is why we work with trusted professional and amateurs artists to ensure the high quality of performances at *MusicFest*. It is personally very fulfilling to offer exceptional moments to various audiences who don't usually have the opportunity to meet our local celebrities and idols like Hossan Leong or Suhaimi Yusof."

Part of Sing'theatre's 10th anniversary celebrations, the fifth *MusicFest @ SGH* will take place from 10.30am to 8pm on 26 May 2017 at seven locations on the SGH Campus. It is a free non-ticketed event open to the public, with performances in the wards restricted to patients only. For more information, follow Sing'theatre on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Singtheatre.

Also follow Sing'theatre on:

www.singtheatre.com

<https://www.instagram.com/singtheatre/>

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About Singapore General Hospital

Singapore General Hospital (SGH), a member of Singapore Health Services, is the public sector's flagship hospital. Established in 1821, SGH is Singapore's largest acute tertiary hospital with 1,600 beds and national referral centre offering a comprehensive range of 36 clinical specialties on its campus. Every year, about 1 million Singaporeans benefit from advanced medical care delivered by its 800 specialists. As an academic healthcare institution and the bedrock of medical education, SGH plays a key role in nurturing doctors, nurses and allied health professionals, and is committed to innovative translational and clinical research in her continual strive to provide the best care and outcomes to her patients. www.sgh.com.sg

About the SGH Arts for Health

Into its 16th year, the SGH Arts for Health programme aims to promote good health and improve quality of care to patients in the hospital through various creative and therapeutic art forms. Through visual and performing arts, the programme seeks to enhance the physical, social and emotional well-being of our patients and visitors. By partnering community organisations, arts groups and artists, SGH is able to play a part in supporting and developing the arts by providing alternative platforms within the healthcare settings. Arts for Health is supported by the National Arts Council.

About Sing'theatre

Sing'theatre is recognised in the Singapore scene as a musical theatre specialist. Since 2006, Sing'theatre has staged productions presenting iconic French and European singers, as well as plays and musicals written in Singapore. The company uses primarily the musical theatre genre and French cabaret style to bring social conversations and personal struggles to the stage. They take current issues in society, give them a unique perspective and make them resonate with Singaporeans. Through their work, Sing'theatre aims to promote multicultural interaction. Beyond the traditional stage, Sing'theatre brings music to the community through its various outreach programmes at hospitals and provide training to musical theatre lovers from all walks of life through its academy, upholding its mission to perform for a better society.

About Novartis

Novartis provides innovative healthcare solutions that address the evolving needs of patients and

societies. Headquartered in Basel, Switzerland, Novartis offers a diversified portfolio to best meet these needs: innovative medicines, cost-saving generic and biosimilar pharmaceuticals and eye care. Novartis has leading positions globally in each of these areas. In 2016, the Group achieved net sales of USD 48.5 billion, while R&D throughout the Group amounted to approximately USD 9.0 billion. Novartis Group companies employ approximately 118,000 full-time-equivalent associates. Novartis products are sold in approximately 155 countries around the world. For more information, please visit <http://www.novartis.com>.