

Tomorrow and tomorrow
**WAITING FOR
AUDIENCE 《等待观众》**

HOUSE PROGRAMME



by Nine Years Theatre (SG)

17 May
Fri, 9.30pm

18 May
Sat, 6pm

Black Box, Stamford Arts Centre



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As we embark on another exciting journey with the Singapore International Festival of Arts (SIFA) 2024, I am filled with immense pride and anticipation for what lies ahead. At Arts House Limited (AHL), we cherish the spirit of creativity and innovation, and SIFA 2024 embodies this ethos to its core.

[FULL MESSAGE](#)



Sharon Tan

MESSAGE FROM THE FESTIVAL DIRECTOR

People exist along the tension of things that unify and split them apart. The themes across three Festival years – Ritual (2022), Some People (2023) and They Declare (2024) were named to reflect this notion of sameness and difference between us.

[FULL MESSAGE](#)



Natalie Hennedige

About the Production

Who's coming to the show?

An old theatre.
Two actors, A and O, enter.

They tussle,
they divide,
they play,
and they
wait...

and wait,
and wait.

Playful, witty, sharp and tragic, the work draws inspiration from physical theatre, clowning, absurdist humour and Chinese cross-talk.

Come and be among the first to enjoy this new work by the founders of NYT, Nelson Chia and Mia Chee.

谁来看戏?

老旧的剧院
两个演员, A和O, 入场。

他们争逗,
他们分离,
他们游戏,
然后他们
等待...

等待,
再等待。

俏皮、诙谐、尖锐而悲壮, 这部作品融合了形体剧场、小丑元素、荒诞幽默和传统相声的风格。

抢先欣赏由「九年」创办人, 谢燊杰和徐山淇, 携手共制的新作品。

Message from Mia Chee & Nelson Chia

WHO'S COMING TO THE SHOW?

谁来看戏?

Two actors, Mia and Nelson, enter.

两名演员，山淇和蔡杰入场。

Mia: When an actor performs on stage and there is no audience, is it considered a performance?

淇：当演员在台上表演，而台下没有观众，那算是个演出吗？

Nel: When the audience seats are filled with people, everyone staring at the empty stage, and if we don't go on stage, will the audience be watching a performance?

杰：当观众席坐满了人，每个都盯着空舞台看，我们不上场，观众看的是表演吗？

Mia: When we create, we often consider –

淇：我们在创作的时候，常常会考虑 –

Nel: What role does the audience play in this play?

杰：这出戏里，观众扮演的是个什么角色？

Mia: People standing by? Passive bystander? --

淇：旁观者？袖手旁观者？ --

Nel: People watching the fire from across the river? Someone who wants to put out fires? or -

杰：隔岸观火的人？心想灭火的人？还是 –

Mia: --The person who secretly started the fire.

淇：-- 悄悄放火的人。

Nel: Well, then, who is an actor playing?

杰：嗯，那，演员，又是什么人？

Mia: A person who sets himself on fire.

淇：引火自焚的人。



Mia Chee



Nelson Chia

Nel: Oh, a person consumed by the heat of desire.

杰：噢，欲火焚身的人。

Mia: Eh, someone who plays with fire.

淇：诶，玩火的人。

Silence. The two actors look into the audience.

静默。两名演员看着观众席。

Mia: After all these years, you are still here?

淇：这么多年了，你还在？

Nel: It's been thousands of years, yet I'm still here.

杰：几千年了，我还在。

Mia: Why don't you leave?

淇：你怎么不离开？

Nel: Why do you return?

杰：你怎么又回来？

Nel: In a thousand years, will you still be here?

杰：再过一千年，你还会在吗？

Mia: Will they come back?

淇：他们还会回来吗？

Pause. The two actors look at each other and close their eyes.

停顿。两名演员看了对方一眼，闭上眼睛。

Time passes, and a thousand years go by.

时间流逝，过了一千年。

The two actors open their eyes and look at the audience.

两名演员睁开眼睛，看着观众席。

Blackout.

灯暗。

The two actors open their eyes and look at the audience.
两名演员睁开眼睛，看着观众席。

Blackout.
灯暗。

Remark:
备注：

Nine Years Theatre hopes to develop *Waiting For Audience* and take this work abroad to share the unique qualities of Singapore Mandarin theatre with more audiences. As such, we are keen to hear your feedback on the performance so that we may improve. Thank you for being part of this creation. Thank you for coming to the show.
九年剧场希望继续发展《等待观众》，并把这个作品带到国外，与更多的观众分享新加坡华语剧场的独特魅力。因此，我们希望听到你们对演出的意见，以助我们进步。谢谢你们参与这个创作。谢谢你们来看戏。

Mia and Nelson
山淇与蔡杰

Credits

Creative and Production team

创意与制作团队

Playwright and Director

编剧/导演:
Nelson Chia 谢燊杰

Producer

监制:
Mia Chee 徐山淇

Created and Performed by

创作/演出:
Mia Chee 徐山淇
Nelson Chia 谢燊杰

Production Stage Manager and Surtitle Operator

制作舞台监督/字幕操作:
Tennie Su 苏蜜嫣

Photographer

摄影师:
Yeo Siak Ling 姚锡麟

Staff of Nine Years Theatre

九年剧场职员

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艺术总监及联合创始人:
Nelson Chia 谢燊杰

Company Director

剧团总监及联合创始人:
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Chew Yi Hui 周怡慧

Biographies

Nine Years Theatre

CREATOR



An award-winning Singapore Mandarin theatre company, Nine Years Theatre (NYT) is dedicated to the...

FULL BIO

Mia Chee

CO-FOUNDER & COMPANY DIRECTOR



Mia is an actor, theatre producer and educator, also co-founder and Company Director of Nine Years Theatre...

FULL BIO

Nelson Chia

CO-FOUNDER & ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



Nelson Chia is a director, performer, playwright, acting teacher and theatre lecturer. He has won...

FULL BIO

About SIFA

As Singapore's annual pinnacle performing arts festival, the Singapore International Festival of Arts (SIFA) presents captivating and diverse works across theatre, music, dance, film and visual arts. First launched as the Singapore Festival of Arts in 1977, the festival has gone through several evolutions and inspired generations of arts lovers and practitioners. Today, the highly anticipated festival is a high point on Singapore's arts and cultural calendar. SIFA continues its festival mission to champion the creation and presentation of Singaporean and international works.



About Arts House Limited

Arts House Limited (AHL) is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to inspiring and enriching lives through the transformative power of the arts.

We proudly organise two flagship national festivals: the **Singapore International Festival of Arts**, a celebration of the local and international performing arts, and the **Singapore Writers Festival**, a multilingual festival presenting the world's leading literary talents.

At the heart of AHL's mission are six arts spaces designed to support our vibrant arts sector and forge connections within communities. It includes two national monuments - **The Arts House**, multidisciplinary arts centre, and **Victoria Theatre & Victoria Concert Hall**, a heritage building that is home to the Singapore Symphony Orchestra.

AHL also runs the **Drama Centre**, a dedicated performing arts space, as well as three creative enclaves for arts groups and innovative enterprises: the **Goodman Arts Centre**, **Aliwal Arts Centre**, and **Stamford Arts Centre**.

Established in 2002 as The Old Parliament House Limited, AHL transitioned to its current identity as **Arts House Limited** in 2014. As a public company limited by guarantee under the National Arts Council, we remain steadfast in our mission to champion the arts as a powerful force for positive change.



Arts House Limited extends our heartfelt thanks to the following supporters

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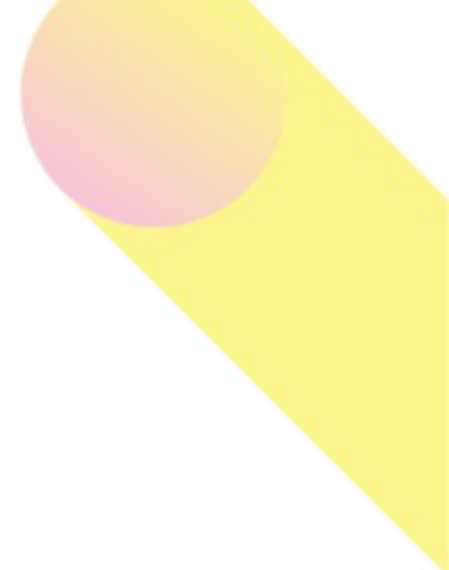
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Madeleine Lee

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Amin
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Kenneth Kwok



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Festival Director
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