

DOES THIS WORK FOR YOU?

The Nervous System (Singapore)

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BIOGRAPHIES OF ARTISTS

THE NERVOUS SYSTEM

The Nervous System is a freshly formed interdisciplinary collective of visual artists, theatre makers, and dancers. Rooted in physical theatre, they practice performance work that they want to grow in the local scene. They define themselves as “movers”—orchestrators of social interactions who move to push, provoke, and inspire our audiences.

Their most recent work entitled *All You Say Is Nothing* (2016) was an exploration of xenophobia and terrorism in Singapore, and was staged at the School of the Arts, Singapore.

WRITER & DIRECTOR – IRSYAD DAWOOD

Irsyad is an aspiring actor, director and designer. A recent graduate of the School of the Arts, Singapore (SOTA) under the International Baccalaureate Career-related Programme (IBCP), he has undergone short courses with the National Institute of Dramatic Arts in Australia as well as the Phnom Penh Secondary School of Fine Arts. He was most recently an ensemble member in The Finger Players' *Starring Hitler as Jekyll and Hyde* (2016).

irsyaddawood.wixsite.com/portfolio

DRAMATURG/ASSISTANT DIRECTOR – MYER WONG

Myer Wong is an aspiring theatre maker with experience in writing, directing and dramaturgy. *All You Say Is Nothing* (2016) was his first foray into dramaturgy and he hopes to continue his practice in this field, furthering his understanding of creating theatre as a whole. A recent graduate of SOTA from the theatre IBCP, he has written and staged two plays—*The Water Stories* (2013) and *Kitto* (2015), which he also directed.

SOUND DESIGNER – MATTHIAS TEH

Matthias has recently graduated from SOTA IBCP Class of 2017. Exposed to theatre since primary school, he believes that it is a powerful platform, inspiring change and highlighting our humanity. Outside of sound design, Matthias majors in acting, writes plays and poetry, plays music and sings.

STAGE MANAGER – KOH YI WEI

Yi Wei is an aspiring performer and creator, seeking to use theatre an entry point into understanding and working with the youth and elderly communities in Singapore. She has recently graduated from the IBCP. Prior to that, she was also part of the GCE O-Level Drama Elective Programme. She has been involved with several productions, including *Last Seen* (2016), *Handle with Care* (2016), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (2017) as a performer, and *Per Rabbit Heart* as stage manager. She also interned with Paper Monkey Theatre for their Esplanade Moonfest production, *The Magic Lantern*. She hopes to continue performing in the future, whilst exploring different facets of theatre, channelling her skills into creating works that are socially relevant, and making them accessible to the wider public.

CAST – ANDRE CHONG

A Marshall Young Artist Scholarship holder, Andre graduated from SOTA IBCP Theatre. He began performing with W!LD RICE's *Cinderel-Lah* (2010) and *Aladdin* (2011), which led to his role as Young Joseph in W!LD Rice's *Family Outing* (2011) by Joel Tan. His recent credits include *Starring Hitler as Jekyll and Hyde* (2016), *Frago* (2017) and *Army Daze 2* (2017).

andrechong.com

CAST - ASHVINE PANDIAN

Ashvine is a current student at SOTA studying music and has taken a keen interest in composition and sound design for theatrical works. After his first experience integrating music with theatre in *flush*. (2015), he continued to work closely with other theatre practitioners to strike a balance between music and theatre, developing performance vocabularies to have both art forms complement rather than compete with each other. He also produced music for *Dream Play* (2016) and *wordswordswords* (2017). In his leisure time, he enjoys playing the yoyo and building sandcastles.

CAST – COCO WANG LING

A Year 6 IBCP Theatre student of SOTA, Coco enjoys performing both on and off-stage. She has performed in several school productions such as *Yummy Mummies* (Independent Plays, 2015), *Body of Land* (M1 Peer Pleasure Youth Theatre Festival, 2016), *SUCCEED-A-THON 2017* (SOTA Productions, 2017) and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (SOTA Productions, 2017). She hopes to pursue her interest in physical theatre, stage management and production management.

CAST – JOAN DWIARTANTO

Joan began her dance training when she was three years old and continued to pursue dance at SOTA's IBCP. Joan has performed in annual SOTA productions such as *Becoming* (2014-2016) and *Rapport* (2013-2016). She has also performed in Singapore Dance Theatre's *Sleeping Beauty* (2011) and as The Doll and other roles in *The Nutcracker* (2015) by Jeffrey Tan. Joan has also performed *In Their Hands* (2015) at the World Dance Alliance and at the National Day Parade 2016. She aspires to become a professional dancer.

CAST – REBECCA ASHLEY DASS

Rebecca is an aspiring actor and director. Her stage credits include *The King and I* (2007), *Blackbird* (2009), *Spring Awakening* (2012), *Annie* (2012), independent devised productions *Axles* (2013) and *Penguin* (2015) that were invited to be staged at SDEA's Celebrate Drama, *The Proposal* (2013), *Waiting for Godot* (2015), *Henry VI* (2015), devised productions *Last Seen* and *Handle With Care* (2016) and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (2017). Rebecca's short film credits include *Bright* (2006), *War Child* (2007) and *Happy Place* (2009).