

FORKED

Jo Tan (Singapore)

BIOGRAPHIES OF ARTISTS

PLAYWRIGHT & PRODUCER – JO TAN

Jo is a multilingual host, singer, and actor who has played characters of various backgrounds, genders and species for stage and screen projects that have travelled as far as New York, London, France and Korea. She contributes articles to magazines and broadsheets, and scripts to festivals and comedy shows. Her artistic identity was heavily developed when she studied under master clown Philippe Gaulier in Paris as part of her National Arts Council residency, which was one of the main inspirations for *Forked*.

CO-PRODUCER – EDWARD CHOY

Edward is a Master's graduate from the National University of Singapore's (NUS) Theatre Studies Programme with 17 years of experience as an actor. He voices regularly on MediaCorp Radio's advertisements, and also lectures at NUS on a contract basis. His professional engagements include work as an Actor, Host, Model, Voice-Over Artist, and Corporate Trainer for MNCs and foreign governments.

DIRECTOR – CHEN YINGXUAN

Yingxuan is a theatre director, most recently directing *The Car* (2017) for Esplanade's Feed Your Imagination series. She often collaborates with Joel Tan, directing *Mosaic* for the Lit Up Festival (2014) and the M1 Singapore Fringe Festival (2015), and *Café* for the Twenty-Something Festival (2016), which was nominated for Best Script and Best Ensemble and listed as one of the favourite plays of 2016 by *The Business Times*. She also works with Checkpoint Theatre, as an understudy for *City Night Songs* (2012) and *Atomic Jaya* (2013) and as Assistant Director for *Normal* (2015, 2017).

DRAMATURG – JOEL TAN

Joel Tan is a playwright, director and performer, whose work crosses genres, styles, cultural contexts and theatre-making cultures, including poetry, contemporary drama, dance theatre, pantomime and musical theatre. Joel mentors young writers in playwriting, and has written for theatre makers such as Pangdemonium, WILD RICE, Tan Kheng Hua, The Actors' Tour for Singapore: Inside Out, The Finger Players and Checkpoint Theatre, where he is an Associate Artist. Joel also writes creative non-fiction, and his work can be read at *POSKOD.sg* and in *Esquire Singapore*.

SOUND DESIGNER – RYANN OTHNIEL SENG

Ryann is a music recording and mixing engineer as well as a theatrical sound designer. Some of the notable theatrical productions he has worked on include *Cloud* (Festival/Tokyo, Japan), *Café* by Joel Tan (The Twenty-Something Theatre Festival) and most recently, *You Are Here* (Kaala Utsavam). Ryann firmly believes that the art of theatrical sound design

stems from a strong technical foundation, and has a degree in audio production from Middlesex University. He focuses on creating beautiful technical pieces that integrate fully with other theatrical elements to create immersive experiences for audiences.

LIGHTING DESIGNER – TAI ZI FENG

Zi Feng has experience in various aspects of theatre-making, including acting (he received a Diploma in Theatre (Acting) from the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts), stage management, as well as set and lighting design. After receiving his Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Theatre Arts from the University of Essex in 2015, he has worked on the lighting and/or set design for prominent productions by Wild Rice, Toy Factory, SING Theatre, and Asylum Theatre, just to name a few.

PERFORMER – ETHEL YAP

Ethel is an alumnus of the National University of Singapore's Theatre Studies Programme (2011) and The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama (Masters in Musical Theatre, 2012). She has worked with theatre companies such as WILD RICE, Toy Factory, The Necessary Stage, Pangdemonium, The Theatre Practice and Glowtape Productions. In addition to her television and film credits, Ethel is also a singer-songwriter and was mentored under the Noise Music Mentorship programme (2015). You can find out more about her debut EP at [facebook.com/ethelyapsq](https://www.facebook.com/ethelyapsq).

PERFORMER – JAMIL SCHULZE

Jamil is a German-born Singaporean-raised actor. He recently graduated from the BA (Hons) Acting program at LASALLE College of the Arts, with stage credits including: *Swipe Right*; *Rough for Theatre I*; *Measure for Measure*; and *Revolutionary Model Play 2.0*. Offstage, Jamil fuels his passions by burying himself in a good read and doing his best to write one, while occasionally dabbling in drawing and painting. Jamil is currently working on a new piece titled *Sejarah-Ku* as part of Toy Factory's *The Wright Stuff*.

PERFORMER – JOANNA PILGRIM

Joanna received her BA in Performing Arts from Middlesex University London. After acting in the United Kingdom with a variety of directors and theatre companies, she moved to Singapore and founded her own company, Take A Bow, which provides speech and drama programmes, and corporate role play services. Joanna's previous acting works in Singapore include Mediacorp's *Fighting Spiders Season 2*, Singapore Repertory Theatre's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Dream Academy's *Broadway Beng Jiak Liu Lian* and the feature animation film *Sing To The Dawn*. She is also a voiceover artiste.

PERFORMER – CHANG TING WEI

Ting Wei graduated from the Intercultural Theatre Institute in 2015, after completing her Master's Degree in Acting at University of East London in 2011 and her Bachelor's Degree in Applied Theatre and Creative Drama at the National University of Tainan. She was involved in many art festivals in Taiwan, including hosting the Nan Ying Art Festival in 2009. In Singapore, Ting Wei has worked with Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay, Drama Box and Cake Theatrical Productions.