

Centre 42 presents  
**THE VAULT**

# 龍牙門 / LENG-GEH-MNG

16 JULY 2016 8PM  
CENTRE 42 BLACK BOX

## SYNOPSIS

After nearly two decades, Zelda Tatiana Ng revisits *Leng-Geh-Mng* in this Vault instalment, alongside some of the original cast members. Under Zelda's direction and treatment, *Leng-Geh-Mng* will be retold in the format of a radio play. The actors will read the original Mandarin text, with selected portions refreshed with translations into other Chinese dialects in an experiment with language.

## LENG-GEH-MNG 龍牙門

*Leng-Geh-Mng* ("Dragon's Tooth Gate") is a comedy which spoofs the conventions of pugilistic films. This play was written by playwrights Lee Shyh Jih and Lim Poh Poh. It was first staged in 1998 by Drama Box, and directed by its Artistic Director Kok Heng Leun.

Set in ancient China, the play follows Yue-Liang-Hong, a sneaky character who sells cosmetics to the concubines of the Imperial Court. He was framed by the Emperor and has to escape from the Imperial Officials ordered to terminate his life. Yue-Liang-Hong ends up at an inn full of highly-skilled martial artists, each harbouring vicious and selfish intentions. He then becomes the focus of everyone's villainous desires.

*Leng-Geh-Mng* was Drama Box's first production as a full-fledged, professional theatre company. Billed as Singapore's first martial arts theatre production, the play was staged at a cost of S\$80,000, twice that of normal productions. The 11-member cast also had to undergo five months of intensive martial arts training in preparation for the production.

Unlike conventional martial arts films, *Leng-Geh-Mng* has no clear hero. For that, Drama Box rated the production "R(A)" on their own accord, because they felt that the immoral characters and events in the play were only suitable for a mature audience.

On the 1998 production, Straits Times theatre critic Clarissa Oon wrote: "*Leng-Geh-Mng* is slick and fluent enough for followers of Singapore theatre to regard as good news of the eight-year-old group's shift from amateur to professional status."

### - UPCOMING AT CENTRE 42 -

#### AUG 17, 8PM | CORRIE TAN IN THE LIVING ROOM WITH ALFIAN SA'AT

Arts writer Corrie Tan sits down with Singaporean playwright Alfian Sa'at to chat about his life and work.  
Come join in the conversation!

#### AUG 20, 7-11PM | LATE-NIGHT TEXTING

Centre 42 celebrates a night of text-based works in small, bite-sized experiences! Choose from over 15 performances - short plays, poetry and improv theatre - taking place in and around the blue house.

If you would like to leave us some feedback or have questions to ask about tonight's performance-presentation, here are some ways to get in touch with us:

**EMAIL** [info@centre42.sg](mailto:info@centre42.sg)

**TWITTER** [twitter.com/Centre42](https://twitter.com/Centre42)

**FACEBOOK** [facebook.com/Centre42](https://facebook.com/Centre42)

- THE VAULT: LENG-GEH-MNG 龍牙門 IS SUPPORTED BY THE ARTS FUND -



**THE VAULT** revisits and remembers Singapore works dating back to our early theatre years, refreshes them through the responses of artists and collaborators, and retells them in a contemporary manner.

PRESENTED BY



# ABOUT THE ARTISTS



ZELDA TATIANA NG  
颜瑾

Zelda Tatiana graduated from the Theatre Training & Research Programme (currently known as Intercultural Theatre Institute) in Singapore in 2003. She has been working as a theatre practitioner for over 18 years in various aspects of theatre and with almost all major established local theatre companies. After spending five years overseas, she returned in 2009 with renewed interest in the Arts. Her recent involvement in the Arts includes Directing, Acting, Singing and Writing. She is currently exploring more areas and genres in the Arts and is interested in cross-genre/language/cultural/disciplinary works.



ALVIN CHIAM  
詹輝朕

Alvin Chiam has been actively involved in the Singapore theatre scene for more than ten years. He has been working for The Theatre Practice for six years, taking up many different roles in the theatre company, including an actor, a director and an acting coach. In 2007, Alvin was awarded the Arts Professional Development Grant from the National Arts Council Singapore (NAC) and went to Paris to develop his performing skills under the great theatre master Philippe Gaulier. In 2013, Alvin was awarded an NAC Arts scholarship and graduated with a Master Of Arts from Rose Bruford College of Theatre and Performance, United Kingdom.



GUAN JIN SEN  
关锦森

Jin Sen is a screen director and media practitioner. His works span TV, web and print. He first discovered his passion for drama in theatrical form, and has practised theatre full-time for some years before moving on to the screen. His favourite quote is "Art is a lie that tells the truth" by Picasso.



JACKIE LIU  
刘杰奇

From 1990 to 2001, Jackie acted in more than ten local productions, including *Leng-Geh-Mng* (Drama Box) and *1+1=3* (The Necessary Stage). He was a reporter for *Lian He Zao Bao* (Singapore Press Holdings) and a DJ at the Mandarin radio station 93.3FM. He was the Editor-in-Chief of *i-weekly* magazine (MediaCorp) from 1996 to 2016. Jackie is now a freelance DJ, writer and theater worker.



LI XIE  
林宝宝

Li Xie is a freelance theatre practitioner who performs, teaches, writes and directs. Her most memorable works include *The VaginaLogue*, *Little White Sailing Boat*, *House of Sins* and mockumentary newspaper theatre *Dua Dai Ji*. She has also produced and written radio plays for Capital Radio 95.8. After 13 years of research, Li Xie set up SOBX, the School of Biomechanics for Theatre. She received the National Arts Council's Young Artist Award in 2005 and won Best Director at the 2009 Straits Times Life! Theatre Awards.



RAY LEE  
李福樑

Ray is a practising dental surgeon. He made his stage debut in Toy Factory's *《我和春天有个约会》* in 1995. He has since performed in numerous stage productions with Drama Box, The Theatre Practice, and other theatre companies. Some of his past performances include *《终身大事》*, *《龙牙门》*, *《爱人同志》*, *《我在湖边等你99》*, *《九霄云外》*, *《爱情观自在》*, *《家》*, and *《郑和的后代》*. Ray has also worked in television and films such as *《七彩学堂》*, *《小孩不笨》*, *《铁男》*, *《真相》*, and *《幸福单人床》*. Ray was last seen on stage last year in The Finger Player's *《远角》* after having taken a break from the theatre scene for six years. He is looking forward to working in more productions in the near future.



RIC LIU  
刘晋旭

Ric is a NAC+École Philippe Gaulier Residency Award recipient. He received rave reviews for *Echo*, a monologue he wrote, directed and performed, and *The Nude*, which he directed and co-wrote. Ric has acted in *If There're Seasons*, *The Soldier & his Virtuous Wife*, *Liao Zhai Rocks!*, *Descendants of the Eunuch Admiral*, *The Story After Ah Q*, and *Lao Jiu the Musical*, to name a few. Besides being a theatre practitioner, Ric is also a singer, designer & mobile photographer (Instagram: @gogomonster). He also designed the multimedia elements in *11.Kuo Pao Kun Devised*, *11.Kuo Pao Kun Devised Again*, and *Wanderer-Seeker*.



TAN BENG TIAN  
陈鸣茵

Beng Tian was trained in graphic design, but in 1994, she left for Fujian, China, to learn traditional hand puppetry from the late renowned puppet master Li Bofen. She returned to Singapore and co-founded puppetry theatre company The Finger Players in 1996. Besides the company's productions, she has taken part in many important Singaporean works by other companies such as Drama Box, The Theatre Practice and TheatreWorks. She has also worked with overseas companies such as The Fantasy Puppet Theatre (Hong Kong) and Zuni Icosahedron (Hong Kong). Beng Tian received the JCCI Singapore Foundation Culture Award in 2005.



TAN WAN SZE  
陈宛诗

Wan Sze was part of The Finger Players' Artistic Ensemble from 2002 to 2004. Her acting credits with the company include *The Spirits Play*, *Turn By Turn We Turn*, *The Book of Living and Dying*, and *suitCASES*. She was part of the team that received the 2007 President Design Award for *0501* and Best Ensemble Acting at the 2005 Straits Times Life! Theatre Awards for *Furthest North Deepest South*. As a freelance theatre practitioner, Wan Sze has performed extensively with many theatre companies. Her stage credits include *National Language Class* (spell#7 & Buds Theatre Company); *Ignorland of its Time*, *Old Maid*, *HERstory*, *K* (DramaBox); and *Body X* (Li Xie, Danny Yeo & The Arts House).



YEO YANN YANN  
楊雁雁

Yann Yann is a familiar name in Singapore and Malaysia. She acted in a string of notable Singapore films such as *881*, *Singapore Dreaming*, *Love Matters*, and *Being Human*. On stage, she won Best Actress at the 2007 Straits Times Life! Theatre Awards for her role in *Thunderstorm* (The Theatre Practice). In Malaysia, she acted in various TV dramas, and was nominated twice at the Asian Television Awards. In 2013, she starred in the Cannes Camera d'Or winning film *ILO ILO*, for which she won the Best Supporting Actress award at the Golden Horse Awards and Asia Pacific Film Festival, and Best Actress award in India, Russia and Dubai.