

For immediate release

April 2014



SIFU Productions

Presents

Never Eat Too Much Before Rapture: May 2014 Edition



Kuala Lumpur, April – SIFU Productions, an up and coming local theatre production house is excited to present the latest edition of ***Never Eat Too Much Before Rapture*** (or **NETMBR**; Pronunciation: Net-Tem-Ber). NETMBR is back after the public preview staged in July 2013, with new faces, improved format and completely new plays.

“This is a show that will knock more than just your socks off!”

Featuring six young and capable actors consisting of Calvin Tan, Freddy Tan, Ho Lee Ching, Jeremy Ooi, Nur Zakuan and Safia Hanifah; this eclectic ensemble will attempt to perform 30 short plays in 60 minutes. To top that, the sequence of which piece comes next are determined by the audience!

All the plays are originally written, directed, and performed by the ensemble cast; some pieces may be funny, some may be sentimental, and some may even change the course of the show. NETMBR will be performed from a perspective of absolute honesty, meaning that at no point do the actors portray anything other than how they view the world through their eyes. Therefore, the actors are not attempting to convince the audience that they are anyone other than themselves (even if they may be playing someone’s grandmother).

Inspired by the Neo-Futurists Theatre Collective based in Chicago and New York, the NETMBR ensemble have devised their own show structure and mechanisms. They are eager to showcase this high-tempo experimental theatre experience and are confident that it would appeal to the local audience.

*An experimental theatre by SIFU Productions - **Never Eat Too Much Before Rapture: May 2014 Edition** runs for two weeks in Free Space @ Kakiseni, SSTwo Mall, from Thursday, 15 May through Sunday, 25 May. Tickets are priced at RM31 for adults and RM26 for students with up to RM6 roll-back discount at the door. Note that all admissions will be paid by cash and the final price will be determined via a “mini-game” at the door. visit www.facebook.com/NETMBR for more info.*

Issued by
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SHOW DETAILS

Show Title	Never Eat Too Much Before Rapture: May 2014 Edition
Presenter	SIFU Productions
Dates/Times	15 – 17 May, 22 – 24 May (Thursday – Saturday) @ 9:02:10pm 18 & 25 May (Sunday) @ 3:03:03 pm
Venue	Free Space @ Kakiseni, SSTwo Mall, Petaling Jaya.
Admission	Adults - RM31; students – RM26 with up to RM6 roll-back discount at the door. <i>(All admissions will be paid by cash and the final price will be determined via a “mini-game”; catch the show to find out more!)</i>
Reservation	Call 0173606110 (Freddy) or 0133949451 (Siti Farrah) Group booking discount available!!
Promotions	If we sell out that particular night, there will be supper for everyone!!
Facebook Page	http://www.facebook.com/NETMBR
Facebook Event	https://www.facebook.com/events/580860765342596/
Other Info	NETMBR will run for 60 minutes without an intermission. Doors open 10-15 minutes before every scheduled performance. Recommended for mature audiences only (nature of content, language, simulated violence), with costume changes on stage. There will be a briefing before and a Q&A session after every show.

About SIFU Productions

Founded by three friends who share the passion and love for theatre, **Siti** Farrah Abdullah, **Freddy** Tan & **Ui** Hua Cheah formed SIFU Theatre Productions in 2013. The company aims to produce quality artistic entertainment that involves and arouses the local community to develop appreciations in all aspects of theatre arts. Look out for more productions to be conceived by SIFU Productions in the near future!

THE CREDENTIALS

Executive Producer | **Siti Farrah Abdullah**

Rehearsal Process Facilitator | **Ui Hua**

Set, Costume, Prop Design | **Devised by ensemble**

Photography & Graphic Design | **Nicholas Chin**

Ensemble Cast | **Calvin Tan, Freddy Tan, Ho Lee Ching, Jeremy Ooi, Nur Zakuan, Safia Hanifah**

PROFILE: FACILITATOR

Cheah Ui Hua

"Chemical salesman by day, theater practitioner by night."

These are the least interesting words one can begin a sentence with, but it's true.

UiHua's foray into theater began with the INDICINELIVE! (2010, 2011) sketch comedy series. Some of his other engagements are CARTOON BY STEVE YOCKEY (2011), CORPORAL PUNISHMENT (2012, Actor & Co-writer), THE UNEXPECTED GUEST (2013), NEVER EAT TOO MUCH BEFORE RAPTURE (2013), and EUGENE IONESCO'S MACBETT (2013). His most memorable role to date is playing a dead body in CLUE, DOH (2011). Not moving for 90 minutes is a lot harder than it looks.

A hobby writer, UiHua has also recently transitioned to script-writing. These include entries to the Short+Sweet theater festival (2011, 2012, 2013), IT'S THE END OF THE WORLD NOW RUN SCREAMING (2012), and MA LIANG AND THE MAGIC PAINTBRUSH (2013, co-writer). UiHua also performs stand-up comedy on occasion.

PROFILES: ENSEMBLE CAST

Calvin Tan

After taking a year hiatus from the local performing arts scene, Calvin Tan is excited to be part of NETMBR. A recent finance graduate from The University of Queensland, Calvin has been involved in theatre since 2010, starting off as an ensemble member for klpac's Theatre for Young People (T4YP) programme. Calvin has since dabbled in other productions either as a performer or stage manager, and is glad that NETMBR gives him a go at directing and writing – areas that Calvin would love to hone his craft in. Notable productions include BIRDY (2011) by Naomi Wallace, INDICINELIVE! 3 & 4 (2011, 2012), KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN (2012) by Kander & Ebb, and THE SCARLET PIMPERNEL (2013) by Frank Wildhorn and Nan Knighton as part of the Ignatians Musical Society's 40th Anniversary Concert series in Brisbane, Australia.

Freddy Tan

First ventured into theatre as a stage manager in early 2010, Freddy has since been active both on and off stage, including producing, directing and scriptwriting. If you think he looks familiar, you've probably seen him in productions such as the INDICINELIVE! Series (2010 – 2012), AFTER JULIET (2010), CARTOON by Steve Yockey (2011), MALAYSIAN GIRLS THE MUSICAL (2011), SHORT + SWEET MALAYSIA MUSICAL & THEATRE (2010, 2011, 2012) and FANTASTIC MR FOX (2013). Freddy also directed and acted in *The Geong Xi is a Vamp* in SHORT + SWEET MALAYSIA MUSICAL 2012, where the production won a total of 7 awards including best overall production, best director and best musical direction. His other notable theatre involvements include CORPORAL PUNISHMENT (2012, Director), THE UNEXPECTED GUEST (2013, Director), and MIASMA (2013, Designer). As a video game magazine writer/editor by trade, Freddy is naturally "play"-ful.

Ho Lee Ching

Lee Ching pretty much knows what she likes or dislikes but when it comes to questions about who she is, she is left baffled. She is a TV series addict who is very attracted to things she cannot define. She wishes she had more than one life because a lifetime is insufficient to experience and achieve the many things she wants to do. She was part of klpac's Theatre for Young People (T4YP) programme in 2012 and was last seen in ROMEO & JULIET (2013) and MARRYING ME (2013). Being part of the NETMBR last year's public preview, she hopes this year's version will bring you onto another roller-coaster ride!

Ever since eight, normalcy eludes her because she suffers from Tourette Syndrome that is characterized by recurring involuntary movements such as motor and vocal tics. But when she performs she feels normal. For in the motions, the overt displays of her condition which mark her as different disappear, and she is free.

Jeremy Ooi

Born from the institution that is the public education system. Jeremy thought that maybe he will finally learn something useful for a change and dived head first into the creative industry. His theatre journey began where he spent most of his time backstage. It is only after 2 years of off-stage works that he auditioned for his first acting role. Started in 2010, and Jeremy has since performed in several productions, such as SHORT AND SWEET THEATRE (2010, 2011, 2013), AFTER JULIET (2010), CARTOON (2011), CORPORAL PUNISHMENT (2012), INDICINELIVE IV (2012), STAGS & HENS (2012), NEVER EAT TOO MUCH BEFORE RAPTURE PUBLIC PREVIEW (2013) and LUNGS (2014).

An animation and game enthusiast, he's held positions in producing 3D animation film and game development. He is also a part time Wizard.

Nur Zakuan

Having spent most of her childhood in rehearsal spaces either observing her mom at work or rehearsing herself, Nur is no stranger to the stage. As a child, all she ever did was dance and dabble in theatre, whilst the other kids hung out and did 'all the cool stuff'. After years of attempting a 'normal life', she gave up and returned to the stage in 2009 as a part of KLPac's Theatre for Young People (T4YP) ensemble, performed in ROSENCRANTZ & GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD (2009), HAMLET (2009), MUKABUKU (2009), and Suzue Toshiro's HOTARU/FIREFLIES (2010), directed by Doppo Narita. There were also attempts at physical theatre with I LOVED YOU ONCE, I LOVE YOU NOT (2009) and A GRIMM FAIRYTALE (2009). She was spotted again in a Kelvin Wong production of MACBETH (2013) and a dance collaboration with 'Rhythm In Bronze' at last year's KAKISENI FESTIVAL, after yet another attempt at 'normalcy', only to discover that as far as she tries to run, all roads still lead to Rome. And in this case, NETMBR.

Safia Hanifah

Safia holds a BA (Hons) in Musical Theatre from LASALLE College of the Arts under the leadership of Tony McGill and is a freelance actor-singer-dancer currently based in Kuala Lumpur. Productions under Lasalle include: THE BOYS FROM SYRACUSE (Luce), PICNIC (Mrs. Potts), WORKING (Rose Hoffman), THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE (Mrs. Flannery), STARTING HERE STARTING NOW, PEER GYNT and SWEET CHARITY.

Safia recently appeared as Deanna in Nick Choo's THE EDGE (2013). Other professional stage credits include: Ulla in THE PRODUCERS (2013), Norizan understudy in P. RAMLEE THE MUSICAL (2013), DANSING THRU BROADWAY (2013), THIS PLACEMENT (2012), PUTERI GUNUNG LEDANG (2009), ISMAIL THE LAST DAYS (2008) and MAK YONG TITIS SAKTI (2009).