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Beyond
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National Heritage Board
2018/2019 Annual Report



NATIONAL HERITAGE BOARD
ANNUAL REPORT 2018/2019

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Singapore Bicentennial From Singapore to Singaporean

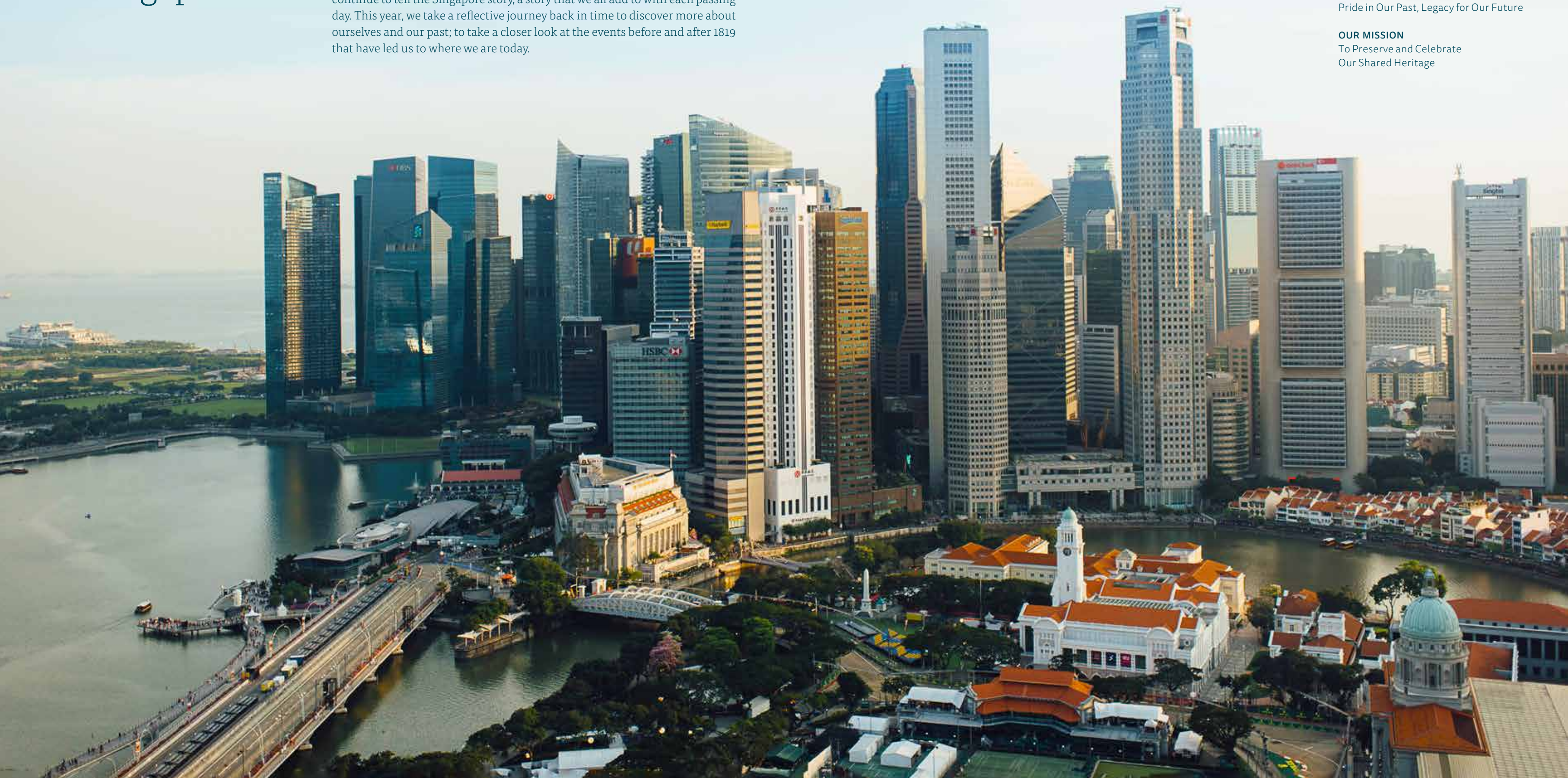
2019 marks 200 years since the founding of modern Singapore, a crucial turning point in our rich history.

But our journey did not start in 1819, and our story stretches much further into the past. As the custodians of Singapore's heritage, the National Heritage Board will continue to tell the Singapore story, a story that we all add to with each passing day. This year, we take a reflective journey back in time to discover more about ourselves and our past; to take a closer look at the events before and after 1819 that have led us to where we are today.



OUR VISION
Pride in Our Past, Legacy for Our Future

OUR MISSION
To Preserve and Celebrate
Our Shared Heritage



“...it is an honour to work with fellow Singaporeans who are passionate about making heritage a meaningful part of life in Singapore.”



This is my first message as Chairman of NHB, and I am privileged to helm the Board at such an exciting time. *Our SG Heritage Plan* is now in full swing and its long-term goals across four pillars — *Our Places, Our Cultures, Our Treasures* and *Our Communities* — will continue to guide our work over the next few years. Seeing through this plan and its initiatives will remain the priority of the Board and team at NHB.

2019 is also the year of Singapore's Bicentennial. It is an opportune time to reflect on our rich, multilayered past – so that our sense of history, our multicultural identity, and the values that underpin our shared heritage inform not just who we are, our understanding of how we came to be, but also how we go forward from here. As custodians of Singapore's heritage, we at NHB have the duty of telling these stories through the work we do, so that the lives of Singaporeans are enriched by our shared heritage, not just in our time but for generations to come.

When my friends ask about my new role at NHB, I always tell them it is an honour to work with fellow Singaporeans who are passionate about making heritage a meaningful part of life in Singapore. And it is wonderful to see not just the tremendous commitment of the team here at NHB, but also the growing community ownership and network of partners who actively pass on our shared heritage.

I would like to express my gratitude to Mr Ong Yew Huat for his seven years of service as Chairman of NHB. It is testament to his wisdom and leadership that he has put in place a thriving organisation; one that is passionate about its mission and focused on its vision. Together with the team at NHB, my fellow Board members and I will build on this strong foundation.

Finally, NHB's achievements would not be possible without our partners, patrons, docents, volunteers and staff. Your invaluable efforts go a long way towards instilling Pride in Our Past, and a Legacy for Our Future.

Ms YEOH CHEE YAN
Chairman
National Heritage Board

“Because Singapore’s heritage belongs to every Singaporean, it is crucial that we continue to make heritage more accessible and inclusive to all... The memories stirred and the conversations shared can be important boosters of self-esteem, and bulwarks against loneliness and social isolation, and I am glad that heritage can be a force for good in this way.”



More than a year has passed since we launched *Our SG Heritage Plan*, and what an eventful year it has been! I am happy to share that we have seen good progress of the plan, with one of the highlights being our submission of Hawker Culture in Singapore to UNESCO’s Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

I am very encouraged to see Singaporeans coming together to show their support for the bid. The UNESCO nomination is not just about our favourite hawkers and dishes; it presents Hawker Culture as a reflection of our multicultural society, with our hawker centres as “community dining rooms” where Singaporeans from all walks of life dine and interact daily.

Public feedback indicates that Singaporeans understand this, and the outpouring of pride and appreciation for this unique aspect of our culture has been very heartening. The results of the nomination will be announced end-2020, and we are counting on everyone to continue showing support for our beloved Hawker Culture.

Our museums and institutions continue to tell the Singapore story, and highlight our links to the region and the world. The Asian Civilisations Museum worked with the Guimet Museum in Paris to present the beauty of Angkor at *Angkor: Exploring Cambodia’s Sacred City*, and co-curated *Raffles in Southeast Asia: Revisiting the Scholar and Statesman* with the British Museum to commemorate our bicentennial.

I am also delighted that the National Museum of Singapore’s efforts in education have been recognised internationally. The museum-based learning programmes *Student Archivist Project* and *Artefactually Speaking* were both conferred the 2019 edition *Best Practice Award* by the International Council of Museums’ Committee for Education and Cultural Action. This is the fourth time NHB’s museums, institutions and divisions have been conferred the award. The consistent acknowledgement of our work by our peers around the world, alongside our collaborations with esteemed foreign institutions, show that we are part of a wider museum ecosystem, and allow us to shine on the global stage.

Working closely with the various communities in Singapore, our heritage institutions organised exhibitions that spotlighted their lesser-known stories. The Indian Heritage Centre’s *Chetti Melaka of the Straits* was co-created with the Chetti Melaka community, who came forward with stories of their families, and contributed items from their personal collections. For its *Between the Lines - The Chinese Cartoon Revolution* exhibition, the Sun Yat Sen Nanyang Memorial Hall partnered popular local illustrator Ah Guo and students from the Lianhe Zaobao Student Correspondents’ Club. The Malay Heritage Centre’s *Undangan ke Baitullah: Pilgrims’ Stories from the Malay World to Mākkah* exhibition featured stories from the Malay community and many items from Haji Abdul Halim bin Mohamed Amin, who generously loaned personal articles related to his former role as a pilgrim officer with the Islamic Religious Council Singapore.

Because Singapore’s heritage belongs to every Singaporean, it is crucial that we continue to make heritage more accessible and inclusive to all. The recently launched *Reminiscence Walks* is a *Silver Hubs* programme that empowers seniors to help other seniors through guided tours in the historic precincts of Balestier, Kampong Gelam and Little India. This is an example of how we endeavour to “future-proof” our institutions to meet the needs of an ageing population. The memories stirred and the conversations shared can be important boosters of self-esteem, and bulwarks against loneliness and social isolation, and I am glad that heritage can be a force for good in this way.

All that we have done, and are planning to do, would not be possible without the efforts of the people we have the pleasure of working with. I would like to thank my colleagues, Board members, stakeholders and partners for their unwavering support and commitment, as we continue to celebrate our shared heritage, and connect past, present and future generations of Singaporeans.

Ms CHANG HWEE NEE
Chief Executive Officer
National Heritage Board

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(As of 31 March 2019)





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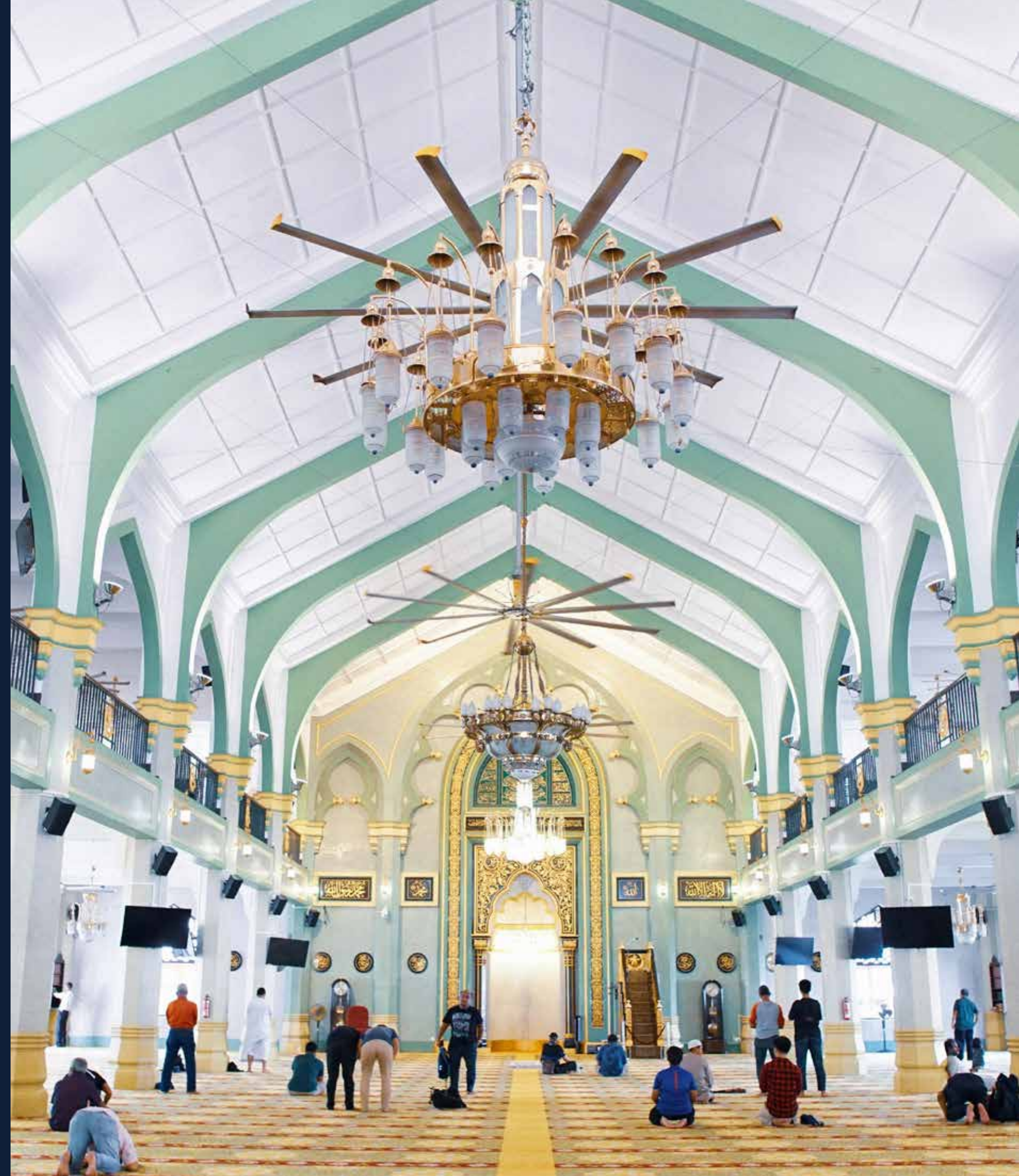
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Our Places /—

Our Places are important markers of our identity and tangible reminders of our shared heritage. They serve as a physical link to our past amidst our changing landscape, together with our shared memories and stories.

NHB continues to work closely with government agencies, partners and stakeholders to safeguard our tangible heritage. This is done through the preservation, restoration and care for our National Monuments, and rigorous research and documentation of our built heritage. Through our heritage trails and markers, we uncover untold stories behind the neighbourhoods and places in Singapore where we live, work and play. Together, these efforts ensure that future generations will have a greater appreciation of our shared history, through the places and spaces around us.

Facing page: The Sultan Mosque was gazetted as a National Monument in 1975.



National Monuments Fund

Singapore's National Monuments require care and attention to keep them in a condition befitting their status. It is for this reason that the *National Monuments Fund* was created – to provide co-funding for the restoration and maintenance of National Monuments owned and managed by non-profit or religious organisations.

In FY2018, \$2.1 million was awarded to 12 National Monuments. \$100,000 of this amount was used to co-fund maintenance works. This reflects the growing awareness amongst monument owners of the importance of conducting regular maintenance works to restrain building deterioration. The *Maintenance Fund* was also further expanded in scope to include support for more types of works, such as the maintenance of vegetation close to the monument.

Recipients of the fund for FY2018 included the Church of St Teresa, which was awarded close to \$1.35m for its restoration and maintenance works. These works included structural repair and strengthening, and the restoration of its roof and ceiling, and timber windows and doors. Sri Srinivasa Perumal Temple was awarded close to \$90,000 for its sculptural restoration works for the Maha Samprokshanam Consecration Ceremony, including the repair of its inner sanctums and replacement of chipped granite flooring.

Lian Shan Shuang Lin Monastery was gazetted as a National Monument in 1980.



Refreshed Bukit Timah
Heritage Trail

The *Bukit Timah Heritage Trail* was refreshed in May 2018, with community contributions featuring prominently in the updated content. New findings presented include the presence of kampongs and various local communities that have existed in the Bukit Timah area since the 1900s. These include Kampong Tempe (formerly located along Coronation Road), named after the fermented soybean cake known as *tempe*, as a number of families living there produced the delicacy; and Kampong Quarry, which was named after the nearby Hindhede Quarry that was established in 1922 by Danish engineer Jens Hindhede.



Geylang Serai Heritage Gallery

The Geylang Serai Heritage Gallery traces the growth of the precinct from an outlying settler community in the 19th century, to the suburban residential and business precinct it is today. Developed and managed by NHB, in partnership with People's Association and Malay Heritage Foundation, the community gallery also features the experiences and memories of past and present residents, as well as others who have connections to Geylang Serai. These stories are interwoven with thematic displays of 70 artefacts, objects and archival images, many of which are contributed by the community, or are on loan from the Kampong Ubi Community Centre Malay Museum.

Refresh of Istana Heritage Gallery

The Istana Heritage Gallery sees its display of state gifts changed at least once a year. With Singapore chairing ASEAN in 2018, the focus was on gifts presented by ASEAN leaders. 2019 will see the gallery's panel content refreshed to feature President Halimah Yacob's initiatives since she assumed office. As 2019 marks the Singapore Bicentennial, six state gifts from visits by leaders from the United Kingdom will be exhibited, along with selected gifts from Commonwealth leaders.

Tangible Heritage Inventory

A Tangible Heritage Inventory is available on [Roots.sg](https://www.roots.sg), which shares information on our 72 National Monuments, 100 marked historic sites, and various heritage trails and buildings; more will be added on progressively to raise greater awareness and appreciation of our built heritage.

Refreshed Balestier Heritage Trail

Launched in November 2018, the refreshed *Balestier Heritage Trail* builds upon the original trail to explore the sides lanes of Balestier Road, uncovering lesser-known sites such as Tan Tock Seng Hospital's former pavilion wards and former nurses' quarters (now Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine). Other new sites include the Whampoa Makan Place and former Rayman Estate, and the former School Dental Clinic at Pegu Road.



NHB'S 18th Heritage Trail — Orchard Heritage Trail

Launched in August 2018, the *Orchard Heritage Trail* charts how the Orchard area developed to become the heart of Singapore's tourism and retail scene through its iconic landmarks, and tales of the communities that lived and

worked there over the years. Many firsts for Singapore happened in the area, including Singapore's first supermarket, Cold Storage, which remains at its original location at Centrepont Shopping Centre, and the first public swimming pool at YMCA. The trail includes six National Monuments and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

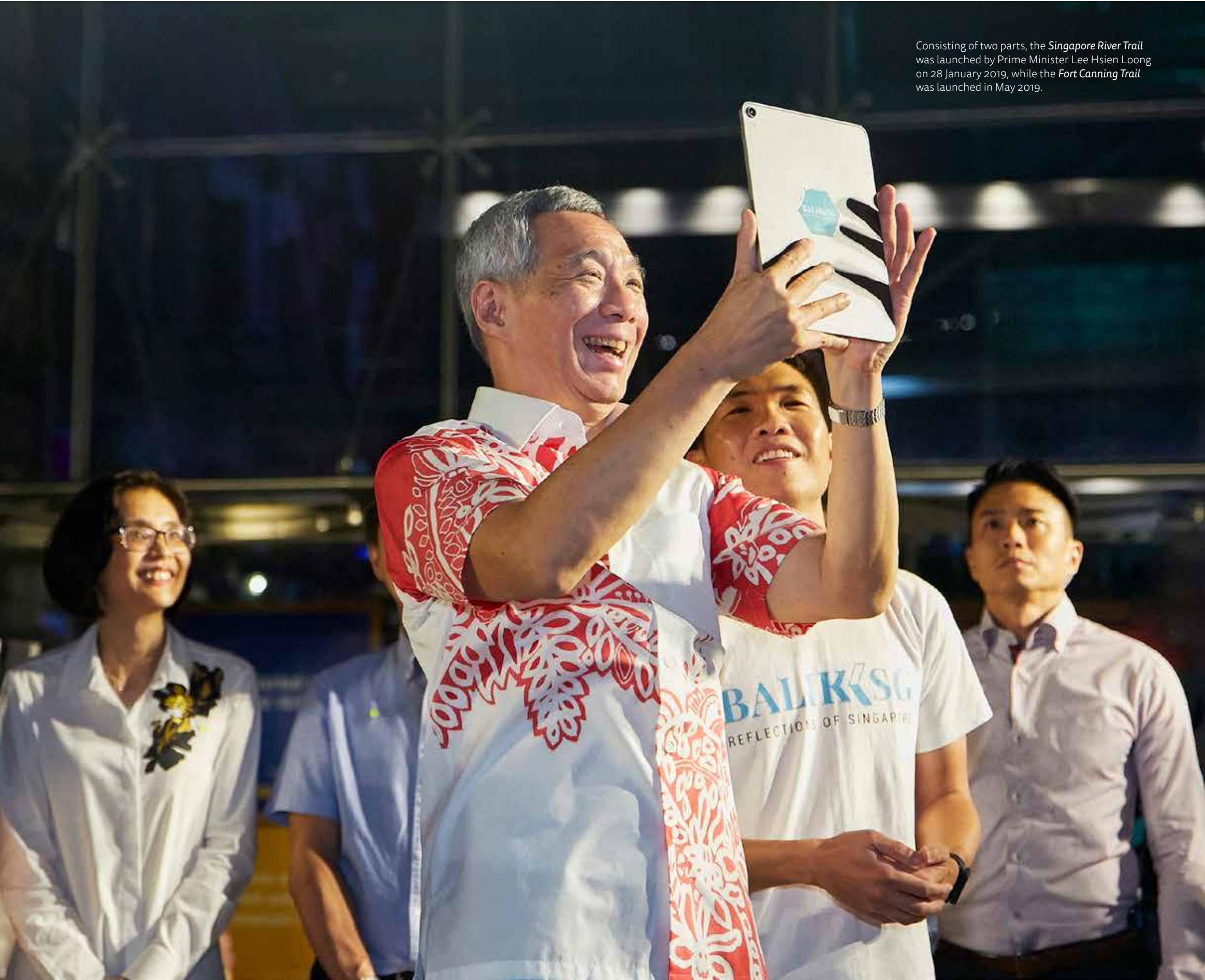
**BALIKSG: Reflections of Singapore —
NHB's First Augmented Reality Trail**

BALIKSG is a new augmented reality trail, presented by NHB and the National Parks Board as part of the Singapore Bicentennial Commemoration, that brings visitors on an immersive journey along the Singapore River and around Fort Canning Hill. Through a mobile app, the trail invites visitors to experience significant events and places in our history, such as the signing of the 1819 treaty at the Padang, and Fort Canning when it was known as Bukit Larangan and Government Hill. BALIKSG projects our past onto our present using augmented reality, showing how far we have progressed, from Singapore to Singaporean.



Heritage Research Grant

NHB, through the *Heritage Research Grant*, supports heritage-related research and/or technology-based projects by institutes of higher learning (IHLs), think tanks, heritage non-governmental organisations (NGOs), academics and researchers for the documentation and preservation of Singapore's heritage. One of the projects that benefited from the grant scheme was *Nine Emperor Gods Festival in Singapore: History, Rituals, Institutions and Networks*, led by Dr Koh Keng We and his team from the Nanyang Technological University, which examines the festival's relation to Singapore's maritime heritage and the Singapore Chinese community's close attachment to the sea.



Consisting of two parts, the *Singapore River Trail* was launched by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong on 28 January 2019, while the *Fort Canning Trail* was launched in May 2019.

Our Cultures /—

Singapore is a multicultural society. Home to a wealth of ethnicities, traditions and religions; our diversity is our strength. Our unique cultures – our intangible cultural heritage – are very much a part of our everyday lives, and they form the basis of our Singaporean identity.

To keep *Our Cultures* alive, we must continue to safeguard and promote the transmission of our intangible cultural heritage. NHB spearheads various efforts together with our partners, including the robust research and documentation of cultural practices, trades and traditional knowledge, to ensure that these will be passed on from one generation to another.





Nomination of Hawker Culture for the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity

Hawker Culture is an integral part of everyday Singapore life, and a reflection of our multicultural society.

Following Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong's announcement of the intention to nominate Hawker Culture in Singapore for inscription onto the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in August 2018, Singapore officially submitted the nomination documents in March 2019.

The nomination bid is co-driven by NHB, the National Environment Agency and the Federation of Merchants' Associations, Singapore, with input from hawkers, academics, community partners, non-governmental organisations and other Government agencies. It has garnered widespread support from fellow Singaporeans and the hawker community through the *Our SG Hawker Culture* travelling exhibition, mobile pledge stations, website, social media, letters of support, as well as projects by schools, community groups and private organisations. The results of the nomination will be announced by the end of 2020.



Photo: Terence Tan Peng Hor, Contestant of #OurHawkerCulture Photography Contest 2019



HERITAGE INSTITUTIONS FESTIVALS

Pongal Celebrations 2019

15 to 20 January 2018

The Indian Heritage Centre (IHC) collaborated with the Little India Shopkeepers & Heritage Association for the *Pongal Heritage Carnival*. Interactive educational booths set up in Little India, along with programmes such as interactive folk dance sessions, *pulli kolam*, and cow puppet making, showcased the significance of the Indian harvest festival.

Indian Heritage Centre Culturefest 2018

6 to 16 September 2018

IHC CultureFest 2018 was held in conjunction with the *Chetti Melaka of the Straits – Rediscovering Peranakan Indian Communities* special exhibition. Themed “Uniquely Chetti”, the programmes drew inspiration from the exhibition and showcased various aspects of Chetti Melaka heritage, including Chetti history, music, dance, cuisine, fashion and craft traditions. The opening show of the festival, *The Birth of a Chetti Melaka*, was a theatrical presentation of the Chetti Melaka community’s story by members of the Peranakan Indian (Chitty Melaka) Association Singapore. *IHC CultureFest 2019* also featured other performances unique to the community, including *Tarian Payung* and *Joget*.

Deepavali Celebrations 2018

13 October to 6 November 2018

The IHC Deepavali Open House seeks to enhance the vibrancy of the Little India precinct, and promote greater public awareness and appreciation of Deepavali.

For 2018, IHC collaborated with partners to organise programmes such as yoga sessions, heritage trails, mural trails, guided tours, dramatised tours, storytelling sessions, interactive performances, as well as fringe activities such as *rangoli* art, oil lamp painting and traditional games. These programmes provided an engaging way for visitors to experience Deepavali customs and traditions.



HERITAGE INSTITUTIONS FESTIVALS

Hari Raya Open House 2018

23 June 2018

A signature event of the Malay Heritage Centre (MHC), the *Hari Raya Open House* featured programmes that allowed visitors to discover and experience customs and traditions practised during Hari Raya. Children were treated to a Hari Raya themed performance by Didi & Friends during the day, and celebrations stretched into the evening with an array of performances from MHC's artist incubation groups. Former Kampong Gelam residents were invited to set up food stalls with offerings from family recipes, which were once sold at Kampong Kaji, now known as Bussorah Street.

Malay Culturefest 2018

11 to 28 October 2018

MHC's annual *Malay CultureFest* presented a myriad of activities, including newly commissioned performances, talks and workshops. Complementing the *Undangan ke Baitullah: Pilgrims' Stories from the Malay World to Makkah* special exhibition, the festival was anchored around the Hajj and other expressions of faith and devotion found throughout the Nusantara, or Malay Archipelago. The cultural extravaganza provided visitors of all ages with an intimate understanding of the many expressions of faith in the Malay world.



Researcher Khalid Buona sharing with President Halimah Yacob about some of the artefacts relating to the global Hajj industry and shipping routes on display at the *Undangan ke Baitullah: Pilgrims' Stories from the Malay World to Makkah* exhibition, which included a number of archival images from the Maritime Museum Rotterdam and notable loans from museums overseas.





HERITAGE INSTITUTIONS FESTIVALS

Wan Qing Dumpling Festival

16 to 17 June 2018

The Sun Yat Sen Nanyang Memorial Hall's (SYSNMH) *Wan Qing Dumpling Festival* featured a wide variety of programmes which sought to promote Singapore's intangible cultural heritage through activities such as dumpling making, storytelling, talks on the traditional hobby of betta fish rearing, kite making and fan painting.

Wan Qing Mid-Autumn Festival

22 to 23 September 2018

SYSNMH kicked off their mid-autumn festival celebrations by unveiling Singapore's largest mooncake, which weighed approximately 450 kg! The festival also featured a lantern installation which was inspired by the rich and diverse cultures of ASEAN, to celebrate Singapore's chairmanship of ASEAN in 2018. The special weekend programme included cultural performances, mooncake and lantern making workshops, and other activities such as calligraphy, tea tasting and face painting.

Wan Qing Culturefest

3 to 11 November 2018

SYSNMH's eighth edition of the annual *Wan Qing CultureFest* was staged together with the special exhibition *Between the Lines – The Chinese Cartoon Revolution*. The nine-day festival sought to promote the intangible cultural heritage of the Chinese community in Singapore through interactive showcases that featured wushu, traditional Chinese medicine and Chinese tea culture.



Our Treasures /—

Our museums, heritage institutions, and the National Collection within them are *Our Treasures*. They represent our rich and diverse heritage, which anchors our Singaporean identity, and also demonstrates the historical and cultural links we share with other nations. They serve as physical reminders of our journey, and they will play a vital role in helping us navigate a changing world in the future.

Facing page: Merlin Pillay sharing some Chetti Melaka recipes with President Halimah Yacob and Mr Baey Yam Keng, Senior Parliamentary Secretary for Culture, Community and Youth.



ASIAN CIVILISATIONS MUSEUM
Raffles in Southeast Asia:
Revisiting the Scholar and Statesman
1 February 2019 to 28 April 2019

The Asian Civilisations Museum (ACM) commemorated the Singapore Bicentennial by presenting a critical and compelling take on Raffles as a scholar and statesman in Southeast Asia. Co-curated by ACM and the British Museum, this exhibition presented a complex, multilayered picture of Raffles, demystifying the one-dimensional “founder figure” known to most Singaporeans.

In keeping with ACM’s mission to explore encounters and connections between cultures, the exhibition spotlighted the rich artistic and cultural heritage of Java and the Malay world, disrupted by Raffles and the British. The exhibition featured some 240 objects, including sculptures, architectural and natural history drawings, *wayang* puppets and masks, *gamelan*, *keris*, and the royal regalia of Indonesian sultans



Ms Grace Fu, Minister for Culture, Community and Youth at the *Raffles in Southeast Asia: Revisiting The Scholar and Statesman* exhibition launch.



ASIAN CIVILISATIONS MUSEUM
Angkor: Exploring Cambodia’s Sacred City.
Masterpieces of the Musée national des arts
asiatiques – Guimet
8 April 2018 to 29 July 2018

Angkor: Exploring Cambodia’s Sacred City. Masterpieces of the Musée national des arts asiatiques – Guimet displayed over 140 rare Khmer sculptures, watercolours, drawings, photographs, and historical memorabilia that tell the story of the French encounter with Angkor and its sensational emergence onto the international stage. This exhibition was presented in collaboration with the Guimet Museum in Paris, and took its visitors on a journey into the civilisation of Angkor, which left an artistic legacy that lives on most spectacularly in its architecture and sculpture. The exhibition was complemented by contemporary sculptures by renowned Cambodian artist Sopheap Pich.



ASIAN CIVILISATIONS MUSEUM
Southeast Asia in the World
From 1 December 2018

ACM presented *Southeast Asia in the World* with the opening of three new permanent galleries: Ancestors & Rituals, Christian Art, and Islamic Art. The galleries complete the revamp of Level 2, which carries the theme “Faith and Belief”. With the opening of these galleries – especially Ancestors & Rituals – the display of Southeast Asian art has greatly increased at the museum.

Visitors to the Ancestors & Rituals gallery can experience the beauty and diversity of objects from many communities in island and mainland Southeast Asia. The Christian Art gallery explores artworks made in or for Asia, with many revealing cross-cultural exchanges between East and West. This is the only gallery in the world that focuses on Christian art in Asia. The Islamic Art gallery surveys the wealth of artistic traditions arising from the eastwards expansion of Islam, and features many Southeast Asian Islamic objects.





NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SINGAPORE

The More We Get Together:
Singapore's Playgrounds 1930 – 2030
20 April 2018 to 30 September 2018

From the iconic dragon playgrounds of the 1970s to today's modern, inclusive and community-built versions, playgrounds have been a part of our collective experience of growing up in Singapore. At this special interactive exhibition presented in collaboration with the Housing & Development Board, Singaporeans had the opportunity to relive those memories and think about our city's future playgrounds.

Covering a period of 100 years, the exhibition explored the evolving role and development of playgrounds through the past and present, from the first community-initiated playgrounds to the iconic mosaic playgrounds of the 1970s, and today's integrated community spaces.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SINGAPORE

DigiMuse
 The *DigiMuse* initiative is aimed at building a vibrant cultural sector that is invested in digital innovation, one that seeks to engage with the wider digital-technology industry to co-create digital projects, and to encourage creative experimentation in cultural spaces.

Digital Conversations: New Technologies
23 August 2018

In conjunction with *The Digital Showcase*, a panel of international experts shared their views in this series of talks and workshops, covering a cross section of digital trends and applications related to museology, storytelling, and community engagement.

DigiMuse Presents
4 to 26 August 2018 & 18 January to 17 February 2019
 This exhibition unveiled the awarded projects from the National Museum of Singapore's inaugural open call, which invited submissions for innovative concepts to enhance the visitor experience. Through a wide range of prototype projects, visitors discovered hidden stories about Singapore's history and learned more about the fascinating artefacts on display. These included new experiences in immersive reality, dynamic conversations enabled by artificial intelligence, and more.





NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SINGAPORE

**In An Instant: Polaroid at the Intersection
of Art and Technology**
10 November 2018 to 31 March 2019

In an age where smartphones give us easy access to a range of services, and allow us to capture anything in an instant, the culture of “now” has never been so prevalent. Instant photos are not new, however, and can be traced back to the late 1940s, when Edwin Land first introduced the Polaroid camera to the world. Allowing people to share their pictures with a click of the shutter – memorialising a moment in a matter of seconds – Polaroid is arguably the predecessor of social media. Through a wide range of Polaroid artworks and artefacts, the exhibition offered insight into the story of Polaroid photography, while exploring the impact of instant photography and the current social phenomenon of instantaneity.



NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SINGAPORE

Magic & Menace
From 23 July 2018
(Goh Seng Choo Gallery Refresh 2018)

The Goh Seng Choo Gallery was refreshed with a new *Magic & Menace* theme, which explores the world of magic and supernatural beliefs practised by traditional Southeast Asian societies. In this immersive experience, visitors can engage in a multisensory discovery of plants and animals prized by traditional healers, and learn how they are used for their curative powers or their symbolic or “magical” properties.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SINGAPORE

Unhomed Belongings
12 January 2019 to 24 February 2019

Unhomed Belongings presented artworks by two creative minds, Lucy Liu from the United States and Shubigi Rao from Singapore. The artists, who had never met in person before, developed into “visual penfriends” through an exploration of their respective works.

Both Liu and Rao share an interest in examining and dissecting cultures, histories, identities and relationships through their works, and are drawn to the repurposing of found objects in their art. The virtual dialogue between the two was presented for the first time at the National Museum in Singapore in January 2019 as part of *Singapore Art Week 2019*. In *Unhomed Belongings*, the artworks by both Liu and Rao are in fluid conversation. Through their delicate and deliberate craftwork, Liu and Rao transformed the ordinary into the conceptual, and the salvaged into the sublime.

THE PERANAKAN MUSEUM
Amek Gambar: Peranakans and Photography
5 May 2018 to 24 March 2019

This exhibition covered more than a century and a half of photography, tracing the emergence, adoption, and evolution of photography in Southeast Asia through the lens of the Peranakan community. With over 200 photographs on display, the exhibition showcased some of the earliest photographs in Singapore, as well as studio and amateur photographs of Peranakans across Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Myanmar. This exhibition was made possible by a generous donation to the Peranakan Museum of more than 2,500 photographs by Mr and Mrs Lee Kip Lee.





SINGAPORE PHILATELIC MUSEUM

You've Got Mail!

11 April 2018 to 17 March 2019

This two-part exhibition reignited fond memories of an era when pen and paper, letter-writing, and the postal service played a pivotal role in bringing people together.

The first segment, *Art on Envelope: Send Your Love the Write Way*, featured 200 award-winning, beautifully handcrafted envelopes from the Washington Calligraphers Guild's annual *Graceful Envelope Contest*

(with entries from between 2002 and 2016). These illustrated the beauty of letters and creative envelopes, and were on display for the first time in Singapore.

The second segment, *Seeing Is Believing! Unusual Stamps*, illustrated how innovative stamp design and printing technology, coupled with a dose of creativity, have transformed the humble postage stamp from its familiar square or rectangular gummed paper look, to today's plethora of stamp issues that engage all our senses and reflect the unique heritage and culture of the issuing country.



SINGAPORE PHILATELIC MUSEUM

The Little Prince: Behind the Story

8 June 2018 to 17 March 2019

Celebrating the 75th anniversary of the well-loved French classic "The Little Prince" and the life of its author, Antoine de Saint-Exupéry (1900 – 1944), *The Little Prince: Behind the Story* exhibition provided a fresh lens through which to experience the book, bolstered by rare philatelic materials and artefacts, some of which have never been exhibited outside of France before.

The exhibition featured more than 250 exhibits, including personal items and hand-drawn illustrations of the author, rare airmail covers that were carried by Saint-Exupéry when he was a commercial aviator in South America in the late 1920s, as well as tactile sculptures that provided visitors, including the visually impaired, the unique experience of exploring the story by touch.



MALAY HERITAGE CENTRE

Undangan Ke Baitullah: Pilgrims' Stories
from the Malay World To Makkah
12 October 2018 to 23 June 2019

In recognition of Kampong Gelam as an important port town for pilgrims, and their first stop in preparation for the Hajj, the Malay Heritage Centre (MHC) presented a new special exhibition titled *Undangan ke Baitullah: Pilgrims' Stories from the Malay World to Makkah*. The exhibition provided a rarely told Southeast Asian perspective of the Hajj, and allowed visitors to learn more about this millennia-long tradition through personal accounts of pilgrims who have undertaken this spiritual journey.

It delved into the significance of Kampong Gelam as an important port town, where Muslims from all over the Malay Archipelago would congregate to prepare for the steamship passage to Makkah in the late 19th to mid-20th centuries. The exhibition also showcased archival materials and artefacts from local and overseas collections from the Netherlands, Indonesia and Malaysia, many of which were displayed in Singapore for the first time.

INDIAN HERITAGE CENTRE

Chetti Melaka Of The Straits –
Rediscovering Peranakan Indian Communities
7 September 2018 to 5 May 2019

The Indian Heritage Centre (IHC) collaborated with the Peranakan Indian (Chitty Melaka) Association Singapore to present *Chetti Melaka of the Straits – Rediscovering Peranakan Indian Communities*, the first of IHC's community co-created exhibitions.

The Chetti Melaka (or Chitty Melaka) are descendants of Tamil traders who settled in Melaka during the reign of the Melaka Sultanate (15th to 16th centuries) and married local women of Malay and Chinese descent. Predominantly Hindu of the Saivite denomination, the community speaks a language, Chetti Creole, that combines Tamil, Malay, and Chinese dialects; wear traditional outfits that reflect Javanese, Bugis, Acehnese, Batak and Tamil fashions; and have a cuisine that marries Indian, Malay, and Peranakan Chinese culinary styles. They trace their roots to Kampung Chitty in Gajah Berang, Melaka, and it is estimated that there are 5000 Chettis in Singapore.



President Halimah Yacob at a tour of *Undangan ke Baitullah: Pilgrims' Stories from the Malay World to Makkah*, led by curator Suhaili Bte Osman during the special exhibition's launch.



SUN YAT SEN NANYANG MEMORIAL HALL

Between The Lines – The Chinese Cartoon Revolution
3 November 2018 to 7 July 2019

Co-presented by the Sun Yat Sen Nanyang Memorial Hall (SYSNMH) and the Memorial Museum of 1911 Revolution in Guangzhou, this special exhibition examined the links between the 1911 Revolution in China and the emergence of Chinese cartoons in Singapore. Through close to 150 Chinese cartoons, as well as related artefacts and images from Singapore and China from between the late 19th century and the first half of the 20th century, the exhibition traced the history and development of local Chinese cartoons.

This period is significant to the heritage of the Singaporean Chinese community; it was when early Chinese settlers made their way to Singapore to build their homes here. It also marked a tumultuous political period in China, which was then regarded as a homeland they were still deeply connected to. Facing these uncertainties, Chinese cartoons became a medium through which these settlers were updated about events in China; an avenue for them to reminisce and commiserate with their community back in their hometowns; and later as a means through which they expressed themselves.



**TRAVELLING EXHIBITIONS
BY THE HERITAGE INSTITUTIONS**

**Pioneering Rural Settlements:
The Legacy of Lim Nee Soon**
1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

Chinese pioneer Lim Nee Soon's early life, education, family and business enterprises were explored in this travelling exhibition. Curated by SYSNMH and students from River Valley High School, it focused on the pioneer's numerous contributions which left a lasting impact on Singapore.

Dr. Lim Boon Keng: His Life & Legacy
1 April 2018 to 31 October 2018

This travelling exhibition was a collaboration between SYSNMH and students from Singapore Chinese Girls' School. It shared the story of Dr Lim Boon Keng, his relationship with Dr Sun Yat Sen and other revolutionaries, and his contributions to Singapore and the Nanyang community.

**The More We Get Together:
Festivals and Festivities in Singapore**
14 May 2018 to 27 December 2018

A collaboration between SYSNMH, Chung Cheng High School (Main) and River Valley High School, this exhibition showcased how Singaporeans of different races and religions celebrate their respective festivals, and highlighted the common threads found in them.

Early Chinese Newspapers
In Singapore: 1881 – 1942

6 August 2018 to 10 February 2019

This travelling exhibition by SYSNMH showcased the history and development of Chinese newspapers in Singapore from the early 1880s to 1942. These Chinese newspapers played a major role in connecting the overseas Chinese community in Southeast Asia to developments in China. The exhibition also featured prominent individuals who shaped both the newspaper and early printing industries in Singapore.

Revisiting Indian Traditions in Singapore

IHC's travelling exhibition *Revisiting Indian Traditions in Singapore* explored various traditional Indian practices in Singapore across different themes of traditional crafts, trades and games. It looked at how these were traditionally practised in the past, and how they have evolved today.

Malay Pioneer Series: Women In Action
1 May 2018 to 2 November 2018

Set between the late 1920s and 1970s, this travelling exhibition presented by MHC looked at the history of the Malay women's movement. It featured political rallies, beauty pageants and pulp magazines of the period, which allowed ideas for female emancipation to take hold amidst transformations in local society, and developments of post-war Malayan politics.



Students from Chung Cheng High School (Main) conducted a guided tour for Mr Baey Yam Keng, Senior Parliamentary Secretary for Culture, Community and Youth during the launch of the travelling exhibition *Passion & Knowledge: Singapore Chinese Pioneers in Education*.





INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

As the world grows more interconnected, our relationships with our international partners are critical to our aspirations of being a world-class heritage organisation. By developing long-term, mutually beneficial partnerships with reputable international counterparts, NHB will be connected to more resources, expertise and collections, and can share our heritage with the international community, contributing to the diverse cultures of the world.

NHB–State Administration of Cultural Heritage Memorandum Of Understanding 8 April 2018

As part of NHB’s efforts to deepen heritage collaboration with China, NHB signed a five-year memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the State Administration of Cultural Heritage (SACH). The MOU was signed between NHB Chief Executive Chang Hwee Nee and SACH Director Liu Yuzhu, with Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and Premier Li Keqiang as witnesses, and paves the way for deepened cultural cooperation and stronger people-to-people connections between NHB and SACH.

The MOU allows for collaboration in areas such as exhibition and loan exchanges; the exchange of information relating to collections management and conservation; curatorial and conservation staff exchanges; research and publications; and retail opportunities.

ICOM Japan International Museum Day Symposium 19 May 2018

Mr Alvin Tan, Assistant Chief Executive (Policy and Community) of NHB, delivered a keynote speech titled *Conjoined Community Museums: Case Studies from Singapore* at the International Museum Day Symposium in Osaka, Japan, which was themed “Hyperconnected Museums: New Approaches, New Publics”.

In his speech, Mr Tan shared about Singapore’s model of community collaboration in the museum sector through case studies of MHC and IHC, expounding on how both institutions have worked with their respective communities to co-fund the development and operating budgets of the institutions, and also to co-curate and co-develop exhibitions to reach out to new audiences.

The event served to raise awareness that museums are an important means of cultural exchange and enrichment of cultures, and contributed to the development of mutual understanding and cooperation between NHB and Japan’s museum sector.



INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

ICOM Singapore Symposium
9 October 2018

NHB organised its first ICOM Singapore Symposium at ACM, titled *The Changing Roles of Museums: New Museums for a New Age*. The symposium saw the sharing of thoughts and experiences on the definition of museums in the 21st century – a topic that is gaining traction in the international museum community due to ICOM’s ongoing review of its definition of museums.

The symposium featured renowned international speakers from the ICOM Standing Committee for Museum Definition, Prospects and Potentials, ICOM Australia and ICOM Japan, along with local speakers and moderators from museums in Singapore. It also served as a useful platform for the local museum community to contribute to the global discourse on the role that museums play today.



Intangible Cultural Heritage Symposium 2018
29 to 30 October 2018

Titled *Intangible Cultural Heritage in Cities: Communities, Connections and Challenges*, the inaugural Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) Symposium brought together international, regional and local experts, as well as stakeholders for a dialogue on the role of ICH in cities. The symposium also explored the myriad processes, networks and challenges surrounding the practice and safeguarding of ICH in selected cities.

The event allowed NHB to deepen our engagement with UNESCO, and provided a platform for capability-building and knowledge sharing on the approaches to documenting and safeguarding ICH. A total of 138 experts, administrators and practitioners from the ICH sector participated in the event. A second iteration of the symposium is planned for 2019 to continue supporting dialogue and knowledge exchange within the ICH community in Singapore.

NHB–University Of Melbourne MOU
6 December 2018

To continue deepening heritage collaboration with Australia, NHB signed a three-year MOU with the University of Melbourne (UoM) in a ceremony alongside the annual Culture Academy Conference. The MOU was signed by Dr Meredith Martin, Associate Director (Cultural and Public Engagement) of UoM and Ms Jennifer Chan, Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Development) of NHB, and witnessed by Ms Sim Ann, Senior Minister of State for Culture, Community and Youth. The MOU is the first agreement signed between NHB and an institution of higher learning. Under the agreement, both sides will seek to enhance collaboration and strengthen capability development between Singapore and Australia in the fields of art, heritage and culture.



Signing of the NHB-UoM MOU by Ms Jennifer Chan, Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Development) of NHB and Dr Meredith Martin, Associate Director (Cultural and Public Engagement) of UoM, witnessed by Ms Sim Ann, Senior Minister of State for Culture, Community and Youth.



Ms Grace Fu, Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, at the ICH Symposium 2018.

HERITAGE CONSERVATION CENTRE

The Heritage Conservation Centre (HCC) is the repository and conservation facility for the management and preservation of Singapore's National Collection. HCC is at the heart of NHB's expertise in preventive and interventive conservation, and supports NHB's museums and institutions for exhibitions and artefact rotations. For 2018, these included ACM's three new galleries, *Amek Gambar* at the Peranakan Museum, *Chetti Melaka of the Straits – Rediscovering Peranakan Indian Communities* at IHC, as well as the National Gallery Singapore's rotations. For the Singapore Bicentennial in 2019, HCC worked on various major exhibitions such as *Raffles in Southeast Asia: Revisiting The Scholar and Statesman* at ACM and *Food Packaging* at the National Museum of Singapore.

International Collaborations

In December 2018, HCC embarked on the finalisation of the second phase of the agreement with the Shaanxi Institute for the Preservation of Cultural Heritage and Shaanxi Provincial Cultural Heritage Administration. Progress updates of the ongoing conservation projects highlighted broad areas of co-operation in exhibitions and preservation. Both parties also expressed similar interests in building a long-term collaboration.



Community Outreach

At the Curatorial and Conservation Forum in March 2018, HCC shared about collections care with participants from the arts and culture sector, covering a range of topics, from interventive conservation to cataloguing and storage. As part of its outreach efforts, HCC also hosted 812 visitors over 68 visits. These included students, conservation experts, and visitors from ASEAN and international cultural institutions, and local cultural associations. The centre was open for visits during the *Singapore Heritage Festival* in April 2018, where visitors learnt about Singapore's National Collection and how HCC plays a vital role in preserving our heritage for future generations.

Capability Development

HCC staff are given opportunities to deepen their skills and knowledge in conservation every year, through sponsorship for further education, and internships at leading conservation and restoration companies overseas. HCC also conducts conservation training workshops and participates in training by overseas conservation experts.

Acquisitions /—



SEAH LIANG SEAH (1850 – 1925)

G R Lambert & Co.

Singapore, around 1900s

Albumen print (cabinet card format)

17 x 10.5 x 0.2 cm

Peranakan Museum, Gift of Mr and Mrs Lee Kip Lee

An inscription on the back of this photo reads:

“To M. S. Tomlinson with kind regards from S. Liang Seah 余連城”

Seah Liang Seah was a prominent leader of the Teochew community, one of the founding members of the Straits Chinese British Association, and member of the Straits Legislative Council. Established in 1867, G R Lambert and Co was a leading, and the most enduring European photography studio in Singapore.

PAIR OF FOOTSTOOLS

Singapore or Malacca, early 20th century

Teakwood, velvet, cotton, brass, glass beads, 25 x 20 cm

Known as *bangku kaki kahwen* in Baba Malay, footstools were commissioned and used by the bride and bridegroom to rest their feet when seated during a Peranakan wedding ceremony. This rare pair of footstools features exquisite beadwork depicting auspicious motifs such as crabs, butterflies, and Buddha's hand fruit.



UNTITLED (POSSIBLY A PORTRAIT OF CHAN TECK CHYE AND LIM AH MUI)

Low Kway Song, Singaporean (1889 – 1982)

Singapore, circa 1950s

Hand-coloured gelatin silver print

35.7 x 30.8 x 0.3 cm

Peranakan Museum, Gift of Hall of Phoenix and Peony

Low Kway Song painted portraits of many prominent personalities in Singapore and Malaysia, and was the first artist in the region to be commissioned for a four-figure fee. In 1940, Low became the Pastor of the Malacca Straits Chinese Methodist Church, where services were conducted in Baba Malay.



CIRCUMCISION CHAIR

Java, 19th century

Wood, rattan, pigment

64 x 60 x 40.5 cm

A newly circumcised boy would have sat on this chair to be presented as a young man, and an eligible groom. Prescribed by Islamic law but embellished with local customs, male circumcision is seen as an important rite of passage across Muslim communities in Southeast Asia. A wide range of elaborate rituals and ceremonies exist, but a common feature is the parade or presentation of newly circumcised boys to society.



LARGE EWER AND SALVER

India, Deccan, probably Golconda

17th century

Copper alloy, vase: height 36.2 cm;

salver: diameter 40.4 cm

Inscription: Quran 2

(Surat al-Baqarah, The Heifer)

Exquisite metalwork represents one of the more significant artistic traditions of the Muslim sultanates along the Deccan plateau in southern India that emerged at the end of the 15th century. Owing to either descent from Persian ancestors or belief in the Shi'i faith, the Deccani courts were influenced by Persian artistic traditions.



**LLOYD'S PATRIOTIC FUND
PRESENTATION SWORD**

1804

This sword was presented to Robert Torin, captain of the British East India Company merchant ship *Coutts*. Torin's ship was part of the British East Indiamen under the command of Commodore Nathaniel Dance, which defeated a French fleet of war at the Battle of Pulau Aur. This battle took place off the coast of the Malay Peninsula, northeast of Singapore on 15 February 1804.

UTUSAN MELAYU 25 TAHUN
1964, Malaya and Singapore

Utusan Melayu was the first Malay-language newspaper in Singapore to be wholly financed and published by the Malay community. Established in 1939 in Singapore through fundraising efforts conducted within the community by the late Yusof Ishak and Abdul Rahim Kajai, amongst others, the newspaper published articles relating to political, social, economic and cultural issues concerning the Malay community. Utusan Melayu 25 Tahun was published in 1964 to mark 25 years of the newspaper's publishing history. It includes a compilation of previous articles from Utusan Melayu, as well as brand new articles that comment on and reflect upon Utusan Melayu's history as the first newspaper by Malays, for Malays in Malaya and Singapore.



**MALEISCHE
SPRAAKKUNST,**
Uit de eige schriften der Maleiers opgemaakt,
Met eene
VOORREDEN,
Behelzende eene inleiding tot dit werk,
En een
Dubbeld Aanhangfel
Van twee
BOEKZALEN
*Van boeken, in deze tale zo van Europeërs,
als van Maleiers geschreven.*
Door
GEORGE HENRIK WERNDLY.



Te AMSTERDAM,
Op kosten van de E. A. Heren BEWINDHEEREN
der Oost-Indische Maatschappij, gedrukt by R. en G.
WETSTEIN, drukkers van de E. Maatschappij.
MDCCLXXXVI.

MALEISCHE SPRAAKKUNST
1736, Dutch East Indies

'Maleische Spraakkunst' (Standard Malay Grammar) was commissioned by the Dutch East India Company and edited by George Henrik Werndley for the local Dutch audience. It consists of a list of Dutch words, their respective translations in Malay in both Romanised and Jawi script, and an appendix of several literary Malay works. The publication of this grammar book followed the decision to make Malay the lingua franca of the Dutch East Indies rather than Dutch, and served as a guide for Dutch audiences, missionaries and administrators to understand the local communities, religion and politics. Werndley also compiled a list of Malay literary works that were found in the Archives of the Court of Chancery in Batavia, which he felt could provide an overview of the Malay community.

Prof Cheah Jin Seng, an avid philatelist known for his postcard collections, donated 524 picture postcards of 19th century Penang and 41 picture postcards of 19th century Malacca to the Singapore Philatelic Museum (SPM) in October 2018. These postcards were collected over the decades by Prof Cheah. They serve as pictorial archival records of Penang and Malacca, documenting the social-economic development of these states. This was Prof Cheah's second donation to SPM. His first was a collection of 512 picture postcards of 19th century Singapore, donated in 2006. Together, they form a complete Straits Settlements Picture Postcard Collection.

**(Left) : POSTCARD SENT FROM PENANG TO LONDON CANCELLED BY
E&O HOTEL POSTMARK DATED 7 FEBRUARY 1901.**



**AN UNUSED DOUBLE POSTCARD SHOWING THE PANORAMIC VIEW
OF PENANG FROM THE SEA.**



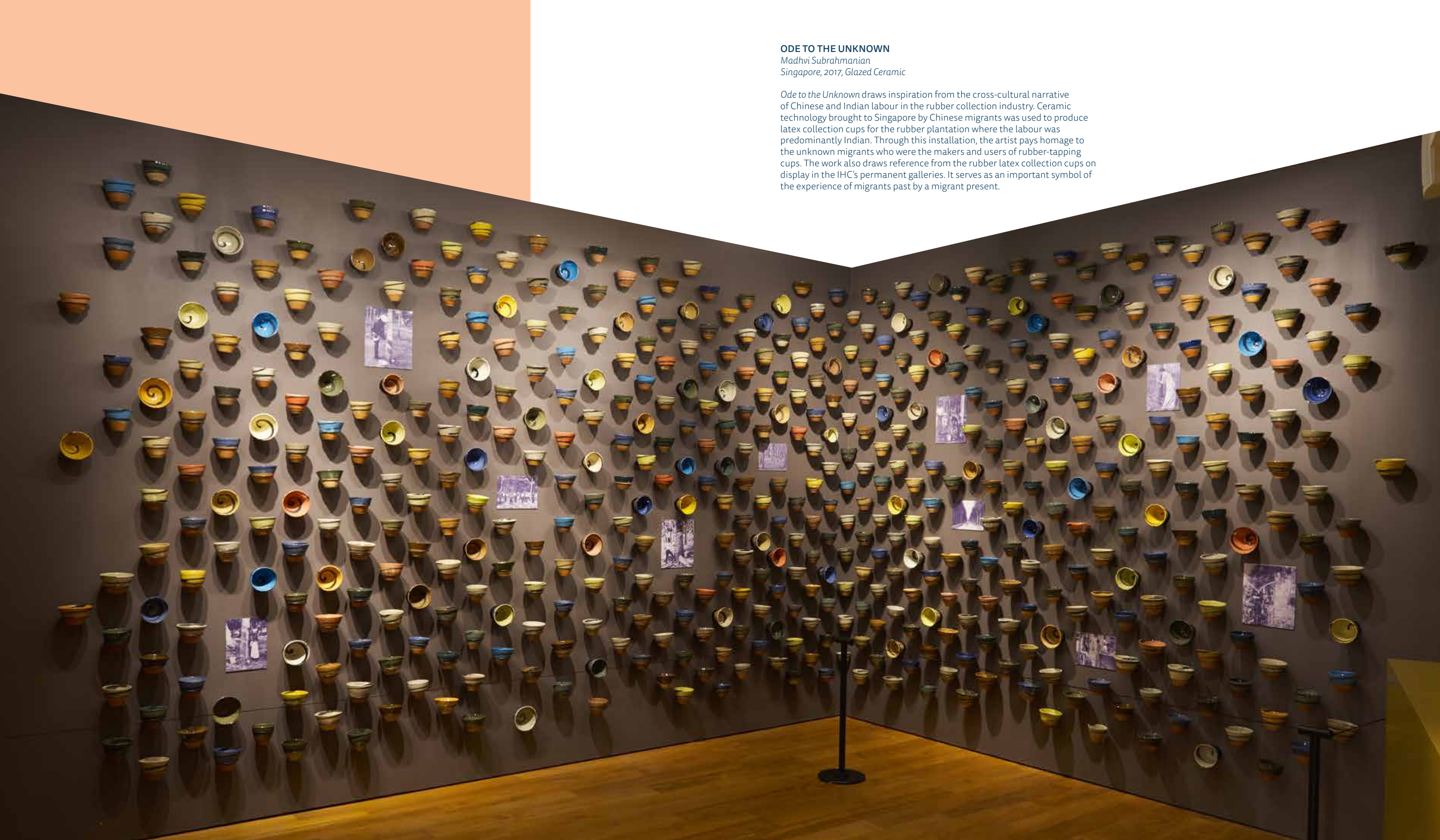
**POSTCARD SENT FROM SIAM-OCCUPIED KEDAH TO FRANCE CANCELLED
BY RARE POSTMARK OF SIAM DATED 8 DECEMBER 1919.**



ODE TO THE UNKNOWN

Madhvi Subrahmanian
Singapore, 2017, Glazed Ceramic

Ode to the Unknown draws inspiration from the cross-cultural narrative of Chinese and Indian labour in the rubber collection industry. Ceramic technology brought to Singapore by Chinese migrants was used to produce latex collection cups for the rubber plantation where the labour was predominantly Indian. Through this installation, the artist pays homage to the unknown migrants who were the makers and users of rubber-tapping cups. The work also draws reference from the rubber latex collection cups on display in the IHC's permanent galleries. It serves as an important symbol of the experience of migrants past by a migrant present.





**PAIR OF TERRESTRIAL AND
CELESTIAL GLOBES**
1800/1799

This pair of 21-inch globes was the largest size produced in 1800 by J & W Cary, one of the foremost map publishers and globe makers in England in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. The terrestrial globe exhibits the tracks and discoveries made by Captain James Cook and Captain George Vancouver, while the celestial globe marks the positions of the constellations above. Together, they reflect the understanding of the world at the turn of the 19th century.



A PAINTED IVORY, FIGURAL CHESS SET
Rajasthan, India, 1850
Ivory

This is a complete set of rare mid-19th century painted ivory figural chess pieces showing the costumes of traditional Indian and British militia in the 19th century. The set depicts officers of the British East India Company versus Indian forces, one side predominantly cream, and the other side mostly red. The chess pieces have been decorated with gilt highlights, and painted details on ivory. During the colonial period, handcrafted game boards for chess and *pachisi* produced in India were highly sought after in Europe as diplomatic gifts or objects of display.



BROCADE SKIRT
India, 1930s
Silk

This brocade skirt is woven with arabesque and foliate motifs, typical of 20th century Benarasi weaving, but also incorporating Indian nationalist imagery, with the inclusion of the map of (pre-Partition) India in each sunburst motif along the bottom edge of the skirt. The Indian nationalist movement inspired artists and craftsmen to incorporate nationalist imagery into their works as a mark of support and an open display of allegiance. The figures of Mother India (*Bharat Mata*), the Indian national flag and nationalist leaders were all part of this lexicon of imagery that was associated with the struggle for independence, and presented through painting, poetry, printmaking, and weaving traditions such as *jamdani*, *baluchari* and Benarasi brocade.



LIM TECK KIM'S TRAVEL SUITCASE
Early 20th century

This suitcase belonged to Chinese businessman Lim Teck Kim, the proprietor of Happy Valley Amusement Park, which was one of the earliest amusement parks in Singapore. Lim was also managing director of Lim Hoe Chiang, a general store established in 1904 that sold and marketed goods such as coffee and cigarettes. The labels on this suitcase demonstrate Lim's many travel destinations in Asia and Europe. Artefacts such as this suitcase offer a ground-up perspective, telling the personal stories of individuals that collectively wrote Singapore's history.

Our Communities /—

Our shared heritage binds us together as a nation. At NHB, we believe that Singapore's heritage belongs to every Singaporean. The relationships that we have developed over the years with fellow professionals and industry experts, teachers and educators, volunteers, patrons and Singaporeans themselves – *Our Communities* – are crucial as we strive to preserve, promote and celebrate our heritage, and to make it accessible and inclusive to all.



Photo credit: Brian Teo, @teo_brian



FESTIVALS

Singapore Heritage Festival 2018

6 to 22 April 2018

The 15th edition of NHB's signature heritage festival continued to highlight lesser-known aspects of our history, so that Singaporeans can experience our shared spaces in a fresh way. Working together with close to 100 community partners, with over 120 programmes, the festival was held across five key locations – Jurong, Jalan Besar, Chinatown, Bras Basah, Bugis and Toa Payoh.

The *Singapore Heritage Festival* grew and deepened collaborations with both new and repeat partners to create a festival by the people, for the people. For the first time, the festival moved into Jalan Besar, an area that is steeped in history and in recent years, has become home to an eclectic mix of businesses and creative entrepreneurs.

The festival also went to Jurong, where visitors were able to explore the industrial heritage of the town, and its significance to Singapore's development. Festival-goers enjoyed a drive-in cinema reminiscent of Jurong in the 1970s, and interactive roving performances by theatre group Sweet Tooth, which told the Jurong story through music and song.

Toa Payoh's iconic dragon playground was transformed into a carnival space, and hosted a selection of hawkers, outdoor movie screenings and a classic vintage car flea market.



Ms Grace Fu, Minister for Culture, Community and Youth and Hawkerpreneur Aerisurl Chng at the Singapore Heritage Festival 2018.



FESTIVALS

Singapore Night Festival 2018
17 to 25 August 2018

The *Singapore Night Festival (SNF)* returned for its 11th edition, with the theme “Bring on the Night”. The festival featured mesmerising light installations by both local and international artists, and welcomed a myriad of talents from a diverse range of backgrounds. Singapore accountant turned visual artist Teng Kai Wei’s *The Leap of Faith* encouraged viewers to explore and discover the world around them. The festival also partnered with the World of WearableArt for the first time, an internationally renowned New Zealand-based design competition, which featured *Life Pulse (Biological Micro-universe)*, the first shortlisted entry from Singapore by Singapore-based Galina Mihaleva.

Other festival highlights included mesmerising roving act *FierS à Chevals*, or “Proud Horses”, by Company Quidams, *Su a Feu* by Spanish percussion troupe Deabru Beltak and local percussion group MOTUS, and UK troupe Lords of Lightning’s electrifying performance *The Duel*.

The *SNF Open Call* returned for a third year with its highest number of public entries to date. Five of these were selected to be showcased as part of *Night Lights*, and these included *Orbit* by LiteWerkz, *Light Wave* by Max Lab and *Ember Rain* by Starlight Alchemy.



LANGUAGE CAMPAIGNS

Bulan Bahasa 2018

The Malay Language Council, Singapore (MLCS) marked 30 years since the first edition of *Bulan Bahasa* (Malay Language Month) was held in 1988. This year's *Bulan Bahasa* featured a two-month calendar of *Semarak* (fringe) programmes and activities presented by partners. These demonstrated and promoted the use of the Malay language as *Bahasa Ilmu* (knowledge), *Bahasa Budaya* (culture) and *Bahasa Mesra* (relationships).

In conjunction with the milestone celebration, MLCS released a commemorative video documenting 30 years of language promotion efforts, a new rendition of *Bahasa Menjunjung Budaya* (*Bulan Bahasa's* theme song), a first-ever dance tutorial, and ten videos by language ambassadors and council members, inviting members of the community to speak, use and love the Malay language.

LANGUAGE CAMPAIGNS

Rakan Bahasa 2018

A record number of *Rakan Bahasa* (Friends of the Language) were appointed this year. Programmes and activities such as completing tasks on the *Kembara Activity Cards* gave the *Rakan Bahasa* opportunities to deepen their appreciation of the Malay language. All *Rakan Bahasa* programmes were supported by the Lee Kuan Yew Fund for Bilingualism.

The first-ever *Pertandingan NewsMaker* (NewsMaker Competition) was also jointly organised by MLCS, the *Bulan Bahasa* Committee and TeeVers for appointed *Rakan Bahasa*. Held at the Malay Heritage Centre, this competition aimed to inculcate media literacy amongst *Rakan Bahasa*, and provided them with a platform to demonstrate their Malay language and presentation skills.

LANGUAGE CAMPAIGNS

Anugerah Guru Arif Budiman 2018

The annual *Anugerah Guru Arif Budiman* (Malay Language Teachers Award) recognised five outstanding Malay Language teachers for their contributions to the learning of the Malay Language.

LANGUAGE CAMPAIGNS

Speak Mandarin Campaign

The *Speak Mandarin Campaign* (SMC) continued to provide platforms and opportunities for Singaporeans to experience Mandarin. At the 6th edition of the SMC Parent-Child Talent Competition, teams creatively put together performances based on the theme “Happy Family”. The competition also encouraged parents to have fun with their children while using and learning Mandarin. The second edition of *Speak Mandarin Campaign “My Story” Public Speaking Competition*, aimed at students aged between 13 and 18 years of age, encouraged participants to express themselves in Mandarin, by sharing their personal stories and experiences.

To inspire conversations on *Mandarin and Chinese Culture*, the Promote Mandarin Council organised a public talk titled *Mandarin and Chinese Culture: The Joys of Learning*. Man Shu Sum, a well-known veteran of the local media industry, provided insights on stimulating the younger generation's interest in Mandarin. Journalist Diana Ser and lyricist Xiaohan joined him on the panel to share tips on how young parents can sustain their children's interest in Mandarin.



Mr Baey Yam Keng, Senior Parliamentary Secretary for Culture, Community and Youth, and the winners of the Speak Mandarin Campaign Parent-Child Talent Competition 2018 Grand Finals.



LANGUAGE CAMPAIGNS

Speak Good English Movement

The *Speak Good English Movement* supported partner-led programmes that raised awareness on the importance of the use of Standard English. Some of these programmes included the *Plain English Speaking Awards* by the Young Men’s Christian Association, school drama roadshows by theVoice Productions and *Babble and Speak* by Nanyang Girls High School.

To further engage children and families, the movement held storytelling sessions and workshops at various public libraries and heritage institutions throughout the year. The movement also worked with Power 98 FM and 88.3 Jia FM to bring exciting English language games to Singapore Armed Forces recruits during *Recruits’ Night* on Pulau Tekong.

The *Inspiring Teacher of English Award 2018* celebrated the achievements of nine exceptional English teachers across two award categories – the *Teaching Award* and the *Leadership Award*. This annual award is presented by the *Speak Good English Movement* and The Straits Times, and is supported by the Ministry of Education (MOE).



LANGUAGE CAMPAIGNS

Tamil Language Festival

The *Tamil Language Festival* is the signature annual event of the Tamil Language Council (TLC), which encourages Tamil-speaking Singaporeans to “Love Tamil, Speak Tamil”. The month-long festival presented a record number of Tamil language programmes in different formats, including drama, music and dance. It also included literature appreciation sessions, competitions and lectures.

Festival highlights included the staging of *Mannum Magalum – Kannagi Vaazhvil Ainthinai*, based on the classic Tamil epic, *Silapathikaram*. A translation camp for students was also jointly organised by the Ministry of Communications and Information (MCI) and MOE.

An English-Tamil glossary, the first of its kind, with over 4,000 common English terms and their Tamil equivalents, was released by the Tamil Resource Panel of the National Translation Committee, MCI and the TLC.

Beyond the festival period, the TLC also supported partner-led programmes and capacity-building initiatives, to further deepen appreciation of the Tamil language.





HERITAGECARES

420 programmes organised
13,600 participants reached
3,200 volunteers engaged

HeritageCares is a philanthropic initiative that reaches out to families-in-difficulty, persons with disabilities and/or special needs, youth-at-risk and senior citizens through engaging heritage experiences at NHB museums and heritage institutions. Part of NHB's overall community outreach efforts, the initiative is supported by donations from Patek Philippe and Cortina Watch Pte Ltd.

In 2018, *HeritageCares* organised *Journey to Angkor*, a school holiday programme for over 80 children from low-income families that included storytelling, craft and a scenic river cruise on a traditional bumboat along Singapore River.

A *Balestier Heritage Trail for Seniors* programme was piloted, in collaboration with Catholic Junior College, where students embarked on an experiential learning journey with seniors to learn more about the historic sites and sounds of Balestier.

HeritageCares continues to remain a key collaborator of industry stakeholders and partners. These include the Youth Corps Singapore, with the ongoing *A Walk to Remember* programme, and the newly launched *We Are Stronger Together*, which encourages the strengthening of intergenerational bonds through social interaction between youths and seniors.

These programmes and partnerships, along with the volunteering opportunities created for individuals, and corporate and school groups, collectively enhance *HeritageCares'* long-term goal of fostering a culture of care, and of promoting our museums, heritage institutions and sites as inclusive and accessible spaces for all.

PATRON OF HERITAGE AWARDS 2018

The *Patron of Heritage Awards 2018* recognised the contributions of 100 individuals and organisations, who gave more than S\$6.5 million towards the museum and heritage sector in 2018. These contributions, consisting of cash, in-kind support, and gifts and loans of personal artefacts and family heirlooms, contribute to our efforts to provide more opportunities for Singaporeans from all walks of life to experience and enjoy our shared heritage, through our outreach programmes, exhibitions, signature festivals and language festivals, as well as research and scholarships.

HERITAGE EDUCATION FOR OUR YOUNG

Museum Educators Programme

The *Museum Educators Programme* commenced in 2018, with 23 experienced educators trained to lead and facilitate interactive learning experiences for school groups visiting the Asian Civilisations Museum (ACM) and National Museum of Singapore.

The multisensory learning experience at ACM complements the primary school Social Studies curriculum and includes storytelling, tactile object learning, hands-on activities and a tour of the museum’s permanent exhibition galleries. Five primary schools with more than 1,100 students participated in the pilot run.

The experience at the National Museum of Singapore was designed primarily with the National Education learning objectives in mind, making references to the students’ history learning where possible. Through the use of the galleries’ immersive settings and selected artefacts, the Museum Educators engaged students in conversations about connections and a sense of belonging. A total of four secondary schools with more than 930 students participated in the pilot run.

SG Time Travellers and Assembly Programme

The *SG Time Travellers Programme* is a revamped version of the *Resilience Trail*, and consists of 10 thematic trails based on the values and spirit of Singapore. The programme aims to develop students’

appreciation for Singapore’s history and heritage, and inculcate values such as perseverance, resilience, cohesion, care and trust to help foster their individual and national identity.

The trail is complemented by an assembly programme, featuring a short skit of two time-travelling students who experience different eras of Singapore’s history. The show acts as a teaser to excite students about the trails.

Heritage Explorers Programme

The *Heritage Explorers Programme* enables primary school students to experience life as a curator, historian, designer, educator and heritage ambassador. Through creative role-playing, the programme creates enjoyable experiences with the aim of raising awareness of Singapore’s heritage amongst the young. The programme complements the learning of Social Studies, National Education, and Character and Citizenship Education in schools, while also emphasising school-parent partnerships and greater parent-child bonding. To date, the programme has reached out to 94 primary schools, and more than 60,000 students have signed up to be young Heritage Explorers.

Singapore’s Little Treasures

Singapore’s Little Treasures (SLT) is NHB’s first heritage education programme dedicated to pre-schoolers. The programme aims to provide pre-schoolers with the opportunity to discover our multicultural heritage through creative, engaging and purposeful classroom

activities, and meaningful learning journeys at the museums. *SLT* also promotes Singapore’s multicultural heritage in the three official mother tongue language – Malay, Mandarin and Tamil.

Since its launch in May 2014, *SLT* has reached out to more than 480 pre-schools, and trained close to 600 teachers. To date, NHB has engaged more than 7,000 pre-schoolers through the programme at both our museums and heritage institutions.

National Heritage Badge

Launched in 1999, the *National Heritage Badge* is awarded by NHB to deserving secondary school students in uniformed groups who have completed a heritage project. It aims to raise the students’ awareness of Singapore’s heritage, and encourage them to share their knowledge through their projects. The programme was refreshed in 2018 to include a new *National Heritage Badge* design, accompanying guidebooks for teachers and students, and more interesting project tasks for uniformed group students. More than 690 students in uniformed groups from 42 secondary schools participated in the programme in 2018.





VOLUNTEERS

Guided 9,000 tours for 92,000 visitors in 2018
115 new docents recruited in 2018

The NHB family of volunteers across our museums, heritage institutions and divisions remain a key pillar of support in our mission of celebrating Singapore's heritage. In 2018, 115 new docents were recruited, joining our existing pool of docents, who guided over 9,000 tours for more than 92,000 visitors throughout the year.

NHB's long-standing partner of over 40 years, the Friends of the Museums (FOM) continued to show strong support for our heritage programmes and initiatives. In addition to the regular guided tours they conduct, the FOM-NHB *Heritage Grant*, established in 2008, has continued to support the capability development of our museum professionals. NHB also

awarded the first 25-year *Long Service Award* to Ms OiLeng Gumpert at the annual *Heritage Volunteer Appreciation and Awards*.

Also part of the docent family are our Museum Volunteers, who are working adults committing their time to guiding on week-ends and public holidays; our Mandarin Guides and Mandarin Docents, who serve our Mandarin and dialect-listening visitors; and our Japanese Docents, who engage the Japanese community. Our Museum Hosts assist with front-line services and programme facilitation at the museums, and our Preservation of Sites and Monuments Volunteer Guides bring visitors on educational learning experiences around our National Monuments.

Beyond the docent community, passionate individuals also volunteer regularly at NHB events, programmes and festivals throughout the year. *HeritageCares*, an NHB philanthropic initiative that reaches out to underserved communities, has to date garnered the support of over 3,200 volunteers who serve as guides and befrienders on programmes.

Our volunteers are an invaluable asset to our museum and heritage ecosystem, as they champion our cause and inspire with their passion.



COMMUNITY GALLERIES

Our Tampines Gallery Refresh

Our Tampines Gallery is a collaborative effort between NHB and the National Library Board, People's Association, and the Tampines community. Launched in August 2017, the gallery serves as a dynamic community space for Singaporeans to learn more about Tampines' history and heritage, contribute to a growing pool of Tampines stories, and co-create exhibitions and programmes.

The gallery was refreshed in December 2018 to showcase a collection of community-contributed artefacts, a testament to NHB's continuing partnership with the Tampines community. Over 10 new Tampines residents were

interviewed and more than 65 artefacts, including family photographs and personal belongings, were collected for display. A temporary exhibition titled *Youth Lens* also featured photographs of Tampines sites by first-year Temasek Polytechnic Communication Design students. This was done to engage the students and expose them to heritage, using photography as a medium. Featuring a selection of photographs taken by the students, the exhibition presented several sites of heritage and community interest in Tampines, seen through the perspective of youths.



HERITAGE GRANTS

Over \$9.5 million awarded

More than 440 grant recipients

NHB's *Heritage Project Grant* and *Heritage Participation Grant* support ground-up heritage initiatives by individuals and heritage groups to foster capability, ownership and promotion of our shared heritage. Since their launch in 2013, NHB has awarded over \$9.5m to more than 440 applicants.

The projects which have benefitted from the grants include publications, exhibitions, heritage galleries, card games, documentaries and events, which collectively add to the variety of heritage touch-points and offerings available. 2018 was a noteworthy year for the grants, with the

launches of the *Kwong Wai Shiu Hospital Heritage Gallery*, *The Armenian Heritage Gallery* and *Kwong Wai Siew Peck San Theng Heritage Gallery*. These galleries showcase key milestones in our nation's history, allowing Singaporeans to better understand the contributions of our pioneers. The grants also supported notable publications such as *Ponthuk*, *The Story of Singapore Teochews* and *Uncovering Seletar*, which document different communities' history and heritage.



MUSEUM ROUNDTABLE

The Museum Roundtable (MR) is a network of more than 50 public and private museums and galleries chaired by NHB to support the development of Singapore’s museum-going culture, by nurturing a museum community which includes audiences, museum practitioners and emerging professionals. MR focuses on supporting the training of people who work in museums, and connecting members to encourage discussion, collaboration and partnership. 2018 saw the addition of new members the Istana Heritage Gallery, Gem Museum and Singapore Musical Box Museum.

Training and Networking

Ongoing professional development and training is key to supporting museums in their efforts to serve their communities. Regular workshops and meetings also provide opportunities for peer engagement and learning. MR organised a workshop

by Participate in Design (P!D), a non-profit design, planning and educational organisation that helps neighbourhoods and public institutions in Singapore design community-owned spaces and solutions. The workshop introduced MR members to participatory design and community-engaged design approaches, and all the tools, strategies and skills that P!D has developed, to enable the local museum community to think differently when working with communities through the planning and curation of museum events, programmes and content.

Quarterly meetings covered themes such as branding and marketing for museums, and access and social inclusion. The year ended with the *Museum Roundtable Networking Night*, which was hosted by NUS Baba House – a charming three-storey heritage home in the historic Blair Plain district.

Marketing & Outreach

Children’s Season Singapore

Presented by NHB, this popular arts, culture and heritage festival once again saw families make a beeline for museums during the June school holidays. A host of programmes including workshops, tours, open houses, and screenings were organised by museums all over the island.

First-time participant Fort Siloso created a set of *ChitChat Cards* that visitors could use for a self-guided visit to the only preserved coastal fort in Singapore, while the Police Heritage Centre’s tour, *I Want To Be A Policeman*, gave children the opportunity to dress up in kid-sized uniforms and have their photo taken with a police officer.

Istana Art Event

Held in conjunction with the *Istana Open House* in celebration of National Day, *Istana Art Event 2018* celebrated local art and culture with fun activities for visitors. Jointly organised by NHB and the National Gallery Singapore, this year’s highlights included the *Museum Roundtable Arts and Heritage Village* and Playeum’s *Community Art Activity*, where children and adults created *Spin Art* and contributed to the *We Are Singapore* art installation.

Visitors also got acquainted with the world’s biodiversity through a specimen showcase and terrarium workshop by the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum.



CULTURE ACADEMY SINGAPORE

Grooming the Next Generation of Cultural Leaders

The Culture Academy Singapore (CA) was established in 2015 by the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth to be a centre of excellence for the development of culture professionals and administrators in Singapore’s public sector. The Academy’s work spans three broad areas: education and capability development, research and scholarship, and promoting thought leadership in the arts and culture sector.

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

International Conferences

The third international thought leadership conference, themed *Accessibility for Diverse Communities: The Role of Cultural Institutions*, was held in December 2018, and involved 33 speakers from Singapore, Australia, China, France, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, the United Kingdom, and South Korea. The conference saw discussions on the role of cultural institutions in providing multiple access points for their audiences, and how they can bridge the gaps in a diverse society through their work, bringing people and communities closer together.

CAPABILITY DEVELOPMENT

Professional Development Programmes

CA continued to cater to the intellectual and professional development needs of the sector by focusing on its professional development programmes. One such programme was the *In Conversation With* series, which aims to provide a platform for arts and culture professionals to share their research or best practices with the sector, and to promote education and capability development. The first session in 2018 featured Dr Stephen A. Murphy, Senior Curator for Southeast Asia at the ACM, and Ms Berta Mañas Alcaide, Object Conservator at the Heritage Conservation Centre, who spoke about their experience putting the *Angkor: Exploring Cambodia’s Sacred City* exhibition together.

Culture Academy Leadership Programme

The *Culture Academy Leadership Programme* was revised to accommodate a director-level participant profile in cultural institutions. It aims to build camaraderie and a common ethos among leaders in the sector. The programme included an overseas component to Penang and Kuala Lumpur to broaden participants’ view on culture, and to allow them to appreciate the soft power of culture in strengthening bilateral relations.

Culture Academy Senior Leadership Programme

CA held its inaugural *Culture Academy Senior Leadership Programme* for senior management (Assistant CEO to CEOs) within the arts and culture sector to facilitate strategic discussions and the exchange of ideas. The programme complements existing leadership and management programmes in the public service, by providing exposure to key developments and issues specific to the sector. The two-day programme included panel discussions and dialogues with senior public officials and political office holders, about building a successful and vibrant future for Singapore.

RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

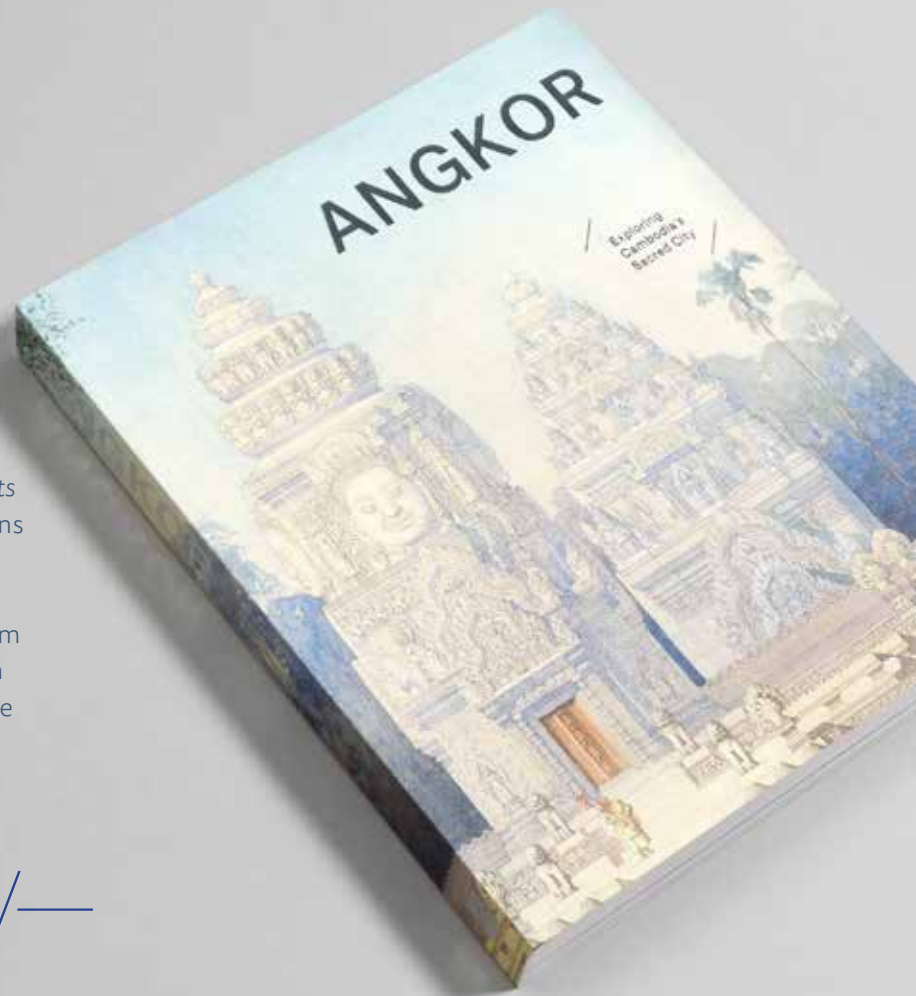
Cultural Connections

The third issue of the annual journal *Cultural Connections* was published, to promote thought leadership in cultural work in the public sector. In view of Singapore’s chairmanship of ASEAN in 2018, this issue featured articles on the influence of Southeast Asia on Singapore’s arts and culture scene and vice versa, along with articles by curators featuring artefacts from the National Collection’s Southeast Asian collections.



ANGKOR: EXPLORING CAMBODIA'S SACRED CITY

Accompanying the Asian Civilisations Museum's (ACM) exhibition, *Angkor: Exploring Cambodia's Sacred City*. *Masterpieces of the Musée national des arts asiatiques-Guimet*, this catalogue contains full-color images and write-ups of all 141 objects in the show. Seven essays expand on aspects of the exhibition, from early French exploration, pre-Angkorian cities and daily life of the time, to temple design philosophy.



Publications/—



BETWEEN THE LINES – THE CHINESE CARTOON REVOLUTION

Produced in conjunction with the *Between the Lines – The Chinese Cartoon Revolution* special exhibition at the Sun Yat Sen Nanyang Memorial Hall, the book examines the link between the 1911 Revolution in China and the emergence of Chinese cartoons in Singapore, which served as a form of social commentary and agent of political change.



RAFFLES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA: REVISITING THE SCHOLAR AND STATESMAN

This catalogue accompanies the exhibition of the same name at the ACM, co-curated with the British Museum. Five essays, dealing with Raffles collecting in Southeast Asia (what he did and didn't collect and why), the history of his reputation, and the politics and art of Java and the region before and during Raffles' time, give readers a well-rounded picture of the man whose name is so well-known in Singapore. Full-colour illustrations of all the exhibited objects are included. The book reveals that Raffles' legacy is more complex than is often understood.

SUARA WANITA (WOMEN'S VOICES)

Suara Wanita is an accompanying chap-book to the travelling exhibition *Women In Action!*, which chronicles the history of the Malay women's movement from the late 1920s to the 1970s. During this period, alleys, community parades and radio broadcasts were filled with the calls of Malay women's organisations and community leaders advocating increased access to education, employment and political representation for Malay women. Newspapers and magazines were likewise filled with articles about these organisations, their leaders and their causes.



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- 4 Maghain Aboth Synagogue
- 5 Sri Srinivasa Perumal Temple
- 6 Thian Hock Keng

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- 1 Al-Abrar Mosque
- 2 Armenian Church of St Gregory
- 3 Chesed-El Synagogue
- 4 Church of Saints Peter and Paul
- 5 Church of St Teresa
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- 7 Lian Shan Shuang Lin Monastery
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Heritage Project Grant Recipients

Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce & Industry <i>Singapre Bicentennial: SCCC Heritage Gallery</i>	Idris Rashid Khan Surattee <i>Singapore Malay Cultural Heritage in the Public Sphere</i>
The Eurasian Association <i>Commemorating Singapore's Bicentennial through Every One of Us</i>	Yayasan MENDAKI <i>Navigating Educational Development: MENDAKI and The Malays</i>
Nam Hwa Opera Limited <i>Publication and Roving Exhibtion of Singapore Teochew Opera</i>	National University of Singapore (c/o Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum) <i>200: A Natural History</i>
SportsHub Pte Ltd <i>Sports, Arts and Heritage (SAH) Trail</i>	Jewish Welfare Board <i>The Jews of Singapore Permanent Exhibition</i>
The Singapore Scout Association <i>SSA Heritage Gallery</i>	Carolyn Ortega <i>Raffles Bicentenary: Agriculture, People and Plants in Singapore 1500-2019</i>
PERGAS Singapore Islamic Scholars & Religious Teacher's Association <i>An Exhibition: Footprints of Islamic Literary Heritage in Singapore</i>	Singapore Red Cross Society <i>70 Years of Humanitarian Services</i>
Yayasan MENDAKI <i>Yayasan MENDAKI Heritage Gallery</i>	Singapore Federation of Chinese Clans Associations <i>River Hongbao 2019</i>
Sri Senpaga Vinayagar Temple <i>Documentary & Coffee Table Book on the Temple</i>	

Heritage Research Grant Recipients

<i>Singapore Chinese Funerary Practices</i> Dr Lye Kit Ying, Singapore University of Social Sciences (\$33,000)	<i>Research and Database on Fort Canning Spice Gardens and St Andrew's Cathedral Sites</i> Dr Goh Geok Yian, Nanyang Technological University (\$97,500)
<i>Culinary Biographies: Charting Singapore's History Through Cooking and Consumption</i> Dr Geoffrey Kevin Pakiam, ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute (\$86,000)	<i>The Past, Present and Future of the Hawker Culture in Singapore: The value and implications for sustainable development and revitalisation of national hawker culture as intangible cultural heritage</i> Assistant Professor Eunice Yoo Eun Jung, Singapore Institute of Technology (\$75,500)
<i>Preserving Intangible Cultures – Documenting and recording the history, culture and memory of Malay martial arts groups in Singapore</i> Dr Mohamad Effendy bin Abdul Hamid, National University of Singapore (\$90,000)	<i>A Fine-Grain History of Singapore Town: The Architecture and Socio-Morphology of Four Forgotten Neighbourhoods</i> Assistant Professor Imran bin Tajudeen, National University of Singapore (\$102,000)
<i>Documenting Middleton Hospital, Communicable Diseases Centre and the Medical Heritage of Singapore</i> Dr Hsu Li Yang, National University of Singapore (\$87,000)	<i>The Evolution of Singapore's Hawker Culture: Street Food and Changing Landscapes</i> Dr Vivienne Wee, Singapore Heritage Society (commissioned researcher) (\$141,000)

Scholarships

JULIA OH – NHB INTERNATIONAL CONTINUING EDUCATION GRANT The grant aims to develop and strengthen curatorial and conservation related competencies and knowledge for our officers. It also provides our officers with the opportunity to network and foster potential partnership opportunities with other museums and institutions.	Nalina Gopal Curator, Indian Heritage Centre
	Tan Chuwei Manager (Collections Management) Heritage Conservation Centre
FRIENDS OF THE MUSEUMS (FOM) – NHB HERITAGE GRANT The grant provides officers with the opportunity to acquire new skills, knowledge and ideas to promote museum and heritage education to NHB audiences. It also serves as a platform to network and foster potential partnership opportunities with overseas counterparts.	
	Joanne Chen Yixin Manager, Education & Community Outreach
	Jermaine Huang Shiqi Senior Manager (Development Projects) National Museum of Singapore
NHB SCHOLARSHIP The NHB Scholarship supports promising talents in Singapore to pursue full-time undergraduate or post-graduate studies in various disciplines that contribute to the development of heritage and culture in Singapore.	
	Samuel Lee Wan Heng <i>Masters of Arts in Humanities (Art History)</i> <i>University of Chicago, USA</i>
	Sahana Balasubramaniam <i>Bachelor of Arts (Liberal Arts), Yale-NUS College</i>
NHB SPONSORSHIP The NHB Sponsorship provides opportunities for officers to pursue full-time or part-time academic programmes leading to formal qualifications such as professional degrees, postgraduate certificates and Masters.	
	Esther Ng Eet Ming Senior Conservator (Paper), Heritage Conservation Centre <i>Master in Conservation & Restoration of Cultural Heritage</i> <i>University of Amsterdam, Netherlands</i>
	Ratnawati Erlimus Manager (Venue & Rentals), Asian Civilisations Museum <i>Master of Arts in Museum Studies and Curatorial Practices</i> <i>Nanyang Technological University</i>

Awards

THE PROF KOH AWARD 2019 The Prof Koh Award was established in 2011 to recognise and reward staff innovation and excellence. It is funded through donations from NHB's Honorary Chairman, Professor Tommy Koh.	Tan Chuwei, HCC Han Twee Heng, HROD Tan Ya Hui Grace, HROD Ng Chee Cha, IT Gong Pan Pan, NMS Lee Han Loong Ian, PSM Norfaiz Bin Noeryamin, SCD
MOST VISITED EXHIBITION Angkor: Exploring Cambodia's Sacred City The More We Get Together: Singapore's Playgrounds 1930–2030	10-YEAR SERVICE Bernard Tan Yong Seng, ACM Chua Meng Tee Eddy, ACM Muhammad Noor Aliff Bin Ghani, ACM Ng Wan Gui, ACM Lin Junyang Ian, ECO Nurliyana Binte Abdul Halid, ECO Lee Chee Choon Roger, HCC Miki Komatsu, HCC Oh Ling Yin Michelle, HCC Mohamad Jamal Bin Mohamad, HI Nalina Gopal, HI Nuraini Binte Othman, HI Ong Chun Yeow, HRA Yeo Kirk Siang, HRA Chan Dennis Rubia, NMS Chua Huiqing Priscilla, NMS Ida Betryl Cecil, NMS Sandeep Singh Bhandal S/O Nermal Singh, NMS Tay Swee Boon, NMS Tham Dek Won Daniel, NMS Chern Jia Ding, PSM
BEST SELLING PUBLICATION Singapore: Many Races, One People Celebrating 50 Years of Independence	
MOST INNOVATIVE PROJECT The More We Get Together: Singapore's Playgrounds 1930 – 2030	
MOST INNOVATIVE PROJECT (MERIT) Sweet Scent-sations SMARTIFY APP	
INNOVATION CHAMPION Nalina Gopal	
EPIC AWARD Ling Li Li Zhang Jingyi Jermaine Huang Shiqi Gong Pan Pan Chern Jia Ding	
LONG SERVICE AWARDS 2018	
5-YEAR SERVICE Ding Xiaowei Daphne, ACM Ling Li Li, ACM Lum Jia Yi, ACM CHIA Pei Jun, CA Vaishnavi D/O Jayasambok, CA Asmah Binte Alias, ECO Chen Yixin Joanne, ECO Sin Lye Kwan JosephHine, ECO Damian Lizun Zenon, HCC Lai Yu Xiu Caren, HCC Liew May Jin Vanessa, HCC Sim Guanyu Geraldine, HCC Soo Jia Luoh Alex, HCC Sylvia Haliman, HCC	15-YEAR SERVICE Yeo Kwee Khim Jessie, ACM Tan Tze Ee Alvin, CEO's Office Ng Eet Ming Esther, HCC Hua Ling Yong, NMS Lim Kok Boon Simon, NMS Mak Yuh Hann, NMS Vidya Murthy, NMS Goh Shiao Ping Karen, SCD
	20-YEAR SERVICE Aw Siew Gim Regine, ACM Tan Kim Chong, FPA Lee Swee Mun, HCC Akbar S/O Haja Mydin, IP
	25-YEAR SERVICE Adibah Binte Othman, NMS

NATIONAL DAY AWARDS 2018	EXEMPLARY SERVICE EXCELLENCE AWARD Chan Dennis Rubia
PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL Prof Cheah Jin Seng Chairman Singapore Philatelic Museum Board	DARE TO DO AWARD Student Archivist Project Nalina Gopal Amanda Claire Chan Choon Guat
	EXCELLENT SERVICE AWARD 2018 Excellent Service Award (EXSA) is a national award that recognises individuals who have delivered quality service. It seeks to develop service models for staff to emulate and to create service champions.
Mr Rajaram Ramasubbhan Chairman Tamil Language Council	EXSA STAR Nurliyana Binte Abdul Halid Lim Xin Yuan Joanne Ong Chun Yeow Young Wei Qi Peh Wee Peng
COMMENDATION MEDAL Ms Karen Goh Shiao Ping Assistant Director (Marketing) Strategic Comms & Digital	
Mr Ng Ching Huei Senior Manager (Heritage Research) Heritage Research & Assessment	
EFFICIENCY MEDAL Ms Chloe Ang Bee Huay Manager (Exhibition & Programme Services) National Museum of Singapore	EXSA GOLD Abdul Hazis Bin Mohd Chong Joon Wei Jeff Chua Meng Tee Eddy Ding Xiaowei Daphne Ling Li Li Muhammad Noor Aliff Bin Ghani Sebastin Emmanuel Victor Tan Geok Keow Angeline Poh Bee Kee Maggie Sin Lye Kwan Josephine Chin Jia Hui Priscilla Seow Chee Loong Jimmy Huang Shiqi Jermaine Muhammad Khair Bin Kambeli Siti Amalia Binte Suhaimi
LONG SERVICE MEDAL Mr Ishak Bin Ahamad Conservator (Objects) Heritage Conservation Centre	EXSA SILVER Lee Kah Fang Carine Sylvia Haliman Mohamed Hafiz Bin Mohamed Shariff Ng Chee Cha
PUBLIC SECTOR TRANSFORMATION AWARDS 2019 The Public Sector Transformation (PST) Awards recognise and reward public officers and agencies for excellence in service delivery, organisation practices and innovation. The awards spur officers and agencies to pursue PST outcomes, and showcase best practices to support learning across the Public Service.	
MCCY/PST AWARDS	
EXEMPLARY LEADER AWARD Choo Soon Heng Jervais	
EXEMPLARY INNOVATOR AWARD The More We Get Together: Singapore's Playgrounds 1930 – 2030	

John Donne famously wrote that no man is an island. Similarly, Singapore wasn't built by any single person, but by a multitude of men and women across time and culture. They worked with their peers and communities, building on the achievements of those who came before them. The names on the cover of this report identify with different eras, beliefs and vocations; but each is known for his or her unique contribution to Singapore over the past 200 years and beyond. They represent many others who have also been a part of our nation's journey, and the generations that will come after us who will continue to add lines, paragraphs and chapters to our Singapore Story.