

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release



REMEMBERING THE WAR THROUGH *BATTLE FOR SINGAPORE*

The National Heritage Board commemorates the 79th anniversary of the Fall of Singapore with new programmes and special access tours to historic World War II sites

Singapore, 15 February 2021 – The Fall of Singapore in 1942 was a significant chapter in our nation’s history. Despite the many decades that have passed, the tales of tenacity and resilience displayed by our nation’s war heroes during that tumultuous period remain important and relatable today.

2 From 20 February to 14 March 2021, members of the public can revisit our nation’s wartime history and stories through the National Heritage Board’s (NHB) *Battle for Singapore* programme, which features a series of specially curated tours and programmes offered in partnership with NHB’s Museum Roundtable (MR) members, citizen historians and heritage enthusiasts.

3 Participants will be able to embark on tours to World War II (WWII) sites such as the Former Ford Factory and Bukit Brown, as well as tune in online to talks conducted in collaboration with community groups and researchers. As 2021 also marks the 25th anniversary of the MR, this year’s *Battle for Singapore* will feature programmes organised in close partnership with MR institutions. They include the *Fort Siloso Rediscovery Tour*, organised in partnership with Fort Siloso, which is managed by Sentosa Development Corporation, that will grant participants special access to historical sites in Fort Siloso that are exclusively opened for tour participants.

4 Mr Gerald Wee, Director of International & Museum Relations, NHB, said: “Through *Battle for Singapore 2021*, we hope that Singaporeans can rediscover the history not only behind familiar landmarks and sites around Singapore, but also unearth diverse and lesser-known stories related to our nation’s WWII past. More importantly, in revisiting Singapore’s

war experience and the stories of resilience of our forefathers who lived through those times, we hope that participants will be inspired by the themes of solidarity and strength that are built through adversity, even as we continue to navigate these challenging times.”

Battle for Singapore 2021 Programmes

5 The diverse programme line-up will consist of a total of more than 40 tour runs and programme sessions offered by NHB and its partners. Some of the highlights of this year’s *Battle for Singapore* include:

Fort Siloso Rediscovery Tour (NEW)

In the Fort Siloso Rediscovery Tour, organised in partnership with Sentosa Development Corporation, participants will explore the grounds of Fort Siloso with history experts who will take them on a journey to learn more about the role of the fort in Singapore’s maritime past. The highlight of this special access tour will be visits to exclusive areas, including the Siloso Pier, coastal mine defense casement, and the Coastal Search Light stations. These areas tell a more complex history of Fort Siloso and will show that a familiar place like Fort Siloso still has many other stories to tell.

Note: A \$5 token charge applies for this tour.

Mini Tour: Former Ford Factory - Singapore Discovery Centre (NEW)

A two-stop guided tour that visits two MR members – Former Ford Factory and Singapore Discovery Centre. At the Former Ford Factory, participants can learn more about the Japanese Occupation through archival records and artefacts on display, and also use an interactive mobile app to enhance their experiences. Participants will then visit the newly-revamped galleries at the Singapore Discovery Centre, which provide insights into life during the Occupation through enhanced technology such as AR, as well as stories of resilience and courage during the war.

Mini Tour: Eurasian Heritage Gallery - National Gallery Singapore (NEW)

A two-stop guided tour that visits two MR members – Eurasian Heritage Gallery and National Gallery Singapore. At the Eurasian Heritage Gallery, participants will discover how the

Eurasian community suffered during WWII under the Japanese Occupation and how several Eurasian war heroes emerged from the trials and tribulations. At National Gallery Singapore, participants will journey across specific sites around the Gallery's City Hall Wing such as the City Hall Steps and City Hall Chamber to explore different perspectives of how WWII was experienced in Singapore.

Kwong Wai Shiu Hospital Heritage Gallery Tour (NEW)

Learn about WWII through the lens of Kwong Wai Shiu Free Hospital, a charitable healthcare facility founded by a group of Cantonese businessmen in 1910. During the Japanese Occupation, part of the hospital compound was destroyed by bombs. Despite the destruction, the hospital continued with its mission of serving the needy, expanded its services to admit children and infants, and even buried war victims. Uncover more about the hospital's WWII history through a guided tour of the gallery and an informative sharing session by Mr Lee Kok Leong, curator of the Kwong Wai Shiu Hospital Heritage Gallery.

Note: This tour is conducted in Mandarin.

WWII Changi Point Walking Tour (NEW)

Known for its laid-back charm, Changi Point has become a destination for leisure and recreation. Many of its present-day leisure and recreational facilities tell a deeper story; one that very much has to do with a military past and the events that led up to the Fall of Singapore and its aftermath.

Join Jerome Lim of *The Long and Winding Road* on a walk around Changi Point and its boardwalk to uncover its history through its sports and recreational facilities, geographical features, facilities and some surprising remnants of the past, and to examine the roles that some of them may have played during the Second World War.

Webinar: The Comfort Women of Singapore in History and Memory by Assoc. Prof. Kevin Blackburn

Why have the voices of Singapore women who worked in the sex industry of the Japanese military in Singapore during the Second World War been missing from history? Were there Singapore women working as comfort women? This talk uncovers the missing voices of the

comfort women of Japanese-occupied Singapore during the Second World War and explains why Singapore comfort women have not come forward with their testimonies as comfort women in other societies in Asia have done since the 1990s.

Please refer to **Annex A** for a full list of the guided tours and programmes by *BSG 2021* partners and **Annex B** for additional programmes by MR partners.

6 Members of the public may visit www.museums.com.sg for more information and to sign up for *Battle for Singapore 2021* programmes. Registration commences **16 February 2021, Tuesday, at 12pm**, and slots on the programmes will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis.

– END –

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About the National Heritage Board

The National Heritage Board (NHB) was formed on 1 August 1993. As the custodian of Singapore's heritage, NHB is responsible for telling the Singapore story, sharing the Singaporean experience and imparting our Singapore spirit.

NHB's mission is to preserve and celebrate the shared heritage of our diverse communities, for the purpose of education, nation-building and cultural understanding. It manages the national museums and heritage institutions, and sets policies relating to heritage sites, monuments and the national collection. Through the national collection, NHB curates heritage programmes and presents exhibitions to connect the past, present and future generations of Singaporeans. NHB is a statutory board under the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth. Please visit www.nhb.gov.sg for more information.

About Museum Roundtable

The Museum Roundtable (MR) is a collective of museums established by the National Heritage Board (NHB) in 1996 to promote a museum-going culture amongst Singaporeans and to position museums as unique cultural destinations. More than 50 public and private museums and heritage galleries are MR members today, spanning across diverse categories



of focus and interest: Art, Culture & Community, Defence, Healthcare, Lifestyles & Collectibles, National History and Science & Innovation.

As part of NHB's efforts to develop a vibrant and diverse museum and heritage landscape in Singapore, NHB works closely with MR members in various ways. These include signature outreach programmes, as well as capability development initiatives.

The MR turns 25 in 2021, and NHB will be commemorating this milestone with a series of special programmes.

Guided Tours, Programmes and Public Talks**Fort Siloso Rediscovery Tour**

Date: 20, 21, 27, 28 February, and 6, 7, 13, 14 March 2021

Time: 10am – 12pm, 2pm – 4pm

Fort Siloso played a huge role in the defence of Singapore since the 1870s when it was built. During the Second World War, the fort was armed with a variety of guns and deployed submarine mines that deterred invasion by sea. The fort survived the war and in 1975 restoration of the fort started on its extensive tunnel complexes and gun emplacements. Today, Fort Siloso is Singapore's only preserved coastal fort featuring one of the largest collections of real coastal artillery guns in Asia.

In the Fort Siloso Rediscovery Tour, participants will explore the grounds of Fort Siloso with history experts who will take them on a journey to learn more about the role of the fort in Singapore's maritime past. The highlight of the tour will be visits to areas that are exclusively opened for tour participants. These include the Siloso Pier, coastal mine defence casement, and the Coastal Search Light stations. These areas tell a more complex history of Fort Siloso and will show that a familiar place like Fort Siloso still has many stories to tell.

This tour is led by Dr. John Kwok and Saifullah Kamaludin, and is offered in partnership with Sentosa Development Corporation, in commemoration of the 25th Anniversary of the Museum Roundtable.

About the guides

Dr. John Kwok is a professional historian and has been part of the *Battle for Singapore* programme since 2014. His research has helped to uncover the history of many war heritage sites in Singapore like Marsiling Tunnels, Attap Valley Bunker, and View Road Building.

Saifullah Kamaludin is a history enthusiast who has been with Sentosa Development Corporation (SDC) since 2007. He currently co-leads the Culture and Heritage initiatives under the Sustainable Sentosa programme. Over the years, he has channeled his passion into his profession, contributing to the repository of knowledge on Sentosa's rich heritage and bringing fresh perspectives and insights to the Sentosa story. Aside from managing the operations of Fort Siloso, Saifullah has also developed and conducted a wide range of tours and outreach programmes for SDC, harmonising the education and conservation efforts within Sentosa in the process.

Registration and more details at <https://bsq2021.peatix.com>.

Note: Tickets at \$5 per participant. This tour is open to participants aged 18 and above.

Mini Tour: Former Ford Factory – Singapore Discovery Centre

Date: 20, 28 February 2021

Time: 9.30am – 12pm; 2pm – 4.30pm

Stop 1: Former Ford Factory

15 February marks the anniversary of the surrender of the British to the Japanese in 1942. The boardroom of Ford Factory was where Britain's Lieutenant-General A.E. Percival met Lieutenant-General Yamashita and surrendered unconditionally to the Japanese, setting the stage for the Japanese Occupation of Singapore. The Former Ford Factory was subsequently restored by the National Archives of Singapore in 2006 and currently houses the permanent World War II exhibition, Surviving the Japanese Occupation: War and its Legacies.

Join us for a special guided tour of Former Ford Factory in February to learn about the fall of Singapore and the Japanese Occupation. Discover wartime stories through archival records, published materials, oral history accounts. You will also get to see selected artefacts that are not on display in the gallery.

Stop 2: Singapore Discovery Centre

At the Singapore Discovery Centre, participants will be brought on an immersive journey where they will learn about the Japanese Occupation and the Fall of Singapore in the newly revamped exhibition galleries. Using enhanced technology such as Augmented Reality (AR) and heartwarming stories of our people's courage, their resistance and resilience, participants will be reminded of the importance of Singapore's commitment to defence even during peace time. Participants will also be given an exclusive tour to SAF Training Institute (SAFTI) which offers a unique glimpse into the life of an officer cadet and the role of Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) in the defence and security of Singapore.

This tour is offered in partnership with the Former Ford Factory and Singapore Discovery Centre.

Registration and more details at <https://bsq2021.peatix.com>.

***Note:** Any child participant of/under the age of 12 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.*

Mini Tour: Eurasian Heritage Gallery – National Gallery Singapore

Date: 21 February, 6 March 2021

Time: 9.30am – 12pm; 2pm – 4.30pm

Stop 1: Eurasian Heritage Gallery

At the Eurasian Heritage Gallery, tour participants will discover how the Eurasian community, suffered along with other ethnic groups in Singapore during WWII under the Japanese Occupation, and how several war heroes emerged from the trials and tribulations.

Stop 2: Monuments & Memorials: Walking tours of City Hall at National Gallery Singapore

City Hall, formerly known as Municipal Building, has had a rich and colourful history since its completion in 1929. The building has borne witness to defining moments in Singapore

history—from serving as a bomb shelter during the Japanese Occupation to housing Singapore’s post-independence government and ministry offices. Today, it forms a wing of National Gallery Singapore. In these building and art tours, guest historian Tan Teng Teng will lead you on a journey through history, making stops at storied locations such as the City Hall Steps and City Hall Chamber. You will also hear reflections on the making of *City Hall: If Walls Could Talk*, an exhibition by the Gallery on lesser-known stories that occurred within this national monument. The tour will conclude at the exhibition *Siapa Nama Kamu: Art in Singapore since the 19th Century*, where selected artworks will be highlighted to contextualise stories and memories of war through the eyes of our artists.

This tour is offered in partnership with the Eurasian Heritage Gallery and National Gallery Singapore. Participants are encouraged to find out more about the *City Hall: If Walls Could Talk* exhibition before the tour (link: www.nationalgallery.sg/cityhall).

Registration and more details at <https://bsq2021.peatix.com>.

Note: Any child participant of/under the age of 12 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

Kwong Wai Shiu Hospital Heritage Gallery Tour

Date: 27 February, 7 March 2021

Time: 10am – 11am

Learn about the Second World War through the lens of Kwong Wai Shiu Free Hospital, a charitable healthcare facility founded by a group of Cantonese businessmen in 1910. During the occupation, part of the hospital compound was destroyed by bombs. Despite the destruction, the hospital continued with its mission of serving the needy, expanded its services to admit children and infants, and even buried war victims.

Traditionally supported by the Chinese community, the war also led to the reversal of fortunes for some of the hospital’s key patrons such as Ching Kee Sun and Boey Khye Hong. Before the Occupation, they had fervently supported China in its war efforts against the Japanese through participation in Cantonese associations and fund-raising efforts. What happened to these individuals when Singapore became Syonan-To?

Uncover more stories through a tour of the gallery which includes a classroom session where newspaper articles of the period will be shared. Conducted in Mandarin, this tour is led by Mr Lee Kok Leong, curator of the Kwong Wai Shiu Hospital Heritage Gallery. Limited slots are available, on first-come-first-served basis, so sign up now!

Registration and more details at <https://bsq2021.peatix.com>.

Note: This tour is conducted in Mandarin. Any child participant of/under the age of 12 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

【中文团】广惠肇留医院是一家由一群广东籍商人在 1910 年创办的慈善医院。医院在二战时期曾有部分病房被炸毁。尽管如此，医院还是照常运作，并继续秉持其宗旨，为有需要照顾的社群提供优质，全面及方便的医护服务。医院也扩大服务范围，收留小孩与婴儿，甚至还帮助战争中不幸罹难的死难者收尸殮葬。

日军占领新加坡前，不少华社领袖积极参与筹赈会活动，支援中国抗日战争。许多华社领袖也是广惠肇留医院的董事。新加坡沦陷后，这些抗日份子的命运有了翻天覆地的变化。留医院义务司理梅启康和总理兼正主席曾紀宸等人能熬过昭南岛那三年八个月的黑暗日子吗？

在这次的徒步行中，您将参观广惠肇留医院四座受保留建筑、任重道远历史展馆及参与课堂分享。广惠肇留医院展馆策展人李国梁先生将带您走入时光隧道，通过广惠肇留医院的角度探索二战历史。名额有限，报名从速。

注意：12岁以下的参与者需有家长全程陪同。

Lest We Forget Walking Tour

Date: 27 February, 13 March 2021

Time: 5pm – 6.30pm

Throughout history, people have erected statues and sculptures in honour of men and women of valour, courage and sacrifice. Tall, impressive and often austere – what do these memorials stand for? Who, or what, are we meant to remember?

Discover the symbolism in each memorial's design as well as the hidden stories behind each sculpture and engraving. More importantly, learn about the heroes who sacrificed themselves for Singapore, lest we forget.

This tour is led by Preservation of Sites and Monuments (PSM) Volunteer Guides.

The tour will start at the Civilian War Memorial and end at the Lim Bo Seng War Memorial. Registration and more details at <https://bsg2021.peatix.com>.

About the PSM Volunteer Guides

The PSM Volunteer Guides are a group of passionate heritage enthusiasts who help promote awareness and interest in Singapore's history through our National Monuments and historic sites. They conduct regular outdoor walking tours for the public and each tour covers up to 3 National Monuments.

WWII Changi Point Walking Tour

Date: 28 February, 7 March 2021

Time: 9am – 11am

Known for its laid-back charm, Changi Point has become a destination for leisure and recreation. Many of its present-day leisure and recreational facilities tell a deeper story; one

that very much has to do with a military past and the events in the lead up to the Fall of Singapore and its aftermath.

Join Jerome Lim of *The Long and Winding Road* on a walk around Changi Point and its boardwalk to uncover its history through its sports and recreational facilities, geographical features, facilities and some surprising remnants of the past and to examine the roles that some may have played during the Second World War.

Points of Interest:

- Changi Coastline
- Sports and recreational facilities including Changi Padang
- Barracks and Residences including the former Block 24 RAF Hospital Changi (outside)

About the guide

Jerome Lim blogs on *The Long and Winding Road* in an attempt to capture his experiences of Singapore in a constant state of flux. The site, on which Jerome also celebrates Singapore's heritage through photographs, was twice awarded the Singapore Blog Award's Best Photography Blog. For more information, please visit: <https://thelongwindingroad.wordpress.com>.

Registration and more details at <https://bsg2021.peatix.com>. More details on the gathering point will be sent to participants upon registration.

Note: This tour is open to participants aged 18 and above.

Botanic Gardens to Bukit Brown

Date: 21 February 2021

Time: 8.30am – 11.30am

Participants will be taken on a walk through the heritage corridor from the Botanic Gardens to Bukit Brown cemetery. During the tour, the guides will share stories of WWII heroes and prominent personalities at heritage landmarks, including the Jacob Ballas Garden and old Raffles College. Participants will pass by the Former Command House along the route and end in Bukit Brown to learn about the battle that took place there with the British and Indian soldiers at the former kampung (village).

This tour is led by Bianca Polak and Claire Leow of All Things Bukit Brown.

About the guides and All Things Bukit Brown

Bianca Polak is of Dutch origin and has been living in Singapore for the past 21 years. She is a volunteer guide conducting free heritage tours in Bukit Brown cemetery and she co-curated the Botanic Gardens to Bukit Brown walk together with Claire.

Claire Leow is a co-founder of All Things Bukit Brown and is passionate about heritage and community building. She loves sharing her stories of the cemetery with the public during her tours and talks.

All Things Bukit Brown is a group of volunteers who record the heritage, habitat and history of Bukit Brown and its surrounding area, and the history of Singapore since 1819.

The tour will start at Botanic Gardens MRT Station, Ground Level and end at Bukit Brown. Registration and more details at <https://bsq2021.peatix.com>. More details on the gathering point will be sent to participants upon registration.

Bukit Brown (Hills 3 and 2)

Date: 27 February 2021

Time: 9am – 11.30am

Bukit Brown is, by accident of history, the largest repository in Singapore of WWII stories outside of a museum. It is the final home to tragic patriots like Tan Ean Kiam, valiant fighters for justice like Tay Koh Yiat and many countless victims like Soh Koon Eng. It's a story book that never stops regaling. Let Fabian Tee take you back to a time when fate collided and all lives in Singapore were turned upside down.

This tour is led by Fabian Tee of All Things Bukit Brown.

About the guide and All Things Bukit Brown

Fabian is a volunteer guide who conducts free heritage tours in Bukit Brown cemetery and his tours cover various topics from revolutionaries, to crazy rich Asians, to war themes. He is bilingual and conducts tours in both English and Mandarin.

All Things Bukit Brown is a group of volunteers who record the heritage, habitat and history of Bukit Brown and its surrounding area, and the history of Singapore since 1819.

The tour will be held at Bukit Brown. Registration and more details at <https://bsq2021.peatix.com>. More details on the gathering point will be sent to participants upon registration.

Battle of Bukit Brown / Mount Pleasant

Date: 7 March 2021

Time: 8am – 11.30am

The tour follows the course of the battles on 14-15 February 1942 as the Japanese 5th Division attempted to capture the MacRitchie Reservoir area and attack south through Bukit Brown and Mount Pleasant, which were defended by the British 18th Division.

This tour is led by Beng Tang of All Things Bukit Brown.

About the guide and All Things Bukit Brown

Beng Tang is a volunteer nature and heritage guide who leads tours on the history of WWII and the biodiversity of Bukit Brown.

All Things Bukit Brown is a group of volunteers who record the heritage, habitat and history of Bukit Brown and its surrounding area, and the history of Singapore since 1819.

The tour will start beside the golf course at Sime Road and end at Mount Pleasant Road. Registration and more details at <https://bsq2021.peatix.com>. More details on the gathering point will be sent to participants upon registration.

Bukit Brown (Hills 3 and 4)

Date: 13 March 2021

Time: 9am – 11.30am

Join Peter Pak of All Things Bukit Brown as he takes you on an exploration of Bukit Brown and hear stories of tragedy (the sinking of a ship that led to the deaths of many women and children) and of betrayal (leading to the death of the King's Medal recipient whose ashes were only returned 11 years later and given a hero's burial). Peter will also reveal the stories of an ambush by the resistance forces that led to the death of a pioneer whose burial was touted by the Japanese Military Administration as Syonan-to's first public funeral, and of another survivor of that very same ambush whose life was transformed by that event and who went on after the war to play a pivotal role in the growth of Buddhism in Singapore.

Finally, we will hear stories of Chinese leaders who were forced to collaborate with the Japanese under duress, or who did so to survive or reap personal gain. Hear the stories of how they survived or died during this difficult period in Singapore's history at Bukit Brown.

About the guide and All Things Bukit Brown

Peter Pak is a volunteer guide for All Things Bukit Brown and a blogger who writes under the moniker of Rojak Librarian (mymindisrojak.blogspot.com)

All Things Bukit Brown is a group of volunteers who record the heritage, habitat and history of Bukit Brown and its surrounding area, and the history of Singapore since 1819.

The tour will be held at Bukit Brown. Registration and more details at <https://bsq2021.peatix.com>. More details on the gathering point will be sent to participants upon registration.

[Webinar] WWII @ Bukit Brown

Date: 28 February 2021

Time: 10.30am

Venue: Conducted via Zoom

Learn about some of the final battles before Singapore fell to the Japanese in World War II (WWII). Join Beng Tang from All Things Bukit Brown in his sharing about the fighting which took place on Valentine's Day and Chinese New Year, 14-15 February 1942, between

elements of the battle-hardened Japanese 5th division and the part-time soldiers of the British 18th division, at Sime Road Golf Course, Bukit Brown Cemetery, and Mount Pleasant estate.

About the speaker

Beng Tang is a volunteer nature and heritage guide who leads tours on the history of WWII and the biodiversity of Bukit Brown.

All Things Bukit Brown is a group of volunteers who record the heritage, habitat and history of Bukit Brown and its surrounding area, and the history of Singapore since 1819.

Registration and more details at <https://bsq2021.peatix.com>. The Zoom link will be sent to registrants prior to the talk.

[Webinar] The Comfort Women of Singapore in History and Memory

Date: 6 March 2021

Time: 10.30am

Venue: Conducted via Zoom

Why have the voices of Singapore women who worked in the sex industry of the Japanese military in Singapore during the Second World War been missing from history? Were there Singapore women working as comfort women? This talk uncovers the missing voices of the comfort women of Japanese occupied Singapore during the Second World War and explains why Singapore comfort women have not come forward with their testimonies as comfort women in other societies in Asia have done so since the 1990s.

About the speaker

Kevin Blackburn is an Associate Professor in History at the National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. He has taught in Singapore since 1993, when he left the History Department of the University of Queensland to take up his present teaching position. He teaches and researches the history and memory of the Japanese Occupation of Southeast Asia. On the study of war and commemoration, he has co-authored with Karl Hack, *Did Singapore Have to Fall?* (Routledge, 2004) and *War Memory and the Making of Modern Malaysia and Singapore* (NUS Press, 2012), as well as co-edited with him *Forgotten Captives in Japanese Occupied Asia* (Routledge, 2008).

Registration and more details at <https://bsq2021.peatix.com>. The Zoom link will be sent to registrants prior to the talk.

Other Museum Roundtable Programmes**Interactive Storytelling: Timmy & Tammy Talking to Grandpa about the War**

Date: 13 March 2021

Time: 10.30am – 11am, 3.30pm – 4pm

Venue: National Museum of Singapore

In this storytelling session based on the popular children's book *Timmy & Tammy Talking to Grandpa about the War*, children will learn about banana money and food ration cards that were used during the Japanese Occupation in Singapore, and speak with Great-grandma, who lived through World War II. After the session, explore the *Surviving Syonan* gallery in your own time with the help of a list of highlights.

Each ticket admits one child and one adult (parent or grandparent) only. Limited to 22 adult-child pairs due to safe management measures.

Interested parties can register at <https://timmytammy210313.peatix.com>. This programme is presented in conjunction with *Battle for Singapore 2021*.

Note: Suitable for families with children aged 5 to 9.

Adventures in Architecture Tour @ National Gallery Singapore

Date: 14 March 2021

Time: 11am – 12pm; 2 – 3pm

Venue: National Gallery Singapore

The National Gallery Singapore is a building and space anchored by time and history. Its architecture has many grand and recognisable features. What are the shapes that make the Corinthian Columns in the City Hall Chamber? Can you spot familiar shapes on the terrazzo floor at the former Supreme Court building? *Adventures in Architecture* is a tour that encourages families to explore the rich history and architecture of the former Supreme Court and City Hall buildings, and to think about shapes we see in everyday life. Children will also be introduced to basic architectural terms and vocabulary. In conjunction with *Battle for Singapore 2021*, the tour will be highlighting the war-time significance of the building as well as architectural elements related to Singapore's WWII history.

Interested parties can register at <https://bsg2021-adventures2.peatix.com/>. This programme is presented in conjunction with *Battle for Singapore 2021*.

Note: Suitable for families with children aged 5 to 8.

Eurasian Heritage Gallery – Battle for Singapore Special Tour Programme

Date: 20, 27 February, 13 March 2021

Time: 11am – 1pm

As part of *Battle for Singapore 2021*, the Eurasian Heritage Gallery (EHG) will be organising special WWII-themed tours. The tour will begin with a hands-on poppy-making activity. Wearing their self-made poppy, participants will then discover how the Eurasian community suffered along with other ethnic groups in Singapore during WWII under the Japanese Occupation, and how several war heroes emerged from the trials and tribulations. The tour ends with a sharing by a Eurasian war survivor. Light refreshments will be provided.

Interested parties can register at <https://eurasianheritagegallery.peatix.com>. Tickets are priced at \$10 per pax. This programme is presented in conjunction with *Battle for Singapore 2021*.

HistoriaSG: Behind *Memoirs of a Flying Tiger* – Dialogue with World War Two Pilot and Veteran Captain Ho Weng Toh

Date: 20 February 2021

Time: 2pm – 3pm

Venue: Gallery Theatre, Basement Level, National Museum of Singapore

Captain Ho Weng Toh, currently 101 years old and one of the last remaining Flying Tigers, has lived a vibrant life, from growing up in Ipoh and studying in Hong Kong, to becoming a Chinese Air Force B-25 bomber pilot during World War Two (WWII), and finally, settling down in Singapore to train an entire generation of local pilots for Singapore International Airlines (SIA). In 2019, he documented his experiences as a bomber pilot and the trials and hardships of the war years in *Memoirs of a Flying Tiger*.

Join us for a dialogue with Captain Ho at the National Museum of Singapore, where he and co-writer Jonathan Y.H. Sim will share more about the writing of his memoirs and discuss his experiences during WWII.

This programme is conducted in conjunction with Battle for Singapore 2021. Limited spaces are available for the on-site session at the National Museum of Singapore – please visit <https://hsg-flyingtigers.peatix.com> for registration. \$5 per pax includes light refreshments (to be consumed after the programme). A concurrent livestream of the programme will also be available free of charge on the National Museum of Singapore Facebook page.

Archives Invites –

Viknesh Kobinathan:

Witness to War: Memories and Screens

Date: 25 February 2021

Time: 6pm – 7pm

Venue: Conducted via Zoom

Inspired by the exhibition *Witness to War: Remembering 1942* organised by the National Museum of Singapore in 2017, the Asian Film Archive (AFA) curated *Memories and Screens*, an international film programme that traced the historical development of, and the sentiments toward, the Fall of Singapore and the war in the Pacific during World War II. From Japan's first feature-length animation to a P. Ramlee Malay classic; from a star-

studded Hollywood feature to a French arthouse gem, AFA's Film Programmer, Viknesh Kobinathan will share his insights on how this diverse film programme was conceived.

About the speaker

Viknesh Kobinathan is a programmer at the Asian Film Archive (AFA), where he curates film screenings and discursive events that examine issues affecting Asian societies, explores the art of Asian cinema, and furthers the preservation mission of the AFA. He also oversees the commissioning project, *Monographs*, a series that features written and video essays about Asian cinema conceived during the uncertainty of the global pandemic. Viknesh holds an MA in Film Studies from the National Film and Television School in England and was previously the programme manager at independent cinema venue, *The Projector*.

Interested parties can register at <https://go.gov.sg/25feb-edm>. This programme is presented in conjunction with *Battle for Singapore 2021*.