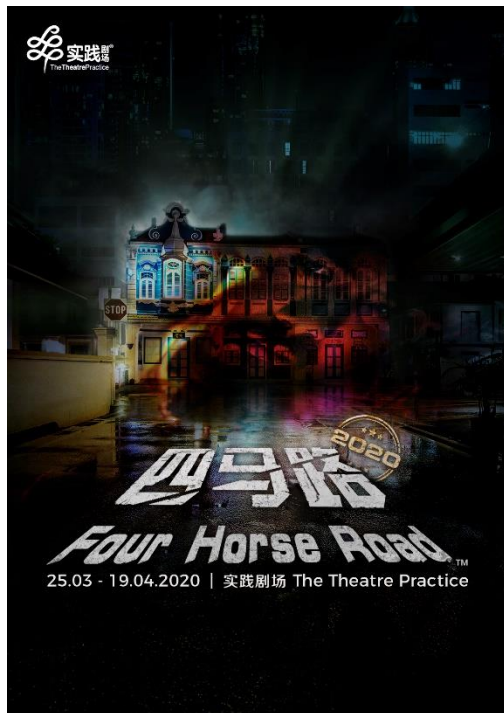


For immediate release

FOUR HORSE ROAD RETURNS, BIGGER AND BETTER



First staged in 2018 to roaring success, The Theatre Practice (Practice)'s epic theatrical adventure returns bigger and better, from 25 March – 19 April 2020.

Spanning 150 years in Singapore history, *Four Horse Road 2020* will get you on your feet to watch history come alive and unfold around you as you journey through three heritage buildings on Waterloo Street.

A promenade theatre experience like no other

This 2-hour theatre journey will bring you back in time to discover some of the best-kept secrets and unsolved mysteries of Waterloo Street and its surrounding area.

Be it as a bus passenger, a visitor to the home for the aged and destitute, or just as an observer, audiences play a part in the story as the action unfolds right before your eyes.

Sorting audiences into different routes, *Four Horse Road* will have audiences back for more as one can experience the journey differently each time they visit. If you missed a scene in 2018, here comes your second chance to catch it again.

Brand new stories and return of crowd favourites

During the initial stages of research, numerous stories from the past about Waterloo Street and its vicinity were excavated by Practice's researcher Sim Xin Yi and playwright Jonathan Lim.

Lim has had a long personal history with the street. Once a Catholic High student, Lim studied in the old campus (now 51 Waterloo), served in the army in a camp nearby, and continued to work closely with theatre groups in this arts and heritage district today.

"I've always loved projects that use theatre to excavate the past to illuminate the present. But a historical project about this neighbourhood thrills me even more!" says Lim.

Of the many historical events excavated, 10 were chosen to be developed for the stories in the first edition in 2018. And in 2020, new ones will be added to the collection. While bringing back crowd favourite scenes such as “Bus Hijack”, “Nantina Home”, the bustling restaurant of “May Blossom”, one can look forward to new twists in the returning stories.

Director Kuo Jian Hong also reveals that all the scenes taking place within the Practice building will be new.

Practice’s most intricate production to date

Bringing together partners and people from different walks of life to tell the story, *Four Horse Road* boasts a team of over 60 creatives, cast and crew, to make the show happen every night.

Be it running 1500 metres of sound and lighting cables across 10 locations within the three buildings, replicating a 1970s’ bus set, or the timing coordination from scene to scene, *Four Horse Road* is one of Practice’s most intricate productions, and one of the largest scale promenade theatre production in Singapore to date.

Brought to life by some of Singapore’s most talented creatives, *Four Horse Road 2020* features a 27-strong diverse cast, with the return of familiar and new faces of the Singapore theatre scene, including Sugie Phua, Al-matin Yatim, Dwayne Lau, Grace Kalaiselvi, Goh Guat Kian, Ric Liu, Ethel Yap, Andrew Mowatt and more.

A highlight of this multilingual work is the use of over 10 different languages and chinese dialects. Adding on the challenge, the cast will also have to tackle various language accents from different eras of Singapore history.

History matters to us

Waterloo Street has also been home to Practice for the past 31 years. From Stamford Arts Centre to its current location, Practice has been an “anchor tenant” on this street. “We wanted to do something to connect with this street, and to engage with our neighbours,” said Kuo.

“Waterloo Street was one of the oldest and most vibrant hotspots of Singapore. People from multi-faceted backgrounds left their marks on this street, leaving us a diversity of religions, cultures, and of course, stories. We have been given this unique vantage point to discover our past through different lenses, to create meaning by experiencing how the past connects to our present,” adds Kuo.

The key word here is of course, diversity. If history is just a singular perspective of the truth, then *Four Horse Road* is an antithesis of that. It celebrates clashing perspectives, unsolved mysteries and more importantly, the seemingly transient people.

“As Singaporeans, or even people who have chosen to make Singapore their home, we need to know who we are a bit better. There are a lot of missing links in us understanding who we are. We are much more diverse and complex than what our history books have been telling us,” Kuo explains.

Experience more through Singaporean's favourite pastime - EAT!

Discover more about our heritage and intergenerationality through food at Practice Tuckshop's *Recess Time*. Practice Tuckshop will feature three *Four Horse Road* editions of *Recess Time* in March and April.

Recess Time is a lunch party where invited chefs and homecooks (Makan Masters) put their creative expressions on a plate, while foodies gather over a delicious 3-course meal. In the *Four Horse Road* editions, the Makan Masters will explore their relationship with the past through their recipes and food, and share their stories with participants.

Follow @practicetuckshop on Facebook and Instagram for more updates on *Recess Time*.

Book early for greater savings

Tickets (S\$68) will be available on BookMyShow online at sg.bookmyshow.com and at its first and only Authorised Ticketing Agent outlet at Practice Tuckshop (58 Waterloo Street). Enjoy up to 15% savings when you book before 24 March 2020.

More information on *Four Horse Road 2020* can be found on www.practice.org.sg.

For media enquiries, interviews and visuals, please contact:

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Fast Facts

Title:	<i>Four Horse Road 2020</i> 《四马路》 2020
Dates:	25 March – 19 April 2020
Time:	8pm (Tue – Sun)
Venue:	The Theatre Practice (54 Waterloo Street, Singapore 187953)
Language:	Multilingual including Mandarin, English, Malay, Japanese, Chinese Dialects
Ticket Prices:	\$68 (excl. \$4 booking fees)
Duration:	Approximately 2 hours
Ticketing:	sg.bookmyshow.com
Information:	www.practice.org.sg/en/performance/fourhorseroad
Rating:	Advisory 16 (Some Mature Content and Coarse Language)

About *Four Horse Road 2020*

*Travel across time and space, and inhabit forgotten worlds.
The gates of Four Horse Road are open once again.*

Spanning over 150 years of Singapore history, *Four Horse Road* is an intimate experience on an epic scale. Rediscover our present through the lens of the past and journey across three heritage buildings along Waterloo Street.

This time, it's bigger and better. The Theatre Practice's unforgettable promenade theatre experience returns with a mix of brand new stories and crowd favourites.

Welcome back to *Four Horse Road*.

Reviews

"History has never seemed so fun." - *The Straits Times*

"This is a testimony of passion and an interesting take to question as well as celebrate our nation's history." - *Popspoken*

"High production value from inventive designers, a dream cast of some of the most talented actors, and running smooth as clockwork, *Four Horse Road* is the epic tale of Singapore you never knew you wanted, and leaves you more curious than ever about the endlessly fascinating history and future of this heritage district." - *Bakchormeeboy*

"*Four Horse Road* successfully presents the complexities of historical narratives, and the tensions that arise from excavating the disparate spatial memories of Waterloo Street." - *Centre 42 Citizen Reviewer*

About The Theatre Practice

The Theatre Practice (Practice) is Singapore's longest-standing professional bilingual theatre institution. Artist-driven and deeply progressive, Practice strives to be an arts space in Singapore that consciously nurtures and empowers people who care about humanity. Over the past 54 years, we have developed and presented a vast critically-acclaimed multi-genre repertoire that reflects the complexities of Singapore's diverse cultures.

Practice today is a cultural force. As a bridge between cultures, we have brought practitioners of diverse backgrounds together for exchange, and provided platforms for international works. As pioneers in Arts Education in Singapore, we have nurtured leaders in the Singapore arts scene, and inculcated the love for the arts in generations of youths.

Under current Artistic Director Kuo Jian Hong, Practice continues to shape our cultural landscape as the definitive voice in Singapore theatre. Deeply influenced by the importance of play in art-making, Practice has become the embodiment of the irrepressible spirit and fearless experimentation of play under her leadership.

Artistically diverse and constantly relevant, Practice will always engage in the ceaseless exploration of new frontiers.

The Theatre Practice is supported by the National Arts Council under the Major Company Scheme for the period of April 2017 to March 2020. Practice is also an Institution of Public Character and a member of the Singapore Chinese Language Theatre Alliance.