

## POST-EVENT MEDIA RELEASE

### **A TRUE-LIFE TALE OF GRIT AMID TERRORISM MADE IT TO THE BIG SCREEN AT S'PORE DISCOVERY CENTRE**

S'pore Discovery Centre signed MOU with  
Temasek Polytechnic and Ngee Ann Polytechnic

**Singapore, 6 June 2017** – S'pore Discovery Centre (SDC) collaborated with Temasek Polytechnic (TP) School of Design and Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP) School of Film & Media Studies, to commission three new short films, with stories close to the heart of every Singaporean. Guest-of-Honour Ms Grace Fu, Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, graced the movie gala premiere and witnessed the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) by SDC with TP and NP earlier this evening, at the S'pore Discovery Centre.

SDC's mission is to share the Singapore Story and inspire Singaporeans to contribute to Singapore's future. We hope to also achieve this through the use of films and at the same time, collaborate with post-secondary education institutions to showcase the creative talent of our youths. This is the fourth year that SDC is hosting the Singapore Stories Film Gala, where we debut short films produced by our home-grown talented students.

SDC has been collaborating with TP School of Design for the past 3 years. In a bid to further this meaningful partnership, SDC will be renewing the MOU with TP for another 2 years. To expand our efforts to engage more youths through this creative platform, SDC has also reached out to NP to render our support to their students in producing quality films. The students will be able to benefit significantly from this inaugural collaboration, which correspondingly will also boost the ties between SDC and NP, with whom we will also be signing a MOU at the event.

With a runtime of about 20 minutes for each film; 'Gallant', 'Rust Red' and 'Azza', have been selected as they highlight our vulnerabilities as well as embody strong values and conviction.



Guest-of-Honour, Ms Grace Fu, Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, witnessed the signing of MOU by S'pore Discovery Centre with Temasek Polytechnic and Ngee Ann Polytechnic



MOU signing ceremony by S'pore Discovery Centre with Temasek Polytechnic and Ngee Ann Polytechnic.

From left to right:

Mr Hovman Goh (SDC Asst Executive Director), Mr Lim Chong-Jin (TP Director), Mr Peter Lam (TP Principal/CEO), Mr Lowrence Chua (SDC Executive Director), Minister Grace Fu (Guest-of-Honour), Mr Clarence Ti (NP Principal), Ms Anita Kuan (NP Director)



Guest-of-Honour, Ms Grace Fu speaking with the student directors and producers of each film.

From left to right:

Team Gallant, Team Rust Red and Team Azza

All pictures to credit to "S'pore Discovery Centre"

### **About the films**

‘Gallant’ recounts a scene of the Japanese invasion of Singapore back in 1942, where love and family bond triumphed over fear and turned cowardice into heroism, amid terror and panic.

A thought-provoking film, ‘Rust Red’ thrusts the audience into moments before a looming end of the world catastrophe through 3 scenes; a fireman losing his faith as he comes face-to-face with dark moments, an elderly woman leaving her sickbed to see the world for the last time, and a mother’s regret of leaving her daughter in search of her own happiness.

‘Azza’ is a heart-wrenching story based on a true-life account of an 11 year old girl who faced a struggling period in her life, despite her young age. Confronted with the shock of her dearest father plotting a terrorist attack, Azza was thrown into confusion and tremendous stress. She had to fight the dilemma of exposing her father in the police investigations, alongside the aftermath when her mother attempted suicide and tried to end the lives of her two innocent children. The power of kinship was accentuated as Azza drew strength from within and worked towards bringing her mother back from the brink of losing hope in life.

### **Commemorating NS50**

Our nation commemorates 50 years of National Service (NS50) this year. While the short films seek to bring forth the values in life we hold dear, some of them convey how national service fulfills Singapore’s critical need for defence and security, as well as provide the peace and stability upon which Singapore is built. It also serves as a grim reminder of what could potentially happen to us if we cannot defend ourselves.

### **SHARING THE SINGAPORE STORY THROUGH HOMEGROWN TALENTS’ CREATIVITY**

Since it was launched in 2014, the Singapore Stories initiative has provided a platform for our youths to showcase their creative talent through film-making, reach out to the community, as well as inspire many others to pursue their aspirations.

Ms Grace Fu, Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, said: “The youths of today will be the pioneers of tomorrow. They are the ones who will shape our nation’s future. Initiatives like *Singapore Stories* support our youths in their creative endeavours, and give them a voice to articulate their vision of Singapore. Let’s continue to support our youths’ aspirations for a better and brighter Singapore!”

Mr Lawrence Chua, SDC’s Executive Director, said: “It is indeed heart-warming to see aspiring youths working hard to materialise their dreams in the field of film-making, and at the same time, bring across the essence of the Singapore Story – the values that we hold dear in our hearts and which

connect us together as one Singapore. As we commemorate NS50 this year, it is especially meaningful for us to pay tribute to our NSmen through these films. The signing of the MOUs marks a new leap in our partnership with the polytechnics, and reaffirms our support for and connection with the youths.”

Mr Peter Lam, TP’s Principal and CEO, said: “Our students have benefitted immensely from this collaboration with SDC. It immersed them in the rigours of industry demands and practices, and made their learning more relevant. It also gave them a better understanding of some of the issues and challenges facing Singapore, and the opportunity to interpret these through their films.

Mr Clarence Ti, NP’s Principal, said: “NP is honoured to have our School of Film & Media Studies students participate in SDC’s Singapore Stories Film Gala. Through their film *Rust Red*, our students sought to tell a compelling story through ordinary Singaporeans. NP will continue to forge such industry partnerships to ensure that our students’ learning is always meaningful and relevant, and that our graduates gain a head start in their careers of choice.”

Following the movie gala premiere, the three films will be exclusively screened over a period of one year to all Singaporeans and PRs at no cost, at SDC iWERKS Theatre from 1 July 2017, and will potentially benefit approximately 200,000 visitors.

---

### About S’pore Discovery Centre

S’pore Discovery Centre (SDC) is a non-profit organisation whose mission is to share the Singapore Story and inspire a desire to contribute to Singapore’s future. SDC provides a mind-and-heart-engaging, multi-sensory learning experience which spans a selection of integrated themes. SDC’s guests learn about what makes Singapore tick and gain insights into Singapore’s challenges, dreams and aspirations.

Website : [www.sdc.com.sg](http://www.sdc.com.sg)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/SingaporeDiscoveryCentre](https://www.facebook.com/SingaporeDiscoveryCentre)

For more details, please contact:

**Chloe Sng**

Manager, Marketing

S’pore Discovery Centre

Contact : +65 6668 0364 (DID)  
+65 9299 6266 (Mobile)

Email : [chloe\\_sng@sdccom.sg](mailto:chloe_sng@sdccom.sg)

**Carmen Chan**

Executive, Marketing

S’pore Discovery Centre

Contact : +65 6668 0316 (DID)  
+65 8288 7008 (Mobile)

Email : [carmen\\_chan@sdccom.sg](mailto:carmen_chan@sdccom.sg)



### **About Temasek Polytechnic (TP)**

Established in 1990, TP is one of the leading institutions of higher learning in Singapore. Currently, it offers 48 full-time diploma courses in the areas of applied science, business, design, engineering, humanities & social sciences and informatics & IT. It also offers over 20 part-time courses, up to the advanced diploma level. TP students undergo a holistic learning system that combines hands-on experience, character education and relevant life skills, in an enriching learning environment. The polytechnic has also infused global realities into its programmes and developed a mindset on campus that embraces socio-cultural diversity. These ensure that TP graduates are ready for work or further studies, and to contribute meaningfully to the community. For more information, please visit [www.tp.edu.sg](http://www.tp.edu.sg).

### **About Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP)**

Inaugurated in 1963 as Ngee Ann College with only 116 students, Ngee Ann Polytechnic is today one of Singapore's leading institutions of higher learning with about 15,000 full-time students, 2,000 part-time students and an alumni community of over 130,000. The polytechnic offers 49 full-time courses through its nine academic schools. Ngee Ann supports Continuing Education and Training (CET) through its CET Academy which offers a wide range of part-time programmes. The Polytechnic has also established two Centres of Innovation - in Environmental & Water Technology and Marine & Offshore Technology - to work on collaborative research and technology projects. Learning takes place amid a caring and conducive environment with top-notch facilities ranging from broadcast, multimedia and animation studios to research laboratories as well as simulation and technology centres. With our emphasis on a broad-based education, coupled with our signature Service-Learning pedagogy and global exposure, Ngee Ann Polytechnic's vision is to prepare graduates with a passion for learning, values for life and competencies to thrive in a global workplace. For more information, please visit [www.np.edu.sg](http://www.np.edu.sg).





## Singapore Stories Film Gala

### FILM SUMMARY

**FILM 1 : GALLANT**  
**DURATION** : 26 mins  
**GENRE** : Family Drama  
**LANGUAGE** : English, Mandarin and Malay (with English subtitles)

**The story recounts a scene of the Japanese invasion of Singapore back in 1942, where love and family bond triumphed over fear and turned cowardice into heroism, amid terror and panic.**

During the 3rd day of the Japanese invasion, Jin Li and his pregnant wife An Ning attempt to flee and evacuate the war-torn country. However, things turn for the worst as the couple is separated amidst Jin Li's cowardice – leading to An Ning's capture by a menacing Japanese Lieutenant. Plagued with guilt and fear, Jin Li must summon his courage to rescue the one he loves.

<i>Director &amp; Screenwriter</i>	<i>Muhammad Bahajjaj</i>
<i>Producer</i>	<i>Reynard Lee</i>
<i>Producer &amp; Assistant Director</i>	<i>Lhenina Bonilla</i>
<i>Director of Photography</i>	<i>Timothy Lim</i>
<i>Key Grip</i>	<i>Muhammad Khan</i>
<i>Editor</i>	<i>Caven Neo</i>
<i>Production Designer</i>	<i>Sarah Chan</i>
<i>Sound Recordist</i>	<i>Samuel Phua</i>
<i>Set Decorator</i>	<i>Diyana Jailani</i>

*Cast: Louis Wu, Wendy Toh, Fingal Olsson, Osman Bin Omar, William Lawandi, Laurence Pang, Ronald Goh*

By Temasek Polytechnic, School of Design – Diploma in Digital Film & Television

In commemoration of 50 years of National Service.

**FILM 2** : RUST RED  
**DURATION** : 22 mins  
**GENRE** : Drama  
**LANGUAGE** : English, Malay, Tamil and Cantonese (with English subtitles)

### **Who are you at the end of the world?**

'Rust Red' thrusts the audience into moments before a looming end of the world catastrophe through three scenes; a fireman losing his faith as he comes face-to-face with dark moments, an elderly woman leaving her sickbed to see the world for the last time, and a mother's regret of leaving her daughter in search of her own happiness.

A fictional film that explores how the end of the world can have various effects on people, the three stories are told as the scenes interweave to share the dilemmas and inner thoughts of each character. This end-of-the-world imagery is depicted subtly and moves the film along with a sense of solitude amidst the uncertainties. Audience who view the film, can expect to leave the theatre in a pensive mood.

<i>Director &amp; Screenwriter</i>	<i>Miranda Cardenas</i>
<i>Producer</i>	<i>Samuel Loh</i>
<i>Assistant Director</i>	<i>Tan Jia Hui</i>
<i>Director of Photography &amp; Screenwriter</i>	<i>Khairul Hafizh</i>
<i>Art Direction</i>	<i>Phua Yu Ting</i>
<i>Editor</i>	<i>Leanne Chan</i>
<i>Sound Designer</i>	<i>Sherman Goh</i>

*Cast: Sylvia Liew, April Jane Douglas Pecaso, Masdiana Bte Jumaat, Siti Nur Batrisya Binte Soffian, Jaisilan Sathiasilan*

By Ngee Ann Polytechnic, School of Film & Media Studies - Diploma in Film, Sound & Video

**FILM 3** : **AZZA**  
**DURATION** : 26 mins  
**GENRE** : Family Drama  
**LANGUAGE** : English, Tamil and Mandarin (with English subtitles)

**Based on a real life story.**

“Azza” is a heart-wrenching story based on a true-life account of an 11 year old girl who faces a struggling period in her life, despite her young age. Confronted with the shock of her dearest father plotting a terrorist attack, Azza is thrown into confusion and tremendous stress. She has to fight the dilemma of exposing her father in the police investigations, alongside the aftermath when her mother attempts suicide and tries to kill the entire family. The power of kinship is accentuated as Azza draws strength from within and works towards bringing her mother back from the brink of losing hope in life.

Director & Screenwriter	Eleaner Choo
Producer	Nur Shahidah
Assistant Director	Venessa Lim
Directors of Photography	Sufy Ashraf & Hamizan Hisham
Editor	Khairyani Khair
Production Designer	Docson Ling
Set Decorator	Siti Aisyah
Sound Designer	Lynn Chua

Cast: Vinathi Naidu, Subramaniam Narainda, Navina Rajan, Sakthivel Dharshan

By Temasek Polytechnic, School of Design – Diploma in Digital Film & Television



FILM 1 : GALLANT





FILM 2

: RUST RED



FILM 3

: AZZA

BASED ON A TRUE STORY



# AZZA

A TRUST BETRAYED

A NONAGON PRODUCTION PRESENTS "AZZA" STARRING VINATHI NAIDU SUBRAMANIAM NARAINDA  
WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY ELEANOR CHOO PRODUCED BY NUR SHAHIDAH ASSISTANT DIRECTOR VENESSA LIM PRODUCTION DESIGNER DOCSON LING SET DECORATOR SITI AISYAH  
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY SUFY ASHRAF GAFFER HAMIZAN HISHAM EDITED BY KHAIRYANI KHAIR SOUND DESIGNER LYNN CHUA

 **Temasek**  
POLYTECHNIC

 **spore**  
Discovery Centre  
THE SINGAPORE STORY, OURS TO CREATE

CELEBRATING  
**20**  
YEARS

 **STORIES**  
FILM GALA



## **Singapore Stories Film Gala**

**S'pore Discovery Centre  
Tuesday, 6 June 2017**

### **Programme**

7:00pm	Arrival of Minister for Culture, Community and Youth
7:10pm	Introduction to Temasek Polytechnic's and Ngee Ann Polytechnic's short films by students
7:30pm	Commencement of Gala event Welcome address by Executive Director, S'pore Discovery Centre
7:35pm	Speech by Temasek Polytechnic's Principal and CEO
7:40pm	Speech by Ngee Ann Polytechnic's Principal
7:45pm	Signing of Memorandum of Understanding
8:00pm	Screening of short films
9:15pm	Acknowledgement of student production teams
9:20pm	Buffet reception
9:30pm	Signing of Guest Book by Guest-of-Honour
10:00pm	End of Event