



European Union
Delegation to Singapore

*SCAPE

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Singapore

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Singapore & Team Europe Together for Culture

Singapore & Team Europe launch inaugural Europe-Asia Outdoor Arts Festival. Free public festival brings leading European and Asian artists together for workshops, cultural exchanges and spectacular outdoor performances on Orchard Road.



Singapore, 8th September 2026 – Team Europe and Singapore celebrate the power of culture with the launch of the **Europe-Asia Outdoor Arts Festival**, the inaugural flagship project of the **European Union National Institutes for Culture (EUNIC) Cluster Singapore**.

The festival presented in collaboration with ***SCAPE** is a joint initiative of EUNIC Singapore, bringing together the European Union (EU) Delegation to Singapore and the Embassies of Austria, France, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Portugal and Spain as well as the Goethe Institut and Alliance Française.

It marks a significant milestone in strengthening cultural ties between Europe and Singapore while showcasing the transformative potential of street performances and outdoor arts in public spaces. The collaboration also reflects *SCAPE's ongoing work with partners, youth communities and cultural

practitioners to create accessible platforms where young people can build confidence, connect with audiences, and contribute to Singapore's creative landscape through live performance and community-led placemaking.

Taking place throughout the week leading up to **12–13 September**, the festival brings together acclaimed artists, producers and cultural practitioners from Europe and Asia for an intensive programme of workshops, artistic collaboration and professional exchange.

The programme culminates in a vibrant weekend of free outdoor performances on **Orchard Road (near *SCAPE)**, inviting audiences of all ages to experience contemporary street theatre, circus arts and live performance in the heart of Singapore.

- **Europe-Asia Outdoor Arts Festival: Performances**
 - **Dates:** 12–13 September
 - **Venue:** Along Orchard Road (Location 1: Outside Mandarin Gallery - Outside Victoria's Secret & Location 2: Outside Mandarin Gallery – Main Entrance)
 - Admission:** Free

Performance Schedule

Artist	12 September	13 September
XUE & Marla Bendini	3:00PM	3:00PM
Pina Polar	3:30PM	3:30PM
Kristyn Fontanella	4:00PM	4:00PPM
Tok Tok Chiang	4:30PM	4:30PM
Diogo Dias	5:00PM	5:00PM
Carlo Mo	5:30PM	5:30PM
Jonathan Goh	6:00PM	-
Tho Sovaan	6:30PM	6:30PM
Kris Madden	7:30PM	7:30PM
Circus Battle by Bornfire	8:30PM	-

Designed to encourage creativity, accessibility and international collaboration, the festival celebrates how public spaces can become places of artistic discovery, community engagement and cultural dialogue.

For *SCAPE, the festival continues its commitment to nurturing youth expression beyond conventional stages. Through its programmes, spaces and partner-led initiatives, *SCAPE has supported emerging artists by providing platforms for experimentation, mentorship and public showcase. By bringing outdoor arts into the Somerset Belt and Orchard Road precinct, the festival extends this approach into the public realm, strengthening pathways for young and emerging talents to be seen, heard and celebrated by wider audiences.

A key feature of the programme is *Beyond Borders: Outdoor Arts Exchange*, a professional exchange initiative delivered in partnership with Circostrada, Europe's leading network for contemporary circus and outdoor arts. Adapted from Circostrada's acclaimed BOUNCE development programme, the initiative brings together Singapore and European arts practitioners for knowledge sharing, dialogue

and networking, while fostering new perspectives, connections and opportunities to support the continued development of Singapore's outdoor arts sector

The festival will also feature *Street Show Lab* ("*The Lab*"), a professional development programme where European artists will share their artistic practices and methodologies with local participants through artist-led sessions, discussions and hands-on exploration. The Lab creates opportunities for cross-cultural exchange, encouraging participants to broaden their approaches to creating work for public space while building connections between artists from Europe and Singapore

Says Artis Bērtulis, European Union (EU) Ambassador to Singapore, "Culture has the unique power to connect people across languages, borders and traditions. The Europe-Asia Outdoor Arts Festival reflects the European Union's commitment to fostering meaningful cultural partnerships with Singapore and the wider region. By bringing together artists, cultural professionals and communities in Team Europe spirit, we are creating opportunities for creativity, dialogue and mutual understanding while supporting the next generation of outdoor arts practitioners. We warmly invite everyone to join us and experience these inspiring performances in the heart of the city."

Says Ethen Ong, Acting Executive Director of *SCAPE, "At *SCAPE, has always believed in the power of partnerships are key to creating more opportunities, open up new possibilities for youths. This festival brings that spirit to life by creating a shared platform for young and emerging artists a platform to learn, experiment, test new ideas and connect with audiences in the heart of the city. By working with EUNIC Singapore, Circostrada and our creative communities, we hope to continue strengthening Singapore's youth arts ecosystem and inspire more young people to express themselves with confidence."

Says Alice Brunot, Head of ARTCENA International Development and Circostrada Network Coordinator, "International cooperation is at the heart of Circostrada's mission. We are delighted to contribute our expertise to this initiative led by the EUNIC Singapore Cluster. This collaboration is a great example of the added value that can be created when EUNIC Clusters and European-funded networks and platforms such as Circostrada, circusnext and IN SITU work together, combining cultural diplomacy with sector-specific knowledge and professional exchange. By bringing together artists, cultural organisations and professionals from Singapore and across Europe, this initiative creates opportunities for lasting partnerships, contributes to the development of the outdoor arts sector in Singapore and strengthens cultural ties between Europe and Asia."

The Europe-Asia Outdoor Arts Festival represents the first major collaborative cultural initiative under the EUNIC Singapore Cluster Charter, signed in November 2025. The Charter provides a shared framework for strengthening European cultural cooperation in Singapore through strategic partnerships, artistic exchange and innovative cultural programming. This festival demonstrates Team Europe's collective commitment to enriching Singapore's cultural landscape while creating new opportunities for artists and audiences across both regions.

FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

- **BEYOND BORDERS: Outdoor Arts Exchange**

- Professional exchange programme for artists, producers, programmers and presenters
- Led by European outdoor arts experts in partnership with Circostrada.
- **Event Details**
Dates: 9-11 Sep 2026 (Wed-Fri)
Time: 7:00PM - 10:00PM
Venue: *SCAPE Gallery, L5 (2 Orchard Link, Singapore 237978)

Participants are strongly encouraged to attend all three days to maximise learning, as different topics will be covered on each day.

- Registration: [Beyond Borders: Outdoor Arts Exchange \(Participants RSVP\) – Fill out form](#)

- **STREET SHOW LAB**

- Artist-led professional development sessions with European practitioners, exploring diverse artistic practices and methodologies for public space.
- Hands-on exploration, dialogue and cross-cultural exchange with Singapore-based participants.
- **Event Details**
Dates: 8-11 Sep 2026 (Tues-Fri)
Time: 3:00PM - 6:00PM / 7:00PM - 10:00PM
Venue: *SCAPE Whitespace, L3 (2 Orchard Link, Singapore 237978)
○ Registration: [Street Show Lab \(Participants RSVP\) – Fill out form](#)

- **STREET PERFORMANCES**

- **Dates:** 12–13 September
- **Venue:** Orchard Road (Outside Mandarin Gallery)
- **Admission:** Free

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About *SCAPE

*SCAPE is a non-profit organisation, registered charity and Institution of a Public Character (IPC) dedicated to inspiring and empowering youths to be the best version of themselves. Located in the heart of the Somerset Belt, *SCAPE serves as a youth hub and creative launchpad where young people can explore their passions, build capabilities, connect with like-minded communities and contribute meaningfully to society. Through programmes, spaces and dynamic collaborations with partners, brands and youth communities, *SCAPE supports youth expression across creative arts, media and entertainment, urban sports, entrepreneurship, wellness and sustainability. As a platform driven by youth, for youth and with youth, *SCAPE continues to create boundless possibilities for Singapore's next generation of creators, performers and changemakers.

Find out more at www.scape.sg

About Circostrada

Circostrada is the Network for contemporary circus and outdoor arts, co-funded by the Creative Europe programme of the European Union and coordinated by ARTCENA (France). Created in 2003, the network brings together more than 180 member organisations from over 40 countries. Its mission is to support the development, empowerment and recognition of contemporary circus and outdoor arts at the European and international levels by fostering cooperation, professional exchange and development, knowledge production and dialogue with cultural policymakers.

Find out more at www.circostrada.org

About EUNIC Singapore

The European Union National Institutes for Culture (EUNIC) is Europe's network of national cultural institutes and organisations, working to strengthen international cultural relations through collaboration, dialogue and exchange.

On 17 November 2025, Ambassadors and representatives from the European Union Delegation to Singapore, together with European cultural partners including Alliance Française and Goethe-Institut, signed the EUNIC Singapore Cluster Charter, reaffirming their commitment to expanding European cultural cooperation in Singapore. Watch the [video](#).

Approved by the EUNIC General Assembly in Rome, the Charter establishes a common framework for developing strategic partnerships, supporting artists and delivering collaborative cultural initiatives that enrich Singapore's vibrant arts ecosystem. The Europe-Asia Street Performances & Outdoor Arts Festival is the inaugural flagship project delivered under this shared vision. This brings together the European Union (EU) Delegation to Singapore and the Embassies of Austria, France, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Portugal and Spain as well as the Goethe Institut and Alliance Française

Annex A – List of Participating Artists

Artist Photo	Artist Name	Bio
	Kristyn Fontanella	As a dance artist Kristyn Fontanella focuses her past knowledge of Irish step dancing and presents it in a contemporary context. Having toured for over 12 years with Riverdance, Lord of the Dance & as lead soloist in Gaelforce Dance, her current mission is to show another side of the complex world of Irish Step dancing to future generations. Kristyn's duet, As We Know It was an early success, showing in NYC, Dublin Dance Festival, Marseille New Danse Festival, & Tanzmesse Germany. Her ensemble work, IN LiMBO, which has had continued support from the Arts Council, completed a seven venue Irish National Tour in February 2020. Kristyn was involved with two projects for Galway 2020; Plurabella, a solo dance film commissioned by Ríonach Ní Néill (Hope it Rains) and a site-specific dance piece with Dansnest (NL) through Galway Dance Project. Her new traditional dance comedy 'The Competition... an interactive feis' was supported through multiple awards from the Arts Council and premiered in April 2021. This piece was performed live and filmed with seven cameras. Not only was this a live performance it was also interactive, where the audience remotely voted at the end of each round. Their votes then determined the starting order for the next round and ultimately the winner! Kristyn resides in Co. Galway where she continues her creative process exploring the two worlds of Traditional and Contemporary dance. Her focus now is on a new solo work tracing her dance family tree, with support from Town Hall Theatre Galway, Galway International Arts Festival and the Irish Arts Council.

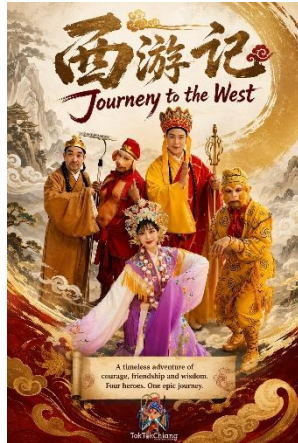
	Pina Polar	Born in the very east of Poland. During her intellectual adventures on the faculty of philosophy, she discovered circus art which became her complete passion. Always interested in the body work through the art of pantomime, dance theatre, puppet theatre she arrived to the clown universe in 2010 in Berlin and since then she performs on stages, busks, makes walkabouts, travels from festival to festival, keeps creating and trying to make the world a better place.
	Diogo Dias	Diogo Dias is a multidisciplinary artist whose practice moves between poetry, music, performance and dramaturgy. Emerging as an artist in 2009 through the publication of two books and his involvement in various musical projects, his work has since developed a strong focus on participatory experiences and the relationship between words, audiences and public space. Throughout his career, Diogo has collaborated across different artistic disciplines, including work with renowned performance company La Fura dels Baus. His practice has also been presented internationally, including representing Portugal at the Spoken Word Festival in Warsaw. Through his artistic platform DivagaSonhos, Diogo continues to explore ways of bringing together music, words and participation to create shared encounters with audiences.
	Carlos Pérez Aznar (Carlo Mô)	Carlo Mô is an actor and clown artist with nearly 25 years of experience in physical and gestural comedy. Moving between absurd humour and poetic expression, his distinctive performance style transforms simple gestures and everyday objects into playful explorations of human instinct and behaviour. His works have been presented extensively across Spain and at international festivals throughout Europe and beyond

	Jonathan Goh	Jonathan Goh is an international Singaporean street performer based in both Singapore and London. He is the creator of the street circus show <i>Planks & Ladders</i> and a regular performer at Covent Garden, one of the world's most renowned street performance pitches. He made history as the first Singaporean to present a street show at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, where he has showcased his work across four seasons. Representing Singapore on the world stage, Jonathan has performed internationally at festivals including the Roma Buskers Festival in Italy, Lisboa Mágica in Portugal, Gwangju Fringe Festival in Korea, and Georgetown Festival in Malaysia, as well as flagship events in Singapore such as the Night Festival and Chingay Parade. He recently graduated with a First Class BA (Hons) degree in Circus Arts from the National Centre for Circus Arts in London and is also co-founder of the Buskers' Association (Singapore), supporting the growth of street arts locally.
	XUE x Marla Bendini	Marla Bendini (b. 1986, Singapore) is a cross-disciplinary trans, non-binary artist working across painting, text, experimental guzheng, performance, and installation. Their emotional, relational, playful, and transgressive practice engages performance, personas, myth-making, and spiritual inquiry to challenge social, cultural, and political narratives. Drawing from personal histories and archives, Marla uses



storytelling in performative encounters to examine how recollection and conversation function as strategies for memory and meaning-making with her audiences. Her work investigates identity and visibility, creating spaces for empathy, joy, and community as practices of survival and belonging.

Singaporean Butoh artist XUE is the founder of the Singapore Butoh Collective. The irreverent yet systematic nature of their art practice underpins their work as artist, organizer, and their decade-long background in graphic design. In their work, XUE experiments with various live performance formats with Butoh as a central expression. Their life's work is to strengthen the foundations through which future generations of artists may develop independent practices supported by this form. XUE's ongoing training continues under Vangelina (Vangelina Theater / New York Butoh Institute) and Emiko Agatsuma (AGAXART, Japan), complemented by self-initiated research trips to Japan. XUE is currently an Associate Artist at Dance Nucleus and a recent graduate of its Certificate Programme for Critical Practice in Contemporary Performance. XUE's performance history includes the Online New York Butoh Institute Festival (2020), Online Queer Butoh Festival (2021), and Shadowbloom (The Brick Theater, New York, 2022). In 2024, XUE presented the centre trembles, an eleven-hour Butoh performance at Singapore's ArtScience Museum. Other highlights include Solo Butoh #3 (Surakarta), ARTJOG STAGE (Yogyakarta), Cermin Air (Movement Lab, choreographed by Agatsuma Emiko), and the Jogja Noise Bombing Festival (2024). Endless Return was awarded a T:>Works Per°Form Open Academy Fellowship. Through these engagements, XUE continues to explore how Butoh can operate as both an applied art and an embodied epistemology.



Tok Tok Chiang

Nick Shen

Nick Shen (沈炜竣) is an award-winning Singapore actor, host, cultural advocate and Chinese opera practitioner. He is the Founder of Tok Tok Chiang and Troupe Leader of the 162-year-old Lao Sai Tao Yuan Teochew Opera Troupe, where he actively brings traditional Chinese opera to new and younger audiences through performances, workshops and creative collaborations.

Jamie Tan

Jamie Tan is an MOE-certified Chinese opera instructor with several years of experience performing in Singapore and participating in overseas cultural exchange programmes. She has appeared in a number of Teochew opera productions and regularly supports Chinese opera workshops as an instructor for Tok Tok Chiang.

Beyond performing and teaching, Jamie also has experience in theatrical makeup and has worked as a makeup artist consultant for drama and musical productions.

Rei Heah (Boon)

Rei Heah, also known as Boon, grew up in a Teochew opera family and began performing at the age of five. Although he later studied fashion design and built a career in sales and production, Chinese opera has remained a major source of inspiration and an important part of his life.

Rei continues to perform Teochew street opera and remains committed to the art form despite declining audiences, limited performance opportunities and modest financial returns. Passionate about preserving and passing on this cultural heritage, he has also worked with Tok Tok Chiang to introduce Chinese opera to schools and encourage younger generations to experience and learn the art form.

		For Rei, performing Chinese opera is more than a profession — it is a lifelong family tradition, a cultural responsibility and a commitment to keeping the heritage alive for future generations. Xu Xiaotian Xu Xiaotian is a full-time local martial arts coach and a familiar name in Singapore’s Chinese opera community. He has performed leading roles in numerous well-known productions, including Havoc in Heaven, Journey to the West: Flaming Mountain, Borrowing the Treasure from the Dragon Palace and Three Battles with the White Bone Demon. A former national wushu team athlete, Xu draws on his experience in both martial arts and Chinese opera. He established “Golden Cudgel” (金箍棒) to nurture a new generation of young performers specialising in the role of Sun Wukong. Today, the group has trained a growing number of youths and children. Guan Zhaoheng Guan Zhaoheng is a full-time local martial arts coach and a familiar name in Singapore’s Chinese opera community. He has performed leading roles in numerous well-known productions, including Havoc in Heaven, Journey to the West: Flaming Mountain, Borrowing the Treasure from the Dragon Palace and Three Battles with the White Bone Demon. Master Guan has also received accolades in the martial arts field and is an accomplished member of Singapore’s national elite wushu team.
	Tho Sovann	Tho Sovann is a circus artist from Battambang, Cambodia, specialising in acrobatics and diabolo. He began training at Phare Ponleu Selpak at age nine and has since developed into a versatile performer

		with over 17 years of technical training and 9 years of professional experience. Sovann has engaged in international cultural exchanges across Germany, Poland, France, and Singapore.
	Kristopher Madden	Kris began his career at 13. Leaving mainstream school and attending a full time performance school. As a child actor, voice actor and ballet dancer he decided to aquire complimentary skills such as acrobatics, breakdance, juggling and fire manipulation. These quickly overtook his initial path and forged him into a mutlitalented artist who has performed across the globe in all types of venue. From the streets to cirque du soliel and back again. His love of sharing his craft makes him a great teacher and captivating to listen to.