

Singapore Chinese
**Cultural
Contribution
Award 2024**

新加坡华族文化贡献奖

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献词

MESSAGE

新加坡的多元文化社会孕育了我们丰富而独特的本土华族文化。在文化建设的道路上，我们很欣慰许多的个人和团体，多年来都一直在各自的领域孜孜不倦地努力传承、钻研、弘扬和发展属于我们的独特华族文化。

新加坡华族文化中心（SCCC）颁发的新加坡华族文化贡献奖（SCCCA），不仅仅是一项荣耀，更是对个人和团体努力弘扬和进一步丰富新加坡华族文化的佐证，也同时是华社对本地文化艺术工作者多年不懈努力与坚持的高度评价与认可。

谨此衷心祝贺资深舞蹈家严众莲女士以及九年剧场分别获颁今年新加坡华族文化贡献奖的个人奖和团体奖。他们为塑造、弘扬和传承新加坡华族文化的奉献和努力，让包括年轻一代在内的国人，有机会接触、学习和欣赏我们独特的文化遗产。在此也由衷感谢林任君先生带领的评审委员会，从众多提名中遴选出获奖者，维护了奖项的高标准。

衷心希望严众莲女士和九年剧场的得奖，能够激励更多个人和团体继续努力，让新加坡华族文化生生不息、欣欣向荣！



Today, we enjoy a rich and unique Singapore Chinese culture due to our multicultural society. I am heartened to see many individuals and organisations working tirelessly in their fields to promote, enrich, transmit and develop our Singapore Chinese culture.

The Singapore Chinese Cultural Contribution Award (SCCCA) conferred by the Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre (SCCC) is not just an accolade, but a testament to the significant contributions made by individuals and organisations in promoting and enriching our Singapore Chinese culture. It is a recognition of their tireless efforts and a symbol of the high esteem they have won from the Chinese community.

My heartiest congratulations to dance veteran Mdm Yan Choong Lian and Nine Years Theatre for being conferred this year's SCCCA individual and organisation categories, respectively. Their exemplary dedication and drive to promote and nurture the Singapore Chinese culture have paved the way for many Singaporeans, including the younger generation, to learn and appreciate our unique cultural legacy. My sincere thanks to the judging panel led by Mr Lim Jim Koon for making the final shortlist and upholding the high standards of this award.

I trust that Mdm Yan and Nine Years Theatre's commendable examples will inspire many others to promote and keep the Singapore Chinese culture lively and vibrant.

刘燕玲女士

文化、社区及青年部
兼贸工部政务部长

Ms Low Yen Ling

Minister of State, Ministry of Culture,
Community and Youth &
Ministry of Trade and Industry

献词

MESSAGE



新加坡华族文化中心于2017年设立新加坡华族文化贡献奖，旨在表彰那些为新加坡华族文化推动、提升和发展方面做出卓越贡献的个人与团体。

我诚心祝贺严众莲女士和九年剧场荣获今年的新加坡华族文化贡献奖个人及团体奖。他们在各自领域致力于传承和发扬新加坡华族文化，能获得此殊荣，实至名归。

严众莲女士是新加坡顶尖华族舞蹈团聚舞坊的创办人，也担任舞团的艺术总监。她不遗余力培养年轻一代的舞者，扩展“南洋舞蹈”风格创编。

九年剧场是新加坡唯一以“华语剧团”定位的团体，坚持通过剧场带出本地多元文化的特色。高质量的精彩演出也使九年剧场成为领域里的佼佼者。

从众多出色的提名中选出得奖者想必不简单。我非常感谢评审委员会主席林任君先生，及所有评审委员所作出的努力。

我们已经开始接受明年新加坡华族文化贡献奖的提名，希望大家能踊跃提名，让各领域的本土华族文化推手获得肯定。

Launched in 2017, the Singapore Chinese Cultural Contribution Award (SCCCA) is an annual award conferred on individuals and organisations who have contributed to the promotion, enrichment and development of Chinese Singaporean culture.

My warmest congratulations to recipients of this year's SCCCA - Mdm Yan Choong Lian (Individual Category) and Nine Years Theatre (Organisation Category). They have been promoting and transmitting our unique Chinese Singaporean culture in their respective fields and are most deserving of this award.

Mdm Yan is the founder of Dance Ensemble Singapore (DES), one of Singapore's top contemporary Chinese dance companies. At the helm as Artistic Director, she strives to nurture young talents and promote the Nanyang style of Chinese dance.

Nine Years Theatre is a local Mandarin theatre company which celebrates multi-culturalism in Singapore. Through high quality performances, Nine Years Theatre has grown to become one of the key players in the local theatre scene.

It was no easy task selecting the final recipients from a pool of outstanding nominees. I would like to extend my gratitude to the Judging Panel Chairman Mr Lim Jim Koon and panel members for their hard work.

Nominations for next year's SCCCA are now open and I urge the community to give recognition to the worthy proponents of our local Chinese culture.



吴绍均先生

新加坡华族文化中心
主席

Mr Ng Siew Quan

Chairman,
Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre

新加坡华族文化贡献奖表彰那些为新加坡华族文化推动、提升和发展方面做出卓越贡献的个人与团体。

本届贡献奖收获了33份提名。其中21份来自个人提名，12份来自团体。60%是首次被提名的个人或团体，为历来最多的一次。

身为评委会主席，我诚心祝贺严众莲女士和九年剧场分别成为今年贡献奖的个人和团体得主。

严众莲女士于1972年开始她的舞蹈生涯，并于1980年开始从事舞蹈编排。她以舞蹈编导的身份参与了各种国内外项目，还代表新加坡参加了对美国、欧洲、香港、印度尼西亚、菲律宾、泰国、文莱和马来西亚的文化交流。严女士对舞蹈的热情和才华促成了1988年严众莲舞蹈团的成立，随后于1993年成立了新加坡聚舞坊。2004年，她建立聚舞坊当代艺团，发展“南洋舞蹈”风格。

九年剧场一向创作高品质、能引起共鸣又蕴含多层次文化的作品。坚信本土华族文化的独特性，并致力通过剧场肯定新加坡华人的多元文化身份，九年剧场不仅投入演员训练，也向社区提供标准语音和语言技巧课程，还通过让年轻观众从小接触新加坡华语剧场，来培养未来观众对华语之美的欣赏能力。

由衷感谢评委会成员所做出的努力。明年贡献奖提名已经开始，我希望本地华族社群踊跃提名尽心尽力发扬本土华族文化和艺术的个人及团体。

The Singapore Chinese Cultural Contribution Award (SCCCA) recognises outstanding individuals and organisations who have made extraordinary contributions to the promotion, enrichment and development of Chinese Singaporean culture.

We received 33 nominations this year – with 21 nominations for individuals and 12 nominations

for organisations. 60% of all nominations were submitted for the first time, the highest of all time.

As Chairman of the Judging Panel, I would like to congratulate the recipients of this year's SCCCA – Mdm Yan Choong Lian and Nine Years Theatre.

Mdm Yan's career in dance started in 1972 before venturing into dance choreography in 1980. As a choreographer, she was involved in various local and overseas projects and represented Singapore over the years on numerous cultural missions to USA, Europe, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, Brunei and Malaysia. Her passion and talent in dance led to the founding of Yan Choong Lian Dance Troupe in 1988, and subsequently the establishment of Dance Ensemble Singapore (DES) in 1993. In 2004, she established DES Arts, a contemporary Chinese dance company, and constantly promoted the Nanyang style of Chinese Dance.

Dedicated to creating high-quality performances that are deeply relevant and culturally layered, Nine Years Theatre believes in the uniqueness of local Chinese culture and aspires to celebrate the multi-cultural identity of the Chinese Singaporean through theatre. Nine Years Theatre has not only invested in the training of actors, but also offers classes on Mandarin diction to the community and nurtures future audiences who will appreciate the beauty of the Chinese language by exposing the young to Mandarin theatre.

I thank the fellow members of the Judging Panel for their effort. The open call for nominations for next year's SCCCA are now open and I hope to see active nominations from the local Chinese community to recognise the efforts of our local Chinese arts and cultural practitioners and organisations.



林任君先生

新加坡华族文化贡献奖
评委会主席

Mr Lim Jim Koon

Chairman, Judging Panel

Singapore Chinese Cultural Contribution Award

节目

PROGRAMME

8-5-2024

6.55pm

主宾文化、社区及青年部兼贸工部
政务部长刘燕玲女士莅临

Arrival of Guest of Honour

Ms Low Yen Ling

*Minister of State, Ministry of Culture, Community
and Youth & Ministry of Trade and Industry*

7.00pm

新加坡华族文化中心“华彩”开幕致词

Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre
“Cultural Extravaganza” Opening Speeches

7.20pm

新加坡华族文化贡献奖颁奖礼

Singapore Chinese Cultural Contribution
Award Prize Presentation

8.00pm

华彩开幕剧《典妻》

Cultural Extravaganza Opening
Performance “The Pawned Wife”

新加坡华族文化 贡献奖

欲知更多详情，请浏览：

<https://singaporeccc.org.sg/zh-hans/sccca/>

由新加坡华族文化中心颁发的新加坡华族文化贡献奖，旨在表彰在不同领域为新加坡华族文化之传承、推动、提升和传播，做出卓越贡献的个人和团体。

评选标准

评委会将依照以下标准进行评选：

推广文化的工作

有目共睹的文化传承

文化的耕耘及示范性

文化上的创新与突破

SINGAPORE CHINESE CULTURAL CONTRIBUTION AWARD

For more information, please visit

<https://singaporeccc.org.sg/SCCCA/>

Conferred by the Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre (SCCC), the Singapore Chinese Cultural Contribution Award (SCCCA) recognises individuals and organisations from various cultural fields, who have made outstanding contributions to the promotion, enrichment, and development of Chinese Singaporean culture.

Selection Criteria

The Judging Panel shall evaluate nominees based on the following criteria:

Cultural promotion efforts

Transmission of tradition

Dedication and recognition in the field

Innovation and breakthrough



个人奖得主

严众莲

严众莲女士于1972年开始她的舞蹈生涯，并于1975年加入新加坡国家舞蹈团。1980年，严女士开始尝试舞蹈编排，采用了革命性的方法，尝试不同的舞蹈风格和形式。她还曾于1983年获得国家青年奖，并于1994年获得新加坡日本工商基金会第三届优秀艺术家文化奖，以表彰她对新加坡舞蹈专业化的奉献精神。在文化基金的支持下，她得以到香港和北京进修，提高了自己的舞蹈技术。

作为编导，她参与了各种国内外项目，如东盟舞蹈节、新加坡舞蹈节，以及国家级的许多重要演出。多年来，她还代表新加坡参加了对美国、欧洲、香港、印度尼西亚、菲律宾、泰国、文莱和马来西亚的文化使命。

严女士一直积极担任艺术教育工作者的角色，推广舞蹈艺术，培养年轻人才。她对舞蹈的热情和才华，以及她的能力和承诺，促成了1988年严众莲舞蹈团的成立，随后于1993年7月7日成立了新加坡聚舞坊。2004年，她建立了聚舞坊当代艺术团。在她坚定而有能力的领导下，该团参加了许多重要的国内活动，如艺术节、国庆日和妆艺大游行。2020年，聚舞坊创办人严众莲老师获颁国庆奖章PBM，并从前总统哈莉玛女士手中接过奖章。多名政要包括李显龙总理和国务资政张志贤出席了颁奖仪式。李总理也贴文祝贺所有奖章得主，同时感谢他们对国家所作出的奉献和服务。秉承“建校养团，办团扬校”的理念，新加坡聚舞坊艺校与当代艺团的宗旨和目标一致，就是传递华族文化艺术的使命、协同共进、生命力、凝聚力，以认真明确目标，朝向传统华族艺术的传承，为新加坡本土华族舞蹈，扩展新路《南洋舞蹈》风格创编。同时，开创另一个创新与融汇平台，主导着聚舞坊的前景，走向更专业的表演舞台。



INDIVIDUAL CATEGORY RECIPIENT

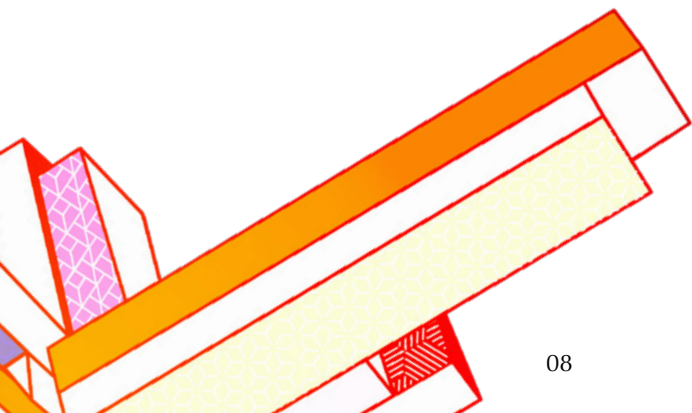
YAN CHOONG LIAN

Mdm Yan Choong Lian began her dance career in 1972 and joined the National Dance Company of Singapore in 1975, where she had principal roles in 'Cowherd and Maiden', 'Story of Wang Hek', 'Farewell to a Warrior' and many other dances. In 1980, Mdm Yan ventured into dance choreography, adopting a revolutionary approach by experimenting different dance styles and forms. She was also conferred the National Youth Award in 1983 and the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry (JCCI) Singapore Foundation Award in 1994 for her dedication towards upgrading the professionalism of dance in Singapore. With the aid of the Cultural Foundation Fund, she was able to further her studies and improve her dance techniques in Hong Kong and Beijing.

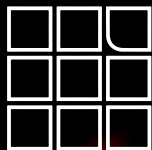
As a choreographer, she was involved in various local and overseas projects, such as the ASEAN Dance Festival, the Singapore Dance Festival, as well as many other major

performances on the national level. She has also represented Singapore over the years on numerous cultural missions to USA, Europe, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, Brunei and Malaysia.

Mdm Yan has always been playing an active role as an arts educator to promote dance in the community and to nurture young talents. Her passion and talent in dance, together with her capabilities and commitments, have led to the founding of Yan Choong Lian Dance Troupe in 1988, and subsequently the establishment of Dance Ensemble Singapore on 7 July 1993. In 2004, she established a contemporary Chinese dance company, known as DES Arts. Under her steadfast and able directive, the Ensemble has participated in numerous major local events like Festival of Arts and National Day and Chingay parades. In 2020, Mdm Yan was awarded the Pingat Bakti Masyarakat (PBM) public service medal for her contributions.







九年剧场
NINE YEARS THEATRE

团体奖得主 九年剧场

获奖无数的「九年剧场」是一个致力于创作高品质演出的新加坡华语剧团。「九年」以华人文化为基础，却不以此为中心。它坚信本地华人文化的独特性，并致力通过剧场肯定新加坡华人的多元文化身份。

「九年」的作品

「九年」的作品诉说着关于人性的故事。不限规模和类别，「九年」的演出包括原创作品、译创、跨媒介和跨国际合作。

「九年」追求以诚恳且有深度的方式来娱乐观众。它通过有共鸣性，蕴含文化层次，并具细腻感知度的作品，来接触各种背景的群众。自创团以来，「九年」在海峡时报的“生活！戏剧奖”的38项提名中获得15个奖项，其中包括4项“最佳导演”和两项“最佳制作”奖项。

委托制作

2012年，九年剧场在华艺节呈献了开团作品《谁怕吴尔芙？》。接着在2013年和2014年呈献了另外两部作品，



《十二怒汉》和《艺术》。这使九年剧场成为了第一个连续三年获滨海艺术中心委托，为旗下的华艺节呈献作品的本地剧团。「九年」于2022年给华艺节创作了一部以本地家庭人物关系为背景的原创剧《你我之间》；因为反响甚佳，「九年」为两年后的华艺节创作“续篇”《只在乎你》。

2017年，「九年」在Centre42的支持下，将本地文化作家英培安的长篇小说《画室》译创成舞台作品，之后更获新加坡国际艺术节委托，以这个作品作为同年艺术节的开幕演出。2021年，「九年」和纽约知名剧团SITI Company合创混合媒介版的契柯夫名剧《三姐妹》，并在新加坡国际艺术节呈献这部作品。

跨领域合制演出

「九年」于2018年与现代舞团「人·舞团」合作，于华艺节共创和呈献《咪嚟卡夫卡！》。之后于2022年与「人·舞团」



及当代音乐团体「仨」共创由新加坡华族文化中心委托的跨领域、特定场域演出《山的迎风面》。

跨国际作品

除了与纽约剧团SITI Company合作呈献的《三姐妹》以外，「九年」也与多个国际艺术团体合作，并在国外呈献演出。

2013年，「九年」把在2012年的华艺节上成功首演的《谁怕吴尔芙？》带到澳门艺术节演出。2018年，「九年」与澳门艺术节合制了《茱莉小解》，并在澳门与新加坡两地演出。2023年，「九年」与台湾兴传奇青年剧场（当代传奇剧场支部）合制并呈献原创剧《八仙变数》，在台北和新加坡两地演出。

演员训练

从一开始，「九年」就投入于演员的训练。持续的训练能使演员发挥他们内在的潜力，帮助他们在舞台上体现力量、深度及创造力。这个对持续训练的信念也成为「九

年」对艺术的一种承诺。剧团的基础训练包括建立表演者身心力量的「铃木忠志演员训练法」和「观点」训练。除此之外，「九年」也向业界提供标准语音、语言技巧、舞台导演和表演技巧等等的课程。

观众培养

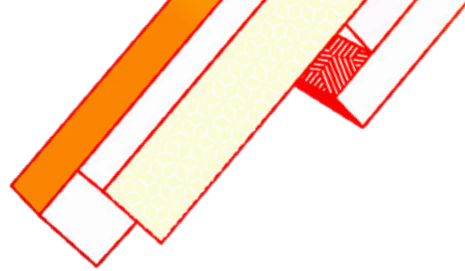
「九年」致力与观众交流，并坚信观众不该只是消费艺术，也应有讨论艺术的机会。因此，「九年」创建了标志性的“饮谈会”。在情况允许之下，都会在场演出后以边喝边聊的方式与观众轻松对谈。

另外，「九年」也正在开展为年轻观众制作的演出。「九年」希望通过让年轻观众从小接触新加坡华语剧场，来培养能欣赏华语之美的未来观众。

公司性质

「九年剧场」是一个非牟利注册之公益慈善文化团体，并自2016年获国家艺术理事会“主要剧团计划”辅助。

ORGANISATION CATEGORY RECIPIENT NINE YEARS THEATRE



An award-winning Singapore Mandarin theatre company, Nine Years Theatre (NYT) is dedicated to the creation of high-quality performances. NYT sees Chinese culture as the foundation of its work but not the centre of its practice. It believes in the uniqueness of local Chinese culture and aspires to recognise and celebrate the multicultural identity of the Singaporean Chinese through theatre.

NYT'S WORKS

NYT tells stories through live performances that remind us of our humanity. Fluid in scale and genre, NYT creates performances ranging from original

plays and transcreations, to interdisciplinary and international collaborations. NYT strives to entertain audiences in ways that are honest and thoughtful. Its work is recognised for being relatable and culturally layered, possessing deep sensibilities that speak to audiences from all backgrounds. Over the years, NYT has won 15 out of the 38 nominations at the "Life! Theatre Awards", including 4 "Best Director" and 2 "Production of the Year" awards.

COMMISSIONED WORKS

In 2012, NYT presented their first performance *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, followed by *Twelve Angry Men* in 2013 and

ART in 2014, making them the first local theatre company to be commissioned for three consecutive years by Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay to present works at the annual Huayi – Chinese Festival of Arts. In 2022, NYT created *Between You and Me* for the Huayi Festival, an original play based on familial ties in a Singaporean family. Because of its popularity, a sequel *Everything For You* was created two years later for the Huayi Festival in 2024.

In 2017, NYT was supported by Centre42 to transcreate Cultural Medallion writer Yeng Pway Ngon’s seminal novel *Art Studio* for the stage, the work was later commissioned by Singapore International Festival of Arts (SIFA) as the opening programme for the festival that year. In 2021, NYT collaborated with the renowned SITI Company from New York to create a hybrid version of Chekhov’s *Three Sisters* at SIFA 2020/21.

MULTIDISCIPLINARY COLLABORATIONS

NYT collaborated with local contemporary dance company T.H.E Dance Company in 2018 and created *Cut Kafka!* for Huayi Festival. In 2022, it co-created *Windward Side of the Mountain* – a multi-disciplinary, site-specific artistic collaboration with T.H.E Dance Company (dance) and SAtheCollective (music), commissioned by Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre.

INTERNATIONAL WORKS

Besides presenting *Three Sisters* in collaboration with SITI Company from New York, NYT has also collaborated with many other international counterparts to present works overseas. After its successful premi  re at Huayi 2012, NYT performed *Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* at the Macau Arts Festival a year later. In 2018, NYT co-produced *Pissed Julie* with Macau Arts Festival, and performed the

play in both Macau and Singapore. In 2023, NYT collaborated with Hsing Legend Youth Theatre, the youth wing of Contemporary Legend Theatre in Taiwan, and presented *Immortal Variables*, an original play which was performed in both Taipei and Singapore.

ACTOR TRAINING

Since the beginning, NYT has been invested in the training of actors. Persistent training allows actors to tap into their inner potential, enhancing their change to NYT’s ability to exude strength, depth, and creativity on stage. This belief in persistent training also serves as a reminder of their commitment to the arts. The company’s foundational trainings include Suzuki Method of Actor Training and Viewpoints, which focus on training the performer’s body and mind. On top of that, NYT offers classes on Mandarin Diction, Speech Techniques, Directing and Acting to the community.

AUDIENCE DEVELOPMENT

NYT strives to continuously engage the audience. It believes that audiences should not merely consume art, but also be offered the opportunity to discuss art. As such, they created the signature Drink and Talk sessions – a casual post-show dialogue over drinks – which are held after every single performance whenever circumstances allow.

NYT is also embarking on a “Theatre for Young Audience” journey. Through this, NYT hopes to nurture future audiences who will appreciate the beauty of the Mandarin language by exposing them to Singapore Mandarin theatre from a young age.

COMPANY STATUS

Nine Years Theatre Ltd is a registered charity with Institute of Public Character status supported by the National Arts Council under the Major Company scheme since 2016.

奖座设计

华族文化四色结

华族文化四色结是以中国古代建筑中榫卯结构的设计为概念。玉石条相互交织啮合，成就严密合缝的结体。它是三维，多面向和创新的。最后一根不锈钢条，直接穿透结体，架构起完整的榫卯结构；寓意经由不朽（不锈）的文化遗产，使得本地华族文化能够不断发展和延续，贯连和穿透不同时代。奖座由本地雕塑家杨子强所设计。

TROPHY DESIGN

THE FOUR-COLOURED KNOT OF CHINESE CULTURE

Inspired by the Chinese cross knot, the Four-Coloured Knot of Chinese Culture is made of interlocking strips of jade using the concept of the mortise-and-tenon joint from ancient Chinese architecture.

The three-dimensional structure signifies the profound aspects of Chinese culture. The final stainless-steel strip is inserted through the cross-knot configuration to complete the mortise-and-tenon structure, symbolising the spirit of cultural inheritance and continuity through generations. Trophy is designed by local sculptor, Yeo Chee Kiong.



历届得主 PAST RECIPIENTS

个人奖 INDIVIDUAL CATEGORY

- 2023** 吴文德
Goh Boon Teck
- 2022** 郑朝吉
Tay Teow Kiat
- 2021** 梁文福
Liang Wern Fook
- 2019** 柯木林
Kua Bak Lim
- 2018** 李煜传
Lee Yuk Chuan
- 2017** 韩劳达
Han Lao Da

团体奖 ORGANISATION CATEGORY

- 2023** 南华潮剧社
Nam Hwa Opera
- 2022** 青少儿广播演艺组
Young People's Performing Arts Ensemble
- 2021** 实践剧场
The Theatre Practice
- 2019** 鼎艺团
Ding Yi Music Company
- 2018** 新加坡作家协会
Singapore Association of Writers
- 2017** 湘灵音乐社
Siong Leng Musical Association

评委会

JUDGING PANEL

特别顾问
Special Advisor



郭振羽教授
Professor Eddie
Kuo Chen Yu

主席
Chairman



林任君先生
Mr Lim Jim Koon

委员
Members



刘荣忠先生
Mr Low Eng Teong



胡文雁女士
Ms Woo Mun Ngan



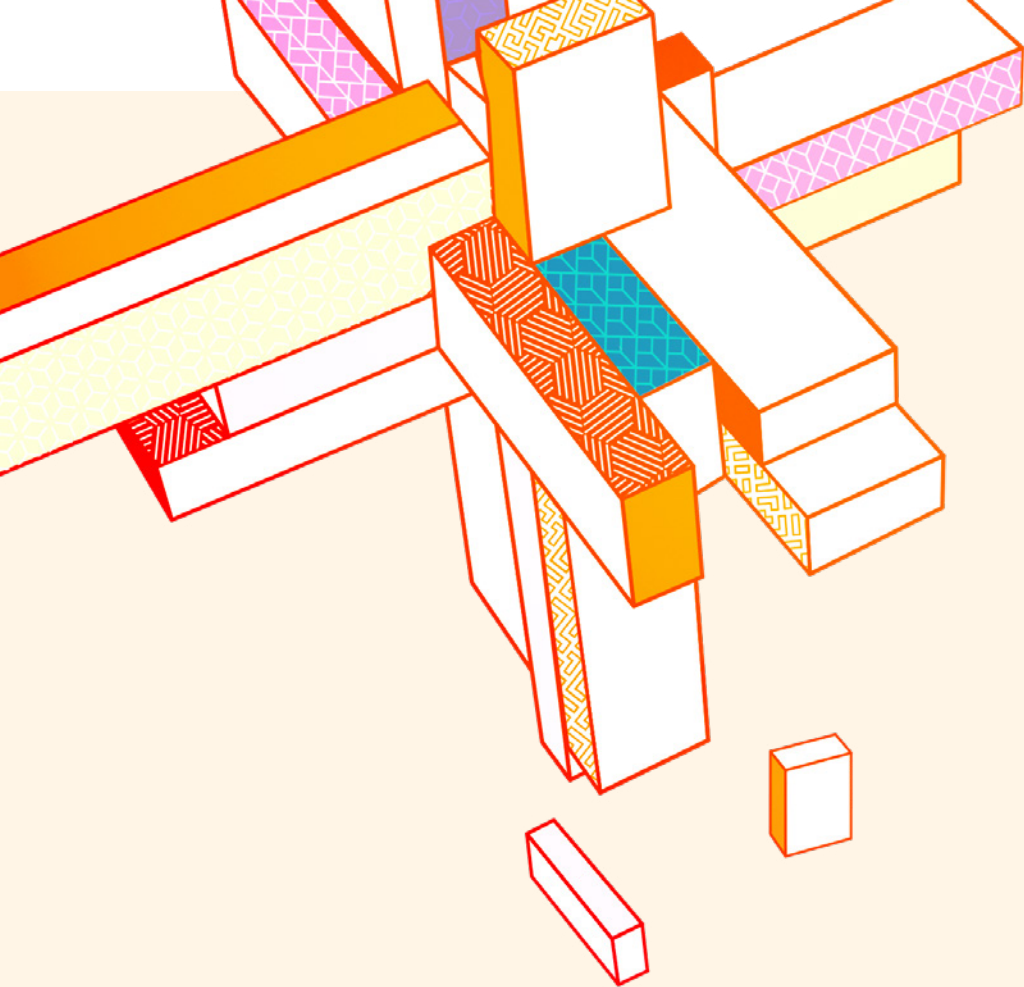
郭茵茵女士
Ms Quek Yeng Yeng



张夏帋先生
Mr Teo Han Wue



朱添寿先生
Mr Choo Thiam Siew



鸣谢

新加坡华族文化中心

谨此向以下各位致以衷心的感谢

评委会

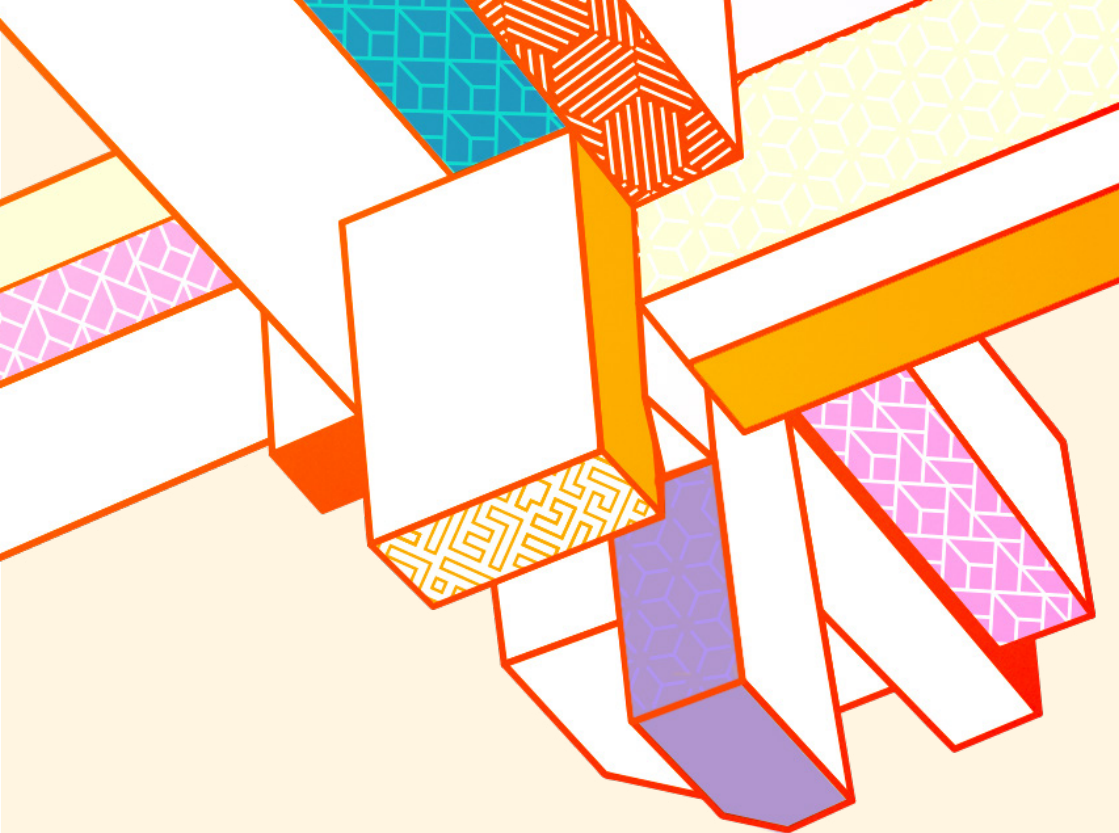
所有给予与协助此奖项的各界
人士和团体

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The Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre
would like to express our appreciation to
the following

Judging Panel

Those who have contributed to the
Award in one way or another



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Presented by Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre

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