



## **ANNEX**

### **CAMBODIAN CULTURAL SHOWCASE - CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF SINGAPORE-CAMBODIA DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS**

Across two days in Flower Dome, seven dancers from Cambodia's Classical Dance Group will perform four traditional dances – Blessing Dance, Sovann Machha (Golden Mermaid Dance), Tepthida Boun Suong Dance, and Neary Kampuchea Dance – the first three being forms of Royal Ballet of Cambodia. Master Cambodian artisans from Artisans Angkor will also demonstrate the ancient arts of stone carving and lacquer painting. A photo exhibition documenting the friendship between Singapore and Cambodia rounds up the Cambodian Cultural Showcase.

#### **Schedule of Dance Performances**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Programme</b>
Friday, 20 June	2:00pm to 2:30pm	South American Garden in Flower Dome	Blessing Dance, Sovann Machha (Golden Mermaid Dance), Neary Kampuchea Dance, Tepthida Boun Suong Dance
Saturday, 21 June	11:00am to 11:30am		Blessing Dance, Sovann Machha (Golden Mermaid Dance), Neary Kampuchea Dance, Tepthida Boun Suong Dance

#### **Schedule of Craft Demonstrations**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Programme</b>
Friday, 20 June	1.00pm to 4.00pm	South American Garden in Flower Dome	Live demonstrations of traditional Cambodian crafts like stone carving and lacquer painting.
Saturday, 21 June	9.00am to 12.00pm 1.00pm to 4.00pm		

## More details on the traditional dances

	<p><b>Blessing Dance</b></p> <p>This dance holds significant cultural importance to the Cambodians and it has been traditionally performed at the beginning of a ceremony to greet, bless and offer good wishes to the audience. In this classical piece, the lyrics and gestures express wishes for happiness. Flower petals are gently tossed from small golden trays as a way of blessing the audience and the event.</p>
	<p><b>Sovann Machha (Golden Mermaid Dance)</b></p> <p>This duo dance depicts an episode from the story "Reamker" or "Ramayana". In this episode, Hanuman, the White Monkey, was ordered by Rama to construct a bridge across the sea to reach Lanka Island, where Sita, Rama's wife, was being held captive by the King of Ogres. As the stones laid for the bridge mysteriously disappear, Hanuman investigates the cause and during this mission, he encounters and falls in love with Sovann Machha, the Golden Mermaid.</p>
	<p><b>Neary Kampuchea Dance</b></p> <p>This dance is performed to entertain guests at important ceremonies. The purpose of the dance is to portray the inner and outer beauty and strength of Cambodian women, who appear gentle but are also strong. Additionally, the gestures of the dance represent respect and warm hospitality towards all guests and convey wishes for good luck and prosperity.</p>



### **Tepthida Boung Suong Dance**

Based on a Cambodian story titled “Cheyjet”, this dance depicts the scene where a cat goddess named Vela performs a dance to seek blessings for the son of her master, Champa Thong.