


## Annex A – Bios of hosts and performers

Hosts	
	<p><b>Gurmit Singh</b></p> <p>Gurmit Singh made his TV debut in 1994 hosting <i>Live on 5</i>, launching a celebrated career spanning two decades. He became a household name hosting major programmes like <i>President's Star Charity</i>, <i>Singapore Idol</i>, Channel 5's New Year Countdown, and <i>The National Day Parade</i>, and was ranked alongside national leaders in a 2012 Reader's Digest poll of Singapore's Top Ten most trusted individuals. In 2017, he released his autobiography titled, <i>What Was I Thinking</i>.</p> <p>Best known for his iconic role as Phua Chu Kang, Gurmit won five "Best Comedy Actor" awards at the Asian Television Awards. The character is now immortalised at Madame Tussauds Singapore. On the big screen, his role in <i>Just Follow Law</i> earned him a Golden Horse Awards Best Actor nomination. Having stepped back from full-time TV, Gurmit focuses on family that has so gallantly supported his career of 20 years.</p>
	<p><b>Nithiya Rao</b></p> <p>Nithiya's journey in the media industry began with <i>Miss Vasantham 2011</i>, where she emerged as 1st Runner-Up among 12 contestants – a turning point that paved the way for her flourishing media career. She was awarded "Best Actress" at <i>Pradhana Vizha 2012</i> for her debut role in a Vasantham drama series and has since appeared in over 40 roles across Tamil, English, and Malay productions. Her work spans television, film, and stage, with notable appearances in films featured at the <i>Cannes Film Festival</i> and the grand opening of Capitol Theatre during SG50. She has also hosted more than 20 programmes and stage shows.</p> <p>In 2017, Nithiya expanded into commercial modelling, working with major brands in Singapore. In 2023, she embraced a new chapter as a producer and presenter on <i>Oli 96.8FM</i>, further strengthening her presence in the media landscape. Passionate about her craft, Nithiya aspires to deliver the best in entertainment to listeners and viewers in the Indian community.</p>



### **Yasminne Cheng**

Yasminne is a DJ with Mediacorp Class 95. She started her radio career in 1998 and currently hosts the lunchtime show *Lunchbreak* on weekdays from 10 am to 2 pm.

Classy and charismatic, Yasminne is a versatile host and has been engaged for many roadshows, product launches, workshops, press conferences, award ceremonies, corporate events, bridal shows, and private weddings.

Yasminne has a voice that is instantly recognisable yet versatile. As one of Singapore's top female voice talents, she has voiced everything from TV and radio commercials, corporate videos, animations, video games, GPS systems, lifts and telephone voice prompts.

In 2015, she hosted Channel 5's first live daily talk show, *The 5 Show*, for 187 episodes. Yasminne holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and English Literature from NUS, and a Master of Arts degree in communications from Goldsmiths College, University of London.



### **Zhin Sadali**

Zhin is a versatile host and personality with *The Smart Local*. Following his win in the very first *TSL Talent Search* in 2017, he embarked on a journey with Mediacorp as an actor and a TV presenter. In 2023, he was given the opportunity to host Singapore's Countdown Party and was nominated one of Mediacorp's "Most Popular Male Personality" at *Pesta Perdana*. Till today, he continues to leave a mark in multiple TV shows such as *Manja*, a live TV show that airs every Monday from 8.30-9.30pm.

From being in the kitchen with his viral cooking series *Bujang Things*, to serving fashion on the red carpet to currently training to be a spin instructor, he is the epitome of someone who can't sit still and collects milestones with every year that passes.

**Performers**

**Alemay Fernandez**

Hailed by *MusicTalks Sydney* as “one of the best jazz singers in the world,” Singaporean vocalist Alemay Fernandez has been a force in Asian jazz for over 25 years. Known for her sultry tone, powerhouse vocals and magnetic stage presence, she has performed with icons like David Foster, Gregory Porter, Incognito, and the Count Basie Orchestra. She is the only Asian singer to have worked with three of the world’s top jazz orchestras: Wynton Marsalis’ Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, The Count Basie Orchestra, and The Duke Ellington Orchestra.

Alemay has headlined globally at venues like Birdland in New York, The Black Cat in San Francisco, and Wally’s in Boston. At home, she collaborates with the Singapore Symphony Orchestra, Dick Lee, and Jeremy Monteiro. A dedicated educator, she teaches at LASALLE College of the Arts and SOTA, and mentors the next generation of jazz talent through her work with NUS Jazz Band.


**Married couple Annetha Ayyavoo & Mark Sara**
**Annetha Ayyavoo**

With nearly three decades in the media industry, Annetha Ayyavoo made history as the first Asian and Singaporean to win the prestigious “Best Model of the World” title. Since then, she has shared her remarkable journey and business insights, inspiring individuals and enterprises to seize opportunities through her authentic narrative. Annetha has also appeared in television commercials for renowned global brands, further solidifying her presence in the industry.

Beyond her modelling achievements, Annetha has dedicated decades to nurturing talent. She has served as a trainer, judge, choreographer, and mentor for prestigious pageants such as *Miss Vasantham*, *Best Model of Singapore*, *Manhunt Singapore*, and *Miss India Johor*. Her influence expanded further when she won the *Pradhana Vizha 2002* award for “Best Female Singer”, showcasing her diverse talents. Known for her authenticity, bold style, and versatility, Annetha continues to inspire as a multifaceted artist.



### **Mark Sara**

Mark Sara is a versatile media personality and performing artist known for his work as a singer, actor, performer, choreographer, songwriter and drummer. He began his music career with Mediacorp in 2001 and has a reputation for captivating dance moves, stage persona and showstopper outfits that he designs himself.

Trained in Silambam and Kalari Payat, he has showcased his Indian martial arts skills in TV series like *Kshatriyan* and other TV performances. His acting credits include lead roles in *Yaar* and *Maraiporul* and supporting roles in numerous stories. As a musician, he released his debut single *Nesithen* in 2015 and *Sexy Lady* in 2023, both self-written, composed and performed, with music production by Jukon.



### **Chua Lee Lian**

Lee Lian's sunny smile and angelic voice have long been her trademark in Singapore's music scene. She rose to prominence singing the duet and theme song *Guan Huai Fang Shi* for Mediacorp's telemovie *Cupid Love* — a ballad that became a radio dedication favourite. Her 2002 debut album *A Piece of My Dream* earned positive reviews, and her sold-out mini concert at Esplanade Recital Studio led to a second show in 2003.

While gifted in both singing and acting, Lee Lian discovered her true calling in hosting. A graduate of Mediacorp's hosting course, she is now a well-loved voice on radio station Mediacorp LOVE 972, where she entertains listeners daily on its noon programme.





### Charlie Lim

Charlie is a singer-songwriter/producer based in Singapore, whose records *TIME/SPACE* and *CHECK-HOOK* both clinched the #1 spot on the iTunes Singapore chart at their time of release, and was named “Best Pop Album of the Year” by The Straits Times, and awarded “Best Song of the Year” by Apple Music Singapore.

Charlie has quickly grown into one of Southeast Asia’s most unique voices in contemporary pop music, having made his mark across the region’s live stages such as Summer Sonic, Clockenflap in Hong Kong, Java Jazz Festival, Urbanscapes in Kuala Lumpur, Bigsound in Brisbane, Jarasum Festival in Seoul, Shout Out Festival in Taiwan, and Wanderland Festival in Manila. He has also collaborated with international artists such as Kimbra, Khalil Fong, TENDRE, Elephant Gym, BIBI, Taku Takahashi, and Clara Benin.



### Hady Mirza

Hady is known as one of Singapore’s most prominent singers of the early 21st century, most recognised for his smooth R&B voice and charming personality. Hady was the winner of the second season of the reality TV show *Singapore Idol*, crowned after garnering 70% of about one million votes cast by television viewers. He was also the winner of the world’s first *Asian Idol* competition held on 16 December 2007 in Jakarta, Indonesia — a contest between Idol winners from Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, India, the Philippines, and Vietnam.

Hady made his comeback by joining *Gegar Vaganza 6* in 2019, where he was named co-winner. At the recent *All Star Gegar Vaganza*, Hady came in as 1st runner-up.



### **Lyla Ng**

Lyla is an up-and-coming musician, songwriter, and multi-instrumentalist with a burning passion for all things music. The cheery, wide-eyed 11-year-old practises music daily. Inspired by artists as diverse as Guns N' Roses, BLACKPINK, Foo Fighters, Billie Eilish, and Ed Sheeran, Lyla's influences span genres and generations.

Despite her young age, Lyla's drive to become a first-rate musician surpasses many far older and more experienced. Constantly sharing her music and skateboarding journey across social media, she has already amassed millions of views.

With big dreams and boundless energy, Lyla seeks to bring joy and laughter to people through music — and is well on her way to becoming one of the most influential music makers of her generation.



### **Kit Chan**

Kit Chan is one of Singapore's most established and multi-faceted artistes. Since her debut in 1993, she has released over 40 albums in Mandarin, Cantonese and English, and proven herself in diverse areas including musical theatre, TV drama, movies, poetry, creative direction and community work. The National Day Parade (NDP) theme song *Home*, which she first performed in 1998, has since become possibly Singapore's most recognised and beloved song. She was subsequently invited to perform at the NDP another four times. This year, Kit returns to the parade after 10 years to perform the theme song *Here We Are* with Charlie Lim and The Island Voices.



## Mother-daughter duo Lucy Chow & JJ Neo

### Lucy Chow

Lucy, better known as Zhou Ru Zhu, was a beloved bilingual TV host in the 80s and 90s. Apart from establishing her place as one of the most prominent hosts of local TV, Lucy became a professional voice actor dubbing for Japanese, Hong Kong, and other foreign tv dramas. As a full-time variety host, Lucy's bilingualism resonated deeply with a wide audience. In recent years, she has served as a voiceover artiste, dialogue coach, and language consultant for actors.



### JJ Neo

JJ is a passionate singer and actress who has collaborated with indie electronica producers from around the world since 2015. She has since released several original mandopop singles, and co-written countless other releases for various musical artistes. JJ won the "Acting" category of the *Huayi Brothers Icon Search* in Singapore, leading her to the grand finals in China, where she emerged as one of the final winners and performed at the Shanghai International Film Festival. After joining Mediacorp, JJ has continued to pursue new opportunities in music, acting, and hosting.





### **Meenakshy Jyothish**

Meenakshy is a rising Singaporean singer and playback artist, known for her soulful voice and dynamic stage presence. She gained national attention by winning *Yaar Antha Star* (2020) on Vasantham TV, impressing with her heartfelt performance of *Ezhu Swarangalukkul Ethanai Paadal*.

Alongside her musical achievements, Meenakshy holds a Bachelor of Engineering in Environmental / Environmental Health Engineering from NUS (2021). Since November 2021, she has worked as a Senior Sustainability Analyst at Zuno Carbon.

In music, she continues to build her profile, collaborating with Shabir on *Maarum Nilai Maarum* for the Tamil film *Sinam*. In January 2025, she performed at *Feel the Soul* concert alongside Arul Pragasam and Subashini Sundaram.

Meenakshy's journey reflects a rare blend of artistic passion and professional dedication, establishing her as a rising star in both music and sustainability.



### **The Rahim family**

#### **Rahimah Rahim**

Rahimah is a renowned Singaporean singer and actress with a remarkable career spanning more than 50 years. Rahimah is actively involved in various high-profile events including *National Day Parade* shows at the Padang and Marina Bay, *President Star Charity*, and *Singapore Day* in London and Shanghai. A culture medallion recipient in 2021, Rahimah remains passionate about singing and performing, continuing to inspire audiences with her talent and energy. Her contributions to Singapore arts scene have earned her a lasting legacy.





#### **Rozie Rahim**

Rozie began her singing solo singing career performing in a lounge and later sang in clubs during the late 1980's to early 1990's with Soul & Funk R&B band called Back2Back. Rozie represented Singapore in various exchange programs like *ASEAN Song Festival*, *Rampaisari* (SBC & RTM), *Mustikarama* (SBC & Brunei), *Singapore Day* in Dubai, *Singapore & Canada exchange in Canada* by STPB and the *Golden Kite Song Competition*. Rozie remains active in music scene with a focus on producing musical events.



#### **ALY**

ALY is a talented young performer and student proudly carrying on the legacy of her grandmother, the esteemed Rahimah Rahim. She is passionate about music and performance with a growing portfolio that spans schools, public venues like the Esplanade Waterfront, and the honour of representing her school at the *Busan Choral Festival & Competition*. With her grandmother's influence and her own dedication, ALY continues to nurture her artistic talents and explore new opportunities.



### **shazza**

Shareefa Aminah, known to the music world as shazza, wrote her first proper song when she was all of 11 and hasn't been able to stop since. Born and raised in sunny Singapore, the 23-year-old singer-songwriter grew up surrounded by music at home, with the odd combination of Norah Jones and the Black Eyed Peas becoming the soundtrack to her childhood.

Inspired by the likes of ABBA, Taylor Swift, Dolly Parton, and Harry Styles, shazza makes full use of the freedom that music offers, seeking to keep exploring with sounds and aiming toward a discography that speaks to just about anyone. The hijabi songstress also has her heart set on breaking boundaries and sparking change. Growing up, shazza hardly saw anyone who looked like her making music the way she dreamed of doing. She aims to be the change for future generations, bringing more representation to the table with her music and her presence in the industry.

Shazza's listenership has increased tenfold since her debut. Achieving mainstream attention through a viral video with Canadian pop duo Crash Adams, as well as her initiation into Spotify's *RADAR 2023* program, she is Singapore's fastest-growing up-and-coming artist.



### **Taufik Batisah**

Taufik Batisah is one of Singapore's most celebrated music stars, known for his vocal prowess, dynamic showmanship, and versatile artistry. He rose to fame as the first *Singapore Idol* winner in 2004, capturing hearts nationwide. His debut album *Blessings* became the best-selling local English album of the decade, with over 36,000 copies sold.

With a repertoire spanning jazz, ballads, hip hop and pop, Taufik has established himself as a versatile performer and regional icon. His all-rounded talent as singer, composer, and producer has earned acclaim across both English and Malay music scenes. Internationally, he has performed at the Live and Loud Music Festival in Kuala Lumpur, the ASEAN-Korea Commemorative Summit, and the ABU TV Song Festival alongside top Asian acts.

	<p>Taufik's achievements include over 30 awards, notably the Singapore Youth Award, MTV Asia Award, and "Best Asian Artist - Singapore" at Mnet Asia Music Awards. Known for his humility and professionalism, he is a sought-after figure for national initiatives and major brand endorsements. Taufik's passion and dedication continue to make a lasting impact on the region's music landscape.</p>
	<p><b>Sisters Tay Ke Wei and Tay Ke Xin</b></p> <p><b>Tay Ke Wei</b></p> <p>A sassy Singaporean singer-songwriter, Kewei was once a supporting singer for regional superstars David Tao, A-Mei, and JJ Lin. She has since released seven full-length albums and one EP, breaking through the regional Asia market. Nicknamed the "angel of harmony," Kewei plays several instruments including guitar, ukulele, and piano, but often captivates audiences most with the erhu.</p> <p>Her talents have seen her involved in many notable events, including the NDP Parade 2014, <i>Celebrate SG50</i> Countdown Show, Temasek Holdings' Jubilee at the Botanic Gardens, SEA Games 2015, ASEAN-China Friendship Concert, and <i>The Eye Ball 2017</i> at Goodwood Park Hotel.</p> <p>In March 2022, she held her full-fledged concert <i>RE:BIRTH</i> with Alfred Sim. The long-awaited show drew attention from local and international media. Kewei was also named <i>Young Local Artist of the Year</i> at the 25th COMPASS (Composers and Authors Society of Singapore) Awards.</p>





### **Tay Ke Xin**

Singer-songwriter Tay Ke Xin combines her petite frame with powerhouse vocals that have captivated audiences across the globe. With 15 years of professional experience, she began her journey as a solo artist before joining MICappella as their soprano vocalist, Asia's premier Mandarin pop-rock A cappella group.

Her international touring experience spans China, the United States, Taiwan, and Europe, bringing her distinctive voice to diverse audiences worldwide. Tay Ke Xin's notable performances include delivering the National Anthem at the 2019 Formula 1 Singapore Grand Prix, as well as gracing the National Day Parade stage in 2018, 2022, and 2024.

From intimate solo performances to grand national celebrations, Tay Ke Xin continues to showcase the remarkable range and emotional depth that define her artistry.



### **Yung Raja**

Yung Raja is a Singaporean breakthrough artist reshaping the landscape of Southeast Asian hip-hop. A pioneer of bilingual rap, he masterfully weaves English and Tamil, creating a genre-defying sound that is both culturally rich and universally resonant. With his crisp flow, razor-sharp lyricism, and infectious energy, he represents a new era of global artists unbound by language or borders.

His journey began with the viral success of "Mustafa," capturing audiences with its bold originality. He followed up with "Mad Blessings," which further cemented his reputation as a force to be reckoned with. His next smash hit, "The Dance Song," took the digital world by storm – garnering millions of views and elevating his presence in the global music space.

Beyond the mic, Yung Raja has seamlessly stepped into the world of fashion, luxury, and lifestyle, collaborating with Louis Vuitton, Tudor, Adidas, Johnnie Walker, Gucci and more. His artistry has been recognized by leading publications such as *Vogue*, *Esquire Singapore*, and *Rolling Stone India*, solidifying his presence not just in music, but in culture at large.

**Annex B – List of pre-concert activities and performances**

Time	Activity
From 4.30pm onwards	<b>Fringe activities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carnival games (For Mediacorp to update)</li> <li>• Roving balloon sculptors</li> <li>• Photo booth courtesy of <b>SAFRA</b></li> <li>• Goodie bags giveaway exclusively for SAFRA members who have pre-registered online, while stock lasts</li> <li>• Sale of exclusive T-shirts from Mediacorp's inaugural <a href="#">Design Pompipi Competition</a> at \$10 each. All proceeds from sales will support Gardens by the Bay's community outreach initiative Gift of Gardens</li> <li>• Free propagated plants giveaway</li> <li>• Roving acts including jugglers and stilt walkers</li> </ul>
5.00pm to 7.00pm	Live performances by Purple Symphony – Singapore's largest inclusive orchestra comprising musicians with and without disabilities – and homegrown band The Vibes.

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