



INTERCULTURAL THEATRE INSTITUTE

“Open Culture is not mixing everything together indiscriminately... It is more an earnest desire to enter into other cultures and take them as part of one’s own as well as extending oneself beyond one’s culture to evolve a larger, diverse one.”

— Kuo Pao Kun (1939–2002)
ITI Co-Founder



Join ITI’s world-class, one-of-a-kind conservatory programme that juxtaposes **traditional** and **contemporary** practices. Gain a strong foundation in **intercultural dialogue** that will equip you to address today’s artistic and societal challenges.

Become part of a **global network** of artists, educators, researchers, cultural leaders, community organisers, and policymakers who embrace **cultural diversity** and champion **social impact**.

Committed to nurturing diverse voices and fostering regional collaborations, the institute aims to play a vital role in shaping a vibrant arts ecosystem. Its mission is rooted in the future of arts education, and talent development, embracing the values of cultural and social diversity, and celebrating humanity and life.

Founded in 2000 by **Kuo Pao Kun** and **T. Sasitharan**, Intercultural Theatre Institute (ITI) is the world's premier intercultural theatre conservatory, conceived as a unique, independent, and unprecedented enterprise in theatre training, social and cultural interaction, and human understanding.

ITI began as the Theatre Training & Research Programme (TTRP) and has evolved in the 25 years since. Today ITI's Acting Programme is highly regarded in the arts community and has attracted international recognition of the highest order through its consistent quality and celebrated alumni.

“What is needed is what ITI can provide: an actor training curriculum that synthesises traditional and modern performance training systems.”

— Richard Schechner

Professor Emeritus, Tisch School of the Arts, New York University

Programme

Year 1 & 2 (Training & Studies):

Immersion in Theatre Traditions
+ Jingju/Kunqu
+ Kutiyattam
+ Wayang Wong
+ Noh Theatre

Acting for the Contemporary Stage
Movement for Acting & Performance
Voice & Speech

Technical Theatre for Acting & Performance

Humanities/Cultural & Literary Theory

Post Modular Lab

Taiji for Actors: Natural Conditioning for Open Applications (Year 1–3)

Year 3 (Professional Work):

Final-Year Public Performances for Paying Audiences

Final-Year Theatremaking Project

Video, Digital Media & Live Performance

Workshops & Seminars on the Western Theatre Canon

Seminars on Southeast Asia

Faculty

ITI Director T. Sasitharan and Head of Acting Koh Wan Ching lead a faculty of distinguished artist-teachers. Full-time and visiting/part-time teachers include Aarne Neeme (Australia), Andy Ng Wai-shek (Hong Kong), Guillermo Angelelli (Argentina), G. Venu (India), Kanze Yoshimasa (Japan), Kapila Venu (India), Karen Jordan Heng (Singapore), Kenny Wong (Singapore), Kuwata Takashi (Japan), Li Qiu Ping (China), Lim Chin Huat (Singapore), Li Xie (Singapore), Pujiyani (Indonesia), Simon Stollery (Australia), Emanorwatty Saleh (Singapore) and Xiao Xiangping (China).

Academic Board

2026–2029

Dr Frances Barbe
Lecturer and Associate Dean of Discipline: Performance,
Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts

Prof Tadashi Uchino
Vice President and Professor, Department of Japanese Studies,
Faculty of Intercultural Studies, Gakushuin University

Prof Richard Gough
Professor of Music and Performance, Faculty of Business and
Creative Industries, University of South Wales
Artistic Director, Centre for Performance Research,
Aberystwyth, Wales

Dr Nazry Bahrawi
Assistant Professor of Southeast Asian Literature and Culture,
University of Washington

Examination Board

2026–2029

Mr Aarne Neeme, AM (Order of Australia)
Director and educator

Assoc Prof Paul Rae
Head of School of Culture and Communication,
University of Melbourne

Assoc Prof Noushad Mohamed Kunju
Faculty, Department of Theatre Arts, Sarojini Naidu School of Arts
& Communication, University of Hyderabad

Mr Nelson Chia
Co-Founder and Artistic Director, Nine Years Theatre, Singapore

Dr Jane Gilmer
Independent theatre practitioner

Mr Zachary Ho
Theatre practitioner and educator



Why ITI

ITI's Professional Diploma in Intercultural Theatre (Acting) programme is packed with skills and para-theatre training and seminars on theatre theory and humanities; designed for dedicated performers from diverse cultures. Through a series of original theatre-making projects, students apply what they have learned, in a plural, intercultural environment marked by a variety of languages and cultures and a broad, inclusive theatrical palette.

Our programme is distinguished by its:

- + Immersions in traditional Asian theatre systems
- + Unique curriculum design centred on intercultural discourse
- + Acclaimed alumni network
- + Award-winning international faculty
- + Innovative, practice-based training
- + Low student-faculty ratio
- + Emphasis on cultural and social diversity
- + Professional performance experience
- + Focus on creating quality work with social impact

Global Community

ITI's alumni are part of a global community of artists, educators, researchers and cultural leaders who are shaping the future of performing arts.

inITlate - ITI Alumni Association Interim Committee:



Dr Felimon Blanco
(Class of 2005, Philippines)
President



Assoc Prof Noushad Mohamed Kunju
(Class of 2005, India)
Lead, Academic & Intercultural Research



Dr Giorgia Ciampi Tzolaki
(Class of 2014, UK/France)
Lead, Recruitment & International Collaboration



Grace Kalaiselvi
(Class of 2014, Singapore)
Lead, Community Engagement & Inclusive Practice

“I don't think there is a programme like this anywhere in the world.”

— Yeo Yann Yann

Golden Horse Award-winner; ITI alumna (2003)

Admissions

Applications are now open for the 2027 intake. Visit our website for more information on criteria, selection process, auditions, and to download the application form.

Financial Aid

Full scholarships, Möbius Fund (a low-interest student loan) and bursaries are available. Amounts are limited and vary from year to year, depending on donations and sponsorships.

Programme Details:



Admission Process & Application Form:



Financial Aid & Scholarships:



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www.iti.edu.sg