

August 2011

**Theatre Training & Research Programme renamed  
Intercultural Theatre Institute  
and restarts enrolment for 2012  
*Announces new scholarships***



The Theatre Training & Research Programme (TTRP) has been renamed **Intercultural Theatre Institute (ITI)** and is restarting its enrolment of students for the January 2012 intake. The three-year professional actor training programme of the same name is now known as the **Professional Diploma in Intercultural Theatre (Acting)**, in line with the new regulations of the Council for Private Education.

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Four new scholarships for Singaporeans and Singaporean Permanent Residents are now available for each of the intakes from 2012-2014, funded by the **National Arts Council**. In addition, two new scholarships are now open for the January 2012 intake. The **Kuo Pao Kun Foundation-ITI Scholarship** will be awarded to a talented student from Greater China, Malaysia or Singapore; and a **private philanthropist** who wishes to remain anonymous, is sponsoring a scholarship for a talented student from India. The scholarships cover up to 80% of course fees over three years and include a stipend for living allowances for foreign students. The **six scholarship awards** range from S\$43,200 to S\$72,000 each. Applicants can email admin@iti.edu.sg.

Philip Jeyaretnam, Chairman of ITI notes that "Sponsorship support of scholarships is critical in enabling talented artists to enroll at ITI and take their craft to the highest level."

The curriculum and approach of the acting programme remains fundamentally unchanged, founded on a rigorous, intercultural learning methodology with a view to producing original, contemporary theatre. The training encompasses exposure to a broad spectrum of cultures and languages, and immersion in traditional Asian theatre systems and contemporary theatre forms.

T. Sasitharan, Director of ITI, says: "Our programme has been tested and refined over a decade and our graduates from all over the world are proving its worth everyday – through the work they do and the theatres they produce."

Says Sasi: “We are confident that the ground is firm enough for us to move forward. For this, I am deeply grateful to the many people who have supported us – our Board, teachers, sponsors and donors, alumni, the Emily Hill group, members of the arts community and the National Arts Council. Their trust, belief, commitment and support is the vital plank upon which we will build a sustainable future for the organisation and programme.”



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**Attached:      Information Sheet (4 pages)**

## INFORMATION SHEET



### New identity design

Logo design by epigram:

“The logo is as perfect as it can possibly be in branding the institute. It is as expansive in narrative as it is arresting in visual appeal. The borderless wordmark consists of the three words of the institute’s name, viewed from different perspectives, interlocking at different angles, and in a spectral continuum of colours.

All aspects of the design capture the institute’s openness to different theatre forms, and the intercultural approach to theatre training that uses a varied mix of theatrical forms from various cultures. In a word, the logo is a visual crystallization of the immense complexity of the practice and the simple, unadulterated beauty of the idealism that lies at the heart of all of ITI’s work.”

The logo design has been shortlisted for the President’s Design Award 2011. This is a quote from one of the two citations.

Website design by Awesome Anything:

Inspired by the bold experimental spirit of ITI that was captured succinctly in the identity design, we conceived the website as a conceptual piece of work that is bold and experimental in its techniques.

The website attempts to achieve a sense of visual dynamism without using any animations and this was done through a seemingly random arrangement of elements but which in reality, had a subtle underlying grid logic to it. The use of angles at the graphical background image and also the manner at which images are cropped further emphasised this idea to create a bold visual language to the site.

Colours were also a key part of the design where tonal variations provokes movement of the eye while varying palettes for different sections of the site lend a degree of variety to a content-heavy website. To further push the conceptual and experimental nature of the website, we also pushed the use of CSS3 technology to create a slanted drop-down menu.

<http://www.awesomeanything.com/9206/212102/studio/intercultural-theater-institute>

## Background

ITI and its Acting Programme began as the Theatre Training & Research Programme (TTRP), founded in 2000 by renowned dramatist, Kuo Pao Kun (1939–2002), and the current Director, T. Sasitharan, after a period of research, reflection and preparatory work, including discussions with an international panel of consultants. TTRP was inspired by the unique experience of contemporary theatre in Singapore over four decades and, in particular, by Pao Kun's artistic vision and multicultural practice.

## Management

### Senior Management

Director	T. Sasitharan
General Manager	Goh Su Lin

### Board of Directors

Chairman	Philip Jeyaretnam <i>Senior Counsel &amp; Managing Partner, Rodyk &amp; Davidson LLP</i>
Vice-Chairman	Arun Mahizhnan <i>Deputy Director, Institute of Policy Studies</i>
Members	Chew Kheng Chuan <i>Chief University Advancement Officer, Nanyang Technological University</i> Kwok Kian Woon <i>Associate Chair (Academic) &amp; Head, Division of Sociology, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Nanyang Technological University</i> David Chiem <i>Founder, Chairman &amp; Group CEO, MindChamps</i>

## Vision

To nurture the next generation of theatre artists, teachers and leaders with the hearts, minds and abilities to create art that embraces the values of cultural and social diversity, and celebrates humanity and life.

## Mission Statement

To nurture skill, technical competence, critical awareness, social engagement and artistic autonomy in theatre artists so that they are capable of contributing significantly to the theatremaking processes and cultures of their own communities.

## Organisation

ITI is a private educational organisation registered with the Council of Private Education. It is also a registered charity and an Institution of Public Character (IPC).

## **Curriculum of Acting Programme**

While the programme is now known as the **Professional Diploma in Intercultural Theatre (Acting)**, there is no fundamental change in the curriculum.

It is a three-year, full-time, systematic training programme for professional actors interested in working in contemporary theatre. The programme is characterised by its performer-centred, practice-oriented training that emphasises intercultural work and original creation. It immerses students in traditional theatre forms from Asia, and juxtaposes these intense interactions with both Stanislavskian and post-Stanislavskian actor training techniques. The process of skills acquisition and recombination takes place in a plural, intercultural environment marked by a variety of languages, a multiplicity of cultures and a broad, inclusive, theatrical palette.

Its aim is to train professional actors and performers capable of working in a variety of contemporary theatre genres and forms. The ITI actor is skilled in stagecraft and adept at the techniques of theatre, s/he is knowledgeable about theatre, is able to maintain a personal practice, is critically aware and socially engaged, and is capable of working autonomously as a creative person or artist.

## **Academic Board 2011–2014**

Prof Anuradha Kapur

*Director, National School of Drama, India*

Prof Erik Ehn

*Head of Playwriting and Professor of Theatre Arts and Performance Studies, Brown University, USA*

Prof Phillip B. Zarrilli

*Professor of Performance Practice, University of Exeter, UK*

Dr Quah Sy Ren

*Assistant Professor, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore*

## **Examination Board 2011–2014**

Mr Aarne Neeme

*Director and Teacher*

*Former Artistic Director, Actors Centre, Australia*

*Former Head, Theatre Department, Western Australia Academy of Performing Arts*

Prof Sardono W. Kusumo

*Director, Choreographer and Filmmaker*

*Former Rector, Jakarta Institute of the Arts*

Mr Kok Heng Leun

*Artistic Director, Drama Box, Singapore*

**Faculty**

The following are the core teachers.

Robin Payne (New Zealand), Voice & Speech  
Sim Pern Yiau (Singapore), Taichi & Meditation  
Kenny Wong (Singapore), Technical Theatre  
T. Sasitharan (Singapore), Humanities/Cultural & Literary Theory  
Sardono W. Kusumo (Indonesia), Wayang Wong  
Bambang Besur Suryuno (Indonesia), Wayang Wong  
Gopalan Nair Venu (India), Kutiyattam  
Kapila Venu (India), Kutiyattam  
Yoshimasa Kanze (Japan), Noh Theatre  
Kuwata Takashi (Japan), Noh Theatre  
Li Qiu Ping (China), Beijing Opera  
Leela Alaniz (Brazil), Movement & Acting

**For more information:**

Visit the new website at [www.iti.edu.sg](http://www.iti.edu.sg)