Kurinji and SAtheCollective co-presented by OzAsia Festival World Premiere

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THE SIL



Kurinji and SAtheCollective co-presented by OzAsia Festival World Premiere Bay 17, Carriageworks 12 - 16 Jan 2022, 85 Mins

# CAST AND CREDITS

Kurinji (Sydney) Writer/Director: S. Shakthidharan Performers: Aimée Falzon (Thwayya, Selene; Vocalist, Piano); Jasmin Sheppard (Violet, Daisy; Dancer/Clapsticks); Charles Wu (An Hoo; Vocalist/Guitar/Bass) Set & Costume Design: Dale Ferguson Lighting Design: Karen Norris AV Design/Operator: Elias Nohra Movement Director: Jasmin Sheppard Outside Eye: Angela Goh, Annette Shun-Wah Production Manager: Barry Searle Stage Manager: Jen Jackson Producer: Fenn Gordon for Tandem Thank you to: Paul Prestipino and Graham Hendrick, Susie Henderson, Raymond Falzon, John Baylis, Anandavalli, Sharanya, Zainab, Jenni, Mahesh, Iqbal and Koki.

### SAtheCollective (Singapore)

Co-artistic Director / Producer / Music Director: Andy Chia Assistant Producer / Production Stage Manager: Chong Jeannette Dramaturg: Felipe Cervera Performers: Andy Chia (*An Hoo, Uncle*; Flutes, Vocals), Natalie Alexandra Tse (*Tsuet-Cheng*; Guzheng), Govin Tan (*Desmond*; Drums, Percussion, Tabla), Vick Low (*Victor*; Cello) Audio Recording and Mixing: Dirk Stromberg Sound Recording Assistant: Daryl Michael Sound Assistant: Titus Lemuel Sound Assistant: Ernst Chua

Assistant Stage Manager: Cindy Sng

### Potocol 2021: Film (Singapore)

Film Producer: Jeremy Chua (Potocol Pte Ltd) Film Assistant Producer / Unit Production Manager: Sam Chua Weishi (Potocol Pte Ltd) Film Production Coordinator: Pek Jia Hao (Potocol Pte Ltd) Film Director: Giselle Lin Director of Photography: Clyde Kam A Cam 1st Assistant Camera: Harris Saifudin B Cam Operator: Leong Wei Ching B Cam 1st Assistant Camera: Regine Yeow Data Wrangler: Ernest Lee Gaffer: Song Zhi Yi (Dan) Grip: Afiq Aris 2nd Assistant Camera / Grip: Harrison Bo Born Location Sound Recordist: Nikki Koh Assistant Director: Faraz Art Director: Javeus Toh Art Assistant: Cheery Ng Editor: Shannen Mok

### Film Special Thanks:

Equipment: True Colour Media Pte Ltd Location: Gateway Arts and Gateway Theatre Costume Styling: The Supper House - Ashley Chiam Makeup: Tinoq Russell Goh using MAC Cosmetics & HABA Skincare Hair: Dylan Chan using Virtue Labs

# Supported by:

Australia: Australia Council for the Arts; Create NSW; and The Australian Government's International Cultural Diplomacy Arts Fund (ICDAF) Program.

Singapore: National Arts Council, Ministry of Culture, Community & Youth.



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# ABOUT THE SHOW

Thwayya faces the loss of her family farm after five generations of tending the land. Violet's ancestors were custodians of that land for over 75,000 years, but she left home long ago.

Meanwhile, Tsuet-Cheng is returning from Sydney to Singapore for "Tomb Sweeping Day", a ritual in which families visit cemeteries to talk with their ancestors.

These three women don't know each other – but when two skeletons are discovered in the dried-up creek bed of a remote Queensland farm, their fates become deeply intertwined.

A hauntingly beautiful blend of music, dance, film, design and dialogue, 宿 (*stay*) is built on the real-life experiences of the artists. From a densely packed Singapore housing block to the vast Tagalaka country of outback Australia, 宿 (*stay*) delicately unearths buried trauma and fragile connections that lie at the heart of contemporary life.

Part concert, part story, part ceremony, 宿 (*stay*) is an evocative new work created by western Sydney company Kurinji, its co-founder/writer S. Shakthidharan (*Counting and Cracking*, Sydney Festival 2019) and renowned Singaporean musical ensemble, SAtheCollective.

# ABOUT KURINJI AND SATHECOLLECTIVE

Kurinji tells new Australian stories that are epic, intimate and communal. Our productions are multi-sensory and immerse our audiences in other worlds. Our process is collaborative, and our work is made through respectful collaboration with real people, in real places. Our home is western Sydney, Australia. The land of the Wangal clan of the Dharug Nation.

SAtheCollective is an interdisciplinary and intercultural performing arts company based in Singapore, whose work has been commissioned and presented by multiple international festivals. At its heart, SAtheCollective explores the confluence of the three pillars of Human, Nature and Technology. Driven by these goals, SAtheCollective draws energy from the land and the community and creates highly ritualistic works.

### A NOTE FROM THE CREATORS

It began as a friendship: between two families, from Singapore and Australia.

What we had in common was our art. Our music. Our storytelling traditions that remained unbroken.

What was different were the spaces we had grown up in. The Australians were innately familiar with travelling across this vast continent for days, under an endless sky. The Singaporeans were more familiar with a life lived in proximity to everything they needed. Some of them have never properly seen the stars.

This is a personal work for us. For some in the ensemble, it is a story inspired by their own lives. For others, in its blend of music, dance, film, design and dialogue, it is an act of love. A way for us to find a form of theatre that springs from the ancient, interdisciplinary art forms our households are filled with - and yet speaks to who we are here, and now.

We know the story of more. It is the story of the quest. Of finding treasure, finding love, of finding the new.

But what is the story of less? Of noticing what was always there? Should we, will we, can we ever learn that where we already live, what we already have, who we already are - is enough?

This show is a first, gentle step towards finding out.