

#NIGHTFESTROCKS

OUR PICKS FOR THE SOCIAL MEDIA SAVVY AT THE SINGAPORE NIGHT FEST

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After years of grumbling and complaining about people not soaking in any experience without the need to go on Twitter, Facebook or Instagram, we've finally seen the light — literally hundreds of them, in fact, all glowing from handphones poised to capture images and share comments on social media. And the Night Festival is undoubtedly one of the best events to do so, with its festive vibe and endless stream of spectacles.

Spread over two weekends beginning next Friday, this year's edition branches out further from its regular base around the National Museum of Singapore (NMS), Singapore Art Museum (SAM), Singapore Management University (SMU) and Armenian Street premises, with a new Festival Village at the Cathay Green and the National Design Centre in Middle Road.

This year's theme is Bold and Beautiful, which captures what organisers are going for this year. "It will be a visually stunning, moving and multi-sensory experience for all our visitors as we want them to experience the beauty of different art forms," said this edition's creative director Christie Chua.

By multi-sensory experience, she also means connecting via social media. "Other than extra cool points — and likes, of course — on Instagram and Facebook, sharing your festival experience through photos and videos is a great way to connect with other festival-goers and check out what else is happening that you may be missing out on," said Chua. "Do post your selfies, Instagram videos and pretty filtered photos with the hashtag #sgnightfest!"

There is, admittedly, a lot to choose from this year, from the headlining act William Close, who will transform the NMS facade into a huge "earth harp"; to the Night Lights array of light installations, complete with intriguing projections of images courtesy of Clement Briend's Divine Trees installation. But here are 10 things to check out with your friends, family and, yes, your trusty handphone.

INTO THE STARLIGHT
What exactly is "flow arts"? You can discover that for yourself courtesy of local arts collective Starlight Alchemy. You can participate in some portions as well, such as AeroYogis (an "acrobatic partner yoga" presentation) and Illuminated Playtime (where you can play with the group's LED tools like "poi" and "hoop").

INTO THE STARLIGHT

ROVING PERFORMANCE ARTISTS
You'll never know what to expect from performance artists — that's the fun of it. Curator Daniela Beltrani brings together a group that will mingle among audiences with pieces that respond to the theme Spread The Love.

VERY LIGHT EXHIBITION — BE PRESENT
Over at the National Design Centre is something for the whole family — with its ceiling of white helium balloons that changes colour. You can add on to it with your own lit balloons or just lie down on the "grass" patch and space out.

ROVING PERFORMANCE ARTISTS

HOMEMADE
Besides the visual spectacles, the festival will be bursting with musical performances. While you can always check out the cutting-edge lineup at The Substation, Homemade is one of the festival's popular fixtures. It's a pretty varied bunch, too. The first weekend features hip-hop and R&B, with ShiGGa Shay, Vandetta, Masia One, Inverse Proportions, The Irietones and the mega-jam In The Grove Project (comprising 10 DJs

and a whole bunch of musicians). The second weekend goes rock with The Pinholes, The Stoned Revivals, Lost Weekend and The Fast Colors.

DAYDREAMS AND NIGHTMARES
You have two options: Check out the prints on display at this show curated by printmaking studio Monster Gallery, which features works by 13 artists including the likes of PHUNK and Holycrap — or try making one yourself by taking part in workshops.

****INSERT CAPTION PLEASE****
Singapore artist Ryf knows what you're thinking. Sort of. Step under his LED screen installation that looks like a giant speech bubble and randomly generated messages will come out. Snap away!

ALSOS*
Is the crowd in the main areas getting to you? Drop by Armenian Church, which

features French-based Scenocosme's piece. It's an interactive "forest" installation where, with flashlights, you can point at fluorescent flowers that each play a different melody.

LIGHT UP NINJA
Singapore's Lighting Detectives are showcasing two pieces at the festival. This one's an interactive piece that lets you and your family, create glow-in-the-dark paintings using fluorescent pens and paints.

SINGAPORE PRO WRESTLING
Yes, you read that right. Wrestling. In the middle of the street. It's going to be a riot.

THE CLOUD OF UNKNOWING
This Venice Biennale video by Ho Tzu Nyen has been up for some time at SAM, but this is one of those rare moments when it gets the "live" performance treatment courtesy of musicians Bani Haykal and Randolph Arriola. Don't miss this. But switch off your flash, okay?

ALSO*
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ILLUSTRATION: CRYSLY LEE

> The Singapore Night Festival 2014 is on Aug 22 and 23, 29 and 30, 7pm to 2am, at the Bras Basah and Bugis district. For more information, visit <http://www.sgnightfest.sg>. Check out what others have posted on our microsite Artlanders (<http://tdy.sg/artlanders>), and hashtag #artlanders.

Aug 22 and 23, 7.30pm to 12.15am, SMU (beside the School Of Information Systems)

DAYDREAMS AND NIGHTMARES

Aug 21 to 24, 28 to 30, noon to 11pm, The Substation Gallery. Workshops on Aug 22 and 23, 29 and 30, 7.30pm to 10.30pm, The Substation Gallery. S\$12 (25 participants per session). Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Register at registration@substation.org by Aug 18

Aug 22, 23, 29 and 30, 7.30pm to 2am, NMS Front Lawn

Aug 22, 23, 29 and 30, 7.30pm to 2am, SMU Green

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Aug 22, 23, 29 and 30, 7.30pm to 2am, Armenian Church

LIGHT UP NINJA

Aug 29 and 30, 7.30pm to 9.30pm, SOTA, West Plaza Steps

Aug 29 and 30, 10.15pm to 11.45pm, Armenian Street

Aug 29 and 30, 9.30pm and 11.30pm, SAM Chapel

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