

# Tittle Tattle

PEOPLE WHO MAKE THE TOWN TICK

## Art Appreciation

SINGAPORE ARTS FESTIVAL 2009 ENTERTAINS WITH A HOST OF LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL PERFORMANCES

**A**N EXHILARATING LINE-UP OF performances will thrill audiences at the Singapore Arts Festival 2009, which features seven new commissions, including two world premieres and one Asian premiere co-commissioned with international partners. Expresses Goh Ching Lee, senior director for Performing Arts and director for Singapore Arts Festival, National Arts Council, "This year's festival brings a broad range of works that we are confident will resonate strongly with our artist communities, audiences and stakeholders. Pervading the programme is a sense of dare and playfulness that is laced with poetry and elegance, offering our audiences different entry points of appreciation and participation."

The month-long festival features co-commissions such as *Visible Cities* with Napoli Teatro Festival Italia, local productions like Toy Factory Productions Ltd's *The Crab Flower Club*, along with a line-up of virtuosi including Grammy Award-winning musician Randy Becker and the 30-member Moscow soloists. For the first time, the festival will be launching a range of programmes under Fest Connect where the public can attend a series of free engagement activities. From May 15 to June 14. Check out the full line-up on [www.singaporeartsfest.com](http://www.singaporeartsfest.com).



## GRIST TO THE RUMOUR MILL

**COURTESY 101** It's becoming quite apparent that certain members of the society set need a crash course in manners. A socialite was seen rudely interrupting a conversation to speak to a young gentleman while ignoring the person he was first speaking to. A simple "Excuse me" and a smile would have sufficed.

**MEET MY TWIN** It's funny how much influence BFFs (Best Friends Forever) can have on each other. We've started to notice close female friends morphing to look like exact replicas of each other. Has uniqueness become passé?

**MIME TIME** When organising a private dinner, surely a very basic courtesy is to check the dietary preferences of one's guests? Evidently not. One host was so absorbed in showcasing her culinary prowess, she did not ask nor did she notice her distraught vegetarian guest going through her meal laden dinner like a mime artist: lifting the spoon, holding it up, then putting the spoon down again with barely a morsel going past her lips.

## Red Alert

BID ON A SIZZLING RED DRESS WITH YOUR CREDIT CARD TO SUPPORT THE SINGAPORE HEART FOUNDATION

GO RED FOR WOMEN – AN initiative by MasterCard to raise awareness of heart disease – will see 10 rising fashion designers such as Stella Rissa and Jo Soh (Hansel) from the region each create a red dress to be auctioned for the cause. The initiative links back to the international Go Red for Women movement, which empowers women with heart health knowledge and tools.

"MasterCard has been actively involved in some of the foremost premium fashion events across the globe and we have found fashion to be a good plat-

form to reach out to consumers. As such, we are using fashion to help raise awareness for the cause," says Georgette Tan, vice president, Communications, Asia-Pacific, Middle East and Africa, MasterCard Worldwide. In line with the Audi Fashion Festival 2009, the designers will take "inspiration and innovation" as their theme. The dresses will be on display at The St Regis hotel and MasterCard cardholders can bid for their favourite piece from May 8 to June 8 at [www.myheart.org.sg](http://www.myheart.org.sg). All proceeds will go to the Singapore Heart Foundation.



Designer Jo Soh