

Intercultural Theatre Institute Ltd
ANNUAL REPORT
for the year ending 30 June 2011

Intercultural Theatre Institute Ltd was incorporated on 23 September 2008 as a company limited by guarantee (i.e., non profit-distributing), and registered as a charity on 17 November 2009. It was approved as an Institution of Public Character (IPC) with effect from 1 January 2010. The name was changed on 27 December 2010, from Theatre Training & Research Space (Singapore) Ltd.

UEN (Unique Identity Number): 200818680E

Registered address: 11 Upper Wilkie Road, Singapore 228120

Directors: Mr Philip Jeyaretnam (appointed 23 Sept 2008)
Mr Arun Mahizhnan (appointed 23 Sept 2008)
Dr Kwok Kian Woon (appointed 23 Sept 2008)
Mr Chew Kheng Chuan (appointed 23 Sept 2008)
Mr David Chiem Phu An (appointed 16 March 2011)

Auditor: J. Wong & Associates PLC

Banker: United Overseas Bank Ltd

OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of Intercultural Theatre Institute Ltd are:

- to promote education and training in theatre, performance and performing arts; and
- to provide research in theatre, theatre training, performance, performance training, performing arts and performing arts training.

MISSION

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

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The training of theatre actors through the 3-year, fulltime programme known as the Professional Diploma in Intercultural Theatre (Acting).

REVIEW OF THE YEAR 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011

Intercultural Theatre Institute (“ITI”) continued work to establish longer-term sustainability. This included groundwork to raise funds through donations, grants and other support, and to raise scholarships and a loan fund for students. In February 2011, the National Arts Council confirmed a 3-year grant from their financial year beginning 1 April 2011, to support ITI’s work. This was based on their recognition of ITI’s unique pedagogy and their own objective of developing quality continuing education pathways for the arts sector in Singapore.

The key executive staff of ITI are:

- Mr T. Sasitharan, Director – co-founder of TTRP and Director since 2000.
- Ms Goh Su Lin, General Manager – general manager of TTRP since 2001.

The earlier intention to begin classes in July 2011, was adjusted so that classes will begin in January 2012. The reason for this postponement is the time taken for registration as a Private Education Institution with the Council for Private Education. CPE initially required that Mr. G. Venu, master teacher of Kutiyattam, should have a diploma, and that the classrooms used in training be zoned for “commercial school” usage. ITI explained that these requirements were not appropriate since:
(1) Mr Venu was trained in the traditional gurukela system, and a recognized guru, in the kuttiyattam art form in which he was appointed master teacher, and also submitted documentation by UNESCO of the gurukela system and UNESCO’s recognition of kuttiyattam as Intangible Cultural Heritage; and
(2) as an arts charity, ITI was occupying space leased by its landlord (also an arts charity) from the National Arts Council for “Community and civic institution” usage.

CPE eventually found means to accept these circumstances, and the registration process is continuing, with CPE’s mandatory site inspection scheduled for 7 July 2011.

ITI also commenced preparations for the pilot run of the Singapore School Project, its community outreach programme in which performing arts processes will be used to foster teamwork, communication skills and problem-solving skills in students, during curriculum time in schools.

In addition, ITI continued its strategic alliance with Monsoonasia Gallery (art gallery), Tan Sock Fong (glass artist) and Sun Yu-Li (sculptor) through membership in the arts charity Emily Hill Enterprise Ltd. Emily Hill seeks to help make the arts more sustainable by fostering better partnerships with business and building capability in the arts and creative sectors. ITI earned fees for services provided to Emily Hill, in management of Emily Hill, and curriculum development and teaching in arts management and creative entrepreneurship.

For the next year, the main plans are to:

1. Begin classes in the Professional Diploma in Intercultural Theatre (Acting) in January 2012;
2. Complete registration under CPE’s Enhanced Registration Framework and achieve Edutrust certification;
3. Continue work to establish long-term sustainability; and
4. To complete the pilot run of the Singapore School Project.