E&O EDITION 24



E&O EDITION 24

THE BEACH POOL AT QUAYSIDE SEAFRONT RESORT CONDOMINIUMS

Part of a 4.5-acre waterpark created exclusively for the residens of this award-winning development.

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E&O EDITION

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BE TRANSPORTED BY THE OLD WORLD CHARM OF JIUFEN

Taiwan's ancient mining town that inspired Studio Ghibli's *Spirited Away*

E&O HOTEL ON THE SILVER SCREEN

Its august esthetics makes the E&O Hotel a much sought-after filming location. These are among its most memorable big screen appearances.

W hether it's the pristine all-white façade that gives it a commanding presence or the meticulously preserved interiors that boast of antique furnishings, there's no denying that the E&O is a handsome hotel. First-time guests commonly report feeling as if they've been transported back in time upon setting foot in the Heritage Wing. That sensation strengthens as they wander along vaunted corridors towards the stately rooms and suites, or sit down for Traditional Afternoon Tea at 1885 Restaurant. This sense of nostalgia translates well on the big screen so it's no surprise that period movies and historical dramas favour the E&O as a filming location. Here are eight of the Grand Dame's most memorable cinematic appearances:



Chapter One









The E&O Hotel has starred in numerous local and foreign films

CRAZY RICH ASIANS

The movie adaption of Kevin Kwan's seminal hit novel about the jaw-dropping lifestyles of the uber affluent was truly the talk of town when the cast and crew descended upon Penang last year. For several days, they took over the hotel's Heritage Wing lobby with its famed echodome and transformed it into a backdrop that Nick Young's finicky mother, Eleanor (played by Tan Sri Michelle Yeoh) would approve of. The movie is set for release this August.

DAS TRAUMHOTEL

One of Germany's most popular TV series, *DAS Traumhotel* (Dream Hotel) follows the life of hotelier Markus Winter, who owns a number of properties around the world. The edition featuring Malaysia was shot in Penang and Langkawi in 2008, with the E&O Hotel as one of the key locations. The 50-strong crew made their presence felt at selected spots, including the seafront lawn, which was set up as an alfresco restaurant. The series first aired in 2002 and commanded an average of nine million viewers across Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

INDIAN SUMMERS

You wouldn't think that Simla, located at the foot of the Himalayas in India, would have much in common with Penang but this British TV series showed otherwise. The film crew spent six months in Penang, simulating scenes that were set in 1932 during the twilight of the colonial era. Not only did they shoot some scenes at the E&O, many cast members including Julie Walters also stayed at the hotel.

ROAD TO DAWN

The life of Dr Sun Yat Sen was closely linked to Penang, so it was only appropriate that a movie about him would be filmed on the island. A number of Penang landmarks were featured, including the E&O. The hotel's vintage lift and the corridor outside Sarkies Brothers and 1885 are among the recognisable parts of the Heritage Wing that can be clearly seen in the movie. This first China-produced movie to be filmed in Malaysia starred local actress Angelica Lee and premiered at Beijing's Grand Hall of People in 2008 before going on to win several international film awards.





Photos courtesy of Benny Toolseram





Photos courtesy of Lillian Tong





The E&O Hotel's colonial architecture and design easily transform into any period setting

LOVE AND DEATH ON JAVA

Also a German production, this multi-million Ringgit period drama detailed the life of a German plantation family in Java during the end of Dutch colonial rule and across the Japanese Occupation circa World War II. The E&O Hotel was chosen to represent scenes depicting bygone Batavia (now Jakarta), with sections of the property adapted into different backdrops. The windows at Farquhar's Bar, for example, were covered in shutters and vintage cars were parked in front of the hotel to create the corresponding mood. Filming took place in 2010 and the movie was released in Europe a year later.

LITTLE NYONYA

Steeped in historical and cultural details and boasting a star-studded Singaporean cast, this drama series debuted on MediaCorp TV Channel 8 in November 2008 and completed its run the following January. It told the story of three generations of a Peranakan family, set in Melaka over a seven-decade period, starting from the 1930s. Highly lauded by critics and popular among viewers–it boasted the highest viewership in Singapore in 14 years–the series also picked up a number of television awards. Filming took place in Melaka and Penang, including at the E&O Hotel.

ALL MY GODDESS

Four best friends, a groom left at the altar, and a stand-in bride...this Hong Kong production had all the makings of a fun comedy. Released last June, it starred some of the most promising names in the Hong Kong entertainment scene, with Alex Fong Lik Sun in the lead role. The E&O featured in several scenes, including one that was filmed at the walkway outside Sarkies Restaurant.

THE WEDDING DIARY

Another nuptial-themed movie that was partly filmed at the hotel, this one starred popular Malaysian singer-actor Ah Niu as an engineer who was getting ready to marry his sweetheart, who hails from a wealthy Singaporean family. Funny and romantic at the same time, this movie was also interesting for highlighting the different customs between Hokkien and Cantonese cultures. Their wedding banquet scene was shot at E&O's Grand Ballroom.

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Behind the scenes during the filming of romantic comedy All My Goddess

Besides the cinemas, movie buffs in Penang can satiate their love for the big screens at these spots.

AVATAR SECRET GARDEN

During the day, it looks like any other green park but come night, this hillock behind the seafront Thai Pak Koong (God of Prosperity) temple turns into a spectacle of LED lights that looks right out of James Cameron's science fiction hit, Avatar. Indeed, this lush garden that's populated by towering trees was inspired by and named after the surreal film. Once the lights are turned on in the evening, the place transforms as if by magic, taking on an otherworldly atmosphere. Strands of colour-changing lights are draped around and hang from branches or wound around tree barks while a winding patch covered in tulip-shaped lights give the place an ethereal effect.

336 JALAN TOKONG THAI PAK KOONG, TANJUNG TOKONG, 11200 TANJUNG BUNGAH, PENANG OPENS ANYTIME; LIGHTS COME ON AT 7.30PM ADMISSION FREE

ALLIANCE FRANCAISE DE PENANG

Since 1961, this non-profit outfit has been promoting French culture in Malaysia, first with an outlet in Kuala Lumpur before expanding to Penang. Alliance Francaise de Penang continues to encourage better awareness and understanding on all things French through a host of regular activities that include language classes, pastry workshops and movie screenings. Their World Cinema Night and French Cinema Night are held at least once a month and admission is free; attendees just need to register their spot in advance via email. If you sign up as a member you will also have access to their library, which is stocked with books, CDs and DVDs.

46 JALAN PHUAH HIN LEONG, 10050 GEORGE TOWN, PENANG LIBRARY HOURS 10AM-1PM & 2PM-6PM 9AM-1PM & 2PM-5PM, TUESDAY-SATURDAY T 604 227 6008

WWW.AFPENANG.COM





Photo courtesy of Hin Bus Depot

(Left & top right) Avatar Garden is an ethereal spectacle of lights; (Bottom right) The audience at an Alliance Francaise de Penang movie screening

SCREEN SENSATIONS



(Left & top right) Majestic today is a glorious throwback to its origins as Penang's foremost entertainment hub; (Bottom right) The house where P. Ramlee was born

MAJESTIC THEATRE

Built in 1926, it was the first 'talkie' (cinema that featured sound) in northern Malaysia that quickly became a popular local landmark, where everyone flocked to catch cabaret shows and foreign blockbusters. The Majestic Theatre fell to abandonment in the 1990s and faded into oblivion for over a decade, until efforts were made to rebuild it a few years ago. In 2016, it reopened as Majestic Penang, a multi-purpose space suited for a variety of events, from movie screenings to corporate functions and sporting activities. That same year, it hosted three sold-out shows that were part of George Town Festival and also served as a filming location for Penang-born director Saw Teong Hin's semi-autobiographical film, *You Mean The World To Me.* Majestic Penang is open only for events; you can admire its British colonial architectural features from the outside.

31 JALAN PHEE CHOON, 10050 GEORGE TOWN, PENANG T 04 261 3457

WWW.MAJESTICPENANG.COM

P RAMLEE HOUSE

He was the doyen of the entertainment industry in 1950s Malaya, known and loved for his many talents that saw him wear multiple hats-as an actor, film director, singer, composer, songwriter, and producer. P Ramlee died in 1973, aged 44, but his legacy continues to live on in many ways, from streets named after him to regular reruns of his iconic black-and-white movies. If you want to delve deeper into his life and the glories of his heyday, visit this memorial dedicated to him.

Located within the Pustaka Warisan Seni Complex, the P Ramlee Gallery displays various memorabilia that chronicle his life and rise to fame. You can also sit and watch screenings of his movies. More interestingly, the old kampung house where P Ramlee was born has also been preserved and rebuilt on a small plot of land next to the gallery. The well-preserved structure and interiors give an interesting glimpse into his personal life, complete with personal artefacts such as the violin and flute he used to play, a suitcase he regularly travelled with, and even the bicycle he once rode.

LOT 2180, JALAN P RAMLEE, TAMAN KAMPAR, 10460 GEORGE TOWN, PENANG OPENS 10AM-5AM, TUESDAY-SUNDAY; 10AM-12PM & 3PM-5PM, FRIDAY; CLOSED ON MONDAYS EXCEPT PUBLIC AND SCHOOL HOLIDAYS T 04 281 7484 ADMISSION FREE

The Mews Kuala Lumpur, a partnership between Eastern & Oriental Berhad and Mitsui Fudosan Residential, encapsulates the best of Malaysian and Japanese design sensibilities.



Chapter Two

AN INTERLACE OF TWO CULTURES

Housed within its 38-storey twin towers are 256 units that are custom designed for a refined lifestyle





The kitchen, minimalist in appearance and ergonomic in form, serves as a focal point for relaxing and catching up over meal preps

From living areas to private spaces, The Mews accentuates a timeless elegance that celebrates contemporary, urban living



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Witness the mastery of craftsmanship in our newly-completed apartments. Be impressed with the refined design and meticulous details that distinguish this new landmark in the city. Venture to the rooftop sky garden or refresh in the infinity pool as the panorama of Kuala Lumpur unfolds before you.

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Conceived for optimum comfort and relaxation, the spacious bedrooms with ensuite bathrooms are bathed in soothing lights and ensconced in an air of tranquility

QUAYSIDE TAKES HOME THE GOLD

Quayside Seafront Resort Condominiums was named a Gold winner at EdgeProp Malaysia's Best Managed Property Awards 2018.

E &O's signature development at Penang's Seri Tanjung Pinang, Quayside Seafront Resort Condominiums, was built to impress by showcasing the ultimate in island living. Residents revel in a holistic, seafront lifestyle within a well-managed property equipped with world-class facilities.

That reputation precedes itself and has now been recognised by the prestigious EdgeProp Malaysia's Best Managed Property Awards 2018, when it emerged a Gold winner under the Below 10 Years Multi-Own Strata Residential category. The award not only honours the top development in Malaysia for excellent management but also aims to boost the overall standard practices in Malaysia by pitting it against international players.

Quayside is Penang's only condominium that comes with direct seafront access as well as the sole property to feature a private 4.5-acre waterpark for the enjoyment and amusement of its residents. The waterpark complements the property's landscaped recreational space, which covers five acres, and a full-fledged clubhouse that features a gymnasium, function spaces and a Gold Class theatre.

While housing seven 28-storey towers sprawled across 21 acres of land, Quayside is the lowest density exclusive condominium on the island. That doesn't make its management and maintenance any easier; a 104-strong team is at work 365 days of the year, providing support to residents 24/7. The team also works with industry experts to deliver a variety of required services and enhancements.

Another important factor that contributes to Quayside's excellence in management is the rapport and close relationships that have been built with and among residents. A quarterly newsletter lets everyone stay up to date with the latest news, and there are free weekly activities such as Zumba, yoga and cooking classes.

In short, life at Quayside Seafront Reso at a 5-star resort.

WWW.QUAYSIDERESORT.COM



Quayside Seafront Resort Condominiums clinched top honour at EdgeProp Malaysia Awards 2018

In short, life at Quayside Seafront Resort Condominiums is not unlike a permanent holiday







It takes an entire team working round the clock to keep things in tip-top condition





Every facility and initiative is designed with residents in mind



Feel the breeze

Limited units of your dream home are now available. Gallery viewing by appointment only.





f 💿 E&O Living 🛛 🥥 Seri Tanjung Pinang by E&O 🛛 🌐 www.seritanjungpinang.com

2018





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The award recognises the professionalism and dedication of the team at Quayside



Winners of the prestigious PropertyGuru Asia Property Awards Malaysia 2018

THREE TIMES THE CHARM

T hrough its growing portfolio of residential and commercial developments around Malaysia, E&O Berhad has shown its commitment to producing the finest workmanship and world-class facilities. This was further cemented by the company's triple victory at the prestigious PropertyGuru Asia Property Awards (Malaysia) 2018 held in April. This annual Awards recognises top quality developers, projects and innovations, taking into account construction, development, architecture and interior design, as well as green and sustainable building practices.

The panel of judges was led by Prem Kumar, Executive Director of Jones Lang Wootton, and comprised respected experts in the real estate, design, consultancy and other related industries. Results were audited by BDO, one of the world's largest auditing and accountancy networks.

At the glitzy black tie awards ceremony, E&O Berhad picked up these major accolades: Best Condo Development (Penang) for The Tamarind at Seri Tanjung Pinang; Highly Commended for The Mews in Kuala Lumpur under the Best Luxury Condo Development (Klang Valley) category; Highly Commended in the Landed Development (Iskandar) category for Avira Garden Terraces in Medini Central, Johor.

The Tamarind is scheduled for completion next year and the award is testimony to the quality that buyers can look forward to. It also shows that Avira, part of a continuouslygrowing community, is on track to deliver an ideal lifestyle to its discerning residents. Meanwhile, the honour given to Mews Serviced Residence, a joint venture project with Japan's Mitsui Fudosan Co Ltd, further reinforces its reputation as one of Kuala Lumpur's most coveted addresses.

E&O Berhad scored an impressive hattrick at the PropertyGuru Asia Property Awards (Malaysia) 2018.



The Perfect Staycation

The Tamarind's resort-like location on this picturesque corner of Penang island could possibly lure you to stay home more often than you ought to. Spacious, bright and airy – the 3-bedroom, 2-bath configurations have generously-sized balconies for lofty views of the world out there. Or you could step out your front door and break a sweat at the gym, or jog, or stretch through a yoga class – then cool down with a few laps in the pool. Or you could just do nothing and take in the tranquility of the meticulously-landscaped 1-acre waterscape of beach, freeform swimming and wading pools. It's everything you would do on vacation – except you're now at home sweet home.





Seri Tanjung Pinang, Tanjung Tokong, 10470 Penang, Malaysia T +604 890 9999 E eopenang@easternandoriental.com



_____ (iv

SERI TANJUNG PINANG

f 💿 E&O Living

g 🛛 🧔 Seri Tanjur

tamarind

Developer: E&O Property (Penang) Sdn Bhd (185302-X) • Developer's Address: The Sales Gallery & Show Units, Seri Tanjung Pinang, Tanjung Tokong, 10470 Penang, Malaysia. Tel: +604 890 9999 Fax: +604 899 1122 • Developer's License: 9411-37/05-2018/01424(L) (Validity Period: 30/5/2017-29/5/2018) • Land Tenure: Freehold • Expected Date of Completion: May 2019 • Approving Authority: Majlis Bandaraya Pulau Pinang (Reference No.: MPPP/OSC/PB(6893/14(LB)) • Sales & Advertising Permit: 9411-37/05-2018/01424(P) (Validity Period: 30/5/2017-29/5/2018) • Land Encumbrances: N/A • Total Units: 1,104 units • Selling Price (RM): RM899,600 (Min); RM2,163,200 (Max) • Development Type: Service Apartment.







Part of E&O Berhad team who collected the awards on behalf of the company





A 207-acre development, AVIRA is a masterplanned community made up of landed residences, serviced apartments, condominiums and commercial units nestled within verdant green spaces. AVIRA enjoys excellent accessibility to EduCity as well as a host of lifestyle and entertainment offerings.

One of the few landed properties in Medini, AVIRA GARDEN TERRACES is built with wide frontages that invite the outdoors in, whilst private courtyards and back gardens flow seamlessly into linear parks.

AVIRA Medini Iskandar, brought to life by Eastern & Oriental Berhad and the wholly-owned subsidiaries of Temasek Holdings (Private) Limited and Khazanah Nasional Berhad.

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- Management Development Institute of Singapore
- Netherlands Maritime Institute of Technology
- Raffles University
- Secondary Trust School
- 3. Raffles American School
- 4. Marlborough College Malaysia

THAI-STYLE HEALING IN THE HEART OF KUALA LUMPUR

Bali Thai Wellness Centre, known for their Thai-style therapies, make St Mary Place their second home in the capital.

T alk about starting the year on the right note-Bali Thai Family Wellness Centre at St Mary Place opened their doors early this year and has been building up a base of loyal clientele since. They join a host of lifestyle conveniences at the retail annexe that sits on the doorstep of E&O's upscale St Mary Residences, adding yet another valued option for not only residents but also their guests as well as the public and the working community in its vicinity.

therapies will meet your needs.

The Traditional Thai Massage can help loosen tightness in the joints, which is great for unwinding at the end of a long week. Spent the day shopping or sightseeing around the city? Get a Foot Massage to rejuvenate your tired limbs.

Bali Thai's most popular treatment is their Thai Aroma Therapy, a full body massage using their in-house oil blend. Using a combination of hand movements, the therapist will soothe away any tension that's built up in your muscles. Post-massage, relax with a drink at their resting lounge, which they plan to turn into a café.

BALI THAI

A-0-10 & A-0-11 GROUND FLOOR, ST MARY PLACE, NO. 1 JALAN TENGAH, 50450 KUALA LUMPUR OPENS 11AM-11PM DAILY T 603 2022 2211



Bali Thai offers residents and visitors to St Mary Place a chance for respite

At present, Bali Thai offers four types of Thai-style treatments: Traditional, aromatherapy, foot massage, and shoulder and back. The latter is a 30-minute massage that's ideal for those seeking a quick lunch time respite. If you have more time to spare, any of the other









There's plenty to learn, discover and experience at the Royal Selangor Visitor Centre, Penang

5 REASONS TO VISIT THE ROYAL SELANGOR VISITOR CENTRE, PENANG

Swing by Royal Selangor at Straits Quay and you will see why one of Malaysia's oldest brands is also one of the most respected.

ADMIRE THE LUCKY MELON POT

It saved someone's life during World War II and served a family well for three decades. This 'lucky' pot turned out to be a rare original Royal Selangor creation that founder, Yong Koon, had soldered by hand and bore his hallmark. Now part of the company's archival collection, it has also inspired a new melon-shaped range that includes tea caddies and salt and pepper shakers.

∩LEARN THE 101 ON PEWTER

La Think pewter is only for boring, old-school plaques and decorations? The company wouldn't have lasted this long if that was the case. Through various innovations and techniques, Royal Selangor shows that pewter can and is a serious contender in contemporary applications. Gain insights into this-as well as the mining history of Malaysia-at the gallery, and watch a demonstration using molten pewter.

SKNOCK A BOWL INTO SHAPE

JTake a shot at being a pewtersmith at the School of Hard Knocks, where you will be provided with guidance and tools to shape a sheet of pewter into a small bowl. It's suitable for most ages so the whole family can get in on the fun together. Stressed out adults will find it particularly therapeutic!

4 SHOP MUSEUM COLLECTIONS Home to some eight million artefacts, the British Museum's collection is among the largest and most comprehensive in the world. Royal Selangor takes a leaf from their massive inventory for a special collection that features homeware, tableware and stationery items. Other museum collaborations include the Victoria and Albert Museum and Taiwan's National Palace Museum.

5 MEET HOLLYWOOD ICONS From Millennium Falcon flash drives to Captain America lapel pins and Gandalf goblets, Royal Selangor has transformed many icons from the silver screen into covetable pewter pieces. They craft the characters to life meticulously, down to the last detail; check out the Batman figurines and observe how gracefully his cape billows.

ROYAL SELANGOR VISITOR CENTRE, PENANG 3A-G-1 STRAITS QUAY, JALAN SERI TANJUNG PINANG, 10470 TANJUNG TOKONG, PENANG **OPENS** 10AM-10PM DAILY T 04 891 2018

VISITORCENTRE.ROYALSELANGOR.COM



Brandon Tan has grown his label, Bran et Daguet, from a home-based outfit to a boutique at Straits Quay

A BRAN TO BE RECKONED WITH

Homegrown fashion label Bran et Daguet dresses discerning fashionistas who appreciate the finest fabrics tailored to fit like a glove.

B randon Tan could have set up shop in Kuala Lumpur and built his empire among the capital's 'in' crowd. But his love for his hometown held him back, that Penang pride in him burning so brightly that he decided to establish his eponymous label–Bran et Daguet is a combination of his name and that of his partner, Pascal Martin-Daguet–where he has his roots.

"I love Penang...I wanted to show people that we are not just about *char kuay teow*!" Brandon explains. In the last 14 years, he has taken his brand from a tiny home studio to a sleek boutique at Straits Quay with walls that resemble sculpted waves. In the window display, shimmery mosaic mannequins striking flamboyant forms an eye-catching backdrop for his newest designs.

Contemporary yet timeless, a hint of the masculine with a feminine flair, a touch of the Oriental with European panache...these are the phrases commonly used to describe Brandon's creations that have won him fans among the island's most stylish. "My pieces are exclusive so there's no chance of bumping into someone wearing the same outfit," he says.

Part of that exclusivity comes from his fabric choice. Brandon is adamant on using the best, sourcing many materials from Europe. "My design process often starts from the fabric itself...l find inspiration from it and bring out its best attributes." That explains the diversity of his collection, which runs the gamut from sharp, architectural silhouettes to floaty bias-cut dresses, traditional ensemble forms such as cheongsams updated with modern details to statement-making gowns.

What's remarkable about his success is that he had no formal training in fashion design. For two years, he spent all his weekends taking classes from a master tailor while holding down a 9-to-5 job as a business administrator. "My sifu would remind me not to take shortcuts and I'd tell him I was running out of time – I was already 30."

His foray into the industry was as just rough. "Nobody supported me because no one knew me. It was a bitter pill to swallow," he reveals. Brandon recalls his first ever fashion show, held at his home, with friends and colleagues as guests. From that amateurish effort, Bran et Daguet now regularly shows at major events such as Penang Fashion Week. As he has demonstrated, it all boils down to passion and perseverance. "I drove a Kancil at the time, and I worked very hard. Even if I don't have money to eat, I will keep doing this."

BRAN ET DAGUET 3A-G-2 STRAITS QUAY, JALAN SERI TANJUNG PINANG, 10470 TANJUNG TOKONG, PENANG | **OPENS** 10AM-10PM DAILY T 04 898 1755

WWW.BRANETDAGUET.COM

ORGANIC WELLNESS THROUGH ASIAN THERAPIES

The E&O Hotel has a hidden sanctuary in the form of Pañpuri Organic Spa.

B efore you even set foot inside its inviting space, Pañpuri Organic Spa welcomes you with the soothing scents of aromatherapy oils wafting along the corridor leading from the lifts on the sixth floor of E&O Hotel's Victory Annexe. The luxurious spa draws on a wealth of traditional Asian therapies and wellness remedies, offering a menu that reads like a journey of discovery across the continent.

You can be energised by an invigorating Thai massage, surrender to a relaxing Balinesestyle acupressure treatment, discover the benefits of Indian Ayurvedic healing, experience the Japanese art of Shiatsu, or harmonise your chakra with a hot stone massage that promotes better flow of *chi*.

There are also treatments that combine the best of several disciplines, such as the Mali Moonlight Soothing Massage, which harmonises three techniques–traditional Thai, aromatherapy, and acupressure–to ensure total relaxation. Thai and Balinese acupressure styles also come together in the Prana Stress-Relieving massage, which promotes blood circulation and improve muscle flexibility using strong, kneading strokes and energetic hand movements.

Their well-trained therapists can pamper you from head to toe, from facials to massages and if you want the full spa experience, there are packages that can include herbal steams and body scrubs. Pañpuri uses pure, organic oils to deliver the best to their guests, who can be assured of a blissful experience in the hands of professionals who understand the need for privacy and discretion.

PAÑPURI ORGANIC SPA 6TH FLOOR, VICTORY ANNEXE, E&O HOTEL, 10 LEBUH FARQUHAR, 10200 PENANG **OPENS** 10AM-9PM DAILY T 04 222 2000 EXT 3233

WWW.EOHOTELS.COM

Chapter Three

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From its restful decor to its luxurious treatments, Pañpuri Spa was conceived for complete relaxation









Guests are assured of privacy and discretion while being pampered by their skilled therapists

COMMUNITY AND CONVERSATIONS THROUGH MOVIES

What began as an ad hoc art space is now one of Penang's best-loved creative hubs. Twice a month, Hin Bus Depot also hosts free movie screenings.

t began with Ernest Zecharevich. The poster boy of George Town's much-photographed murals and art installations has a large and loyal following among Penangites. In 2014, one of his buyers offered him a unique gallery space, an Art Deco building once known as Penang's best-looking bus depot. Built in 1947 on what was then Brick Kiln Road (now Jalan Gurdwara), the depot had closed down in 1999 and fell into dilapidation. But its crumbling walls and peeling paint formed relevant backdrops to the Lithuanian's street art aesthetics, resulting in *Art is Rubbish/Rubbish is Art*, his first solo exhibition. As crowd after crowd thronged the depot, it also paved the way to its future.

"We were initially given just two months here," says Khing Chuah, Hin's Events Manager. "Ernest's exhibition generated a lot of buzz...close to 3,000 people came. The owners then extended the duration to one year." But Hin Bus Depot proved that it was here to stay. Coming into its fifth year now, Hin's presence amongst locals, tourists and art lovers in general continue to grow as their offerings diversify to include cafes, watering holes, weekend pop-up markets, and movie screenings twice a month. The latter started as a small gathering among the team and their friends, who would devour a variety of titles ranging from art house films to musicrelated movies and film biographies.

Now a public event that's held every first and third Tuesday of the month, the genres of movies screened have also expanded and are often picked according to theme or via collaborations. "The last two years, we teamed up with Obscura Festival of Photography during George Town Festival and will continue this year," says Wanida Ramli, Gallery Manager of Hin Bus Depot. "We've hosted Alliance Française De Penang's annual Francophonie month, which happens every March. They curated the films and we screened them. Maybank did an event here too, where they showed Malaysian films."

<image>

Hin Bus Depot would have remained in ruins if not for efforts to transform it into a community art space

Tuesday Screenings at Hin is a fun casual outing where viewers can picnic while watching currated films

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These collaborations have helped expand Hin's reach, as they attract different crowds. "We get a mix of hard-core movie buffs and Hin's regulars," says Khing, while Wanida adds that the screenings have become a fun and casual social event. "We provide loungey chairs and benches, and we sell popcorn and drinks. Some bring their own food or order from the outlets on site and basically have a picnic here!"

Hin Bus Depot, after all, was conceptualised as a community art space so the bi-monthly screenings are in line with everything else they offer. Part of the objective is also to spark conversations and create positive social impact through the movies. One example is The True Cost, shown in conjunction with the global Fashion Revolution movement in April, during which Hin also organised a clothes swap that garnered encouraging response from the audience.

Clearly then, it's not just a matter of picking out the most recent blockbusters. Before deciding what titles to show, the team has to sit down and watch the films themselves to ensure suitability. Luckily for Khing, she's a film buff herself. "I watch a lot of movies, that's how I travel the world...through the big screen."

HIN BUS DEPOT 31A JALAN GURDWARA, 10300 GEORGE TOWN, PENANG SCREENINGS ARE HELD EVERY FIRST AND THIRD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 8PM

WWW.HINBUSDEPOT.COM

UPCOMING MOVIE SCREENINGS AT HIN BUS DEPOT:

JULY

A selection of short films in collaboration with SEA Shorts

Short film screenings by SEA Shorts (1-3 Aug), plus photography slides and presentations by Obscura Festival of Photography (25-31 Aug)

OCTOBER

T Halloween, with director David Lynch M The Short Films of David Lynch (2 Oct), Eraserhead (16 Oct)

T Literature

AUGUST

NOVEMBER

M Moby Dick (6 Nov), Robinson Crusoe (20 Nov)

SEPTEMBER

T Puppetry M Thunderbirds Are Go (4 Sep), Team America (18 Sep)

DECEMBER

- T Party Gone Bad
- M Party Monster (4 Dec), Less Than Zero (18 Dec)

ΝΟΤΕ T Theme | M Movie

MAKE THE REST OF 2018 COUNT

Time certainly flies! We've crossed the halfway point and have just another six months to go in 2018. Fill your days with arts, culture and live performances at PenangPAC.

JUNE



HOPE DANCE CHARITY CONCERT 2018 15 Jun @ 8pm & 16 Jun @ 3pm | stage 1 Tickets: RM80, RM60

KS DanceSpot will once again enthrall audiences with their sleek moves and choreography. Proceeds will be donated to St Nicholas Home for the visually impaired.



22a.m.-65p.m. 15-16 Jun @ 8pm | stage 2 Tickets: RM38, RM28

What happens when someone arrives at exactly 22am, and passes the 65pm mark? This production explores of human behaviour and the growth of social awareness.

The Encounter

17 Jun @ 3pm, 8pm | stage 1 Tickets: RM80, RM60 Contact: Tan Jian Qi +6012 426 5126

The Chung Ling High School Choir proves their versatility through a varied repertoire that includes classics by Felix Mendelssohn and local folk tunes.



THE ASIA INTER-SECONDARY SCHOOL "YOUNG" DRAMA COMPETITION 2018 22-23 Jun @ 1pm | stage 1 Tickets: RM35

Talented students from around Asia compete in teams, showcasing their acting skills and passion for drama.

INDIEPG JUNE 2018

23-24 Jun @ 7pm-12am | stage 2 Tickets: RM30 (for 2 days)

For two days, fans of indie music will be treated to some of the best acts in the local scene.

BELLYCIOUS BELLY DANCE FESTIVAL **2018 COMPETITION & GALA SHOW** 30 Jun | stage 1 Tickets: RM70

The competition takes place during the day and culminates in a dazzling show in the evening, starring belly dancers from around the world



Brass Ensemble Charity Recital 30 Jun @ 7:30pm | stage 2 Tickets: RM80

Penang's first Brass Ensemble presents a charity recital, with proceeds going to the Independent Aid For Protection and Welfare of Animals, Penang.

JULY

STORY PARTY PENANG | TRUE DATING STORIES

5 Jul @ 7pm I stage 1 Tickets: TBC

A live storytelling show that highlights the tribulations of dating, with generous doses of humour.

CTRL + S 13 Jul @ 6pm I stage 1 Tickets: RM25

Final year students of Han Chiang University College of Communication (Year 3) premier their masterpiece at this special screening.

CARING THROUGH MUSIC 2018

14 Jul @ 7:30pm I stage 1 Tickets: RM100

A charity concert by a group of young musicians to raise funds for paediatric patients of Mount Miriam Cancer Hospital.

IMPRINT

14 Jul @ 8pm & 15 Jul @ 3pm I stage 1 Tickets: RM40, RM30 (concession)

What life experiences have left their imprints on your psyche? Tang Dance aims to find the answer through this performance.



SUNGHA JUNG LIVE IN PENANG 2018 28-29 Jul @ 8pm I stage 1 Tickets: RM235, RM175, RM105

Hailed as the finest teenage fingerstyle guitarist in the world, Sungha Jung is set to mesmerize audiences with his deft skills.

AUGUST

DANCING DEVOTEES "A SACRED INTIMACY" 4 Aug @ 8pm I stage 1

Tickets: RM50, RM35

A thematic Odissi dance that explores the sacred union between dancing devotees.

LA LA LIAN 10-12 Aug I stage 1 Tickets: TBC

OCTOBER

Penzance

Tickets: TBC



PRODUCTION 27-28 Oct @ 3pm | stage 2 Tickets: TBC

After three semesters of training, talented children from TAS academy wil present their graduation show.

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Malaysia's favourite female comedian, Joanne Kam, presents all-new materials

while addressing issues such as body image, weight and self-confidence.

BAI YUN'S CLASSIC SONGS : THE UNCHAINED MELODY OF PENANG

18 Aug @ 8pm I stage 1 Tickets: RM50, RM40 (OKU and TAS card holders)

Bai Yun's first concert in Penang promises a selection of evergreen Mandarin, Cantonese and English hits that topped the charts between 1960 and 1985.

SEPTEMBER

1 Sep I stage 1

Tickets: TBC

24[™] "GOLDEN FRONTIER AWARD" SONG COMPOSING COMPETITION

Malaysia's biggest song composing competition remains true to its objective of encouraging team spirit while constantly lifting local standards.



INDEPENDENCE EXPRESSION DAY 1 Sep @ 1:30pm-6pm I stage 1

A variety show by local artists to profess their love for the country.

GILBERT AND SULLIVAN'S THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE 28-29 Sep @ 8:30pm I stage 1

Tickets: RM40, RM30 (concession)

The Actors Studio Chorus & Orchestra delights you with songs from Gilbert and Sullivan's iconic comic opera, The Pirates of

TAS ACADEMY @ PENANGPAC'S FINAL

NOVEMBER

SHORT+SWEET MALAYSIA IN PENANG 2018

7-10 Nov @ 8:30pm (Dance) | 14-17 Nov @ 8:30pm (Theatre) I stage 2 Tickets: RM45, RM35 (concession). RM70 (dance + theatre)

Now in its ninth year, the "biggest little festival in the world" where productions are kept to below 10 minutes introduces two new categories: Choral and Classic.

HOLIDAY ART CAMP @ PENANGPAC

26 Nov-1 Dec @ 10am-5pm / 3-8 Dec @ 10am-5pm I studios Tickets: RM320 + RM50 (Registration)

An intensive arts camp designed to let your child experience adventures and activities that inspire thinking, making, seeing, and doing.

DECEMBER

TALES FROM THE JAMBAN

14 Dec @ 8:30pm; 15 Dec @ 3pm & 8:30pm; 16 Dec @ 3pm I stage 2 Tickets: TBC

The Toilet. Regularly used but rarely talked about. This comedy show aims to change that by portraving it as the meeting point between reality and imagination.

FAMILY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

21-22 Dec @ 8:30pm I stage 1 Tickets: RM40, RM30 (concession)

Everything you love about Christmas in one performance-carols, live orchestra music, and Santa Claus.

NOTE **1.** All the above performances are held at PenangPAC.

2. The details above are correct at the time of printing and may be subject to change. For the latest updates, please log on to www.penangpac.org.

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Amei Tea House is where fans of Spirited Away spend the most time

BE TRANSPORTED BY THE OLD WORLD CHARM OF JIUFEN

The mountain town of Jiufen attracts day-trippers from Taipei and anime fans looking for the inspiration behind Studio Ghibli's hit film, Spirited Away.

 \mathbf{T} he rustic three-storey wooden building stands solemnly, as sturdy as the day it was constructed over a century ago. Festooned with traditional red lanterns that hang over its pagoda-style eaves and aglow in soft yellow lighting come evenings, there's a haunting beauty about Amei Tea House that will stop you in your tracks.

Its grandeur is well-known among visitors to Jiufen, an ancient gold mining town set in the mountains of Taiwan, about an hour from Taipei. Its proximity and easy access from the capital city makes Jiufen a popular side trip, usually combined with stopovers at nearby Shifen and Yehliu Geopark. But Jiufen also draws visitors whose sole aim is to search out Amei Tea House and live out their Spirited Away fantasies.

The setting for the Japanese animated fantasy film directed by Hayao Miyazaki was inspired by this very town, with Amei Tea House reimagined into the bath house where strange spirits make the most of the spas while poor Chihiro, the film's central character, had to slave away until her parents could be released. In the anime, two characters sit down for tea and cakes at the bathhouse, a scene that can be easily re-enacted at Amei. Their afternoon tea set comes with mochi, sesame crackers, sugared plum and bean cakes, which you can wash down with a pot of Taiwanese tea.

That's usually the first stop for die-hard Spirited Away fans, who then spend the rest of their time immersed in Jiufen's atmospheric enchantment, exploring its cobbled paths and narrow alleyways. Jiufen Old Street is the most crowded stretch, a winding walkway with steps flanked closely by souvenir shops, food stalls, and restaurants.

Saunter along and be enticed by the aromas wafting from bubbling pots, hot grills and bamboo steamers. This is where you get to try all of Jiufen's best food offerings: From popular street snacks such as Taiwanese sausages to glutinous rice cakes with a variety of fillings, and unique eats the likes of spring rolls packed with sugared ground peanuts, ice-cream and cilantro. Jiufen's best-known treat is tapioca and sweet potato ball soup, a comforting dessert of chewy bites swimming in syrup.



Jiufen is an ancient mining town set in a mountainous area about an hour outside of Taipei



From architecture to traditional arts, Jiufen is rich in Taiwanese culture

It's easy to overeat when faced with so many temptations. Luckily Jiufen is a walking town with small uphill treks, so there are plenty of opportunities to work off some of those calories. It can be pretty frenetic at Jiufen Old Street but as you move away from it, the pace relaxes into a bucolic setting. Forget about using a map as the best way to experience Jiufen lies in the little surprises that await around the corner or at the foot or top of winding stone steps. Cosy cafes where you can get your caffeine fix, quaint stores selling artisanal designs by local labels, and small teahouses well stocked with premium Taiwanese teas could be among the discoveries.

A landmark worth stopping by is Shengping Theater, which began as a simple two-storey wooden structure built in 1914. One of Taiwan's earliest cinemas, it provided entertainment to miners during Jiufen's gold rush era. Besides movies, it regularly hosted opera shows, puppet performances and other stage presentations, often to a full house. The curtains came down in 1986 as audiences disappeared into the world of television and it wasn't until 2010 that Shengping was given a new lease of life. Restored to its original glory, it is now a gallery that recalls its heyday as an entertainment hub, complete with retro ticket windows, old film posters and even a concession stand stocked with nostalgic snacks.

It doesn't take long to see Jiufen's key offerings so most people visit for a day and head back to Taipei, but if you can't get enough of its restful and pastoral settings, book a night's stay at a minsu (B&B). Do reserve early as there are only a handful in town.

Then you can take your time soaking in the essence of this former gold mining town perched on a hillside, where if you look out in between the closely-set buildings, you will be rewarded with views of rolling greens and on clear days, the Pacific Ocean in the distance. Maybe, like Miyazaki, you too will find inspiration from Jiufen's cinematic allure.

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