Global Migrant Festival December 28

2018

A project report about the Global Migrant Festival and Migrant Worker Poetry Competition Singapore 2018

**Project Report** 

# GLOBAL MIGRANT FESTIVAL

15 & 16 DECEMBER 2018

20

Programs by

200

Participants from

25

Regions defined by borders

The first-ever Global Migrant Festival provides a platform for broader, critical, human-centric perspectives and dialogues on migration, in context of often vitriolic narratives that have dominated discussions on migration in Asia and across the world.

Catch an array of cultural performances, talks, films and panel discussions involving artists, economic migrants, refugees, academic experts and community advocates from non-profit organisations.

#### **EVENT TYPES**

Poetry
Films
Theatre
MusicText placeholder
Panel Discussions
Arts and Crafts

#### **VENUES**

National Gallery The Arts House Singapore Book Council Outdoor

Visit our website and Facebook page for more details:

GLOBALMIGRANTFESTIVAL
WWW.GLOBALMIGRANTFESTIVAL.COM



Our event partners:

















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#### **Project Summary, Goals and Objectives**

#### **Global Migrant Festival, 2018**

**Project Summary**: A cultural festival with performances, talks, films, workshops, walks and panel discussions involving artists from low-wage economic migrants and refugee communities from across Asia and the World, academic experts on migrant issues and advocates from relevant non-profit organizations.

Target audience: Global media, a global online audience, citizens and Residents of Singapore.

https://www.globalmigrantfestival.com/

https://www.facebook.com/globalmigrantfestival

#### Migrant Worker Poetry Competition, Singapore, 2018

**Project Summary**: A poetry competition among low skilled migrant workers in Singapore Target Contestants: Low skilled migrant workers in Singapore (Typically Bangladeshis, Indians, Indonesians, Filipinos, Chinese, Burmese, etc.)

Target audience: Citizens and Residents of Singapore

https://www.singaporeworkerpoetry.com/

The objectives of the festival and associated events were to:

- Promote multiculturalism
- Provide a platform for low wage migrant workers and refugees to have their voices heard
- Understand human perspectives of migration
- Discuss key cross-cutting issues related to migration, including health, economics, safety, art and gender.

#### **Project Description:**

First held in 2014, the Migrant Worker Poetry Competition has quickly established itself as one of the key events in the cultural calendar in Singapore.

The event has grown significantly in its short history – in 2017, the event received entries from a record 105 migrant workers in Bahasa Indonesia, Mandarin, Tagalog, Bengali, Tamil and Punjabi, a sharp rise from 28 participants in the event's first edition, who submitted poems in Bengali and Tamil only. Different sections of Singaporean society have responded to the event enthusiastically as can be gauged by packed venue for the event and the reaction in social media.

The contest has received widespread recognition in both international and Singapore media such as the BBC, The Economist, 1843, and The Straits Times. Following the event, winners and participants from the event have been showcased in platforms such as the Singapore Writer's Festival, TEDx, poetry slams with local poets, video documentaries, and dance recitals at the Esplanade, Singapore. Regular workshops on topics ranging from poetry writing, short story writing, and photography are now being organized in collaboration with the event organizers and local non-profit organizations such as SingLit Station and AIDHA. The works of migrant workers have been published by local and international publishers as well. The event has also inspired similar initiatives in UAE, Kuwait, Malaysia, etc.

In 2018, the competition reached out to a larger group of migrant workers to drive greater participation by conducting outreach events in dormitories and red-light areas. We received over 120 entries, an increase of 14% over 2017.

In conjunction, we launched the inaugural <u>Global Migrant Festival</u>. While events similar to migrant poetry competition is being conducted in Malaysia, Hong Kong, Kenya, China and Taiwan, a Global Migrant Festival brought together these initiatives, thereby highlighting a common global issue on a much larger platform. This one-of-a-kind festival will be conducted every two years. The 2018 edition featured films, performances, talks, walks and panel discussions, involving artists from low-wage economic migrants and refugee communities from across Asia and the World, academic experts on migrant issues and advocates from relevant non-profit organizations. The events were telecast live on Facebook to reach out to a wider global audience.

We believe such a project was particularly relevant given the current political narrative in Singapore and rest of the world as well as migrant issues being sharply brought into focus with increased high-risk mass movement of people to developed regions of Europe, North America and South East Asia. The festival also helped in giving a broader and critical perspective in context to the poetry competition.

#### **Organizers**

The Global Migrant Festival was organized by a group of volunteers led by Shivaji Das. Other volunteers included Carissa Cheow, Deesha Menon, YüJing Mak, Vishal Daryanomel, Yolanda Miaomiao Yu, Theophilus Kwek, Eileen Chew, Dan Kohl, Eric Lee, Deepu Nair, Chandan Bhuller, Stephanie Siow, Rolinda Onates Espanola, Alvin Pang. The supporters of the festival included the National Gallery, The Arts House, Singlit Station, Singapore Book Council, and FilmAid.

The Migrant Worker Poetry Competition was organized by the same group of volunteers under the Migrant Worker Poetry Competition organizing committee led by Shivaji Das, and is supported by Aidha, H.O.M.E., Transient Workers Count Too (TWC2). The lead sponsor for the competition is the Embassy of The United States of America in Singapore.

#### **Event Details**

Over 20 events were organized as part of the festival across three venues during 15 and 16 December. There was participation by 200 migrants from over 25 regions defined by borders. The panel discussion had attendance ranging from 15-50 people while the cultural programs drew between 100-200 attendees. In addition, live screening was done over Facebook for all the events. Overall, the festival's session was watched by over 15000 people, primarily from Singapore, Kenya, Australia, Malaysia, Indonesia, Myanmar and the USA.

The detailed event list is provided in the appendix. Some of the highlight events included:

- 1. Finals of Migrant Worker Poetry Competition Singapore
- 2. Finals of Poetry Competition in Refugee Camps in Kenya
- 3. Theatre by Migrant Workers (The Birds) guided by Haresh Sharma
- 4. Panel discussion with Zheng Xiaoqiong, celebrated poet from China who was once a migrant worker
- 5. An outdoor work highlighting places associated with migrant workers in Singapore

- 6. A Handicraft display by GoodShop Malaysia showcasing the crafts of refugee communities
- 7. Several workshops for migrant workers (on mental health, story writing, storytelling)
- 8. Film screenings on the topic of migration

The winners of the poetry competition in Singapore were

- 1. Sugiarti Mutiarjo (Indonesia)
- 2. Ripon Chowdhury (Bangladesh)
- 3. Yulia Endang (Indonesia)
- 3. Khaing Tazin Swe (Myanmar)

The winners of the poetry contest in Refugee Camps in Kenya were

- 1. Biel Sasha Nyamad (South Sudan)
- 2. David Erjok (South Sudan)
- 3. Teta (Burundi) & Duot (South Sudan)

Consolation

Sanyare (Ethiopia/ Somalia)

Rob/ Arov de Poet (South Sudan)

#### **Project Expense**

The total expense for these projects was US Dollar 10,180. Venue expenses, followed by prizes and other direct project expenses were the largest components of expenses.

#### **Event Photos**

https://www.facebook.com/1892429670796363/photos/?tab=album&album\_id=2040545212 651474

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https://www.facebook.com/1892429670796363/photos/?tab=album&album\_id=2040552532 650742

https://www.facebook.com/1892429670796363/photos/?tab=album&album\_id=2041780502 527945

#### **Media references**

#### **South China Morning Post**

https://www.scmp.com/lifestyle/arts-culture/article/2177005/singapores-first-migrant-festival-can-it-foster-understanding

#### **CGTN:**

https://news.cgtn.com/news/3d3d674d7841444e31457a6333566d54/share.html

Nikkei Asian Review (To be published)

#### **The Straits Times**

Top event pick:

https://www.straitstimes.com/lifestyle/arts/arts-picks-a-ingapore-carol-and-the-global-migrant-festival

https://www.straitstimes.com/lifestyle/arts/global-migrant-festival-in-singapore-draws-links-among-migration-labour-and-art

https://www.straitstimes.com/lifestyle/arts/new-festival-on-migrant-labour-and-the-arts

https://www.straitstimes.com/lifestyle/st-podcast-a-christmas-meat-platter-a-party-on-a-boat-and-the-global-migrant-festival-0

#### Linhe Zaobao

https://www.zaobao.com.sg/news/fukan/crossroad/story20181224-918207?from=timeline

#### **Future Plans**

The organizers are very encouraged by the participation of the audience and their support as well as the enthusiasm shown by the festival participants. As such, the organizers hope to run the sixth edition of the poetry competition again in 2019 in collaboration with the partners. The Global Migrant Festival will also be back in 2020.

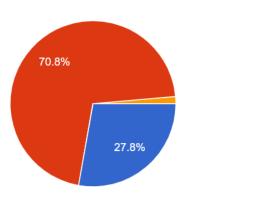
#### **Post Event Survey Results**

A post event survey was conducted among attendees of the event. We received over 74 responses. Majority of the attendees were female, in the age group 25-35. For the first time, the event was able to attract more Singaporeans than expats and migrant workers. Also, for the first time, most of the attendees were first timers. The overall feedback regarding the event was overwhelmingly positive. An area of improvement was greater outreach among common Singaporeans so more would come for these events.

A summary of the findings are presented in the following charts:

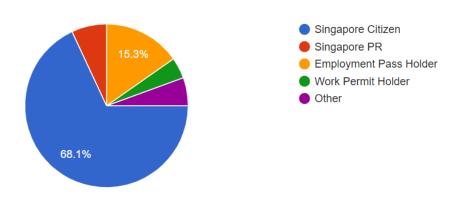


72 responses



### 2. What is your residency status?

72 responses

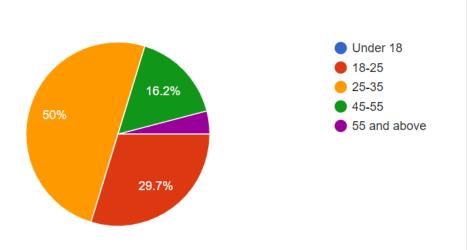


Male
Female

Prefer not to say

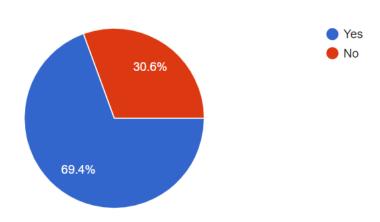
## 3. How old are you?

74 responses



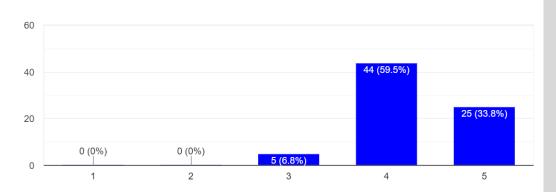
## 4. Is this your first time attending such an event

72 responses



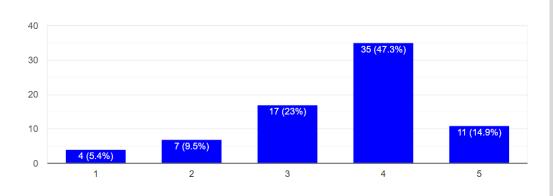
5. Please provide an overall rating for today's event (1 = low, 5 = high):

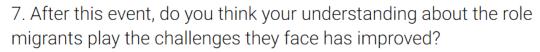
74 responses

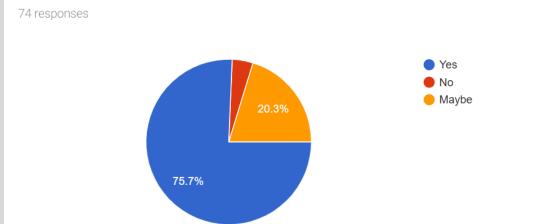


6. How aware were you about migrant issues before this event? (1 = low, 5 = high):

74 responses

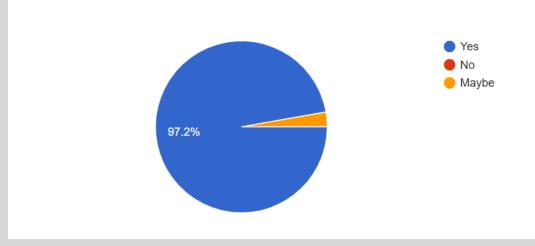






## 8. Did you enjoy hearing directly from the migrants, in their native language?





#### Please share any additional thoughts you had about today's event:

Those 3 resource persons in the panel had rich experiences and info to share. Would've been good to have given this panel discussion more time!

Beautifully curated and organised. More publicity needed though.

Very interesting event format.

Loved the cultural show

More explanation on the story, or outline of the particular group of migrants (e.g current situation at Sabah, etc) would make it more engaging or understandable.

Lovely curation, where many of the films echoed and complemented each other. I liked the use of humour too, great opening event!

If we can discuss after every film, that will be good.

It'd be nice to have the directors come and have a interaction session with the audience if possible Important and essential

I love the event place (art house)

dance session after the cultural show!

They are all writing from their heart. Well done! It is great to hear those reading in their native tongues. It is a small and intimate which I like very much. However, i also wished that more people can come and participate...

It would be good if all migrants could share their poems in their native language, with a translation provided in the slides (only two of the speakers did this). But overall it was a meaningful event! The moderator also did a good job.

The event/sessions I attended were wonderfully sincere, purposeful and innovative. I loved that the panel sessions were conducted simply and sensitively. Topics were delivered in relatable ways without cheem jargon. Moderators were generally welcoming and posed thoughtful questions to weave the panelists' different sharing together. There was an informal, inviting atmosphere after the sessions that easily prompted all the different participants of the session ie. speakers, audience and personnel to interact with each other (though more time allocated for these interminglings would have been nice! Skype sessions and even including them as poetry competition entries were so innovative. Thank you for providing space for locals and migrants alike to equally come to the table together as much as possible. - Noor Hanisah

The band is great! They can consider adding a bassist for mkre omph

Thank you for allowing us to hear stories firsthand

Thank You

Excellent performance!!! Bravo!!

It's good!

Thank you for a wonderful event

The event definitely opened again our hearts into poetry. Working here in Singapore, I thought it would just be pure, pure work. Never have I imagined there are events like this where migrant workers like us could showcase our voices. Thanks again.

Really insightful! Would love to see more

The timing published on eventbrite isn't accurate

I think the films chosen are very good. Different nationalities, different struggles, different perspectives. Very informative and touching, and yet very sad. I like how the films dont hide any thing - from the struggles of missing homes to the sexual tendencies. It just shows that "hey migrant workers are humans too" and i think thats something that many ppl including myself take for granted. Thanks for this film screening!!

Please continue to run such events with better publicity, organization and planning. It would be good if the festival could better weave together academic discussions with the arts and current affairs.

Great job and it was nice to see other events besides the poetry competition.

#### **Appendix - Program Details: Global Migrant Festival**

#### 16 December 2018

#### NATIONAL GALLERY, AUDITORIUM

#### **Keynote Speech**

9.00 – 9.10 AM, National Gallery Auditorium

Introduction to the context of the festival

Featuring: Windu Lestari

#### Panel Discussion – Migration: The big picture

9.10 - 9.55 AM, National Gallery Auditorium

This panel will bring together experts on migration and field workers dealing with migration to discuss among other topics: What are the big global trends on migrations (source, destination, types, reasons). What are the key issues for both host and destinations? What are policy implications? How can the civil society respond?

Featuring: Dr Paddy McLisky (Doctors4Refugees), Su-Ann (ISEAS), Dr Anju Mary Paul (Yale-NUS)

Moderator: Debbie Fordyce

#### Scenes from a refugee camp

10.00 - 10.50 AM, National Gallery Auditorium

In this session, photojournalist Mohd Samsul (whose work 'Life inside the Refugee Camp' won the acclaimed 2018 Sony World Photography Awards in Current Affairs & News category) will share some of the photographs and discuss his experience of working in the camps. This will be followed by a panel to discuss the situation with Rohingyas.

**Featuring:** Mohd Samsul, Caroline Brassard (Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy)

**Moderator:** Christine Parimala Pelly

#### **Voices of Chinese Domestic Migrants**

#### 11.00 - 11.50 AM, National Gallery Auditorium

Join award-winning Chinese poet and domestic migrant worker Zheng Xiaoqiong for an hour where she will share some of her most insightful works from over 10 of her poetry collections that have been translated into seven languages across the world, and catch her wide-ranging interview where she will discuss her experiences as a domestic migrant in China and how that informed her writing.

**Featuring:** Zheng Xiaoqiong (China) **Moderator:** Yolanda Miaomiao Yu, Sun Jie

#### Voices from a refugee camp

#### 12.00 - 12.50 PM, National Gallery Auditorium

This session will show videos of shortlisted poems submitted by refugees from the Kakuma refugee camp in Kenya, the largest in the world. Their poems will be judged by poets Eric Valles and Tammie Ho Lai Ming and the results will be announced on the spot.

Featuring: Poets of Kakuma refugee camp, FilmAid, Shivaji Das (MC)

#### Performance - The Migrant Cultural Show

#### 1.00 - 1.50 PM, National Gallery Auditorium

The Migrant Cultural Show is a platform in Singapore to showcase the various talents of migrants with performances and cultural activities to raise levels of consciousness in understanding, awareness and tolerance of inter cultural differences. The variety show also promotes cultural bonding among migrant workers of different nations and different countries.

**Featuring:** The Migrant Cultural Show, a group of Migrant Workers in Singapore

#### Migrant voices - Poetry Readings, Songs, Stories

2.00 - 2.50 PM, National Gallery Auditorium

Join us for an hour of spoken word and music performances showcasing the voices of migrant worker poets in five countries, and take the moment to immerse in the depth and breadth of experiences that bring the shared aspirations of talented artists from across the continent together.

Featuring: Carnival of Poetry Group (Singapore), Lintas Panjang Sore (Indonesia- HK), Cheng Chang

(Taiwan), Mwaffaq Al Hazar (Syria, Malaysia)

Moderator: Theophilus Kwek

#### <u>Cultural Performance – Theatre</u> 3.00 - 3.50 PM, National Gallery Auditorium

Join The Birds, a ground-up theatre troupe comprising migrant workers from Indonesia, Bangladesh, and the Philippines that bring to the stage a unique cross-cultural performance like you've never seen before. The play begins with a group of children, innocent, playing. A happy family, a community. Because of circumstances beyond their control, the people leave their home for a new land. They hope to find new opportunities, new beginning, a bright future for the children. The journey is treacherous. There is hunger, illness, A storm. Not everyone survives. What will they encounter when they reach the new land?

Featuring: The Birds, Haresh Sharma

## <u>Finals of Migrant Worker Poetry Competition, Singapore</u> 4.00 - 6.00 PM, National Gallery Auditorium

In its fifth edition this year, the Migrant Worker Poetry Competition is an annual competition that recognizes outstanding poetry written by construction workers, domestic helpers and other migrant workers in Singapore either in English or their native language. The top three poets receive \$500, \$300 and \$200 respectively. Meet the winners of the Competition this year, selected by a judging panel comprising playwrights and poets.

## <u>Panel Discussion – The cultural works of Migrants: Experiences from Singapore, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Malaysia</u>

10.00 - 10.50 AM, The Arts House, Play Den

This panel will bring together prolific authors and literary organizers based around different parts of the region who will be sharing on their past and present involvements with showcasing the works of migrant workers in their respective countries. Amongst the panellists are pioneers in the arts community who have founded publications, bookstores, libraries, festivals, and competitions to recognize and promote the diverse cultures in their respective societies.

Featuring: Alvin Pang (Singapore), Cheng Chang (Taiwan), Shivaji Das (Singapore-Malaysia), Lintas Panjang

Sore (Hong Kong)

Moderator: Theophilus Kwek

#### <u>Discussion and readings - My Life and my work</u>

Held across three sessions, join Deesha Menon and Azira Azman as they bring together a dynamic line-up of award-winning migrant worker poets who will be sharing some of their favourite pieces while discussing the motivations behind their work, in particular how their lived experiences have informed their work.

#### 11.00 - 11.50 AM, The Arts House, Play Den

**Featuring:** MD Sharif (Bangladesh), Lintas Panjang Sore (Indonesia)

Moderator: Deesha Menon

#### 12.00 - 12.50 PM, The Arts House, Play Den

Featuring: Mwaffa Al Hazar (Syria, Malaysia), Ziaur Rahman (Myanmar, Singapore)

Moderator: Deesha Menon

#### 13.00 - 13.50 PM, The Arts House, Play Den

Featuring: Joan Santillan Amurao (The Philippines, Malaysia), Shara Syamshi (Indonesia, Singapore)

Moderator: Azira Azman

#### Talk and Cultural Performance

#### 2.00 - 2.40 PM, The Arts House, Play Den

Join The Migrants Band, a band founded and run by migrant workers from Bangladesh seeking to entertain fellow migrant workers who will play some of their favourite Bengali songs. They will discuss their process of creating music amidst their hard work and share excerpts of some of the new songs they are working on.

**Featuring:** The Migrant Band (Bangladesh – Singapore)

MC: Seema Punwani

## <u>Panel Discussion – Health and Migration</u> 3.00 - 3.50 PM, The Arts House, Play Den

In this panel, hear from community health organizations with extensive experience working with and connecting healthcare professionals with migrant workers, refugees, and asylum seekers to meet the unique health needs of migrant communities that emerge from moving away from high-risk environments in their home countries and

working in a foreign country exposing them to illnesses and injuries for which seeking treatment and recovery can be unfamiliar.

**Featuring:** Dr. Paddy (Doctors4Refugees), Dr. Raj (Healthserve), Mia Fitriani (IOM- Indonesia) **Moderator:** Christine Parimala Pelly

#### SINGAPORE BOOK COUNCIL - TRAINING ROOM, GOODMAN ARTS CENTRE

#### **Mental Wellness of Migrant Workers**

#### 10.00 - 10.50 AM, Singapore Book Council, Training Room

This mental health awareness talk aims to focus on the importance of mental well-being of migrant workers, some self-care tips and resources to seek help from when needed..

Eligibility: Migrant Workers

Moderator: Silver Ribbon and HealthServe; Rai Nandan from Silver Ribbon will run the workshop, Sudipta

from Healthserve will be the interpreter

Language: English with Bengali interpretation

#### Workshop on Story Writing for Migrant Workers

#### 11.00 AM - 12.30 PM, Singapore Book Council, Training Room

With a highly diverse range of rich experiences that migrant workers possess, how can they put these stories into written form on paper and reach a wider audience? Sing Lit Station welcomes migrant workers with a passion for writing to join co-founder and short story author Jon Gresham who will be drawing upon his experience to conduct a workshop and bring these voices to the forefront.

**Eligibility:** Migrant Workers

Moderator: Jon Gresham, Sing Lit Station

Language: English

#### Workshop on Storytelling for Migrant Workers

#### 1.00 - 2.30 PM, Singapore Book Council, Training Room

Stories can be told not just on paper, but through the spoken word as well. How can migrant workers share their stories from their experiences to an audience? Former radio and talk-show host Petrina Kow will bring her experience as a voice and presentation coach closer to migrant workers with a passion for oral storytelling in a workshop where participants will share and learn how they can convey their powerful narratives to listeners.

Eligibility: Migrant Workers Moderator: Petrina Kow Language: English

#### NATIONAL GALLERY, OUTSIDE AUDITORIUM

Miscellaneous Displays 9.00 AM - 7.00 PM, National Gallery Foyer

Display of handicrafts made by refugees (The Good Shop, Malaysia) Sale of books written by Migrant Workers by Various Mobile Library set up by the Migrant Library MigrantXMe booth

#### FERRER PARK MRT (EXIT C, TAXI STAND)

## **Reservations Required**

On the Migrant Trail
7.00 - 9.00 PM, Various locations outdoors
Walk organized to showcase places associated with Migrants in Singapore

Target: General Audience Guide: Debbie Fordyce, The Hidden Tours

#### **Global Migrant Festival – Film Programmes**

#### 15-16 December 2018, 7-10 PM, The Arts House- Screening Room

#### **Registrations Required**

\*Film programme subject to individual film rating.

Venue: Arts House, Singapore

Dates: 15 & 16 December 2018 (7pm for both evenings)

#### 15 December (Saturday), 7-10 PM

DAY 1: 15th December 2018, 7pm, The Arts House - Screening Room). Day 1 is SOLD OUT (We will wait for 10 min for registered attendees, if some dont show up by 7 10, we will allow walk-in waitlist on a first come first serve basis)

Between Pudukkottai & Singapore (19min) (dir. Vishal Daryanomel, 2017, Singapore, PG)

Originally from Pudukkottai (India), Rengarajan works in Singapore's construction sector. Featuring three of his poems which subtly elucidate the realities of migrant life, this documentary short also highlights pertinent issues such as employment processes, exorbitant agent fees, financial debt, and commonly held perceptions of migrant workers. Through Rengarajan's perspectives, the film navigates through themes of loss, sacrifice, and the strengths and dreams inherent in all of us, regardless of occupation, nationality, race, and class.

Aku Mau Skola (20min) (dir. Putri Purnama, 2018, Malaysia, PG)

In a baking hot shack with a leaky roof, over 70 stateless children squeeze in daily to study under the guidance of their teacher, Rujiah Sami. Rujiah founded a school four years ago to provide basic education to those living in her community. Her determination is mirrored by some of her students who have to go beyond normal lengths to attain basic reading and writing skills with the hope of a better future. Aku Mau Skola reveals how stateless and marginalised children in Sabah have an incredible desire to pursue learning.

DADYAA: The Woodpeckers of Rotha (17min) (dir. Pooja Gurung and Bibhusan Basnet, 2017, Nepal/France, PG)

Atimaley and Devi's village is haunted by memories. When a dear friend leaves the village without saying "goodbye", the old couple faces a dilemma; to keep living with the memories or to leave the village for good?

DEM DEM! (26min)

(dirs. Pape Bouname Lopy, Marc Recchia, Christophe Rolin, 2017, Belgium, Luxembourg, Senegal, PG)

Matar, a Senegalese fisherman, finds a Belgian passport on a beach in Dakar. On his way, he crosses paths with N'Zibou a crazy wise man who measures the clouds. He questions Matar about his search for identity.

#### 16 December (Sunday), 7-10 PM

#### **Arts House - Screening Room**

Day 2 is SOLD OUT (We will wait for 10 min for registered attendees, if some dont show up by 7 10, we will allow walk-in waitlist on a first come first serve basis)

Poets on Permits (24min)

(dir Upneet Kaur-Nagpal, 2017, Singapore, G)

Poets on Permits' is a documentary on migrant workers in Singapore, and their poetry. Read between their lines. Five captivating people from Bangladesh, Philippines, India, China and Indonesia, share their personal stories and views on the local migrant worker life. The documentary features their poetic talent, and hopes to bring us closer as a society - realising that at the end of the day, we all have common goals - of home, love and happiness.

Selfie With the Prime Minister (22min)

(dir. Nor Arlene Tan & Grace Cho Hee Won, 2017, Malaysia, PG13)

Consumer Advice: SOME MATURE CONTENT 内容只宜十三岁及以上

Ziaur Rahman, like most millennials in Malaysia, loves to take selfies and is active on social media. However, he is no ordinary youth. He is a Rohingya refugee who grew up in the Bangladesh refugee camp, and was kidnapped and trafficked seven times. In the quest for freedom of his people, he turns to activism. Despite having no rights as a refugee living in Malaysia, he finds an unlikely ally for his cause, the Prime Minister of Malaysia.

Defying the Odds in Dadaab Refugee Camp (5min)

(dirs. Abdullahi Mohamed Noor & Abdirisack Osamn Hassan, 2018, Kenya, PG)

This documentary short focuses on the efforts of two women in Kenya's Dadaab and Ifo refugee camps to rebuilt their lives after being forced into early marriages. Through education, and their chosen occupations, they question gender based stereotypes, and provide hope for younger Somali women across the refugee camps. The film is part of the efforts of Kenya FilmAid to equip young Kenyan filmmakers with tools to tell their own stories.

Son of Kali (17min)

(dir. Amit Agarwal, 2017, India/Singapore, NC16) Consumer Advice: SOME COURSE LANGUAGE

Fleeing a genocide against Hindus in Bangladesh, Probir reaches India in the middle of a major Hindu festival. An evening of intense religious euphoria follows and Probir feels he is like a child in a religious Disneyland. He is being accompanied by his childhood Muslim friend Anuar, who is enjoying the Hindu festival in his own hedonistic way. But Mother Goddess has other plans for him.

Tea Land (27min)

(dir. Tseng Ying-Ting, 2018, Taiwan, M18)

Consumer Advice: SEXUAL SCENE 性相关画面

In Taiwan, five run-away migrant workers from Thailand and Vietnam work illegally on a high-mountain tea farm. Facing the same struggles, they consider themselves family. Until one of them is found dead, and his savings lost.