Appendix II

From Tales to Legends: Discover Singapore Stories
A floral tribute to Singapore's stories

Amidst a sea of orchids, the mythical Merlion battles a 10-metre-high "wave" and saves a fishing village from nature's wrath.

Against the backdrop of an undulating green wall, a sorcerer's evil plan and the mystery of Bukit Timah Hill unfolds.

Hidden in a secret garden is the legend of Radin Mas and the enchanting story of a filial princess.

In celebration of Singapore's golden jubilee, 10 local folklore are brought to life through the creative use of orchids and other flowers in "Singapore Stories" – a SG50-commemorative floral display in the Flower Dome at Gardens by the Bay.

Designed by award-winning Singaporean landscape architect, Damian Tang, and featuring more than 8,000 orchid plants and flowers, the colourful floral showcase recollects the many tales and legends that surround this city-island. Come discover the stories behind Tanjong Pagar, Redhill, Sisters' Island, Pulau Ubin, Kusu Island, Sang Nila Utama and the Singapore Stone – as told through the language of plants. Along the way, take a walk down memory lane with scenes from the past that pay tribute to the unsung heroes who helped to build this nation.

Date: Friday, 31 July 2015 to Sunday, 13 September 2015
Time: 9am – 9pm*
Location: Flower Dome
Details: Admission charge to the Flower Dome applies
* Extended until 10pm on National Day (9 August)

About Damian Tang

Damian Tang is a multiple award-winning landscape architect with local and international titles to his name. He is Director of Design at the National Parks Board, where he leads the landscape architecture and the environmental graphic design teams, and is also President of the Singapore Institute of Landscape Architects.

Damian, who graduated from the University of Melbourne with a Bachelor of Architecture and Masters of Landscape Architecture, is known for his creative thinking and innovative ideas. He has more than 10 years of experience, and his work includes designing historical and cultural parks and gardens, setting the design direction for regional parks and nature areas, and master planning of landscapes in Singapore.

He has won several awards in the Fantasy Garden category at the Singapore Garden Festival, including the Best of Show and Gold Awards for two consecutive years.

About Lynette Wu

Lynette Wu, a game artist at the School of Interactive & Digital Media at Nanyang Polytechnic (NYP), is the designer behind "Merlion redesigned", a reimagining of the Merlion that is the inspiration behind the Merlion sculpture in "Singapore Stories".

While studying in the US, Lynette conceptualised and created her own rendition of the Merlion, in digital sculpture. Through her Merlion masterpiece, she wanted to capture the strength of Singapore as a fast-paced and successful nation, one which has evolved from a third-world country into a first-world nation within a short period of time. She injected the grandeur and majestic aura of Poseidon, the Greek god of the Seas, and added a human element to the design – all of which aptly reflects the upright, powerful stance of Singapore.

Lynette graduated with a Diploma in Digital Media Design from NYP in 2008, and later earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Interactive Design and Game Development from Savannah College of Art and Design in the US in 2014.

Examples of orchids featured in "Singapore Stories"

***Vanda* Pachara Delight** This is a cross between *Vanda* Karulea and *Vanda* Gordon Dillon. It has large, deep bluish purple flowers with light tessellation. Its flower spike can produce up to six big blooms with a diameter of up to five inches, and is fairly long lasting.	
***Paphiopedilum* Maudiae** This hybrid between *Paphiopedilum callosum* and *Paphiopedilum lawrenceanum* gives rise to several forms – white with green veins, coloratum (red with darker red veins) and vinicolor (deep burgundy). Vinicolor is pictured on the right.	
***Oncostele* Wildcat** The substantial flowers of this hybrid between *Oncostele* Rustic Bridge and *Oncidium* Crowborough are almost completely reddish-brown, except for some yellow. Its size and long lasting blooms make it a worthy display.	
***Phalaenopsis* Unimax Apple** This is a cross between *Phalaenopsis* Ming-Hsing Eagle and *Phalaenopsis* Taisuco Cinrose. It is a petite plant that has flowers of a sweet, rose pink colour blended with white.	

***Phalaenopsis* Ox Honey** The blushing pink petals and deep red lip of the *Phalaenopsis* Ox Honey make it an attractive orchid for decoration. It is a hybrid between *Phalaenopsis* Tinny Honey and *Phalaenopsis* Bread Fortune.	
Phalaenopsis amabilis Also known as the Moth Orchid or Moon Orchid, the *Phalaenopsis amabilis* is one of the first orchids to be described from the Far East. Featuring striking white petals, it is the national flower of Indonesia and a popular plant for creating new orchid hybrids.	
***Oncidium* Sharry Baby alba** This cross between *Oncidium* Jamie Sutton and *Oncidium* Honolulu has a long spray and rich scent, which create a spectacular effect when used in displays.	

***Phalaenopsis* Ta Chung Green Jade** In this cross between *Phalaenopsis* Emeraude and *Phalaenopsis* I-Lan Green Pixie, the standard white *Phalaenopsis* is tinged with a light green tone over the throat, lip and lateral sepals, resulting in a subtle beauty.	
***Dendrobium* Aridang Green** Lightly striped in green, the *Dendrobium* Aridang Green stands out with its refreshing colour. It is a hybrid between *Dendrobium* Burana Jade and *Dendrobium* Olive Green.	
***Phalaenopsis* Fuller's Sunset** The *Phalaenopsis* Fuller's Sunset lives up to its name with strong, bright yellow flowers coupled with a contrasting orange red lip. It is a hybrid between *Phalaenopsis* Taisuco Date and *Phalaenopsis* Chian Xen Queen.	
***Phalaenopsis* Taida King's Caroline** This hybrid between *Phalaenopsis* Ever-spring King and *Phalaenopsis* Ho's Little Caroline may be small in size, but it is nonetheless captivating because of the bold purple stripes on its white flowers.	

Phalaenopsis I-Hsin Sesame The even distribution of purple spots on white flowers in this hybrid between _Phalaenopsis_ Ching Her Buddha and _Phalaenopsis_ Leopard Prince creates a dazzling effect.	
Tolumnia Jairak Rainbow This lovely, small-sized cross between _Tolumnia_ Tsiku Vanessa and _Tolumnia_ Catherine Wilson has bright, jewel-toned flowers of varied colours.	
Phalaenopsis Miki Galaxy This new hybrid between _Phalaenopsis_ Miki Queen and _Phalaenopsis_ Chian Xen Pearl has rich purple flowers that are speckled with white at the margins.	
Miltoniopsis Lennart Karl Gottling 'Hula Skirt' The _Miltoniopsis_ Lennart Karl Gottling 'Hula Skirt' bears gorgeous red blooms, with intricate patterns on its base lip.	

Vanda Miss Joaquim (*Papilionanthe* Miss Joaquim)

The *Vanda* Miss Joaquim (*Papilionanthe* Miss Joaquim) was chosen in 1981 to be Singapore's national flower for its vibrant colours and resilience, which are qualities that reflect the Singapore Spirit. The plant is named after Agnes Joaquim (1854 – 1899), an avid gardener and orchid breeder, as it was first found in her garden. It is a cross between *Vanda teres* and *Vanda hookeriana*, and is the first *Vanda* hybrid registered from Singapore. In 1897, it won a First Class Certificate at the Royal Horticultural Show in London.

The 10 legends featured in "Singapore Stories"

1. Sang Nila Utama

Sang Nila Utama, ruler of the Sri Vijaya empire in Palembang, Sumatra, went on an expedition one day in search of new land for another city. He discovered an island, Temasik, with white sandy shores, and endeavoured to make his way there. On the voyage, he encountered a storm that threatened to sink his ship. To save his crew, Sang Nila Utama threw his crown overboard, instantly calming the waters and weather. Finally landing on Temasik, he chanced upon what appeared to be a lion, and so the island was named Singapura, which means "lion city" in Sanskrit.

Did You Know?
Sang Nila Utama is said to have ruled for 48 years before he died, and buried on the hill of Singapura.

2. Sisters' Island

Minah and Linah were two beautiful sisters who were inseparable. While fetching water from a well one day, Linah stumbled upon a band of pirates. Mesmerised by her beauty, the pirate chief followed the terrified girl home, where he declared his intention to marry her. The next morning, the group returned and took Linah against her will. A desperate Minah swam after the boat but drowned, and Linah jumped into the water after her in sorrow. The following day, two islands formed where the sisters had drowned, and the landmark was named "Sisters' Island".

Did You Know?
It is possible to walk from *Pulau Subar Laut* (Big Sister's Island) and *Pulau Subar Darat* (Little Sister's Island) during low tide.

3. Bukit Timah

Deep in the forests of Bukit Timah lived a sorcerer who could turn people into stone. One day, hunters from a neighbouring village entered the forbidden forest. All except the fearless Brani were turned to stone. He was held captive as punishment for his arrogance. Time passed, and Brani awoke one day from a strange dream that seemed his key to escaping. He challenged the sorcerer to transform into a chicken and a worm. When this occurred, the chicken ate the worm and the sorcerer realised the process could not be reversed. Brani had successfully tricked the sorcerer, finally breaking the spell.

Did You Know?
Bukit Timah is home to Singapore's tallest hill, Bukit Timah Hill, and primary rainforest reserve, Bukit Timah Nature Reserve. The origin of the name, *Bukit Timah*, which means "tin hill" in Malay, is unknown. Its name gives the impression that the hill is a good source of tin, though it has never yielded the silvery-white metal.

4. Tanjong Pagar

A long time ago, the southern coast of Singapore was said to have been teeming with swordfish, making it difficult for the local fishermen to go out to sea for their livelihood. Fearing danger from potential swordfish attacks, they approached the Sultan for help but he was unable to render any to the people. A young boy then thought of an ingenious solution – construct a barrier of banana stems along the coast to trap the fish. The sword-like bill of the fish would get caught in the stems, preventing it from harming the locals.

Tanjong Pagar refers to "cape of stakes" in Malay, which describes the wooden pickets that support the offshore platforms (*kelong* in Malay) constructed largely to catch fish.

5. Redhill

This tale follows from the story of Tanjong Pagar. The young boy who had suggested constructing a barricade of banana stems along the coast to protect the locals against the swordfish was hailed a saviour by the villagers. The Sultan felt threatened by the boy's popularity and was paranoid that he might overthrow him to become the next ruler one day. He thus ordered his guards to kill the boy atop the hill where he lived. When this happened, the boy's blood flowed profusely down the hill, coating it in red, leading to the legend of Redhill.

Did You Know?
Redhill is one of the sub-zones that make up the area known as Bukit Merah (literally "Red Hill" in Malay), in Singapore. The land in this area has an orange-red hue, due to the presence of laterite soil. When devoid of vegetation, it transforms the landscape to one that is seemingly "blood soaked".

6. Badang and the Singapore Stone

Badang was a poor fisherman whose wish was to become strong. One day, he captured a genie that had ruined his fish trap and ate all his fish. To secure its release, the genie granted Badang's wish to be the strongest man alive. Badang soon became known for his strength and was appointed to battle warriors from other lands. One such challenge was a rock throwing competition, which Badang won effortlessly by hurling the rock into the sea, near the mouth of the Singapore River. This rock, with its ancient inscriptions, is believed to be the same one that the British colonial government blasted in 1842, as it posed a danger to ships in the area.

Did You Know?
A remaining piece of this rock, known as the Singapore Stone, is recognised as one of the island's treasures for its historical significance. It is housed at the National Museum of Singapore.

7. Pulau Ubin

Three creatures, a pig, frog and an elephant, challenged each other to cross the Straits of Johor from mainland Singapore. This was a highly demanding task as it was said that those who did not succeed in doing so would be turned to stone. All three creatures, try as they might, failed in their attempt to cross the Straits. The elephant and the pig merged to become the main island of Pulau Ubin, while the frog became Pulau Sekudu (meaning "Frog Island"), the islet just off the main coast of the main island.

Did You Know?
Pulau Ubin got its name from its original Malay name, *Pulau Batu Jubin*, which translates to "Island of Granite Stones".

8. Kusu Island

One day, in the 9th lunar month of the Chinese calendar, a group of fishermen were out at sea when their boat was wrecked by a thunderstorm. A giant tortoise, seeing that they were on the brink of drowning, turned itself into an island. This allowed the fishermen to climb ashore and seek refuge. To display their gratitude, the fishermen made offerings of thanksgiving. Since then, the island has been treated with reverence, serving as a place of worship for many, particularly in the 9th lunar month.

Did You Know?
- The name of the island, *Kusu*, is "tortoise" in Hokkien, referring to the silhouette of the animal that the shape of the island takes after.

- Another account focuses on the friendship between two holy men. Dato Syed Rahman, an Arab, and Yam, a Chinese, went on a journey to Kusu Island. There, Yam fell ill and the pair soon ran low on supplies. Syed stayed by his friend and prayed fervently for his recovery. They were then blessed with the appearance of a boat containing food and water that saved both their lives. As a result, the two men often returned to the island to offer their thanks and were eventually buried next to each other there when they died.

- The Chinese temple and Malay shrine on Kusu Island are said to have been created and dedicated to the two holy men's memory.

9. Radin Mas

Radin Mas Ayu was a Javanese princess who left the kingdom with her father, Pangeran Adipati Agung, after her uncle, the king, ordered the death of her mother. They arrived on the island of Temasek and settled down as commoners in Telok Blangah. When he helped protect the island from danger, Pangeran's lineage was discovered and the Sultan of Temasek arranged the marriage of his daughter to this great warrior. However, Radin Mas Ayu was despised by her stepmother who, with her nephew Tun Bagus, schemed against her and Pangeran. After failed plots and conspiracies, Tun Bagus then attempted to kill Pangeran himself. To protect her father, Radin Mas Ayu leapt in front of him as the blade struck, which ended up piercing her heart.

Did You Know?
Radin Mas refers to the areas spanning Tiong Bahru, Bukit Purmei and Redhill in Singapore. Radin Mas Ayu's (meaning "sweet golden princess") shrine at the base of Mount Faber, said to be where she is buried, continues to be visited by many today, although the authenticity of the tomb cannot be confirmed.

10. Merlion

On a dark and stormy night, the inhabitants of Temasek were awakened by the sound of howling winds and crashing waves. A huge creature, half lion and half fish, emerged from the raging waters and battled with the sea. Lightning flashed across the skies, adding to the intensity and striking fear in the hearts of the villagers. As time passed, the wind and waves subsided and it became clear that the massive creature had tamed the sea and was victorious in its battle.

Did You Know?
- The mythical creature, the Merlion, has the head of a lion and the body of a fish. It was actually a logo that was designed in 1964 by Fraser Brunner, curator of the Van Kleef Aquarium, for the Singapore Tourist Promotion Board (now Singapore Tourism Board).

- The Merlion's body, which is that of a fish, represents Singapore as a port city and its reliance on maritime trade. Its lion's head makes reference to the legend in the Malay Annals of Sang Nila Utama's encounter with a lion when he first came to Temasek, which led to the name "Singapura" ("lion city" in Sanskrit).

- There are strict guidelines by the Singapore Tourism Board governing the use of the Merlion in the production of artefacts. The most popular Merlion statue, standing at 8.6 metres and weighing 70 tonnes, is located at the Merlion Park, overlooking the Marina Bay.