

## press release

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### Singapore's first-ever theatrical circus spectacular makes its World Premiere at Resorts World® Sentosa

#### *Voyage de la Vie* presents a visual and dramatic feast

**SINGAPORE, 30 June 2010** – After three years in the making, Singapore's first Integrated Resort, Resorts World® Sentosa (RWS) raises the curtain on its original resident show - *Voyage de la Vie* – at the 1,600 seat purpose-built Festive Grand Theatre.

What began as RWS' bold vision to create and build its very own resident show has culminated in a fast-paced, colourful, stunt-a-minute show filled with death-defying circus acts, feats of agility, stunning sets and costumes. Performed by an ensemble of over 40 international cast members credited with accolades from *New York Times*, *The Herald Tribune* as well as *Ringling Bros.* and *Barnum & Baileys*, the show will make history as Singapore's first original theatrical circus spectacular.

Presented by RWS, in collaboration with The Generating Company UK, *Voyage de la Vie* has been playing to groups of invited audiences since 17 June 2010 and will make its World Premiere on 2 July 2010.

*Voyage de la Vie* or "journey of life" in French, is about a **Boy's** metaphoric journey through the world of his imagination where he meets unusual characters representing themes such as Love, Temptation, Conflict and Life & Death. Through his encounters, Boy learns to overcome challenges in Life. The show climaxes in a joyous celebration of Life as the Boy comes to a realisation that it is not the destination but the *journey* that had been his quest.

Specially designed and conceptualised by world-acclaimed architect and show designer, Mark Fisher, *Voyage de la Vie* is performed by a stellar international cast that includes Viktor Kee who has performed in Cirque du Soleil shows and is recognised as one of the best jugglers in the world, crossbow artist Martti Peltonen and Finnish rope aerialist Liina Aunola. They are joined by 15-year old prodigy contortionist Alexey Goloborodko, Jarrett & Raja, the famous Las Vegas duo who perform innovative illusions and magic acts, French trapeze contortionist Aurelia Cats, handstand artist Melanie Chy as well as debutant Singaporean lead Jonathan Leong.

Resorts World Sentosa's Vice President of Entertainment and Executive Producer of *Voyage de la Vie*, Ms Andrea Teo said: "We are very excited to present this world-class production that Singapore can proudly call its own. While it may have been less complex to import an already existing international production, we took up the challenge to build an original show from scratch, in line with our first-of-its-kind integrated resort.

"The process has been fulfilling because we not only created a world-class international production out of Singapore but we also developed local talent. *Voyage de la Vie*, created with Mark Fisher and The Generating Company UK, marks a historic milestone for us and for Singapore."

*Voyage de la Vie* is staged daily except on Mondays and Tuesdays, at 8.30pm from Wednesdays to Fridays. There are two shows at 5.30 pm and 8.30 pm, on Saturdays and Sundays. Tickets priced at S\$68, S\$88, S\$108, S\$128 and S\$188 are now on sale at all SISTIC outlets or at [www.sistic.com.sg](http://www.sistic.com.sg)

For more information and detailed performance schedules, please visit [www.rwsentosa.com](http://www.rwsentosa.com) or call (65) 6577 8888 for enquiries.

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### **About Resorts World® Sentosa**

Resorts World® Sentosa, one of the world's most extensive and expensive integrated resorts at S\$6.59 billion, was built in a record time of under three years. Resorts World® Sentosa has soft opened its four hotels on 20 January 2010, its shopping and dining strip, FestiveWalk on 30 January 2010, Singapore's first casino on 14 February 2010, together with the Resorts World® Convention Centre, which includes its Compass Ballroom, 26 function rooms and 1,600-seat Festive Grand theatre and Southeast Asia's first and only Universal Studios Singapore™ on 18 March 2010. Supporting the attractions are a 3,500-lot carpark facility, restaurants, retail stores, entertainment and public attractions that include Emmy-award winner Jeremy Railton's Lake of Dreams and Chamber of Treasures™.

Resorts World® Sentosa will open the world's largest Marine Life Park, its Maritime Xperiential Museum, a destination spa and two remaining hotels with a total of 500 rooms in phase two development.

### **MEDIA CONTACTS:**

#### Resorts World® Sentosa

Angeline Ng  
Tel: + 65 6577 9772  
Cell: +65 9773 9598  
[angeline.ng@rwsentosa.com](mailto:angeline.ng@rwsentosa.com)

#### Weber Shandwick Singapore (for Resorts World® Sentosa)

Khushil Vaswani / Danny Cham  
Tel: +65 6825 8023 / +65 6825 8044  
Cell: +65 9127 7024 / +65 9696 9128  
[kvaswani@webershandwick.com](mailto:kvaswani@webershandwick.com) / [dcham@webershandwick.com](mailto:dcham@webershandwick.com)

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Singapore's first integrated resort, Resorts World® Sentosa, in collaboration with The Generating Company UK, presents a visual and dramatic feast with its resident show, *Voyage de la Vie*. The first-ever theatrical circus spectacular originating from Singapore that will be in the league of world-class theatre productions, *Voyage de la Vie* makes its World Premiere on 2 July 2010 at the purpose-built 1600-seat Festive Grand showroom of Resorts World® Sentosa.

## Introducing the Principal Cast Members of *Voyage de la Vie*

Jonathan Leong (Singapore) as The Boy



The story of *Voyage de la Vie* revolves around the **Boy**, a central character of the show. Frustrated at work with its hard task driven demands, the **Boy** is suddenly transported into an undiscovered world filled with adventure and excitement, the world of his imagination. He is taken on a journey of life where he meets unusual characters who represent themes such as Love, Temptation, Conflict and Life & Death. At the end, he comes to a realisation that it is the *journey* that is important, and not just the destination.

Viktor Kee (Ukraine) as The Lantern Keeper  
(Juggling, acrobatic, dance)



A key role in the show, The Lantern Keeper is the **Boy's** guide in this phantasmagorical world. The Lantern Keeper symbolises the 'Soul of Singapore'. His magic staff with the red lamp is a symbol of the red lamp at Clifford Pier that would first greet the early migrants and traders arriving on Singapore's shores. He is the keeper of all the riches of the beguiling universe, and it is he who introduces the **Boy** to the places and people in this strange and wondrous world of the **Boy's** imagination. In the final lesson, The Lantern Keeper teaches the **Boy** that life is about the balance of all things.

**Melanie Chy (Switzerland) as The Diva  
(Equilibrist – Hand balancing)**



The mysterious Diva teases the **Boy** with her entrancing ways and sultry moves, drawing him into an inner struggle of Love and Temptation. Like a serpent, she slinks out of her skin in a sensuous display of strength and agility which is both graceful yet venomous.

**Aurelia Cats (France) as The Crystal Cat  
(Trapeze acrobatic contortion)**



Perched high up on the moon, the Crystal Cat listens intently to the **Boy's** lament as he pleads for her to send him a perfect love. As the **Boy** falls to a dreamless sleep, the elegant Crystal Cat twirls and twists high above on her trapeze swing that such perfection may be a little out of reach.

**Alexey Goloborodko (Russia) as The Game Master  
(Contortion)**



A friendly and mischievous sprite, The Game Master leads the **Boy** into the world of his imagination by challenging belief and inciting wonder and amazement. He reappears throughout the show as he accompanies the **Boy** on his journey.

**Jarrett & Raja (US) as The Magician & The Maestro  
(Music and Magic)**



Jarrett and Raja appear as the 2 janitors who deliver the mysterious box. Later as The Magician & The Maestro, they demonstrate camaraderie and friendship as they come to appreciate the unique talents of each other and become a team as they perform. They show the **Boy** that one of life's key lessons is the need to distinguish between illusion and reality as not everything is what it seems to be.

Liina Aunola (Finland) as Life  
(Cloudswing)



The stunningly beautiful character of Life is inseparable from her partner, Death, and together, they teach the **Boy** that life is nothing without risk and danger. Life's free flowing flights high above on the cloudswing symbolises the freedom of life's journey.

Martti Peltonen (Finland) as Death  
(Crossbow)



Death summons the **Boy** to an important lesson in the Circle of Life and Death. With 16 flaming arrows pointed directly at one target, a single apple above his head, the **Boy** learns that to live life to the fullest, he must face the fear of death bravely.

## Voyage de la Vie

*Voyage de la Vie*, Singapore's **first** original theatrical circus spectacular, is a thrilling 90-minute (without intermission) adventure story about a young man's search to discover his identity and destiny. Told entirely through amazing feats of grace and agility, death-defying 'never-been-seen before' circus acts, pulsating music, vibrantly designed and intricately sewn costumes and awe-inspiring sets, it promises to keep audiences on the edge of their seats.

Presented by Resorts World® Sentosa in association with Generating Company UK, *Voyage de la Vie* is a cutting edge performance art form conceived and developed by a team of international creative talents led by Mark Fisher, who is critically acclaimed for designing the visually stunning sets for the world tours of U2, Pink Floyd and The Rolling Stones, Cirque du Soleil's *Ka* and the more recently premiered *Elvis*.

### The Story

**Boy** is led by a mysterious Lantern Keeper on a journey through the fantastic world of his imagination where he meets unusual characters who represent themes such as Love, Temptation, Conflict and Life and Death. Through these encounters, **Boy** learns how to overcome challenges in life. The show climaxes in a joyous celebration of Life as **Boy** comes to realise that it is the *journey* that enriches the soul, not the *destination*.

### Key Highlights

Audience will get to enjoy the stirring vocals of a home-grown idol. Other never-before-seen scenes in the show include: the virtuosity of a concert pianist whose fingers move so quickly across the keys they disappear; the showcase of a magician whose skills release him from danger in seconds; the physical antics of a contortionist that are beyond comprehension; the aerial feats of an artist whose passion is only surpassed by her grace upon the trapeze; the sensuous strength of a hand balancing performance by a woman high atop a motorcycle; the stunning manipulation of a juggler who beguiles the eye and defies gravity juggling seven objects at one time; the amazing and awe-inspiring aerial display of a siren of the sky who soars twenty feet above the stage performing aerial skills that rival an Olympic athlete; and a death defying performance by a man who stands at the centre of sixteen fire arrows all pointed at a single target - an apple perched on his head.

The world-class production reaches its stunning climatic scene with the deployment of advanced Global Positioning System, deemed as a technological breakthrough in theatrical productions, as **Boy** breaks through the limits of his imagination to realise that it is the *journey* that enriches a soul, and not the destination.

### Venue

The six-story high Festive Grand Theatre styled after the lavish modern entertainment halls of Las Vegas is located at Basement 1 next to the Resorts World® Casino. The purpose-built theatre has 1,621 seats with 20 wheelchair spaces available.

### Show Times

Wednesdays – Fridays:

8.30 pm

Saturdays and Sundays:

5.30 pm and 8.30 pm

### Language

The songs are sung in English with minimal dialogue in the show. Programme notes are available in various languages.

### The Creative Team

Show Conceiver and Creative Producer:

**Mark Fisher** (UK)

Co-Conceivers: **Ray Winkler** (UK)

& **Philip Wm McKinley** (US)

Director: **Philip Wm McKinley** (US)

Set Design: **Ray Winkler** (UK)

Original Music: **Jonathan Lim** (Singapore)

Lyrics: **Maribeth Derry** (US)

Costume Concept: **Phylia Poh** (Singapore)

Costume Design: **Virginia Chu** (Hong Kong)

Circus Arts Choreographer: **Alain Gaultier** (US)

Movement Choreographer: **Jeffrey Tan** (Singapore)

Resident Director & Trainer: **Stephan Choiniere** (US)

Sound Design: **Jeffrey Yue** (Singapore)

Lighting Design: **John A Williams & Psyche Chui** (Hong Kong)

Musical Supervision: **Gregg Mangiafico** (US)

Makeup Design: **Beno Lim** of MAC (Singapore)

Executive Producer: **Andrea Teo** (Singapore)

Line Producers: **Paul Cockle, Chris Hynes** and **The Generating Company** (UK)



### Key Milestones – 30 months in the making...

**December 2007** – Core creative team for the show is established; Show's theme, designs and storyline are subsequently developed.

**September 2008** – *Voyage de la Vie* goes into pre-production after all parties agree on the creative and technical aspects of the show; rest of the creative team are subsequently assembled and global auditions for the cast commences.

**December 2008** – Singapore's very own Jonathan Lim begins work on the original score and composes the new songs that would finally be chosen for the production; *Voyage de la Vie* then moves into full scripting and design development.

**February 2009** – Both Jonathan Leong and Viktor Kee sign up as principal cast members of the show; full company of the show is selected after auditions and workshops are conducted worldwide.

**May 2009** - *Voyage de la Vie* moves into full production.

**September 2009** – Circus rigging equipment and highly specialised technology are installed in the purpose-built Festive Grand Theatre.

**January 2010** – A two-week workshop is held for final preparations for training and rehearsals.

**February 2010** – Specialised aerial training begins in Florida in the US and in Singapore.

**March 2010** – Intensive rehearsals begin.

**July 2010** – The eagerly anticipated production makes its world premiere.