



 实践剧场  
The Theatre Practice

# “实堂” Practice Tshop

Annual Report 2017

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# Foreword

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At the start of The Substation, there was a small enclave next to it called 'The Garden'. There was music. There was art all over the walls. And of course, there was the Braised Beef Bowl. It was a casual hangout space.

When we moved into 54-58 Waterloo Street in July 2016, we found ourselves with another small space in the corner of our turquoise building. After careful considerations, we decided to take over this space. However, very much like what 'The Garden' was, we knew that Tuckshop has to exist beyond just being a F&B space. In 2017, we then incorporated programs specially curated for Practice Tuckshop into our existing repertoire. We also introduced drinks, food and books, thanks to the support of our wonderful sponsors and friends. Our goal is for Practice Tuckshop to be financially sustainable, so that more resources can be directed towards developing projects that are accessible to all.

Hence, Practice Tuckshop is an expression of our belief that The Theatre Practice (TTP)'s most valuable assets are its people and the relationships it has fostered over the years. In short, Practice Tuckshop is a community space. We constantly ask ourselves: What does it mean to be part of a 'community'? What does it mean to be a 'space'? We are still trying, testing and experimenting with ways to make this vision come to life. When I think of community, I think about my childhood and the image that often comes to mind is my mom passing my 1-year-old self over the wall to our neighbours, whenever she needed help with baby-sitting.

Since Practice Tuckshop is fairly unusual in terms of its scope, we have put together this report to give a sense of the breadth of our efforts, and whether they have been successful (or unsuccessful?). Hopefully, this will encourage many more collaborators to join us in the upcoming years, as we continue to sustain our efforts in building this community space together.

Thank you!



Kuo Jian Hong  
Artistic Director  
The Theatre Practice



# About Practice Tuckshop

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## A creative initiative by The Theatre Practice (TTP)

Located at the heart of the Waterloo Street Arts Belt, Practice Tuckshop is a **collaborative creative playground** for all. It is also a **community space** for friends, families and creatives to gather over a cup of tea, cosy up with a selection of books by celebrated playwrights about Singapore arts, or just drop by to lepak. It is also an opportunity to participate in our quarterly selection of programs at little or no cost. We really mean it when we say: All are welcome!

Delve deeper into the history of TTP and the Singapore theatre scene by picking up one of the many books and show programs displayed at the cafe. These include a library of writings by late theatre doyen and TTP co-founder Kuo Pao Kun along with works from other theatre artists.

## The Vision

Practice Tuckshop aims to be a creative playground, bringing various communities and artists together in less formalized contexts. We hope to **blur the distinction between art and life** and engage visitors with our diverse series of programs that marry food and drinks with stories presented in a myriad of forms.





‘The art space is where dreams and ideals are sourced, where anything and everything from past, present and future can be permuted into any combinations without bringing any harm to anyone.’

— Kuo Pao Kun, founder of The Theatre Practice

# Programs

*Tuckshop programs are curated under three main categories.*

## A. Dialogue Series

It is time to start talking about things we don't usually talk about. Everyone knows that the **most important conversations** often take place in the kitchen anyway. Question everything and get provocative with these exciting exchanges curated by the Practice Family!

**Kuo Pao Kun: Life and Dreams**  
Pan Qing Hao, Johnny Ng,  
Ng Yak Whee,  
Kuo Jian Hong (Moderator)

**Chasing The Dream: Is There A Reality Check?**  
XiaoHan, Kuo Jian Hong

**Let's Cut To The Chase:  
Grades Vs. Dreams**  
Petrina Kow and Victoria  
(daughter), Jalyn Han,  
Teo Seok Kheng,  
Kuik Shiao-Yin (Moderator)

**Dreamers Q&A  
With Young Dreamers**  
iNCH Chua, Jerrold Chong,  
Rebecca Wong,  
Sugie Phua (Moderator)

**Huh? Artist Wellness**  
Michele Lim, Alvin Tan, Li-Anne  
Tan, Kuo Jian Hong (Moderator)

**M1 Chinese Theatre Festival  
2017 Pre and Post Show  
Discussions**  
Assorted international artists





## B. Playground Series

An open space for creatives from all walks of life interested in **free and open exchanges** about their artistic experimentation!

**Tuckshop Open Air Cinema:**  
**Liao Zhai Rocks!**  
presented as part of  
*Singapore Night Festival*

**Tuckshop Open Air Cinema:**  
**Lao Jiu: The Musical**  
presented as part of  
*Singapore Night Festival*

**Waterloo Street Crawl**  
supported by  
*NAC Place-making grant*

**Waterloo Street Mural**

**The Nursery Rhymes  
Project Launch**

**Guest Projects:**  
**Round Round Buns**  
(Work in Progress showing)  
by  
*Chop Chilli Chop Collective*

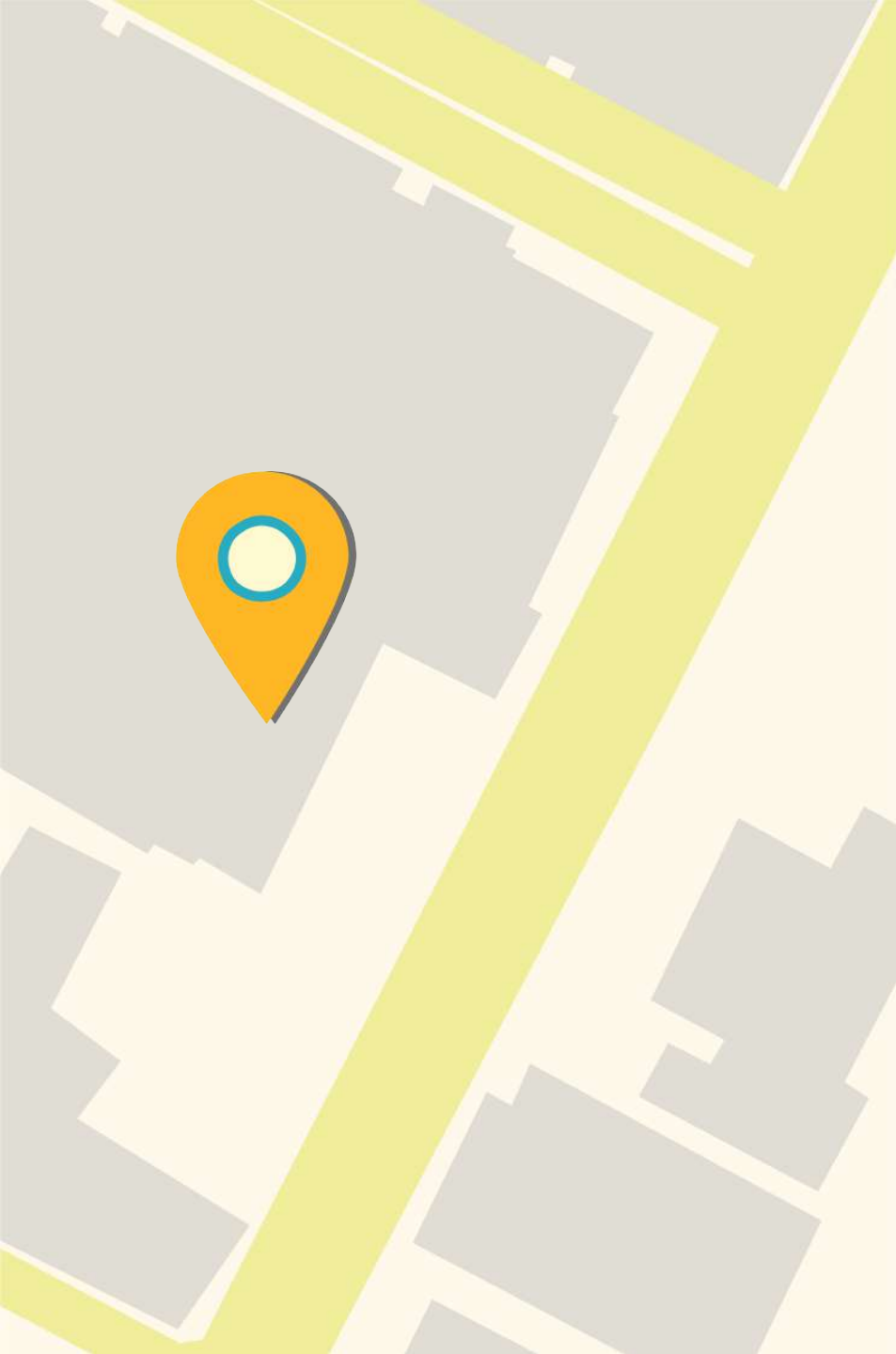


## C. Kitchen Series

*A kitchen. A meal. An ordinary  
human story becomes  
extraordinary.*

Each dinner party focuses on a  
**Singapore Local** and their unique  
perspective in their lives from  
their culinary endeavours.

**Kitchen Series - #AhMa**  
The Theatre Practice  
Artistic Director: Kuo Jian Hong



# *Tuckshop in Focus*

*Diverse and dynamic, join us and take a closer look at some of our programs in 2017.*





*“Overall, Kitchen Series – #AHMA feels like a warm, familial dinner party where people come together and open up about their experiences and food heritage. With the benefit of being in an area that’s been steadily growing as a mini arts hub, TTP leads the way in pioneering new accessible forms of theatre, and we look forward to seeing just what they cook up next.”*

Bak Chor Mee Boy, Blogger



## Kitchen 实指大动 Series

#AhMa

(20-21 May 2017)

*Embark on a journey with TTP Artistic Director Kuo Jian Hong to unearth the untold stories of our heritage through recipes.*

Supported by the National Heritage Board, #Kitchen Series-#AHMA is the inaugural instalment of Practice Tuckshop’s Kitchen Series, an immersive theatrical experience that seeks to unearth the untold stories of our heritage through the medium of intimate live cooking and sharing sessions.

Hosted and moderated by Kuo Jian Hong and Ang Xiao Ting, the session featured four dishes taken from her recipe collection. They prepared a menu comprising of shredded Chicken Vermicelli (鸡丝粉皮), Chinese Dumplings (饺子), Zha Jiang Mian (炸酱面) and Flour Tea (面茶) while Kuo wove stories about her childhood and family history, including anecdotes about her time living overseas in the United States and her father’s childhood in Hubei, China.

In each intimate session, participants were invited to step into the kitchen with Kuo. They were also encouraged to share their personal recipes and anecdotes in turn.

探游  
滑铁卢街  
WATERLOO  
STREET  
CRAWL

实堂 Practice  
Tuckshop

(13 January – 11 February 2018,  
24 March – 6 May 2018)

*Tucked away in Singapore's downtown district, Waterloo Street is where traditional charm meets modern drive, where decades of human stories lie untold and forgotten. With Waterloo Street Crawl, Practice Tuckshop invites you to wander off the beaten path and unearth the hidden secrets of Waterloo's eclectic inhabitants.*

Supported by the National Arts Council Placemaking Grant, Waterloo Street Crawl (WSC) is an exciting walking trail along unexpected locations on Waterloo Street. From the Buddhist temple, to the art gallery, to the shopping malls and hawker centres, stories are scattered and hidden in plain sight across the entire street.

Armed with the free WSC app, participants are asked to wander off the beaten track through one of Singapore's oldest streets and search for these stories, which have been taken from a diverse group of Singaporeans, each with a special connection to the street. Participants then take a photo inspired by the stories and their surroundings and finish the crawl at Practice Tuckshop, where they are invited to print their photos and contribute to an interactive art installation called The Waterloo Street Mural.





实践 Practice Workshop

*A collaborative,  
creative playground  
for all.*

# Food and Beverages

*For each quarter, Practice Tuckshop works with different local vendors to curate an exciting selection of food and beverages that correspond to our programs and theme.*



## Our Cause

- Support local merchants by providing a platform to sell their products
- provide a testing ground for F&B experience

## Our Sponsors



### PEK SIN CHOON TEA

Founded in 1925, Pek Sin Choon Tea is one of Singapore's oldest tea merchants and specializes in providing quality Chinese tea leaves.

In the past year, across four quarters and various special events, Practice Tuckshop brewed and served over 100 litres of tea to our visitors. Practice Tuckshop was also the launching ground of their newest tea innovation, "sparkling" tea, a form of carbonated Chinese tea.



### Two Degrees North Coffee Co.

Two Degrees North Coffee Co is an award-winning progressive speciality coffee roaster based in Singapore.

Two Degrees North Coffee Co joined us in our 4<sup>th</sup> quarter: Space of Our Home, providing freshly brewed coffee to our visitors, including over 300 guests during the Nursery Rhymes Project launch.

## Our Partners

Popaganda  
Hook on Food





# Power of “实堂” Practice Tuckshop

*As we end our first year of operations, we take a look back at our adventures through the last four quarters. Practice Tuckshop is more than a physical space; it is a community; it is a resource. By supporting us, you are supporting our five powers.*

## *A Platform and A Testing Ground*

Practice Tuckshop is committed to providing a platform for experimentation of all forms, be it theatre, art, food, drinks and beyond. We encourage our partners and collaborators to treat Tuckshop as their playground and explore the limitless possibilities the space has to offer.

## *Bringing People Together*

Practice Tuckshop is always looking for new ways to connect with a wide range of organizations, age groups, abilities and contexts. We give a safe space to debate topics within the art world and beyond. We create projects that take a closer look at important issues. We forge common ground and build invaluable friendships with our neighbors, from vendors to other art institutions.

## *Accessible and High-Quality Programs*

At Practice Tuckshop, we take pride in providing a diverse selection of programs, all of which maintain a high standard of artistic integrity. In 2017, our programs reached out to over a thousand audience members. Most of these programs were offered free-of-charge while the remainder were affordably priced, thus allowing a wider range of audience members to access our programs.

## *Re-thinking Artmaking*

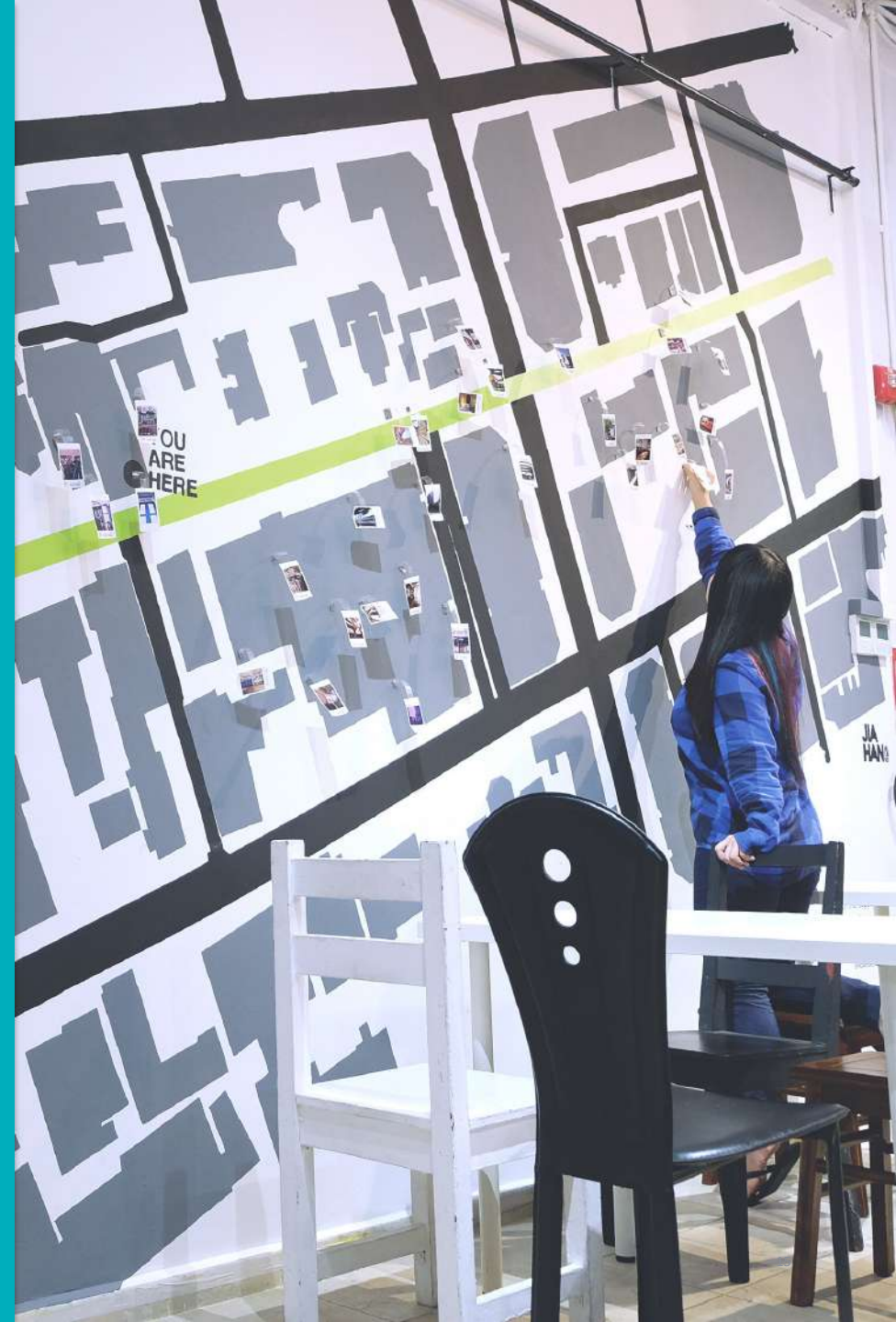
What is theatre without a conventional stage? What necessarily constitutes artmaking? Practice Tuckshop constantly challenges and explores the boundaries of art and creation with programs that defy conventional labels.



## *Return To Our Roots*

Inspired by the warmth and openness of the old Substation garden, Practice Tuckshop is at its core, an opportunity to provide a community space for people to gather.

Since our opening, we have built a home that has welcomed an eclectic mix of visitors - each who interact with the space in their own unique way.







实践室 Practice Tukshop

The Nursery Rhymes Project  
Official Launch

# 2018 and Beyond

*Practice Tuckshop has a line-up of exciting new projects in store for 2018.*

Follow us on Facebook for the most up-to-date news on our activities and programs!

 PracticeTuckshop

## Join Us!

Practice Tuckshop is always on the lookout for creatives and local vendors to collaborate and partner with.

If you are interested, or know of anyone keen to join us, drop us an email at [tuckshop@practice.org.sg](mailto:tuckshop@practice.org.sg).

We can't wait to meet you!





## Rent Our Space

Practice Tuckshop is open for private rental.

Located on the ground floor of a historic conservation shophouse, Practice Tuckshop is a cosy and atmospheric cafe space located in the heart of Singapore's downtown district. It serves as the perfect location for workshops, meetings, group gatherings, corporate events, networking sessions, product launches and more!

# Credits

## Practice Tuckshop Annual Report 2017

Editors **Ang Xiao Ting, Sim Xin Yi**  
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## Practice Tuckshop

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Finance and Accounting **Teo Seok Kheng**  
Programmer **Ang Xiao Ting**  
Copywriter, Researcher and Marketing **Sim Xin Yi**  
Producer **Fervyn Kate Tan**  
Intern **Sarah Cheng**

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**The Theatre Practice**  
**Pek Sin Choon**  
**Two Degrees North Coffee Co**  
**Popaganda**  
**Hook on Food**  
**Cherie Ng (Skeyy)**

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[www.practice.org.sg](http://www.practice.org.sg)

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