

2023 VIVA LATINUS ALUMNI PRESENTS....
VIVAED



30th September 2023, 830 pm
ACJC Faith Centre for Performing Arts

ABOUT VIVA LATINUS ALUMNI

Viva LatiNUS, a Latin dance club at the National University of Singapore, has a rich history and a strong presence in the community. Originally starting as a social and ballroom club, known as SnB, it transformed into a performance team and later rebranded itself as Viva LatiNUS in December 2009 . Specializing in five vibrant Latin dance styles—Cha Cha, Rumba, Samba, Jive, and Paso Doble—the club is celebrated for its electrifying performances that capture the essence of Latin dance.

Beyond the dynamic dance club, Viva LatiNUS has a strong sense of camaraderie and commitment to building a family-like bond among its members. This sense of unity and support is an integral part of the philosophy, fostering a positive and inclusive environment for dancers of all backgrounds and levels. We believe that the joy of dance is not limited by age, and we encourage people from various walks of life to join them in their exciting dance journey.

A close-knit community, Viva LatiNUS Alumni are passionate dancers who maintain a deep connection to the club, many of which return as alumni instructors, guiding and mentoring newer members. They also participate in classes with semester instructors and play a significant role in Viva LatiNUS performances, contributing as both choreographers and performers. This engagement of alumni highlights the lasting impact and sense of community that Viva LatiNUS fosters, even beyond one's time as an active member.

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Melissa Chan
Artistic Director

It is with immense joy that I extend my greetings to all of you on this momentous occasion of VIVA-ED. Tonight, we invite you to join us on a journey of nostalgia and renewal, where Viva LatinUS alumni members come together to share our love for dance and celebrate how this art has shaped us.

When I first joined Viva in 2015, I was captivated by the unity displayed by each and every one of our members. In a group showdance club, training together was not enough – it was the bare minimum. We looked out for our teammates' formations, honed the group's craft and, most importantly, helped each other grow. Coming from a competitive Latin dance background, this supportive environment was new to me and rekindled my passion for dance.

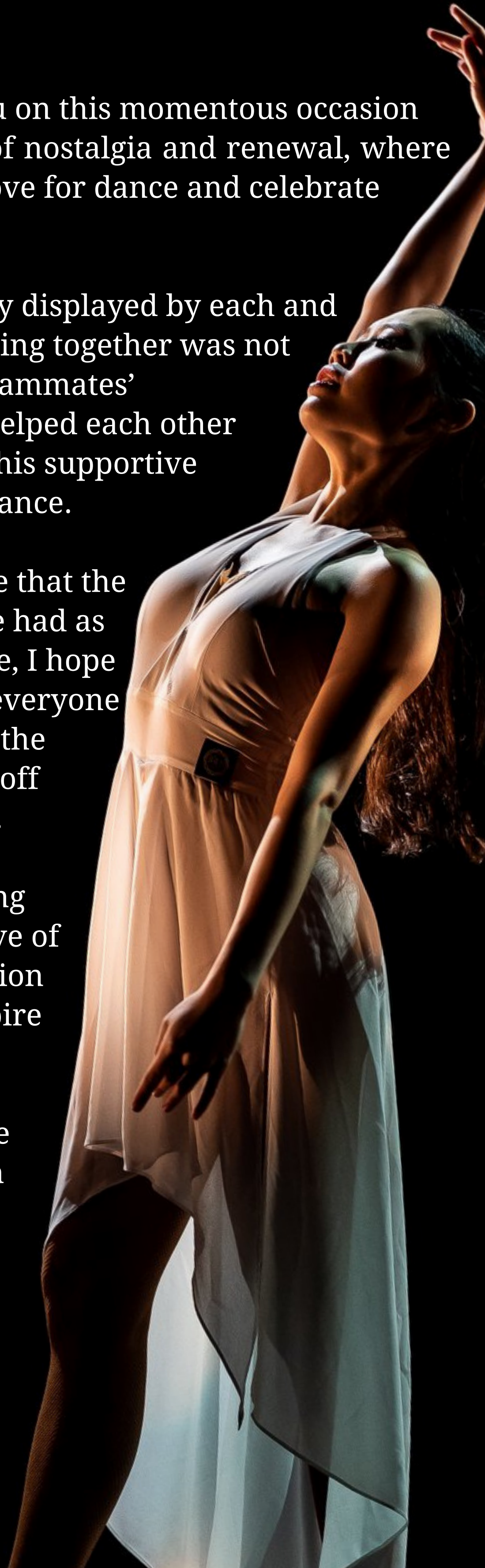
Tonight's stage is not just a platform for performance. I hope that the alumni will be able to fulfil any unrealized dreams they once had as students, and leave the stage with no regrets. To the audience, I hope this helps to spark that fire and passion in you. I encourage everyone to take a step back amidst our hectic daily lives, to reflect on the aspirations that we once set aside. It is never too late to dust off your dance shoes and take centre stage in your own journey.

As we gather here today, we are forging friendships, renewing connections, and building a community strong and supportive of each other in life, as in dance. It is my hope that this production will let us relive the fond memories we once shared and inspire us to continue this spirit of camaraderie, VIVA.

To my dearest alumni – Thank you for all your hard work the past few months. I hope you walk away from this production with pride, satisfaction and more.

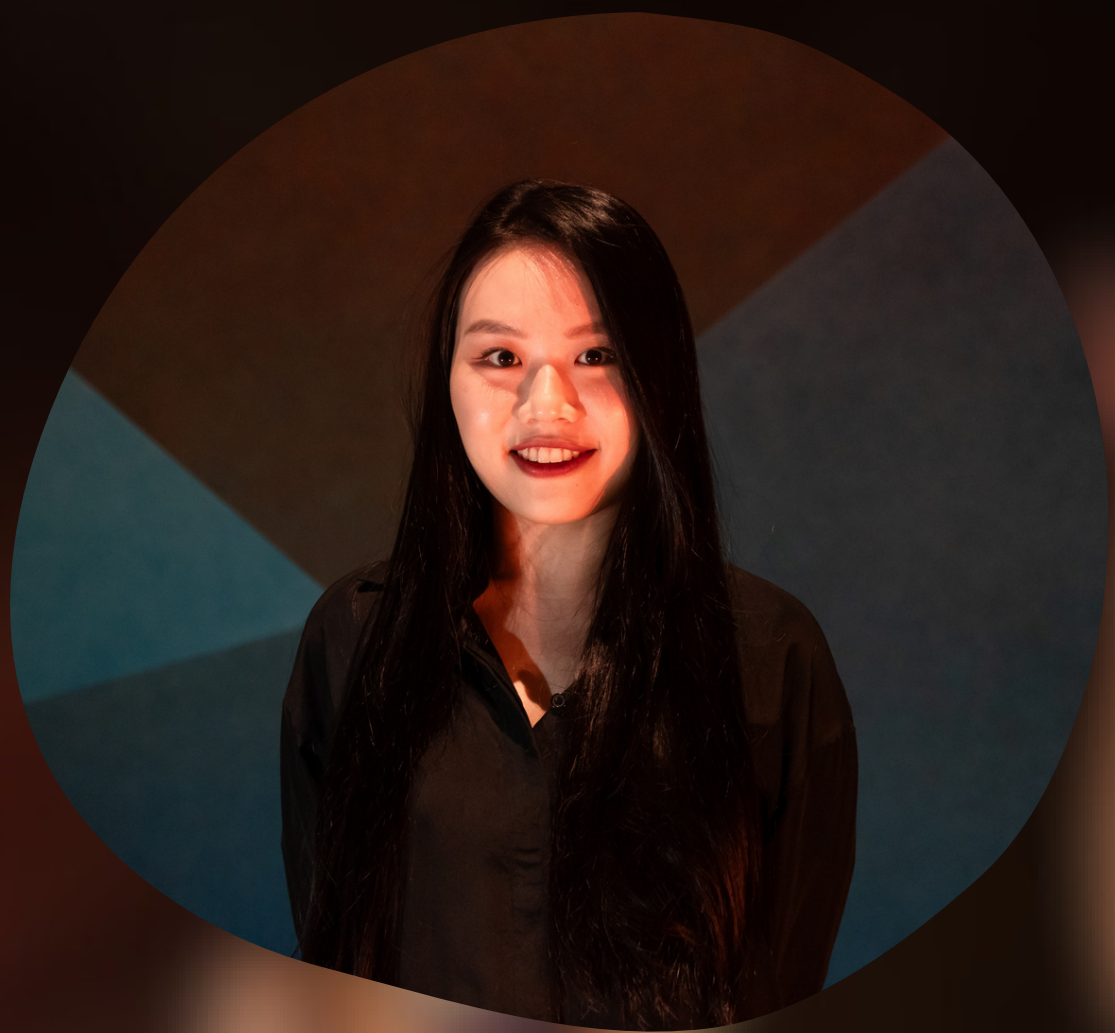
To all - Thank you for being a part of this grand production, and for joining us on this extraordinary journey through the dance of life. We hope you enjoy the show.

May this evening remind us that we all have the power to choreograph our own stories.



OUR CHOREOGRAPHERS

MELISSA CHAN



Choreographer:
The Meeting,
Mas Que Nada,
A Lover's Redemption,

Melissa's dance journey began at the young age of 3, encompassing Latin ballroom, ballet, and Chinese dance.

As Training Captain & Choreographer for NUS VivaLatiNUS, Melissa crafted captivating performances and conducted insightful workshops. With 6 years of teaching experience, she adeptly mentors students of all levels, generously sharing her technical expertise.

Since 2016, she consistently secured top positions in amateur Latin and rising star Latin categories, achieving titles like Singapore Amateur Latin Champion and Asia Pacific Rising Star Latin Champion.

EDDIE THAM

Eddie embarked on his Latin ballroom journey at the tender age of 8 and has since amassed multitudes of awards and accolades throughout his illustrious dance career.

On top of his competitive achievements, Eddie has actively performed and choreographed for Viva LatiNUS. His deep-seated passion lies in breathing life to his creative visions, and he takes immense joy in entertaining and inspiring others through his mesmerizing performances.

Beyond Latin dance, Eddie has established himself as a full-time fitness instructor dedicated to empowering others through movement and dance.



Choreographer:
Bottoms up
A lover's redemption

OUR CHOREOGRAPHERS

THAI BAO NGOC



Choreographer: The Meeting

Knock knock, who's there? It's Ngoc! Ngoc joined Viva in 2018 and has remained a steadfast presence ever since.

She has contributed to Viva in multiple ways: serving as an exco member, adopting the role of a pseudo instructor, competing, and most notably, shining as a versatile dancer in both male and female roles.

This production marks her debut as a co-choreographer, and highlights her dedication to artistic growth. Anticipate an exciting and dynamic performance with a unique blend of creativity and flair!

LEE JASLYNN

Jaslynn embarked on her Latin ballroom journey at a young age, and her passion for dancing has been a continuous part of her life.

In 2022, she joined Viva LatinUS and subsequently took on the role of training captain, shouldering various responsibilities, including choreographing performances and teaching classes.

These experiences marked a significant milestone for Jaslynn, sharing her love for Latin through mesmerizing choreographies, captivating audiences.



Choreographer: Perilous Love

OUR CHOREOGRAPHERS

MUHAMMAD AZRI BIN MOHAMED



Choreographer: Jivin' Jellz

Azri's journey into the world of Latin ballroom ignited in 2007, during his inaugural year at Nanyang Polytechnic.

Now, Azri teaches at NYP, SMU and Aquilia Dance Academy. These valuable experiences continuously fuels his aspiration to nurture dancers with a solid foundation, enabling them to flourish and thrive in their dance journeys.

Azri's unwavering dedication to Latin dance goes beyond mere passion; it's a testament to his deep love for his craft and his genuine joy in witnessing people dance to the rhythms he creates.

RYAN LEE

With over a decade of experience, Ryan has triumphed in numerous Ballroom competitions, representing Singapore both domestically and abroad.

On top of Ballroom, Ryan has diversified his dance repertoire, delving into genres, including breaking, Hip Hop, and Locking. He showcased his choreographic skills through numerous performances and workshops.

Now, Ryan is a resident instructor at Ballroom Dance Academy Singapore, where he passionately imparts his knowledge and skills to nurture the next generation of dancers in Singapore.



Choreographer: Hairgel!

OUR CHOREOGRAPHERS

CHARLTON TAN & JULIA CHOW



Julia and Charlton started learning Latin Ballroom when they joined SMU Ardiente in 2014. They have since formed a partnership and have choreographed many pieces for SMU Ardiente including production items in Un Paso 2018: Mulan Rouge & SMU Legenda: The Mermaid & The Gatekeeper.

Choreographer: Wings of Freedom

MICHELLE FONG

Michelle Fong, together with her husband Sam Fong, have been the resident instructors of Viva LatinUS for more than a decade.

They began their professional careers in 1998, training extensively with renowned teachers from Germany to Italy, and later clinched multiple wins for Singapore at major dance championships around Asia.

In 2003, Sam and Michelle started their dance studio, Dance Dynamix, recently rebranded to SAM's Dance Studio, with the goal to foster greater connections with the local dance community. The couple also organise 'The Dream Ball', an annual charity gala raising funds for children related non profit organisations.



Choreographer:
XOXO

ITEM 1

QUINQUE SALTARE



Step into the world of Latin dance with an opening montage of five key styles: a riveting Rumba, a cheeky Cha Cha, a sultry Samba, a jovial Jive and a powerful Paso Doble. Serving as a prelude to the night's line-up, this first act is both an introduction and invitation to a genre defined by its grace, passion and artistry.

DANCERS

CHEN HONGDAN - DZUNG PHAM - EDDIE THAM - GERMAINE GAN - MELISSA CHAN
MUHAMMAD AZRI - PETER TEO - RACHEL LOW - RYAN LEE - SHAUN SEAH

Song credits:

Mas Que Nada with Marnik - Timmy Trumpet, Moonshine

ITEM 2 HAIRGEL!

Choreographer: Ryan Lee



Step into our time machine - with whimsy fools and groovy moves, this cheeky jive piece is non-stop, toe-tapping and heart-pounding fun. Guaranteed to STICK with you, get ready to shake and shimmy it up.

DANCERS

AISHWARYA PARAM - CHAN SIEW HUANG - HUANG ZIFU - JOCELINE ZHOU - KENNETH TAN
LIONEL TAN - ODELIA LIANG - STEPHANIE TAN - WANG RUIJUE - XU WEIWEI - ZHANG BOWEN

Song credits:
You Can't Stop The Beat - Motion Picture Cast of Hairspray

ITEM 3

XOXO

Choreographer: Michelle Fong



After hours. Between cool sheets and warm
bodies — only a tease left to close the gap.
Iykyk.

DANCERS

DZUNG PHAM - MELISA GOH - MELISSA CHAN - RACHEL LOW - SERENE GOH - THAI BAO NGOC
GUEST APPEARANCE - MUHAMMAD AZRI

Song credits:
Pony by Ginuwine - Magic Mike XXL remix

ITEM 4

PERILOUS LOVE

Choreographer: Lee Jaslynn



Not all love is pure and sweet, some come in a dose of toxicity. This riveting performance will leave you breathless as we follow a girl's cyclical journey, breaking free from the chains of abuse, only to surrender herself back to the devilish pits of passion and despair.

DANCERS

CELEST ANG - DEBORAH LOH - ELISA KHOO - GAVIN TAN - GAO JUN - HUANG ZIFU - JESSLYN DHARMA
KEVIN TAN - LEE JASLYNN - LIAO TIANCHANG - LIONEL TAN - ODELIA LIANG - QIU ZI HAO
STEPHANIE TAN - TAN YU QUAN - VICTORIA ANG - WANG RUIJUE

Song credits:

Can't help falling in love [Dark] - Tommee Profitt

Toxic by Besomage & Lunis - 2WEI

ITEM 5

JVIN' JELLIES

Choreographer: Muhammad Azri



Jello, it's me~ I was wondering if after all these years
you'd like to mee— just kidding. This isn't a love
story. This is about two gals, one guy, and not putting
your fingers in both pies. Mixed signals guaranteed,
easy resolutions not. Now let's get jiggly with it.

DANCERS

DEBORAH LOH - DZUNG PHAM - ELISA KHOO - GAVIN TAN - GERMAINE GAN - LEE JASLYNN
LI SHUNING - LIONEL TAN - MELISA GOH - MENG DEREN - MUHAMMAD AZRI - SAMANTHA LOW
SERENE GOH - SHAUN SEAH - THAI BAO NGOC

Song credits:

Do the Cha cha cha - Alex Swings Oscar Sings!

Shake the Room - Gamu

ITEM 6

A LOVER'S REDEMPTION

Choreographers: Eddie Tham, Melissa Chan



Beneath moonlit skies, they danced so free,
In tender arms, where they yearned to be.
His smile, today, a healer of her broken part,
Tomorrow, he left, tearing at her heart.

Now he wakes with regret in his eyes,
His love for her, he can't deny.
Changed, he seeks to show his soul,
A lover's redemption, a chance to make whole.

DANCERS

CELEST ANG - CHAN SIEW HUANG - CHEN HONGDAN - DENG JIYUE - EDDIE THAM - GOH WEI TJIN
LIAO TIANCHANG - MELISSA CHAN - MENG DEREN - POH SWEE HONG - RACHEL LOW - KENNETH TAN

Song credits:
If I Can Dream - Måneskin

ITEM 7 BOTTOMS UP

Choreographer: Eddie Tham



No bull. No quickies. No lightweights. This cha-samba number is a hard shot of rizz and sizzle that intends to slap. Get caught lookin', but not touchin'. You want your position right for the ride.

DANCERS

CHEN HONGDAN - GOH WEI TJIN - SIQI TAGUCHI - SERENE GOH - LI SHUNING - GAVIN TAN
RYAN LEE - SHAUN SEAH - MINNEE YAP - LEAH LIU YUANJING - LIM RUI SHENG - LIAO TIANCHANG

Song credits:

Baby Got Back - Sir Mix-a-Lot
Anaconda - Nicki Minaj

ITEM 8 – GUEST PERFORMANCE
BY SMU ARDIENTE ALUMNI

WINGS OF FREEDOM

Choreographers: Julia, Charlton



Titans living among us represent the obstacles and insecurities that one struggles with in today's society. We are all constantly fighting against these in our lives. Be it through encouragement from each other or through inner enlightenment, we can gain the strength to overcome our inner titans and spread our wings of freedom.

DANCERS

ANNA TSENG - BEATRICE KHOO - CANDICE YE - CHARLTON TAN - GERALDINE MAH
GERALDINE YONG - JOIE YAP - JULIA CHOW - MD SALEHUDDIN BIN ASRI - SHAWN LIEW

Song credits:

YouSeeBIGGIRL - Hiroyuki Sawano

Strength Of A Thousand Men - Two Steps From Hell

ITEM 9

THE MEETING

Choreographers: Melissa Chan, Thai Bao Ngoc



By the Swan Lake, creatures of night and light discover that neither are alone. This bold, all-ladies Cha Cha piece presents our chance connections that are fierce, curious, affable – in a meeting of wings and a tale of crossings.

DANCERS

AISHWARYA PARAM - CELEST ANG - DEBORAH LOH - DENG JIYUE - ELISA KHOO - GUO XIAOJING
HE LEFEI - JOCELINE ZHOU - LEAH LIU YUANJING - LEE JASLYNN - MELISA GOH - MELISSA CHAN
ODELIA LIANG - ROSELLE MAE PINEDA - SAMANTHA LOW - SIQI TAGUCHI - STEPHANIE TAN
THAI BAO NGOC - WANG RUIJUE - YAP MIN NEE

Song credits:
Swan Lake - Tchaikovsky, DJ WLODI remix

ITEM 10

MAS QUE NADA

Choreographer: Melissa Chan



An epilogue, but also a promise of a more dazzling future. Our final act makes its mark with juicy beats against a rousing fusion of Cha Cha and Samba. High-octane and certified lush. Delícia.

DANCERS

DZUNG PHAM - EDDIE THAM - GERMAINE GAN - HE LEFEI - MELISSA CHAN
MENG DEREN - MUHAMMAD AZRI - RACHEL LOW - RYAN LEE - SHAUN SEAH

Song credits:

Mas Que Nada - BLK SHP

Mas Que Nada - HKNC, Gøne, Aksak

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

PRODUCTION COMMITTEE

**Producer/
Production Stage Manager**
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Artistic Director
Melissa Chan
Peter Teo

Assistant Producer
Altron Lee

Head of Logistic
Guo XiaoJing

Head of Finance
Deng Jiyue

Head of Ticketing & Welfare
He Lefei

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