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Marina Bay Sands brings star power to Singapore with Disney Content Showcase

23 talent, over 500 international media and hundreds of fans attended the two-day event as part of the largestever talent tour hosted by the integrated resort



Singapore (2 December 2022) – The iconic façade of Marina Bay Sands was once again lit up in Disney's quintessential blue as it played host to the first on-site Disney Content Showcase. From 30 November to 1 December, this two-day spectacle brought together 23 of the finest talent in the entertainment industry across Korea, Japan, Indonesia, and the United States to tease highly anticipated projects and engage the local community with a slate of star-studded events.

As part of the showcase launch on 30 November, Marina Bay Sands and The Walt Disney Company Asia Pacific presented a dazzling blue carpet extravaganza outside Sands Theatre. An electric atmosphere permeated the integrated resort (IR) as fans gathered to see their favourite celebrities.





Key talent from upcoming fantasy thriller *Connect* graced the blue carpet at Marina Bay Sands (From L to R): Jung Haein; Kim Hyejun; Miike Takashi; Ko Kyungpyo

The blue carpet was graced by several South Korean stars who are headlining upcoming dramas, including rising heartthrobs **Jung Haein**, **Ko Kyungpyo** and **Kim Hyejun** from the highly anticipated crime fantasy thriller **Connect**, alongside its acclaimed Japanese director **Miike Takashi**.



(Left image; from \overline{L} to R): Heo Sungtae, Kang Yunsung and Lee Donghwi of Big Bet (Right image; from L to R): Lee Sungkyoung, Lee Kwangyoung and Kim Youngkwang of Call It Love

They were joined by *Squid Game* star **Heo Sungtae** and **Lee Donghwi**, both of whom are starring in the Korean drama *Big Bet*, directed by the talented **Kang Yunsung**. Fans also swooned over **Lee Sungkyoung** and **Kim Youngkwang**, who charmed the crowd with their real-life chemistry as co-stars in the highly anticipated romantic drama, *Call It Love*, helmed by creator **Lee Kwangyoung**.





(From L to R): Shinzo Katayama, Yuya Yagira, and Riho Yoshioka of *Gannibal;*Mackenyu of *Dragon of WH* and *House of the Owl;*Min Tanaka of *House of the Owl*

Additionally, fans queued for hours to catch a glimpse of the captivating cast members behind several new original Japanese series, including **Yuya Yagira**, **Riho Yoshioka**, **Shinzo Katayama**, **Mackenyu** and **Min Tanaka**.



(From L to R): Indonesia talent at the Blue Carpet include Deva Mahenra (*Teluh Darah*), Refal Hady (*W.A S2*), Adinia Wirasti (*Mendua*), Mira Lesmana (*Hubungi Agen Gue*), Risa Saraswati (*Jurnal Risa*), and Chelsea Islan (*Tira*); Peter Sohn of *Elemental*

Also wowing audiences were Indonesian talent **Adinia Wirasti**, **Deva Mahenra**, **Chelsea Islan**, **Risa Saraswati** and **Refal Hady** as they walked alongside director **Mira Lesmana**. The beloved Asian-American director of Pixar's upcoming animated feature film *Elemental*, **Peter Sohn**, also made an appearance on the carpet.

As the most significant talent tour the IR has hosted since establishing its long-standing partnership with the media giant in 2015, the event has cemented Marina Bay Sands' reputation as Asia's premier destination for world-class entertainment.

In the spirit of giving back to the local community, Marina Bay Sands and The Walt Disney Company have joined forces to enamour and inspire over 220 enthusiastic local students from LASALLE College of the Arts, Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Nanyang Polytechnic, Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Tanglin Trust School, and Temasek Polytechnic. They packed the halls yesterday afternoon for two separate hour-long dialogues where they had the rare opportunity



to meet *Elemental* Director **Peter Sohn** as well as the cast and crew of *Connect*, who shared their wealth of knowledge and experience as leading creatives in the industry.

The two sessions enabled students who are passionate in the arts and creative fields to connect with their idols as part of an ongoing series orchestrated by **Sands Cares** – Marina Bay Sands' Corporate Social Responsibility programme. Known as **In Conversation With**, this series has offered student beneficiaries one-of-a-kind exposure to the worlds of film, art, and culture through the eyes of talented experts and celebrities.



The director and cast of *Connect* imparted words of wisdom to aspiring creatives on thriving in the entertainment industry (clockwise from top left): Jung Haein; group photo with attendees at *In Conversation With: Connect*; Kim Hyejun; Miike Takashi; Ko Kyungpyo

Jacinta Freeman, Programme Leader (Academic), Design and Media Programme, Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, from the session with *Connect* talent shared, "This is a great opportunity for our students, especially for those in Screen Media, as it allows them to hear first-hand from a renowned director as well as gain more insights and perspectives from the cast. I also greatly appreciate how Jung Haein encouraged students to focus on developing their strengths, and Ko Kyungpyo for sharing that he would support one of our students' dream to work in Korea's entertainment industry, as well as Kim Hye Jun, who shared her dreams of working in the industry."



Director Peter Sohn of Elemental inspired attendees with personal stories from his formative years



Meanwhile, Naomi Quentin, a student from Temasek Polytechnic who attended the exclusive talk with **Peter Sohn**, said "This was an engaging and eye-opening learning experience. As a Pixar fan, I deeply appreciate being given the opportunity to have a conversation with a talented director like Peter Sohn. Sohn shared about how one should not be afraid to take risks and put himself out there, which I found extremely inspiring and admirable. Also, this session has given me a behind-the-scenes look at how animated movies are made and the incredible amount of passion, creativity and hard work that goes into each production."

During the two-day Disney Content Showcase, around 500 media from across the region were also invited to attend a closed-door content showcase at Marina Bay Sands' Expo Halls. The conference featured exclusive sneak peeks of upcoming global and regional releases, including *Avatar: Way of the Water, The Little Mermaid*, and *Indiana Jones 5*.

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About Marina Bay Sands Pte Ltd

Marina Bay Sands is Asia's leading business, leisure and entertainment destination. The integrated resort features Singapore's largest hotel with over 2,200 luxurious rooms and suites, crowned by the spectacular Sands SkyPark and iconic infinity pool. Its stunning architecture and compelling programming, including state-of-the-art convention and exhibition facilities, Asia's best luxury shopping mall, world-class dining and entertainment, as well as cutting-edge exhibitions at ArtScience Museum, have transformed the country's skyline and tourism landscape since it opened in 2010.

Marina Bay Sands is dedicated to being a good corporate citizen to serve its people, communities and environment. As one of the largest players in hospitality, it employs over 10,000 Team Members across the property. It drives social impact through its community engagement programme, Sands Cares, and leads environmental stewardship through its global sustainability programme, Sands ECO360.

For more information, please visit www.marinabaysands.com.

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