

## From the Desk of The A Cappella Society - December 2009

Hi everyone!

December is here again and as every year it's time for Christmas caroling. All our singers will be kept very busy during this period singing all over the country. There's a good chance that you may encounter them somewhere, so make sure you'll give them a good cheer if you do!

Looking ahead to 2010, we've already programmed our events. We'll start off the year with the Tufts Beelzebubs concert in January! In April, our Vocal Mania will take on a new shape and a new dimension, being transformed into a full day vocal music event. If you or your group want to be a part of this exciting event, just let us know and contact us as soon as possible.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Your team at The A Cappella Society

[www.a-cappella.org.sg](http://www.a-cappella.org.sg)

*\* These updates are correct to our best knowledge. Should there be any errors, kindly note that they are non-intentional.*

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### **(1) WHAT'S NEW**

#### **The Tufts Beelzebubs feat. SMU Voix - Tote Board approved**

Schools may use The Tote Board Arts Grant to subsidise up to 60% of the cost of this programme.

The Beelzebubs are Tufts University's oldest all-male a cappella group. Founded in 1963, the Bubs have always lived up to their motto, providing "Fun through Song" to audiences of all ages. Today, their diverse repertoire includes many contemporary tunes from all genres; everything from classic rock to more current pop and rock to R&B and rap. They pride themselves on their energetic, musically polished performances and innovative arrangements.

Their recent accomplishments include performances at Fenway Park, at the U.S. Embassy in London, on Good Morning America and Late Night with David Letterman. They have sung for President Bill Clinton, President Barack Obama, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Sen. John Kerry, and Gov. Bill Richardson, and have toured Asia, Europe and all corners of the United States. They were recently featured in the book Pitch Perfect: The Quest for Collegiate A Cappella Glory.

### **(2) UP-COMING EVENTS**

#### **Belle Epoque! European Operettas and Art songs**

4-5 Dec 2009 Fri, 8.00pm Sat, 8.30pm Esplanade Recital Studio Imagine yourself in a fashionable European salon that thrills you with its elegant atmosphere. Intriguing and flamboyant characters take you to Europe at the turn of the 20th century, whilst you listen to Operettas and Art Songs from some of the best known European composers like Jacques Offenbach, Francesco Paolo Tosti, and the British glamour duo Gilbert & Sullivan. This vocal piece will spin a lovely web of anecdotes, love and surprises! With Sopranos Florence Couillet & Sabrina Zuber, Tenors

Timothy Huang & Brendan Keefe Au, Baritones Eu Jin Hwang & Jimmy Teng Music direction & piano by Dr Robert Casteels Conceptualized & directed by Nicole Stinton.

### **Budak Pantai: Happy Songs For A Great Recession**

DATE 17-18 Dec 2009 Thur & Fri, 07:30PM DURATION Approx 90 mins VENUES Esplanade Concert Hall  
Budak Pantai return to the Great Esplanade Concert Hall for two evenings of songs and invaluable tips on how to achieve world peace, beat the recession and regrow hair on your bald patch. Whatever you may have been through these past 12 months, end the year on a high note as the nation's most popular Current Affairs singing group (the only group in this category) take you through all the things you could and should be celebrating in a time like this. Like they always say, "If life gives you lemons, sell them and make a fast buck!" (which is what Budak are doing) Don't miss these unapologetically irreverent funny guys in their two-night concert of eclectic, feel-good songs.

### **Agapella At The Botanics**

Singapore's largest a cappella group, Agapella makes a concerted effort to go green this Christmas! The seven-year-old group will perform at the Singapore Botanic Gardens This month. There's never been a Christmas a cappella performance at the Gardens like this!

This festive season Agapella is excited to be able to sing in the open air while infusing the Gardens with joyful melodies. The audience will be treated to two divine evenings of carols, rendered with Agapella's enchanting blend of pure vocals. From a not-so-*Silent Night*, to the chiming of bells in *Joy To The World*, Agapella performs popular Christmas carols like you've never heard them before. Other crowd favourites are *De King is Born*, seasoned with a relaxed Island feel, and the powerful and riveting *Mary Did You Know*.

Don't miss their rendition of *Little Drummer Boy* complete with a marching band and the audience-favourite *12 Pains of Christmas* - a comic spoof of the 12 Days of Christmas.

Agapella is also proud to introduce five new vocalists at this Christmas performance – Don Buo, Grace Ho, Brenda Lai, Daniel Loke and Lily Ng!

So get ready your picnic mats and baskets and have yourself an Agapella Christmas at the Singapore Botanic Gardens!

**Date: 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> December 2009, (Sat & Sun)**

**Time: 6pm – 7pm**

**Venue: Singapore Botanic Gardens, Shaw Foundation Symphony Stage**

**Admission: FREE!**

Visit [www.sbg.org.sg](http://www.sbg.org.sg) and click on 'Events' for more information of the concert.

### **The Tufts Beelzebubs feat. SMU Voix**

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The event will feature an opening performance by SMU Voix, Singapore's own collegiate A Cappella group from Singapore Management University.

17 January 2010

7.30 PM

The Arts House Chamber

### **Vocal Mania, April 10, The Arts House**

Youth Voices - Songs from Grease, 8 May 10, Esplanade Recital Studio

The Yale Spizzwinks (?), 31 May 10, The Arts House Chamber

A Cappella Championships, 21-23 August 10, The Arts House Chamber & Esplanade Recital Studio

International A Cappella Festival, October 10, The Arts House Chamber & Esplanade Recital Studio

A Cappella XMas Jam, 5 December 10, Esplanade Recital Studio

## **(3) TRAINING PROGRAMMES**

### **POP VOCALS COURSE**

Learn the fundamentals of singing in the style of Beyonce, Rihanna and other pop divas in this course! Singapore's soul sensation, Lim Huimin takes you on a musical exploration of the basics in pop singing, including securing breath control, posture, voice projection and singing through songs. Apart from pop & jazz vocal exercises that will help keep your voice in shape, you will also explore a variety of pop, jazz, mandarin songs and even ballads. This course aims to provide singers with a good foundation in singing technique (posture, breathing, anatomy, support, tone production) and then guide you on how you can use your voice for a variety of musical genres. The next course starts 7 January. [www.a-cappella.org.sg/training.html](http://www.a-cappella.org.sg/training.html)

## **ARTS EDUCATION PROGRAMME 2009/10**

For the next two years we can offer your school two programmes that are NAC approved and eligible for Tote Board subsidy:

### **ROCK POP A CAPPELLA WITH NANU**

The program presents A Cappella singing through an interactive session and demonstrates different styles and how a song is put together. It is a hands-on approach to exploring a cappella singing and vocal percussing. Hosted by a team from The A Cappella Society singing as an a cappella vocal band made up of professional singers, musicians and teachers, the session will introduce 3 tips in singing and share Vocal Percussion tips. Volunteer participation will be encouraged throughout the show and as a result the students will enjoy a highly interactive and very enjoyable and exciting presentation.

## **A CAPPELLA VOCAL JAM**

This light-hearted and highly interactive a cappella jam session will include tips on vocal technique and will encourage the general mass audience to take part in simple and repetitive musical stanzas that are built up into songs. This will be presented with the use of theater stage skills which will help in creating a better atmosphere for the audience to be willing to try their hand at making some music! The simple structure will give the students inspiration to make more of their own tunes come alive with imagination and creativity. Led by two veteran a cappella singers and performers, this session promises to be entertaining, inspiring and intriguing.

More details on our website [www.a-cappella.org.sg](http://www.a-cappella.org.sg)

## **(4) GROUPS**

### **THE A CAPPELLA SOCIETY CHILDREN'S POP AND JAZZ CHOIR**

Finally a choir where children can explore folk, pop and jazz music intrinsically through play, performance and theory.

Open to singers aged 8 to 13, this choir seeks to develop young singers with a good foundation in vocal technique, performance etiquette, musical development and artistic discipline.

The choir will be directed by Angelina Choo-Sassarak, Artistic Director of The A Cappella Society. Rehearsals are on every Saturday from 1pm - 3pm. Please email for an appointment or audition: [contact@a-cappella.org.sg](mailto:contact@a-cappella.org.sg)

### **THE A CAPPELLA SOCIETY YOUTH VOICES AND ADULT TEAM**

Want to learn the techniques of harmonising? Or simply want to immerse yourself in singing in a group? Here's your chance now! Auditions are now open for the youth voices (aged 13- 20) [practices are every Saturday 3pm-6pm.] and the adult team (aged 21 and above) [practices are every Monday 7.30pm]. Interested parties please contact us at [contact@a-cappella.org.sg](mailto:contact@a-cappella.org.sg)

## **TAS GROUPS**

nanu - Singapore's leading all-female A Cappella group

TAS Voices - a diverse contemporary A Cappella group

Acappuccino - a group with a wide repertoire ranging from Pop to Jazz

TAS Youth Voices - Singapore's leading youth A Cappella ensemble

Beatz - a group for today's music with Beatbox and Hip-Hop roots

If you are interested in engaging any of the groups for your event, simply send us an email at [contact@acappella.org.sg](mailto:contact@acappella.org.sg)

## **(5) MEMBERS**

Memberships for 2010 are now available for \$25, contact us for more details!

## **(6) ADMIN**

### **SHOP WINDOW**

<b>No</b>	<b>Artistes</b>	<b>Album Title</b>	<b>Cost</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Vocal Six (Sweden)</b>	<b>International (2007)</b>	<b>S\$25</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Rock4</b>	<b>Bring On The Night (2009)</b>	<b>S\$25</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Key Elements (Singapore)</b>	<b>Jazz For The Record</b>	<b>S\$20</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Agapella (Singapore)</b>	<b>Follow That Star (2007)</b>	<b>S\$20</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Various (Singapore)</b>	<b>Mandarin A Cappella (2001)</b>	<b>S\$10</b>

Shipping : \$2 (Singapore) , \$5 (Overseas)

All items are available in our office or via postal delivery. To order please send us an email at [contact@acappella.org.sg](mailto:contact@acappella.org.sg)

## Contact us

If you would like to submit articles, news and updates, volunteer your services or provide feedback, please do not hesitate to write us! We look forward to hearing from you.

For folks who are keen to join this mailing list, please send us a note to the same address.

The A Cappella Society  
www.a-cappella.org.sg  
[contact@a-cappella.org.sg](mailto:contact@a-cappella.org.sg)

182 Cecil Street  
#02-07 Telok Ayer Performing Arts Centre  
Singapore 069547  
200721181D  
IPC 000630