

Songs for

*The Crossing*

Written & directed by:

Andy Chia



20-21 March 2026

Play Den @ The Arts House



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# Synopsis

A quiet sound emerges in the darkness. The breath of an ancient clay flute traces the space before anything is seen. From this sound, the Kalavinka appears, moving through the room as if marking an unseen path. Moments later, from across the stage, the Soul steps forward. The crossing has begun.

At first, the Soul moves freely, open to the world before him. But as life unfolds, expectations begin to settle onto the body. To be composed. To be capable. To hold everything together. Like many men navigating modern life in a fast-moving city, strength slowly becomes measured by endurance and self-containment. Success is rewarded, silence becomes habit, and solitude begins to feel like the price of adulthood.

Yet beneath the surface, something begins to fracture.

Through nine unfolding rites of music, movement and sound, Songs for the Crossing follows the Soul as he confronts the quiet weight of carrying life alone. Moments of pressure, doubt and memory begin to surface. A deeper question emerges: what has been lost in the pursuit of strength?

Along the way, the Kalavinka reappears not only as a guide, but as a reflection of something the Soul has forgotten within himself. As the journey deepens, the solitary path slowly opens into a gathering. Presences begin to form around him. What once felt like isolation transforms into the possibility of brotherhood, community and shared holding.

Through immersive soundscapes, evocative movement and striking visual worlds, Songs for the Crossing invites audiences to witness a transformation that many quietly long for. In a society that often asks men to endure in silence, the work poses a simple yet profound question: What happens when we stop carrying life alone?

And when the crossing is complete, will something within us awaken too?



# SCENES

## The Nine Rites

Songs for the Crossing unfolds as a sequence of nine rites. Each marks a shift in the journey from solitary endurance toward communal holding.

### Rite 1: The Lone Path

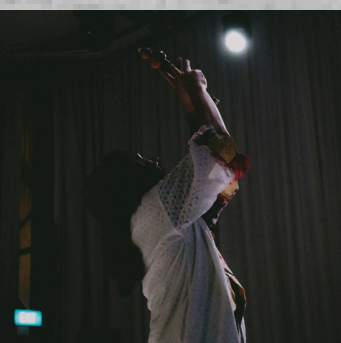
The Kalavinka enters first, tracing the boundaries of an unseen ritual field through breath and clay flute. The Soul appears across the space. The crossing is declared.

### Rite 2: The Journey

The Soul enters uninitiated. Modernity gathers onto the body layer by layer. Composure and durability take form. Silence begins to read as maturity.

### Rite 3: The Splintering

The outer image strengthens as the inner landscape strains. What cannot be named presses against what must be performed.



### Rite 4: The Remembering

An older rhythm surfaces. Not instruction, but memory. The absence of communal holding registers as call.

### Rite 5: The Threshold of the Boatman

The Kalavinka becomes Boatman. The gourd vessel is introduced. The crossing is consented to. What is carried forward is not yet known.

### Rite 6: The Shaman Within

Mid crossing, the guide is revealed not as an external authority but as an awakened capacity. The elixir forms as embodied practice.



### Rite 7: The Gathering

Presence arrives before bodies do. The field expands. Kinship is sensed before it is seen.

### Rite 8: The Return of Brotherhood

Image becomes flesh. The circle is embodied. Guidance begins to diffuse across the group.

### Rite 9: The Many Kalavinkas

The Boatman function dissolves into the ensemble. The I yields to the We. What was carried alone becomes collectively held.

# Post-Show Panel: Masculinity, Vulnerability, and the Work of Becoming

On 21 March, Songs for the Crossing extends into a live panel exploring masculinity, vulnerability, and emotional resilience. Featuring Dr. Glenn Graves, founder of Counseling Perspective, alongside psychologist Marissa Nasution, in dialogue with Andy Yang, Zhuo Zihao and Andy Chia, the session brings clinical insight into conversation with the work's central themes.

Together, they will reflect on the unseen struggles men carry, the tension between strength and vulnerability, and how we might begin to hold ourselves and one another differently.

A space for listening, reflection, and quiet recognition.

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## About Dr. Glenn Graves

Dr. Glenn Graves holds a PhD in Psychology with a specialisation in Creativity. His work centres on healing through expressive arts, shaped by early experiences supporting victims of human trafficking. This foundation has led to a practice dedicated to trauma healing, crisis intervention, and guiding individuals through periods of profound transition.



## About Marissa Nasution

Marissa Nasution is a psychologist who specialises in emotional clarity, regulation, and resilience. Drawing from her training as a Research Psychologist and member of the British Psychological Society, she uses evidence-based approaches including CBT and EFT to support individuals, families, and organisations in navigating complex emotions and creating meaningful change.

# MESSAGE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

This year marks ten years since SAtheCollective was incorporated. What began as a gathering of three musicians has grown into a sonic theatre company with a defined artistic philosophy and an evolving body of work.

In our early years, the impulse was to move beyond the boundaries of our traditional training. We were classically and culturally grounded, and we sought to test the elasticity of those foundations by entering multidisciplinary, and later interdisciplinary, forms. Music began to converse with movement, visual design, spatial composition, and performance structure. Our inquiries also extended across cultural vocabularies, not as fusion for novelty, but as dialogue in search of resonance and integrity. The idea of building a sound-based company was present from the beginning, and through experimentation, collaboration, and reflection, we came to understand more precisely what we were constructing. Sound was the origin of our practice and is the core architecture around which other disciplines gathered. With this, the language of sound theatre emerged.

As the company matured, our work shifted from individual projects to platform building. We developed immersive environments, research initiatives, and academic writing that examined sound as dramaturgy and ritual container. Our focus moved toward the creation of contemporary communal rites, where audiences encounter not only performance, but shared thresholds of experience.

Songs for the Crossing stands within this tenth year as both continuation and refinement. It emerged from a quiet observation that has become increasingly difficult to ignore: across conversations and communities, there is a deep and often unspoken loneliness, especially among men and masculine beings who feel compelled to embody composure and endurance at the cost of tenderness.

In many earlier cultures, transitions in masculine life were marked by rites. Today, those rites are diffuse or absent. Without them, many undertake inner crossings alone, carrying inherited expectations of control, restraint, and self-containment. This work seeks to create a contemplative space in which such crossings can be witnessed and held.

Structured as nine rites, the piece traces a movement from solitude toward collective resonance. The figures of the Kalavinka function as archetypal presences, guiding the soul through thresholds of remembering and renewal. As a sound theatre work, meaning unfolds through vibration, breath, pulse, and silence.

Songs for the Crossing therefore embodies a decade of expanding form, clarifying intention, and deepening our commitment to sound as a living, relational force. This tenth anniversary affirms not only where SAtheCollective has arrived, but how we arrived here. Through disciplined inquiry, collaborative courage, and a sustained belief that sound can shape spaces of collective transformation. If there is an offering in this work and in this milestone, it is the possibility that no crossing needs to be made alone, and that within each of us resides the potential for a more integrated and resonant presence.



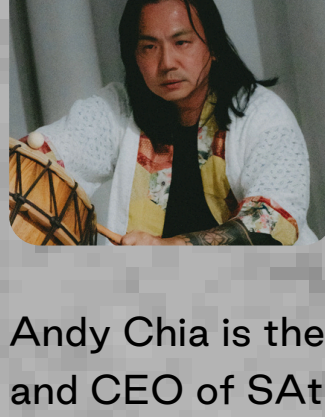
## Andy Chia

Founding Artistic Director and CEO

SAtheCollective

Director / Scriptwriter / Performer

# CAST & ENSEMBLE



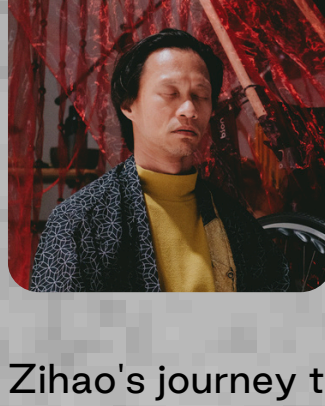
## ANDY CHIA

**Kalavinka**

*Flutes, Voice, Electronics, Percussion*

Andy Chia is the Founding Artistic Director and CEO of SAtheCollective, and a Singapore-based producer, playwright, and director working in contemporary sonic theatre.

An established flutist, multi-instrumentalist, and vocalist, he is rooted in Chinese music and holds a Master of Arts in dizi performance from the Shanghai Conservatory of Music. As the playwright, director, and producer of many of SAtheCollective's works, he shapes interdisciplinary performances through sound, while drawing from intercultural practice and broader regional contexts. His works and collaborations have been presented at festivals across Asia, Europe, and North America, including the Singapore International Festival of the Arts, OzAsia Festival, Sydney Festival, and Angelica Festival Internazionale di Musica. He has also delivered guest lectures, workshops, and talks at institutions such as National Gallery Singapore.

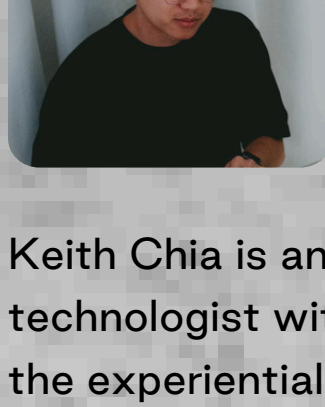


## ZHUO ZIHAO

**The Soul**

*Creative Mover, percussion, voice*

Zihao's journey through the dance world is as inspiring as it is transformative. With 25 years of professional excellence, he has contributed to Singapore's contemporary dance tapestry as a founding member of The Human Expression Dance Company (Associate Artist since 2016) and co-founder of Dance In Situ (2015–2018). In 2016, he stepped into independence, crafting works that dissolve boundaries between body, image, and spirit—Felt. Sense (with 3D projection, 2013), Being ("Best of The Year" 2016 – Straits Times Life!), and Half (with award-winning director Royston Tan, 2022). Honored with the 2012 Young Artist Award, Zihao also pioneered the C.R.A.(M)/P3 framework, a strategic reimagining of performance through Essence Theatre. His belief in movement as a universal language fuels his work with the disabled community, affirming that dance is not merely art—it is access, agency, and alchemy. Zihao's artistry is a living invocation of inclusion, innovation, and soul.

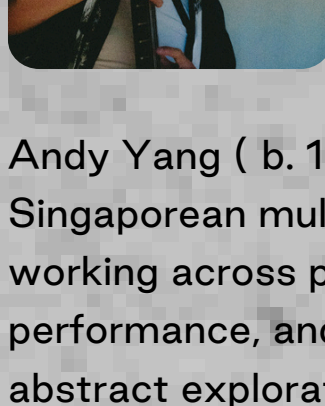


## KEITH CHIA

**The Unborn Child**

*Visuals*

Keith Chia is an audiovisual artist and technologist with an interest in pushing the experiential boundaries of sight and sound. Drawing from his background in computer science, Keith finds ways to push the boundaries of combining art with the ways computers have both simplified our lives, and made it more complex.

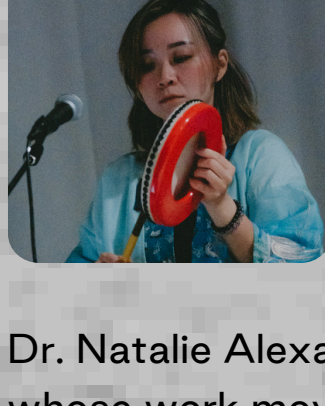


## ANDY YANG

**The Sonic Field**

*Chapman Stick, electronics, percussion, voice*

Andy Yang ( b. 1973 in Malaysia) is a Singaporean multi-disciplinary artist working across painting, drawing, installation, performance, and music for two decades. His abstract explorations in oil, acrylic, and ink demonstrate technical virtuosity across media. Driven by emotion and intuition over rationalization, Yang creates painterly compositions informed by musical concepts of counterpoint and harmony. Notable commissions include customizing Audi's e-tron GT for Singapore Motorshow 2023 and works for Resorts World Sentosa. He has participated in numerous exhibitions and festivals, with performances at Singapore's ArtScience Museum, Asian Civilisations Museum, National Museum and the National Gallery. His works reside in private and public collections internationally.



## NATALIE ALEXANDRA TSE

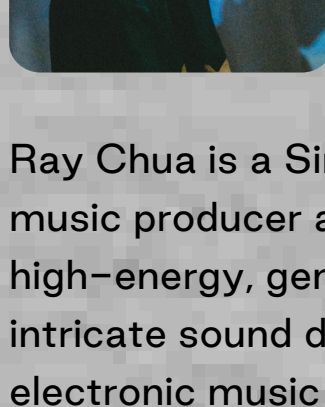
**The Ancestral Voice**

*Guzheng, voice, electronics, percussion*

Dr. Natalie Alexandra Tse is a sound artist whose work moves across performance, pedagogy and research. Rooted in improvisation on the guzheng, voice, objects and environment, she approaches sound not as something to produce, but as a relationship to inhabit — a means of reconnecting with self, others and the more-than-human world.

Her practice centres on SonicPlay™, an artist-developed approach shaped by doctoral research and motherhood. Emerging from babies' innate musicality, SonicPlay treats listening as responsive dialogue, where curiosity, care and awareness precede technique. Here, ancient philosophies of attunement meet contemporary lived experience, inviting participants of all ages into sound as ritual, play and relation. Natalie is co-founder and resident artist of SAtheCollective, leading its Young Audience & Community Engagement, Education and Research initiatives, and founder of LittleCr3atures®, creating immersive sonic environments for young children. As SonicPlay™ Pedagogista and Atelierista at Trehaus School, she develops listening-centred learning spaces that nurture empathy and connection.

Through performance, teaching and scholarship, she works toward cultivating attentive, connected communities where listening becomes a shared way of being in the world.



## RAY CHUA

**The Inner Psyche**

*Electronics, soundscape, beat maker, creative mover*

Ray Chua is a Singapore-based electronic music producer and live performer delivering high-energy, genre-blending sets with intricate sound design. As one half of live electronic music duo OZIRAY, he crafts immersive performances using custom-built instruments, merging technical innovation with creative expression and inviting listeners into ever-evolving, experimental soundscapes.

# CREDITS

## CAST

Andy Chia  
Zhuo Zihao  
Keith Chia  
Andy Yang  
Natalie Alexandra Tse  
Ray Chua

## CREDITS

Producer  
Director  
Script Writer  
Music Composition

Andy Chia  
Andy Chia  
Andy Chia  
Andy Chia  
Natalie Alexandra Tse  
Andy Yang  
Ray Chua

Movement Choreography

Zhuo Zihao  
Andy Chia  
Natalie Alexandra Tse  
Andy Yang  
Ray Chua  
Zhuo Zihao

Production/Stage Manager  
Props maker  
Multimedia Designer  
Sound Engineer  
Lighting Designer  
Costume Designer  
Mask Designer  
Makeup Artist

Irabu Jeannette  
Irabu Jeannette  
Keith Chia  
Mark Spencer  
Irabu Jeannette  
Marvin/9tails  
AnXiang/savechanges.store  
Antonio Cheng  
Cheryl Ow  
Leong Lim

Hair Designer

## MARKETING & PUBLICITY

Head  
Public Relations  
Graphic Designer  
Social Media Marketing  
Videographer  
Trailer Videography

Natalie Alexandra Tse  
Faye Leck  
Fiori Violetta  
Fiori Violetta  
Grace Baey  
Brandon Koh  
Gautam Rajulu  
Henry David  
Terry Chia

Photographers

## ADMIN & OPERATIONS TEAM

Dawn Lim  
Nicoletta Dunareanu  
Maia Dunareanu  
Sofia Dunareanu

## TICKETING TEAM

Ticketing Team  
Elaine Yeo  
Soh Shan Ee

## FRONT OF HOUSE TEAM

Tan Yan Fei  
Nicole Hu

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CORPORATE SPONSOR

# Richfield



OFFICIAL VENUE



OFFICIAL TECH PARTNER



OFFICIAL TICKETING PARTNER



SAtheCollective is supported by the National Arts Council under the Major Company Scheme for the period from April 2025–March 2027

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## THANK YOU

TumbleWeed  
The Artground  
Bcube  
savechanges.store  
9tailsart  
SA Sonic Stewards

## SPECIAL THANKS

(POST-SHOW PANEL)

Marissa Nasution  
Dr. Glenn Graves, Counseling Perspectives

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## SUPPORTED BY



**CITYMUSIC**  
ESTD 1968



**STUDIO**

# ABOUT SAtheCollective

SAtheCollective was founded in 2016 and has since evolved into a Singapore-based sonic theatre company known for its interdisciplinary and intercultural approach to performance-making.

Our work begins with sound. Rooted in music yet extending beyond it, we create contemporary sonic theatre in which sound functions not simply as accompaniment, but as primary dramaturgy, shaping space, attention, emotion, and the audience's passage through each work.

At the heart of SAtheCollective's practice is a commitment to building contemporary communal rites. Drawing from diverse artistic languages and cultural vocabularies, we create performances, immersive environments, and research-driven projects that invite reflection, resonance, and shared experience. Our works explore the tensions and possibilities of contemporary life while remaining grounded in artistic rigour, symbolic depth, and collaborative inquiry.

What began as an encounter between artists seeking to move beyond the boundaries of their traditional training has grown into a distinct artistic platform that brings together music, theatre, visual design, movement, ritual structures, and spatial composition. Through this expanded practice, SAtheCollective continues to investigate how sound can hold narrative, memory, transformation, and collective presence.

Based in Singapore, the company has presented works across festivals, institutions, and cultural platforms locally and internationally, while contributing to broader conversations on sound, interdisciplinarity, and contemporary performance. Alongside performance-making, SAtheCollective is invested in research, dialogue, and the cultivation of new artistic possibilities within Singapore's arts landscape and beyond.

As SAtheCollective enters its tenth year, it continues to shape a body of work that is distinctly rooted in sound and oriented towards the future, creating experiences that are immersive, reflective, and resonant, while advancing sonic theatre as a vital form within contemporary performance.



# SAtheCollective TEAM

## OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Tan Siok Sun** – Co-Chair

**Wang Renyi** – Co-Chair

**Goh Ching Lee**

**Nicholas Tee**

**Andy Yang**

**Phang Kok Jun**

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**Andy Chia**

Founding Artistic  
Director/CEO

**Natalie Alexandra Tse**

Founding Artistic Director

## ARTISTIC

**Andy Yang**

Associate Artistic Director

**Zhuo Zihao**

Associate Artistic Director

**Young Audience, Community  
Engagement, Education and Research**

**Dr. Natalie Alexandra Tse**

## ADMINISTRATION

**Dawn Lim**

Admin Executive

**Fiori Violetta**

Assistant Admin

## MARKETING & COMMUNICATION

**Natalie Alexandra Tse**

# BECOME A SONIC STEWARD

If **Songs for the Crossing** has resonated with you, we invite you to take the next step with us.

This tenth anniversary marks not only a milestone, but a commitment to the future of sonic theatre in Singapore. Works of this depth require more than ticket sales and grants. They require individuals who believe that ritual, listening, and communal presence remain essential to contemporary life.

We invite you to join our **Sonic Steward** programme.

A Sonic Steward is not merely a donor. A Sonic Steward protects the conditions that allow sound to lead meaning. Your stewardship sustains rehearsal time, interdisciplinary collaboration, technical refinement, and the disciplined care required to hold ritual space responsibly.

Stewardship ensures that future works can be developed with integrity rather than compromise. It allows artists to continue refining sonic theatre as a distinctive form rooted in listening, symbolic density, and relational presence.

As a Sonic Steward, you journey with us beyond a single production. You help shape the next crossings.

We would be honoured to share more about the programme and its tiers of stewardship. If you feel called to support the continuation of this work, we invite you to speak with us in confidence.

The crossing is sustained when it is held.

## Be a Sonic Steward of SAtheCollective!



Sonic Stewards is SAtheCollective's annual giving programme. Your contribution directly supports the creation and presentation of our sound theatre works, as well as artist development and community engagement, so that sound and resonance can continue to move audiences and strengthen cultural life in Singapore.

**SAtheCollective is An IPC from 23 November 2025 to 22 August 2026**

### Stewardship Tiers

- **Amethyst (Founding Patron)**  
**SGD 150,000+**  
80 Tickets · 250% Tax Deduction · Priority Booking · Exclusive Discounts & Invites · Promotional Acknowledgment
- **Sapphire**  
**SGD 75,000 – 149,999**  
40 Tickets · 250% Tax Deduction · Priority Booking · Exclusive Discounts & Invites · Promotional Acknowledgment
- **Aquamarine**  
**SGD 30,000 – 74,999**  
20 Tickets · 250% Tax Deduction · Priority Booking · Discounts & Invites · Annual Report Acknowledgment
- **Amazonite**  
**SGD 10,000 – 29,999**  
10 Tickets · 250% Tax Deduction · Priority Booking · Discounts & Invites · Annual Report Acknowledgment
- **Citrine**  
**SGD 5,000 – 9,999**  
6 Tickets · 250% Tax Deduction · Early Access · Discounts & Invites · Annual Report Acknowledgment
- **Garnet**  
**SGD 1,000 – 4,999**  
4 Tickets · 250% Tax Deduction · Early Access · Discounts & Invites
- **Tourmaline**  
**SGD 500 – 999**  
2 Tickets · 250% Tax Deduction · Discounts & Invites
- **Moonstone**  
**SGD 100 to below SGD 500**  
250% Tax Deduction

*Donations will be made in Singapore dollars*

**BECOME A SONIC STEWARDS**

**DONATE NOW**