

Press Release



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Workshop For Local Students with Korean Star Siwon Choi And Film Director Dante Lam

*Exclusive Movie Magic Discussion was part of
Sands for Singapore Charity Festival*

Singapore (5 August 2015) – Nearly 30 film and arts students experienced a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to get up close and personal with Korean superstar Siwon Choi and award-winning Hong Kong film director Dante Lam in an intimate *Movie Magic Discussion* organised by Marina Bay Sands today.

Students from ITE Central's School of Design and Media, Temasek Polytechnic's School of Design, and Nanyang Technological University's School of Art, Design and Media enjoyed a riveting discussion on the mechanics of creating *To The Fore*, the latest sports-action blockbuster directed by Lam and starring Choi. Set in the world of competitive cycling, *To The Fore* is an intense sports drama focusing on the friendships of professional cyclists. The technically demanding movie was shot in several countries including Hong Kong, Taiwan, Korea and Inner Mongolia.

The exclusive 30-minute Director's Workshop was one of 29 activities that form Marina Bay Sands' annual Sands for Singapore Charity Festival, a 10-day event to raise funds for more than 80 local charities and give back to local society.

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At the *Movie Magic Discussion*, both Lam and Choi gave an inside look into the film's production and the challenges they faced in bringing the movie to life, gamely participating in an active dialogue with the students.



Image of students posing with Choi Siwon and Dante Lam at Movie Magic Discussion

"I appreciate the chance to be able to spend time with the director and star of *To The Fore*. It's been an invaluable experience and I hope there will be more such opportunities," said Mr. Lo Tsz Wang, 23, a second-year film major at NTU who attended today's workshop.

Mr. George Tanasijevich, President and Chief Executive Officer of Marina Bay Sands, says: "Providing opportunities for the growth of local artistic talent is paramount to our Sands for Singapore CSR program. We always look to find or create opportunities for young Singaporeans to reach their ultimate potential and build on the future of Singapore's vibrant arts scene. By giving students a chance to learn from some of the best in the entertainment business, today's *Movie Magic Discussion* is one of the many ways we champion the arts."

Earlier in the day, Lam and Choi were at a press conference at ArtScience Museum for the movie, which opens in cinemas island-wide on August 6. They also mingled with fans of Choi, who is a member of Korean boy group Super Junior, in a meet-and-greet session at The Skating Rink located at The Shoppes at Marina Bay Sands.

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The atmosphere at the Skating Rink was electrifying as Choi and Lam were greeted by hundreds of fans in the evening, some of whom had waited since morning to catch a glimpse of their idol Choi in the flesh.



Image of Choi Siwon posing with his fans in the background at the meet-and-greet session



Image of Dante Lam (L) and Choi Siwon engaging fans at the meet-and-greet session

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Image of fans screaming for Choi Siwon at the meet-and-greet session

The Skating Rink is where the public can get to the heart of the action during the Sands for Singapore Charity Festival. During the annual charity event, which runs from 31 July to 9 August, they can watch free screenings, such as DreamWorks Animation film Madagascar on 7 August, and a performance by home-grown singer-songwriter Gareth Fernandez on 8 August at 6pm.

The public is also encouraged to pen a heartfelt message to local beneficiaries at a Heart Appeal booth at the Skating Rink. These Heart Cards can be obtained from box offices, hotel and retail concierges around Marina Bay Sands.

For more information on the events during the Sands for Singapore Charity Festival, visit the website at www.marinabaysands.com/sandsforsingapore or join the conversation online with #sandsforsingapore.

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Marina Bay Sands is the leading business, leisure and entertainment destination in Asia. It features large and flexible convention and exhibition facilities, 2,560 hotel rooms and suites, the rooftop Sands SkyPark, the best shopping mall in Asia, world-class celebrity chef restaurants and an outdoor event plaza. Its two theatres showcase a range of leading entertainment performances including world-renowned Broadway shows. Completing the line-up of attractions is ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands which plays host to permanent and marquee exhibitions. For more information, please visit www.marinabaysands.com