

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***SCAPE Creative Arts Festival comma Makes a Comeback:
A Celebration of Youth Artistry and Community Spirit**

- *comma* showcases the vibrant creative landscape of talented youth through a diverse range of arts across dance, music, visual arts and interdisciplinary forms.
- Embodying the Somerset Belt's commitment to innovative expression and cultural growth, *comma* invites youth to creatively challenge the status quo with its festival theme "Disruption".
- *comma* will run from 12 to 28 January 2024.

Singapore, 4 December 2023 - The heart of youth creativity beats stronger this season as *SCAPE proudly announces the return of its heralded Creative Arts Festival, *comma*. For its second year, the festival reaffirms its commitment to youth development and community building by presenting an immersive showcase from 12 to 28 January 2024, including the much-anticipated Music Day Out on 13 and 14 January.

Themed "Disruption", this year's festival concept reflects *SCAPE's current state of its placemaking refresh, inspiring the event's overall aesthetic. The theme not only challenges youth artists to defy norms and break barriers, but also invites audiences to experience *SCAPE's ongoing transformation. Its unique setting provides a compelling backdrop to showcase and celebrate young artists, dancers, and musicians.

Organised specifically to spotlight budding youth talent, *comma* sets itself apart by featuring a dynamic array of performances and exhibitions by young creators that celebrate youthful creativity, while serving as a safe space for those who are interested in exploring and discovering new art disciplines and bridging different genres.

As a key programme of the Somerset Belt, industry stakeholders such as RAW Moves (Contemporary Dance), World Supremacy Battlegrounds (Street Dance), and Steady State Records (Music) will also be involved to enhance mentorship, cross-disciplinary engagement, and professional growth for the artists of tomorrow.

"We are impressed by the creative energies of the young people who have journeyed with us at *SCAPE. At *comma*, we want to celebrate their creative pursuits and showcase the vibrant creative scene at *SCAPE and the Somerset Belt. This underscores *SCAPE's effort in creating the space with boundless possibilities for youths and fostering purpose-driven

communities of artists to experiment, create, and redefine creative boundaries,” said Ivy Lim, Executive Director of *SCAPE.

A ‘Disruption’ in Artistic Expression

comma refreshes the eclectic canvas of Singapore’s art scene, highlighting the fresh perspectives of local youth at the crossroads of contemporary arts. The exhibitions and performances delve into the creative minds of young artists, revealing the unique interpretations of their place in the world today. Audiences can anticipate an array of diverse art forms, echoing the voices of youth culture, sparking conversations, and reflecting the realities of our times through the vibrant lens of youth. Highlights include:

- *comma*’s **Music Day Out!** celebrates independent music and its DIY ethos – presenting an electrifying showcase of artists from the ground up. Its upcoming 2024 edition features a cutting-edge lineup of Singaporean artists that includes all-girl hardcore trailblazers **Fuse**, shoegaze heroes **Blush**, math-pop stalwarts **Woes**, and many more. The region’s best kept secrets will also be joining them, with exhilarating sets from **Leipzig** (Indonesia), **No Good** (Malaysia), and **Gabba** (Philippines). Tickets are on sale from 4 Dec at <https://bit.ly/MDO2024>
- Music Day Out! not only showcases live performances, but also emphasises industry growth through informative sharing sessions. These sessions will focus on critical topics such as touring strategies and artiste best practices. Additionally, with increased regional participation this year, there will be a closed-door networking event aimed at fostering cross-border collaborations. Further details on these sessions will be announced shortly.
- Vibrant exhibition spaces at *SCAPE Playspace that will be dedicated for *comma*’s youth creatives. Each space is set to showcase a variety of innovative and disruptive youth expressions, spanning game design, entrepreneurship, and the energetic dance form krumping. For detailed information on each showcase, please refer to the Annexe.
- A unique and immersive experience with local visual artist Jamela Law’s **Scars, Skins and Styles: Physical Transfigurations** that pushes the envelope with digital and virtual technologies melding with themes of fashion, mental health, identity, and personal evolution.
- **Experimentation Ground**, a showcase where art refuses to be categorised. Audiences at The Ground Theatre during the second week will be treated to two transformative works that daringly blend disciplines to redefine the essence of performance. Afiszan Amat’s **Tapping** merges everyday digital actions with performance, prompting reflection on technology’s impact on daily lives while Hee

Suhui's **III Behaviour** mixes sound art, performance art and physical storytelling, offering a raw, humorous take on personal and collective experiences.

Dance enthusiasts are also invited to dive into the rhythm and partake in a series of interactive dance events. At **HOMEGROUND**, dance studios, communities and crews converge to showcase and celebrate their passion and prowess, elevating street dance to new heights, while the ***SCAPE Dance Residency** highlights contemporary dance work from four emerging local choreographers that will also be featured in Singapore Arts Week 2024. Additionally, the **Street Dance Intensives Masterclasses** will allow participants to be mentored by renowned dancers such as Sue from Chibi Unity (Japan) and Tank Bautista (Philippines).

Apart from Music Day Out and Street Dance Masterclasses, all other programmes at comma are Free Admission.

In addition, *comma* festival goes this year can look forward to indulging in a variety of food options at the festival village held at the *SCAPE Playspace. Other activities feature young entrepreneurs or crafters in thrift fashion, handmade jewellery, and zine-making.

Held in the Somerset Belt, *comma* aligns with the precinct's mission to engage and empower youth. Leveraging Somerset's vibrant spaces at *SCAPE and Somerset Youth Park, this festival empowers young creators to meet, collaborate, and showcase their work by turning these spaces into active hubs of youth-led art, innovation, and expression.

comma is organised by *SCAPE, an organisation that supports the development of Singaporean youth, through empowering them to realise their potential. To find about more or register for comma, please visit <https://www.scape.sg/comma/>

Media invites for the opening night will be extended closer to the date.

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About *SCAPE

*SCAPE Co., Ltd. is a non-profit organisation, a registered charity, and an Institution of a Public Character that engages and nurtures youth by developing their talents. At *SCAPE, we offer a holistic network of programmes, communities, and facilities to support youth in their pursuit of interests and passion areas. Together with our partners, we inspire and empower our youth to **DREAM IT, LIVE IT!**

For more information, visit www.scape.sg.

About comma

comma is a creative arts festival by *SCAPE that brings youth together through a series of curated programmes focusing on music, dance, and visual arts. Inaugurated on 16 December 2022, this year's festival will celebrate the vibrancy of our local youth and their artistic talents, while paying homage to Singapore's budding creative scene.

Aptly titled *comma*, which indicates an unfinished sentence, this festival reflects the fluidity of the arts and never-ending pursuit for excellence among our young creatives. With that, *comma* spotlights interdisciplinary art forms that showcases the collaborative spirit of local youth artists, which is a defining aspect of the local arts scene and a nod to the diversity of talents in Singapore. Featuring an array of creatives who have journeyed with *SCAPE over the years through mentorships, incubations, or residencies, *comma* continues to underscore *SCAPE's commitment to supporting local youth.

With *SCAPE's current refresh underway, *comma* also represents *SCAPE's transitional stage that invites youth and audiences to play a part in shaping its future.

About Somerset Belt

The Somerset Belt is set to be a vibrant youth precinct, as part of the Government's wider plan to rejuvenate Orchard Road into a must-visit lifestyle and leisure destination. It aims to build youth identity and support youth aspirations by providing youths with the opportunity to implement ideas and shape the space into something they can call their own. Spaces within the Somerset Belt aim to foster greater interactions among youth, and will cater to a variety of youth interests, sub-cultures and lifestyles.

Keep in touch with us on Instagram at [@somersetbeltsg](https://www.instagram.com/somersetbeltsg).



ANNEXE - Line-up of Activities at comma 2024

Artist	Title of Work	Schedule	Synopsis									
Music Day Out!												
1. Leipzig (ID) 2. No Good (MY) 3. Fuse 4. Blush 5. Golden Mammoth (MY) 6. Woes 7. Gabba (PH) 8. Naedr 9. Bellied Star 10. Intermission 11. Regina Song 12. Impulse - ITE Battle of the Bands Winner 13. Guest Programmers	Music Day Out!	13 - 14 January 2024 Time: 5PM - 11PM Venue: *SCAPE, The Ground Theatre Sharing Session: What's Tour Life Like? 14 January 2024 1PM - 1:45PM Venue: Gallery Touring always seems like so much fun but join us as artists share their best practices and pitfalls to avoid.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tickets are on sale from 4 December 2023 at https://bit.ly/MDO2024 Early Bird Specials (until 1 January 2024, 11:59PM) <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Day 1 or 2</th> <th>2-Day Bundle</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Early Bird Specials</td> <td>\$25.00</td> <td>\$30.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>General Admission</td> <td>\$30.00</td> <td>\$40.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Day 1 or 2	2-Day Bundle	Early Bird Specials	\$25.00	\$30.00	General Admission	\$30.00	\$40.00
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Community Arts Residency												
Jamela Law	Scars, Skins and Styles: Phygital Transfigurations	13 - 28 January 2024 11AM - 8PM Venue: *SCAPE, #02-07/08	This community art project aims to bring to light invisible battles fought, celebrate those of us who have emerged from life changing experiences and to foster dialogue on Mental Health.									

Artist	Title of Work	Schedule	Synopsis
			<p>Digital Technologies and Fashion Co-Designing are explored as experimental Art Therapy tools to harness the power of Enclothed Cognition, and for mediation, introspection, and reinvention in Virtual Reality.</p> <p>Custom hyper-realistic digital avatars are constructed with the help of 3D scanning technologies and generative systems. The artist (Jamela Law, she/ they) aims to create warm-hearted, celebratory, and inclusive networks that promote healing and bridge interpersonal distances, one metamorphosis at a time.</p>
MOV:MENT Lab			
Grace Song	Body Missing Body	<p>MOV:MENT Lab Dance Film Premiere Screening 13 January 2024 1PM - 4PM Venue: Projector @ Cineleisure (By invite only)</p>	Post-war Japanese avant-garde dance form exploring separation and memory.
Sonia Kwek & Elsa Tan	hard boil, soft centre		Film inspired by feminine archetypes across cultures.
Amanda Tan & Jonit On	FR:AGILITY		Film exploring abstract human form and movement.
Jeremy Ho & Liz Sgt Tan	I Summon You	<p>MOV:MENT Lab Exhibition 13 - 28 January 2024 2PM - 8:30PM</p>	Dance reflecting artist's journey and mother's influence.

Artist	Title of Work	Schedule	Synopsis
		Venue: *SCAPE Level 3 (#03-07/08/09)	
Experimentation Ground			
Afizzan Amat	';W[qw-u9 "TAPPING"	<p>The Ground Theatre 20 January 2024</p> <p>';W[qw-u9 "TAPPING" First Show: 2PM - 3PM (with post-show talk) Second Show: 7:30PM - 8:15PM</p> <p>ILL BEHAVIOUR First Show: 3:30PM - 4:30PM (with post-show talk) Second Show: 8:30PM - 9:30PM</p>	<p>Performance challenging the ritualistic use of smartphones.</p> <p>Tapping: Performance challenging the ritualistic use of smartphones.</p> <p>Ill Behaviour: mixes sound art, performance art and physical storytelling, offering a raw, humorous take on personal and collective experiences.</p> <p>Registration: https://www.eventbrite.sg/e/experimentation-ground-showcase-tickets-768290005087</p>
Hee Suhui	ILL BEHAVIOUR		
HOMEGROUND - Street Dance Production & Bloc Party			
		27 January 2024 7:30PM - 11:30PM	A street-dance production and bloc party that serves as the ultimate gathering of local talents and a celebration of the community spirit.

Artist	Title of Work	Schedule	Synopsis
		Venue: *SCAPE The Ground Theatre	Registration: https://www.eventbrite.sg/e/homeground-2024-tickets-765176281857
Shean Buligis	Paper Trails	27 January 2024 7:30PM - 11:30PM	Exploration of movement inspired by chaos.
Priscilla	Enneagram 2		Dance delving into self-love and emotional complexity.
Aisyah Hanafi	Providence	Venue: *SCAPE The Ground Theatre	Exploring the interconnection of individual and collective existence.
*SCAPE Dance Residency Showcase			
		19 January 2024 8:15PM - 8:45PM	
		20 January 2024 3:45PM - 4:15PM 8:15PM - 8:45PM	
Jeremy Loh	Manufactured Nature	Venue: *SCAPE Outdoor Area	Reflects on humanity's alienation from nature.
		19 January 2024 7:30PM - 8PM	
		20 January 2024 3PM - 3:30PM 7:30PM - 8PM	
Ignatius	all-seeing	Venue: *SCAPE #02-05/06	Examines the parallels between CCTVs and human behaviour.



Artist	Title of Work	Schedule	Synopsis
Kimberly Sim	Look At Me	19 January 2024 7:30PM - 8PM 20 January 2024 3PM - 3:30PM 7:30PM - 8PM Venue: *SCAPE #02-05/06	A dance about self-expression beyond societal judgment.
Shanna	Hitoiki	19 January 2024 8:15PM - 8:45PM 20 January 2024 3:45PM - 4:15PM 8:15PM - 8:45PM Venue: *SCAPE Outdoor Area	Dance symbolising the breath of life through various forms.
Street Dance Intensives with Sue from Chibi Unity (Japan) and Tank Bautista (Philippines)			
Tank Bautista (Philippines)		25 January 2024 7:30PM - 9:30PM Venue: *SCAPE The Ground Theatre	Tickets at \$35. On sale from 4 Dec: https://www.eventbrite.sg/e/street-dance-intensives-with-sue-from-chibi-unity-and-tank-bautista-tickets-768307617767



Artist	Title of Work	Schedule	Synopsis
Sue from Chibi Unity (Japan)		26 Jan 2024 7:30PM - 9:30PM Venue: *SCAPE The Ground Theatre	
The Uncontained Collective: The Out-of-Box Zone			
Roar City Grounds	Krump Exhibition	19-21, 26-28 Jan 2024 5PM - 10PM Venue: Container @ *SCAPE Playspace	A film and interactive exhibition on Krumping presented by *SCAPE's resident interest group.
*SCAPE Budding Game Developers	Game Demos	12-14, 19-21, 26-28 Jan 5PM - 10PM Venue: Container @ *SCAPE	Game Developers from *SCAPE's very own Up Your Game and Rookie Game Jam showcase their unique and innovative games!
Creative Fellowship	Game-Changing Pitches	Playspace	Young Entrepreneurs from the Creative Fellowship programme display their innovative or disruptive business ideas.
OTHER ACTIVITIES			
World Supremacy Battlegrounds			
-	-	26, 27, 28 January 2024 12PM - 7PM	WSB ASIA International Championship brings together the best dancers from diverse backgrounds, fostering



Artist	Title of Work	Schedule	Synopsis
		Venue: *SCAPE The Ground Theatre	cultural exchange and unity through the universal language of dance.
KDO - K-pop Random Play Dance			
		12 January 2024 7PM - 10PM Venue: *SCAPE The Treetop	Gathering of K-pop enthusiasts, grooving to the latest K-Pop tunes.