

NEWS RELEASE

Sentosa Spooktacular: There Will be No Fort Siloso

Halloween venue for Sentosa Spooktacular transforms into an immersive haunted village, Laddaland



One of the many houses featured in haunted village Laddaland in Sentosa Spooktacular 2014

Singapore, October 2014 — Sentosa Spooktacular returns this Halloween with a renewed, more immersive and integrated experience for visitors, where the boundaries of once Fort Siloso and new haunted village *Laddaland* will be blurred. This is the result of a returning partnership between Sentosa Leisure Management Pte Ltd and Thai film production studio, GMM Tai Hub Co. Ltd (GTH), as both organisations combine their expertise in destination and production capabilities to deliver the experience of being enveloped in a bone-chilling walkthrough for horror fans.

All 40,000 square metres of Fort Siloso will be transformed into a haunted residential zone, and visitors to Sentosa Spooktacular's *Laddaland* will venture through basements and houses just as how they would explore a new neighbourhood they just moved into. Visitors will experience an extended walkthrough each lasting about 20 to 30 minutes, and make a prolonged heart-pounding journey as they brace themselves for anticipated twists and turns, as well as sudden shocking moments. Fort Siloso's combined natural settings, existing artilleries and tunnels present excellent assets to transform into the interior of houses and facility buildings, tracing the journey of spirits and souls who once lived in those houses, and may still lurk in the dark.

The transformation of Fort Siloso into *Laddaland* in Sentosa Spooktacular 2014 is based on GTH's well-received movie, *Laddaland*; story has it that a family of four started on a new life journey and moved into Laddaland, ready to settle in a beautiful home they could call their own and live their dreams. Laddaland contains a dark secret – a ruthless murder of a Burmese maid in their neighbour's house, whose mangled body was found stuffed inside a refrigerator. Other featured houses in *Laddaland* will also highlight GTH's other popular movies including *The Swimmers, Alone,* and *Countdown.* The journey through these haunted houses will take visitors through an altered

state of mind, twisted pathways underground and underwater, and many other familiar scenes from the movies.

[Please refer to Annex A for details on Laddaland, The Swimmer, Alone and Countdown]

Said Mr. Jimmy Wong, Events Director of Sentosa Leisure Management Pte Ltd, "As our audience's appetite for horror experiences increases, we explore the idea of immersing them in a veil of horror through the intricate blend of Fort Siloso's natural settings and Thai horror movies' fear-inducing elements. Our partnership with GTH enables us to tap into the brilliant minds of their acclaimed movie directors, who are able to creatively maximise our events expertise and natural allure of Sentosa's history and attractions."

"We are extremely excited to be working on Sentosa Spooktacular again. We have learned so much about Fort Siloso and its potential to transform into a horror set last year, and have returned with bigger and bolder ideas to stretch our fans' wildest imaginations as we take them through many heart-stopping moments of fear, prolonged suspense, and a complete perception change. By using our experience and understanding of creating horror films, we have adapted these elements to memorable real-life experiences – of the smell of fear, the cold perspiration running down one's nape, and the audible hints of what lies ahead," said Mr. Yongyoot Thongkongtoon, Senior Director of International Business for GTH.¹

[Please refer to **Annex B** for profiles of GTH directors]

Visitors' experiences are top priority for Sentosa and GTH. Sentosa Spooktacular has also clinched a Silver award in the Grand Pinnacle category of 2014 IFEA/Haas & Wilkerson Pinnacle Awards, being the **only** Singapore organisation to win a place in this annual global award, presented by the International Festival & Events Association (IFEA). The IFEA/Haas & Wilkerson Pinnacle Awards Competition is a prestigious global award competition that recognises the world's most outstanding festivals and events to continually drive the industry's standards to new levels.

TICKETS ON SALE NOW

For more information, check out the Sentosa Spooktacular website (<u>www.spooktacular.com.sg</u>) and Facebook page (<u>www.facebook.com/sentosa.spooktacular</u>), where fear-enthusiasts can join in the journey of what lurks in *Laddaland*. Tickets can be purchased from the Spooktacular website (<u>www.spooktacular.com.sg</u>), or from Sentosa ticketing counters.

The work-in-progress (back-of-house) images of Sentosa Spooktacular's *Laddaland* can be downloaded from the following link:

https://drive.google.com/a/sprg.com.sg/folderview?id=0B1ift8cZ9JdwSmVFOTZQcVpERDg&usp=sh aring

Please credit all images to: Sentosa Spooktacular

¹ Mr. Yongyoot Thongkongtoon's cinematic experience include his role as producer in Thai horror hits *Dorm (2006), Alone (2007), Body (2007), 4BIA (2008), Coming Soon (2008), and Phobia 2 (2009).*

Please refer to the following for details on Sentosa Spooktacular 2014

Event:	Sentosa Spooktacular 2014 Jointly produced by GTH						
Date:	11 th , 17 th , 18 th , 24 th , 25 th , & 31 st October, 1 st November 2014						
Time:	7pm – 1 am Last entry into Fort Siloso at 9.30pm, unless otherwise stated						
Horror Features:	 Laddaland Alone Countdown The Swimmers *New Movie* 						
Tickets:	Standard Ticket / Buy 5 Get 1 Free Bundle	\$66.60 / \$333.00	Bundle Deal for selected dates are sold out. The rest of Bundle Deal tickets are selling fast. Check website for updates				
	Yin Yang Pass	\$40.60	Only available on 25 th October & 1 st November only Valid only for entry after 11pm Last entry at 12 midnight				
	Kia Gui Pass (No Trail Pass)	\$16.60	No haunted house pass Top up at \$50 on-site to upgrade to Standard Ticket				
	All-trails Fast Pass (3 Trails)	Top up \$32.00	Valid between 4 June to 1 November While stocks last!				
	Fast Pass	Top up \$32.00	Access to 3 Houses				
		Top up \$15.00	1 House Fast Pass Only available for sale on-site				
Tickets Available at:	Sentosa Spooktacular Website: <u>http://www.spooktacular.com.sg;</u> Sentosa Ticketing Counters.						

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FOR MEDIA ENQUIRES

Please contact Strategic Public Relations Group (SPRG)

Viviane Then		Gwendoline Lee		Clarice Luo	
DID:	+(65) 6325 8271	DID:	+(65) 6325 8184	DID:	+(65) 6325 8270
MOBILE:	+(65) 9735 5318	MOBILE:	+(65) 9126 7721	MOBILE:	+(65) 9152 1527
viviane.then@sprg.com.sg		gwendoline.lee@sprg.com.sg		clarice.luo@sprg.com.sg	

ABOUT SENTOSA SPOOKTACULAR

Sentosa Spooktacular is a signature Halloween event held annually every October on Sentosa island. Since its conceptualisation in 2009, Sentosa Spooktacular has cemented its unique positioning as *Asia's Scariest Fun*, featuring only Asian ghosts and ghouls. Organised by Sentosa Leisure Management, this event has steadily grew from 3,000 visitors in 2009 to 15,000 visitors in 2013.

Asia's Scariest Fun is a concoction of horror and humour embedded in the rich history of Sentosa's early beginnings as a prison camp during the World War II Japanese Occupation, the scare elements of Asia ghosts and tortured spirits, and the humour element that is signature of Asian horror movies and stories passed down from generation to generation.

Having already established a reputation for being one of the largest Halloween event in Asia, Sentosa kicked its horror quotient up a notch for thrill-seekers by collaborating with GMM Tai Hub Co. Ltd – one of Thailand's leading movie production studios – to bring Thai movie-themed trails into the 2013 version of Sentosa Spooktacular. In 2014, Sentosa renewed a 3-year collaboration with GMM Tai Hub Co. Ltd to continually provide high-octane and fresh experiences at Sentosa Spooktacular.

ABOUT SENTOSA ISLAND

Sentosa is Asia's leading leisure destination and Singapore's premier island resort getaway, located within 15 minutes from the central business and shopping districts. The island resort is managed by Sentosa Leisure Management Pte Ltd, a subsidiary of Sentosa Development Corporation (SDC). SDC works with various stakeholders in overseeing property investments, attractions development, and operation of the various leisure offerings and management of the residential precinct on the island. The Corporation also manages the Southern Islands, and owns Mount Faber Leisure Group which manages the Faber Peak and Singapore's only cable car service.

The 500-hectare island resort is home to an exciting array of themed attractions, award-winning spa retreats, lush rainforests, golden sandy beaches, resort accommodations, world-renowned golf courses, a deep-water yachting marina and luxurious residences - making Sentosa a vibrant island resort for business and leisure. Making Sentosa its home, too, is Singapore's first integrated resort, Resorts World Sentosa, which operates South East Asia's first Universal Studios theme park.

Situated on the eastern end of Sentosa Island is Sentosa Cove, an exclusive residential enclave. By 2014, it will be bustling with some 2,000 homes, romantic quayside restaurants, retail and specialty shops. Offering Singapore's only truly oceanfront residences, Sentosa Cove is fast becoming the world's most desirable address.

The Island is also proud to be home to Sentosa Golf Club and its two acclaimed golf courses, The Serapong and The Tanjong. In 2013, Sentosa Golf Club hosted the HSBC Women's Champions, featuring some of the world's best female golf professionals. This prestigious ladies event will continue teeing off at the Serapong till 2015.

Since 2006, Asia's richest national open, the annual Barclays Singapore Open, has teed off on The Serapong with star-studded line-ups featuring international players and golf professionals from Asia, Europe and the USA playing to nail-biting finishes.

Welcoming a growing number of local and international guests every year, Sentosa is an integral part of Singapore's goal to be a global destination to work, live and play. For more information, please visit <u>www.sentosa.com.sg</u>

ABOUT GMM TAI HUB CO. LTD.

Since its founding in 2004, GTH has been an influential player in the contemporary Thai cinema industry, being a fully integrated studio committed to producing, marketing and distributing commercially successful movies. GTH's major international hits include Thailand's highest grossing box office hit *Pee Mark*, highly-acclaimed horror film *Shutter* (remade by Hollywood), *Alone*, *4BIA* (Phobia), *Phobia 2, Laddaland*, and the wonderful coming-of-age drama *My Girl*, the critically praised *Dorm, Best of Times, The Little Comedian*, and the commercially successful *4BIA*, *Phobia 2, BTS – Bangkok Traffic (Love) Story, Hello Stranger, ATM, and Seven Something*.

With its position in the local film scene secured after a string of hits and critically acclaimed productions, GTH has also been reaching out to international audiences through films of universal appeal, made by some of the most recognized talents in Thailand.

Over the past years the studio has attracted a number of Thai directors who have unique, exciting ideas, and GTH has cemented its footing in the field of quality commercial pictures geared towards audiences who're looking for cutting edge in modern cinema. With its flagships in well-crafted horror movies and smart comedies, GTH has continually expanded its potentials with the image of a solid yet fun modern studio with an optimistic attitude.

Based in the heart of Bangkok, GTH is an independent joint venture from three of Thailand's most renowned and innovative media companies: GMM Grammy, Tai Entertainment and Hub Ho Hin. Between them, they bring together an unprecedented combination of media reach, marketing expertise and production excellence that have already set new records at the box office both in Thailand and in greater Asia.

For more information, visit <u>www.gth.co.th</u>.

THE SPOOKY FEATURES OF SENTOSA SPOOKTACULAR 2014

LADDALAND (Event Synopsis)

Welcome to Laddaland, the new Spooktacular haunted village where horror lurks at any corner. Gather your courage and explore the village, where every house is haunted. Cursed and haunted spirits are out to claim new souls to join their realm. Come on in and we wish you luck, for we do not know if we will see you again.

Based on GTH's well-received movie *Laddaland*; story has it that a family of four abandoned their old lives and moved into Laddaland, ready to settle down in a beautiful home they could call their own and live their dreams. All is well until they found out about the ruthless murder of a Burmese maid in their neighbour's house. Savagely beaten, her mangled body is found stuffed inside the refrigerator. A wrongful death always results in a vengeful soul. Even the innocent ones are not spared from strange sightings and mournful cries.

There will be no Fort Siloso. Instead, experience the transformation of what you once knew as Fort Siloso into the village of Laddaland. Walk down the rows of old houses until you reach the home of Thee , his wife Parn, his rebellious teenage daughter Nan and lively young son Nat. What seems to be a dream house in the day will turn into your darkest nightmare when night falls. Watch as the dark village comes to life in the wake of the night and be prepared to play hide and seek with the poor haunted souls who only want to have some fun. You hide, they seek, and be assured they do not give up easily because they promise to *haunt you long long time*. You can never be sure what you will find in your path...or off the path; as ghosts and ghouls play hard and work hard in bringing to you Asia's Scariest Fun. A word of caution from us: *Guard your soul to the best you can*. *Rumours have it that no one comes out alive from Laddaland*.

ALONE

You may think it is cute to have Siamese twins as next door neighbours. Conjoined at the stomach from birth, Pim and Ploy are Siamese twin sisters bounded skin-too-skin, organ-to-organ, for life. They even shared the same affection for a boy named Vee. Always the jealous one, Ploy flew into a blind rage when Wee had eyes only for Pim. Years later, Vee is seen happily married to Pim, and both are leading a decent life in South Korea...without Ploy.

Pim had survived the operation which separated her from Ploy – the same operation which left her sister dead. Given her vicious personality, Ploy is not one to leave peacefully. Back haunt her sister with a vengeance,

she is about to make sure that her sister regrets ever being separated from her.

Help Pim to survive from the curse of a bond that runs beyond skin-deep. She has detached herself physically from Ploy, now she needs to know how to detach herself otherwise. Do not look over your shoulder, for you are never quite alone too.

COUNTDOWN

"4...3...2...1...Happy New Year!" Enter the mad house where insanity and danger come washing over you in waves. Join 3 friends – Jack, Bee and Pam, as they planned to celebrate the start of a new year in style. Lose yourself in their excitement as they wait eagerly for a drug dealer to drop some good stuff at their apartment. The climax draws near when Jesus shows up, shares the loot, and proves to be the life of the party. However, there is just something about him that you cannot seem to put a finger on. A game master always has a game plan. Can you play the game by his rules, or will that be too much for you to handle? Encounter freak-shows and battle hallucination while you struggle to find your way out of this crazy house. With the mad man Jesus hot on your heels, can you make it out alive in this game of countdown?

THE SWIMMERS

Perth is the school's star swimming athlete. After a fatal accident that killed his long-time crush, Perth is devastated. He turns to the familiarity of the pool, seeking peace and solidarity in being underwater. However, the swimming pool is no longer safe; it is now haunted with ghosts of dead swimmers.

Perth begins feeling a presence next to him as he swims up and down the pool. He pauses, midstroke. He sees nothing, yet he feels something constantly next to him. What happens if that happens to you? You can't see nor hear anything out of the ordinary, but you can feel them for sure. They are the cursed souls of drowned swimmers, and they are on the hunt for new victims to join them in the waters. What would you do then? Remember, you cannot scream underwater...



Jimmy Wong Events Director, Sentosa Leisure Management

Jimmy brings with him a wealth of knowledge and expertise in planning festivals and special events that span over twenty years. His passion and commitment in conceptualizing events have won him numerous local and international accolades. Since joining Sentosa in 2007, Jimmy has been instrumental in shaping the island's festivals and events landscape including helming the very successful Sentosa Spooktacular which is currently in its fifth edition.



Yongyoot Thongkongtoon Senior Director of International Business department, GTH Movie Director and Producer for GTH's films

A well-known director as well as an executive at GTH, Yongyoot Thongkongtoon became known for his breakthrough comedy *The Iron Ladies*, one of the milestone Thai films in the late 1990s based on the actual story of a gay volleyball team, his film *The Iron Ladies* won him the Teddy Awards at Berlin International Film Festival 2000 and the Silver Medal: Discovery Award at Toronto International Film.

His knack for creating lovable characters was proven in *Iron Ladies 2, Maid* and *Metrosexual*, all of them featuring contemporary stories and people from different social classes.

Although known for his skill in comedy movies, Yongyoot is branching out into the realm of terror in *4bia (2008),* a four-way ghost ensemble. Along with other horror masterpiece, *Alone (2007), Body (2007), Coming Soon (2008)* and his latest feature film in 2009 *"Best of Times"* - as Thailand's representative to the List of submissions to the 82nd Academy Awards for Best Foreign Language Film.

"I have multiple personalities," says Yongyoot laughing. "So I feel like doing different things. I believe that everything changes," he adds. "As time changes, I change, my movies change, and the viewers change. If we understand this, we'll understand how to make movies that respond to the present. And the viewers will understand us too."



Parkpoom Wongpoom (Aoe) GTH's Movie Director, *Shutter, Alone, 4bia, Phobia* 2

Usually known as one of the duo who created the global smash hit *Shutter* in 2004 and *Alone* in 2007, Pakpoom Wongpoom goes solo by directing an episode of *4bia*, a horror ensemble that GTH produces with the aim of reaching out to global audience. *Shutter*, a box-office champion in Thailand and many territories around the world, recently remade by a Hollywood studio, is a proof positive of Parkpoom's screenwriting genius, in which a simple tale of a vengeful spirit

merges with a sly critique of male chauvinism. In *Alone*, a ghost story about Siamese twins, he directs superstar Marsha Watanapanich with superb nuances that makes the film both spooky and sad.

"Shutter is the film that defines my sensibility as a moviemaker," says Parkpoom. "What I'm trying to achieve as a director is to create a total reality that draws the audience in and let them live that total experience. Also, it's important to make a movie that allows the viewers to feel the characters as real human beings." Parkpoom's interest stretches beyond horror stories. He's long planned to film a political drama about Thailand's famous political prisoner locked up in a remote island. For now, he believes that working with GTH will pave his way to become Thailand's leading filmmaker. "It's a studio of my dream. The way everybody here, even the executives, work together like friends are the ideal environment of a young director.



Paween Purijitpanya (Goeff) GTH's Movie Director and Screenwriter for slick horror movie, *Body, 4bia, Phobia 2.*

Paween Purijitpanya scored a big break with the slick horror *Body* (2007), in which a persistent spirit haunts the corridors of a med school and invokes a strange psychological aftershock. Paween's background in music video perfects his visual smoothness, and he shows his talent in winding up screen tension with such spooky efficiency. "I prefer my films to be like rides in an amusement park, instead

of being objects in a museum," he says. "I always want my audience to enjoy themselves, to feel as if they're part of the movie, and to be continually excited by what's happening on the screen. Surprise is important to me, too. When I make a movie, I see myself knocking on the front door preparing to give flowers to the person who opens it. I want to see the look on his face. I want to see how my flowers surprise or startle or move or shock them."

At a very young age, Paween like most other kids I grew up reading comics and playing game. However, he would always getting really excited every time he got to watch series like The Twilight Zone, Tales from the Crypt, or anything for that matter from Steven Spielberg - his favorite director. Steven Spielberg works became a source of inspiration and motivation for him. "For me, it is both scary and exciting! Just the thought of taking elements from my worst nightmares and weaving them together with superstitious beliefs of the super natural and organizing these ideas together into a horror flick that has a storyline grounded in Buddhist teachings is overwhelming." Said Paween on his thought to what he would do if his worst nightmare became a reality.



Banjong Pisanthanakun

GTH's Director for box office smash hit, Alone

Banjong's latest comedy horror film, Pee Mak, resonates with his audience across Asia as a contemporary classic of Thai cinema, as it became the largest grossing film of all time in Thailand. Despite his tender years, Banjong has established himself as one of Thailand's major commercial film directors, after a string of hits at the domestic box office including his first feature film Shutter, Hello Stranger which was a popular choice in

Indonesia, Singapore and Australia, as well as other films including Alone (2007), Phobia (2008) and Phobia 2 (2009). He is also currently working as a DJ for a Saturday radio programme which discusses movies, and is a director and voice talent for many TV commercials.



Nattawut Poonpiriya GTH's Director for box office smash hit, *Countdown*

Nattawut dabbled with commercials before heading to New York to continue his education in graphic design with the Pratt Institute. Upon graduation, he made several short films before returning home in 2011 where he begun work as a MV director and have collaborated with numerous well-known artistes. It was at GTH studios where his directed his first feature film, Countdown and the rest is history when the film clinched the Best Actor, Best Screenplay and Best Editing at the Supannahongsa Awards 2013.

"In my 1st feature film I explore how people try to fulfill their desires every New Year's by making wishes. All of us have some kind of New Year's resolution that they hope they will be able to fulfill so that they can become a better person. But you know what they say, "be careful what you wish for?" says Nuttawut



Sophon Sakdaphisit (Jim) GTH's director for *Laddaland* and *The Swimmers*

Sophon Sakdaphisit received his Bachelor Degree in Film & Still Photography from the Faculty of Communication Arts, Chulalongkorn University in 2002. He has taken the director's chair on a short film project named "Hallucination", a short film that has been awarded the 1st runner up from the short film festival in Spain and the short film have also been selected to screen at my film festivals. He started off in the entertainment business working as a Script Writer for famous horror film "Shutter" and then became the director for his debut film

"Coming Soon" in 2008 and the film has been very successfully release in Thailand and in Asia. His 2^{nd} film "Laddaland" has already released in Thailand and has become the highest B.O. of Horror film of GTH and the highest B.O. of Thai film for 2011 in Thailand.