

7 soundtracks for S'pore's landmarks

By ADRIAN LIM

IF YOU think you've seen it all and done it all when it comes to visiting famous Singapore **locales**, think again.

Come October, there will be a new way for visitors to experience seven of Singapore's landmarks – through home-grown music.

Then, locations ranging from the Esplanade to the ArtScience Museum will be getting their very own soundtracks, composed by home-grown acts.

Each site will have its own soundtrack, which visitors can stream via their smartphones, thanks to a mobile app.

The initiative in Singapore is a collaboration between Musicity – a London-based project by music curator Nick Luscombe and creative strategist Simon Jordan – and the British Coun-

cil. Singapore is the third city after London and Tokyo to be chosen for a Musicity project. Along with the partnership, British recording artists Jon Hopkins and Mara Carlyle will also collaborate with two of the local acts.

"Cities are full of busy people... My hope is that Singaporeans will take five minutes to stop, listen to the music created for each location, see the city in a new way and be inspired by what they feel," Mr Luscombe, 46, told *my paper* in an e-mail interview.

To help select the Singapore **line-up**, Mr Luscombe and the British Council teamed up with music producer Cherry Chan, who is part of the audio-visual collective Syndicate.

"The artists chosen have represented Singapore in overseas festivals and are on a par with many international acts," said Ms Chan, 30, of the selection.



LOCAL TALENT: I Am David Sparkle, a post-rock band which has played at the South By Southwest Festival in Austin, Texas, is composing a tune for the Asian Civilisations Museum. (PHOTO: KITTYWU)

For instance, post-rock band I Am David Sparkle, which has played at the South By Southwest Festival in Austin, Texas, is composing a tune for the Asian Civilisations Museum (ACM).

And turntablist Wayne Liu, aka DJ KoFlow – who has travelled to countries such as Britain to DJ – will create a track for the School Of The Arts.

The artists are certainly excited about the project.

Electronic artist Mei Wong, who creates music under the moniker The Analog Girl, is responsible for the **soundtrack** for the Hong San See Temple in Mohamed Sultan Road. The

38-year-old will be collaborating with a small ensemble from the Singapore Chinese Orchestra, to incorporate traditional instrumentation with modern synthesizer sounds.

She is looking to create a "rapturous and euphoric" track for the landmark, she told *my paper*.

Besides Hong San See, two other **heritage** sites – namely the ACM and the Singapore Art Museum – will have music composed for them. The three sites were proposed by the Preservation of Monuments Board (PMB).

"We want to help raise the profile of these heritage land-

marks and encourage new audiences to visit and learn about their significance. With the Musicity programme, we can reach out to new groups of people," said Ms Jean Wee, director of PMB.

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HELPEDESK 我的字典

Locales: 地点 dì diǎn

Line-up: 阵容 zhèn róng

Soundtrack: 配乐 pèi yuè

Heritage:
文化遗产 wén huà yí chǎn