

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

# peranakan MUSEUM

## **Peranakan Museum Celebrates First Birthday with a Weekend Bash**

**More than 260,000 visitors in its first year**

**SINGAPORE, 23 April 2009:** The Peranakan Museum, located at 39 Armenian Street, celebrates its first birthday on 25-26 April 2009, with a weekend bustling with all things Peranakan. Visitors are invited to bask in Peranakan delights in an all-day *BaBazaar* (food and craft fair), enjoy stage performances by Peranakan associations, and meet *Little Nyonya* stars, MediaCorp Artistes Jeanette Aw and Pierre Png on Sunday afternoon.

The birthday celebration sees a significant participation of the various Peranakan associations to make it a truly enjoyable and cultural event for the young and the young-at-heart. A host of exciting activities and performances are lined up in the tent (carpark next to the museum), and within the museum. Visitors are also invited to the *Peranakan Bash* on Saturday evening, where *The Melodians*, a popular band from Malacca, will set the mood for people to *joget* (dance) the night away. The food and craft stalls will also stay open for a *pasar malam* (night market). *For detailed programme, please refer to Annex I.*

Dr. Kenson Kwok, Director, Asian Civilisations Museum (which also manages the Peranakan Museum) commented, "What a year it has been for the Peranakan Museum! A record 260,000 visitors have come through our doors. We have had two fantastic exhibitions (catch the last day of *Serenity in Stone* this weekend), and received a significant sum from Lim & Tan Securities to build up our Peranakan collection, as well as a major donation of Peranakan porcelain, the biggest donation by value ever received by the ACM. This birthday party is our big 'thank you' to everyone who has supported and visited the Peranakan Museum."

Since its official opening by Prime Minister Lee on 25 April 2008, the Peranakan Museum has welcomed more than 260,000 through its doors. The museum has seen great interest from Singaporeans, making the visitorship profile 75% locals versus 25% foreigners in the initial months. The ratio is now about 55% locals, 45% foreigners in recent months. Two special exhibitions - *Junk to Jewels: The Things That Peranakans Value* and *Serenity in Stone: The Qingzhou Discovery* - have been showcased at the Peranakan Museum.

Come late May this year, jewellery lovers will get to feast their eyes on the upcoming exhibition, *Baba Bling: Peranakan Family Jewels*. *Baba Bling* is an exhibition that will showcase some of the finest jewellery from Peranakan families and private collectors. Over 300 glittering jewels will be on display, which includes some of the oldest surviving pieces of Peranakan jewellery from the 19th century to contemporary pieces worn today. Visitors will be able to marvel at exquisite jewellery from Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia.

Dr. Kwok added, "The Peranakan Museum will continue to host world class exhibitions, featuring both Peranakan and Asian cultures. Visitors to the museum will be spoilt for choice by our programmes catered to various interest groups, including families and children. We certainly look forward to a greater year ahead, with all things Peranakan and more."

Official Tentage  
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### **About the Peranakan Museum**

The Peranakan Museum explores the culture of Peranakan communities in the former Straits Settlements of Singapore, Malacca and Penang and their links with other communities in Southeast Asia. It is a boutique museum with the finest and most comprehensive collection of Peranakan artefacts in the world. Three floors of permanent galleries illustrate important rituals, practices and the material culture of the Peranakans, as well as how this unique fusion culture is viewed today.

The Peranakan Museum provides an enjoyable and educational experience for all, with intricate displays innovatively presented in ten galleries, children's interactives and special merchandising in two shops. Two temporary exhibition galleries will present a programme of special exhibitions throughout the year.

For more information, please visit <http://www.peranakanmuseum.sg>.

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## ANNEX I

### First Anniversary Celebration Programme Saturday, 25 April 2009

#### Stage Performances (in the tent)

12:00-12:10	Opening of First Anniversary Celebration
12:15-12:35	Choir: The Peranakan Voices
12:40-13:10	Skit: Frances Hogan & Friends
13:15-14:00	<i>Ronggeng</i> Time: Dendang Irama Band
14:05-14:35	Fashion Show: Peranakans on the Runway!
14:40-15:05	Tampines Primary School -- Jolly Song & Dance
15:10-15:35	The Bibik Singers
15:40-16:15	Peranakan Skit -- Gunong Sayang Association
16:20-17:15	<i>Ronggeng</i> Time: Dendang Irama Band
18:30-21:30	Peranakan Bash: Join in the <i>Joget</i> and <i>Pasar Malam</i> (Night Market) with The Melodians

#### All day in the tent

11:00-21:30	BaBazaar: A Peranakan Food and Craft Fair
12:00-17:00	Terrific Tiles: Paint your own Peranakan-inspired tile (children's activity)

#### Activities in the Museum

12:00-17:00	Festive Fun: Balloon Sculpting, Face-painting & Paper Crafts	Lecture Room
11:00-13:00 13:30-15:30 16:00-17:00	Demonstrations of Peranakan Past-times by The Peranakan Association	The Ixora Room
13:00-13:30 13:45-14:15 14:30-15:00	Meet and Greet Adeline Foo & Lee Kowling, the Author and Artist of Puteh, the Peranakan children's book series	Level 2, Galleries
14:15-14:30 15:30-15:45	Acapella Action -- Vocaluptuous	Ground Floor Lobby

## First Anniversary Celebration Programme Sunday, 26 April 2009

### Stage Performances (in the tent)

11:30-12:30	It's time to <i>joget!</i> -- The Melodians
12:35-13:00	Chetti Melaka Fashion Show & Dance
13:05-13:20	Sing and Dance the Eurasian Way -- The Kristang Cultural Troupe
13:25-14:00	Move to the Beat -- Lynn & The Lovebirds
14:05-15:00	Meet <b><i>The Little Nyonya</i></b> Stars: Pierre Png and Jeanette Aw
15:05-17:00	<i>Ramay Ramay</i> Sunday! -- The Main Wayang Company

### All day in the tent

11:00-17:00	BaBazaar: A Peranakan Food and Craft Fair
12:00-17:00	Terrific Tiles: Paint your own Peranakan-inspired tile (children's activity)
12:00-12:30	Cooking Demonstration: <i>Ayam Buah Keluak</i> by Violet Oon
13:00-13:30	Cooking Demonstration: <i>Kueh Dadar</i> by Violet Oon
15:00-15:30, 16:00-16:30	Decorate Sweet <i>Sugee</i> Cake -- Demonstration by Greg Gomes, The Eurasian Association

### Activities in the Museum

12:00-17:00	Festive Fun: Balloon Sculpting, Face-painting & Paper Crafts	Lecture Room
11:00-13:00 13:30-15:30 16:00-17:00	Demonstrations of Peranakan Past-times by The Peranakan Association	The Ixora Room
13:00-13:30 13:45-14:15 14:30-15:00	Meet and Greet Adeline Foo & Lee Kowling, the Author and Artist of Puteh, the Peranakan children's book series	Level 2, Galleries
14:15-14:30 15:15-15:30	Straits Sounds -- Singapore Chinese Girls' School Choir	Ground Floor Lobby