



Singapore Book Council
Powering Our Imagination

EMBARGOED TILL 15 SEPTEMBER, 3PM (+0800 GMT)

Singapore Literature Prize Introduces First-ever Longlist

30 works in three categories have been nominated, recognising more outstanding literary works

SINGAPORE, 15 SEPTEMBER 2026 – 30 books and writers have been longlisted for Singapore's top literary award, the much-anticipated biennial Singapore Literature Prize (SLP). Of the 30 writers longlisted, 16 are first-time nominees and nine are debut authors.

SLP is a signature programme of the Singapore Book Council (SBC), one of the country's premier nonprofits that has been supporting the local literary scene by championing its writers, illustrators, translators, and other creatives.

SLP longlist at a glance

This year, the Singapore Literature Prize has launched longlists in English Poetry, English Prose and Chinese Prose, providing additional recognition for a wider range of outstanding literary works and offering readers an early opportunity to discover some of Singapore's most exciting contemporary voices.

This is the first time a longlist has been introduced in the prize's 34-year history as part of SBC's commitment to recognising more writers. Of the 30 longlisted books and writers, more than half of the writers (16) are first-time nominees, while nine are debut authors whose first published books have earned recognition alongside established names.

In the 2026 edition of the prize, we received a total of 156 submissions across eight categories. Categories receiving 20 or more eligible submissions proceed through a longlist stage. Accordingly, English Poetry, English Prose and Chinese Prose will feature



Singapore Book Council

Powering Our Imagination

longlists for the 2026 edition, while shortlisted titles across all eight prize categories will be announced on 13 October 2026.

"The introduction of the longlist allows us to celebrate more outstanding literary voices," said William Phuan, Executive Director of the Singapore Book Council, "We are especially encouraged to see so many first-time nominees and debut authors represented this year, reflecting the continued growth and renewal of Singapore's literary landscape."

English Poetry and Prose Longlist

20 writers have been longlisted in the English categories. 10 of them are first-time nominees and six are first-time published writers. The works showcase the remarkable breadth of contemporary Singapore literature. Spanning historical reimaginings, speculative worlds, personal memoirs and experimental poetry, they explore themes of identity, belonging, family, memory, language and love. Together, they revisit familiar histories through fresh perspectives, foreground diverse and underrepresented voices, and reflect the many ways Singapore writers continue to make sense of the past, navigate the present and imagine new possibilities for the future.

The six debut writers are the late Adeline Loh, Chim Sher Ting, Choo Yi Feng, Jemimah Wei, Shivram Gopinath and Shze-Hui Tjoa.

Past SLP winners who have been nominated include Amanda Lee Koe (2014 English Fiction Winner), Cyril Wong (2016 and 2006 English Poetry Winner) and Simon Tay (2010 English Winner).

The judges for English Poetry are award-winning poet and editor Aaron Lee (chief judge), leading Icelandic contemporary writer Gerður Kristný and writer and researcher Momtaza Mehri. The judges for English Prose are Cultural Medallion recipient Meira



Singapore Book Council
Powering Our Imagination

Chand (chief judge), award-winning Canadian journalist Kamal Al-Solaylee and writer and civil society advocate Audrey Chin.

Chinese Prose (小说散文) Longlist

10 writers have been longlisted in the Chinese Prose category. Six of them are first-time nominees and three of them are first-time published writers. The works explore memory and history, family and migration, women's experiences, and the search for identity amid social change. They revisit overlooked chapters of Singapore and Asian history, examine the lasting effects of political and social upheaval, and illuminate the connections between past and present. Together, these works reflect on belonging, resilience and the ways individuals and communities make sense of a rapidly changing world.

The three debut writers are Chua Sok Koon (蔡素君), Phoon Jing Ying (潘靖颖) and Tan Keen Mun (陈建文).

Past SLP winners who have been nominated include Ang Tiam Huat (Hai Fan) (洪添发 (海凡)) (2024 Chinese Fiction Winner), Chia Joo Ming (谢裕民) (2024 Chinese Creative Nonfiction Winner), Chin Kah Chong (陈加昌) (2016 Chinese Creative Nonfiction Winner) and Wong Koi Tet (黄凯德) (2020 Chinese Creative Nonfiction Winner and Chinese Fiction Co-winner).

The judges for Chinese Prose are Associate Professor Yow Cheun Hoe (游俊豪), Taiwanese writer Lo Wei Yu (罗位育) and writer and researcher Liu Weidong (刘卫东).



Singapore Book Council

Powering Our Imagination

Please refer to Annex B for the full list of judges and Annex C for the full longlist. Photos of the judges, longlist book covers and author photos can be found [here](#). For more information, please visit <https://www.bookcouncil.sg/slp-2026>.

The shortlist will be announced on 13 October 2026.

About Singapore Book Council

Established in 1968, the Singapore Book Council (SBC) has for almost 60 years remained committed to developing and promoting a multicultural literary arts sector in Singapore. Its programmes focus on creative writing, translation, storytelling, reading and illustration. Its festivals, awards, workshops and school programmes reach out to Singapore's various language and ethnic communities, boosting creativity, imagination and empathy. SBC is a nonprofit and charity with IPC status. For more information, please visit the Singapore Book Council website: bookcouncil.sg.

For media enquiries, please contact:

Ng Wei Lin | weilin@bookcouncil.sg | +65 97333267

Annex A



Singapore Book Council
Powering Our Imagination

About Singapore Literature Prize

Established in 1992, the Singapore Literature Prize (SLP) is Singapore's top literary prize, with more than 150 past winners. The prize is a biennial competition open to Singapore citizens and Permanent Residents whose works of fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction have been published in Singapore or abroad during a specified period of time. The work can be published in any of Singapore's four official languages — Chinese, English, Malay, or Tamil.

The award carries a top prize of S\$5,000 for the winner in each of the categories. In addition, the winners will be awarded a special plaque.

SLP has been awarded biennially and awarded to published works in Singapore's four languages since 2004.

Many notable Singaporean writers have won the SLP, including Mohamed Latiff Mohamed, Yeng Pway Ngon, KTM Iqbal, Cyril Wong, Josephine Chia, Amanda Lee Koe and Sonny Liew.

For more information, please visit <https://www.bookcouncil.sg/slp-2026>



Singapore Book Council

Powering Our Imagination

Annex B

SLP Judges

Category	Name	Bio
English Poetry	Aaron Lee (Chief Judge) 	Aaron Lee is a cultural worker whose practice includes writing, community organising and ethics law. He has published three collections of his own poetry with Ethos Books and served as co-editor of several anthologies including <i>No Other City</i> (2000), <i>Lines Spark Code</i> (2017) and <i>Island Imaginaries</i> (2026). He and his artist wife Namiko Chan Takahashi are co-founders of the Laniakea Culture Collective.
English Poetry	Gerður Kristný  (Photo credits: Gunnlöð Jóna)	Gerður Kristný is among the leading contemporary writers of Iceland. She has produced a vast oeuvre but is best known internationally as a poet. For her modern poetical rewriting of Norse myths, the poetic cycle <i>Bloodhoof</i>, she received the Icelandic Literature Awards. In 2022 Gerður Kristný was awarded the Order of the Falcon for her services to Icelandic literature and culture.
English Poetry	Momtaza Mehri 	Momtaza Mehri is a writer and researcher working across poetry, criticism, education, and radio. She was the Poet-in-Residence at Homerton College, University of Cambridge, as well as the former Young People's Poet Laureate for London. Her poetry has won various awards, including a Forward Prize, an Eric Gregory Prize, a Somerset Maugham Award, and a Sky Arts Award. She has presented papers, lectures, and workshops in Jakarta, New York, Berlin, Nairobi, Singapore, and Amsterdam, to name a few cities.



Singapore Book Council

Powering Our Imagination

Category	Name	Bio
English Prose	Meira Chand (Chief Judge) 	Meira Chand is the 2023 recipient of the Singapore's Cultural Medallion. She is an internationally acclaimed author of 10 novels. The hit Singapore stage production, LKY: The Musical, was developed from her original story. In 2026 she was inducted into the Singapore Women's Hall of Fame.
English Prose	Kamal Al-Solaylee 	Kamal Al-Solaylee is an award-winning Canadian journalist and a bestselling author of three books of nonfiction: <i>Intolerable</i> (2012); <i>Brown</i> (2016); and <i>Return</i> (2021). He holds a PhD in English Literature and is the director of the School of Journalism, Writing, and Media at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver.
English Prose	Audrey Chin 	Audrey Chin is a reader, doodler and praying woman whose writing explores the intersections of faith, gender and culture. Writing has also been her tool in her previous lives as a public policy analyst, hedge fund manager, and civil society advocate. AI will tell you where to find her works.
诗歌 Chinese Poetry	王润华 (主席评判) Wong Yoon Wah (Chief Judge)	王润华，美国威斯康辛大学文学博士，现任马来西亚南方大学中华语言文化学院院长兼中文系资深教授。曾任新加坡国立大学中文系教授兼主任、台湾元智大学人文社会学院院长及南方大学学院资深副校长。著有文学创作及学术著作近百种，代表作包括《五四在东南亚》《鲁迅在东南



Singapore Book Council

Powering Our Imagination

Category	Name	Bio
		亚》《王维诗学》《新村》《重返诗钞》等。 Wong Yoon Wah is the Dean of the Faculty of Chinese Studies and Senior Professor of Chinese Studies at Southern University in Malaysia. He is a veteran writer who has won many awards including Singapore Cultural Medallion, ASEAN Cultural Award (in literature) and Southeast Asia Write Award (Thailand). Professor Wong's creative works span across prose and poetry, including <i>Beyond Symbols</i>, <i>Taste of Durian</i>, <i>Tropical Rainforest</i> and <i>British Colony</i> (the English version was renamed <i>The New Village</i>). As an academic, Professor Wong is a scholar specialising in Chinese literature, comparative literature, and Chinese literature in Southeast Asia.
诗歌 Chinese Poetry	罗智成 Lo Chih Cheng 	罗智成，诗人、作家、文化评论者。毕业于国立台湾大学哲学系，美国威斯康辛大学麦迪逊分校东亚研究所硕士。曾任报社副刊主编、副总编辑，并创办杂志、出版社及广播、电视媒体，亦曾于大学任教及担任公职。著有诗集、评论及游记等二十余种。 Born in Taipei in 1955, Lo Chih Cheng graduated with a degree in Philosophy from National Taiwan University and earned a Master's in East Asian Languages and Literature from the University of Wisconsin-Madison (UW-Madison), where he also pursued doctoral studies. His distinguished career spans media, publishing, and academia. He has also held adjunct teaching positions at various universities. A prolific writer, Lo has published over 20 works spanning poetry, fiction, essays, criticism, travelogues, and photography collections.
诗歌 Chinese Poetry	游静 Yau Ching	游静，香港作家、诗人。曾获香港中文文学双年奖（诗组）、两届中文文学创作奖（散文组）及美国「文字无边界」国际翻译诗奖。双语诗集《愈坐愈透明》于美国（2025）及英国（2026）出版，并入围美国笔会2025-



Singapore Book Council

Powering Our Imagination

Category	Name	Bio
		2026年度翻译诗集最后五强。 Born in Hong Kong, Yau Ching's poems have been translated and featured in international literary venues and publications including <i>World Literature Today</i>, <i>Asymptote</i>, <i>Catamaran</i>, <i>Transpacific Literary Project</i>, and <i>Center for the Art of Translation</i>, among others. She is one of the four winners of the 2020 Words Without Borders–Academy of American Poets Poems in Translation Contest. Her bilingual collection of poems, <i>for now I am sitting here growing transparent</i>, available from the Zephyr Press in the US and Balestier Press in the UK, is finalist for the 2026 PEN America Award for Poetry in Translation, and listed in <i>World Literature Today</i>'s 75 Notable Translations of 2025.
小说散文 Chinese Prose	游俊豪 (主席评判) Yow Cheun Hoe (Chief Judge) 	游俊豪，新加坡南洋理工大学中文系副教授，研究离散华人与华文文学，笔名游以飘，曾出版诗集《时差》等五本。 Yow Cheun Hoe is an Associate Professor at NTU Chinese Programme. His academic fields include Chinese diaspora and Chinese language literature. His pen name is You Yipiao, with five collections of poems published, including <i>Shicha (Time Difference)</i>.
小说散文 Chinese Prose	罗位育 Lo Wei Yu	罗位育，台湾作家。著有中篇小说、短篇小说集及散文集多部，曾获报刊及教育部小说、散文文学奖，并担任报刊及大学文学奖评审。 Lo Wei Yu is a Taiwanese writer who has published a novel, five short stories and three essay collections. He has won the Newspaper and Ministry of Education's Fiction and Essay awards, and has served as a judge for the University's Literary award.



Singapore Book Council

Powering Our Imagination

Category	Name	Bio
		
小说散文 Chinese Prose	刘卫东 Liu Weidong 	刘卫东，青年作家、文学博士，现任《华文创意写作研究》执行主编、世界华文创意写作协会秘书，以及上海大学创意出版中心编辑，并为AAWP、CWSO、NAWE及ICLA会员。现为新加坡国家艺术理事会及南洋理工大学「亚洲创意写作项目」驻校作家（2026）。 Weidong Liu is a writer and researcher who holds a Ph.D. in Literature. He is the executive editor of Chinese Creative Writing Studies and a secretary of the Global Association of Chinese Creative Writing (世界华文创意写作协会). He is also an editor of the Centre for Cultural and Creative Publishing at Shanghai University (上海大学创意出版中心), and a member of AAWP, CWSO, NAWE, and ICLA. He is Writer-in-Residence (2026) for the Asia Creative Writing Programme jointly hosted by the National Arts Council and NTU.
Puisi Malay Poetry	Suraidi Sipan (Ketua Pengadil) (Chief Judge)	Suraidi Sipan dilahirkan di Singapura dalam tahun 1950 dan merupakan guru persara dengan pengalaman 40 tahun dalam bidang pendidikan. Beliau pernah berkhidmat selama hampir 10 tahun sebagai penulis khas buku teks Bahasa Melayu peringkat menengah di Curriculum Development Institute of Singapore cabang MOE. Setelah bersara, beliau diundang untuk duduk dalam jawatankuasa penilaian ujian sastera peringkat menengah di



Singapore Book Council

Powering Our Imagination

Category	Name	Bio
		Singapore Examinations and Assessment Board. Dalam bidang sastera, karya puisinya yang berjudul "Nyanyi Puisi" telah memenangi Hadiah Sastera pada tahun 1978. Beliau telah menghasilkan dua naskah novel pendek yang berjudul "Cinta" dan "Mariam" dalam tahun 1977. Buku Kumpulan puisi pertamanya yang berjudul "Debu-Debu Jalanan" terbit dalam tahun 1984. Di tahun yang sama, beliau telah dipilih mengikuti "International Writing Programme di University of Iowa USA. Dalam tahun 2016 beliau menjadi Penulis Tamu di Universiti Nasional Singapura. Beliau juga telah dilantik menjadi Ketua Editor Jurnal SEKATA terbitan MBMS sejak 2024. Kini, beliau merupakan Presiden Angkatan Sasterawan '50 bagi penggal 2025–2027. Suraidi Sipan was born in Singapore in 1950 and is a retired teacher with 40 years of experience in education. He served for almost 10 years as a special writer of Malay-language secondary school textbooks at the Curriculum Development Institute of Singapore, a branch of the Ministry of Education. After retiring, he served on the evaluation committee for secondary-level literature examinations at the Singapore Examinations and Assessment Board. His literary works include the short novels <i>Cinta</i> and <i>Mariam</i> (1977) and poetry collection <i>Debu-Debu Jalanan</i> (1984). He participated in the International Writing Programme at the University of Iowa in 1984. He is currently President of ASAS '50 (2025–2027).
Puisi Malay Poetry	Fahd Razy	Fahd Razy kini bertugas sebagai pegawai perubatan di Terengganu. Antara karyanya termasuklah <i>Ikan dalam Jiwa</i> (puisi), <i>Kota Subuh</i> (puisi), <i>Pascasejarah</i> (novel) dan <i>Cinta Menyala di Constantinople</i> (cerpen). Beliau telah memenangi 50 hadiah dan anugerah penulisan, termasuk Hadiah Sastera Perdana, Hadiah Sastera Selangor, Hadiah Sastera Darul Iman dan Hadiah Sastera Kumpulan Utusan. Kini merupakan kurator laman



Singapore Book Council

Powering Our Imagination

Category	Name	Bio
		Tukang Puisi, pengasas Penerbitan Kata Pilar dan ahli Lembaga Pengelola Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka. Fahd Razy currently serves as a medical officer in Terengganu. Among his published works are <i>Ikan dalam Jiwa</i> (poetry), <i>Kota Subuh</i> (poetry), <i>Pascasejarah</i> (novel), and <i>Cinta Menyala di Constantinople</i> (cerpen). He has received 50 literary awards and prizes, including the Malaysia Premier Literary Prize, Selangor Literary Prize, Darul Iman Literary Prize, and Utusan Group Literary Prize. He is currently the curator of <i>Tukang Puisi</i>, the founder of Penerbitan Kata Pilar and the member of Board of Governors of Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka Malaysia.
Puisi Malay Poetry	Siti Raihani Mohd Saaid 	Dr. Siti Raihani Mohd Saaid, atau nama penanya Raihani Mohd. Saaid, telah menceburi penulisan kreatif sejak tahun 1994. Beliau telah menerbitkan karya dalam pelbagai genre seperti puisi, cerpen, esei dan lirik lagu, termasuk lirik untuk lagu tema filem <i>Gayong</i> (2025). Beliau juga merupakan pemenang Hadiah Sastera Perdana Malaysia sebanyak tujuh kali dalam kategori puisi. Kini, beliau berkhidmat sebagai penyelidik berkala di Monash University. Dr. Siti Raihani Mohd Saaid, also known as Raihani Mohd, has been writing creatively since 1994. She has published numerous works in various genres like poetry, short stories, essays and lyrics, including the theme song for the movie <i>Gayong</i> (2025). She is also a seven-time winner of the Malaysian Premier Literary Prize in the poetry category. She is currently working as a seasonal researcher at Monash University.
Prosa Malay Prose	Azhar Ibrahim (Ketua Pengadil) (Chief Judge)	Dr. Azhar Ibrahim ialah Pensyarah Kanan di Jabatan Pengajian Melayu, Universiti Nasional Singapura (NUS). Beliau mengajar kesusasteraan Melayu klasik, termasuk sastera Melayu moden dan Indonesia,



Singapore Book Council

Powering Our Imagination

Category	Name	Bio
		serta wacana pembangunan. Antara buku beliau yang pernah diterbitkan ialah <i>Memikir-ulang Tradisi untuk Pembaharuan</i> (2018), <i>Historical Imagination and Cultural Responses to Colonialism and Nationalism: A Critical Malay(sian) Perspective</i> (2017), <i>Menyanggah Belenggu Kerancuan Fikiran Masakini</i> (2016), <i>Utopia Masyarakat Lambak</i> (2015), <i>Cendekiawan Melayu Penyuluh Emansipasi</i> (2014), <i>Bahasa dan Tantangan Intelektualisme</i> (2014), <i>Contemporary Islamic Discourse in the Malay-Indonesia World</i> (2014) dan <i>Narrating Presence: Awakening from Cultural Amnesia</i> (2014). Dr Azhar Ibrahim is a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Malay Studies, NUS. He teaches Malay-Indonesian literature and ideologies of development. His research interests include sociology of literature, critical literacy, and the Malay-Indonesian intellectual development. Amongst his published works are: <i>Emancipated Education</i> (2020), <i>Historical Imagination and Cultural Responses to Colonialism and Nationalism: A Critical Malay(sian) Perspective</i> (2017), <i>Contemporary Islamic Discourse in the Malay-Indonesia World</i> (2014) and <i>Narrating Presence: Awakening from Cultural Amnesia</i> (2014).
Prosa Malay Prose	Mawar Safei 	Mawar Safei ialah Profesor Madya di Pusat Kajian Bahasa, Kesusasteraan dan Kebudayaan Melayu, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia. Buku terkininya ialah <i>Takmilah Shafie Abu Bakar: Teori dan Tanggapan</i> (2026), <i>Sastera Pelancongan di Malaysia</i> (2025) dan <i>Haruki Murakami dalam Kesusasteraan Melayu</i> (2024). Beliau merupakan penerima Hadiah SEA Write 2018 dan Anugerah Akademik Negara 2018. Mawar Safei is an Associate Professor at The National University of Malaysia. Her recent works include <i>Takmilah Shafie Abu Bakar</i> (2026), <i>Sastera</i>



Singapore Book Council

Powering Our Imagination

Category	Name	Bio
		<i>Pelancongan di Malaysia (2025)</i> , and <i>Haruki Murakami dalam Kesusasteraan Melayu (2024)</i> . She received the S.E.A. Write Award and the National Academic Award, both in 2018.
Prosa Malay Prose	Ratih Kumala 	Ratih Kumala merupakan seorang pengarang dan penulis skrip Indonesia. Novel beliau, <i>Gadis Kretek</i> (Cigarette Girl), telah diadaptasi menjadi siri Netflix yang memenangi anugerah dan diterbitkan dalam pelbagai bahasa. Pemenang Anugerah Sastera Chommanard 2024 dari Thailand ini telah menghasilkan sembilan karya fiksi, termasuk novel bahasa Indonesia terbaharunya, <i>Colony</i>, yang edisi bahasa Inggerisnya bakal diterbitkan pada Ogos 2026. Ratih Kumala is a prolific Indonesian author and screenwriter. Her acclaimed novel <i>Gadis Kretek</i> (Cigarette Girl) became an award-winning Netflix series, published in multiple languages. Winner of the 2024 Chommanard Literary Award, her works include nine works of fiction, including her latest Indonesian novel, <i>Colony</i>, with an English edition releasing in August 2026.
கவிதை Tamil Poetry	ஆ. ரா. சிவகுமாரன் (தலைமை நீதிபதி) A. Ra. Sivakumaran (Chief Judge) 	இணைப் பேராசிரியர் டாக்டர் ஆ. ரா. சிவகுமாரன், NTU-NIE-இல் உள்ள தமிழ் மொழி மற்றும் பண்பாட்டுப் பிரிவின் முன்னாள் தலைவராகவும், தமிழ் பாடநூல்கள் தொடர்பாகக் கல்வி அமைச்சின் ஆலோசகராகவும் உள்ளார். சிங்கப்பூர் தமிழ் இலக்கியத்தின் முன்னோடி ஆய்வாளர்களில் ஒருவரான இவர், 20-க்கும் மேற்பட்ட நூல்களை எழுதியும் தொகுத்தும் உள்ளதுடன், பல கற்பித்தல் சிறப்பு விருதுகளையும் பெற்றுள்ளார். சிங்கப்பூர் தமிழர்களிடையே படைப்பெழுத்தை வளர்ப்பதற்காக, NAC மற்றும் NIE உடன் இணைந்து இலக்கியப் பயிலரங்குகளையும் கருத்தரங்குகளையும் ஏற்பாடு செய்துள்ளார். அவற்றில் 2016-ஆம்



Singapore Book Council

Powering Our Imagination

Category	Name	Bio
		ஆண்டு நடைபெற்ற முக்கியத்துவம் வாய்ந்த எழுத்தாளர் உறைவிடத் திட்டமும் அடங்கும். Associate Professor Dr A. Ra. Sivakumaran is the former Head of the Tamil Language and Culture Division at NIE, NTU, and a consultant to MOE for Tamil textbooks. A pioneer researcher in Singapore Tamil Literature, he has authored and edited more than 20 books and received multiple teaching excellence awards. To nurture creative writing among Singaporean Tamils, he organised literary workshops and seminars with the National Arts Council and NIE, including landmark writers' residency programme in 2016.
கவிதை Tamil Poetry	சபரிநாதன் Sabarinathan 	சபரிநாதன் சென்னையில் பணியாற்றி வருகிறார். அவர் 'களம்-காலம்-ஆட்டம்' (2011), 'வால்' (2016), மற்றும் 'துவா' (2024) ஆகிய மூன்று கவிதைத் தொகுப்புகளை வெளியிட்டுள்ளார். மேலும், 2014-ல் ஸ்வீடன் கவிஞர் தாமஸ் டிரான்ஸ்ட்ரோமரின் கவிதைகளின் மொழிபெயர்ப்பையும் வெளியிட்டார். செஸ்லா மிலோஷின் தேர்ந்தெடுக்கப்பட்ட கவிதைகளின் அவரது மொழிபெயர்ப்பு விரைவில் வெளிவர உள்ளது. அவர் தொடர்ந்து பத்திரிகைகளிலும் இணையதளங்களிலும் இலக்கிய மற்றும் பண்பாட்டு விமர்சனங்களை எழுதி வருகிறார். அவர் விகடன் விருது, களம் புதிது விருது, கலை இலக்கியப் பெருமன்ற விருது, விஷ்ணுபுரம்-குமரகுருபரன் கவிதை விருது, சாகித்ய அகாடமி யுவ புராஸ்கார் விருது போன்ற விருதுகளைப் பெற்றுள்ளார். Sabarinathan works and lives in Chennai. He has published three poetry collections: <i>Kalam-Kaalam-Aatam</i> (2011), <i>Vaal</i> (2016), and <i>Dua</i> (2024). He also released a translated collection of the Swedish poet Tomas Transtr�mer back in 2014. Another translated selection of Czesław Mi�sz's poems is soon to be



Singapore Book Council

Powering Our Imagination

Category	Name	Bio
		published. Apart from poetry and translation, he regularly writes literary and cultural criticism in magazines and literary websites. He has received the following awards: Vikatan Award, Kalam puthithu award, kalai ilakkiya perumandra virudhu, Vishnupuram- kumarakurubaran poetry Award, Sahitya Academy Yuva puraskar.
கவிதை Tamil Poetry	யூமா வாசுகி Yuma Vasuki 	யூமா வாசுகி ஒரு தமிழ் எழுத்தாளர், மொழிபெயர்ப்பாளர் மற்றும் பதிப்பாசிரியர் ஆவார். அவர் கவிதை, சிறுகதை, நாவல், சிறுவர் இலக்கியம் உள்ளிட்ட பல்வேறு பிரிவுகளில் 16 நூல்களை எழுதியுள்ளார். மேலும், 60 சிறுவர் நூல்களையும், வயது வந்தோருக்கான 47 இலக்கியப் படைப்புகளையும் மலையாளத்திலிருந்து தமிழுக்கு மொழிபெயர்த்துள்ளார். 15 நூல்களைப் பதிப்பித்ததோடு, மூன்று சிறுவர் இதழ்களின் ஆசிரியராகவும் பணியாற்றியுள்ளார். தமிழ்நாடு அரசின் 6 இலக்கிய விருதுகள், மொழிபெயர்ப்புக்கான சாகித்ய அகாடமி விருது, சிறார் இலக்கியத்திற்கான சாகித்ய அகாடமியின் பாலபுரஸ்கார், மத்திய கலாச்சார அமைச்சகத்தின் மூத்தவர்களுக்கான ஆய்வு உதவித் தொகை ஆகிய சிறப்புகள் பெற்றிருக்கிறார். Yuma Vasuki is a Tamil writer, translator, and editor. The author of 16 books spanning poetry, short stories, novels, and children's literature, he has also translated 60 children's books and 47 works of adult literature from Malayalam into Tamil. In addition, he has edited 15 books and served as editor of three children's magazines. The recipient of six literary awards, he has also received the Sahitya Akademi Prize for Translation, the Sahitya Akademi Bal Sahitya Puraskar, and a Senior Fellowship from the Ministry of Culture.



Singapore Book Council

Powering Our Imagination

Category	Name	Bio
புனைவு/ படைப் பாக்க Tamil Prose	சித்ரா சங்கரன் (தலைமை நீதிபதி) Chitra Sankaran (Chief Judge) 	முனைவர் சித்ரா சங்கரன் சிங்கப்பூர் தேசிய பல்கலைக்கழகத்தின் ஆங்கில இலக்கியப் பிரிவில் பேராசிரியராகப் பணிபுரிகிறார். இவர் ஏறத்தாழ 60 ஆய்வுக் கட்டுரைகளையும் 15 நூல்களையும் வெளியிட்டுள்ளார். மேலும், பல மேற்கத்திய நாடுகளில் தலைமை உரையாளராக அழைக்கப்பட்டு, 80-க்கும் மேற்பட்ட அரங்குகளில் ஆய்வுக் கட்டுரைகளை வழங்கியுள்ளார். சிங்கப்பூர் தேசிய பல்கலைக்கழகத்தின் ஆங்கிலப் பிரிவின் நூறாண்டு வரலாற்றில் முதல் பெண் பேராசிரியர் இவரே. இவர் தமிழ் தொடர்பான பல பணிகளிலும் ஈடுபட்டுள்ளார். Chitra Sankaran is Professor in the Department of English, Linguistics and Theatre Studies, NUS. Her research interests include ecocriticism, and South and Southeast Asian fiction. Her recent monographs include <i>Women, Subalterns, and Ecologies in South and Southeast Asian Women's Fiction</i> (University of Georgia Press, 2022), and <i>Ecomaterial Ambivalence in South and Southeast Asian Literary, Philosophical, and Cultural Narrative</i> (Routledge, New York, 2026). She has also published more than 60 articles.
புனைவு/ படைப் பாக்க Tamil Prose	அ. வெண்ணிலா Vennila Ambalavanan 	அ. வெண்ணிலா சிறந்த கவிதைக்கான தமிழ்நாடு அரசின் மதிப்புமிக்க விருதைப் பெற்ற புகழ்பெற்ற கவிஞரும் எழுத்தாளரும் ஆவார். விமர்சகர்களின் பெரும் பாராட்டைப் பெற்ற இவரது சமீபத்திய படைப்பான 'நீரதிகாரம்', தென்னிந்தியாவில் முல்லைப் பெரியாறு அணை கட்டப்பட்டதன் பின்னணியில் உள்ள வியப்பூட்டும் வரலாற்றை எடுத்துரைக்கிறது. இவரது வரலாற்றுப் புனைகதையான 'கங்காபுரம்', குறிப்பாகப் பேரரசர்களான ராஜராஜ சோழன் மற்றும் ராஜேந்திர சோழன் ஆகியோரின் வாழ்க்கையையும் காலகட்டத்தையும்



Singapore Book Council

Powering Our Imagination

Category	Name	Bio
		ஆராய்கிறது. இவர் தனது கணவர் மற்றும் மூன்று மகர்களுடன் சென்னையில் வசித்து வருகிறார். A.Vennila is a prominent poet and writer who has won the prestigious Tamil Nadu Government Award for Best Poetry. Her recent work is the critically acclaimed <i>Neeradhikaaram</i>, unraveling the incredible tale behind the construction of the Mullai-Periyar Dam in South India. Her work of historical fiction <i>Gangapuram</i> explores historical narratives, particularly the lives of Emperor Raja Raja Chola and Rajendra Chola. She lives in Chennai with her husband and three daughters.
புனைவு/ படைப் பாக்க Tamil Prose	சு. தேன்மொழி S. Thenmozhi 	சு. தேன்மொழி கலை வரலாற்றில் முனைவர் பட்டம் பெற்றுள்ளார். இவர் பல்வேறு இலக்கிய வகைகளில் 13-க்கும் மேற்பட்ட நூல்களை எழுதியுள்ளார். மேலும், இவரது படைப்புகள் தி ஆக்ஸ்ஃபோர்டு இந்தியா தமிழ் தலித் எழுத்துத் தொகுப்பு (The Oxford India Anthology of Tamil Dalit Writing) என்ற நூலிலும் இடம்பெற்றுள்ளன. 2018-ஆம் ஆண்டு இந்தியன் எக்ஸ்பிரஸ் பத்திரிகையால் இந்தியாவின் 10 சிறந்த இளம் எழுத்தாளர்களில் ஒருவராகத் தேர்ந்தெடுக்கப்பட்டார். மேலும், 2011-ஆம் ஆண்டு ஸ்பாரோ விருதாலும், 2015-ஆம் ஆண்டு பாரதிதாசன் பல்கலைக்கழகத்தின் சிறந்த பெண் சாதனையாளர் விருதாலும் கௌரவிக்கப்பட்டார். தென்மொழி, தமிழ் மொழி நூல்களுக்கான சாகித்ய அகாடமியின் ஆலோசனைக் குழு உறுப்பினராக உள்ளார். S. Thenmozhi holds a Ph.D in Art History. She has authored more than 13 books in various genres and is published in The Oxford India Anthology of Tamil Dalit Writing. She was selected by the Indian Express as one of the 10 best young writers of India in 2018,



Singapore Book Council

Powering Our Imagination

Category	Name	Bio
		and was honoured by the Sparrow Awards in 2011 and by Barathidasan University for the Best Woman Achievers Award in 2015. Thenmozhi is an advisory board member in the Sahitya Akademi for Tamil language books. She had also presented on <i>Legacy of Karaikkal Ammaiyar From Devotion to Art - The Origins and Evolution of Aadalvalla</i> and <i>Ammaiyar's Journey in Sculpture</i> in Jawaharlal Nehru University Delhi.



Singapore Book Council
Powering Our Imagination

Annex C: Full Longlist

Longlist for the English Categories

English Poetry			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
Shilpa Dikshit Thapliyal 	Shilpa Dikshit Thapliyal is an Indian-Singaporean poet and author of two poetry collections. Her work has appeared in the <i>Practice Research & Tangential Activities (PR&TA) Journal</i>, <i>Quarterly Literary Review Singapore</i>, <i>The Best Asian Poetry</i>, <i>The Yearbook of Indian Poetry in English</i>, <i>Trivium</i>, <i>Little Things</i>, to let the light in, <i>Anima Methodi</i>, and elsewhere. Poems from her previous collection <i>Between Sips of Masala Chai</i> (Kitaab International, 2019) have been selected for secondary school curriculum in Singapore.	Aerial Roots: Loops Of Infinity And Other Poems  Rosetta Cultures 2025	<i>Aerial Roots</i> is a poetry collection that meditates on the liminal space of displacement and settlement, arrivals and departures, uprootedness, and assimilation. It is between these hybrid shifts of time and place, of bilocation, that diasporic writers dwell for most of their lives. Visualising the ongoing narratives as akin to the banyan tree and its allegorical roots, the poems revisit the vast canvas of memory, places, and lived experiences. This collection negotiates and interrogates the complex issues of identity, ethnicity, belonging, heritage, and multiple homes to know where and what home is.



Singapore Book Council
Powering Our Imagination

English Poetry			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
Jonathan Chan 	Jonathan Chan is a writer and editor of poems and essays. Based in Singapore, he was educated at Cambridge and Yale Universities. His work has appeared in anthologies, journals, and magazines. He has an abiding interest in faith, identity, and creative expression. His first book of poems was <i>going home</i>.	Bright Sorrow  Landmark Books 2025	In his second book, Jonathan Chan presents poems written through the years of the pandemic and eruptions of war and strife. Each circles the notion of "bright sorrow", a spiritual state characterised by a profound mingling of joy and grief. These poems look to repentance, to suffering, and to the contradiction of extremities, each glistening at their core.



Singapore Book Council
Powering Our Imagination

English Poetry			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
Chim Sher Ting 	Sher Ting is a Singaporean-Chinese writer. She is a 2021 Writeability Fellow with Writers Victoria, 2023 Kenyon Review Winter Workshop participant and Tin House Winter Workshop participant. She is a 2021/22 Pushcart and Best of The Net nominee with work published in <i>Prairie Schooner</i>, <i>Gulf Coast</i>, <i>Colorado Review</i>, <i>Pleiades</i>, <i>Salt Hill</i>, <i>Asian American Writers Workshop's The Margins</i>, <i>The Journal of Ohio State University</i> and elsewhere. She writes about memory, nostalgia and the places that haunt us in between. Her words can be found at sherting.com	Burn After Dawn  Landmark Books 2024	From the gap of two generations, a young Singaporean poet interrogates the victors, vanquished and victims of Singapore's surrender in 1945. The weighty records of the Japanese Occupation are questioned: air raids, the Battle of Opium Hill, the Alexandra Hospital massacre, Sook Ching, Kempeitai anarchy, comfort women stations. These, bound up with terrible family accounts, are examined through poetic lenses, sometimes magnified, other times widened, but unrelentingly focused.



Singapore Book Council
Powering Our Imagination

English Poetry			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
Theophilus Kwek 	Theophilus Kwek has published five collections of poetry, most recently <i>Commonwealth</i> (Carcanet Press 2025). Two earlier collections, <i>Circle Line</i> and <i>Giving Ground</i>, were both shortlisted for the Singapore Literature Prize. In 2023, he was the youngest writer and first Singaporean to be awarded the Cikada Prize, for poetry that "defends the inviolability of life"; he has also been recognised as a member of the Forbes 30 Under 30 Class of 2024, and of the Folio Academy. His creative nonfiction debut, <i>Odeon</i>, was published by Ethos Books in 2026.	COMMONWEALTH  Carcanet Press 2025	A neighbourhood containing Singapore's oldest public housing estates, a catchphrase for the dream of equitable distribution, the long tail of the British Empire: the word 'Commonwealth' uncovers rich seams of history, replete with conquests, tragedies and once-potent visions of the future. <i>COMMONWEALTH</i> takes as its starting-point the Bukit Ho Swee fires of the 1960s – an event as deeply seared into the history of Theophilus Kwek's family as the nation's own – and traces the dislocations and relocations that have come before it, and in its wake. Formally adept, <i>COMMONWEALTH</i> draws on a wide array of documentary and oral history sources to address upheavals of individual and collective lives within one of the world's most densely populated cities. Since launching in the UK and Singapore, <i>COMMONWEALTH</i> has been reviewed in <i>Poetry Review</i>, <i>Poetry London</i>, <i>The Telegraph</i>, <i>Penang Monthly</i>, <i>Hong Kong Review of Books</i>, <i>Quarterly Literary Review of Singapore</i>, <i>PR&TA</i>, and other international platforms.



Singapore Book Council
Powering Our Imagination

English Poetry			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
Shivram Gopinath 	Born in Chennai, India, Shivram Gopinath is a poet who has called Singapore a home for more than two decades, picking up a disdain for the typical, and a never-ending appetite for Thosai along the way. His work has been heard at literary festivals, dingy bars and living rooms across the Asia Pacific. He often teaches workshops structured around poetic identity. Shivram is a twice-winning Singapore National Poetry Slam champion. <i>Dey</i> is his debut collection.	Dey  Ethos Books 2025	“Dey” is Tamil slang. A polysemic portal into community. It is “hey”, “no”, “yes”; it hails, it invites, it warns, it cajoles, it pleads, it loves. Just like Shivram Gopinath’s <i>Dey</i>: a cross-genre, multi-tongued celebration of diasporic desire, complaint and joy that stretches what poetry can be. Part translation, part illustration, part verse, <i>Dey</i> is a love child of Tamil cinema tropes and themes, Singaporean hopes and dreams. A discordant soundtrack to migrant identity, an invitation to a language game, a retort to power. Rajinikanth, Lee Kuan Yew, durian fish soup fight for your eyeballs. A thick syrupy mix, that’s what. <i>Dey</i>, read it.



Singapore Book Council
Powering Our Imagination

English Poetry			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
Crispin Rodrigues 	Crispin Rodrigues is a writer who is interested in mixed-race identities and mixed bodies. He is the author of three collections of poetry and the co-editor of an anthology of Singapore-based youth poets, entitled <i>Crazy Little Pyromaniacs</i>. His poems, short fiction and reviews have appeared in several journals and anthologies. He is also the organiser of Uncanny Yishun, a literary tour of his hometown. You can follow him on Instagram at @dragon.paper.wind.	dragon.paper.wind  Pagesetters Services 2024	<i>dragon.paper.wind</i> (龙卷风) is a poetry collection that explores mixed race, bilingualism and the complexities of living in a society still entrapped within the CMIO model of race. In this collection, the author, Crispin Rodrigues, approaches themes of growing up as a mixed-race person, and draws upon the history of mixed-race depictions in history, literature and popular culture to further illustrate the question of hybridity. From poems about monstrosity to poems about the superheroes, the collection calls back to the history of mixed ethnicities in order to draw a path forward.



Singapore Book Council
Powering Our Imagination

English Poetry			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
Adeline Loh 	Adeline Loh (1998-2025) was a writer from Singapore. She has a BA (Hons) in Literature from Yale-NUS College and a MA (Research) in English Literature from Nanyang Technological University. Her poems have been published in journals such as <i>sinθ</i>, and <i>The Madrigal</i>, and were nominated for the Pushcart Prize and the Best New Poets anthology. <i>dream girl, loading</i> is the author's posthumous debut in print.	dream girl, loading  AFTERIMAGE 2025	<i>dream girl, loading</i> bends and takes shape around the dizzying promise of an otome game, where possibilities for a beautiful life unfold along a series of carefully wrought choices and the bets we place on ourselves. The poems in this chapbook reach through different timelines and realities in search of happily-ever-afters and more fantastical ways of being. Is girlhood a state of endless possibility until a hero comes along? How long can one remain kawaii before smashing headfirst into heartbreak and regret? In the light of so many unfathomable conclusions, these poems chart a blueprint for how there might still be meaning in owning up to and remaining steadfast in the choices we've made, even when they're not ideal—for the decisions we make and the endings we deserve. Are you ready to begin a new game?



Singapore Book Council
Powering Our Imagination

English Poetry			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
Cyril Wong 	Cyril Wong is a poet and fictionist in Singapore.	Flung  Rosetta Cultures 2025	Here is a deepening inquiry into the self in the realm of love; a meditation on the ecstasy of the queer self that transcends conventional binaries. Between confessions, dreams and alternative lives, an underlying fear for the partner suffering from that inability to surrender motivates these pages. Fear is a burden that unravels and transforms into opportunities for edification, and therefore more and more love. Between the lover and the mystic self, this poem replays, exists, relents.



Singapore Book Council
Powering Our Imagination

English Poetry			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
Gwee Li Sui 	Gwee Li Sui is a poet, a graphic artist, and a literary critic who holds a doctorate in eighteenth-century literature from Queen Mary, University of London. <i>Look How We've Already Forgotten</i> is his eighth collection of verse. The others are: <i>Who Wants to Buy a Book of Poems?</i>, <i>One Thousand and One Nights</i>, <i>Who Wants to Buy an Expanded Edition of a Book of Poems?</i>, <i>The Other Merlion and Friends</i>, <i>Haikuku</i>, <i>Death Wish</i> and <i>This Floating World</i>.	Look How We Have Already Forgotten  Landmark Books 2025	Gwee Li Sui's eclectic journal in verse recounts the entire COVID-19 pandemic as experienced in Singapore. Setting a time of global upheaval against private emotions and meditations, it hauntingly captures the years-long morbid dance of horror and farce, of boisterousness and deathly quiet. This book is a desperate attempt to document a bygone recent era and asks a central question: what do we elementally lose when we allow ourselves to forget?



Singapore Book Council
Powering Our Imagination

English Poetry			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
Daryl Lim Wei Jie 	Daryl Lim Wei Jie is an award-winning poet, editor, translator and critic from Singapore. His collections of poetry include <i>Mistranslations from a Future Vernacular</i> (2025) and <i>Anything but Human</i> (2021), the latter shortlisted for the Singapore Literature Prize. He conceptualised and co-edited the celebrated anthologies <i>Food Republic: A Singapore Literary Banquet</i> (2020), and <i>The Second Link: An Anthology of Malaysian and Singaporean Writing</i> (2023). In 2023, he received the Young Artist Award, Singapore's highest honour for artists under 35.	Mistranslations from a Future Vernacular  Further Reading Press 2025	<i>Mistranslations from a Future Vernacular</i> is a poetry collection that asks 'How many times can you rewrite a poem?' Using the experimental techniques of the Oulipo group and more allegedly modern technologies, Daryl Lim rewrites a poem over and over again, to exhaustion, exhilaration, and states in between. Daryl collages text. He shadow-boxes with LLMs. He paints. He translates profanely. This boundaryless, genre-bending journey mixes up the signifier and the signified, the source and the target. Buckle up.



Singapore Book Council

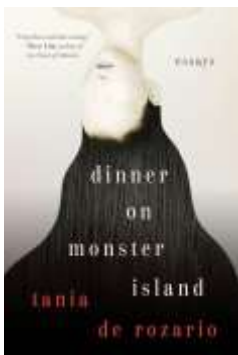
Powering Our Imagination

English Prose			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
Daryl Qilin Yam 	Daryl Qilin Yam is a writer and editor of prose and poetry. His first novel, <i>Kappa Quartet</i> (2016), was longlisted for the Epigram Books Fiction Prize and named one of the year's best novels by The Business Times. His second novel, <i>Lovelier, Lonelier</i> (2021), was a finalist for the 2021 Epigram Books Fiction Prize and nominated for the 2023 International Dublin Literary Award. His writing has also appeared in <i>Berlin Quarterly</i> and the <i>Best New Singaporean Short Stories</i> anthology series.	Be Your Own Bae  Epigram Books 2024	Being your best, most authentic self can be a somewhat grievous process. The winner of a beauty pageant bursts into flames the moment she is crowned. A man enters a dream and re-encounters a former lover in Pyongyang, North Korea. A gaggle of hipsters catches news of a secret Bon Iver concert playing somewhere on Dempsey Hill, only to risk the survival of their friendship. Daryl Qilin Yam's long-awaited first collection of short fiction combines magical realism, speculative autobiography and ekphrasis to weave illusory figures out of gung-ho millennials and the well-meaning mentor figures who fail them, and unveils the strange quests queer folk must embark on in order to keep a hold on love.



Singapore Book Council

Powering Our Imagination

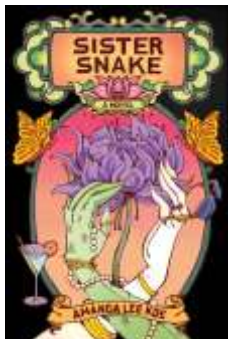
English Prose			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
Tania De Rozario 	Tania De Rozario is a writer and visual artist. She is the author of four books and is a Lambda Literary Award finalist. Her work has won prizes from the New Ohio Review, The Comstock Review, and Singapore's Golden Point Awards. Born in Singapore, she now lives and works on the traditional unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations, colonially known as Vancouver, Canada.	Dinner on Monster Island  HarperCollins 2024	In this unusual, engaging, and intimate collection of personal essays, Lambda Literary Award finalist Tania De Rozario recalls growing up as a queer, brown, fat girl in Singapore, blending memoir with elements of history, pop culture, horror films, and current events to explore the nature of monsters and what it means to be different.

English Prose			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
Simon Tay 	Simon Tay is an award-winning writer, with works of fiction as well as about politics and international issues. His awards for fiction and poetry include the Singapore Literature Prize and the 2019 Southeast Asia Write Award. He is a former NMP and serves as an ambassador for Singapore. He is Chairman of the Singapore Institute of International Affairs, Associate Professor at the National University of Singapore's Faculty of Law and senior consultant with a major Singaporean law firm. He is the only son of Tay Seow Huah.	Enigmas, Tay Seow Huah, My Father, Singapore's Pioneer Spy Chief  Landmark Books 2024	1965. Tay Seow Huah is appointed Director of the Special Branch. Over the tumultuous first decade, he is key in ensuring the country's stability, shaping strategies and initiating new institutions for intelligence and security. He reports directly to PM Lee. In 1974, when Singapore is attacked in the Laju Incident, Tay is tasked to coordinate all responses, negotiate with the attackers and foreign governments. Beyond the headlines, this memoir, written by his son, reveals the personal roots of Singapore's pioneer spy chief set in the traumas of WWII, the Emergency in Malaya, and Singapore's pre-independence political tumult. This book also tracks Tay's own challenges: early retirement and his sudden death at 47. It then offers a daring, speculative and emotional conversation that juxtaposes those early years of Singapore with so much that has happened since.



Singapore Book Council

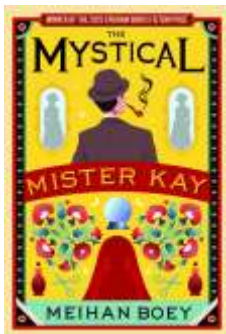
Powering Our Imagination

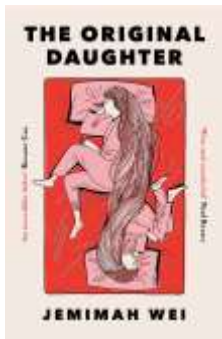
English Prose			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
Amanda Lee Koe 	Amanda Lee Koe was born and raised in Singapore and has lived in New York, Beijing, Berlin and Bangkok. Her debut novel, <i>Delayed Rays of a Star</i> (Doubleday, 2019) was named a Most Anticipated Title by ELLE, Los Angeles Times, Thrillist, and USA Today, and one of NPR's Best Books of The Year. Amanda has received fellowships from the New York Foundation for the Arts, PEN America, the University of Iowa's International Writing Program, the DAAD Artists-in-Berlin Program, the National Arts Council of Singapore, and the F��ndation Jan Michalski.	Sister Snake  Ethos Books 2024	A glittering, bold, darkly funny novel about two sisters—one in New York, one in Singapore—who are bound by an ancient secret. Sisterhood is difficult for Su and Emerald. Su leads a sheltered, moneyed life as the picture-perfect wife of a conservative politician in Singapore. Emerald is a nihilistic sugar baby in New York, living from whim to whim and using her charms to make ends meet. But they share a secret: once, they were snakes, basking under a full moon in Tang dynasty China. A thousand years later, their mysterious history is the only thing still binding them together. When Emerald experiences a violent encounter in Central Park and Su boards the next flight to New York, the two reach a tenuous reconciliation for the first time in decades. Su convinces Emerald to move to Singapore so she can keep an eye on her—but she soon begins to worry that Emerald's irrepressible behaviour will out them both, in a sparkling, affluent city where everything runs like clockwork.



Singapore Book Council

Powering Our Imagination

English Prose			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
Meihan Boey 	Meihan Boey is the author of <i>The Formidable Miss Cassidy</i> (co-winner of the 2021 Epigram Books Fiction Prize and winner of the 2022 Singapore Book Awards for Best Literary Work), its sequel <i>The Enigmatic Madam Ingram</i> (shortlisted for the 2023 Epigram Books Fiction Prize), as well as the sci-fi novella <i>The Messiah Virus</i> (2019). Her short stories appear in the anthologies <i>Fish Eats Lion Redux</i> and <i>Fright 1</i>. She is Vice President of the Association of Comic Artists of Singapore.	The Mystical Mister Kay  Epigram Books 2025	The final gripping chapter in the saga of Miss Cassidy. The truth is out there. And somewhere, so is Miss Cassidy. The Mystical Mister Kay, a ghost-seer from Singapore, arrives in the English city of Tolwich in search of his friend Miss Cassidy. But his investigation takes a darker turn: a princess is found dead, a cult-like fashion house holds the city in its grip, and a seminary for Asian royals hides secrets no one dares name. As gods from Ancient Greece and Asia slip into the mortal world, Mr Kay is pulled into a mystery that spans continents and mythologies—one that may bring him closer to Miss Cassidy, or destroy him trying.

English Prose			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
Jemimah Wei  (Photo Credits: Amanda Wong)	Jemimah Wei is the author of <i>The Original Daughter</i>. Born and raised in Singapore, she is now based between Singapore and the United States. She was a Wallace Stegner Fellow at Stanford University and Felipe P. De Alba Fellow at Columbia University, where she earned her MFA. A recipient of awards and fellowships from Singapore's National Arts Council, Sewanee Writers' Conference, Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, and Writers in Paradise, she was named one of Narrative's '30 below 30' writers, a National Book Award's '5 under 35'.	The Original Daughter  Orion, Weidenfeld & Nicolson 2025	Who would you sacrifice on the altar of ambition? Singapore, 1996. Before Arin, Genevieve Yang was an only child. Living with her parents and grandmother in a single-room flat in Bedok, she is saddled with an unexpected sibling when Arin appears, the shameful legacy of a grandfather long believed to be dead. At once collaborators and sisters, Gen and Arin grow up inseparable, navigating the intensity of life in working-class Singapore - where urgent insistence on achievement demands self-immolation in the realms of imagination, work, and play. But as the rapidly modernising, winner-takes-all world threatens to leave one behind as the other's star rises exponentially, the sisters must weigh their allegiances and bonds, the cost of success and ultimately reckon with who they've become. What results is a story that cracks open the fault lines of Singaporean society, our desperate need for acceptance and our yearning to be loved.



Singapore Book Council
Powering Our Imagination

English Prose			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
Shze-Hui Tjoa 	Shze-Hui Tjoa is a Singaporean writer who lives in Edinburgh, UK. Her debut, <i>The Story Game</i> , was named a best nonfiction book of 2024 by <i>Electric Literature</i> and <i>Paste Magazine</i> when it was first published in the US and Canada. Shze-Hui is an editor at <i>Guernica</i> and <i>Adi Magazine</i> . Her writing has received support from arts organisations in the US, Portugal, Singapore, and Morocco. Learn more about her work and creative philosophy at www.tjoashzehui.com .	The Story Game  Faction Press 2025	A breathtaking, unexpected journey through layers of story toward truth and recovered identity. In the humid dark of a eucalyptus-scented room, a woman named Hui lies on a mattress telling stories about herself to a little girl — her listener. As the conversation continues, what unfolds is a genre-shattering memoir that reenacts the process of healing author Shze-Hui Tjoa moved through to recover memories lost to complex PTSD, and eventually reconstruct her sense of self. Stunning in its originality and intimacy, <i>The Story Game</i> is a piercing tribute to selfhood and sisterhood.

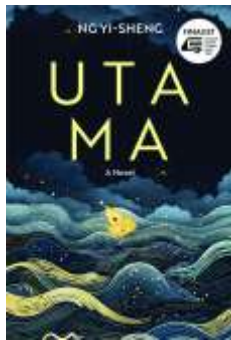


Singapore Book Council
Powering Our Imagination

English Prose			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
Choo Yi Feng 	Choo Yi Feng is an intertidal explorer, environmental activist, ecologist and fiction writer. His writing has been published in <i>Foglifter Journal</i>, <i>Queer Southeast Asia</i>, <i>PR&TA</i>, <i>Alluvium: The Journal of Literary Shanghai</i>, <i>Bayou Magazine</i>, <i>Quarterly Literary Review Singapore</i>, <i>Mānoa: A Pacific Journal of International Writing</i> and <i>Curios</i>, the annual student journal of Tembusu College at NUS. His story “Spider Hunters” was nominated for a Pushcart Prize, and his aspirations are divided between being a fiction writer and a marine biologist.	The Waiting Room  Epigram Books 2024	A man seeks resolution when the spirit of his abusive mother calls from the grave. A sex worker finds temporary salvation with a returning Australian tourist professing his love. The afterlife plays host to a vast museum dedicated to jetsam from the living world. In this debut fiction collection, these imagined worlds are set variously in plural Singapores, Southeast Asia and beyond, and illuminate the urgent need to connect even after death.



Singapore Book Council
Powering Our Imagination

English Prose			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
Ng Yi-Sheng 	Ng Yi-Sheng is a Singaporean writer, researcher and activist. His books include <i>Lion City</i> and the poetry collection <i>last boy</i> (both winners of the Singapore Literature Prize), <i>SQ21: Singapore Queers in the 21st Century</i>, <i>Loud Poems for a Very Obliging Audience</i> and <i>Black Waters, Pink Sands</i>. He has edited <i>A Mosque in the Jungle: Classic Ghost Stories</i> by Othman Wok and <i>EXHALE: An Anthology of Queer Singapore Voices</i>, and translated Wong Yoon Wah's <i>The New Village and Homecomings</i>. He is also the author of the middle grade series <i>Haywire Histories</i>.	Utama  Epigram Books 2025	<i>Utama</i> reimagines the rise of Sang Nila Utama through the eyes of those who shaped his path—exiles, warriors and queens. From the Chola invasion to a fateful sea crossing, ambition and betrayal forge an empire. As dragons fall and a sea goddess awakens, the Lion City is born.

English Prose			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
Wen-yi Lee  (Photo credits: Gianna Chun)	Wen-yi Lee is the author of YA horror <i>The Dark We Know</i> and adult historical fantasy <i>When They Burned the Butterfly</i>. Her writing has appeared in venues like <i>Lightspeed</i>, <i>Uncanny</i>, <i>Reactor</i>, and <i>Strange Horizons</i>, as well as various anthologies. She is based in Singapore and is a graduate of University College London, and likes writing about girls with bite, feral nature, and ghosts.	When They Burned the Butterfly  Wildfire Books, Headline Publishing Group, Hachette UK 2025	Singapore, 1972: Newly independent, a city of immigrants grapple for power. Gangsters are the last conduits of the gods their ancestors brought with them, and the back alleys are the last place where magic has not been legislated away. When Adeline's mother dies with a butterfly seared onto her skin, Adeline hunts down a girl she saw in a back-alley bar fight - a girl with a butterfly tattoo - only to discover that she's far from alone. Ang Tian is a Red Butterfly: one of a gang of girls sworn to a fire goddess, empowered to wreak vengeance on the men who abuse them. Adeline's mother led a double life as their patron, Madam Butterfly. Now that she's dead, Adeline's bloodline is the sole link to this goddess. But no home lasts long around here. Adeline may have found her place, but it may take everything she's got to keep it.

Longlist for the Chinese Prose



Singapore Book Council
Powering Our Imagination

Chinese Prose			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
黄凯德 Wong Koi Tet 	黄凯德，曾任南洋理工大学中文系兼职讲师，主要教授创意写作的相关课程。自新加坡国大毕业，获南洋理工大学硕士学位。过去在报馆任职记者，并常为本地报章杂志撰写专栏。2015年担任南大中文系驻校作家，连续于2020年及2022年获得新加坡文学奖（小说类与非虚构类）。现已在国内外出版的作品有15部。 Wong Koi Tet was previously a lecturer with NTU Chinese department teaching creative writing courses. He was previously a journalist and has been writing in different literary genres since his junior college years. Appointed as the NTU-NAC Writer-in-residence in 2015, he has published 15 books both locally and internationally. He won the Singapore Literature Prize in both Fiction and Creative Nonfiction categories in 2020 and the Creative Nonfiction category in 2022.	404  城市书房 2025	《404》的前身是本地报章连载的系列专栏，35篇作品外加一篇后记，文字本事独立成篇，结构脉络又互为呼应，既有抒情散文的韵致，又有寓言叙事的伦理。每篇文章穿插了作者大学教书的经验觉悟、街头巷尾的耳闻目见，以及记忆怀旧的牵挂羁绊。沉潜的文字和幽默的腔调，新颖的框架和独特的风格，《404》打造出一种琐碎而真实的，生命的隐隐约约，以及生活的影影绰绰。 404 is a collection of 35 essays and an afterword. Though each essay stands on its own, they echo and resonate with one another. Each piece weaves in the author's reflections from teaching at the university, observations from the streets and alleys, and the pull of memory and nostalgia. With contemplative prose and a humorous tone, a fresh structure and distinctive style, the collection traces the marks of the author's personal growth, capturing the fleeting but genuine glimmers of life together forming a literary mosaic of Singapore, while speaking to universal concerns of growth, loss, and belonging in contemporary society—a work of literary nonfiction that resonates well beyond its borders.



Singapore Book Council
Powering Our Imagination

Chinese Prose			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
陈加昌 Chin Kah Chong 	陈加昌，新加坡资深记者。从事新闻工作逾半世纪，曾采访过万隆会议、新马分家、新加坡独立、学潮暴动、福利巴士工潮暴乱、种族暴动及重大区域外交事件等新闻。 Chin Kah Chong is a veteran journalist in Singapore. With over half a century of experience in journalism, he has covered major events such as the Bandung Conference, the separation of Singapore and Malaysia, Singapore's independence, student protests and riots, the Hock Lee bus strike and riots, racial riots, and significant regional diplomatic incidents.	冷战与南洋：我的新闻人生 The Cold War and Southeast Asia: My Life in Journalism  季风带文化 2025	本书是新加坡已故资深记者陈加昌七十年新闻人生的回顾。从韩战、越战、万隆亚非会议、华玲和谈、新马分家到泛亚通讯社的兴衰转型，陈加昌走过每一场新闻现场，书写每一段地缘变局，不仅是记者的职业生涯自述，更是一部以南洋视角书写的冷战亚洲史。 This book is a retrospective of the late veteran journalist Chin Kah Chong's seventy-year career. From the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Bandung Conference, the Baling Talks, and the separation of Singapore and Malaysia, to the rise, fall, and transformation of the Pan Asia Newspaper Alliance, Chin Kah Chong was present at every news scene and recorded every geopolitical shift. This work is not only an autobiographical account of his career as a journalist but also a history of Asia during the Cold War, told from a Southeast Asian perspective.
洪添发（海凡） Ang Tiam Huat (Hai Fan)	洪添发（海凡），新加坡出生。著有文集《雨林告诉你》《喧腾的山林》、小说集《可口的饥饿》《野径》《雨林的背影》。《可口的饥饿》入选香港《亚洲周刊》2017年中文十大小说。	落香 Echo of a Fragrance	本书分作三辑，辑一〈记挂〉描写温馨的家庭日常，遥想童年与亲情，怀念敬重的前辈与故友。辑二〈落香〉寄情于花草树木，记叙植物与人们共生共存的轨迹。辑三〈看见〉走访探查各地古迹，将那些被遗落在历史褶皱里的过往，重新赋予生命力。海凡以质朴优雅的文字，书写所珍视的人与事，记忆在岁月浸润下得以安放，莫失莫忘。



Singapore Book Council
Powering Our Imagination

Chinese Prose			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
	Hai Fan's works include essay collections <i>The Rainforest Tells You</i> and <i>The Roaring Forest</i>, and the short story collections <i>Delicious Hunger</i>, <i>Wild Paths</i>, and <i>The Rainforest's Silhouette</i>. <i>Delicious Hunger</i> was selected as one of the Top 10 Chinese-language novels of 2017 by Hong Kong's Yazhou Zhoukan (亞洲周刊).	 季风带文化 2024	This book is divided into three sections. Part One "Missing," depicts heartwarming family life, reflects on childhood and familial bonds, and pays tribute to respected elders and old friends. Part Two, "Echo of a Fragrance," draws inspiration from flowers, plants, and trees, chronicling the symbiotic relationship between flora and humanity. Part Three, "Sightings," explores historical sites across the land, breathing new life into the past that has been left behind in the folds of history. With simple yet elegant prose, Hai Fan reflects on the people and events he holds dear; through the passage of time, these memories quietly settle into place, never to be lost or forgotten.
蔡欣洵 Chuah Soon Soon	蔡欣洵原籍马来西亚，现为新加坡公民。出版个人散文集《有时，我们远行》和《美美堂食》，诗集《诗托邦》。曾获2021年第四届方修文学奖诗歌组优秀奖。目前是理工学院讲师。 Chuah Soon Soon has published personal essay collections <i>A Long Walk</i> and <i>The Taste of What Remains</i>, as well as a poetry	美美堂食 The Taste of What Remains	食物之所以令人思念，未必因为美味，而是因为岁月与情感的沉淀。人生的每段时光，总会有味道相伴；多年后偶尔回忆，那熟悉的滋味会悄然浮现。《美美堂食》就是以岁月和记忆腌制的美食记录。重点不在于烹煮，而是在于三代女性之间如何以食物构筑了一生完美的回忆。宁静的文字温暖地说着家乡的食物，复习你我的青春。 Food lingers in our hearts not simply because it was delicious, but because it carries the weight of time and



Singapore Book Council
Powering Our Imagination

Chinese Prose			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
	collection <i>Poetry Utopia</i>. She won the 4th Fang Xiu Literary Awards (Poetry category) in 2021. Soon Soon is currently a lecturer at a polytechnic.	 黑土设计所 / Heitu Design 2025	feeling. Every season of our lives leaves behind a taste of its own, and years later, when memory returns, those forgotten flavors creep up. 美美堂食, <i>The Taste of What Remains</i>, is a collection steeped in such remembrance. More than just about cooking, it is a tender portrait of three generations of women who weave love, loss, and belonging through food. In its quiet, lustrous prose, the flavours of home become a way of returning to the selves we once were.
潘靖颖 Phoon Jing Ying 	潘靖颖, 1995年生于新加坡, 南洋理工大学中文系毕业。曾获金笔奖、新华文学青年奖、台湾国立中山大学西子湾文学奖、新加坡大专文学奖等。曾担任《新明日报》记者, 目前就读东安格利亚大学创意写作硕士。 Born in 1995, Phoon Jing Ying graduated from NTU, majoring in Chinese. Her works have won the Golden Point Award and other national prizes. She was a	柠檬 Lemon 	《柠檬》收录金笔奖得主潘靖颖的十部短篇小说, 包括2021年金笔奖小说组二奖《柠檬》以及2021年新华青年文学微型小说金奖《摄取光的男人》。那些自我束缚以及想挣脱的人在故事中寻找出口, 这里有工作失意的人、有失去老伴独自面对生活的人、有对母亲愧疚和怨恨的人、有自我审视和剖析的人。但也许, 看不透的日子里, 令人着迷的不是正解, 而是他们始终细嚼生命甘香的柠檬味。 <i>Lemon</i> collects 10 short stories by Phoon Jing Ying, including "Lemon", which won Second Prize in the 2021 Golden Point Award, and "The Man Who Absorbs Light", which won the Gold Award at the



Singapore Book Council

Powering Our Imagination

Chinese Prose			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
	journalist from Shin Min Daily News. She is currently pursuing a Master's in Creative Writing at University of East Anglia.	城市书房 2025	2021 Xinhua Youth Literary Micro-fiction competition. The characters in these stories are people who have bound themselves and long to break free - those who have stumbled in their careers, those who have lost their life partners and must face the world alone, those who carry guilt and resentment toward their mothers, and those who turn their gaze inward to examine and lay bare their own souls. Yet perhaps, in the days when nothing seems clear, what truly captivates us is not the right answer - but the way these characters, through it all, continue to slowly savour the bittersweet, fragrant taste of a lemon.



Singapore Book Council

Powering Our Imagination

Chinese Prose			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
周凯莉 Zhou Kaili 	周凯莉，毕业于北京大学，旅居新加坡的专栏作家，出版了两部著作。曾供职于财经媒体、创办有机农场、新媒体公司，连续创办两家新经济智库，后进入中国顶尖互联网公司。现自由写作。 A graduate of Peking University, Zhou Kaili is a columnist and has published two books. She previously worked in financial media, founded an organic farm and a new media company, and established two think tanks focused on the new economy before joining one of China's leading internet companies. She now writes full-time.	弱水 River of no return  玲子传媒出版 / Lingzi Media 2024	七篇现实主义的世情故事，七种流动的俗世悲欢——作者搭建了一个虚构世界，有中国及东南亚社会在狂飙突进里的风雨流变，也有普通人在时空变换里的颠沛流离。从北京、上海、广州、香港、青岛等小城，到温哥华、槟城、胡志明市和新加坡，小说讲述在流动的生存场景里，人们如何面对孤独，如何寻求认同，如何抵抗命运。 This collection of seven realist stories portrays seven shifting forms of worldly sorrow and joy. Through a carefully constructed fictional world, the author captures the turbulence and transformations of Chinese and Southeast Asian societies amid rapid change, while also depicting the displacement and uncertainty experienced by ordinary people across different times and places. From Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Hong Kong, and Qingdao to Vancouver, Penang, Ho Chi Minh City, and Singapore, the stories explore how individuals confront loneliness, the search for identity, and struggle against fate within constantly changing landscapes of survival and migration.
谢裕民 Chia Joo Ming	谢裕民，1959年生于新加坡。1993年获青年艺术奖，2021年获文化奖。曾参加爱荷华国际写作计划，并任南洋理工大学驻校作家。小说	我的游离性遗忘 My Dissociative Memories	一名左二代三岁时父亲失踪，开始他对父亲踪迹的追寻与对新加坡左翼事迹的追索，小说借此揭示新加坡上世纪五六〇年代，年轻人受共产主义影响，甚至标榜“鲁迅子弟”，竭力摆脱殖民统治，与当权者发生冲



Singapore Book Council
Powering Our Imagination

Chinese Prose			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
	《世说新语》《m40》《放逐与追逐》《建国》、历史研究专书《不确定的国家——李光耀与新加坡》都获新加坡文学奖。 Born in Singapore in 1959, Chia Joo Ming received the Singapore Young Artist award in 1993 and was the recipient of the 2021 Cultural Medallion. He had participated in the Iowa International Writing Program in 1995 and was the writer-in-residence at Nanyang Technological University in 2014. His novellas <i>Reconstructing Nanyang Images</i>, <i>m40</i>, <i>Exile or Pursuit</i>, <i>Kian Kok</i> and historical nonfiction <i>The Uncertain Republic: Lee Kuan Yew and Singapore</i> had been awarded the Singapore Literature Prize.	 时报文化出版企业股份有限公司 2024	突，最终成为时代的牺牲品。时代狂潮平复后，两代弄潮儿及其亲友——包括左二代男主角，在巨大的悲痛下，为防卫创伤，刻意遗忘过去，导致个人意识认知遭破坏，遗忘自己的身份。这种失忆症医学上称游离性遗忘症。 The son of a second-generation leftist, whose father disappeared when he was three, begins his quest to find his father and trace the history of Singapore's leftist movement. This story reveals how, in Singapore during the 1950s and 60s, young people, influenced by communism and even identifying themselves as descendants of Lu Xun, struggled to break free from colonial rule, clashing with those in power and ultimately becoming victims of the era. After the tumultuous times subsided, two generations of these pioneers and their families "including the second-generation leftist protagonist" deliberately forgot their past to protect themselves from trauma, resulting in a breakdown of their personal consciousness and a loss of self-identity. This condition is medically known as dissociative amnesia.
蔡素君 Chua Sok Koon	蔡素君，1976年生于新加坡，热衷写作和翻译。2017年以《伶人小	物化及其他 Metamorphoses & Others	小说辑分成3部分，先是和生死主题有关，再是关于境遇和困境，最后是以女性为中心的叙述。古代或



Singapore Book Council
Powering Our Imagination

Chinese Prose			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
	传》获得联合早报“文艺城年度作品”。2020年获得“梁实秋文学翻译”比赛评审奖。2023年荣获第13届全球华文文学星云奖“历史长篇小说写作计划补助专案”。 Born in 1976, Chua Sok Koon is a writer and translator. Her short story won Lianhe Zaobao's Literary Work of the Year in 2016. She won the 2021 Jury Prize in Taiwan's Liang Shiqiu Translation Competition. In 2023, she won the historical novel writing grant awarded by the Xing Yun International Chinese Literary Prize (Taiwan). In 2025, she published her first short story collection, <i>Metamorphoses and Others</i>.	 城市书房 2025	现代只是符号，女性也是代称而物化则是女性自我迷失又欲寻找的暗喻。在女性不再失语的年代，关于许多禁忌的话题与经历；殖民地统治者者的傲慢、六十年代明星风华、女性的爱与哀愁，尝试用另一种语言表达，说的终究是人的故事。 This collection is divided into three parts. The first is related to the theme of life and death, the second is about life situations and predicaments, and the third consists of female-centred narratives spanning both the ancient and modern eras, showing how women in ancient times were not necessarily helpless, and those in modern times are not necessarily unfettered. Reading about arrogant colonialists, film stars of the 60s, the anxieties and myths abound in the modern city, and the love and sorrow of women, is like falling into a maze, both linguistic and cultural. Many of the stories are written from a woman's point of view, with "metamorphosis" also being a metaphor for women who are lost and want to find themselves.



Singapore Book Council

Powering Our Imagination

Chinese Prose			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
刘桂兰（艾禺） Liew Kwee Lan 	刘桂兰（艾禺），新加坡作家协会名誉会长，世界华文微型小说研究会秘书、世界华文作家交流会中文秘书、世界海外华文女作家会员。出版多部作品，体裁以短篇小说、微型小说和儿童文学为主。 Liew Kwee Lan is the Honorary President of the Singapore Association of Writers, Secretary of the World Chinese Mini-Fiction Research Association, Chinese Secretary of the World Chinese Writers Exchange Association, and a member of the World Overseas Chinese Women Writers Association. She has published numerous works, mainly in the genres of short stories, mini-fiction and children's literature.	有熊出没 Bear Sightings  玲子传媒出版社 / Lingzi Media 2024	16 篇小说刻画人与人、人与物的关系，感情的蜕变、人性的复杂。作品企图唤醒人性久远的记忆和沉睡的情感，重新修补破裂的碎片，为人生的前路解锁前进。本书也是艾禺对人性深处的一次探险，对生活中平凡景象背后的不平凡意义的一次挖掘。这些故事或温馨、或悲伤、或幽默、或深沉，每一篇都能引起读者的共鸣。 This collection of 16 short stories explores relationships between people, as well as between people and the objects around them, revealing emotional transformations and the complexities of human nature. Through these works, the author seeks to awaken long-forgotten memories and dormant emotions, piecing together fractured fragments of life and offering new perspectives for moving forward. The book is also the author's exploration into the depths of human nature and an attempt to uncover the extraordinary meanings hidden within ordinary life. Some stories are warm and touching, others sorrowful, humorous, or contemplative, but each resonates deeply with readers.
陈建文 Tan Keen Mun	陈建文，1978年生于吉隆坡，理工男，投身于科技产品研发二十年。曾追卧沙场，也隐约见过山顶风	追獭 A Wild Tapir Chase	《追獭》收录了陈建文十五篇短篇小说，其中包括2021年金笔奖小说组三奖《追獭》和2023年金笔奖小说组二奖《焦黑的壁虎》，多部短篇小说曾在新加坡



Singapore Book Council
Powering Our Imagination

Chinese Prose			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
	光。适逢中年危机，提笔写作，记下一些没被看见的事物。有幸获奖后，便厚着脸皮在世上留下片言只语。 Born in 1978 Kuala Lumpur, Tan Keen Mun is an engineer-turned-writer who spent over 20 years in the tech industry before finally diving into his first love: storytelling. While he has been writing Chinese short stories on and off for years—winning Singapore's Golden Point Award twice in a row—it wasn't until retiring from engineering that he began pursuing creative writing full-time.	 城市书房 2025	坡《联合早报》〈文艺城〉、马来西亚《星洲日报》〈文艺春秋〉发表 小说透过不同视角探讨个体与社会之间若即若离的关系。故事在现实与虚幻之间游移，以情景、时事、价值观、意识形态及社会体制等元素勾勒出孤独的轮廓，并借助反讽与隐喻引导读者反思自身处境，并从多元视角重新审视主流叙事 全书风格游走于两种叙事维度：一是充塞荒诞隐喻的现实世界（如《地铁里的鱼尾狮》、《肇事者H》、《没有楼梯的地下室》等），另一则是相对写实的架空科幻或奇幻设定（如《追獾》、《大怪兽》、《发条记事》）。作者刻意制造现实与超现实的错位感，让故事在似真似假的突兀氛围中激发读者的不安与思索，进而察觉那些日常生活中反复发生却被忽视的荒谬与不合理 这部作品既是对孤独的书写，也是对现代社会的静默叩问。 <i>A Wild Tapir Chase</i> is a collection of fifteen short stories by Tan Keen Mun, including "A Wild Tapir Chase", which won third prize in the Fiction category of the 2021 Golden Point Awards, and "Charred Gecko," which won second prize in the



Singapore Book Council

Powering Our Imagination

Chinese Prose			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
			same category at the 2023 Golden Point Awards. Several of the short stories have been published in Lianhe Zaobao's <i>Literary City</i> (Singapore) and Sin Chew Daily's <i>Literary Spring and Autumn</i> (Malaysia). Through various perspectives, the stories explore the ambiguous relationship between the individual and society. Shifting between reality and illusion, the narratives employ elements such as situations, current events, values, ideologies, and social structures to sketch the contours of loneliness. With irony and metaphor, the collection prompts readers to reflect on their own circumstances and re-examine mainstream narratives from multiple viewpoints. The book's style oscillates between two narrative dimensions: one is a realistic world filled with absurd metaphors (as seen in stories like "The Merlion in the MRT," "Perpetrator H," and "The Basement Without Stairs"); the other features relatively realistic sci-fi or fantasy settings (such as "A Wild Tapir Chase", "The Great Monster," and "The Clockwork Chronicle"). The author deliberately creates a sense of dislocation between the real and the surreal, immersing readers in an uncanny atmosphere that is at once believable and disorienting, provoking unease and contemplation—



Singapore Book Council
Powering Our Imagination

Chinese Prose			
Author	Bio	Book Title	Synopsis
			and ultimately revealing the absurdities and irrationalities that recur in everyday life yet often go unnoticed. This work is both an exploration of solitude and a quiet interrogation of modern society.