

A SUPER HAPPY STORY

(ABOUT FEELING
SUPER
SAD)

By Jon Brittan and
Matthew Floyd-Jones

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KC Arts Centre – Home of SRT

Advisory (Some Mature Content and Coarse Language)

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A SUPER HAPPY STORY (ABOUT FEELING SUPER SAD)

By Jon Brittan and Matthew Floyd-Jones

CREATIVE TEAM

DIRECTOR
Daniel Jenkins

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
Eric Larrea

MUSIC DIRECTOR
Joel Nah

SET DESIGNER
Laura McEwen

LIGHTING DESIGNER
Dorothy Png

SOUND DESIGNER
Noor Hidayat Norzizan

CHOREOGRAPHER
Pat Jon Gregory

ASSOCIATE LIGHTING DESIGNER
Tai Zi Feng

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possibilities**

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ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Welcome to this year's SRT The Young Company's year-end production, *A Super Happy Story (About Feeling Super Sad)*. I'm incredibly proud of these talented young actors and the work they've put into this production, under the leadership of our Deputy Artistic Director, Daniel Jenkins.

A Super Happy Story (About Feeling Super Sad) tackles a topic that's often hard to talk about: mental health. With humour and honesty, this play explores the struggle of dealing with sadness in a world that constantly pressures us to be happy. It's a story that reminds us all of the importance of acknowledging both the highs and lows of life, and acknowledging that it's absolutely ok to be sad.

Our TYC actors have worked hard to bring sensitivity and authenticity to this story. Their commitment to portraying such a challenging subject is a testament to their growth as artists and individuals. I believe this show will resonate with everyone, encouraging us to think more deeply about mental health and our own emotions.

To all our TYC members, we're proud of you and excited to see where you'll go from here.

To our audience, thank you for joining us to celebrate their achievements and to share in this important story, and thank you to Bloomberg Philanthropies and Deloitte for supporting our work with young people.

GAURAV KRIPALANI

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

A Super Happy Story (About Feeling Super Sad) tackles a subject that is unfortunately far too prevalent today, particularly in young people: depression. What makes this production stand out is its innovative approach - using music, song, dance, and humour to tackle such a serious topic. This style doesn't undermine the message; instead, I believe it makes it more accessible and impactful, and it was this cabaret feel that initially drew me to the script.

For those grappling with depression, it's essential to understand that it isn't something one can catch, nor is it caused by something the individual has done or could have avoided. It's not anyone's fault. There is, in fact, no reason. However, what we do know is that talking to others about your feelings, sharing experiences, and seeking help can pave the way towards healing. Remember to find the small things that bring you joy and appreciation, as these can make a significant difference. Look for moments to cherish, things to look forward to, the things that make you feel better and the reasons to embrace each new day.

I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations to my dedicated cast of young actors, who have put in countless hours of hard work for this production. Their honesty and sensitivity in addressing such an important subject have truly moved me. This is the first musical The Young Company has staged in nearly twenty years, and while the idea of singing, dancing, and acting might have been daunting for some, they have embraced the challenge beautifully.

A huge thank you to my incredible creative and production teams - Joel, PJ, TJ, Jane, Dorothy, Jia Hui, Yat, Jasmine, Jia Ying, Keidyn, Tiara, Charlene and Grace - without whom this production would not have been possible. Special thanks to Eric, my Assistant Director, who has been my right hand man and an invaluable support throughout this journey. I also want to express gratitude to everyone at SRT, especially Gaurav and Charlotte, for their unwavering support of the next generation of young Singaporean actors.

Now sit back and enjoy this Super Happy Story!!!

DANIEL JENKINS

SYNOPSIS

Sally is a happy person. She doesn't let the little things get her down and rarely shows when she's upset. But Sally's hiding an illness that makes her feel like she's not the person she wants to be. And as much as she tries to keep it under wraps, the weight of pretending gets heavier and heavier.

A Super Happy Story (About Feeling Super Sad) is a refreshingly honest and hilariously heartfelt musical that invites you to join Sally on her journey. Expect catchy songs, laugh-out-loud moments, and an uplifting exploration of the highs and lows we all face.



CAST

SALLY

Liew Ai Wen
Chen Hui Hsuen Letitia
Eugenia Lee

TOBY

Ze Xi Isaac Lee

TASH

Natalie Titus

MUM

Ng Xin Hui

GRACE

Sarah Soh Ker Wen

KEVIN

Feroz J, Malik

ENSEMBLE

Diego Alfonso Aujero
Riona Ann Cardozo
Joshua Ho
Samantha Ho
Athaya Putri Muhammad
Kate Chloe Tan
Tze Sheng Milton Wong

CAST

Liew Ai Wen sally



Ai Wen is a passionate and grateful member of the theatre scene in Singapore. She is also a proud graduate of BA(Hons) musical theatre from Lasalle College of the Arts.

Professional theatre credits include: *The Three Little Pigs* (Mandarin, SRT's TheLittleCompany), *Fatimah and Her Magic Socks* (Esplanade, PlayTime), *Monster in The Mirror* (Bitesize, Gateway), *The Sound of Music* (Base Entertainment).

Professional Film credits include: *Sunny Side Up* (MediaCorp).

Instagram: @mix_n_matcha

Ai Wen is very honoured to be part of this production and to share *A Super Happy Story (About Feeling Super Sad)* with everyone!

Chen Hui Hsuen Letitia Sally



Letitia fell in love with theatre after joining her junior college's drama club, where she first began acting. Spurred by her curiosity about the world and her interest in storytelling, she is currently majoring in communication studies at NTU Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information.

She is grateful for the lessons learnt during her time in TYC and is honoured to have performed in last year's production of *After Life*. She looks forward to sharing the stage with her friends once again and hopes that you will have a super happy time watching the show.

CAST

Eugenia Lee sally



Eugenia is an actor, singer, dancer and host. She graduated with a first-class BA(Hons) degree in musical theatre from Lasalle College of the Arts.

She is actively involved in the local arts scene and she aims to create meaningful work that touches one's heart and soul.

Professional stage credits include: *The Wizard*, *Puppeteer (Coldplay Music of the Spheres Concert)*, *Once Upon a Campfire* (Zip Zap Zoom Collective, Esplanade), *Art Alive!* (Zip Zap Zoom Collective, National Gallery Singapore), *Superhawker Me!* (The Chewy Collective, Children's Museum Singapore) and more.

College stage credits include: Rapunzel in *Into the Woods*, Amy in *Company*, Morticia in *The Addams Family* and more.

Get to know her more on instagram: @voodabomb

She is honoured to be part of this heartfelt, cabaret-like musical and is excited to share this story with all those who watch it.

Ze Xi Isaac Lee Toby



Isaac is excited to be a part of the TYC family! Raised in the United States, he has previously performed in productions such as *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Willy Wonka*. He was also a recipient of the Herb Alpert Emerging Young Artists Scholarship for his work at the California State Summer School of the Arts and is currently in pursuit of a BFA in acting.

CAST

Natalie Titus Tash



Natalie Linn Titus is a graduate of Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts' Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in performance making (validated by University of the Arts London). She is a performer, performance maker and drama educator.

Ng Xinhui Mum



Xinhui is thrilled to make her debut in her first professional production. With experience in theatre production and set design, she has deepened her interest in theatre through SRT's The Young Company programme over the past year. Outside of theatre, you can find her indulging in her love for tater tots. She looks forward to sharing with everyone that it's okay to embrace emotions!

Sarah Soh Ker Wen Grace



Sarah has been involved in theatre for 7 years and isn't ready to quit acting just yet! Currently a freelance host and voice-over artist, she loves connecting with people through her work. Sarah has taken on various roles, including the lead as an aspiring journalist in SMUKI's annual musical production, *GAYA 2023*, and *Alice in Wonderland*. She is also a business undergraduate at SMU, hoping to find time to pursue theatre on the side whenever she can. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family or curling up with a good book!

CAST

Feroz J, Malik Kevin



Feroz is a strange figure who bears an aching love for all things that move him.

Since graduating from LASALLE's Diploma in Performance, Feroz has been seen shouting at children as Prospero in *Caliban's Island* (Esplanade's March On! Festival) by Void Deck Games, as Leontes in *The Winter's Tale* (2023) by The Winter Players, and madly raving about the poetic forms of

Verse to anybody who will listen. He recently made his directorial debut with *The Winter Players* in Marlowe's Doctor Faustus.

Diego Alfonso Aujero Ensemble



Diego is super happy to be a part of this show, but is not feeling super sad (at least for now). He identifies as a full grown adult physically but mentally, a teenage fairy mermaid princess. His aspirations include pursuing being a creative as a career, 8 hours of sleep every night and resolving all of his traumas. When not acting, he enjoys listening to his favourite artists: the voices in his head.

IG: diegodaydreams

Riona Ann Cardozo Ensemble



Riona Ann Cardozo, currently a high school student, is a passionate performing artist, having fallen in love with the stage at age seven. She has acted, danced, and sung in a number of shows, such as *Allison has the Worst Week Ever*, *Stage Door*, and *Aladdin* within her school and outside, such as *Dastak* (Hindi), *Evolution*, and *Kaleidoscope*. She works part-time as an assistant drama trainer for Tamasha

by Deepika Rajani, too. In her spare time, she loves to study languages, nearing proficiency in Hindi, Korean, Chinese and Japanese. Riona is honoured to be here!

Instagram: @riririona_ac

CAST

Joshua Ho Ensemble



Joshua is an actor who loves meaningful stories and is excited to help tell *A Super Happy Story (About Feeling Super Sad)*.

First dipping his toes into acting in high school, he was hooked. From school productions and voice-over work to TYC's *Stories From The Heart* and *After Life*, his love only grew.

Currently in NS, Joshua spends his time outside camp immersing himself further in the art and learning more about this newfound passion. Joshua is grateful for his time with The Young Company, letting him bring stories to life as he delves deeper into the world of theatre.

Samantha Ho Ensemble



Samantha Ho is a passionate performer and a graduate of LASALLE College of the Arts, where she earned her diploma in performance. She has done a variety of works including *Last Shadow at First Light (Student Ghost)* and *Mama Looking For Her Cat (Police)*. Samantha also worked as a Banshee Handler in *Avatar the Experience at Gardens By the Bay*. Singing, acting, and dancing makes her super

happy and she brings a vibrant energy to every role she undertakes.

Instagram: @ho.jj.samanthato

Athaya Putri Muhammad Ensemble



Fashion by day, theatre by night — Athaya calls herself a real-life Sharpay Evans. Having recently played three roles in SMUKI's Gelar Budaya 2024 musical, *Jer Basuki Mawa Bea*, her passion for performing continues to grow. While working on her very own fashion publication during her final year majoring in LASALLE College of the Arts' fashion media & industries BA(Hons), she still makes time to shine her light on stage.

CAST

Kate Chloe Tan Ensemble



Kate is a huge polar bear lover who enjoys performing. Last year, she was part of The Young Company's production of *After Life*, and is honoured to be in *A Super Happy Story (About Feeling Super Sad)* this year. She hopes to have many more opportunities to connect with others through the stage. Outside rehearsals, Kate's 150+ plushies keep her company. Amongst other things, she adores chemistry, literature, Chip n' Dale, Eeyore, *The Little Prince*, and stars.

Tze Sheng Milton Wong Ensemble



Milton loves how art connects us. He last appeared in SRT's *After Life*. He is also the author of *for now, new york*: and shares his creative work on miltonwong.com. He is thrilled to have trained with The Young Company. He is most grateful for former and current TYC members with whom he shared many colourful Saturdays. He is super happy to be here with a most radiant cast.

CREATIVE

Daniel Jenkins Director

As Deputy Artistic Director at Singapore Repertory Theatre, Daniel's Little Company directing credits include *Errol's Garden*, *The Cat In The Hat*, *Fly High*, *Gretel and Hansel*, *The Tale of the Frog Prince*, *Upstairs in the Sky*, *The Ugly Duckling*, *The Princess and the PEA* and the upcoming *Threads: The Emperor's New Clothes Musical*. SRT directing credits include *Disgraced*, *2:22 - A Ghost Story*, *The Almighty Sometimes*, *C-O-N-T-A-C-T*, *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare - Abridged* and *Lungs*; *After Life*, *A Monster Calls*, *Girls Like That*, *Ghost Light*, *1984*, *The Roses of Eyam*, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, *The Laramie Project*, *The Trojan Women*, *Lord of the Flies*, *Grimm Tales*, *The Crucible* and the upcoming *A Super Happy Story (About Feeling Super Sad)* (SRT's The Young Company). Other directing credits include: *Hello Adam*, *The Magic Jungle*, *Bunny Finds The Right Stuff*, *Fatimah and her Magic Socks* and *Us* (Esplanade PlayTime).

As an actor, Daniel has won the Best Supporting Actor Award twice at the Straits Times Life Theatre Awards for his roles in *Quills* and *Cabaret*, and has been nominated a further 6 times for Best Actor and Best Supporting Actor. His most recent nomination was Best Director in 2023 for *The Almighty Sometimes*.

Eric Larrea Assistant Director

Eric is an aspiring director and theatre maker who graduated from LASALLE College of the Arts with a BA(Hons) in musical theatre. He is currently in the midst of his directing residency at Singapore Repertory Theatre.

Assistant Director credits include: *2:22 - A Ghost Story*, *Disgraced* (SRT) *The Cat in the Hat*, *Errol's Garden*, *The Three Little Pigs*, *The Princess and the PEA* (SRT's The Little Company) *After Life*, *A Super Happy Story (About Feeling Super Sad)* (SRT's The Young Company).

CREATIVE

Joel Nah Music Designer

Selected musical theatre credits, as music director/arranger: *Forbidden City - Portrait Of An Empress, The Nightingale, Peter Rabbit, Into The Woods, Urinetown, RENT, Next To Normal, Peter and the Starcatcher, Stephen Sondheim's Company*. As musician/associate MD: *La Cage Aux Folles, Little Shop Of Horrors, The Lion King, WICKED, The Addams Family, Frozen, Evita, West Side Story, Phantom of the Opera, Aladdin*. Other Singapore musical theatre credits: *Broadway Beng, Beauty World*. As composer: Ramesh Meyyappan's *Off Kilter*; Esplanade's *March On 2022: I Have Something To Say*. As orchestrator: *SIFA 2019 Festival Closing Concert* with the SSO.

A recipient of Singapore's national Arts Council Arts Scholarship in 2014, Joel studied classical piano with One Lip Tat and was mentored by Cultural Medallion recipient Iskandar Ismail. At Berklee College Of Music, Joel studied film music composition with Alfons Conde, conducting with Constantino Martinez Ortz, orchestration, arranging and audio mixing masterclasses with Conrad Pope, Nan Schwartz, Dr. Norman Ludwin and Alan Meyerson.

Laura McEwen Production Designer

Laura has worked nationally and internationally as a theatre set and costume designer for more than twenty years and is based in England. She has a specialism in designing for younger audiences and this work has included designs for a range of companies including the Royal Shakespeare Company, English National Opera, Polka Theatre, London, Unicorn Theatre, Nottingham Playhouse and York Theatre Royal. This is her second show for Singapore Repertory Theatre and she is really excited to join the team.

In addition to designing for theatre, Laura has undertaken a range of projects designing interactive spaces for young people. Most recently this included the RIBA award nominated designs for the public spaces at Polka Theatre, London, in collaboration with Foster Wilson Architects.

Laura is also a practising artist and has had her artwork exhibited at the Royal Academy in London on numerous occasions.

www.lauramcewen.co.uk

CREATIVE

Dorothy Png Lighting Designer

A lighting designer by profession since 1994, Dorothy has worked with most of Singapore's theatre and dance companies. She also collaborates with independent artists for their own performances as a passion for creative experimentation. Her range of work spans across theatre, contemporary dance, ballet, opera, musical, site-specific works, outdoor productions and music concerns.

Trained in the University of Iowa, Dorothy's secondary profession is scenic design. She has increasingly done more set design in recent years. Her most recent set & lighting design was for Art:Dis 30th year celebratory production *Chachambo: Taking Flight* held at Victoria Theatre (August 2023), where she had to face the challenge of designing specifically for cast and audience with various disabilities in mind. Among her favourite set and lighting design works are Lirica Arts "*L'Inganno*."

Other credits include *Felice* directed by Tang Xinxin held at the NAFA Lee Foundation Theatre (2021), *Psychosis 4.48* an Intercultural Theatre Institute's graduation play at Drama Centre Black Box (2020) directed by Andy Ng, and *Dream Country - a Lost Monologue*, an outdoors site-specific performance at Esplanade Park for Singapore Arts Festival 2012, directed by Marion D'Cruz.

Noor Hidayat Norzizan Sound Designer

Noor Hidayat Norzizan, affectionately known as "Yat" to his colleagues, is a seasoned senior stage technician at the Singapore Repertory Theatre. At the heart of Hidayat's work lies his deep love for sound design. He approaches each project as a canvas, using sound as his paintbrush to create immersive and unforgettable auditory experiences. His meticulous attention to detail ensures that every note, tone, and sound effect resonates perfectly with the production's narrative, enhancing the audience's emotional connection to the performances.

Offstage, Hidayat continues to explore the endless possibilities of sound, constantly pushing boundaries and expanding his creative horizons. His dedication to the art of sound design is not just a profession; it's a lifelong passion that enriches the world of theatre and leaves a lasting impact on all who have the pleasure of experiencing his work. Some of his work includes *Ghostlight*, *Girls Like That*, *A Monster Calls* (SRT's The Young Company) and *It's SG, It's So Good!* (Singapore Food Agency).

CREATIVE

Pat Jon Gregory Choreographer

Born in the Philippines and raised in Singapore, Pat Jon Gregory is a performing artiste, choreographer and musical theatre educator.

His performance training under the BA(Hons) musical theatre programme at LASALLE College of the Arts has helped him to integrate his dance, acting and singing skills together - allowing him to discover various mediums for storytelling. Upon graduation, he has been involved in projects under Wild Rice, So Drama! Entertainment, Esplanade, Gateway Arts, Sing'Theatre and etc. His credits include *Amos Hart* (Chicago, directed by Nikki Snelson), *National Day Observatory Ceremony 2022* (So Drama! Entertainment) and *Burp!* (Esplanade Playtime 2024). Pat Jon hopes to share his love of the performing arts through creation, performance and education, both locally and internationally.

Tai Zi Feng Associate Lighting Designer

Tai Zi Feng graduated with BA Hons in theatre arts from the University of Essex, East 15. His work ranges from dance and musicals to theatre plays.

As a lighting designer, he was always drawn to the connection between light and other mediums in our daily life. He believes that light can help evoke emotions and accentuate moments.

He also occasionally works as a scenographer (Scenic & Lighting Design) where he materialises his design & vision on stage.

As a theatre practitioner, he believes that having an intuitive understanding of the artistic direction as a collaborator in the creative team, taking on projects with a holistic approach, helps to conceptualise the design in a unified direction where lights and other creative elements come together to create memorable moments.

Some of his recent work includes : *Kwa Geok Choo* (Toy Factory) , *Quasimodo* (Sing Theatre), *Tartuffe* (Wild Rice).

Zi Feng is also a partner of Doodle & Co., a partnership company where 2 designers provide technical integration to create a unified vision between scenic and lighting, executing designs and materialising ideas.

THE TEAM

Production Team

Stage Manager	Keidyn Lee
Costume Coordinator	Tan Jia Hui
Costume and Prop Assistant	Jasmine Kuah
Production Assistant	Tiara Emily
Sound Assistant	Jia Ying
Lighting Operator	Xingna Low Hui En
Sound Operator	Jean, Yap Hong Yan
Stage Crew	Nur Indra Bin Anuar

SRT Board

Joy Tan (Chairman), Manraj Sekhon, Peter A Allen, E-Len Fu, En Lee, Irving Low, Jin Lu, Roshni Mahtani-Cheung, Charlotte Nors, James Walton

SRT Team

Managing Director	Charlotte Nors
Artistic Director	Gaurav Kripalani
Artistic	Daniel Jenkins, Dick Lee, Kate Golledge, Inch Chua
Administration	Felis Chia, Cindy Goh
Finance	Rosalind Lim, Hebe Kwok, Angela Tan
Production	Grace Low, Charlene Poh, Anna Khairyra, Keidyn Lee
Sales & Marketing	Zach Ng, Redha Abdul-Wahid, Nadiah Noordin, Zoe Ee, Pat Yuan Teng
Business Development	Jesviinder Padda
Centre for Creative Learning	James Wu, David Tan, Molly Bird, Jenny Mak, Seren Chen, Rachel Nip
Venue	Allison Lai, Rajkumar Thiagaras, Lee Kong-Shen, Noor Hidayat Norzizan, Derrick Wong
Residents	Hemamalini Vijayakumar, Raiessha Noa, Eric Larrea, Nana Zakirom, Tan Yin Qi
Interns	Laya Viswanathan, Rossyammirra M Z, Danial Aizat, Alysha Qadriyah

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