

VOICES OF SINGAPORE PRESENTS: A WORLD TOGETHER



5 June 2020, Singapore: Non-profit organisation Voices of Singapore, in collaboration with HealthServe has produced a music video of “If We Hold On Together”, originally sung by Diana Ross. Titled “A World Together”, it presents the voices of the migrant worker community, accompanied by a 180-strong virtual choir from the Voices of Singapore Children’s Choir, the HealthServe team and healthcare workers. The project is supported by the National Integration Council (Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth), Singapore Kindness Movement, SDI Academy and Ad Planet Group.

Voices of Singapore is an organisation aiming to ‘Build a Singing Singapore’ and HealthServe is an IPC-registered charity that has been providing assistance to migrant workers for the last 14 years through healthcare, casework, social assistance, education, advocacy and mental health services.

This collaboration between Voices of Singapore and HealthServe seeks to encourage inclusivity, promote kindness, harmony and gratitude between the migrant worker community and the wider community through music. Featuring children as voices of the next generation, the video weaves in conversations with the migrant community through the lens of the child and provides an opportunity for the community to share their personal stories.

The Voices of Singapore Children's Choir (VOSCC) was formed in July 2019 under the direction of Singaporean Composer-Conductor Darius Lim, who also serves as Artistic Director of the organisation. The choir consists of children aged five to 17 from diverse backgrounds.

"A World Together" is produced and engineered by the same production team behind the 900-strong Singapore Virtual Choir, whose version of Dick Lee's 'Home' went viral and sparked off a nation-wide singalong on 25 April 2020.

Reflecting on the project, Artistic Director of Voices of Singapore, Mr Darius Lim said, "There is something truly beautiful about a child's honesty and infinite capacity to love and care. This project looks at how we as a community can come together to care for and support each other. I believe it is the first time we are looking at this through the lens of children - our next generation."

Gail Lien-Wang, committee member of Healthserve has this to add, "We have seen an immense outpouring of love, care and generosity for our migrant community amidst COVID-19, and it is our hope that this support continues beyond this period, and translates into genuine inclusivity for the marginalised in our society. By involving children in this effort, we also hope to empower the voices of Singapore's next generation, as they envision a future of greater kindness, compassion and a shared humanity."

The lyrics of "If We Hold On Together" speak of strength, hope and promise, which is especially apt during the COVID-19 situation, a time of uncertainty. With over 33,000 recorded cases from dormitory migrant residents, there is no better time to embrace Singapore's position as a multi-cultural and multi-racial society, and stand together to ride this period out as one Singapore. Furthermore, this video will feature a call-to-action, to encourage people living in Singapore to support fundraising efforts for our migrant worker community through social media shares.

In support of the project, generous sponsors will be matching every share of the video with a \$5 donation, up to a target of \$50,000. All funds raised will be channelled to HealthServe to help support their Social Assistance program that provides temporary social assistance in the form of meals, shelter and phone top-ups to workers facing salary and retrenchment problems until their cases are resolved or they find another job.

The music video will be launched on the **Voices of Singapore and HealthServe Facebook Pages and YouTube Channels at 7:00pm SGT on Friday, 5 Jun 2020.**

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Social Media Channels

Voices of Singapore

Youtube

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqWXvKDxbm3JOPZm9ge1Gow>

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/VoicesofSingapore/>

HealthServe

Youtube

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0FeqVzdEeZXdqs9kQKejA>

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/healthservesg/>

For further information, please contact:

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About Voices of Singapore:

Voices of Singapore is a not-for-profit arts organisation with a vision of promoting and building a Singing Singapore. Its mission is to empower and inspire Singaporeans to sing, create and learn through choral participation.

The Voices of Singapore has a range of active performance ensembles, an education wing that provides top-quality singing education through the VOS Workshop series and the children's choir, and also has a research wing that in partnership with NUS, looks into preventing dementia through choral music. The Voices of Singapore Festival, Singapore's largest non-competitive choral competition began in 2016 and now brings together large networks of choral music enthusiasts. Its network spreads its reach from school choirs, to alumni groups, festivals and classes participants, and broader circles of singers.

About HealthServe Ltd:

HealthServe is a non-profit IPC registered charity that believes in a society where every migrant worker lives a life of dignity. Founded in 2006 it seeks to bring healing and hope to migrant workers in Singapore through the provision of subsidised medical and dental care, injury and salary-related casework support, social services, counselling, and mental health programs.

Its four (4) centres across Singapore are managed and operated by a small team of dedicated staff and supported by a wide network of volunteers, educational institutions, corporations and community organisations. HealthServe envisions a world where every migrant worker lives a life of dignity, and they hope to have as many people as possible join them in achieving this aim.

About the Conductor:

Singaporean Composer-Conductor Darius Lim is the Founder and Artistic Director of Voices of Singapore - a not for profit arts organization that seeks to promote a Singing Singapore through incubating choral groups as well as organising one of the largest choir festivals in Singapore, the Voices of Singapore Festival.

He has risen to prominence in the national and international music scene with more than 40 national and international awards that include Gold medals, 1st and 2nd Prizes, Category Champions, and other special prizes in both local and international choral and composition competitions. An internationally published choral composer (Edition Peters, Walton Music, Cypress Publishing, Pana Musica) and award-winning conductor, he is one of the most sought-after Singaporean choral composer-conductors working today, and is most known for his unique infusion of lyrical, dramatic, instrumental, and theatrical elements in both the choirs he directs as well as his choral music.

Darius Lim is also involved in serving the larger community – he is Deputy General-Secretary of the National Instructors' & Coaches Association and a council member of the Asia Pacific Choral Council.

About Createurs Productions Pte. Ltd.:

Createurs Productions Pte. Ltd. is a video production firm based in Singapore. Its business covers the whole scope video production field including broadcast, Electronic News Gathering, theatre and drama, live-streaming, event videography and other video productions, marketing, and distribution.

About Pink Noise Pte. Ltd.:

Pink Noise Pte Ltd is an Exempt Private Company Limited by shares, incorporated on 23 March 2009 (Monday) in Singapore. Its key business is in the field of multimedia post-production (motion picture, video, and television) and music production. Its founder and director, George Leong, is a notable music producer with over 30 years of experience in the music and film industry.