EARTH IN FOCUS NATURE FILM FESTIVAL

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

2026

The Future We Choose



DATES

5 – 8 November 2026

Singapore

VENUES

Golden Village Cineleisure

Sentosa Movies by the Beach

WELCOME

Singapore's largest nature film festival



Four Days of Films, Ideas & Conservation

The Future We Choose

Earth In Focus returns for its 2026 edition with four days of finalist films, conversations with the people behind them, a photojournalism masterclass, and the Earth In Focus awards.

The festival runs 5–8 November at Golden Village Cineleisure, with fringe events on 1 November and free outdoor screenings at Movies by the Beach plus a nature photography exhibition at Beach Station, both on Sentosa, continuing through the month.

SUN 1 NOV	THU 5 NOV	FRI 6 NOV	SAT 7 NOV	SUN 8 NOV
Fringe Day	**Opening Night**	**Masterclass & Screenings**	**Festival Day & Awards**	**Closing Day**
Talk & workshop · 1 film	2 films · 1 panel	Masterclass · 2 films	Media Lab · 6 films · 3 panels	Exhibition · party · 1 film

SUNDAY 1 NOV

Fringe Day · LASALLE College of the Arts · Singapore Botanic Gardens



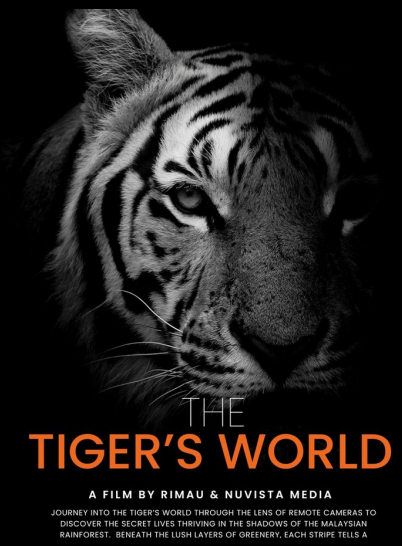
A TIGER ON THE CAMPUS

Talk & workshop · 3.00pm – 5.00pm · Adults · Ticketed $25
LASALLE College of the Arts, Winstedt campus · 9 Winstedt Road

Learn about threats to the Malayan tiger and conservation efforts for this endangered species, in a talk by writer and artist Melissa De Silva, award-winning author of 'Others' is Not a Race.

View her charcoal artwork of the tiger and other animals of the Malaysian forest, then create a simple piece of charcoal art. No art-making expertise needed.

50% of ticket proceeds go to the Malaysian Conservation Collective (MyCC) for Malayan tiger conservation; the other 50% goes directly to Earth In Focus to cover festival costs. Melissa is giving this talk pro bono, to promote conservation efforts in Singapore and Malaysia.



THE TIGER'S WORLD (PG)

Silent outdoor screening · 7.00pm – 9.00pm · Free
Singapore Botanic Gardens · register via the Cinewav app

Through the lens of remote cameras, this RIMAU and NuVista Film Production reveals the secret lives of the animals of the Malaysian rainforest and brings us closer to the elusive Malayan tiger.

A silent-cinema screening — bring your own headphones. An Earth In Focus Satellite Event organised by Singapore Wildcat Action Group (SWAG), sponsored by Cicada Tree Eco-Place.

Fringe events are ticketed and registered separately from the main festival.

THURSDAY 5 NOV

Opening Night · Golden Village Cineleisure · Doors 6.45pm



SAMA PG13

Screenings from 7.00pm · 25 min

Through several testimonies, the film portrays a community in transition — its identity weakening, its resources declining — and the contradictions of a people trying to adapt to an environment in profound change.



HIDDEN PARADISE PG13

Screenings from 7.00pm · 16 min

Naturalists and lifelong friends Wan Chittiwat and Professor Kitichate race across Thailand to document a "hidden paradise" — a uniquely balanced ecosystem threatened by rapid urban development.



PANEL: From Opium to Forests — Doi Tung and the Case for People-Powered Conservation

Part of the 7.00pm – 9.00pm opening night session

After over four decades of community-led land restoration, Doi Tung is now one of Southeast Asia's most compelling biodiversity recovery stories. This panel brings together the scientists and Foundation team behind the story.



Thanit Kongkaew (Hlek)



Dr Sean Yap



Dr Tan Yen Yi



Assoc Prof Adrian Loo
Moderator

FRIDAY 6 NOV

Masterclass 2.00pm, doors 1.45pm · Screenings 7.00pm, doors 6.45pm



HOT SEAT PHOTOJOURNALISM MASTERCLASS

2.00pm – 4.00pm · Photographic Society of Singapore, The Prinsep Gallery

An afternoon in the hot seat with working image-makers across photography, photojournalism and film.



Fraser Morton



Ulet Ifansasti



Ko Chuan Yang



Sophia Nasif



I'LL NEED TO LEAVE FOR A LITTLE WHILE (PG)

Screenings from 7.00pm · 7 min

Combining puppetry with documentary storytelling, this short film follows NoNose, a critically endangered Tonkin snub-nosed monkey.



THE LAST PLACE ON EARTH (PG13)

Screenings from 7.00pm · 102 min

As they secure legal victories against criminal plantation owners and restore thousands of hectares of forest, their success in Leuser becomes a beacon of hope.

ENCORE · WEDNESDAY 18 NOVEMBER

7.00pm, doors 6.45pm · Filmhouse, 6001 Beach Road, #05-00 Golden Mile Tower

Sold out on 6 November? Both films screen again. Tickets S$12: yourtessera.com/e/earth-in-focus-18-nov-encore-screening

SATURDAY 7 NOV

Festival Day · Golden Village Cineleisure · Register on Level 5, theatres on Level 6 · Doors open 15 min b

MEDIA LAB SHOWCASE

Ticketed session · 11.00am – 12.00pm

Four short films by the 2026 Media Lab teams, followed by a 15-minute sharing session with the filmmakers.

SHOWCASE 1 · 12 MIN

THE GARDEN BETWEEN US (PG)



At the heart of a bustling school campus, a hidden wilderness is taking root and quietly thriving. Through years of thoughtful planting and habitat restoration, Commonwealth Secondary School has become home to insects, birds and other wildlife, forming a thriving ecosystem within the urban city.

The Garden Between Us reveals the intricate relationships that connect plants, animals and people, revealing how plants provide food, shelter and conditions that allow wildlife to return. Through intimate observations with the help of technology, the film uncovers a side of the school rarely seen - or heard.

Against the backdrop of Singapore's vision of a "City in Nature," the film shows how careful planting can turn even the most ordinary urban spaces into habitats for coexistence, resilience, and renewal.

THE TEAM **Team Neonpeach · Commonwealth Secondary School**
Bharath, Ying Xi, Yeo Ling, Adelle, Linus



SATURDAY 7 NOV

Media Lab Showcase · 11.00am – 12.00pm · Golden Village Cineleisure

SHOWCASE 2 · 11 MIN

TOUCHGRASS



The internet phrase "touch grass" is often used to encourage people to step away from their screens and reconnect with the world around them in an age of digital dependence. In this participatory documentary, three filmmakers set out to discover what touching grass might look like in everyday life through conversations with an artist, a nature-based community and a nature guide.

Through photography, the artist explores the balance between the development needs of a city and nature conservation. The community brings people together by organising workshops, and the nature guide educates people on biodiversity through a card game. Everyone pays attention to our surroundings in different ways, and encounters with wildlife found in Singapore's everyday spaces reveal a surprising richness of life existing close to home. The film is a gentle reflection on the possibility of reconnecting with nature, not by travelling far, but simply by noticing what is already there.

THE TEAM **Team Touchgrass**
Divya Dhashini, Lydia, Seraphina Chia



SHOWCASE 3 · 9 MIN

VAPOUR CITY



In the city concrete and canopy negotiate the same square metre. A bird observes its cold reflection. An absent narrator surveils banal densities, as they mutate from the familiar to the preternatural.

Half-documentary, half-poem, Vapour City meditates on spatial struggles and collective survival in urban Singapore. The City paints ghosts, erects legends; flitting itself between construction and deconstruction. Its levelled lines grow tilted. The dust-ridden bones of giants seem to rise.

Hold on to your slivers of sky. Inhale the vapour.

THE TEAM **Team Filmgrain**
Kevia Tan, Suah Lim, Rhea Chalak



SATURDAY 7 NOV

Media Lab Showcase · 11.00am – 12.00pm · Golden Village Cineleisure

SHOWCASE 4 · 12 MIN

STILL HERE (PG)



Across the Johor Strait from Singapore, in the stilt village of Kampung Sungai Temon, the Orang Seletar have lived with the sea for generations. Jefree Salim, known as Jeff, a fisherman, self-taught photographer and son of the village headman, reads the water the way his elders taught him: by its colour, its mussels and its mangroves.

Told in his own words, in Malay, STILL HERE moves through everyday life in the village, the mussel ropes that once came up heavy, and the mangroves his community calls its supermarket. As the shoreline around them is filled in and the water changes, Jeff does not argue against development. He asks the city across the water to see his people, and to ask them first. As the water around the village is now being tested to find out exactly what is in it, the film makes a quiet statement: the Orang Seletar are still here.

THE TEAM **Team JACS**
Aaryan Chowdhary, Alex McCann



ALSO ON SATURDAY

12.00pm	Festival booths on Level 5 until 5.30pm
12.30pm	Panel: The Choices That Will Shape Our Future
1.30pm	Films: Under Threat & She Measures the Earth, then the fishbowl discussion (2.00pm)
3.00pm	Films: SPOILED & Stone Biter, then the climate adaptation panel (3.40pm)
4.30pm	Earth In Focus Awards Ceremony

SATURDAY 7 NOV

Film Finalists · 1.30pm and 3.00pm sessions · Doors 1.15pm and 2.45pm



UNDER THREAT (PG)

1.30pm · 12 min

The fight to protect rhinos at South Africa's Selati Game Reserve, where dehorning and AI technology are used against the ongoing threat of poaching.



SHE MEASURES THE EARTH (G)

1.30pm · 18 min

Follows four women scientists in Canada as they reshape who belongs to science.



SPOILED (PG)

3.00pm · 18 min

Profiles the everyday heroes protecting South Africa's oceans — a call to action and a story of hope.



STONE BITER (G)

3.00pm · 21 min

Ismaele navigates the cold, unfamiliar sea, meeting scientists and locals who refuse to give up on the ocean.

SATURDAY 7 NOV

Panels · Golden Village Cineleisure



THE CHOICES THAT WILL SHAPE OUR FUTURE

12.30pm – 1.00pm

The activists of The Last Place on Earth on balancing development with the protection of nature, drawing on lessons from the Leuser Ecosystem.



Farwiza Farhan



Ulet Ifansasti



Rudi Putra



Panut Hadisiswoyo



Robin Hicks
Moderator



THE MOMENT EVERYTHING CHANGED: WHAT MAKES US CARE?

2.00pm – 2.30pm · after the 1.30pm films

Filmmakers, conservationists and photographers on the experiences that shaped their work. One seat stays empty for a member of the audience.



Ko Chuan Yang



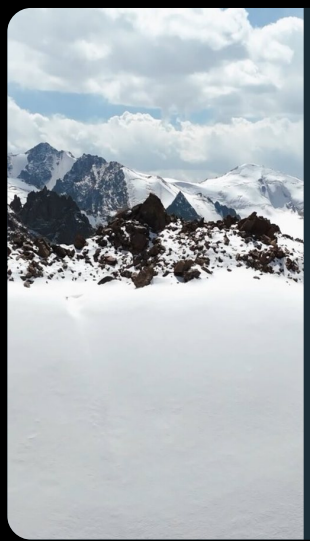
Dr Ian Singleton



Carmen Pang
Moderator



Sophia Nasif



CLIMATE ADAPTATION: PREPARING FOR THE WORLD AHEAD

3.40pm – 4.10pm · after the 3.00pm films

What climate adaptation looks like in practice, from science and technology to urban nature.



Raymond Chan



Supatchaya Techachoochert



Dr Perrine Hamel



Dr Chong Kwek Yan



Jessica Cheam
Moderator

AWARDS CEREMONY

Saturday 7 Nov · Golden Village Cineleisure, Hall 2 (Level 6) · Register on Level 5

TICKETED SESSION · 4.30PM – 7.45PM

Photography and film awards, with an opening performance by lewloh and two finalist shorts. Dress code: smart casual (no slippers or shorts). Kachang putih and soft drinks during registration.

RUN OF SHOW

4.30pm	●	Registration and networking
5.30pm	●	Ceremony hosted by emcee Kah Mun Chan
		Opening performance by singer-songwriter lewloh
		Welcome address by Festival Director Daphne Ong
		Address by Guest of Honour Mr Melvyn Ong, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment
		Film Finalist screening — The Little Grebes (5 min) · G
		Film Finalist screening — ESCAPE (10 min) · PG
		Earth In Focus awards presentation
7.45pm	●	Ceremony concludes

GUEST OF HONOUR



Mr Melvyn Ong

Permanent Secretary (Sustainability & the Environment) · Guest of Honour

Mr Melvyn Ong is the Permanent Secretary for Sustainability and the Environment at Singapore's Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment.

Before assuming this role, Mr Ong served as Permanent Secretary for Defence Development, overseeing the Ministry of Defence's administrative, technological and corporate functions. He also concurrently served as Permanent Secretary for Development at the Ministry of National Development, with responsibility for key national development, infrastructure and municipal portfolios.

Mr Ong previously spent 29 years in the Singapore Armed Forces, culminating in his appointments as Chief of Army and Chief of Defence Force. He led the SAF's support for major security operations and Singapore's whole-of-government response to the COVID-19 pandemic, while advancing its next-generation transformation, including the establishment of the Digital and Intelligence Service.

Mr Ong has received several national and international honours for his service. An SAF Overseas Scholar, he holds a Bachelor of Science in Economics and a Master of Science from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

AWARDS CEREMONY

Film Finalists screened during the ceremony



FILM FINALIST

THE LITTLE GREBES (G)

During the awards ceremony · 5 min

A pair of sisters go on a birding trip, where they slowly discover how their actions impact the natural environment and its creatures — a journey of gentle understanding and rediscovering the simple joys of birding.



FILM FINALIST

ESCAPE (PG)

During the awards ceremony · 10 min

In the marshes of New South Wales, Australia, the green and golden bell frog faces the deadly chytrid fungus. Its survival depends on an unlikely cure — a frog sauna. A family-friendly short using horror and whimsy to tell the story in a new light.

EMCEE & PERFORMER



Kah Mun Chan

Sustainability Consultant & Creative Storyteller · Emcee

Senior Consultant, Sustainability Advisory at Schneider Electric; photographer, video storyteller and sound healer.



lewloh

Singer-songwriter · Opening performance

Mellow at times but always hopeful — honest, warm, introspective folk songwriting from Singapore.

FESTIVAL BOOTHS

Saturday 7 Nov · 12.00pm – 5.30pm · Golden Village Cineleisure, Level 5

Meet twelve conservation groups, schools and nature organisations at their booths on Level 5.

BOOTH 1

Sailor Sweeps

Sailor Sweeps is a youth-led groundup initiative dedicated to maintaining marine cleanliness and protecting marine ecosystems. In addition to monthly coastal cleanups, they organise special events such as 'Kayak N Klean', where participants kayak around locations like Jurong Lake Gardens or Marina Bay to clean up the water and its surrounding banks, as well as educational visits to plastic recycling facilities. Their mission is to raise awareness about proper waste disposal and the detrimental effects of human pollution on marine life.

BOOTH 2

Commonwealth Secondary School

Student ambassadors from the Eco Club share how their "School in Nature" brings national goals such as the City in Nature vision and the OneMillionTrees movement to life on campus.

BOOTH 3

North Vista Secondary School

Students share their advocacy for the critically endangered Raffles' banded langur, part of the Mandai Action for Wildlife Programme 2026, with a "Spot the Langurs" picture activity, a matching game and a "Leaf a Pledge" wall.

BOOTH 4

TRE Lab

The Tropical Restoration Ecology (TRE) Lab at NUS Geography Department combines immersive 360° filmmaking and 3D drone mapping with hands-on, community-based restoration of coral reefs, seagrass meadows, mangroves and rivers across Southeast Asia. Working alongside local communities, the team connects people with nature across the Wallace Line and beyond — from roots to reefs.

BOOTH 5

Singapore Oceanarium

Located at Resorts World Sentosa, Singapore Oceanarium is an ocean institute that inspires knowledge, love and action for the ocean and aquatic life. Through live habitats, digital and interactive experiences, and its solar-powered Research and Learning Centre, it advances marine education, research and the conservation of threatened species. It is accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA).

BOOTH 6

International SeaKeepers Society

A nonprofit protecting the health of the world's oceans and climate, working with the boating and yachting community to advance marine research, education and conservation through its DISCOVERY Yacht Program.

FESTIVAL BOOTHS

Saturday 7 Nov · 12.00pm – 5.30pm · Golden Village Cineleisure, Level 5

BOOTH 7

Project Avigate (NTU)

A student-led initiative monitoring and reducing bird-building collisions at NTU. See bird specimens and skulls, photographs of affected birds and collision-preventing decals, and learn what to do if you find an injured bird.

BOOTH 8

PlasticTinkers

A social enterprise turning discarded plastics into 3D-printing resources. See their plastic recycling and 3D-printing process, and recycled 3D-printed products such as keychains.

BOOTH 9

WWF-Singapore

One of WWF's international hubs, working with partners on deforestation, illegal wildlife trade, ocean health, food systems and finance for climate and nature solutions. 2026 marks WWF-Singapore's 20th anniversary.

BOOTH 10

SWAG + NUS College Pre-school Kids

SWAG promotes wildcats, like leopard cats and tigers and takes actions to conserve them. We are volunteer-run! Come learn about wildcats and what you can do to make a difference for them. We will be selling kids' books on wildcats, bandanas, and tiger plushies to raise funds for wildcat conservation.

BOOTH 11

Ethos Books & SG Climate Rally

Ethos Books, an independent Singapore publisher of literary fiction, non-fiction and poetry since 1997, shares a booth with SG Climate Rally, the youth-led climate justice collective behind Singapore's first physical climate rally in 2019.

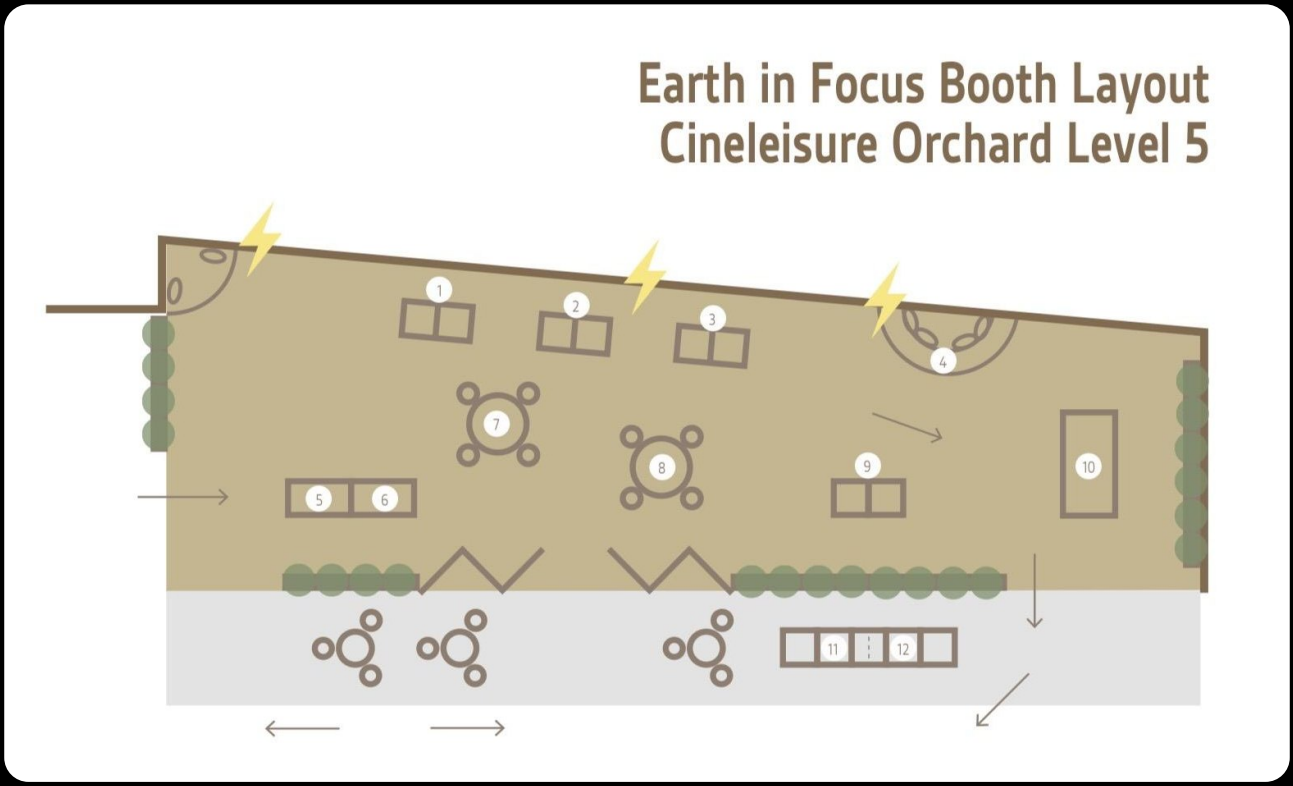
BOOTH 12

NUS College

NUS College, Singapore's first Honours College, showcases student projects from its Impact Experience programme that explore partnerships with nature and communities.

BOOTH MAP

Saturday 7 Nov · Golden Village Cineleisure, Level 5



WHO IS AT EACH BOOTH

1. Sailor Sweeps
2. Commonwealth Secondary School
3. North Vista Secondary School
4. TRE Lab
5. Singapore Oceanarium
6. International SeaKeepers Society
7. Project Avigate (NTU)
8. PlasticTinkers
9. WWF-Singapore
10. SWAG + NUS College Pre-school Kids
11. Ethos Books & SG Climate Rally
12. NUS College

SUNDAY 8 NOV

Closing Day · Beach Station and Palawan Kidz City Rooftop, Sentosa · Free · Register



PROGRAMME

4.30pm ● **OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE EARTH IN FOCUS NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION**
The exhibition of this year's winning and finalist images runs at Beach Station from 1 to 29 November. The official opening brings the festival team and some of the photographers to the beach, with the festival band and the closing screening.

5.30pm ● **FESTIVAL PARTY AND NETWORKING**
The festival band plays before the closing screening.

6.15pm ● **CLOSING SCREENING: THE FADING STAR** (PG13)
67 min · Official Selection. An investigative documentary into the illegal pet trade in Indian star tortoises, following wildlife filmmaker Aishwarya Sridhar from South India to the markets of Mumbai and Bangkok. Festival closes at 7.30pm.

EXTENDED SENTOSA SCREENINGS

Sixteen films screen under the stars at Movies by the Beach, Palawan Kidz City Rooftop, Sentosa, from late October through the festival and the weekends that follow. All screenings start at 6pm. Free admission.

9AM · SUNGEI BULOH NATURE WALK

9am–12pm · biodiversity game from 8am · Sungei Buloh Wetland Centre, meet at the Cafeteria

A guided walk to start the closing day. Bring an umbrella, covered shoes and insect repellent. Bus 925M from Kranji MRT. Free; places are limited. Register: yourtessera.com/e/sungei-buloh-nature-walk

VOTE · PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD

Nature Photography Exhibition · Beach Station, Sentosa · 1–29 November

Vote for your favourite of the 72 photographs: scan the QR code on any panel or browse online. One vote per person; voting closes Sat 28 Nov, 11.59pm; winner announced Sun 29 Nov. Vote: programme.earthinfocus.co/vote

SENTOSA SCREENINGS

31 October – 29 November · 6pm · Free · Movies by the Beach, Palawan Kidz City Rooftop



WASTED (PG)

Sat 31 Oct · 62 min

What we throw away doesn't go away. A visual journey across Asia's landfills and recycling plants that reveals waste's hidden ties to human health and the climate crisis — and finds reason for hope.



BURDEN OF THE WAVES 浪的重量 (PG)

Sun 1 Nov · film 1 of 3 · 26 min

In Taiwan's Daxi Fishing Harbour, Captain Shiyang doesn't just catch fish — he retrieves ocean waste too, and founded the Environmental Fleets to clean the sea and give discarded materials new life.



REWILDING THE SKIES (G)

Sun 1 Nov · film 2 of 3 · 21 min

At Liberia's Libassa Wildlife Sanctuary, a team of conservationists works around the clock to rescue and rehabilitate trafficked wildlife, following one endangered Timneh parrot's long road back to the wild.



GANESH: LORD OF THE LAKES (PG)

Sun 1 Nov · film 3 of 3 · 46 min

In the lakes area of Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve, one tiger family has held the territory for at least five generations, but there is no daughter left to inherit it. When young male Ganesh takes over, he must mate with three females of the same bloodline, including his own grandmother. He has conquered the territory, but can he become the lord of the lakes?

SENTOSA SCREENINGS

31 October – 29 November · 6pm · Free · Movies by the Beach, Palawan Kidz City Rooftop



GUIDED BY HORSES (PG13)

Sat 7 Nov · 76 min

In Australia's remote Kimberley, a groundbreaking equine sanctuary guides Aboriginal teenagers toward healing and reconnection through life-changing bonds with horses.



THE FADING STAR (PG13)

Sun 8 Nov · 6.15pm · closing screening · 67 min

An investigative documentary that digs deep into the illegal pet trade in Indian star tortoises. Wildlife filmmaker and presenter Aishwarya Sridhar undertakes an epic 3,000-mile journey tracing the trade pipeline from the dry scrub forests of South India to the pet markets of Mumbai — and finally going undercover in the wildlife markets of Mumbai and Bangkok.



ALATAU: FOLLOWING THE VANISHING GLACIERS (PG)

Sat 14 Nov · 62 min

Every minute, the Trans-Ili Alatau mountains lose 50 tonnes of ancient ice. This film follows glaciologists and local communities across Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan racing to understand a Central Asian water crisis before the point of no return.



THE HORNBILL PROMISE (PG)

Sun 15 Nov · film 1 of 4 · 10 min

In a Himalayan village where Rufous-necked hornbills are seen as ancestors reborn, one pair's lifelong bond reveals a story of love, resilience and coexistence between a species and the people who protect it.

SENTOSA SCREENINGS

31 October – 29 November · 6pm · Free · Movies by the Beach, Palawan Kidz City Rooftop



THE BIRD SMUGGLER'S MILLION-DOLLAR BUSINESS (PG)

Sun 15 Nov · film 2 of 4 · 29 min

For three decades, an Austrian trafficker ran one of Europe's most lucrative wildlife smuggling operations, feeding the black market with rare parrots smuggled from Brazil. This documentary unravels the mechanics behind a global wildlife crime network.



CONNECTIONS: BOUND BY HUNGER (G)

Sun 15 Nov · film 3 of 4 · 5 min

From the earthworm to the roe deer, every living being feeds to survive. Told through poetic, sensitive scenes, this film explores nature's feeding methods and the great chain of balance connecting them all.



THE WATER DRAGONS OF DARJEELING

Sun 15 Nov · film 4 of 4 · 15 min

In the ephemeral ponds of the Darjeeling hills, the rare Himalayan salamander — known locally as the Paani Kukur, or water dog — wakes from hibernation to find a mate. The film follows the restaurant owner, tea estate manager and scientist protecting it, and captures the first-ever visual record of the salamanders' breeding dance.



THE ANCIENT FOREST

Sat 21 Nov · 70 min

Old-growth forests in a handful of Russian nature reserves have stood untouched for centuries. This film reveals the hidden connections between ancient trees and the millions of species that depend on them.

SENTOSA SCREENINGS

31 October – 29 November · 6pm · Free · Movies by the Beach, Palawan Kidz City Rooftop



FRAGILE ALPS (G)

Sun 22 Nov · film 1 of 2 · 9 min

A journey across the Alpine arc — through retreating glaciers, shifting rivers and forests under new threat — as climate change redefines one of Europe's most delicate ecosystems at unprecedented speed.



MUSKOX: SURVIVAL IN THE ARCTIC (PG)

Sun 22 Nov · film 2 of 2 · 52 min

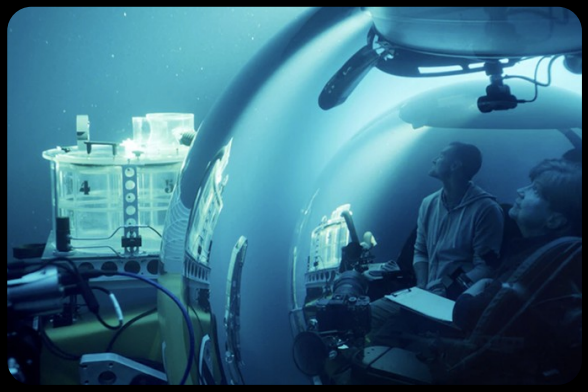
Filmed over several years, this feature documentary follows a herd of musk oxen — ancient survivors of the Ice Age — through violent seasonal clashes, predator encounters and a punishing Arctic winter.



MYSTERIES OF THE RED SEA (PG)

Sat 28 Nov · 59 min

OceanX's scientists and explorers dive into one of Earth's youngest seas aboard the world's most advanced research vessel, uncovering coral that thrives in record heat and alien-like creatures in super-saline brine pools.



A LIFE ILLUMINATED (PG13)

Sun 29 Nov · 89 min

The story of pioneering marine biologist Edie Widder, whose deep-sea bioluminescence discoveries — captured on rare OceanX dives in the Azores — reveal how curiosity-driven science can open new paths for ocean discovery and conservation.

SPEAKERS

The people behind the panels, masterclass and awards night

THU 5 NOV · PANEL · FROM OPIUM TO FORESTS



Thanit Kongkaew (Hlek)

Director of Sustainability, Mae Fah Luang Foundation

A sustainability strategist with over 15 years' experience, Thanit leads the Mae Fah Luang Foundation's flagship work in community-led biodiversity conservation, carbon footprinting and circular-economy practice at Doi Tung.



Associate Professor Adrian Loo · Moderator

Conservation biologist; Deputy Director, Centre for Nature-based Climate Solutions, NUS

A conservation biologist who spent years at the National Parks Board tackling human–wildlife conflict and the illegal wildlife trade, Adrian now leads the LAPIS Lab at NUS, using bioacoustics, eDNA, AI and LiDAR to sense the life of forest fragments.



Ulet Ifansasti

Photojournalist

A freelance photojournalist based in Yogyakarta, Ulet has made Indonesia's environment his primary subject; his work has appeared in The New York Times, TIME, The Guardian and National Geographic Traveler.

Also: Sat 7 Nov 12.30pm panel

THU 5 NOV · PANEL · FROM OPIUM TO FORESTS



Dr Sean Yap

Forest ecologist and Research Fellow, Centre for Nature-based Climate Solutions (CNCS), National University of Singapore

A forest ecologist with a background in entomology, Sean applies conservation technologies to measuring and monitoring biodiversity, and guided the CNCS research team during the Doi Tung BioBlitz 2025.



Dr Tan Yen Yi

Museum Officer | Curator of Birds, Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum, NUS

An ornithologist trained in evolutionary genomics, Yen Yi bridges genomic sequencing with field ecology to understand and protect the region's birds, and led the LKCNHM team on the Doi Tung expedition in October 2025.

FRI 6 NOV · HOT SEAT PHOTOJOURNALISM MASTERCLASS



Fraser Morton

Nature journalist, filmmaker & photographer

Founder of Far Features and Far Universal, Fraser has made more than 200 factual films on human stories that inspire environmental and social change, in more than 80 countries. He is Executive Producer at Eco-Business.



Ko Chuan Yang

Cinematographer

A Singaporean natural-history cinematographer who has shot for National Geographic, the BBC, Netflix and Disney — from ants to whales, all over the world — Chuan Yang specialises in long-lens and underwater work.

Also: Sat 7 Nov fishbowl

SPEAKERS

The people behind the panels, masterclass and awards night

FRI 6 NOV · HOT SEAT PHOTOJOURNALISM MASTERCLASS



Sophia Nasif

Photojournalist & Ocean Culture Life Ambassador

Sophia is a British-Maldivian photojournalist based in Malé, specialising in culture, environment and visual anthropology in the Maldives. She writes the biweekly Atoll Dispatch column for Maldives Independent, represents the Maldives for both South Asian Heritage UK and Ocean Culture Life, and is a Revolutionary Storyteller with Photographers Without Borders. She holds an MA in Photojournalism & Documentary Photography from the University of the Arts London and is currently working towards her PhD. She is also a member of PhotoAsia's Decoding the Anthropocene cohort, focused specifically on the climate crisis.

Also: Sat 7 Nov fishbowl



Panut Hadisiswoyo

Founder, Orangutan Information Centre; Founder and Executive Director, Green Justice Indonesia

In 2021, he also founded Green Justice Indonesia, where he now serves as Founder and Executive Director, leading advocacy to secure stronger legal protection for the Batang Toru Ecosystem, home to the critically endangered Tapanuli orangutan. His work has been recognised internationally, including an Ashoka Fellowship, a Whitley Award, and recognition as a National Geographic Emerging Explorer. Panut has spent his career at the frontline of the tension between development and conservation in Sumatra.



Carmen Pang · Moderator

Executive Director, Jane Goodall Institute (Singapore); Co-Director, Singapore Wildcat Action Group (SWAG)

Executive director of the Jane Goodall Institute (Singapore) and co-founder of the Singapore Wildcat Action Group, Carmen came to wildlife conservation after a long career as a journalist, editor and writer.

SAT 7 NOV · PANEL · THE CHOICES THAT WILL SHAPE OUR



Farwiza Farhan

Environmental activist; Founder and Chairperson, HAkA

Farhan is the chairperson of the Forest, Nature and Environment Aceh Foundation (Yayasan HAkA), a grassroots organisation based in Aceh, Sumatra. She focuses primarily on policy and advocacy, working to increase meaningful access and deepen the involvement of women and local communities in policy matters pertaining to their environment and livelihood.



Rudi Putra

Strategic Advisor, Leuser Conservation Forum (FKL)

Strategic advisor to the Leuser Conservation Forum, Goldman Environmental Prize winner and National Geographic fellow, Rudi has spent 26 years protecting the Leuser Ecosystem; he speaks to the realities of conservation on the ground, from restoring forests and dismantling illegal palm oil plantations to working alongside local communities.



Robin Hicks · Moderator

Sustainability journalist and editor

Robin has a degree in zoology from the University of Bristol, and spends his weekends rescuing snakes, birds, monkeys and lizards as a volunteer for Singapore animal welfare charity ACRES.

SAT 7 NOV · FISHBOWL · WHAT MAKES US CARE?



Dr Ian Singleton

Conservationist · Director of Conservation, Orangutan Haven

Dr Ian Singleton, OBE, is a British conservation scientist who has dedicated over three decades to protecting orangutans and their habitat in Sumatra, Indonesia. A former zookeeper at Whipsnade, Edinburgh Zoo and Jersey Zoo, he left the zoo world in the mid-1990s to study wild orangutans in the swamp forests of Aceh, earning his PhD at the University of Kent while conducting fieldwork at the Suaq Balimbing Research Station deep within the Leuser Ecosystem.

SPEAKERS

The people behind the panels, masterclass and awards night

SAT 7 NOV · PANEL · CLIMATE ADAPTATION



Raymond Chan

Director, Enterprise Solutions, uHoo

Raymond brings a wealth of experience spanning the real estate and sustainability sectors, helping organisations achieve their environmental and social goals. He has worked with leading corporations and institutions to implement sustainability certifications such as Green Mark and the WELL Building Standard, advancing their ESG performance while enhancing asset value and long-term business resilience.



Dr Chong Kwek Yan

Director, Forest & Tree Research, National Parks Board

Kwek Yan is an ecologist with the Singapore Botanic Gardens, National Parks Board. He is also an adjunct faculty member of the Department of Biological Sciences, National University of Singapore, and a research affiliate of the Centre for Nature-based Climate Solutions as well as the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum.

SAT 7 NOV · AWARDS CEREMONY



Mr Melvyn Ong

Permanent Secretary (Sustainability and the Environment) · Guest of Honour

Mr Melvyn Ong is the Permanent Secretary for Sustainability and the Environment at Singapore's Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment.



lewloh

Singer-songwriter · Opening performance

Mellow at times but always hopeful, lewloh's refreshing take on the folk singer-songwriter genre puts him at the forefront of emerging artists from Singapore and Southeast Asia — honest, warm and introspective writing on love and relationships.

SAT 7 NOV · PANEL · CLIMATE ADAPTATION



Supatchaya Techachoochert

Nature-based Solutions Expert, Mae Fah Luang Foundation

She holds a PhD in Biology and contributes to national and international efforts on climate and nature policy. Supatchaya was a 2025 Rockefeller Big Bets Fellow and currently serves as a member of the IUCN Climate Crisis Commission in Thailand.



Dr Perrine Hamel

Associate Professor, Asian School of the Environment, NTU

Perrine is an Associate Professor at the Asian School of the Environment, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, and Principal Investigator at the Earth Observatory of Singapore. Her research group examines how nature can help us become more resilient and address major climate challenges, especially in urban environments.



Jessica Cheam · Moderator

Founder and CEO, Eco-Business

Jessica Cheam is the Founder and CEO of Eco-Business, Asia Pacific's leading business intelligence and advisory organisation dedicated to sustainable development. She is a globally recognised sustainability pioneer with more than two decades of experience spanning media, sustainable development and sustainable finance.



Kah Mun Chan

Sustainability Consultant & Creative Storyteller · Emcee

Artist. Adventurer. Advocate. A Senior Consultant in Schneider Electric's Sustainability Advisory team by day, Kah Mun is also a photographer, video storyteller and sound healer.

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VENUES & INFORMATION

GOLDEN VILLAGE CINELEISURE

Thu 5 – Sat 7 Nov · Main festival venue

8 Grange Road, Singapore 239695

MRT Somerset (NS23), a short walk along Grange Road. Theatres on Level 6: Hall 6 for all screenings and talks, Hall 2 for the Awards Ceremony. On Sat 7 Nov, come to Level 5 first for registration and the booths. Doors open 15 minutes before each session. Free seating — please arrive early; we start on time.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF SINGAPORE

Fri 6 Nov · Masterclass

The Prinsep Gallery (Level 1), Selegie Arts Centre, 30 Selegie Road, Singapore 188351

SENTOSA · EXHIBITION AND MOVIE SCREENINGS

Exhibition 1–29 Nov · Movie screenings 31 Oct – 29 Nov · Free

Photography Exhibition, Beach Station · Movie Screenings, Palawan Kidz City Rooftop

Exhibition opening Sun 8 Nov, 4.30pm, at Beach Station; festival party (5.30pm) and closing screening (6.15pm) at the rooftop.

LASALLE COLLEGE OF THE ARTS

Sun 1 Nov · Fringe

Winstedt Campus, 9 Winstedt Road, Singapore 227976

SINGAPORE BOTANIC GARDENS

Sun 1 Nov · Fringe · Free

1 Cluny Road, Singapore 259569

TICKETS & CONTACT

Tickets: www.yourtessera.com/o/earth-in-focus

Contact: discover@earthinfocus.co

Website: earthinfocus.co · Instagram: @earthinfocus.co · LinkedIn: Earth In Focus

HOW TICKETS WORK

Tickets & entry · everything you need before you book

BUYING

- Tickets are sold online through Tessera and sent to you by email.
- Online sales close one hour before each session; any remaining seats are sold at the door.
- Sold out? Join the waitlist on the session page and we will email you if seats are released.

WHAT A TICKET COVERS

- A ticket covers the whole session it names, films and talk included.
- The Awards Ceremony is ticketed separately.
- The festival booths on Level 5 on 7 November are free; no ticket needed.

ON THE DAY

- Show your ticket on your phone at the door.
- Doors open 15 minutes before each session, and we start on time.
- Seating is free, so arrive early for the best seats.

CHILDREN AND RATINGS

- Children are welcome at every screening their age allows under its IMDA rating.
- Every child needs their own ticket.

CHANGES AND REFUNDS

- Tickets are non-refundable.
- You may transfer your ticket to someone else.
- The programme is subject to change.

FREE EVENTS

- The Botanic Gardens screening on 1 November and all Sentosa screenings are free.
- The 8 November events at Sentosa need registration.

BOOK AND REGISTER

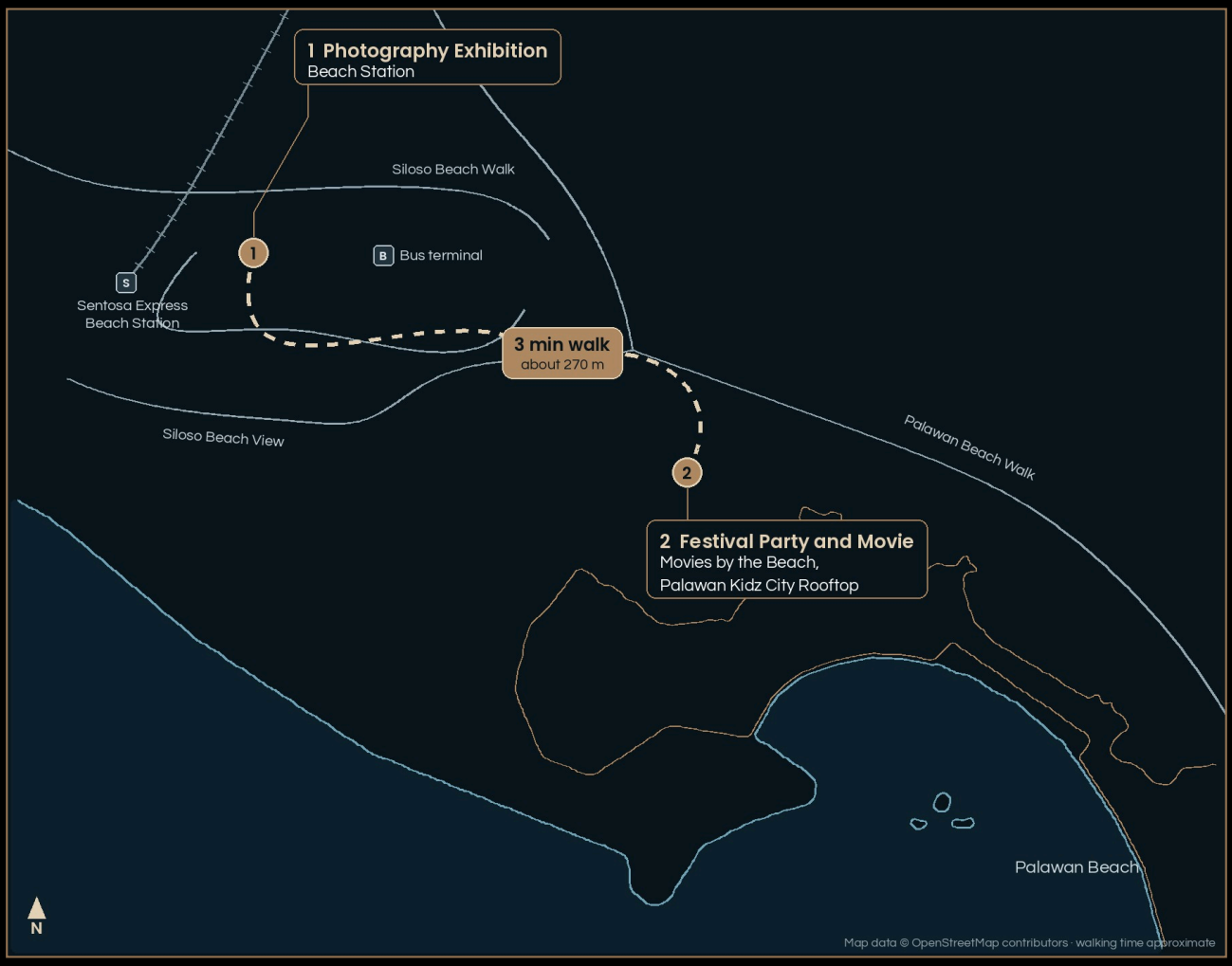
Tickets: www.yourtessera.com/o/earth-in-focus
Full programme: programme.earthinfocus.co · Questions: discover@earthinfocus.co

NOTICE TO ATTENDEES

1. By attending, you consent to your photograph and/or recording (video/audio) being used for future communications by Earth In Focus and Wild Space for archival, publicity, and publications.
2. All doors will open 15 minutes before. Attendees are to be seated. All screenings will start on time. Screenings will take place on Level 6, Hall 6, except for the Awards Ceremony at Level 6, Hall 2.

GETTING AROUND SENTOSA

Sunday 8 November · Beach Station and Palawan Kidz City Rooftop



BETWEEN THE TWO VENUES

The Photography Exhibition is at Beach Station, between the Sentosa Express station and the bus terminal. The Festival Party and Movie are at Movies by the Beach, Palawan Kidz City Rooftop, about a 3-minute walk (about 270 m) away along Siloso Beach View and Palawan Beach Walk.

GETTING THERE

Take the Sentosa Express to Beach Station, or a bus to the Beach Station bus terminal.

Walking time is approximate. Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors.



EARTH IN FOCUS

Nature Film Festival 2026 · The Future We Choose

5 – 8 November 2026 · Singapore

earthinfocus.co