

# Press Release

**THE STRAITS TIMES**

**MARINA BAY Sands**  
SINGAPORE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



*Then: A bird's eye view of the central business district (CBD) and the Singapore river taken from the Ritz-Carlton hotel on 29 July 2007. ST Photo: Steven Lee*



*Now: View of Marina Bay from The Ritz-Carlton Millenia Singapore. Photographed on 08 Jan 2015. ST Photo: Ong Wee Jin*

## **ArtScience Museum tells *Singapore STories: Then, Now, Tomorrow***

*Free exhibition celebrating The Straits Times' 170<sup>th</sup>  
anniversary and SG50 to open from 17 July*

**Singapore** (29 April 2015) – As part of its 170th anniversary, The Straits Times has collaborated with ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands to unveil an exhibition that will chronicle the nation's development through powerful images and stories. This will be the first exhibition co-curated by the museum that is free to the general public.

The exhibition *Singapore STories: Then, Now, Tomorrow* – which is presented by main sponsor Capitaland – will open on 17 July and run throughout Singapore's Golden Jubilee celebrations in August, ending on 4 October 2015. The opening hours of the exhibition are from 10am to 7pm daily.

Standard Chartered Bank, which opened its first branch in Singapore in 1859, has also come onboard as a second sponsor for the exhibition.

*Singapore STories* is told through the pages of Singapore's oldest English-language daily newspaper The Straits Times. The exhibition will feature hundreds of The Straits Times front-page stories, headlines and photographs that capture pivotal and piquant moments in Singapore. The newspaper has also unlocked its archive that dates back to 15 July 1845 when it was first published to showcase never-before-seen photographs in the exhibition.

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*Singapore STories* however, is more than a trip down memory lane. It looks back to consider how far Singapore has come but it also gazes ahead at how plans in the pipeline will continue to impact Singapore.

This story of Singapore's beginnings, struggles and triumphs will unfold across six galleries in the exhibition. The themes of the galleries mirror the core segments of the newspaper: Business, World, Home, Sport, Life and Forum.

Within each gallery, historic front-page reports and photographs will be featured alongside lesser-known but captivating stories to reveal the depth of the histories of both Singapore and The Straits Times. The accounts range from Singapore's robust trade in the mid-1800s to Singapore's independence in the mid-1900s and the push towards a sustainable future in the new millennium. Events from the past will also be juxtaposed with photographs and headlines that point to future developments in these areas.

George Tanasijevich, Chief Executive Officer and President of Marina Bay Sands, said: "We are proud to partner with The Straits Times to curate a new exhibition that celebrates two milestones – ST's 170<sup>th</sup> year anniversary during Singapore's Golden Jubilee celebrations. This is a unique exhibition as it showcases historical events from the framework of the present and with an eye firmly on the future, creating a dialogue between past and present."

*Singapore STories* will also feature public-generated content. The #BuildSG2065 showcase in the Forum gallery will highlight 50 ideas from the public on Singapore's future buildings, homes and green spaces. The ideas will be selected from submissions to the #BuildSG2065 contest held by The Straits Times and CapitaLand, one of Asia's largest real estate companies, to mark Singapore's 50th anniversary. (More details on #BuildSG2065 at <http://buildsg2065.straitstimes.com>.)

Lim Ming Yan, President & Group CEO, CapitaLand, said: "We are pleased to be the Presenting Sponsor of the *Singapore STories* exhibition, as part of CapitaLand's SG50 celebrations. Showcasing 'Then, Now, Tomorrow', this is a meaningful exhibition that depicts not just milestones in Singapore's history, but also how lives have changed against the backdrop of our evolving skyline and cityscape. Buildings are more than just bricks, glass and steel, they form communities where people live, grow and fulfill their dreams. As a real estate developer, CapitaLand wants to give back to the community by creating a built environment that realises our credo of 'Building People. Building Communities.'. As we celebrate Singapore's Golden Jubilee, it is important that we remember the value of the past that has brought us success as we build for tomorrow."

He added: "Many Singaporeans have shared passionately their vision for the future of Singapore's built environment via #BuildSG2065 - from anti-gravitational playgrounds, floating skyscrapers to underwater homes. Some of these ideas may seem far-fetched today, but they may well be breakthroughs worthy of The Straits Times' front pages in years to come. We look forward to seeing some of these ideas come to life as part of Singapore's 'Tomorrow' at the *Singapore STories* exhibition, or even realising some of these ideas in our future developments as we journey with the nation to build the stage for the next 50 – Singapore2065."

Neeraj Swaroop, Chief Executive Officer, Singapore, Standard Chartered Bank said: “As a bank that has been a key part of Singapore’s history for more than 150 years, we are proud to partner with The Straits Times in showcasing the highlights in Singapore’s development and accompany Singaporeans down the memory lane. As we count down to Singapore’s 50th birthday in August, its next half a century is already taking shape and it will be just as impressive as the last. Let’s celebrate Singapore’s achievements, look forward to the future and continue to play a part in the Singapore story.”

Warren Fernandez, Editor of The Straits Times said: “From its early colonial years, through several wars, change of regime and national allegiance, The Straits Times has seen it all. It has chronicled these highs and lows in Singapore’s history through the decades. This exhibition trawls through our rich archives to bring that history alive for today’s Singaporeans to help us remember where we have been, how we got here, and where we might be heading.”

Susan Long, lead curator and Straits Times Press general manager, said: “Come and see The Straits Times in a new light. Step into its pages and discover Singapore anew. This is an event to bring your whole family, as there will be something for every age group.”

Visitors can also view the winning entry for Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore’s inaugural *Data in the City Visualisation Challenge* which invited the public to create SG50 data visualisations using Open Data. “The Singapore Story, as told by headline news” by data scientists Paul Meinshausen and Hanif Samad used publicly accessible government data to visualise trends in the words and phrases used in The Straits Times’ headlines since 1955. The interactive charts and visualisations represent a literal Singapore Story unfolding and changing through the decades, as depicted by news headlines.

For more information on the exhibition, please visit [www.marinabaysands.com/ArtScienceMuseum](http://www.marinabaysands.com/ArtScienceMuseum)

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Annex A: Selected Page One images

Annex B: Selected photos

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#### **About Marina Bay Sands Pte Ltd**

Marina Bay Sands is the leading business, leisure and entertainment destination in Asia. It features large and flexible convention and exhibition facilities, 2,560 hotel rooms and suites, the rooftop Sands SkyPark, the best shopping mall in Asia, world-class celebrity chef restaurants and an outdoor event plaza. Its two theatres showcase a range of leading entertainment performances including world-renowned Broadway shows. Completing the line-up of attractions is ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands, which plays host to permanent and marquee exhibitions. For more information, please visit [www.marinabaysands.com](http://www.marinabaysands.com)

#### **About ArtScience Museum**

ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands is Southeast Asia’s leading cultural institution that explores the inter-relationship between art, science, technology and culture. Featuring 21 galleries totaling 50,000 square feet, the iconic lotus-inspired building has staged major exhibitions by some of the 20th century’s key artists, including Salvador Dalí, Andy Warhol and Vincent Van Gogh, as well as major exhibitions which explore aspects of scientific history.

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## About The Straits Times

The Straits Times is one of the region's oldest English-language daily newspapers. It is the flagship publication of the publicly-listed Singapore Press Holdings group. First published on July 15, 1845, The Straits Times is the most widely read newspaper in Singapore. The Sunday Times, which is produced by the same team of journalists, has a circulation of 365,800 and a readership of 1.43 million. The Straits Times strives to be an authoritative provider of news and views, with special focus on Singapore and the Asian region. It has nine bureaus in Asia and a worldwide network of other contributors.

## About CapitaLand Limited, Presenting Sponsor of *Singapore Stories: Then, Now, Tomorrow* exhibition

CapitaLand is one of Asia's largest real estate companies headquartered and listed in Singapore. The company leverages its significant asset base, design and development capabilities, active capital management strategies, extensive market network and operational capabilities to develop high-quality real estate products and services. Its diversified global real estate portfolio includes integrated developments, shopping malls, serviced residences, offices and homes. Its two core markets are Singapore and China, while Indonesia, Malaysia and Vietnam have been identified as new growth markets. The company also has one of the largest real estate fund management businesses with assets located in Asia.

CapitaLand's listed real estate investment trusts are Ascott Residence Trust, CapitaCommercial Trust, CapitaMall Trust, CapitaMalls Malaysia Trust and CapitaRetail China Trust.

## About Standard Chartered Bank (Singapore) Limited

Standard Chartered Standard Chartered has a history of 156 years in Singapore, opening its first branch here in 1859 and in October 1999 was among the first international banks to receive a Qualifying Full Bank (QFB) license, an endorsement of the Group's long-standing commitment to its businesses in the country. The Bank in Singapore serves both retail and corporate customers. It provides credit cards, personal loans, auto loans, mortgages, deposit taking and wealth management services to individuals and small to medium sized enterprises. The Bank also provides corporate and institutional clients with services in trade finance, cash management, lending, securities services, foreign exchange, debt capital markets and corporate finance. The Bank employs around 7,000 people in Singapore and has a network of 18 branches, 7 Priority Banking centres and 32 ATMs. Standard Chartered is the only international bank to offer NETS service, giving its customers access to EFTPOS at over 17,000 outlets island-wide.

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## For Images:

Images from Annex A: <https://www.hightail.com/download/bXBZUGhldzhENIR2WnRVag> (Credits to The Straits Times)

Images from Annex B: <https://rcpt.hightail.com/2744831371/d1efdd025f117bd6ba5ddb2c3c77d81c> (Credits to respective photographers mentioned in the captions)

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ANNEX A: Selected Page Ones from Singapore Stories: Then, Now, Tomorrow



July 15, 1845  
 The first issue of the The Straits Times spells Singapore's importance as an entrepot. The front page is filled with notices on shipping activity, warehouses to let and long lists of foreign goods for sale. The masthead also mentions the Journal of Commerce that appears at the end of the issue, devoted to market reports from around the world, pointing to the significant role of commerce in Singapore's development.



September 7, 1945  
 The first postwar edition of The Straits Times captured the jubilant mood of Singapore's liberation from Japanese Occupation. The hardship that followed under British administration, however, stirred Singapore's desire for self-governance.



August 10, 1965  
 Singapore's merger with Malaya in 1963 was rocked by various threats and in less than two years, Singapore was out. The exit shocked many people but Singapore lost no time in securing its sovereignty by winning recognition and support from other global powers.

**ANNEX B:** Selected photos from *Singapore STories: Then, Now, Tomorrow*



1.

**33793261 – Cecil St 1848:** Flood in Cecil Street, Singapore, on June 1, 1948. ST Photo: Photographer unknown



2.

**33793456\_Orchard Road 1949:** Sidewalk shopping in Orchard Road, 3 July, 1949. ST Photo: Photographer unknown



3.

**34056990\_Parade:** Queen's Birthday Parade. Left right, left right. There they go the Queen's soldiers, and the boy and girl of Elgin Bridge, Singapore, stand fascinated as the parade goes past on June 5, 1952. ST Photo: Photographer unknown



4.

**34417930\_Babies:** A child welfare worker of City Council showing the mothers seated how to bathe a baby, 18 June 1952. ST Photo: Photographer unknown



5.

**34033629\_Snake:** Snake charmers outside Sea View Hotel on December 3, 1956. ST Photo: Chew Boon Chin.



6.

**34063569\_LKY:** The Singapore Government will not interfere in the political affairs of Malaysia, Mr Lee Kuan Yew said at a press conference on August 10, 1965. The Prime Minister of Singapore said: "It is necessary for us to be very correct in our relations with our neighbour, and one neighbouring Government does not interfere in the political affairs of another Government." Mr Lee also explained that the People's Action Party could no longer be a member of the Malaysian Solidarity Convention. ST Photo: Low Yew Kong



7.

**33914295\_Chope:** Bags and stones placed by parents to "reserve" places in the queue outside the Convent of the Holy Infant Jesus in Kellock Road on July 22, 1970. It was fear that their children might not be registered within the intake that brought them rushing to the schools early. Parents maintained that this "first come, first serve" basis had much to do with the school of their choice. ST Photo: Christopher Loh



8.

**34498805\_Bus:** 'People-packers' help control crowd on buses, July 2, 1987. A shove and a push..the crowd has to be told to move to the back. ST Photo : Yap Yew Piang.



9.

**101137 – ERP:** Marking the end of an era, the manual Area Licensing Scheme (ALS) road pricing gantry is taken down on August 30, 1998. Electronic Road Pricing (ERP) began island wide on September 1, 1998. ST Photo: Lau Fook Kong



10.

**2107507 – SAF Tsunami:** A hit with the kids. Besides working as a liaison officer and translator, SAF Staff Sergeant Muhammad Azam Aziz, 25, gives simple English lessons to refugees at a camp about 10 km outside of Meulaboh on January 18, 2005. ST Photo: Terence Tan



11.

**34064378\_masselamat:** Police checking a tunnel at the forested Bukit Timah Nature Reserve on 4 March 2008. Police have been hunting for Mas Selamat Kastari (JI) terrorist, who escaped from Whitely Road Detention centre on Feb 27, 2008. ST Photo: Francis Ong



12.

**15834551 – Skyline:** The Marina Bay skyline at night, with its reflection appearing in a puddle of water at the Esplanade's outdoor theatre on a rainy evening. Singapore strives to be a vibrant global city, having good transport infrastructure and a clean environment. ST Photo: Samuel He



13.

**34238710\_train:** The crowd cheering and clicking their cameras as the engine for the 2nd last arriving Malayan Railway (KTM) train pulled into the Tanjong Pagar Railway station on 30 June 2011, which is the last day of operation for the station. From 1 July 2011, the trains will start and end their journeys at Woodlands Train Checkpoint in the north. ST Photo: Raj Nadarajan



14.

**24739448 – Void Deck:** Two boys kicking a soccer ball at the void deck of a block of housing apartments in Bishan in July 2012. ST Photo: Alphonsus Chern



15.

**31939737\_sportshub:** Sunlight peeking through the thin retractable dome of the new National Stadium on 11 June 2014. The dome can open or close fully within 20 minutes, allowing games to continue in all sorts of weather conditions. It is a key design feature of the 55,000-seater arena. ST Photo: Desmond Lim