



## The Asia-Europe Comics Project

### Public Exhibition on “The Making of Asia-Europe Comics” 18 -31 Aug 2006

060818-PR0610 PRESS RELEASE  
418August 2006

#### A Public Exhibition on “The Making of Asia-Europe Comics” will be held at the National Library Board from 18 - 31 August 2006

The Asia-Europe Comics Project is the first endeavour bringing together prominent comic artists from twelve countries to Singapore to explore the subject of “migration” and how to depict the impact of this phenomenon on the individual and society. Their work will be the basis for a comics publication to be produced at the end of this year.

This free-entrance exhibition serves to introduce the artists, from Belgium, Hong Kong SAR, Czech Republic, France, Finland, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Netherlands, Philippines, Poland and Vietnam. It aims to provide some insights into the respective worlds from which they come, both through their earlier work as well as their interpretations of the project theme. Sketches drafted during their twelve days in Singapore and photographs of the team meeting provide a visual account of their efforts to bring their unique experiences, observations and opinions to bear on the common effort to draw stories about what migration means. These images will provide a glimpse at what the future publication will be made of.

The project aims to use the comics medium to complement existing avenues for promoting mutual awareness, understanding and dialogue on a range of issues between Asia and Europe. It serves to foster an initial network of creators, artists and writers engaged in the Asian and European comics medium, to encourage future multilateral collaborations that will contribute popular and reader-friendly material to the body of literature on relations between the two regions. Visitors to the exhibition will have the occasion to compare the different points of view and issues surrounding the theme of migration: the search for a safer and better life, and the inability to remain a passive spectator for long when confronted with the issues of co-existence, integration and assimilation on the one hand, and isolation, alienation and conflict on the other. Some find they are trapped, others discover liberation, and others still, that they are chasing an illusory promise. These are some of the ideas that emerged from the meeting among the artists in Singapore.

The Asia-Europe Foundation is employing the comics vehicle to encourage direct encounters and collaboration between creators who are inspired to use their medium to contribute to cross-cultural understanding, the social betterment of ordinary people in their communities and the furtherance of Asia-Europe ties.

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The Asia-Europe Comics Project is an initiative of the Asia-Europe Foundation in partnership with the National Library Board (Singapore) and The Gallery Hotel, with the support of The Federal Public Service Foreign Affairs (Belgium), The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Czech Republic), Royal Netherlands Embassy, Media Development Authority (Singapore), Furryfish, Zocard and LASALLE-SIA College for the Arts.



**Asia-Europe Foundation** | The Asia-Europe-Foundation seeks to promote better mutual understanding between the peoples of Asia and Europe through greater intellectual, cultural and people-to-people exchanges whose purpose is to multiply knowledge about Asia-Europe Cooperation. This project is a new initiative by the Public Affairs Department. For further information on Asia-Europe Foundation, please visit our website: <http://www.asef.org>

GALLERYHOTEL

**Gallery Hotel** | The Hotel that Inspires, is Singapore's first hip hotel. This arts-centric hotel features distinctive and award-winning post-modern architecture and colourful interiors. The creative environment inspires you to enjoy the ease and excitement of a truly designer hotel. Gallery Hotel is located at the trendy Robertson Quay and Mohamed Sultan entertainment district, perched on the bank of the famous Singapore River – a delightful waterfront experience. <http://www.galleryhotel.com.sg>



**National Library Board** | Established on 1 September 1995, the National Library Board's mission is to provide a trusted, accessible and globally-connected library and information service so as to promote a knowledgeable and engaged society. NLB oversees the management of the National Library, including the Lee Kong Chian Reference Library, three regional libraries, 19 community libraries, 18 community children's libraries, as well as over 30 libraries belonging to government agencies, schools and private institutions. Through its innovative use of technology and collaboration with strategic partners, NLB ensures that library users have access to a rich array of information services and resources that are convenient, accessible and useful. More information on NLB can be found on [www.nlb.gov.sg](http://www.nlb.gov.sg)



**Media Development Authority of Singapore** | The Media Development Authority of Singapore (MDA) was formed on 1 January 2003 to champion Media 21, a blueprint to transform Singapore into a global media city. Media 21 seeks to create a vibrant media environment by establishing Singapore as a media exchange, exporting Made-by-Singapore content, internationalising local media companies, nurturing local media talent and developing digital media. More information on MDA can be found on [www.mda.gov.sg](http://www.mda.gov.sg)



**LASALLE-SIA College for the Arts** | Founded in 1984 by De La Salle brother, Brother Joseph McNally, LASALLE-SIA College of the Arts is, today, Asia Pacific's leading arts institution, producing award-winning artists in design, fine arts and performing arts each year. In enabling Art, Design and Performance through education, research, publication, performance and exhibition of the highest quality from Diploma to PhD operating nationally and internationally whilst contributing to the cultural wealth of Singapore as the leading regional provider of Creativity.