

# Inti's second theatre production is a dark comedy

Events



Kalai Vaani and Giovanni in a scene from the play - Picture by D. MAHESHWARI

By D. MAHESHWARI

INTI College Subang Jaya is staging the play *Mr Ah Beng's Coffee Shop* this evening at the Actors Studio at Bangsar Shopping Complex in Kuala Lumpur.

It is about a group of people who are looking for love in a coffee shop. As they drink their coffee, they find love as well. However, fate has its way of playing a joke on them in this dark comedy.

The play, written and directed by Eddy Lee, a lecturer from the School of Languages and Liberal Arts, deals with marriage and the souring of relationships. It also explores loneliness in marriage.

Lee said the play was written some five years ago and when the School approached him about staging a play, he felt *Mr Ah Beng's Coffee Shop* might suit the contemporary audience.

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the play was a fun and educational experience. He did it with a group of friends and Inti College students.

"This is a devised play. I created the characters and scenes and had the actors improvise on those scenes," said Lee.

"I taped down the improvised dialogues and later transcribed and organised them into a script. A number of dialogues in the play are originally from the actors."

He added that he worked with a group of amateur actors from among students and staff of Inti College in Subang Jaya.

College principal Dr Saw Sor Heoh said Inti College actively encourages and enables its students to develop interest in all areas, including an appreciation of the performing arts.

"This play is about the lengths that people would go to fulfil their cravings," he said, adding that writing

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This is the second time the School of Languages and Liberal Arts has staged a play, the first being the classic *The Importance of Being Ernest* by Oscar Wilde. The staging of this new play also saw the launching of a new theatre company, Stage Presence Repertory Theatre, to promote local plays.

The cast of *Mr Ah Beng's Coffee Shop* comprises Giovanni Chen, Kevin Tan, Kalai Vaani Rajandram, Vincent Chang, Sandra Foo and Mah Guang Cheng, and Lee said their patience, hard work and commitment has made this play a reality.

Lee also commended the college for supporting the play and showing their commitment to holistic education.

The curtain goes up at 8pm. Tickets for the play are priced at RM22 for adults and RM12 for students. For more information, call (03) 5637-8792 or Lee at (016) 308-4783. - [smai@nstp.com.my](mailto:smai@nstp.com.my)