



Same-same



Photography by: Ryan Wee

same-same /saem-saem/

- noun /informal/

A play on the common Malaysian lingo ‘sama-sama’ (literally translated to same-same), this issue highlights the commonality of experiences, thoughts and whatnots among the students of Monash. We broke it down into three thematic months, That Awkward Moment, Intimacy and Masks, in which the content will get you nodding and thinking ‘same, same’ to yourself. Enjoy.

HOW TO READ MONGA:

1. TL;DR (too long; didn’t read)

You probably grabbed this issue on the way back or in between classes, and heading somewhere else. Flipped through it briefly and only stopping at the colorful pages. That’s cool. Don’t let this be the last you see of MONGA. Use your free time to properly devour it.

2. Open Spotify playlist

Wanna know the music playing that gets the team going and their creative juices flowing at 3AM while piecing MONGA together? Here’s a curated playlist made to get you in the same mood while reading this:

scan for spotify playlist



3. “Eh look it’s you!”

We get it. You want to find the beautiful pictures of you and your friends taken by our hardworking photographers. Or maybe catch a glimpse of your crush’s smiling face in one of our pages. That’s what we’re here for.

4. “Hey, I was just re-reading MONGA and remembered us. Wanna catch up?”

Look back at it in a few years time. Has the people changed? Are the people you thought who would be always there for you still there? Are the faces you just skimmed through here when you first received this now someone important in your life? Perhaps this is time to reconnect with the people you had a fun time with captured in this semester’s MONGA.

5. Trigger warning

This issue contains explicit mentions of **self-harm, suicide, mental illness and sexual content**. MONGA aims to be a safe space that welcomes what may be considered taboo elsewhere.

***the content included only reflects the opinion of the individual contributors. Read at your own discretion. MONGA does not represent Monash University or the Monash University Student Association (MUSA).**





Photography by: Celine Chua





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Photography by: Ryan Wee

EDITORS' LETTER

It was one of the nights, back in December 2018. We were collectively discussing on which creative direction we should take, via Telegram - throwing in moodboards, ideas, videos, references and pictures. If there's one thing we'd point out on what our predecessors have inspired us, it is to keep growing as creatives. From there, we moved on to drawing stories and experiences from ourselves; things the four of us do have in common, and the things we don't. That's when we realized we all wanted the same thing: to relate.

This magazine is created with that in mind. To not only relate with the readers, but to also allow the rest of the student body to relate to each other. It is a representation of the various differences that we have while delving deeper into similar cuts of scenarios or phases us as humans go through.

And here we present to you our first edition of MONGA 2019: 'Same-same'.

'Same-same' encompasses the process of creating for all creatives. Dedicated to the late nights of assembling stories piece by piece with the new album from The 1975 playing in the background. There could be conflicts, perhaps an argument of some sort. In our case, it's over who gets to be in charge of the music playing and who should be the last to switch off the office lights. Or is it?

'Same-same' celebrates the first kisses we had from as young as we can remember. The usual routine of getting coffee, except that one particular day when we meet someone to keep. Or is it?

Maybe 'same-same' after all is about waking up and getting ready for the day to carry out our duties when someone else couldn't. It is also about the 13 ringgit boba we all queued to get, pretending that our assignments didn't exist.

'Same-same'.. saw the days of crippling anxiety before we were strong enough to step up for ourselves; because our friends didn't believe in us, we can only rebuild towers in a different way and open the gates again.

Because 'same-same' is a gift from us to you.
A safe haven, an embrace to your kind;

Welcome aboard.

With love,
Editors of MONGA 2019.

THOS
NZT
ONZ
CWS

#HumansOfMonash.

The Food Affair

MOOD.

PORTRAITS OF MONASH

**RANDOM SH*T
ON CAMPUS**

EVENTS

CLUBS & SOCIETIES

SCHOOL EVENTS

**THEMATIC MONTHS/
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#Humanso

by: *Sandra Lee, Sarah Law, Janet Lau, Lee Lin Jun, Kieran Li Nair, Wei Shang, Wesley Chung, Ang Yu Hang, Nadiah Azra, Matthew Chin, Joanna Tiong, Hizal Fadzin, Mahrukh Ali, Irshika Suthakar, Charles Lee, Danial Yusuf, & Durrah Sharifah.*

Content Warning: Self Harm, Depression, Suicide; should you have any triggers or anything that makes you feel uncomfortable, avoid this section of Humans of Monash.



“Meow. Meow meow meow meow. Meow! Meow.”

“Meow meow meow! Meow. Meow, meow. Meow. Meow.”

cat stopped to lick itself

- Monash Cat



“Initially, Monash was just a glorified tuition center, a figurative Hogwarts that I was searching in my life. Being both in the schools of arts and business, I always felt that I was the middle child amidst both schools, flowing from one group to another without actually being an essential cog in either groups. I was living Hannah Montana’s life, except I’ve never gotten the best of both worlds. I wanted to belong somewhere. ”

- Xi Jie

of Monash.



“I looked into it because I couldn’t talk about this to anyone. Apparently, this is ‘self-toxicity’. It’s normal for someone to put the blame on others when things go wrong in their life. I realised it’s the insecurity towards myself which is a result of everything that’s happened in my life. I noticed a pattern the minute I realised what happened, and that I needed to change.”

- Kristin



“I was devastated. The doctor told me that it takes 3 months for the bone to join back. I had to undergo surgery and have metal screws put inside. I went back to training with a base instead of the whole team after 3 months for the sake of doing it. I still loved it but I saw my friends training as a team and it felt like I was being isolated... They kept saying I was still a part of the team but I didn’t feel like one. I had to sacrifice the sport I’m so in love with because I didn’t want to screw up my grades.”

- Edeen



“I think it’s important to call out people when it’s necessary. Social media is a great platform to begin with. It is a tricky situation to be in but it’s important to let the person know that what they’re saying is wrong. Sharing posts by other feminist idols on social media does help in doing your part in educating people around you. However, as a close friend of mine once said, it is also very important to pick and choose the battles we fight because activism can be mentally tiring but definitely worth it.”

- Melinda



“Funding was a problem. My principle when doing business is not to rely on my parents as they already pay for my school fees. During my exchange, I was pretty devastated that others with money capital had started doing it as well having others observed that this was a good business idea. I felt it was unfair... If only I could’ve stayed.”

- Bryan



“My eyes turned watery and I cried with her. How long did it take for her to gather the courage to tell me? Little did I know that every time she gave me money, every single cent mirrored the countless hours she invested in her work, just to put a smile on my face. I cannot imagine the number of times, she handed me money with the thought of debt stuck at the back of her mind, yet because she wanted me to be happy, she remained silent.”

- Anonymous



“Don’t get me wrong, I have friends here who care and would go an extra mile for me, but they are not the ones I am willing to share my sorrows and problems with. It is tormenting having to put on a cheerful, nonchalant facade every day, just to fit in with a group of people. It’s hard to breathe with a mask on. I am extremely afraid, of opening up and be vulnerable to new people.”

- Anonymous

NOTE: YOU CAN READ THESE FULL STORIES ON @musamonga ON INSTAGRAM! These stories are collected and compiled by the writers and photographers of MUSA Monga and the credit goes to them. We hope you enjoy this project and we hope to hear more stories (feedbacks too) soon! DM US IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SHARE x.

#HumansofMonash



Gabriel.

“Being a gay person in Malaysia is difficult because there’s so many cultural and religious prohibitions against it, and you’re bombarded with anti-LGBT messages every single day—from family, newspapers, even happenings in other countries, like the stoning of gay people in Brunei.”

“My experience to get me where I am now has been very challenging. I wouldn’t say it’s easy because although I accepted myself, a lot of people didn’t accept me, so it was a constant journey of feeling like you’re not good enough, and then being bullied for it.”

“I was bullied since primary school. I knew I was different, but I didn’t have the vocabulary to express it. It presented a challenge because it affected how I emoted and suppressed my feelings. I was scared to talk about it, and only this past year have I begun to express my feelings and not be afraid of being myself, something which I never would have been able to do years ago.”

“Trying to find courage to be who you are in the midst of adversity, it took me a lot to gain the confidence and attitude to be who I am and not let anybody just say ‘you’re gay, and I’m gonna make fun of you for it’.”

“As you grow older it’s different challenges, and I have to find my way to navigate it and stay true to who I am... I will say that being gay is a blessing, and that I’m completely comfortable with who I am. I’ve always known that I was different, so I could never visualise myself as a straight person, but I can guarantee I wouldn’t be as fun of a person if I was straight!”

“There are pluses and minuses. I’ve had great friends, and I’ve had fake friends who just left me when I told them I was gay. But it definitely showed me who was true, who of my friends were here to stay. And so the journey continues; it’s been a great one so far, and here’s to more happiness and rainbows along the road.”

“I think it’s quite difficult for me to believe that I can do science. When I was in high school, biology was my favourite subject but I was really bad at it. Whenever I tell my homeroom teacher that I want to be a biologist in the future, she’ll be like “I think you should drop biology”.

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“But then I didn’t like anything other than science so I thought why not give it a try anyways. Fast forward to a few years after, I’m an Honours student at Monash University with a double degree in Biotechnology and Biomedical and this is my fifth year here.”

“It has always been a huge struggle for me to convince myself that I can excel in my field of study. I still feel like I suck at it compared to everyone else, but then again, everyone says that what I do is pretty cool, so I guess it must be true to a certain extent”.

“I like learning about people and genetics encompasses everything. Genetics is the foundation of biology and I really like that. I’m doing population genetics where I can trace back to when a certain mutation happened in history which to me, is quite interesting. It’s not that I’m a fan of history but it’s just really fun to discover something like that.”

“A lot of people, especially those in the field of science, forget why they’re doing science at one point. Everyone’s like ‘why must I do this?’, ‘how will it benefit me?’, ‘how am I going to make money out of it?’ For me, just learning something from my research itself is important. I learn something new every day and that’s what brings me joy”.

Kasturi.





Sandra.

“I want to be the person I wished I’d known when I wanted to kill myself. I’ve tried to kill myself. If at that point I’d known that with all these things going on in my mind and I could still have a chance at life, I wouldn’t do a lot of things that I did.”

“It started around fifteen. I had to go through everything on my own. It was an endless cycle of me hitting myself, hurting myself, crying and hurting myself, again and again and again. I tried to kill myself. It didn’t work, thankfully. I was just in a lot of pain. I couldn’t end my life and I couldn’t really live it as well.”

“Even after a few years now, well, I’m not okay. But, I’m definitely better. I mean, I enjoy my life a lot, but the pain doesn’t go away at all. Its just... its always there. But there are things I still wanna do in life, y’know? Meet an alien, or the love of my life. It’s the big and small that stop you from ending it, like food, dogs, cats. I want to spacewalk. I want to cure cancer.”

“I’ve gone to counselling. And it’s great. It’s the only place where I feel like I can breathe freely and cry. My counsellor is great. She helped me identify those traumas that I never I knew I had. And when I see my triggers, I breathe and think of the nicer stuffs now, y’know? Do things to distract myself from the pain I’m feeling. Counselling helps.”

“It takes a lot of courage to keep going. Even right now it feels just easier to end it all. Every time you try, you get exposed to disappointments. To actively try to live, it really takes a lot of effort. People don’t understand that for people like me, trying again means a lot. Even others telling me that I could do it, it means more than you think. Because it means that I can keep on going, and I don’t have to stop now.”

“People often give contradictory statements about Uni life. We’re often reminded how university is one of the most pivotal moments within our academic lives; yet I often hear people who have graduated telling me to enjoy university while I still can and not take it “too seriously” (whatever that means).”

“I like to picture myself 20 years from now, sitting on my work desk reminiscing the times of my youth. By then I would be 40, hopefully happily married, financially stable, but too caught up with life to actually live. And by living I mean creating memories privately special to me. No longer having the time to try out new stuff or take new risks since my commitments would be to my family, wife and kids.”

“And that thought scares me.”

“Imagine graduating university with a High GPA and securing the job of your dreams. You climb up the financial ladder in later years of your life and you get a pay raise. You come home one night seemingly content with life. You decide to scroll through the “Camera Roll” of your phone to look back on all past memories only to realise you have NONE.

“You realise throughout your Uni years all you did was push away events and gatherings for the sanctuary of the library where you isolated yourself because a perfect CGPA was all that you had in mind back then.”

“I never want that scenario to happen to me. Yes, University Grades are important and that academic transcript holds the key to a bright career. But also realise that University is a place of learning in all aspects of life. It’s a place of networking, meeting new people and other endless opportunities.”

“So put down that assignment that’s due in 2 weeks for one night and go to that party. Get close with that girl/guy you’ve always admired and experience the “Ups and Downs” of love. Just LIVE for once.”

Because Ancora Imparo – “Yet, I’m still learning” definitely does not apply to just academics. Take my word for it.”

Ethan.



Emelyne.

“5 medical diagnoses within a period of 12 years is not what every 21 year old like myself could ever think of possibly enduring. Mathematically, I’ve spent more than half my life facing battles I never wanted nor saw coming.”

“ It all began when I was two years old when I got diagnosed with Beta Thalassemia Major. At age eight I suffered from a complication called GVHD from an earlier bone marrow transplant. As a result of this diagnosis, I had to take high doses of steroids that made me become very fat on top of the bald patch that had already started to develop.”

“Thus, when I returned to school, I was barely recognisable and I was scared that I would be perceived as ugly. At the same time, I started getting bullied by other kids in school and when I told my parents about it, the complaint that they made against the school only made the bullies target me more.”

“At this stage, I started to isolate myself from other people, crying by myself at home. Not long after, I was diagnosed with Bilateral Cataracts and that was due to the high doses of steroids given to me earlier.”

“Several years later in 2010, I was diagnosed with hormonal insufficiency which resulted in stunted growth and the diagnosis for atopic eczema came several months later. By now you’ve probably lost track of my diagnoses and frankly so did I.”



“The importance of mentioning each diagnosis accordingly cannot be understated as this meant that every time I tried to uplift myself, I’d be hammered and pushed down once again. It’s like thinking that you’ve reached the end of a dark and treacherous tunnel and see a glimmer of light only to have the walls crumble around you trapping yourself in the darkness once again. Except for me, it happened time and time again.”

“In fact, the last straw came only a year after that when I was diagnosed with type 1 Diabetes, something I have had to live with for about seven years now.”

“When I was small, I found out that I had a scoliosis problem in which by that time my spine was curved at 48 degrees. It became worse as I grew older, with it being 162 degrees now, making it hard for me to breathe.”

“I had a total of about 7 to 8 surgeries to help with my condition. Back then, the doctor who did my first one said I wouldn’t live over 20 years old because of my condition and I thought at that time, “I’ll prove you wrong!” and here I am now, still living.”

“The first operation was a risky one as I had a 50:50 chance of surviving. I actually legit died for two seconds, and I ended up in a coma for two days in the ICU. Later, I had to wear a metal thing known as traction on my head which weighed half a kilogram and had 10 kg of water pulling it from behind for one to two years.”

“Wearing that in school was difficult. I felt like a robot and my schoolmates think so too. I couldn’t even carry my school bag. I disliked the reaction towards me wearing it so much that I went to see a psychologist to talk about it.”

Shirly.



“After form 4, it was suggested that I undergo another surgery to cut off the curvy part of my spinal cord and implant a man-made metal one. I said no because I couldn’t handle going through anymore surgeries. Plus, there was a risk of me being paralyzed and unable to walk if the transplant fails.”

“Everyone in Monash have been supportive so far, they don’t really judge how I look. I’m actively involved in the Science Club, Green Representative Network (GRN), Monash Students’ Psychology Interactive Network (SPIN) and Table Tennis club. There’s no point for my condition to stop me from doing things. I want to enjoy life.”

“Your life is still meaningful even if you’re diagnosed with a chronic condition or went through failure. I know I’ve never given up on living.”

Kak Nazura.

“My parents are from Melaka but I grew up here at Desa Mentari. Now, I have my own family living in USJ 2. I already have five grandchildren too.”

“I work for 12-hour shifts. For example, this week it’s from 7AM to 7PM every day while next week it’s from 7PM to 7AM. I work for six days a week with my off-day being on Sunday.”

“I have worked in Sunway for 10 years. I started with being a security guard. We had to go for six months of training. I am currently an auxiliary police. The training I underwent was for two months. I think recently they are prolonging the training period into three months.”

“During the training period our fitness is the main priority. We learnt and trained for a wide range of skills including weaponry, the law and marching. Even now, we have shooting training once a year in the Cheras District Police Headquarters (IPD Cheras).”

“In Ramadhan I just bring my own food from home. I haven’t tried ordering food and getting it sent here before. So far, all the food delivery services that I have seen sending food here have been following the rules by waiting outside the campus so that is good.”



“We try our best to ensure the safety of the students here by checking the identity of those coming in here. Even the contractors and cleaners you often see in campus have their own Monash identity cards.”

“One of the great perks of working here is that there’s an annual team-building event organized by Monash. Last year it was in Tambun and the year before it was in Port Dickson. Also, the people in Monash are nice.”

“Ghosts in Monash? I wouldn’t say there’s any because I don’t want to scare the students here!”

“When people say activism, they think of feminism, of the Women’s March, of LGBT rights and human rights rallies, but not much on the environment. Seeing these rallies makes us happy but there’s only a few in Malaysia that focuses on climate change.”

“I (Ashwiini) got more involved with environmental activism after getting to know Maryam in Monash. She was already involved in Bangkit4Iklim, a climate change movement that started in March. Bangkit4Iklim is the localized version of a global-wide protest called Climate Strike slash Fridays for Future that was started by Greta Thunberg from Sweden in 2018.”

“We are part of the KAMY (Klima Action Malaysia) committee and helped organized the My Climate Rally in KL on the 20th of April. It was featured on news agencies like The Sun, Sin Chew Daily, Malaysiakini and Free Malaysia Today. We met a lot of people and organizations who were interested in helping out with upcoming rallies.”



Maryam & Ashwiini.

“I’m (Maryam) all for social media activism but I feel like people should take actual physical action. For example, we buy our stuff from bulk stores and the pasar using reusable bags so that we can reduce plastic use and support the local people rather than contributing to existing huge corporates.”

“We only have one planet. Climate change literally affects everyone regardless of your political stance or religious beliefs. There’s only so much both of us can do on our own. Us students have so much influence and will be the ones most affected by climate change. Like Greta said, why aren’t we fighting for a future we might not even have?”

“Monash advocates for no single-use plastic but the vending machines and food trucks still use them. Plus, people don’t take the signs in the restrooms about reducing the toilet paper usage seriously. They pull so much of it just to dab their hands with it once before throwing it away.”

“We hope that the university will support more efforts in doing green events here. There are endless possibilities like having fundraisers for WWF or for the protection of the indigenous communities here.”

THE FOOD AFFAIR.



“Perhaps during one of our daydreams we’ve envisioned ourselves reciting wedding vows for our favorite food. Perhaps it went something like this: “I promise to love and cherish this dish, for better, for worse, until death do us part.” <3

“Because our love for these mouthwatering tastebud pleasers can never be enough. Because thinking what’s for dinner could be the only thing that keeps us through a hard day. So grab a snack and enjoy this special feature dedicated for all the food lovers out there” - Durrah Sharifah, Writer



Photography by: Celine Chua



Boba & Fried Chicken

By: Jordan Tang & Derrick Ser



“Lick your man’s little boy like it’s this fried chicken”

Take a bite at that crunchy golden brown skin, and your teeth meet the juicy, tender flesh underneath. But of course you were too impatient to wait for it to cool down, now you burned your tongue and you’re breathing smoke. Everyone knows good fried chicken; you can sense its aroma from afar, seducing you with undertones of sin and hate. Whether it is the breasts, the wings or the thighs (we like them thicc), fried chicken never fails to satisfy our bodily needs. Recipe from 1991, real flavour, it says. True that, you have been indulging this savory treat for as long as you can remember, from the humble KFC lunch box to the premium Kyocheon outlet that you queued 30 minutes to get a table. You can find them chicks whenever and wherever, that’s why it’s the ultimate comfort food, globally. So grab yourself a piece of this meat for a homerun hit of nostalgia, comfort, familiarity and satiety.



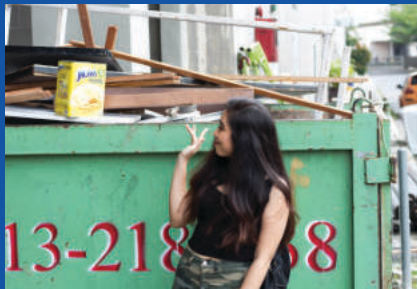
“I suck them balls”

What is it about boba that makes it so universally loved? Some say it's the chewy black balls that feel so right in your mouth, others say it is the sweet serendipity the creamy tea that draws you in – the strong punch of brown sugar, the fresh tea leaves, the perfect way it is brewed. Originating from the humble teahouses in Taiwan, this addictive drink has made worldwide phenomenon in recent years, and has also become the accessory for every ABG (Asian Baby Girl). Observe the brown syrup patterns printed on the cup; it mimics the veins in your body, calling for boba to be injected straight into your bloodstream. They say boba is the new coffee, its variety of funky flavours are just what you need to spice up your life. The next time someone says you're consuming too much sugar, tell them it's the sweetness that their body can't handle.



Jacobs'/Super Ring

By: Matthew Chin &
Loh Chee Kien



“Break Up with Your Diet, I’m Bored.”



Imagine a world,
Where there's a girl,
Beautifully called Allysha,
Whilst a Jacobs biscuit can
was locating its Geisha.

Got together they did,
Thought they would fit.

Nearing their anniversary,
She never thought
she will be unnecessary,
She never thought it was a bad
idea,
She never thought she would be
that extra.

She was thankful for her new ex,
As she said thank u, next.
For all the nutrients it gave,
For all the moments that made her
brave.

She put her fake smile on,
Wearing that tee with the NASA
font,
And went hiding,
ghostin'
Her heart was aching.

Once she was needy,
Now she is greedy,
For the food that holds the key,
To set her heart free.

Then came Super Rings.
As it gave her all 7 rings,
Her life was filled with
blisses and blessings
They lived happily as queens and
kings.



Teh Ais/

By: Durrah Sharifah &
Danial Yusuf

“Do you go to the mamak stall often?
Because I tehtarik pada you.”
Is probably what Muqri Nazrin
would use as a pickup line to you

Teh ais isn't just any other drink
It is his lifeboat through engineering
Completing his life's missing link
Trust me this one's not another fling



To be apart from teh ais is torture
He even brings it up Monash's rock
climbing wall;
So if you see them don't look in horror
Because his love for it is above all

For him it's an easy feat
Drinking teh ais thrice a day
He has withdrawal symptoms without it
Call it an addiction if you may;

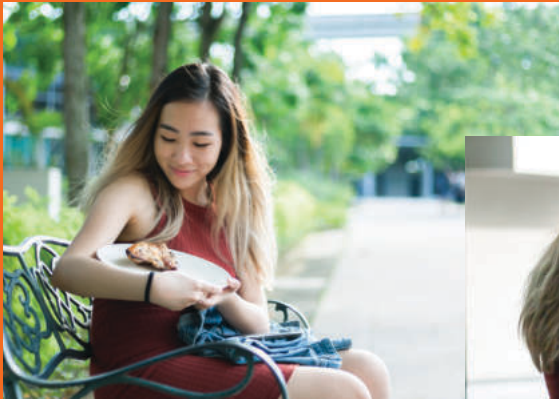
On earth it's his glimpse of paradise
His one and only true beloved;
If you're nowhere near being teh ais
Don't even think of receiving his love.







**we can
be...
Breast
Friends?**



Chicken Breast

By: Wesley Chung
& Cheah Wei Shang



“Please don’t.”

“I have to, Pat.”

A tear fell from her eye as she sat there, looking at the last piece of breast remaining. It tore her apart, thinking about it. A strangled silence hung in the air.

“I have to-”

“No. Don’t”

“It’s meant to happen. It’s my fate, destiny, whatever. You know this.”

“I don’t care,” her sobbing now started, more fervent by the second. The breast sighed.

“Hey, remember when you first saw me? You almost didn’t go for me. You wanted hot and creamy Thighs instead. Pfft. That guy? I can’t believe you even thought about it”

She smiled a half smile, letting it break through her teary face.

“Yeah, remember how you looked at me? That weird ass smile. How long ago was that?”

“2 hours ago,” she said with a sniffle.

“It’s been a while huh? You silly goose. Remember when we sat on that bench? We were so awkward back then! I tried so hard to get into you.” it said with a snort.

“Yeah.” She said, her tears stopping.

“We’ll always have that. And you’ll find someone else. Someone better. Time’s arrow marches on.”

And then she chewed, her cheeks wet with tears. The chicken breast was delicious, juicy with a hint of rosemary and pepper. It wasn’t dry, it wasn’t burnt. It was perfect.

“I’ll never find another like you...”, as she swallowed.



It was an eye opener for me.
 It was my first time doing this.
 I was nervous but I was excited as I
 never thought the day would come.
 I was hungry,
 I have been dreading this
 moment for the longest time.
 I dreamt about it in my sleep.
 I dreamt about it all the time.
 And eventually, I did it.

I ate it with the look of satisfaction on
 my face.
 I ate it raw.
 It tasted like heaven.

Poke Bowl

By Daniel Sim & Irshika Suthakar

The warm content coupled with the
 moist sauce, gave me the orgasm of
 the century.
 I didn't play it safe, I was risking an
 infection.

But eating it raw was undoubtedly the
 best decision I've made to date.
 And now I'm longing for more.

Thank you Fish Bowl for supplying us
 with your Raw salmon that is
 absolutely mouthwatering.
 The coupling of the warm fuzzy brown
 rice and cold sauce was like chicken
 soup to the soul.

I loved every second for it.
 Eating it raw is worth any and every
 GI tract infection there could possibly
 be;
 I'd do it all over again.

I had a fun time.





MACARONS

By: Charles Lee
& Ivan Liew





“Je t’aime, mon amour...” (I love you, my love) is what I imagine him whispering in my ear before brushing his lips against mine and giving me a long, slow kiss. Let me tell you about this intimate affair I share with a charmingly French Caucasian, named Macron.

We first met in a café, introduced by a friend. At first I found him unattractive and dull, no love at first sight. But after a few dates and a few tries, he grew on me. We worked out. He had everything. The charm, the looks, the charisma. The kisses I share with him are sweet and savoury, they somehow taste exactly like a dessert. Till now I still look forward to each kiss, the moments where I get to taste him and indulge.

The unique trait about this man are his lips. For every kiss we share, I can swear the taste (flavour) is never the same. One day when we were hanging out at a café, I pecked him on the lips and I got reminded of my favourite ice cream flavour – dark chocolate. The other day after our lecture, I cheekily snuck a kiss from him and I could have sworn he tasted like strawberry cheese cake. But I’m not complaining, I’m actually glad I found myself a person who comes in an array of different flavours. Life never gets dull.

I often find myself contemplating about this relationship. This affair we share. All I know is that I never want to stop getting close to him, to know him inside and out. He often tells me about his home country, France. How he wishes to bring me over to his favourite café, from where he wants to lazily watch the world go by over a cup of coffee or tea, together with me. The mere thought of such a date is enough to stop me in my tracks, completely dazzled.

But sadly every relationship has its flaws. My friends often warn me about his unhealthy eating habits and how its spreading onto me. Ever since I started seeing him my sugar intake has spiked. He never supports me whenever I go on diets, and I just don’t have the heart to ask him to change, because I couldn’t bear the thought of him changing. I love him just the way he is.

But if I was ever asked, “...would you marry him?”

The answer is yes. It will always be a yes.

I’m willing to make sacrifices for this “toxic” relationship, even if it means exposing myself to a high risk of getting diabetes at the age of 60.

mood.

/monash outfitted/





CONTRIBUTERS:
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NUR AMALINA
MANDY CHAI
SOON YING ZE
DERRICK SER

Photography by: Fatyn Afiqah

MONOTONE



ISSUE 1

Monotone outfits;
dressed in black from head to toe.
8 all-black outfits and black-and-
white VSCO filters, call it an issue.
Self-care, self-explanatory.
Colours on colours, layers on layers.
Singular. Make it fashion.
Layering and tones.
Monotone, multi-layered.
There's beauty in colour, there's
beauty in the madness.











NOSTALGIA



ISSUE 2



Snapshots of a past time.
Suburbia and childhood on
evenings where pink skies
turned to blue.
Playground football and
neighbourhood walks.
Days spent in the thrift store;
sticky bodies and the smell of
old clothes washed or
unwashed.
Incidentally sentimental.
Bring back the good old days.
Bring back the culture and
the past.



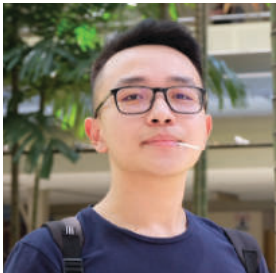
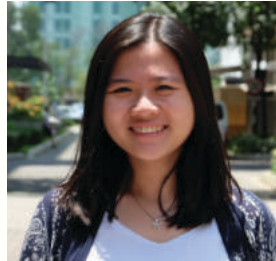
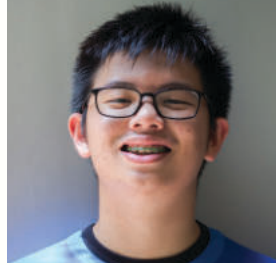


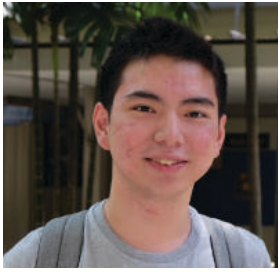


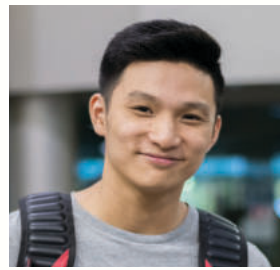
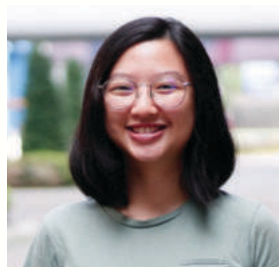


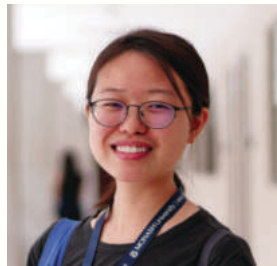
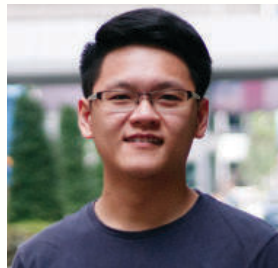
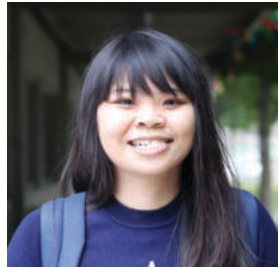
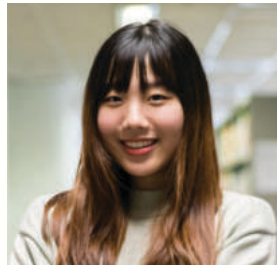
Portraits of Monash

By: Celine Chua, Wesley Chung, Sandra Lee, Sarah Law, Loh Chee Kien, Daniel Yusuf, Izyan iman, Ma Zhung Khoon, Ivan Liew, Nadiah Azra, Ang Yu Hang, Lee Lin Jun, Yousef Hatem, Mahrukh Ali, & Soon Ying Ze.











Random Sh*t on Campus

**A compilation of random
snapshots in Monash.
Be it anything or everything.**

**By: Danial Yusuf, Joseph Ma, Sandra Lee, Sarah Iaw, Celine Chua,
Ang Yu Hang, Daniel Sim, Lee Lin Jun, Wesley Chung, Yousef Hatem,
Nadiah Azra, & Nicholas Khoo**

Photography by: Nick Khoo









EVE



***All full album pictures are available on MUSA Monga's facebook page!**

NTS



Photography by: Celine Chua

Bash of Monash.

Writer: Jordan Tang
 Photographer: Ryan Wee
 & Mahrukh Ali

Where there is good music, there is a good time. MUSA Activities in collaboration with Radio Monash set the theme “Bands of Malaysia” for the month.

Bash of Monash aims to promote local culture through music and artworks to Monashians. It is held monthly with different themes showcasing the works of Malaysian artists.

“Most importantly, we just want people to chill and have a good night,” says Jim Koay, the Activities Chairperson. Together with his partner Matthew Tegjeu, the event took them four weeks to organize.

Perhaps it was the alluring disco lights or the aroma of free Dominos pizza, the lounge was already filled with students by late evening. The opening show was brought by NULL, a band from the Monash Music Club. The following line-ups were local bands LXCID, SHUUNA and The Peachskins. Homeboy rapper and emcee for the night Asyraf Nasir also hit us with some impromptu rap verses.

From breathtaking originals to nostalgic throwbacks, the bands moved the crowds to sing and dance along.

If only alcohol was permitted, the lounge would have not seen livelier nights.

MONGA spoke to LXCID lead singer Adam Ariff about his expectation of the music industry in Malaysia.

“Young Malaysians are embracing local music more than ever, because indie is the trend now. We are excited to see what the future holds for us,” says Adam.

LXCID, named after love and acid, is made up of five “specimens” consisting of a member from Monash University and four others from Sunway University. The two-year-old formation describes themselves as chaotic, experimental and passionate.

They are anticipating to publish their tracks on Soundcloud soon.



Superheroes U-Night.

Writer: Kieran Li Nair
Photographer: Ang Yu Hang

What derived out of budget cuts and urges for more collaborative events paved way for the school's most ambitious interactive event yet—the start of Week 4 foresaw the cumulation of 7 school representatives' efforts since last November to hold the very first 7 Schools' Mingle Night.

SoP rep See Mun stated they wanted to enable students to not only interact with those from their respective schools but also from others.

Superheroes U-Night was aptly named, from the walls deco'd with the Avengers skyline and hero-themed booth games to students going all out dressing up as various heroes, from big names like Black Panther and Thor to less conventional ones like Stitch. Attendees also aimed to win the best dressed award, with RM100 H&M vouchers up for grabs.

The night kicked off with a warm welcome from school reps as emcees, and students flocked to the various booths. Students were eager to have their favourite superhero insignias drawn on themselves at the Henna booth, while the Pong Blower game booth oversaw some intense matches.

The sensational performances by We Are Dance Crew preceded the night's open mic session; students Alvin and Rain supplied wonderful tunes, and the highlight was Monash's very own The Eleventh Hour—the duo's dulcet tones accompanied by electric guitar enraptured the audience and garnered them well-earned applause for their debut performance.

Finally came the best dressed awards. Nominees strut their stuff in a makeshift catwalk, their fate lying in the enthusiastic cheers of the attendees.

It was ultimately Robert from SoS as a samurai and Zoey from SASS as Cho Chang who bedazzled students the most. Minigames prizes were also handed out as the event came to a mellow close.

Many students, especially freshies expressed being intimidated but leaving the event with fresh perspectives and new friends. Past SoB rep Li San praised the feat of the current generation of representatives, particularly the flexibility of the event and collaborative effort between schools, allowing for a chill and “voluntary mingling” experience. Overall the event was a hit among attendees, and hopefully its reception will foretell similar ones to come.





HOLI festival

Writer: Irshika Suthakar
Photographer: Nicholas Khoo & Fatyn Afiqah



On the 22nd of March, Monash celebrated the festival of Holi, relishing pieces of music and festive food. Organised by MUISS, the event brought joy and happiness amongst Monash students in the middle of Week 3.

“This event is something that we’ve wanted to conduct since last year, but unfortunately didn’t get to the last time around”, said Charlotte and Samiul, the main people involved in the board who made this event possible.

They also added that their team has been actively planning this festivity since the early of February. “We started brainstorming ideas for this event and outlining how the event would go down to make the best out of this long-awaited celebration”.

As scheduled, the registration for the bash started at 5 pm. Slowly, the crowd began accumulating to a good figure of 120 registrants in total. Entrants were warmly welcomed with freshly cooked samosas together with ‘dhall’ and lassi, a drink made of yoghurt. Not to forget the piece of confectionary that sparked joy and happiness-the LOLlies!

The very first performance of the day was a dance performance which was gracefully choreographed and performed by a group of 7. About an hour later, ‘Gulal’ a.k.a colourful powders were distributed, the main essence of any Holi festival. Catchy Bollywood songs were also played in the background to hype up the crowd. Once everyone was equipped with the Holi powders, the much-anticipated countdown started.3,2,1... and everyone threw a handful of their powder up to mark the beginning of the Holi Festival 2019!

In a matter of a few minutes, the open field which was initially somewhat lusciously green in colour turned into a beautiful mess consisting of scatters of vibrant colours. ‘Happy Holi’ wishes were said out loud to everyone whilst catapult-launching powders towards them.

Soon enough, the event took a turn as the ground turned into a water gun fight. Everyone armed themselves and started blasting water in every direction possible! Everyone got drenched with water and covered with powders.

Somewhere around 7pm, the field was open to the public, which meant more people and subsequently more fun!

The night ended with dance-savvy people dancing to the beat of the music with full energy. Top Bollywood hits - ‘Chammak Chello’, ‘Kala Chasma’, ‘Nakhra Tera Ni’, you name it! - served as a ‘rush of adrenaline’ to the members of the floor. People regardless of differences got fully engaged in the hype and the blast of songs. Those who were unfamiliar with Bollywood songs and dance moves were also not left out in any way.

The event was put to an end with a thank-you-note from the organisers and obviously, the “traditional group picture” of the MUISS committee members. All in all, everyone enjoyed themselves thoroughly. With a free flow of food and uplifting fuel for the ears, there was definitely nothing to complain about. The only lament, in my opinion, is the aftermath of Holi that’s to recover our original skin colour and hopefully get the colourings off the clothes! And just in case you’ve not figured it out yet, university life is not always gloomy as evidently, it can get colourful at times too.

Monash Street Jam Vol. 3

Writer: Durrah Sharifah
Photographer: Joseph Ma

Monash just got hotter on the 20th of April as talented dancers set the badminton court on fire with their jaw-dropping moves, which was a great start to the mid-semester break.

Monash Street Jam Vol. 3 was a continuation of the series of the street jam events held by the Monash Street Dance Society. This year's main highlights were the 2 vs 2 Novice x Mentor battle in which the chosen top 16 novices would each paired up with 16 mentors randomly, in addition to the group showcase segment.

It was evident that everyone there loved what they were doing as they took to the floor to dance to the addictive beats provided by DJ Caven, regardless whether it was their turn to dance or during break sessions. Even the judges Alex PoppinRex, Lingzy, Pitt Den and the emcee Alson looked like they were having a good time throughout the event, with the judges dancing while choosing those who made it to the next round.

The group showcase event showed perfect synchronicity and teamwork among the groups as they wow-ed the audience. WeAreUs bagged the 1st place for the showcase with their all-white ensemble while RDG placed 1st runner-up with their sensual dance moves.

The 2 vs 2 Novice x Mentor battle champion title went to Kenneth and Chin Mun who presented impressive popping moves. Meanwhile, the pair Ker Qian and Aloysius grabbed the 1st runner up position with their amazing chemistry.

"The battle was very fun, I didn't expect to have such great chemistry with my partner because it was such a random pair-up. Our strategy was just to enjoy the music," expressed Ker Qian.

"Winning definitely feels great. We just did our best in every round and hoped for the best," said Kenneth who recently also won 1st runner up for Sunway's Got Talent event.

The event was definitely a success as a platform was provided where everyone enjoyed themselves and were able to showcase their passion for dance in a supportive community. Kudos to the Monash Street Dance Society committee for organizing this lively event!



Sadie Hawkins

Writer: Samuel Mui
Photographer: Sandra Lee



Sadie Hawkins Dances are a staple of high schools and universities in Caucasian America where the females of our species invite the males for a night of dancing, food, and consensual fun. The objective of such a flip-flop is to encourage women to make the first step and take charge of their relationships.

Organized by the lovely MUSA Wom*n's Officers, the event was held at the ever-instagrammable WhupWhup Restaurant/Cafe at SS13 (very near Monash) on the 19th of April aka Good Friday. Participants were treated to a dinner of quiche, pasta, grilled chicken, and, most delectably, bite-sized dark chocolate tarts.

In the spirit of the event, one of the Officers invited her boyfriend out to the event (Sure, he was busy running the sound system but it still counts). Similarly, Prince - a (very handsome) masculine-identifying participant - noted that the event was a great way to get students to open and encourage women to take more initiative, having been asked out to the event by a friend of his. Attendees were also entertained by performers from Music Club and Monash Dance Fusion Club (MDFC), the latter of which also led the attendees in a brief but enjoyable (and intimate) dance class.

All in all, it was generally agreed that the event was a success with a good turnout; an impressive feat considering they were up on the same date as MUSA Activities' Bash of Monash and the anniversary of Jesus's death.



Monash Cultural Night

Writer: Janet Lau
Photographer: Ryan Wee
& Joseph Ma

People of different ethnicities with their diverse costumes gathered at Evolve Mall Grand Pacific Event Hall, pumped for the night organized by the Monash University International Student Society (MUISS).

Performers doing their final touch up to their costumes and make up, calling after the photographers for group pictures as music blasted with stage lights piercing into space, sending waves of good vibes all around.

The event started off with performances by Malaysia followed by Pakistan, Indonesia and Sri Lanka for the first part. A moment of silence was then held to pay tribute to the recent terrorist attack during Easter in Sri Lanka.

As the night went on, delicious dinner was served and people started breaking out from their own groups and converse with other ethnicities, showed an instant transition from “One Malaysia” to “One World”.

“This year, we decided to include local students into the committee, opening up the tickets for Malaysians as I think this is a great strategy in bridging the gap between international students and Malaysians.

Besides, it definitely made things easier as the locals helped a lot in preparing for this night as they had better connections to venues, booking etc,” said Saimul, president of MUISS.

Part two kicked off with performances from India, then Africa, Bangladesh and Korea. Africa had the whole crowd cheering the loudest with their unique and energetic dances that reflected their unified culture. The best part was the fashion show that portrayed traditional costumes of different cultures and I liked how they had two models of different ethnicities cat walking and doing synchronized dances together.

With the DJ taking over the music with Lo-Fi beats, the crowd danced their night away, under the colourful, flickering lights. By then, the gap between international and local students was long gone, the only gap left was my thigh gap.



Triplet Orchestra

Triplets 2.0 is the second iteration of an event that combines the talents of Monash's, Sunway's and Taylors' Universities into a single full blown orchestra.

The breadth and depth of human experiences have been exhaustively explored, through movies, music, film, theatre, rollercoasters, drugs, and the like. Yet there is something more still to be said about a live orchestra, warming up in harmony, its of myriad components playing at once, displaying the barest of its potential and gratifying your anticipation towards it.

The endearing emcee for the event, Jack, invited Mr. Sunny Chew, the conductor for the first piece. In confident strides, he walked up to the stage in his smart tuxedo, with a conductor's baton on his right. After a bow to the audience, he turned around, nodded to the orchestra, and began.

Gustav Holsts' "The Planets: Mars, The Bringer of War" with its atonality and ascending chromatisms sent chills up the audience's spines. Following that, "Morning Mood" and "In The Hall of the Mountain King" from the Peer Gynt Suite, evoking images of the serenity of morning and the anxious thieving of the Mountain King's bride. Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture commemorating the Russian victory over Napoleon was played to an organized cacophonous ending to cannons and church bells.

Writer: Wei Shang
Photographer: Joseph Ma, Ang Yu Hang, Wesley Chung, & Ryan Wee

Following an intermission, a repertoire of music from The Legend of Zelda, Final Fantasy and Ghibli Studio was played. The enchanting instrumental for Spirited Away's Reprise was accompanied by the golden voice of Tiffany Maree Lim, also a second violinist, with her clear vocals striking through the tumbling string backdrop.

For the next piece, Mr. Chan Ling Chee, one of the main conductors, sat at the centre of the stage with a cello. From the mournful tones struck by the cello started John William's Schindler's List. Eyes closed, Mr. Chan's cello sung with emotion the notes of the piece, strung with melancholy, while the orchestra provided a pensive harmony to the notes.

In its figurative third act, the orchestra delivered a repertory of modern movie soundtracks. The Star Trek: Into Darkness suite stood on its own with its immediately recognizable awe-inspiring tune. The soundtrack from Thor: The Dark World heralded the coming of the Asgardian prince with the use of choir. And the penultimate piece from Game of Thrones pleased the crowd, with the TV series' iconic theme being played to perfection.

Yet the day was not over. An amusing skit "summoned" Mr. Sunny Chew to reprise his role to conduct the theme from Thor. The only problem with the piece was the hilarity of watching the previously serious looking conductor leading the orchestra while wielding a giant replica hammer. Not to be beaten, Mr. Rockie Siew led the next piece in full costume as The Greatest Showman. It was a fitting end as the audience clapped along to "This Is Me" sang with pure emotion by the singer Khirtana, to a thunderous ovation.



CNS Week!

**Writer: Charles Lee
Photographer: Nadiah Azra,
Derrick Ser, Soon Ying Ze, and
Izyan Iman, and Joseph Ma**

Week 2 was “Clubs and Societies (CNS) Week”, whereby club booths were set up by students of their respective clubs with the intention of signing up new recruits. Such booths were mainly found at the foyer as well as the walkway leading towards the old cafeteria (behind the library).

The environment and vibe of CNS week definitely helped with the typical Monday Blues.

Life was happening all around campus as students scrambled to secure a slot within their desired clubs and societies.

When it's CNS week, you can definitely expect performances. The performances that garnered huge attention amongst the student body were from Cheerleading, Music and Monash Street Dance (check out their cover of EXO's Love Shot!).

Some clubs emphasized on the decorations of their booths. One fine example was the Christian Fellowship club. Their decorations were so legit that I felt I was at a café instead of a booth when my friend and I were enquiring. Most of the students generally enjoyed CNS week and its performances, giving it a huge thumbs up.

“I think CNS week is a good opportunity not just to promote your clubs but showcase your talent. The performances really send off a strong statement about us Monash-ians, that we aren't just bookworms but are talented in our own ways.” - Ashley, a sophomore commented.

However, a few felt mildly disturbed by the volume overspill from the performances due to its location right in-front of the library. A student who wanted to remain anonymous commented:

“No fault on the students, but I could hear the speakers from the quiet zone (Library level 2) for a continuous 20 minutes. I understand the need of performances but maybe the organizers could alter the schedule and not have the performances scheduled so heavily back to back, since it's all happening right in-front of the library.”

In case you were trapped under a rock and missed out on CNS week, you can still join the clubs you're interested in. Contact the respective club heads and committee or head on over to their social media pages to find out more!



MEC Bash

Writer: Charles Lee
Photographer: Wesley Chung

The 30th of March spelled the arrival of the long-awaited Monash Entrepreneur Club (MEC) Bash. Event Committees had prepared long and hard to give their MEC club members an authentic, full-fledged “entrepreneurial” experience through a series of fun and games.

The event started off with the participants being grouped into different teams. Each team was to participate in station games in order to earn themselves credits, which could be used to purchase props for the advertisement they would act out at the end of the event. The advertisements, or “DRAMAADTIC” as they call it, was a short 10-minute play in which each team would take turns performing their skits to advertise their intended products. Every team had to make full use of their creativity in order to come up with an ad that would out-perform the rest.

“Although all this seems like something we did in primary school, it actually represents actual scenarios a real entrepreneur would face when he or she is starting up a business. In a start-up, nothing goes according to plan and you have to make full use of what you have and what you earn, and I think MEC Bash does give us a hint of all of that”, - Ethan Wong, MEC committee

During the play, some teams came up with applaudable product ideas such as:
MEC FOOD: an online app that allows the user to not only order food but also hires a personal chef that prepares meals according to the user’s nutritional needs.

Pawnimals: A company that provides grooming and pet related services, which at the same time provides certified veterinarians to act as a “nutritionist” and monitor your pets.

MEC Bash was a successful event as it gave students a spotlight for them to showcase their leadership and creativity skills, both valuable characteristics one should hone in order to strive within current society.

Members from different faculties were able successfully present their play ads in a creative yet humorous manner which capture and amused the audience. Teamwork and cooperation were crucial factors toward the success of these plays. Monash Entrepreneur Club seeks to encourage its members to step out of their comfort zones and create businesses unique to their own. Joining the club and gaining the chance to participate in such related future events would definitely be an enhancing experience!



Blackbox by MPAC

Writer: Matthew Chin
Photographer: Samuel Goh

Week 9 started off with a bang as Monash Performing Arts Club (MPAC) served up five very different, but very relatable plays accompanied with a Black Box theatre venue to create intimacy amongst the crowd. “We decided to pay homage to the Black Box theatre space that consists of unconventional staging, that is non-linear staging.” said Ben, Vice-President of MPAC.

The first play, “You Have a Voicemail” warmed the audience up for the night as the audience were struck with a plethora of emotions. It portrayed a disheartening story of a cheating wife and the consequences of her life choices through a series of heartbreaking voicemails. “The characters were so dang believable!” said Gan, an audience member.

Before the audience can wipe their collective tears, they were hit by the second play, suitably named “In The Distance of You”, which explores the playing field for single men in finding “The One”. Neo Wong said: “I loved how In The Distance of You” introduced the ideas of love as a choice and love as a feeling before throwing everything away at the end to signify how love was not something we could control”.

“La Folie”, a play about a young girl who discovers a dark secret about her family past, was an unique yet dark play that was well-executed. For the fourth play, a scene from “Betrayal” of Harold Pinter’s famous drama about adultery was put forth by the actors as it’s subtleness and intense moments drew audible gasps from the audience.

The cast assembled one last time to provide the audience with a sequel to last year’s “Awesome Squad” with “Awesome Squad 2”. Fan favourites Captain Awesome and Mummy Man drew excited cheers from the crowd as they defeated the villain Herr Bosewicht. The play ended on a bittersweet note with the demise of Mummy Man, who sacrificed himself for his newly-revealed son, Captain Awesome. “It’s a sense of mutualism as the audience are duly entertained while we derive satisfaction through the audience’s enjoyment of the plays.” replied Roshan, actor for “Awesome Squad 2” when asked about the source of satisfaction of both the cast and the audience.

With brilliant execution of the event by the crew and an excellent cast, it’s an understatement to say that the Black Box theatre event was a home run for MPAC.

Editor’s Note: RIP Mummy Man, you will be dearly missed and lovingly remembered.





Jom Makan!

Photography by: Joseph Ma,
Loh Chee Kien & Ryan Wee



Jam KL

Photography by: Joseph Ma



Monash ChemE Car

Photography by: Daniel Yusuf



International Women's Day

Photography by: Loh Chee Kien





MUPhas Mingle Night

Photography by: Shaun Stanley





MBC AGTM

Photography by : Loh Chee Kien



MUCCS Acqua Battle

Photography
by: Celine Chua
& Joseph Ma



MBC Bazaar

Photography by: Joseph Ma & Izyan Iman



BOM 2

Photography by: Ang Yu Hang

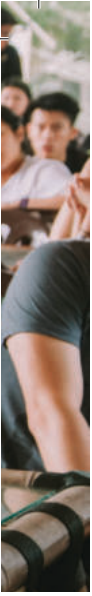




Tadom Hills Recreational Trip

Photography by: Celine Chua





SPIN Bake Sale

Photography by: Soon Ying Ze
& Nadiah Azra



ELLP Summit 2019

Photography by: Sarah Law & Wesley Chung





MuMed's Social Night

Photography by: Nadiah Azra & Sarah Law





Clubs &



Societies.



Photography by: Celine Chua



Monash University Chinese Cultural Society (MUCCS)



Monash Leo Club



Monash Dance Fusion Club



Monash Cinematic Club



Monash Accounting & Finance Club



Monash Career Peer



Monash Athletics Club



Monash Basketball Club



Monash Badminton Club



Monash Buddhist Society



Monash Chess Society



Monash Cheerleading Club



Monash Cricket Club



Monash Dodgeball Club



Monash Futsal Club



Monash In-Line Skate Club



Monash Christian Fellowship



Monash Chamber Orchestra



Monash Floorball Club



Monash First Aiders Bureau Society



Monash University Investment Group



Monash University Islamic Society



Monash Entrepreneur Club (MEC)



Monash News Club



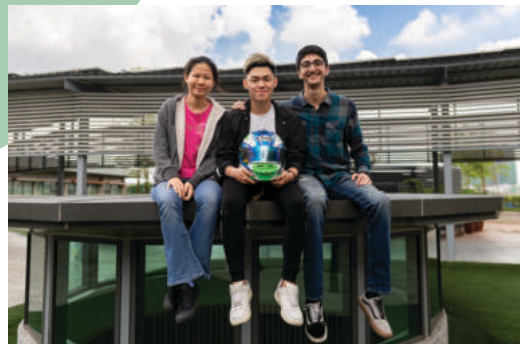
Monash Pool & Billiards Club



Monash Science Club



Monash Shudokan Aikido Club



Monash Motorsport Club



Monash Table Tennis Club



Monash Taekwondo Club



Monash Performing Arts Club



Monash Shito-Ryu Karate Club



Monash Street Dance Society



Monash Toastmaster Club



Monash Swimming Club



Monash Tech Club



Monash Debate Society



Monash Trading Club



Monash Science Innovative Community



Monash Photography Club



Radio Monash Malaysia



Monash Students' Psychology Interactive Network (SPIN)



Monash Yoga Club



Monash Tennis Club



Monash University Rock Climbing Club



Monash University Netball Club



Monash Business Club



Monash University Medicos Society



Monash Animanga Guild



Monash Captainball Club



Monash Catholic Society



Monash Frisbee Club



Monash University Pharmacy Society (MUPhaS)



Monash Muay Thai Club



Monash Music Club



Green Representative Network (GRN)



Monash Volleyball Club

SCHOOL



EVENTS



Photography by: Joseph Ma

School of Arts & Social Sciences



Fundraising



Superheroes U-Night :)



Tadam Hills



SASS 2019 committees





TADOM HILLS RECREATIONAL TRIP SASS X SOP X SOB

SOB Movie Night

Superheroes U-Night



student staff (SSLC) Liaison Committee

School of Business



SOB Major 3 Year Reps



! School of Business Sub-Committees!

\$

SOE Committees



Spirit Week 😊



Industrial Trip



SOE Year Reps

School of Engineering



SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING PENANG TRIP 2019



School of Medicine & Health Sciences



SOMHS
SPIRIT WEEK



SOMHS MINGALE
NIGHT :-



SOIT Movie Night



School of Information Technology





SCHOOL OF IT SUB-COMMITTEE

School of Pharmacy



← Orientation

Tadom Hills
Recreational
Trip



→ T-shirt
design
competition

Pharmacy Orientation '19





MUSA SOP COMMITTEE ☺ +

School of Science

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE PRESENTS

DIY MOVIE NIGHT

THE DREAM IS REAL

INCEPTION

MAY 02, THURSDAY | 6.00-9.30 PM
BADMINTON HALL

FREE PIZZA AND DRINKS !!!

FREE!

MONASH UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE

2019 T-SHIRT DESIGN COMPETITION

DEADLINE: APRIL 14

PRIZE : RM 200 IN CASH VOUCHERS

RULES

- This competition is open to all Monash University School of Science students
- All designs must not include the Monash University logo
- Your design should include 'Monash School of Science' or 'Monash S.O.S'
- Use of profanities is strictly prohibited
- All submissions must either be in AI or PSD format
- All designs should look professional
- All submissions will go through a round of elimination/approval by the committee
- Shortlisted designs will be posted online for voting and the most popular design wins!

SUBMIT YOUR DESIGNS TO
MUSA.FAC.SCI@MONASH.EDU



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Movie Night



↳ SOS INDUSTRIAL TRIP 2019



Thematic Months/ Feature Articles

Photography by: Celine Chua

THAT AWKWARD MOMENT

THAT AWKWARD MOMENT • THAT AWKWARD MOMENT • THAT AWKWARD MOMENT

A SERIES OF TRUE AWKWARD MOMENTS...

#1:

'Maggi, peanut butter, toothpaste, rice'. I accidentally sent in my copy-pasted grocery list to the seller of the secondhand Harry Potter and the Cursed Child book on Carousell as a message instead of asking if the book was still available.

#2:

That time I sat through a long scolding by my friend's grandmother when I tried to call my friend just because my deep voice had me mistaken for my friend's brother. This was when we were 9 and didn't have our own phones and had to call each other's landline phones.

#3:

On the way home from high school, the radio station was doing ticket giveaways for G-Dragon's concert. Still not owning my own phone at 15 years old, it took me an hour to convince my maid to let me borrow her phone to call the radio station. After multiple attempts, the call finally got through and when the announcer said, "Yes?", I immediately replied with "I'm here for G-Dragon's concert tickets."

#4:

Buying a tudung raya in a rush thinking it's a normal pretty paisley-printed one to wear with my new baju kurung and only realizing the morning of the celebration after spreading it out properly that it was, in fact, printed with a huge face of a zebra.

Turns out the giveaway was over an hour ago and it was the section for you to greet or make a wish for your friends listening to the radio station.

#5:

Spotting an ex-Physics tuition teacher selling life-sized pillows of anime girls in Comic Fiesta and doing my best to avoid eye contact with him in the hours after.

- by *Durrah Sharifah*



MENT • THAT AWKWARD MOMENT • THAT AWKWARD MOMENT • THAT AWKWARD

THE RED Scare

LAST night was crazy. I woke up under the cozy duvet covers, beside a gorgeous man who was sound asleep on his back. Carefully not to wake him up, I shift my position so that I'm no longer lying on my side. I felt a cold spot on my butt – wetness.

I took a look and was horror-struck. In the middle of the pearl white sheets is a big blob of bloodstain. I quickly pull out the sheets and found that my period got onto the mattress as well. I froze.

The front door was becoming very tempting but I decided to come clean (not) to the guy. The poor unsuspecting man was just waking up.

"Morning," he greeted sleepily.

"Hey you. Did you sleep well? Listen. Do you have any particular emotional attachment to your mattress?"

"What?" he murmured in confusion.

"This mattress. Is it new?"

"Yes, I bought it when I moved in [three months ago]," he said, looking confused.

I wanted to jump off the balcony overlooking the canal and just disappear.

"I'm on my period and... I'm very sorry," I showed him the mess.

His jaw dropped and he was completely stunned. A million thoughts must be running through his head. I prepared myself for the worst.

"Well, there's nothing much that could be done now," he sighed.

He must have processed the five stages of grief within those milliseconds, because his was very composed. We spent the next hour scrubbing the mattress, trying to get as much blood out as we can. Despite our best efforts, there is still a faint stain left.

"I'll just flip it over," he said, assuring me that he is fine with it.

Feeling extremely embarrassed, I made an excuse and went home. I vowed to always carry a tampon reserve as I carry a condom.

We had another date the following week.

- by **"Bloody Mary"**

*actual whatsapp conversation



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JUST #CHINESENEWYEAR THINGS

IT was a normal day when I went to my job. I worked as a part-time tutor in a daycare centre near my housing area. Every morning I had to be there by 7.45AM to greet all the primary school children together with their parents when they drop their kids at the centre.

It was a day that was near to Chinese New Year - and as most Malaysian knows, Chinese New Year is a festive season to collect ANG BAO!

(For your information, Ang Bao is a red packet where elders or married couples will normally insert their money to give to the children or the people who are still single. I'm not a kid already but I'm still single - as well as EXCITED to collect free money).

As per usual, I greeted the kids with their parents in front of the door. However, this time, a small boy who is aged around 7 years old, was accompanied by his father. When his father dropped his son down to the daycare centre, he came down from his car, walked towards me and gave me a packet of ang bao.

I was super, duper shocked (and happy too) because it was my first ang bao of the year and I've received it from my centre's customer!

(We part-timers seldom received ang bao from customers and if you did, you were super lucky). However, according to some "traditional" Chinese customs, we can't receive the ang bao yet if it's not during the day of Chinese New Year officially.

THAT AWKWARD MOMENT • THAT AWKWARD MOMENT • THAT AWKWARD MOMENT

SO I told him:

"Wow! Sir, you don't have to give me the ang bao so early! It's not even Chinese New Year yet and I feel bad if I received it this early!!" with a hint of happiness within my heart, obviously.

I remember clearly that day, he answered me back calmly:

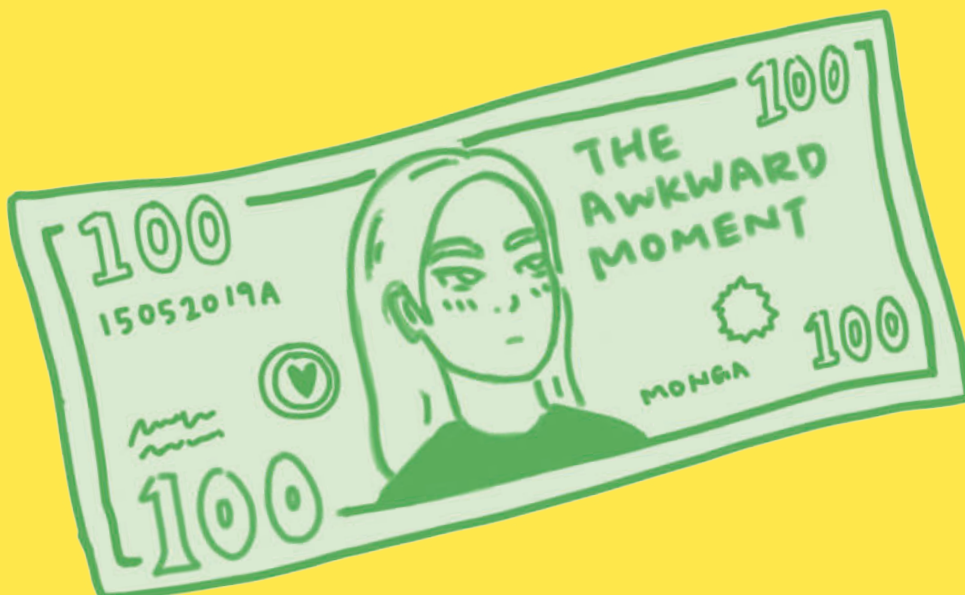
"Erm, I think you've misunderstood. This is for my son's monthly tuition fees."

And after that, he laughed, loudly, until he walked towards his car, still laughing, while he drove away.

I also remember that day, on the 1st of February 2019, 8.03AM - holding his "ang bao" - standing there while screaming loudly in my heart.

That Awkward Moment when you're too money-minded...

- by "Eve"



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INTERLUDE

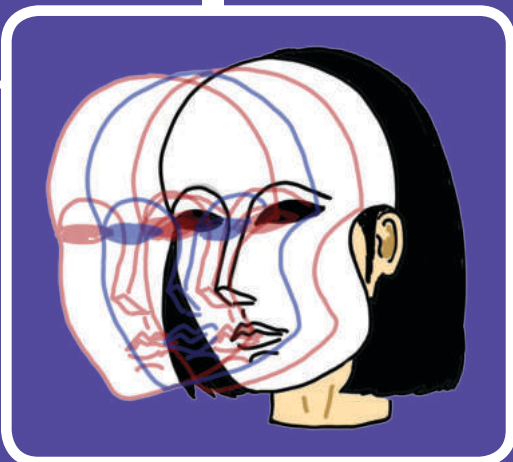
*Depicted my inner act,
Visceral visage of a man, unmatched
Visual sibilance typical of the male,
Irrefutable, empty grail
Cue saides tuned to almanacs*

*And then....
reality slams back, 2 tons and a semi glock
What did I lack? Guises,
Gone, 2 years worth what?
Threads unravelled... while still taut*

*It's all woven
Dusted dunes, done over and over
Old soliloquies I may have read,
Aurelius affirmations in my head
Keep turning, and yearning, performing in 4 spaces,
Not enough dimensions to mask my salience*

*I'll just keep it all cerebral
Anxieties, best keep your face on,
Those internal ziot thieves,
(My second reprise)
Won't steal another dawn*

- Poem by Ashraff Azwar



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WEARING A MASK? FLAUNT IT!

MASK: a covering for all or part of the face. We put them on the very moment we step out of our bedrooms, day in and day out. There's not only one, every scenario calls for a different cover.

We are told that behind our mask, there is an uglier truth of ourselves. It is painted with insecurities and imperfections, thus indecent for general audience viewing. Can we take off our masks, they ask. Show us your true self, they exclaim.

But don't you know people have been wearing masks since the a of civilisation? In tribal groups all around the world, different masks have purposes unique to their respective culture's customs and belief systems.

The Balinese mask comes in three kinds – a place for the sacred spirits; an accessory for ritual performances, and a protector from bad spirits.

The Puerto Rican vejigante mask originates from the victory of St James the Apostle against the Moors, and is now a figure of resistance of colonialism and imperialism.

The Boruca tribe of Costa Rica crafts animalistic masks, believing the spirit of animals in the jungle helps them become warriors.

For the Punus in Central Africa, masks portray their idealised female faces that symbolises death and the

afterlife, to be worn during funerals.

These masks conceal deep spiritual meanings beneath its aesthetic appeal. With their masks on, these people become their most authentic, talented and beautiful selves. They utilise their masks for different functions, just like how we wear different masks for different occasions.

What if we think of masks as part of us? Instead of tools for cover-up, they are accessories that enhance us into fitting the multiple roles in our lives. Because human beings have complex semantics and large mental capacities, having one version of self is just too boring!

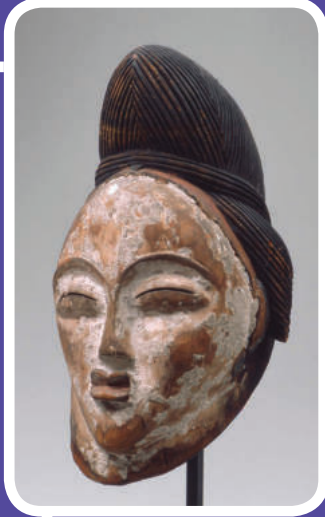
Of course some masks are preferred over the other. Are we not being ourselves when we act like the soul of a party, a compassionate friend, a dutiful child, a responsible student, a professional employee and a loving partner?

We hide nothing behind our masks. Our true self is the locus of decision and action, along with the set of masks we wear. So, instead of telling us to take off our masks, admire the collection of masks we can show

- *by Jordan Tang*

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*PUNU MASK



*BALINESE MASK



*PUERTO RICAN MASK



*COSTAN RICAN MASK



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we [silently] slip off
 our personalities you held
 me close but far enough
 so i would not see underneath
 your skin you aren't whole
 until you undermine me
 [collapsing] amidst your
 knuckles our bedsheets always
 conceal seas of ruins within
 our conversations too
 severed to even complete
 our thoughts don't
 intertwine anymore
 [your eyes didn't
 betray me] **then** take
 off your disguise let
 me set your insides free
 [are you afraid to open
up] we are both
 unconditionally
 empty to the brim
 how do i fathom
 an un-understandable
 body [yours] i have
 been yours even when
 you liquefied me camouflaged
 my feelings i masked my
entirety away [let me in]
 i didn't even make it
 past halfway
 behind each mask
 i still stay [grounded]
 behind yours: you're
 always walking away

- Poem by Mariam Zaidi

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FRIENDZONE'D

AS I was browsing through my book rack the other day, I found a gem of a book that has not aged well at all. It was THE book of 2008: Twilight.

In that overtly-sexualized book, that was soon adapted into that famous box-office monstrosity involving a certain Robert Pattinson developed my then innocent perception of what love is.

Girl meets Vampire, Vampire meets girl, your standard love story, but what intrigued me the most was the story's two different schools of thought in its portrayal of love.

Edward signified the classic "love at first sight" boyfriend material whilst Jacob signified the friend that is always there for his friend and would do anything to protect his friend, whilst developing feelings for said friend but gets rejected in the end.

A gush of emotions came through me as I remembered the various times that I was put into the "Jacob" category just because I was too "friendly". Well, at least I did not date my crush's daughter (ew.).

Does love at first sight exist? Does love through a long-lasting friendship exist? Nobody knows, because the concept of love varies from people to people.

For some people, meeting their significant other was the result of some magnetic eye-contact and flirtatious body language, whilst there are instances where couples are blooming out of long-lasting friendships.

But this begs another question. What if one party puts too much effort whilst the other party is unaware of the effort or are just simply not attracted to said friend sexually? This creates a limbo called the Friend Zone that everyone is so familiar with.

A good example of this is when a guy decides to pop the question after having a crush on his female friend, but gets rejected with a simple "Let's be friends instead". Does this guy continue to wear a mask and remain friends with this girl or just leave her alone?

Well, if you are not interested in maintaining a friendship first before progressing to a relationship, that love is conditional and it is shallow as hell. Then again, who am I to judge?

Sometimes, peeps will be friend-zoned by their friend/crush not because of bad intentions, but they just simply do not see themselves being in a romantic relationship with said peeps that would evidently disrupt their long-lasting friendship.

However, there are circumstances where the phrase, "I think we should be just friends" can also be loosely translated to "Get the hell out of my face, *dummkopf*."

Wouldn't this devalue the meaning of a friendship? This creates a situation where guys can play the "nice guy card", showering their crushes with compliments and good deeds in hopes of a romantic relationship, which is equally toxic, as it is not unconditional love.

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No one should be forced to like or love someone just because he/she treats you well even though there is no sexual chemistry whatsoever. Likewise, if you have no intention in being in a romantic relationship with someone and you are not ready to commit to a friendship, don't put on a mask and say "Let's be friends."

In retrospect, honesty gives the opposite party to have some sort of closure. Friendship and romance should be accepted as equal forms of love which shouldn't be on opposite sides. Our friends can still fill up the holes in our hearts through small gestures, no matter if it is romantic or not.

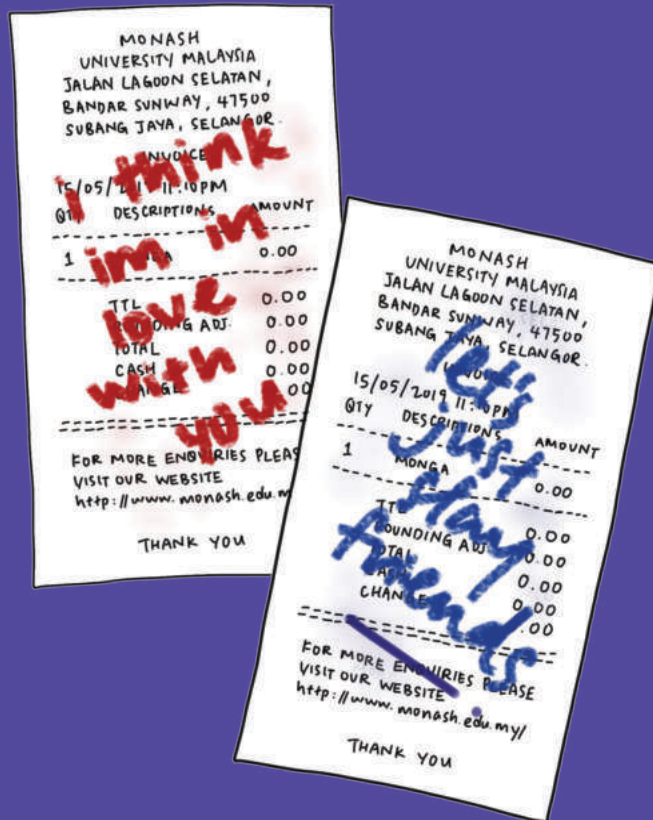
Don't disregard friends around you just because they could not provide you with that lovey-dovey lines from sweet rom-coms.

Be there for someone not because you want something from them, but be there for someone because you want to give them something unconditionally.

Remember, no one is owed romantic affection.

Let the Friend Zone psychology dissipate and let's create an unconditional love zone.

- by *Matthew Chin*



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ATTRIBUTIONS

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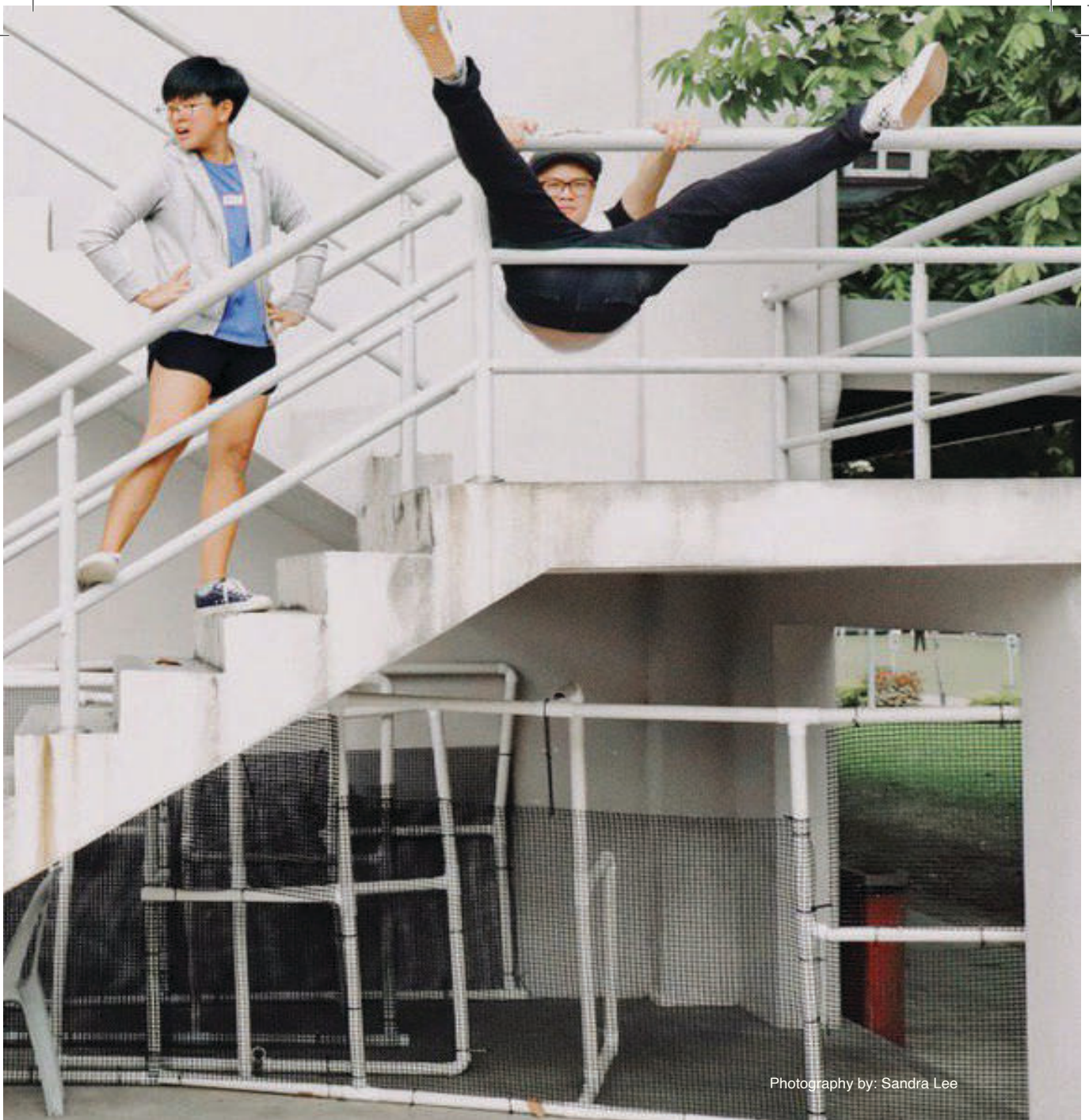
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