

Theatre Grads set their *Own Time Own Target*

This July, W!ldRice brought back wildly popular *Own Time Own Target* (OTOT), after its sell-out run at last year's OCBC Singapore Theatre Festival. Directed by Jonathan Lim, *FULL TANK* by Laremy Lee and *BOTAK BOYS* by Julian Wong, had audiences reliving their National Service with a whole new hilarity. **artzone** talks to the creators and cast about OTOT and their university days.

"It is always exciting to work with emerging young writers, especially when their writing expresses such intelligence and passion," Jonathan (Class of 1999) on working with Laremy (Class of 2008), who is similarly enthusiastic over the partnership. "It's great! Jon is very committed to the craft and always working to get the best out of the text."

Jonathan relates deciding on a career in the arts, "As an undergrad, I'd already started my own theatre group and the Chestnut series. NUS Theatre Studies was the perfect way for my academic pursuits to inspire and be inspired by my work outside. With an academic foundation giving me a wider perspective of theatre, it was easier to commit to this vocation." For cast Nelson Chia (Class of 1999), "The arts is very much about relationships and practising the arts is essentially learning to be a better person." Laremy simply enjoys writing "as a means to take part in the Singaporean conversation about things that aren't always easy to talk about."

On their time at NUS, cast Rodney Oliverio (Class of 2001) recalls his performances with NUS Centre For the Arts while Jonathan has similar memories of the now ExxonMobil Campus Concerts: "Campus Concerts brought a lot of cultural vibrancy to NUS as well as opportunities to learn the ins and outs of producing and publicizing all types of arts events."



Laremy Lee, *FULL TANK* playwright



Nelson Chia, *Own Time Own Target* cast member