



## Capitol in twilight

“I have a lot of fond memories of this grand old theatre watching movies with my mother as a child – it was there that I started my love affair with cinema.”

● Eric Khoo, Film-maker

In a twist on his craft of shooting moving images, we asked Khoo to give us a photographic still shot and styled by him. This is the result on the left. Khoo's Tamil-language feature, *My Magic*, was the first Singaporean film nominated for the Palme D'Or (Golden Palm), the top prize at the prestigious Cannes festival, in May.

### Readers' contributions

#### Cosy corner

Chia Tzu Lin

Queenstown branch library, as it was called then, was my home away from home. During the late 1970s, I was a graceless and shy schoolgirl studying in a neighbourhood school and had few friends. I was hopeless in sports and average in my studies.

But what created magic in my mundane everyday life then was being at the library. I would go there on some days after school with my two best friends, and together, we would explore the stories of other lives, all so much more exciting than our own.

But most times I went alone for my weekly fix. I don't believe I could have survived one week without dropping by the library.

#### Movie magic

Thomas Lim

When I was a kid in the early 1980s, one of the places that made my childhood so memorable was Ang Mo Kio Central and the iconic Broadway theatre at Avenue 6. Back then the entire movie theatre was housed in a single building, screening two movies at most.

I watched many Hong Kong blockbusters there, when the Hong Kong film industry was booming. Among the movies I watched were the Aces Go Places series starring Sam Hui, as well as early horror gongfu comedies such as *Mr Vampire* and *Hocus Pocus* directed by actor-producer Samo Hung.

Going to the movies was a big event in itself. My mum would dress me up in Three Rifles/Crocodile polo tees and BM2000 sports shoes – which were trendy brands at that time. Our family would take SBS service 262 from the bus stop near our flat. SBS was the only bus operator then. Buses were non-air-conditioned and the seats were made of wood and had red leather cushions.

All SBS buses were manually operated and you could hear the loud engaging and creaking of the machinery every time the driver changed gear.

You had to press a button by the side windows that gave an annoying but resounding BEEEP when you wished to alight.

#### Passionate pursuit

Samuel Tan Jun Jie

Reddish marble, imposing pillars, sweaty bodies and loud music – these are among the many sights and sounds to be taken in upon arriving at the Esplanade underpass. If home is where the heart is, the underpass would be my cosy little cottage.

Located just off the CityLink Mall, the Esplanade underpass is a communal gathering point for the street dance scene in Singapore. It serves as a venue for dancers to gather and refine their art, providing them with an avenue to further this unconventional yet creative pursuit.

To a regular such as myself, the underpass is much more than an open area free for use – it is an embodiment of the vibrance, creativity and passion of the Singaporean youth.



# BE THE BEST IN ASIA



JOIN THE RUBIK'S SINGAPORE OPEN 2008 TO REPRESENT  
**SINGAPORE** AT THE RUBIK'S 2008 ASIAN CHAMPIONSHIP IN HONG KONG.  
SIGN UP NOW AT [WWW.TOYSRUS.COM.SG](http://WWW.TOYSRUS.COM.SG)



**TAKE UP THE CHALLENGE AT**

- SUNTEC CITY ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE ATRIUM
- SUNDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2008
- 10AM TO 6PM



Register online from now till 31 August 2008.  
Log onto [www.toysrus.com.sg](http://www.toysrus.com.sg) for competition details and rules.

## RUBIK'S CUBE

\* Winner of 3 x 3 category will represent Singapore in Hong Kong