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Singaporeana!

Cinematic postcards from an imaginary island

A symposium and film screening under the *Reframe* series

Presented by Asian Film Archive

Curated by Ben Slater

Symposium: 27 September 2019 (9am – 5pm)

Taking its name from a 1950s *Straits Times* column, *Singaporeana!* is a film programme that explores the ways in which international filmmakers have represented and explored Singapore, focusing specifically on the peak period of European and American production from the late 1960s to the 1970s. During this era, Singapore's radically transforming landscapes were visited by a motley crew of newcomers and old hands, soldiers, virgins, pimps, spies and detectives. Often adapted from literary sources, these films documented the real physical environment of the city-state, while creating highly fictional, imaginary 'Singaporeans', a process that has intermittently continued right up to 2018's *Crazy Rich Asians*.

The one-day Symposium will allow academics, researchers, writers and artists to explore the international film productions in Singapore from multiple approaches, including but not limited to:

- Colonial/Post-Colonial narratives and history
- Documentation of urban space and architecture
- Representation of race, sexuality and gender
- Investigations into genre
- Literary adaptations and influence
- Transnational cinema
- Performance of Singaporean identity

We are seeking proposals for papers covering any of the above themes/ideas/topics. Papers need not be limited to films from the 1960s and '70s, although reference to that period is encouraged. They can focus on one specific film, or cover multiple films. Each paper will be allocated



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20 minutes. The aim is to publish extended versions of the papers presented in book-form after the event.

Please submit a 250 word abstract of your proposed paper, with a title and a short bio to outreach@asianfilmarchive.org by **20 May 2019**.

For any queries about the Singaporeana symposium, email outreach@asianfilmarchive.org