

# 13FRI

**NORTHERN EXPOSURE** In commemoration of the centenary and half-centenary of Edvard Grieg's and Jean Sibelius' deaths, respectively, The Philharmonic Chamber Choir presents a programme of Scandinavian a cappella choral music. Join this exploration of choral music from the lands of Sibelius and Grieg, displaying a warmth illuminating the dark and icy winters of the Nordic region. At the Esplanade Recital Studio until July 14. Tickets from Sistic

# 15SUN

**DERBY DAY** One of Singapore's most prestigious events, the 2,000-metre Emirates Singapore Derby returns for the 12th time. Emirates and Singapore Turf Club attempt a new fundraising record by reaching out to 12 charitable organisations. At the Singapore Turf Club.



# 19THU

**DOUBLE ACT** Catch this once-in-a-lifetime double act from the Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC): Shakespeare's *King Lear* and Chekhov's *The Seagull* presented by the Singapore Repertory Theatre. Oscar nominee Ian McKellen leads a stellar cast. For the first time in 17 years McKellen and former artistic director Trevor Nunn at the RSC collaborate again. At the Esplanade Theatre from July 19 to 22. Tickets from Sistic

# TittleTattle



Selena Tan



Elaine Chan

# HISTORY REVISITED

Directed by Glen Goei, the latest stage performance from the Dim Sum Dollies portrays their satirical and comedic unofficial history of Singapore from the beginning of time until 1965, all in a two-hour cabaret. Few familiar historical figures escape the treatment, not even Stamford Raffles or the British army during the Second World War. Be prepared for cavemen roaming the beaches in performances by Selena Tan, Pam Ooi and Emma Yong as the Dollies' revisit Peranakan matriarchs, Malay kampong ladies and Samsui women. Musical director Elaine Chan leads the live band. The past never looked so glamorous. At the Esplanade Theatre from July 5 to 15. Tickets from Sistic.

# HIGH-T WITH

# Selena Tan and Elaine Chan

THE DIM SUM DOLLIES ARE BACK WITH A NEW CABARET SHOW. CHIEF DOLLY **SELENA TAN** AND MUSICAL DIRECTOR **ELAINE CHAN** TALK HISTORY

**SINGAPORE TATLER:** What was the inspiration behind *The History of Singapore*?

**TAN:** The show is a suggestion from a friend of mine. When I heard it, I immediately latched on to the many fabulous visuals and icons throughout our history. I felt it would allow us to celebrate who we are and where we come from.

**TATLER:** How long have you been collaborating on lyrics and music together?

**CHAN:** Since the first Dim Sum Dollies back in 2002, for the opening of the Esplanade, titled *A Single Woman*. Back in those days, we started out as part of the late night series at the Esplanade Recital Studio with the three Dim Sum Dollies and a piano.

**TATLER:** Which is your favourite character in the show?

**TAN:** I love the Samsui woman. She is iconic and gets to really sing it!

**TATLER:** What surprised you during the making of the show?

**TAN:** Each time I embark on a Dim Sum Dollies experience, I am reminded of how lucky I am to work with such a talented group.

**CHAN:** It's a pleasant surprise to hear the final product.

**TATLER:** What is the most fun aspect of the show?

**TAN:** Getting a chance to connect again with our Dim Sum Dollies in the cast and crew and, very soon, in the audience.

**CHAN:** It's as if we breathe Dim Sum Dollies every minute of the rehearsal. It's the family spirit, the critical comments in order to perfect the show and the milking of every possible laugh.

