

Bio



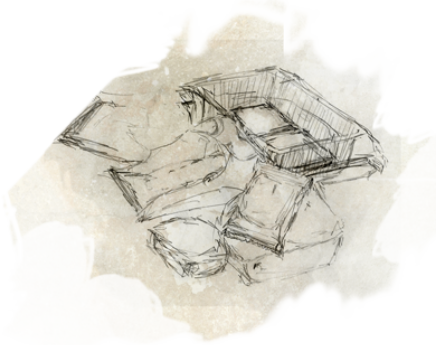
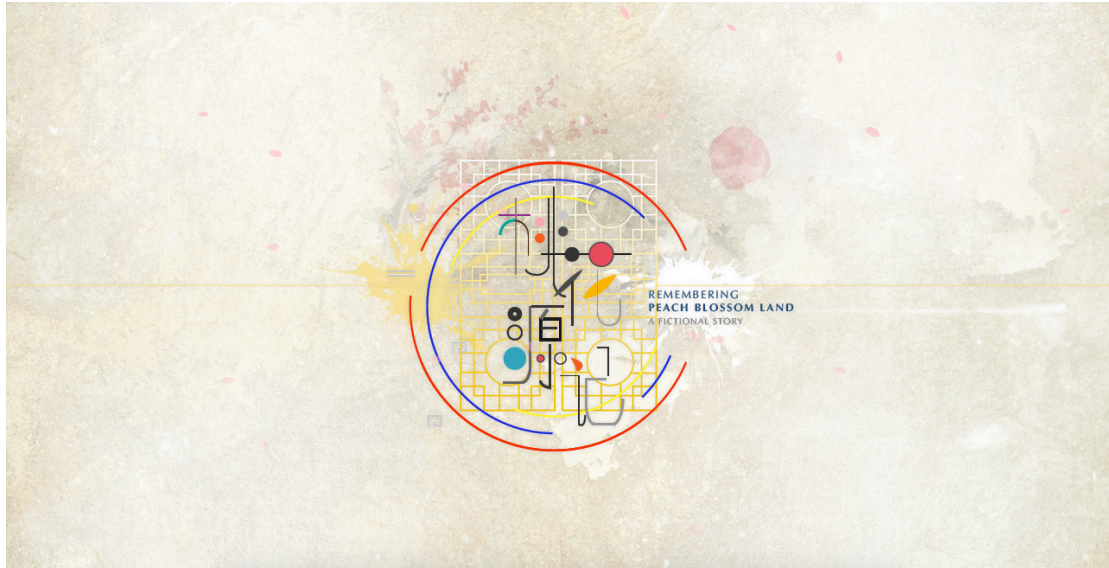
Sim Xin Feng is a graphic designer based in Singapore. Her works are inspired by the community and the people she interacts with, one of which – a campaign to raise awareness on hoarding – she hopes to realise some day. Since 2013, she has designed for MOE schools ranging from Kindergarten to Secondary level, CTC Travel, I Theatre, Lorna Whiston and ABBOTT.

Apart from graphic design, Xin Feng is also deeply involved in volunteering for the community. Her 5 years of mentoring, leadership and pro-bono design work for Singapore Red Cross Society has earned her the NCSS Long Term Service Award. She also volunteered as a surtitlist and facilitator for The Necessary Stage and DramaBox.

Besides designing for a living, Xin Feng also seeks to create through various theatre forms. She has been trained in Chinese martial arts, Mask work, Clowning, Viewpoints (ensemble training), Puppetry (The Finger Players), Suzuki Method of Actor Training (Nine Years Theatre) and physical theatre.

Moving forward, she aims to be an interdisciplinary artist in theatre and interactive media.

Project



Peach Blossom Land is a fictional place that first came into existence through the Chinese poet, Tao Yuanming's poem titled *Peach Blossom Spring*. In the poem, he talks about a utopia that people long to live in, very much a reflection of the citizens who lived in his era looking for a place to escape China during the times of Chaos. Stan Lai, a Taiwanese playwright and director, later wrote a play *Secret Love in Peach Blossom Land* that made reference to the original poem. In this play, however, it references the Chinese revolution as well as how Taiwan became the "Peach Blossom Land" for the Chinese escaping China. However, at the end of the play, the reality is that Peach Blossom Land does not exist for the characters in the play.

This very much reflected the situation of Nantah, or Nanyang University. It was closed down in 1980 as the government wanted universities to use English as its main language. Many of the Nantah alumni have said that *Nantah is Dead* and most of them refuse to acknowledge the present Nanyang Technological University as their alumni. This parallels the world of *Peach Blossom Land*. As much as Nantah was a place that these alumni treasured so much, there was nothing they could do to save the school. It can be said that it is another Peach Blossom Land that only exists in photos, memories and videos. There is no physical evidence that such a place truly exist and that such a society ever lived.

(This project was conceived through a series of interviews with members of the Nantah Alumni. They have, unfortunately, refused all forms of recording, vocal and audio. As such, I can only present this project through illustrations and words. Interviews were conducted in Chinese and later translated into English.)