

ISSUE 51

# CAMPUS

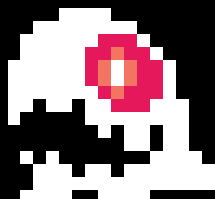
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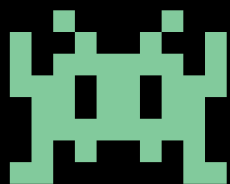
MOVIES



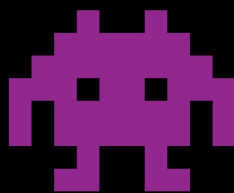
SNEAKERS

## RETRO

## ISSUE



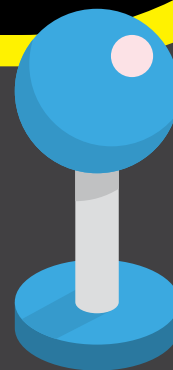
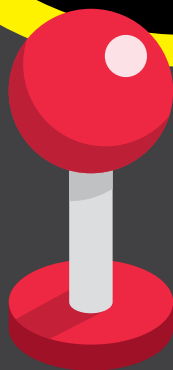
FASHION



GAMES



CASSETTES



# FRESH AIR BLUE SKIES & OUTDOOR ENTERTAINMENT



## LARGE AND IN CHARGE

### Contributors

Eshwaran (UB)  
Germaine Leow (NYP)  
Natalie Kwan (UB)  
Nina Gan (NTU)  
Prabhu Silvam (UB)  
Rachel Lim (NTU)  
Shamitha Segaran (RP)  
Tartan Ow (TC)  
Valery Thong (IJC)  
Yin Loon (NTU)

### Editor-in-Chief

Aaron Stewart  
aaron@campus.com.sg

### Creative Director

Lynn Ooi

### Designer

Yun Ng

### Sales Enquiry:

ad\_query@campus.com.sg

### ASKM Pte Ltd

19A Lorong 41 Geylang S387830  
Tel (65) 6732 0325

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# Buying a Memory

## Nostalgia Marketing in Singapore

By Prabhu Sivam

Let's face it – nostalgia has unrivalled powers when it comes to brand resurrection. Unsurprisingly, an eclectic line-up of brands that many thought would never again see the light of day have solidified their status as household names of this generation. These include bigwigs like Polaroid, Reebok, Royal Enfield, Vans, Nokia, Lego, Nintendo, Casio and Eastpak to name a few.

So how did they find their way back into the retail hemisphere after orbiting aimlessly in the limbo of forgotten brands?

### The drug that is nostalgia

Despite their affinity for technology and instant gratification, truth is, millennials are sick and tired of the ceaseless overstimulation of information pervading their senses from across a variety of platforms.

The impermanence and virtual nature of the digital world means that they have very little physical objects that they can tie their memories and experiences to. This vacuum has created an ideal way to reference a shared culture whose artifacts can be bought and sold.

Millennials want experiences, they yearn for meaning. And when something lacks a guiding story or purpose, they immediately switch off. In fact, a study by a group of researchers from the University of Southampton in 2014 which was published in the Journal of Consumer Research revealed that the presence of nostalgic feelings induced a greater chance of consumer spending amongst the masses. In other words, nostalgia made people more susceptible to marketing – a consumer trait that has got multi-billion dollar brands paying keen attention to.

### Why is nostalgia branding big in Singapore?

In a country with an ever changing landscape where buildings and places are but temporal fixtures in the grand scheme of things, nostalgia is an essential element in allowing people to connect back with their roots.

This happens to be a tad bit more relevant for the millennial

generation who were born into an era of rapid development and fast-paced nation building efforts all across the country, allowing little time for romanticising and reminiscing the past.

It is important to note the unprecedented wave of support and camaraderie shown by millennials in recent public-initiated drives to save historic buildings from the wrecking ball, like the "Save Old School" (the ex St. Margaret's Secondary School atop Mount Sophia) and the "Save Dakota Crescent" (the quaint 7-storey flats built in 1958 along Old Airport Road).

### A portal into yesterday

In truth, nostalgia serves as a form of escapism for a generation that is becoming disenchanted with the rapid and emotionally unfulfilling nature of progress. Millennials don't just want to buy a product, they want to buy a story.

In an article about millennials' spending habits published by Quartz magazine earlier this year, sociologist Elizabeth Currid-Halkett termed the demographic as the "aspirational class" – individuals who are constantly seeking out brands that align with their beliefs, morals and way of life.

It is no longer enough to just plaster the words "trade-free" in fine print on the back of t-shirts. Millennials want to know about the craftsmen who helped to weave the shirt, how much they earned from the sale of it and how this has impacted their lives. Conscious consumerism is the name of the game here as more and more millennials demand greater transparency and take responsibility for their purchases.

## Nostalgia-centric cafes and products in SG



**CAFES:** Old School Delights, AEIOU Cafe, Sinpopo Cafe, Kombi Rocks, Jubilee Cafe, Old Habits Cafe, British Hainan



**NOSTALGIC PLACES:** Haw Par Villa, (the now defunct) Old Thieves Market, (soon to be demolished) Dakota Crescent, (soon to be demolished) Rocher Centre flats, People's Park Complex, Biscuit King, Kachang Puteh stand outside Selegie Complex, Tiong Bahru SIT flats.



**STUFF:** Vinyl shops at Peninsula Plaza, Supermama (collection of Singapore brands and crafts which dabble in memories of the past), Vintage Empire (sells refurbished typewriters). When I was four (local quirky lifestyle products), Naiise (quirky and nostalgic lifestyle products).

# RETRO OVERHYPE

## Retro Sneaker Revival

by Eshwaran

2017 has been a particularly polarising year for sneakerheads. On one hand, brands like Nike, Adidas and Puma have been pushing the envelope, with newly-developed sneaker technologies. With Nike's Flyknit and Vapormax lines, Adidas Primeknit and Boost technology, as well as Puma's Evoknit line, we are seeing so many designs and technologies that are pushing the boundaries of sneaker design and comfort.

However, a growing trend has been taking the hypebeast scene by storm – the return of retro sneakers. From discount shelves to the 'explore' pages of Instagram, these sneakers went from undesirable to shoe cabinet staples. It even brought attention to brands like Converse and Vans, who were losing traction in recent years.

### OLD SKOOL MAKEOVER



Converse Jack Purcell sneaker

Vans and Converse felt a sudden surge in attention over the last year, mostly for their retro or retro-inspired line of sneakers. For Vans, their retro silhouettes like the old-skool Sk8-Hi range has become a staple in almost everyone's closets. The same can be said of the Converse's Chuck Taylor and Jack Purcell lines. However, in order to ensure they can ride the wave of this hype, they've updated the sneakers with the necessary comforts of a modern-day sneaker.

Vans have a Pro version of their retro designs, with more durable honeycomb soles, cushions for shock absorption, and reinforced rubber for damage-prone areas. Converse – which was bought over by Nike – has updated its line of sneakers to include Nike's technology, like Lunarlon cushioning to make the shoes a more shock absorbent, and Flyknit technology for lightweight breathability.



Van's Sk8-Hi

Converse sneakers with Nike's Flyknit technology

### STAYING OLD SKOOL

Not every retro sneaker had to change to compete with modern sneakers. Take the Puma Suede, which has been left relatively unchanged since its introduction in the 1960s. It gained huge popularity after basketball legend Walter "Clyde" Frazier of the New York Knicks requested Puma to make a wider version; from there, the Puma Clyde was born, creating what became the staple sneaker of every B-Boy in the 80s.

In fact, Puma's releasing a 50th anniversary colourway to mark the iconic moment when track and field athlete Tommie Smith carried a Puma Suede to the victory stand after breaking the 200m record at the 1968 summer Olympics in Mexico. The sneaker itself has stayed relatively unchanged, besides the introduction of new colourways and materials. However, not all companies were as lucky as Puma.



Puma Suede

Puma Clyde

### THE SILVER BULLET

Unfortunately, or fortunately, for Nike, their Airmax 97 didn't get much attention and was on discount shelves until 2017, which is the shoe's 20th anniversary.

Nicknamed the 'silver bullet', the first runs of the Airmax 97 Silver hit European shelves and caused a stir. Since then, the silhouette has been the choice option when brands, like Undefeated and OFF WHITE, collaborate with Nike. With a new lightweight design and the classic, front-to-back air cushion, it's a 2017 update of the retro sneaker.



Nike's Silver bullet

Reebok's Classic Leather



Adidas Stan Smith

### RETRO REVOLUTION

Adidas has also been playing retro – it has been focusing on releasing more Stan Smith colourways and variations, giving options for both Boost and Primeknit models. They even made a retro-inspired line called the Adidas Iniki, which took design cues from the super-hyped NMDs and the retro Gazelle.

Reebok has been pushing its Classic Leather and Club C 85 line of sneakers. Many Instagram influencers are rocking these or are being sponsored by Reebok to create content revolving around the shoes.

New Balance is also getting into the hype by dropping the limited-run 999, a retro silhouette that was one of the best shoes when it was first released.



New Balance 999

### THE FUTURE OF RETRO

One thing's for sure: the wave of retro sneakers is not slowing down. With brands releasing more colourways and collaborations using classic silhouettes, and newer technology being incorporated into those sneakers, one can confidently say that you'd need to add some retro sneakers into your shoe collection if you want to stay fly. It's best summed up by DJ Clark Kent (one of the original icons in the sneaker and hip-hop scene) when speaking about the revival of retro sneakers: "Hot cools down, but fresh lasts forever".

fresh! fresh! adj 1: vigorous, refreshed 2: not worn 3: original 4: not altered

BY GERMAINE LEOW YING YING

# Fashion Flashback

## WEARING GRANNY'S FAVOURITE TRENDS IN 2017

What today's supermodels don down the runway could very well be the 'in' thing three decades ago. Fashion is cyclical and whatever fills our closet might just be our parents' favourite trends back in their day. Here are 5 old school trends recycled into 2017:



### Plaid Patterns

Straight from the 70s, plaid was a popular favourite that got recycled in the 90s before making its reappearance in recent years. From preppy suits to punky miniskirts, plaid served many purposes in the past decades. Being an ever-present pattern worldwide, plaid is like that one 'ex' you cannot get over – just when you thought it is over, it comes back bigger and better than before!



### Flared Pants

When I think "retro", bell-bottoms come straight to mind. They reached their peak in the 70s and disappeared with the 80s, leaving its mark on the world with a presence as big as its trouser legs. Though it made a little reappearance in the aughts, flared pants are now back but with a subtle charm – the key to comfort and class. This trend is infused in all sectors of fashion: from classy to athleisure, flare is the new wear!

### Menswear Inspired Fashion

"Borrowing from the boys" – an iconic trend from the past. For what seemed like only men could pull off, menswear inspired fashion looks chic even on smaller shoulders. With ladies rocking this look as well as their male counterparts, it's no surprise this trend is making its comeback. Sometimes, a power suit is just what we need for a boost in confidence!



### Dramatic Sleeves

Ending the list with a bang, big and dramatic sleeves are back in the fashion radar. Coming in a variety of styles, you can find oversized sleeves to flares and massive ruffles on different arms. What was previously deemed as "ridiculous" now exudes elegance and poise. With no limits to where and how you can wear this trend, it works on formal wear and casual weekend outfits alike.



### Retro Combo

### Mules

If there is a pair of shoes that can top off any outfit in 2017, then it would be the shoes of the year – mules! Extremely popular in the late 90s, mules took a vacation from the fashion world and only started to seep into people's closets last year. Bigger than it was in 2016, these shoes are the epitome of comfort and style. With its versatile style, these shoes are making its way to the list of "wardrobe essentials".



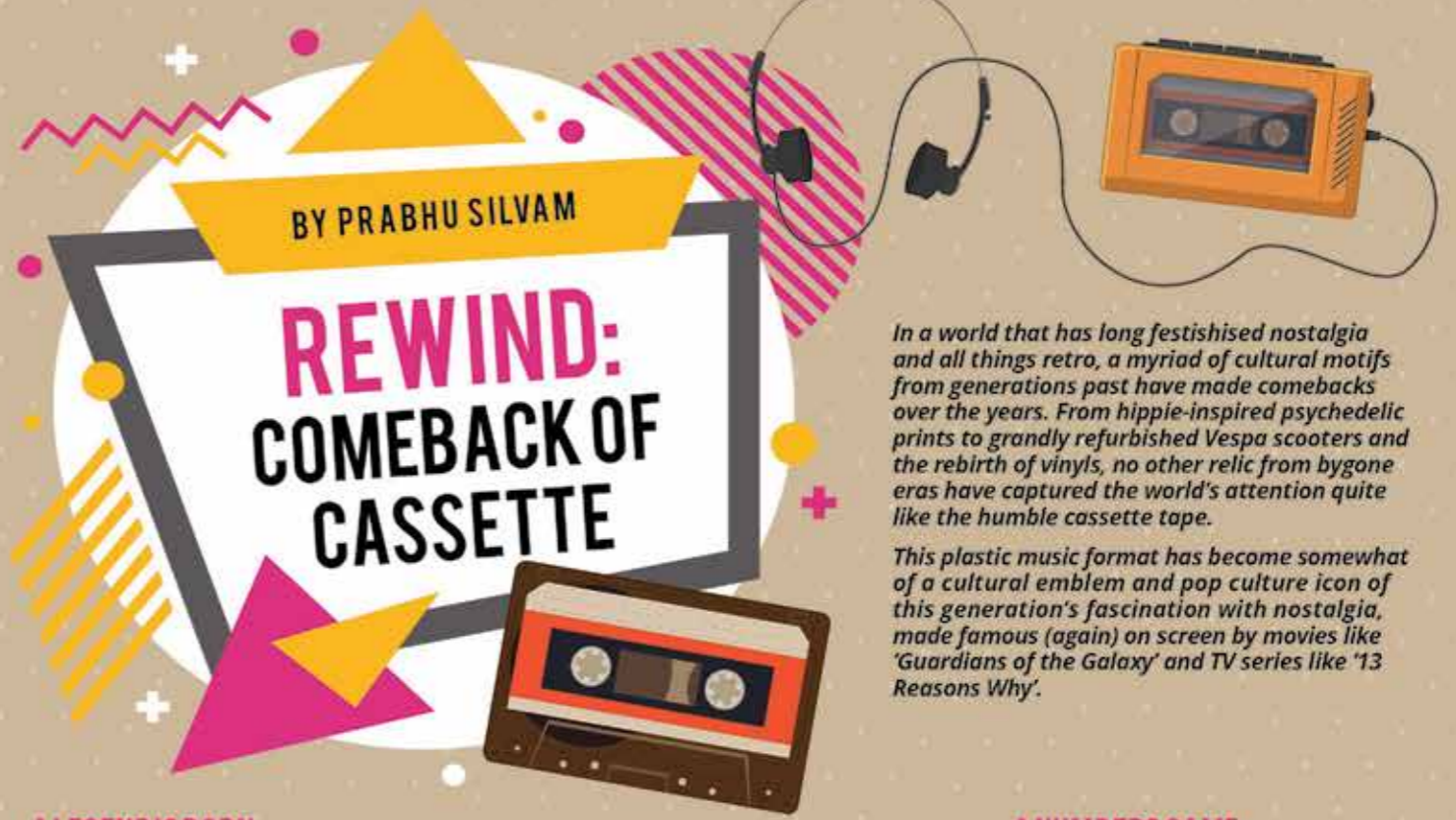
Plaid + Flared Pants



Plaid + Menswear inspired blazer



Dramatic sleeves + Mules



BY PRABHU SILVAM

## REWIND: COMEBACK OF CASSETTE

In a world that has long fetishised nostalgia and all things retro, a myriad of cultural motifs from generations past have made comebacks over the years. From hippie-inspired psychedelic prints to grandly refurbished Vespa scooters and the rebirth of vinyls, no other relic from bygone eras have captured the world's attention quite like the humble cassette tape.

This plastic music format has become somewhat of a cultural emblem and pop culture icon of this generation's fascination with nostalgia, made famous (again) on screen by movies like 'Guardians of the Galaxy' and TV series like '13 Reasons Why'.

### A LEGEND IS BORN

Designed and produced by Dutch tech giants Philips in 1963, cassette tapes threw the music industry on its head because they were able to listen to music whose quality was just as good as vinyls but with an added benefit that the world had never known before: you could now record music on them too.

Using a minimal setup of a record player and amplifier, you could record tracks directly from the radio or from a vinyl, basically allowing listeners the chance to create their own playlist for the first time ever.

Another often overlooked aspect of the tape was its role in changing the way we listened to music. Compared to a vinyl, it required more work to select tracks on a cassette; you needed to listen to an album chronologically, without skipping. This paved the way for bands to put more thought and work into the way they structured their albums, from the artwork right down to hidden B-side tracks.

A well-documented failed attempt at anti-piracy regulation was spearheaded by the British Phonographic Industry (BPI) in the mid-1980s. The British campaign ran under the provocative title of "Home Taping is Killing Music" which quite turned into a catchphrase for mockery within a short period of time.



### A NUMBERS GAME

Fast forward to the 2010s, and cassettes are making a comeback. According to a report by music industry watchers BuzzAngle, the 2016 Christmas shopping season saw a 140% increase in tape sales while music streaming website Bandcamp experienced a 46% increase in cassette sales in the same year.

But the most revealing statistic thus comes from the US-based National Audio Company (which is also the largest cassette tape manufacturer there) which saw a 20% increase in its commercial tape duplication business. Figures also revealed that 2016 was the year that it did its most business since the factory opened in 1969.



### THE RISE AND FALL OF THE TAPE

The brainchild of Sony co-founder Masaru Ibuka, The Walkman portable cassette player was first released in Japan in 1979, allowing people to carry their music around with them. In later versions, you could even skip tracks.

It would seem that the cassette was here to stay, but the onslaught of CDs (and the portable Discman) began to muscle into the market, and by the time mp3 players – made famous by Apple iPods – came in the picture, it sounded the death knell for the cassette tape. No longer will you have to lug around boxes of cassettes, or wind up the spools whenever the tapes got 'eaten'.

### PIRATES, PIRATES EVERYWHERE.

The ability to record and copy music for free paved the way for piracy. Bootleg tape markets across the world thrived because they were now able to sell reproductions of original music at a fraction of the original price. Quite naturally, this didn't sit well with multi-billion dollar record companies who tried, albeit unsuccessfully, to stem this burgeoning underground scene.

### THE FUTURE IS NOW

Well-known bands like Radiohead, Dirty Projectors and Deerhunter are just a handful of big name artists to release albums in cassette format. Apart from achieving the low-fi, warm sounds that tapes naturally bring to the table, shifting to cassette is also a great way to beat piracy as it makes it a little bit more tedious to rip and share the music online.



BY SHAMITHA SEGARAN

# TRAVEL BACK IN TIME

## RETRO BUILDINGS IN SINGAPORE

Singapore's urban landscape today has undoubtedly transformed drastically compared to the early years of independence. A vibrant and classy city now, Singapore is home to many uniquely designed, award-winning establishments. However, amidst the changing landscape, we still hold onto many iconic buildings that retain our rich history. Here are 5 photo-worthy retro buildings in Singapore that will take you back in time:

BEFORE

NOW



### OLD HILL STREET POLICE STATION (OHSPS)

Constructed in 1934, the OHSPS building was built to house the Hill Street Police Station and Barracks. It was deemed the largest government building and a modern skyscraper at the time of its completion. The building consists of 927 windows, now painted with rainbow colours from light to dark to highlight the cantilevered balconies which is the prominent architectural feature of this historical building. OHSPS is now home to the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth. We hope this photogenic establishment doesn't get torn down, as it represents the start of our urban landscape journey.

BEFORE

NOW



### OLD FORD FACTORY

Located in Bukit Batok, this historic building was where the British forces surrendered to the Japanese on 15 February 1942 after the Battle of Singapore. Built by Ford Motor Works in an Art Deco style in 1941, it was also the first motor car assembly plant in Southeast Asia. During the Japanese occupation, it was where Nissan assembled trucks and other vehicles for the Japanese military.

The factory resumed operations from 1947 to 1980, before the building was abandoned for some time. It was restored with historic accuracy in 2006 and revamped in 2016, housing a permanent exhibition centered on the events during the Japanese occupation.

### TIONG BAHRU ESTATE

The Tiong Bahru Estate was built under the Singapore Improvement Trust (SIT) back in the 1930s to house the rapidly-increasing population post-WWII. It also used to be a place where bird owners would gather their song birds and hang their cages, listening and mingling over coffee and tea.

This landmark is the first public housing estate ever in Singapore, a precursor to the HDB. Today, it retains that old kampung spirit peppered with a handful of modern (read: hipster) shops and cafes that make this a common photoshoot spot.

BEFORE

AFTER



### THE FULLERTON HOTEL

Once home to the General Post Office and several government offices, this neoclassical building at the mouth of the Singapore River has witnessed Singapore's modern history unfold. Built in 1928, it used to be a place for Allied soldiers to take refuge in 1942 in its spacious corridors. One of Singapore's national treasures, the 'Singapore Stone', was also discovered nearby. Today, the building is home to one of the most well-known hotels in Singapore: The Fullerton Hotel. The building retains much of its original structure, including a 35m-long tunnel that was once used by the GPO to shuttle mail to the pier.

BEFORE

NOW



### PEOPLE'S PARK COMPLEX

This commercial and residential block is a 31-storey high-rise building located in the heart of Chinatown. Consisting of a shopping centre located beneath the residential blocks, it was the first and largest complex of its kind in Southeast Asia, deemed to be a masterpiece of 1970s Brutalist architecture. The facade was originally a concrete finish in keeping with Brutalist principles, and was later repainted in the yellow and green we see today. The 25 levels have been nicknamed 'streets in the air', topped by circular portholes at the top of the building. Hard to miss from afar, this complex is still heavily patronised today, especially during festive seasons like the Lunar New Year.

BEFORE

NOW



BY NATALIE KWAN

# A Blast into Fashion Past

## STYLES BY THE DECADE

YVES SAINT LAURENT ONCE SAID: "FASHIONS FADE, BUT STYLE IS ETERNAL." OVER THE PAST FIVE DECADES, VARIOUS FASHION FADS HAVE DOMINATED THE GLAMOUROUS INDUSTRY — FLOPPY COLLARS, BILLOWY SKIRTS, BELL BOTTOMS — YOU NAME IT. LET'S TAKE A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE AS WE REVISIT THE TRENDS THAT HAVE COME AND GONE.

### THE 50S: FLARED SKIRTS, SMALL WAIST

Fashion in the 1950s was very much influenced by Christian Dior's "The New Look" collection. Long dresses which filtered into accentuated waistlines and billowy, full skirts were often paired with cropped or short jackets, producing a smart look. Wide collars and V-necks also made their debut in women's fashion. For men, a half and trim-tailored suits were the way to go.

### THE 60S: SHAPELESS TREND

Fashion became bolder with the arrival of the 60s, featuring straight shift dresses in vibrant, summery hues. Teens adored kitten heels and Mary Jane strap shoes, which brought out their feminine side. Athleisure made its debut in the fashion scene with short, mid-thigh tennis skirts, suitable for showing off long and slender legs. Men in the 1960s opted for slightly more laidback outfits compared to the 50s, and sported flared trousers and flowery shirts.

### THE 70S: BELL BOTTOMS AND DENIM

In the 1970s, women moved away from donning just dresses and skirts. Tight around the waist and flared at the bottom, bell-bottom pants were often paired with platform shoes to create the illusion of longer legs, while flattering the waist.

Midi skirts were also prominent in the 1970s, and often featured zip-up details, or slits, at its sides. If you were a teenage girl in the 70s, you would likely own a pair of hot pants, which essentially are really short shorts. Fun fact — denim hot pants came to be known as Daisy Dukes, named after the character who wore them in the film The Dukes of Hazzard. Men were often spotted decked out in leisure suits featuring floppy collars, a refreshing spin from the trim-tailored suits of the 50s.

### THE 80S: SHOULDER PADS AND PRINTS

Streetwear became more widespread in the 80s. Ever heard the song Gucci Gang? Gucci's sweatshirts were all the rage in the 80s, adored by the rappers back then. Ripped jeans, which have made a comeback as a wardrobe staple, were big back in those days. Bolder trends included animal prints, such as snakeskin and leopard prints, often superimposed onto blouses or dresses. Shoulder pads were also a fad, making one's shoulders look squarer and broader.

Vans and Reebok dominated the footwear scene, and the Reebok Pumps were said to be a must-have. Aerobics became fashionable, so came leg warmers.

### THE 90S: BAGGY PANTS

The upside down triangle could be spotted everywhere during the 90s. Everyone wanted a pair of the highly coveted Guess jeans. Pair those with a flannel top and a sturdy pair of Dr. Martens and you'd be good to go. Track jackets were not only used by athletes but also as a fashion accessory in the 90s. If you were to look at posters of famous boy bands back in those days, you would likely notice key staples such as chain wallets and baggy jeans.

Currently, Thrasher t-shirts have become quite a common sight especially among the youth. Did you know that these were considered fashionable in the 90s as well? Back then, men liked to wear crewneck t-shirts under their formal blazers, as opposed to wearing button-down dress shirts.

IT IS TRULY FASCINATING TO OBSERVE THE TRENDS THAT ARE MAKING A COMEBACK, EVEN AFTER DECADES HAVE PASSED.



# MOVIES REBOOTED: FROM THE 80S TO CURRENT INCARNATIONS

BY RACHEL LIM

IN ADDITION TO SERIALISED MOVIE FRANCHISES IN CINEMAS THESE DAYS, YOU'LL SEE A LOT OF OLDER MOVIES BEING REBOOTED, REMADE, OR CONTINUED; THE COMMON EXPLANATION IS THAT HOLLYWOOD HAS RUN OUT OF IDEAS. OVER THE LAST COUPLE OF YEARS, WE'VE SEEN REBOOTS OF GENRE-DEFINING MOVIES LIKE "TOTAL RECALL", "MAD MAX", "ROBOCOP", "TERMINATOR", "POLTERGEIST", "POINT BREAK" AND "FANTASTIC FOUR".

JUST THIS YEAR ALONE, THERE HAVE BEEN A NUMBER OF REBOOTS - LIKE "BEAUTY AND THE BEAST" AND "IT" - AS WELL AS CONTINUATIONS OF TITLES THAT WERE ORIGINALLY MADE AS STANDALONE MOVIES, INCLUDING "TRAINSPOTTING 2", "BLADERUNNER 2049", AND "JUMANJI: WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE". WE'VE ALSO SEEN THE RESURFACING OF SERIALISED TITLES FROM THE 70S-80S, LIKE "FRIDAY THE 13TH", "AMITYVILLE", AND "ALIEN".

IN CASE YOU NEED A REFRESHER ON SOME OF THESE HOTLY DEBATED REMAKES, HERE ARE SOME OF THE MANY REBOOTED TITLES, AND A REVIEW OF THE ORIGINAL VERSUS THE REMAKE.

## GHOSTBUSTERS

1984: rated 7.8/10 on IMDb | 2016: rated 5.3/10 on IMDb

In a brave move, director Paul Feig (maker of The Bridesmaids) casted four female Ghostbusters in the 2016 remake in place of the four men in the 1984 original.

The original Ghostbusters (1984) directed by Ivan Reitman did immensely well with its unique concept and subtle humour. Starring Bill Murray, Harold Ramis, Dan Aykroyd and Ernie Hudson, it even surpassed Steven Spielberg's Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom to become the highest-grossing film of that summer.

Thirty two years later, ectoplasmic slime and proton traps graced the big screen once again. This time, Ghostbusters was headed by a four-woman strong team starring Melissa McCarthy, Kristen Wiig, Kate McKinnon and Leslie Jones.

Many fans of the original movie were

upset about the gender-swap, but being clearly aware of that, Feig addressed the misogyny that greeted the movie trailers in the scene where the all-women Ghostbusters crew read the comment "Ain't no bitches gonna hunt no ghosts" on their online video.

However, Bill Murray himself said in an interview with Jimmy Kimmel that he delighted in the film because he knew that "these girls were funny", probably thanks to their frequent appearances in the comedy variety show Saturday Night Live.

Sure, the movie wasn't perfect as there were times the ladies "try-hard" humour simply fell flat, but I personally loved the gender-swap. Having a male receptionist (much less the hunky Chris Hemsworth, the God Of Thunder himself) assisting the female crew was also a smart twist.



## "CARRIE"

If only they knew she had the power



## CARRIE

1976: rated 7.4/10 IMDb | 2013: rated 5.9/10 on IMDb

The movie was based on a novel by Stephen King which carried the famous cover of a wide-eyed girl drenched in blood. It tells the story of Carrie White, a teenager with telekinetic powers who lives with an overzealous religious mother. Carrie, being shy and awkward, was an outcast in school who was finally pushed to the edge by her bullies on their Senior Prom night, causing her to unleash her powers on them.

The 1976 original which was directed by Brian De Palma was rebooted in 2013 by Kimberly Peirce.

The 2013 Carrie (Chloe Grace Moretz) had big shoes to fill as the old Carrie (Sissy Spacek) clinched an Oscar for her spectacular performance in the 1976 original. Many critics who said the remake paled in comparison to the original believed that Moretz was not the best choice for Carrie. While Spacek had an alien-like beauty with too-pale eyelashes and almost translucent skin, Moretz looked as cute as a button - she could wear a sackcloth and still be head cheerleader. The prom transformation from oddie to hottie was thus more spectacular for Spacek.

With the help of CGI however, the 2013 version was much more gruesome. Peirce's Carrie stayed relatively tame until the prom massacre where Carrie's targets were smashed between bleachers and vividly electrocuted. Moretz played a more vengeful Carrie as she tossed people around while striking vogue-type poses. In contrast, Spacek merely stood wide-eyed and traumatised as she "mauled" her victims by spraying at them with a hose. However, it's the unnervingly intimate and uncensored scene of momma White's (Julianne Roberts) self-mutilation routine that truly made the audience's skin crawl.

Overall, Peirce did a fantastic job recreating Carrie while trying to make it relevant to the audience in this digital age. In the locker room scene, the mean girls were snapping pictures of naked Carrie and posting them online rather than just throwing tampons at her and calling her names. Though most critics seem to prefer the 1976 version, both Carries agree on one thing for sure - nothing is scarier than high school bullies.



## THE MUMMY

1999: rated 7/10 by IMDb | 2017: rated 5.5/10 by IMDb

The Mummy (1999) starring Brendan Fraser was a remake itself, as the very first mummy was brought to life by director Boris Karloff in 1932. Nevertheless, the 1999 film has won so many hearts with its light-hearted dialogue and exhilarating action that it pretty much gave Mummies their place in the Monster Hall-of-Fame right alongside Vampires and Zombies.

According to many critics, the 2017 remake of The Mummy, however, was disappointing and could not even be saved by Tom Cruise's million-dollar smile.

Stephen Sommers, who helmed the 1999 version, set the movie in 1920s Egypt, and gave it a very Indiana Jones vibe. The entire film was equal parts adventure, humour and terror (one word: scarabs) which kept the audience entertained throughout. It also helped that Brendan Fraser and Rachel Weisz were perfect in their roles as the slightly goofy American adventurer Rick O'Connell and the whip-smart Egyptologist Evie Carnahan respectively. It had to be said that while the film was made in the 90s, it had very decent CGI for its time.

In contrast, Alex Kurtzman made the rebooted movie to be the first installment of Universal's Dark Universe and filmed the majority of it at the Natural History Museum in modern day London. Hence, gone were the old storyline and characters, and in their stead, Nick Morton (Tom Cruise) and archaeologist Jenny Halsey (Annabelle Wallis) were born. Dr Henry Jekyll (Russell Crowe) - as in Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde - was also introduced as the leader of the team.

Critics felt that even though Cruise's experience in Hollywood far exceeds Fraser's, the latter was still more effectively cast in the 1999 movie. They also preferred Weisz from the old movie, who wasn't merely the damsel-in-distress and side love-interest that Wallis played in Kurtzman's remake.

The only saving grace was the mummy's gender-swap. While the old mummy was played by Arnold Vosloo, 2017's mummy was played by Sofia Boutella, which brought an interesting twist to the storyline. Of course, it didn't hurt that she was still freakishly sexy in spite of her splitting pupils and decaying flesh.



## IT AIN'T OVER YET

MOVIES SEEM TO BE REBOOTED IN AN ONGOING CYCLE - WHILE THE CURRENT TREND FOR REBOOTS MOSTLY TAKE THEIR CUE FROM THE 80S, HOWEVER, IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE MOVIES FROM THE 90S AND BEYOND WILL BE REBOOTED IN THE FUTURE. ALREADY IN 2018'S RELEASE SCHEDULE, WE'RE SEEING REMAKES TOMB RAIDER - WHICH ITSELF WAS ONLY MADE IN 2001 - AS WELL AS MULAN, WHICH WAS RELEASED IN 1998.

RETRO ADDICTION ASIDE, HAS HOLLYWOOD RUN OUT OF IDEAS, OR ARE THEY SIMPLY BEING LAZY? IT APPEARS THAT THE BOX OFFICE REVEALS WHAT WE, THE AUDIENCE, REALLY WANT: THE TOP 10 FILMS OF 2017 WERE ALL EITHER REMAKES OR SEQUELS.

# BEEN THERE, DONE THAT

## OVERSEAS EDUCATION

### WHY STUDY OVERSEAS?

The big questions: Is it to study a subject you can't get in Singapore? Is it to become independent? Is it to differentiate yourself from your peers? All are very valid reasons, and form part of the decision.

**ANYONE CONSIDERING STUDYING OVERSEAS HAS SOME BIG QUESTIONS TO ASK THEMSELVES. TO HELP GET YOU STARTED, HERE'S A PERSPECTIVE FROM ONE RECENT GRADUATE WHO CHOSE AUSTRALIA.**

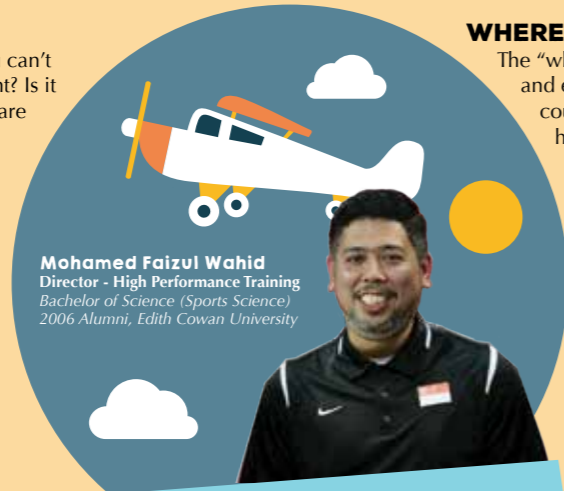
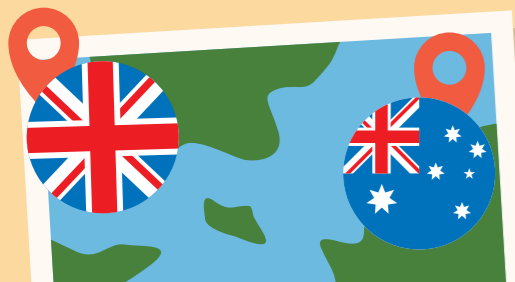
### WHY DID YOU CHOOSE TO GO OVERSEAS TO STUDY?

I found that universities overseas generally offered a better range of facilities. Proximity was a key factor in choosing Australia; it's closer to Singapore compared to the US or UK. There wasn't much time difference, and the exchange rate (at the time) was good, making Australia the best choice for me.



### ARE THERE ANY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN STUDYING IN AUSTRALIA AND THE UK?

My elder brother studied in London while I studied in Australia, and from what I can tell, there is no big difference. However, I could feel that after coming back from overseas, we are better able to adapt to changes, as we are more mature in terms of independence, decision-making, and our mentality towards a broad range of issues.

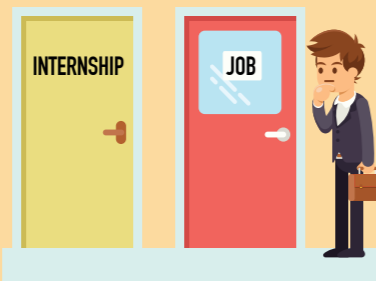


**Mohamed Faizul Wahid**  
Director - High Performance Training  
Bachelor of Science (Sports Science)  
2006 Alumni, Edith Cowan University

## STUDYING OVERSEAS WAS THE BEST DECISION I'VE MADE

### WERE THERE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES THAT STUDYING OVERSEAS HAVE PROVIDED YOU WITH?

Because of the university's wide range of industry partners, I secured an internship in Australia during the course of my studies. When I was on holiday in Singapore, I also scored an internship with the Singapore Sports Council because of the degree recognition. This helped me gain relevant experience which helped me get a headstart over my peers. I even secured a job before my exams ended. My career flourished immediately – I spent 6 years in the public sector before starting up my own successful sports consultancy business.



### WHERE TO STUDY?

The "where" will be influenced by price, proximity, and ease of transitioning in (ie. English-speaking country?). Next are questions like being close to home, or even the weather – which is probably why many students pick Australia.



### HOW DID YOUR EDUCATION AND OVERALL EXPERIENCE OVERSEAS CHANGE YOUR LIFE?

Initially, I didn't expect any major impact. But while I was there, I became more independent – I managed my own finances, and developed a broader perspective of the world because I participated in social networking activities. Networking is the key when you are overseas – I learned a lot about other nationalities, cultures, experiences and more.



### WHY DID YOU GO THROUGH IDP SINGAPORE?

All my siblings went through IDP Singapore because it is well-known as a one-stop hub for helping students like us secure higher education at institutions overseas.



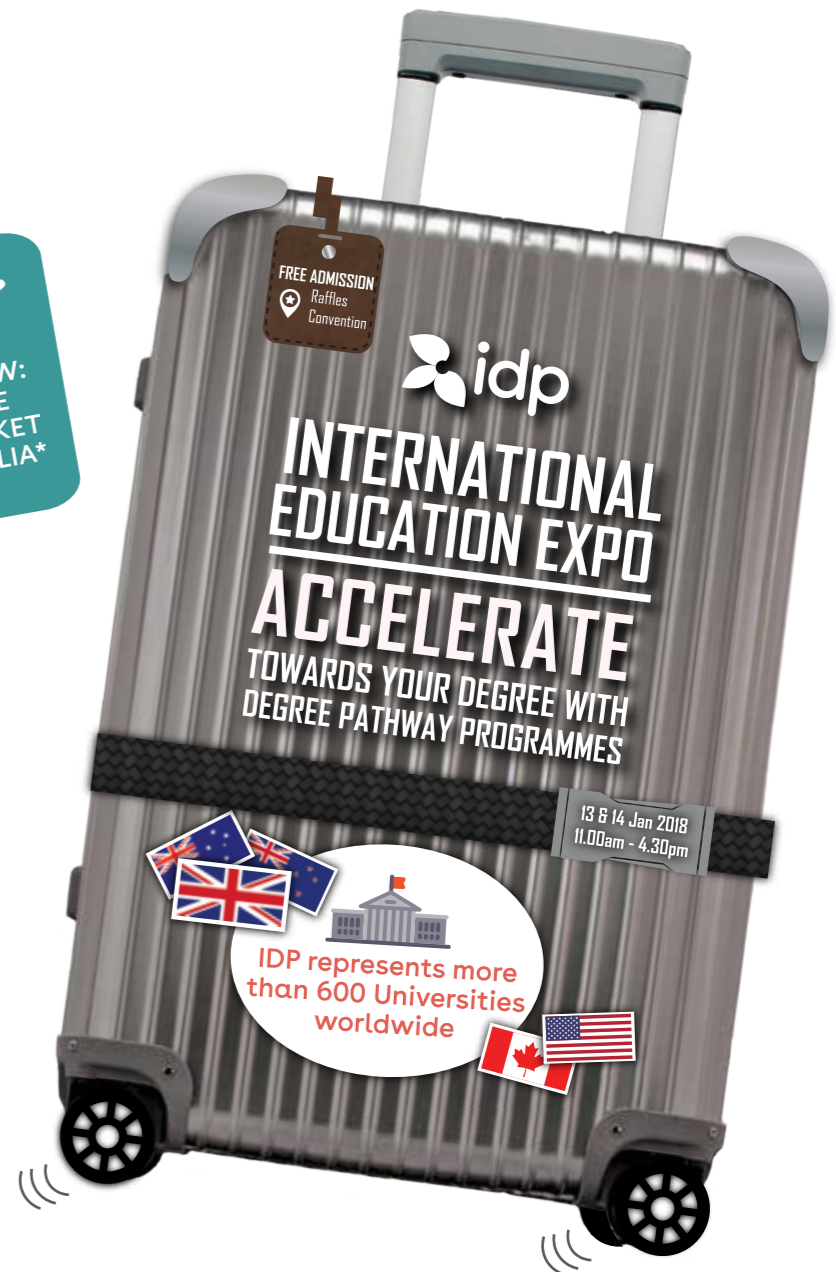
Before I used IDP, I came with my sister for her appointment and **I was impressed with the counsellors, as they were very up-to-date with the universities, courses and entry requirements.** They were honest with their appraisals and did not give her any false hope. I was very impressed with their confidence and knowledge so I knew that IDP Singapore was the right choice for me.



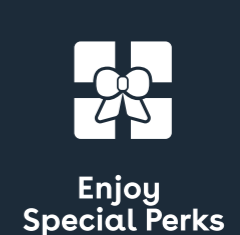
## Getting your results soon?

Over 30 years, we've helped over 30,000 Singaporeans students, like you, obtain their international education. Don't miss this opportunity to receive 1-to-1 entry assessment, meet and apply to over 600 universities and institutions all at a single venue.

**Study Overseas? We Know The Way.**



## EVENT EXCLUSIVES!



Almost everywhere you go these days – but especially if you're in hipster cafes – you'll find mismatched chairs that seem to come from different eras. Not only are they pretty to look at, they're also pinnacles of furniture design, copied from masterpieces designed by iconic mid-century designers. Here are some popular mid-century chair designs that you should know about.

# Cheat Sheet

## #51 Old School Cafe Chairs



### TOLIX MODEL A

Creator: Xavier Pauchard (1880-1948)  
Price: US\$270

A favourite of cafes around the world thanks to its sturdiness, hardness and stackability, the Tolix Model A chair is an icon of industrial aesthetics. Designed by French metalworker Xavier Pauchard who patented the method to galvanise steel, this classic chair was designed in 1934 and refined in 1956 to make it easier to stack (you could stack them to 10m). While original chairs are still produced, it's a widely-imitated chair.

### EMECO 1006 NAVY CHAIR (1944)

Creator: Wilton Dinges (1916-1974)  
Price: US\$560

The legendary 1006 Navy Chair was built originally for the military's need for lightweight, corrosion-free chairs for its submarines and destroyers. The proprietary metal of the chair was so durable, its estimated lifespan is 150 years, and each chair has a lifetime guarantee. The chair's been in continuous production since 1944. In 2006, a cheaper III Navy Chair version was made using recycled PET plastic (to keep plastic bottles out of landfills). The chair's design is protected by copyright, so it's illegal to reproduce it.



### SERIES 7 - MODEL 3107 CHAIR

Creator: Arne Jacobsen (1902-1971)  
Price: US\$453

Part of the Series 7, the Model 3107 is a chair designed using a single sheet of plywood bent into compound curves. The chair is Fritz Hansen & Son's best selling design of all time – thanks to its simple and elegant form and mass production suitability, it's considered the most successful chair of the 20th century. While widely copied, the original chair remains in continuous production, and comes in a range of colours and styles – as a four-legged chair, an office chair or a bar stool.

### EXECUTIVE ARM CHAIR (1950)

Creator: Eero Saarinen (1910-1961) Price: US\$1,538

The Executive Arm Chair was designed to explore the idea of comfort through the shape of its shell, not its cushioning. Designed after he completed his infamous 'Womb' chair, the comfortable Arm Chair flexes slightly with the sitter, and the contoured seat is supported by wood or metal legs. This iconic chair, often referred to as 'that chair with the hole in the back', is still in production and remains a popular design at Knoll after nearly 70 years.



### CHAISE BISTRO BAUMANN (CIRCA 1960)

Creator: Baumann Factory (1901-2003)

This simple yet sturdy chair is made by La Manufacture Baumann, a factory that was established in 1901 to manufacture chairs for cafes. It grew in popularity alongside other manufacturers of bentwood furniture (made by wetting wood then bending it), but unfortunately closed down in 2003 due to economic difficulty. The chairs were labelled 'La chaise de France' to protect French manufacturers from imitation products, but ironically it's now a widely imitated product. Today, the originals are sought-after in collector's circles.



### EAMES MOLDED FIBERGLASS CHAIR

Creators: Charles Eames (1907-1978) and Ray Eames (1912-1988)  
Price: \$459 (Eiffel Tower base)

Designed by dynamic duo Charles and Ray Eames, the iconic curves of the Molded Fiberglass Chair was designed for low-cost housing in 1950 utilising fibreglass as a cost-effective mass-produced material. Fibreglass has since been replaced by polypropylene to be more eco-friendly: while replicas are everywhere today, the the original chair comes with or without armrests in a range of colours and bases, from the metal 'Eiffel Tower' to wooden dowel and rocker.



### CH30 CHAIR + CH33 CHAIR (1957)

Creator: Hans Wegner (1914-2007) for Carl Hansen & Son  
Price: US\$855

Hans Wegner was a master of 20th-century Danish modernism, and innovator of organic functionalism. He designed 2 versions of the CH dining chair: the CH30 and CH33, with slightly different backrests (the CH33 had a pointier edge). Made from solid oak with teak backrests and oak inlays, today only the CH33 is still manufactured (the CH30 is a collector's item), and can be customised with a padded seat.



Disclaimer: Prices are based on official licensed retailers where applicable



# Nostalgic Mom Noms

BY YIN LOON



## MAMA SHOP GOODIES

Many, if not all, of us remember the 'mama shop' – the stuffed-to-the-brim little store tucked away in a void deck or shophouse. These original 'mama shops' (the term 'mama' is a Tamil word meaning 'uncle' or 'elder') don't have air-conditioning and are traditionally run within a limited space.

These shops served as local sundry shops where we'd go to get our biscuits and candies as children. These days, they are disappearing at an alarming rate, thanks in part to rising rents and the proliferation of supermarkets and online shopping. If you can still find one in your neighbourhood, it's a great place to relive the old days with some nostalgic treats.



White Rabbit

### White Rabbit

Those of us who've eaten it will remember the edible paper wrapper that surrounds this super chewy milk candy. Having been around since 1943 in Shanghai, the candy once sported a Mickey Mouse wrapper until the 1950s when it was seen as a symbol for worshipping foreign countries, so the packaging was redesigned into the iconic rabbit you see today.

It was advertised in the 80s as containing the equivalent of one cup of milk, and positioned as a nutritional product! The candies are now made using milk from Australia and New Zealand, and exported to countries like the US and Britain.

In 2015, the chairman of the factory was accidentally killed by a monkey when a stone it kicked hit the businessman in Henan's Yantai Mountains.

### Haw Flakes

Wrapped in their distinguishable packaging reminiscent of Chinese fireworks, the dark pink, disc-like flakes are made from the fruit of the Chinese hawthorn, called 'haws'. These red fruits have a tangy sweet taste and are traditionally used to make jellies, jams and wine; they are sometimes eaten to counteract the bitterness of Chinese herbal medication.



Haw Flakes

Hawthorns have plenty of health benefits – it's been harvested for culinary and medicinal use (in TCM, it aids digestion), and purports to help you lose weight by boosting your metabolism. As sugar is added in this flake form, it's not exactly a 'healthy snack', but it's better for you than raw hawthorn berries which contain cyanide.

### Ling Mong Tablets

Precursor to sour lemons, these sweet, salty and tangy tablets were popularly eaten to wake us up during classes. Wrapped in gold paper, they came in little tubes. Despite the name 'Ling Mong', it doesn't contain any lemons and it tastes more like sour plum.

Instead, the ingredients list contains items like liquorice, peppermint, clove and cassia – you may wonder how this odd concoction came about. Interestingly, all these ingredients are traditionally used to aid digestion and ease bowel issues. The tart and sour flavour – probably chosen to make the tablets more palatable – comes from the citric acid and 'flavourings'.



Ling Mong Tablets



Yee Chai Peng

### Ear Biscuits

Pig's Ears are a classic childhood snack with a conical shape that sort of resembles an ear. Known as 'yee chai peng' in Cantonese, it has also been called Cow's Ear Biscuit or Biskut Telinga in Malay.

Made of plain flour, the biscuits are crispy, bordering on tooth-cracking; its savoury flavour comes from fish sauce and natural fermentation, hence its brown colour. It is said that these biscuits evolved from Butterfly Biscuits – they look like four Ears joined to make a butterfly shape. As these can only be handmade, the arrival of machine cutters meant that only Pig's Ears made the cut as it was simpler and faster to make. Far from being a prepackaged snack, you can actually get these freshly-made from Chai Wee Cuttlefish in Chinatown.

Confusingly, Ear biscuits also refer to a thicker, flat biscuit with a 2-colour spiral pattern. Unlike Pig's Ears, it has a peppery taste because it contains 'five spice' and is even more tooth-cracking. A traditional Chinese snack, these biscuits are sometimes (confusingly) referred to as Cow's Ear or even Elephant's Ear (not to be confused with the French pastry with the same name), and also Pinwheel Cookies.



Cow's Ear

# OUT AND ABOUT

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## EVENTS



27 Jan 2018 | 2pm  
Marina Barrage  
Tickets: \$70 (solo), \$130 (buddy)  
**Pokémon Run Carnival 2018**

This fun run brings to life the trials a Pokémon Trainer has to overcome on their journey to become a Pokémon Master. In this 5km adventure, participants will face down the immersive water-scape and green canvases of Gardens by the Bay, while braving unique obstacles in fire, water, electricity and grass element zones along the race routes. At the Pokémon Carnival, there are games, activities and gourmet delights, where you can also catch the choreographed Pikachu dance performance.

## GIGS



8 Jan 2018 | 8pm  
Singapore Indoor Stadium  
Tickets: \$98 - \$228 (Sports Hub Tix)  
**Imagine Dragons Evolve World Tour**

Since making their debut with 2012's multi-platinum *Night Visions*, Imagine Dragons have drawn worldwide adoration for their anthemic yet moody alt-rock. On their third album *Evolve*, they will take on a brighter but more layered emotional outlook by offering up a selection of love songs.



17 - 28 Jan 2018 | Various timings  
Esplanade  
Tickets: Varies  
**M1 Fringe Festival**

The M1 Singapore Fringe Festival is an annual festival of theatre, dance, music, visual arts and mixed media created and presented by Singaporeans and international artists. Themed differently each year, the festival aims to bring the best of contemporary, cutting-edge and socially engaged works to the Singapore audience. During this festival, multiple performances will be held at various venues.

20 January 2018 | 11am - 6 pm  
PSB Academy City Campus,  
#03-200 Marina Square  
Admission: Free

## PSB Academy Open House 2018

PSB Academy will be hosting its first major open house of the year, this January. It'll be an ideal opportunity to find out more about all the diploma and degree programmes offered, in business and management, engineering and technology, and life and sports sciences. There will also be on-the-spot applications and assessments available. Have a look at their city campus as well a glimpse of their new campus. For more information, visit [psb-academy.edu.sg/openhouse2018](http://psb-academy.edu.sg/openhouse2018)



31 Dec 2017 | 11am/5pm  
D'Marquee @ Downtown East  
Tickets for anISONIC: \$45  
(\$5 off for cosplayers/students)  
**anISONIC Countdown x J-Festival 2017-2018**

Singapore's newest countdown event is specially catered to Japanese culture and pop-culture fans. The double-bill event will feature a FREE-ENTRY J-Festival (matsuri) with Japanese food and festivities which starts from 11am. This is followed by the ticketed event, anISONIC Countdown, a DJ countdown party (from 5pm) helmed by DJ Caesar, a popular Anison Club (anikura) DJ straight from the streets of Tokyo, and CLEANERO, the popular utaite duet who are known for their ikemen voices.

## MOVIES



**Shape of Water**  
(January 18)  
Cast: Sally Hawkins, Octavia Spencer, Michael Shannon, Richard Jenkins

Directed by Guillermo del Toro, this dark fantasy film is about Elisa, a mute, isolated woman who works as a cleaning lady in a hidden, high-security government laboratory in 1960s Baltimore. Her life changes forever when she discovers the lab's classified secret - a mysterious, scaled creature from South America that lives in a water tank. As Elisa develops a unique bond with her new friend, she soon learns that its fate and very survival lies in the hands of a hostile government agent and a marine biologist.

By Prabhu Sivam

# Mixtapes

## Wearing Your Heart in Your Music

Though seemingly incredulous and a tad bit tacky, it remains a sure-win and non confrontational way of relaying the "Hey-I-like-you-and-here's-a-bunch-of-music-I-think-about-when-I-think-about-you" signal to the person that you're trying to woo.

Part of the mixtape's appeal as the defacto alternative for love letters during the mid 1970s to late 80s period lies in its compact design. The fact that it fits snugly into any pocket size quickly earned itself a reputation as the perfect gift that you could easily hand over to your crush—whether it was in the middle of a crowded house party or during the quiet stroll home after a romantic dinner.



## A love letter (Well, kind of)

The eternal appeal of the mixtape lies in the fact that it knows no genre. From music aficionados of lo-fi chillwave to hardcore underground punk and classical jazz, giving someone a mixtape can only mean one thing: you dig them. A lot.

Mixtapes are essentially an extension of yourself, a conduit of your musical tastes—a 13 track listing of what you think, feel and love. It's about wearing your heart on your sleeve, letting your guard down to let someone else in on the songs that get you going and songs that you simply can't live without. As a bonus, you can also record an audio note for them.

Think of it as a personal, intimate journal that you only share with a special someone. Except for the fact that this journal took weeks, sometimes even months to put together. Don't forget that this was an era long before smartphones and the world wide web—when hearing your favourite track on the radio was akin to striking the lottery. An era where playlists were held hostage by the whim of radio jockeys.

In order to record the track that you wanted, you needed to be at the right place at the right time for that particular song. In other words, the universe had to conspire for you (quite literally) in order for a mixtape to be made. Luckier folk may have two cassette players, or even a 2-cassette boombox and a ready collection of favourite tracks to record from.



## Modern re-births

The noughties brought mixtapes in the form of CDs which worked pretty much the same way except for the fact that unlike tapes, you could readily download tracks at the click of a button from online music platforms like KaZaa, Napster and LimeWire and even burn multiple copies at once.

And then came the digital onslaught of Apple iPods which changed the way the world listened to music. With online playlists like iTunes, it did away with the need for physical manifestations of music like tapes or CDs. Mixtapes were now created online and digitally. In fact at its height, the now defunct MSN Messenger instant messaging system allowed you to show friends online what you were listening to.

Currently, online music streaming sites like Spotify, Bandcamp and SoundCloud can be thought of as modern reincarnations of the mixtape, where you can put together a playlist and share it with your special someone and the rest of the world at the click of a button.

It seems that no matter what the era or medium, music seems to be the best way for us to express our feelings and thoughts; it could be the only way to gauge who we really are as a person. In fact, dating apps like Tinder and Coffee Meets Bagel allow users the option to share their favourite playlists with potential partners - perhaps that's the best way to learn about someone before they even meet up.



BY TARTAN ARES OW

# RETRO GAMING

## VIDEO GAMES OF THE PAST

By definition, retro is something that imitates a style or fashion from the recent past. You've got retro furniture. Retro clothing. Retro TV shows. They harken back to another era - one which we never knew personally, but aspire to recreate.

There's perhaps no better example of this than retro games. Prior to snazzy games like Assassin's Creed or Battlefield which required constant upgrading of your PC, these retro-era games are a tonic to our over-graphiced, over-crowded MPGs. In those simpler times, cheat codes had to be earned, not bought.

These days, with all things renaissance, retro games are coming back with force, created by retailers' desire to monetise our mania for the past. Here are some classic games which originated in the 80s that created a generation of addicted gamers.

### PONG (1972)

Literally the granddaddy of them all, Pong was the first real video game, ever. It was created by Atari, who single-handedly made most of the first-gen classics we know today. While it seems laughably simple today with its 8-bit graphics and painfully slow play, to early gamers it was like the moment cavemen discovered fire.

Pong is a 2-player game, each controlling a paddle that only moves up and down. It's like playing a flat version of ice hockey at arcades - the aim is to bounce the ball past your opponent into their goal. The ball ricochets continually, stopping only when someone scores.

Originally an arcade game, and later available on console, it's endured the evolution of gaming - and like evolution itself, it's often the simplest organisms that thrive. There are no cheat codes, finishing moves, multiplayer options or tactics.

### TETRIS (1984)

Created by Russian programmer Alexey Pajitnov, Tetris was the first computer game to actually be exported from the Soviet Union to the West. Debuting in 1984, ironically, while the USSR was busy losing the Cold War, Tetris conquered virtually every platform and format on earth, from calculators and digital watches, to early Ataris and Game Boys, becoming the ubiquitous game of the 80s. Today, you'll see plenty of incarnations of this game, like Falling Fruit or Bejeweled.

For the Soviets, the low-budget graphics Tetris was practically an allegory for communism itself. Relentlessly crashing building blocks rain down, and you are mathematically doomed to failure due to something ironically called "naive gravity", which over time means the S- and Z-shaped blocks eventually leave unfillable gaps that can't be overcome and the entire thing collapses. And before you know it, it's 1991 already.

## █████ SANDBOX (OPEN WORLD) GAME █████

### LEGEND OF ZELDA (1986)

This high-fantasy series was primarily developed by Nintendo for the NES, built on a prototype in which exploration was the name of the game. Designer Shigeru Miyamoto and his team built a world of mountains and forests that players could traverse; the game would eventually become The Legend of Zelda, a defining game for Nintendo, and open-world games in general.

The game centres on Link, the playable character who is often tasked with rescuing Princess Zelda and the kingdom of Hyrule from Ganon, the principle villain. The original was a 2D game played from an overhead

perspective, featuring a mixture of puzzles, action, battle gameplay, and exploration. Since the original launched in 1986, Link has starred in many adventures, each one retelling a different fable. The game has inspired many games to adopt a similar open-world structure.



## ██████████ FIRST-PERSON-SHOOTER ██████████

### DUCK HUNT (1984)

The precursor to all first-person shooters, the 1984 classic was a breakthrough. The original Nintendo console came standard with 2 controllers and a gun, which could only be used in this game to massacre hapless ducks two-by-two. The innovative part was that the gun actually worked quite accurately.

Ducks take off from the bottom of the screen, and you shoot them before they reach the top. It was the first time (outside of a bulky arcade machine) anyone had ever used a hand-held electronic weapon. It hit that exact sweet spot for a few years in the mid-80s, when a cheap plastic gun was considered cutting-edge, and before our need for more realistic murder scenes or animal conservation kicked in. This game literally gave birth to the FPS genre.

#### WORTHY MENTION

Created in 1978, Space Invaders is one of the earliest shooting games - the aim is to defeat waves of aliens with a laser cannon to earn as many points as possible. This arcade game was the best-selling video game and highest-grossing entertainment product of its time, and today the arcade cabinets are a collector's item.



## ████████████████████ PLATFORM GAMES █████████████████████

### SUPER MARIO BROS. (1983)

Of all the great games the 80-90s spawned, the Super Mario Bros. series is probably the most famous - at least one game has been released for every Nintendo console and handheld. The first title in the series - Super Mario Bros. - follows Mario, a plumber with the iconic mustache and hat, as he travels through the Mushroom Kingdom in order to save Princess Toadstool (later Princess Peach) from Bowser. In multiplayer mode, his brother Luigi is playable as an assistant.

In the 2D game, Mario runs across platforms, collecting coins and hitting special bricks along the way. If he eats a Super Mushroom, he grows twice in size. The game progresses in 8 worlds; the final stage of each takes place in a castle where Bowser or one of his decoys are fought. Mario is one of the best-selling video games of all time, and Nintendo still produces the series, with later incarnations being in 3D, and made for mobile and Switch.



### PAC-MAN (1980)

This iconic title was first developed as an arcade game by Namco in 1980, and is often credited as being a landmark in video game history; it's still played in the 2010s. In the game, the player navigates the yellow Pac-Man through a maze of Pac-Dots - the goal is to eat all the Pac-Dots (to proceed to the next level) while avoiding the four roaming ghosts (Blinky, Pinky, Inky, and Clyde). If a ghost hits Pac-Man, he loses a life (he has 5 lives), but if he eats a Power Pellet, he can - for a short time - eat the ghosts instead. While seemingly random in behavior, each ghost has a unique personality.

Designed to have no ending, there are 256 levels - the final one is nicknamed the Split-Screen Level, which is impossible to complete due to a coding bug. Multiple unclaimed rewards have been offered for players who can clear this level.



#### WORTHY MENTION

Prince of Persia, released in 1989 for Apple II, is believed to be the first cinematic platform game and used rotoscoping for its fluid and realistic animation. Set in ancient Persia, the main objective is to lead the nameless protagonist out of dungeons and into a tower to fight the evil Jaffar (the vizier) in 60 minutes.

## ████████████████████ FIGHTING GAMES █████████████████████

### STREET FIGHTER (1987)

Launched in 1987, it was THE fighting game for an entire generation. Everyone had a favourite character, and you could tell a lot about someone by who they played: sensible people played Ryu; arrogant ones played Ken.

The game is a series of one-on-one matches against computer-controlled opponents or another player. Each match consisted of a best-of-three, with 30-second rounds, and the winner knocking out their opponent or finishing with more life (energy) left, proceeds to the next battle. The arcade version uses joysticks and buttons, allowing the player to perform a variety of attacks or crouches. There are also 'special' moves like the Dragon Punch or Hurricane Kick that can be "unlocked" via a specific series of joystick/button inputs - this was the first game to ever implement this concept.

Street Fighter is Capcom's second highest grossing franchise ever, after Resident Evil. This arcade-based game has since migrated beyond NES, to PS and Xbox, and had dozens of incarnations - the all-time best of which was Street Fighter II - Turbo. There are also crossovers



including Street Fighter x Tekken and (gasp) Marvel vs. Capcom, and it's even cameoed in Wreck-It-Ralph, when Zangief attended a henchmen support-group meeting.

#### WORTHY MENTION

Mortal Kombat, launched in arcades in 1992. Despite its lousy graphics and jerky movements, it was an instant hit for one reason: "fatalities". Spines were ripped out, heads were severed, punctuated by the immortal words: "Finish Him!" It also had a bad live-action movie adaptation.

BY YIN LOON

## THE LIST

OLD SKOOL SINGAPORE SLANGS

## GABRA:

This Indonesian word means 'all in a mess', describing someone who panics (or is confused) and then messes up - often spectacularly. Hence 'gabra king' is a slang for people who frequently blunder. This is commonly used in the army - usually when someone makes a mistake of disastrous consequences (like losing a rifle part).

USAGE: "They didn't see us... but we gabra."  
UPDATED: Mess up

## ORBIGOOD:

Orbigood - or 'orbi' for short - is an expression of delight upon seeing someone getting their comeuppance; essentially 'very good' in a sarcastic manner. It's extracted from an old local rhyme "or bi good, ang moh jiak choo loot", meaning "Caucasian eating a cigar" (it has no meaning, apparently).

USAGE: "See lah, always so proud of his results. Now he fail his exam. Orbigood!"  
UPDATED: Serves you right

## BAO TOH:

The word in Hokkien literally means 'bun knife' so you can easily imagine that it would literally represent the phrase 'backstabbing'. It's basically an act of sabotage or betraying someone behind their back.

USAGE: "I saw Gary looking at his textbook during the test. Wanna bao toh him?"  
UPDATED: Tattle on

## CALEFARE:

Normally used in Hong Kong - and Singapore - showbiz circles describing people with minor roles in film or television (ie. extras), this is also a term for an idle person, or a layabout, who is present but has no contribution to whatever work is going on.

USAGE: "You nothing better to do, don't come here and calefare leh! We got deadline one!"  
UPDATED: Extra

## ABUDEN:

When someone asks stupid questions - usually those with obvious answers - this is the typical Singlish response. Obviously, it's the short form of "Ah, but then" - but then that was obvious, wasn't it?

USAGE: Friend: "Is the Pope Catholic?" You: "Abuden!"  
UPDATED: Duh

Find yourself confused following teen dialog in 80s or 90s movies? Or perhaps some of us may accidentally use some obiang slang words that have died out. To ensure that we don't use outdated references, here are some that originated in the 80s/90s and (should have) died out.

## SHAG:

Not to be confused with the popular but mildly offensive English (ie. British) slang meaning 'having sex', the term 'shag' in Singapore is far removed from that, because it simply means 'tired'. Or in British equivalent: knackered. Shag, or 'shagged out' is often used by boys in the military to express fatigue.

USAGE: "Wah, run so long, I very shag leh!"  
UPDATED: Tired

## JIAK ZUA:

The phrase literally means 'eat snake' in Hokkien. To the Chinese, the snake is seen as a lazy animal, so this phrase describes those who tend to slack off a lot and is often used to tease those who take lots of breaks. It's like the phrase you are what you eat - and is perfect to describe skiving Singaporeans.

USAGE: "Will he get to jiak zua or will the boss scold him properly?"  
UPDATED: Slack off, nua

## KOYOK:

Not to be confused with koyak, koyok is has a Malay origin meaning 'snake oil' (quack medicine). It's used to describe anything deceptively promoted as genuine or high quality, but are imitation (or lousy) goods or are not as good as they're advertised.

USAGE: "Don't listen to that salesman, he only sell koyok."  
UPDATED: Pirated / fake

## POK KAI:

The word is frequently used for quarrels in Hong Kong, which literally translated means "die on the street", or loosely meaning "go to hell". In Singapore, this derogatory term is more commonly used to mean 'penniless' or 'broke', and is a common excuse to avoid going out with friends.

USAGE: "Tomorrow I cannot watch Star Wars because I buy iPhone X, pok kai liao!"  
UPDATED: Broke

## TAIKO:

This is a Hokkien term describing the condition of a person with leprosy, but with medical advances, the chances of getting this disease is low. Hence, anyone who suffers from this is deemed super unlucky - and the modern context of 'taiko' is a sarcastic way of saying 'you're damn lucky'.

USAGE: "He always scores a goal, he so taiko."  
UPDATE: Lucky (bastard)

By Valery Thong

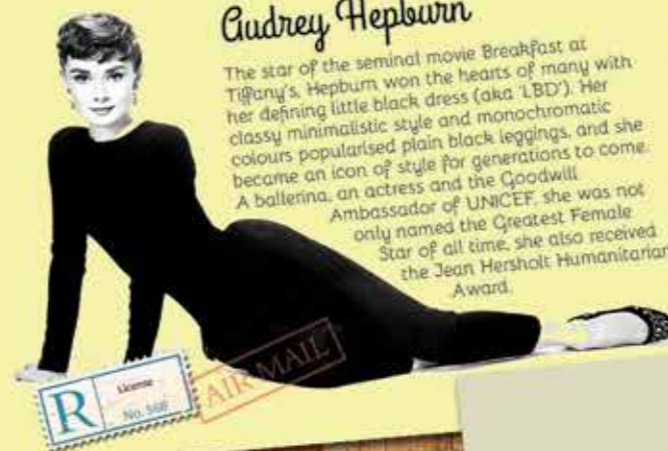
## Celebrating Our Retro Stars

The era between the 50's to the 90's was one of the most glorious and celebrated of all times. Yet to many of us, it is almost incomprehensible, unfamiliar and even antique. We've rounded up the 6 biggest stars of that time to explain why that epoch was so fascinating.

## HOLLYWOOD'S GOLDEN AGE:

## Audrey Hepburn

The star of the seminal movie Breakfast at Tiffany's, Hepburn won the hearts of many with her defining little black dress (aka 'LBD'). Her classy minimalist style and monochromatic colours popularised plain black leggings, and she became an icon of style for generations to come. A ballerina, an actress and the Goodwill Ambassador of UNICEF, she was not only named the Greatest Female Star of all time, she also received the Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award.



Widely regarded as one of the greatest basketball players of all time, Jordan earned his nickname, "Air Jordan" for leaping past opponents and performing gravity-defying slam dunks for the Chicago Bulls. He's the inspiration for Nike's popular Air Jordan sneaker line, which are still sought after today. As one of the most marketed athletes from the 80s-90s, he was instrumental in popularising the sport of basketball. He's received numerous awards, including five 'Most Valuable Player' awards and the 2016 Presidential Medal of Freedom.

SPORTS STAR:  
Michael Jordan

## POSTCARD

Dark eyebrows, pale skin and crimson red lips, Marilyn was the cover of Playboy's first issue, and the image of her in that billowing white dress has been described as one of the iconic images of the 20th century. A natural brunette, her later-turned-blond hair became an iconic style, topped by that famous facial polka dot near her lips. The combination of the "dumb blonde" and her sex appeal made Monroe one of the most popular sex symbols of all time.

POP CULTURE:  
Marilyn Monroe"I'M A DEEPLY SUPERFICIAL PERSON":  
Cindy Warhol

The leading artist of the Pop Art movement, he is famous for his artworks depicting everyday American consumer goods from the iconic Campbell's soup cans to Coca Cola, as well as cultural icons like Marilyn Monroe and Chairman Mao. He lived openly as a gay man (and claimed to be still a virgin!) before the Gay Liberation Movement in the late 60's. A fine line between an eccentric and a genius, Warhol is definitely a bellwether in the art industry of his time.



## Post Card

England's best known princess, Diana, was notable for her charisma, compassion and intellect. An embodiment of elegance and glamour, she carried out a wide variety of charity works and built relationships with ordinary people. Towards the end of her life, she was plagued with media scrutiny and passed away in an unfortunate car crash in Paris while attempting to avoid the paparazzi. Ever since then, a code of conduct was set for paparazzi in order to prevent such tragedies from happening again.

DIANA,  
Princess of Wales

# BANNED: RETRO RACY READS

BY NINA GAN

You've definitely heard of 'Fifty Shades of Grey' and all its incarnations, but before this book could be published, plenty of its predecessors had to jump through fiery hoops in order to expand our idea of "literature". While you may be able to find plenty of books on erotica these days, imagine what it was like back in the day when even hinting about it was enough to get your book banned, and have you thrown in jail? While authors all have their hardships, imagine

being punished for their creativity – to these authors, generations of readers (and writers) owe them a profound debt.

Their books have helped today's censors loosen their tight grip on our literature, and gave some of us a good reason to hit the books rather than our smartphones. Here are some 20th century titles that caused a stir when they were published:



## THE TROPIC OF CANCER

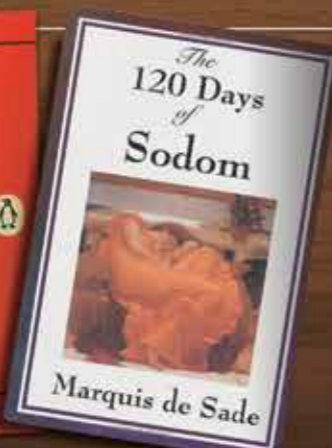
BY HENRY MILLER | 1934

Described as "notorious for its candid sexuality", the novel chronicles the sexual adventures of a young American writer in Paris in the 1930s. Combining autobiography and fiction, Miller details his consorts with prostitutes, pimps and artists with equal abandon and in graphic detail. The book was banned until the 1950s in the UK and USA, and a publisher was also jailed for it. In 1961, even the legal American edition incurred over 60 obscenity lawsuits against its booksellers, but its legal victory in 1964 became a major benchmark that made it an incredibly famous book, leading to the "free speech" in literature today.

## THE STORY OF O

BY PAULINE RÉAGE | 1954

Written under a pen name, the author only revealed herself to be Anne Desclos 40 years after the initial publication. Written for her long-time lover, Jean Paulhan, who was a fan of Marquis De Sade, the story is similar to Fifty Shades in that it centres around a young woman (named 'O') who was introduced to the world of sadism by her lover, René. In the book, she is initiated as a 'slave' into a fraternity of dominant men in her lover's chateau. The book incurred an obscenity charge and suffered a publicity ban for many years despite winning a French literary prize.

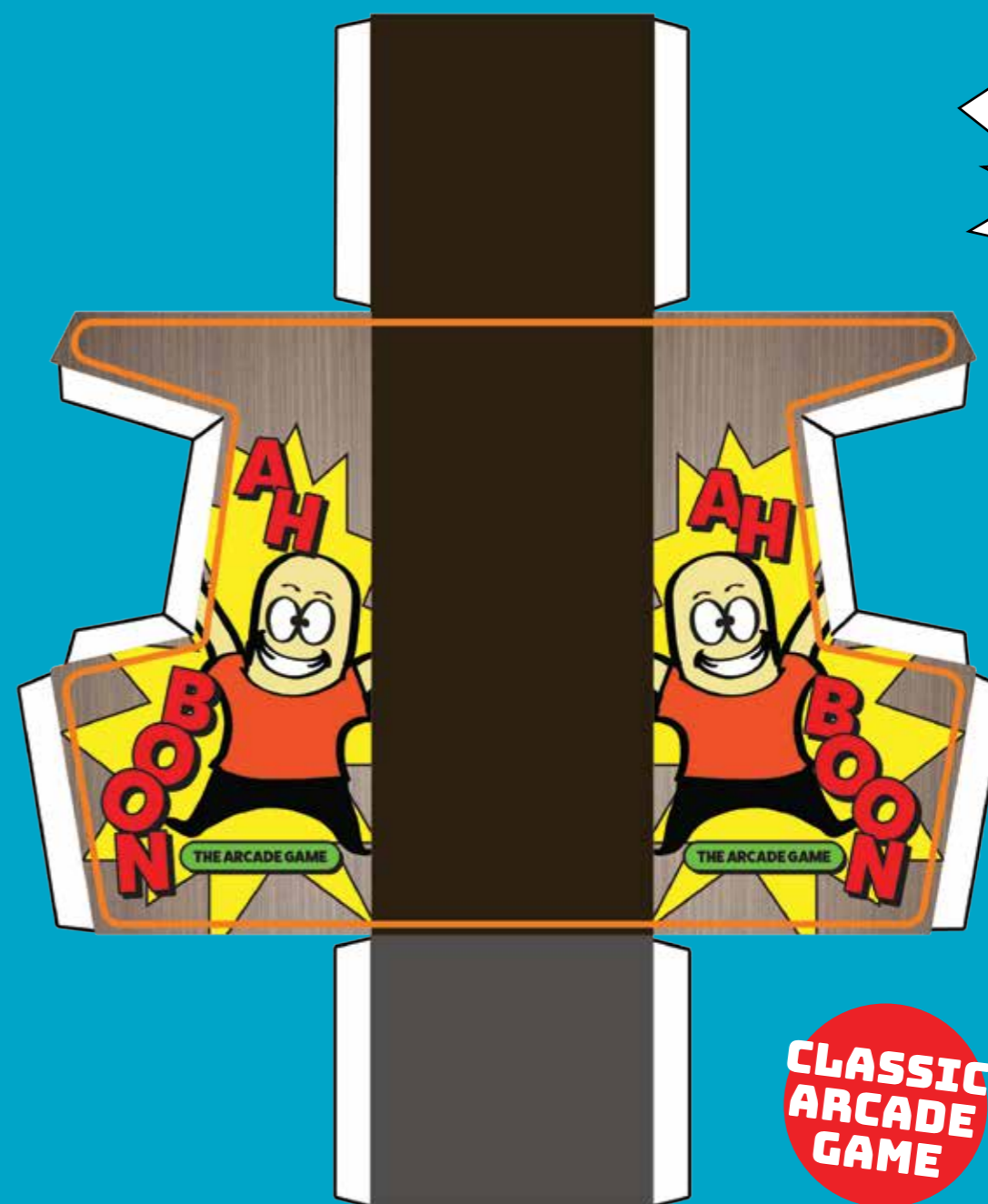


Another classic is 'Memoirs of a Woman of Pleasure' – aka 'Fanny Hill' – penned by John Cleland back in 1749. Cleland was arrested the following year for "corrupting the King's subjects" through his book which narrated the lurid sexual escapades of Frances Hill, a former prostitute. The book was banned in the UK until 1970 – and was only made legal in Singapore in 2015!

## STRESS RELIEF

If you were born in the late 90s you've probably not seen a real arcade game. So to help you relive the nostalgia that all the older kids are getting into (including those who are just old souls), here's a little cutout arcade game box for you to place at your desk to show your peers just how down with the old skool you really are.

FINISH THIS!!!



CLASSIC ARCADE GAME



### Instructions:

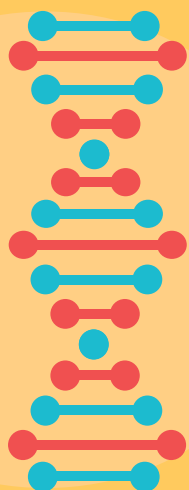
1. Simply cut out the template, including the flaps. Carefully.
2. Get some glue, and glue all the flaps as you fold them down to the edges. At your age, you shouldn't need folding instructions – just refer to the finished product.
3. For best results, photocopy the template onto a cardboard.

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