

# PAC CHOICE

2018



*Run Chicken Run, Vidsee, Short film*

**The PAC Choice celebrates quality local Public Service Broadcast (PSB) programmes produced and shown on local TV and online media.**

**Drawn up annually by the Programme Advisory Committees (PACs) - community panels that advise the Info-communications Media Development Authority (IMDA) on PSB quality and programme standards - the selected titles are spotlighted for their well-told stories, production values and/or creative concepts. This year's list covers programmes released between April 2017 and March 2018.**

The PACs observed viewing experiences being better tailored for audiences on different platforms, along with a wider variety of content packed with strong local and regional flavours that resonated with our multi-racial and multicultural community. Specifically, the PACs recognised the following positive developments, reflected through programmes in the PAC Choice:

## 1 Harnessing the potential of digital platforms with fresh PSB content and delivery

Existing PSB partners endeavoured to expand storytelling through multi-platform content. For example, Ch U's DEAR DJ 亲爱的九月 spanned radio, television and social media, while Ch 8's DOPPELGANGER 入侵者 was accompanied by a web prequel and 360 video experience on Toggle.

Content produced in partnership with digital platforms<sup>1</sup> StarHub GO and Viddsee were commended for being well-produced, with engaging and meaningful subject matters. PAC members looked forward to seeing digital content in Malay and Tamil being pursued in the future as well.

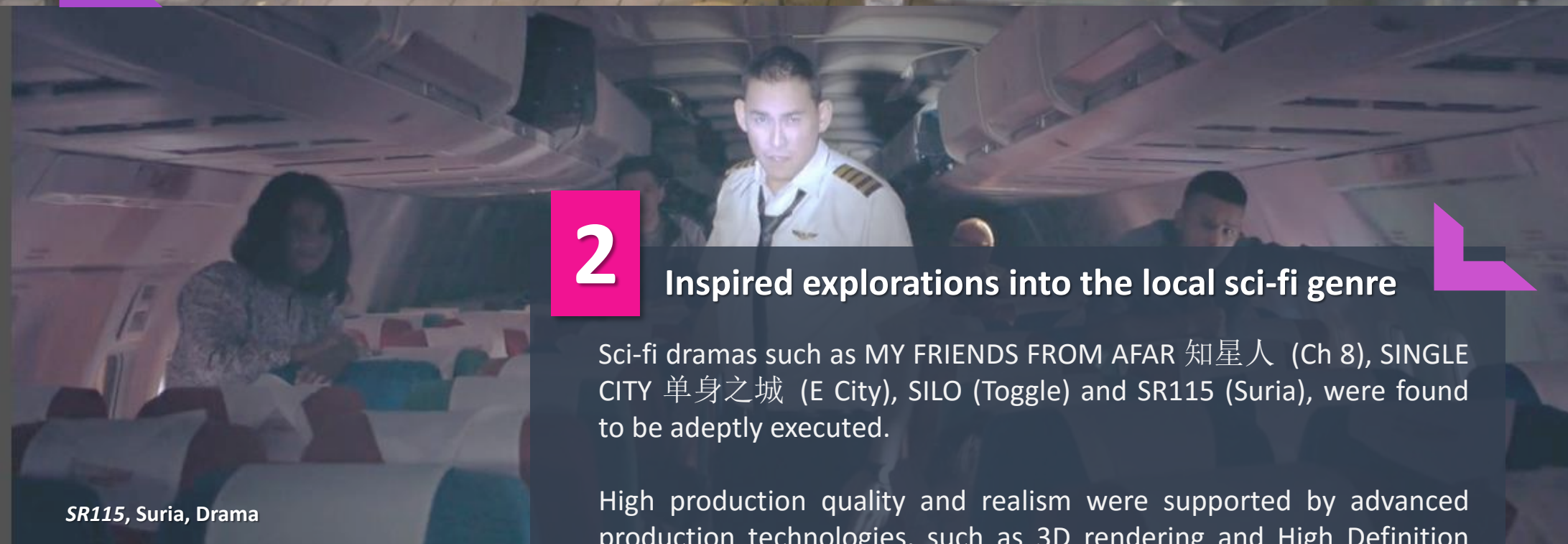


Dear DJ, Ch U, Drama

## 2 Inspired explorations into the local sci-fi genre

Sci-fi dramas such as MY FRIENDS FROM AFAR 知星人 (Ch 8), SINGLE CITY 单身之城 (E City), SILO (Toggle) and SR115 (Suria), were found to be adeptly executed.

High production quality and realism were supported by advanced production technologies, such as 3D rendering and High Definition CGI. Well-received by the younger demography, PAC members hoped to see the genre flourish in the coming years.



SR115, Suria, Drama

## 3 Creative collaborations with regional partners

Committee members agreed that regional collaborations, such as Ch 5's Singapore-Thailand production MISSING and Suria's SUPER SPONTAN UPSIZE Season 2 with Malaysia, birthed unique content that reflected the cultures and present-day realities of the countries involved.



<sup>1</sup> Following the last slate of PSB content on SPH channels released in FY16, the next slate has debuted in FY18.

Missing, Ch 5, Drama

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Programmes in the PAC Choice List are chosen based on criteria including creativity and freshness of ideas, presentation format, significance of subject matter, overall engagement and information value. The titles are listed in no particular order of merit.

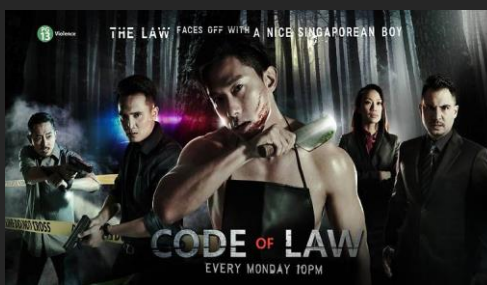
ENGLISH

Crave, Ch 5, Info-tainment



**Crave, Ch 5, Info-tainment, Mediacorp**

The gastronomic journey across Singapore was praised by members for its cinematic presentation of food and array of interesting profiles.



**Code of Law Season 4, Ch 5, Drama, Weiyu Films**

With action-packed and suspenseful scripting, the returning investigative drama continued to be well-received by members.



**Counting With Paula Season 2, okto, Children's Info, Omens Studios**

The animation was appreciated for its educational exploration of mathematics, real-world problems and storylines which helped to foster socio-emotional competencies in children.



**It Will Never Happen Here, Ch 5, Info-Ed, Monochromatic Pictures**

Based on the SGSecure motto of "Not If, But When", the info-ed, which painted Singapore in various states of dystopia, was well-researched, timely and effective in creating awareness of security threats.



**Intercept, Toggle, Drama, Mediacorp**

Set against a backdrop of mysterious ambulance kidnappings, the made-for-Toggle drama was praised for its fresh concept and detailed character development.



**Ollie And Friends Season 4, okto, Children's Info, Oak3 Films**

The educational series was interactive and engaged children effectively with its catchy songs and appealing mascots.

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ENGLISH

Why It Matters, CNA, Current Affairs



### **Regardless of Religion, CNA, Current Affairs, Mediacorp**

The ground-breaking documentary succeeded in balancing thought-provoking discussions and the sensitivities of different religions in Singapore.



### **Why It Matters, CNA, Current Affairs, Mediacorp**

Members found the series refreshing and commended it for its investigative angles and presentation of a good range of perspectives. It encouraged viewers to re-evaluate their own views and understanding of local issues.



### **Lion Mums Season 2, Ch 5, Drama, Ochre Pictures**

Featuring a true-to-life depiction of the local primary school journey, the drama appealed to members with its touching script and well-directed cast.



### **On The Red Dot 2017, Ch 5, Current Affairs, Mediacorp**

The thematic approach to the series, coupled with in-depth analysis from its well-researched script, was found to be insightful and engaging.



### **Silo, Toggle, Drama, Papahan Films**

Set in a 'post-apocalyptic' Singapore, the series was commended for being fresh and realistic in its portrayals. Given that the sci-fi genre is harder to pull off, members hoped this would inspire more local productions of this genre.



### **Missing, Ch 5, Drama, Wawa Pictures**

Telling the tale of a child kidnapping syndicate, the Singapore-Thailand production was commended for its high production quality, engaging storyline, original soundtrack and moving performance.

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MANDARIN

*Doppelganger*, Ch 8, Drama



**Dear DJ 亲爱的九月, Ch U, Drama, Invisible Studios**

The youth drama was lauded for engaging younger audiences across familiar platforms. Its release on Toggle and YouTube was accompanied by a radio-cum-Facebook Live talk show on YES 933FM to discuss issues relevant to youths based on what the characters went through.



**Doppelganger 入侵者, Ch 8, Drama, Wawa Pictures**

Members commended efforts to reach out to online audiences through the multi-platform content created for the identity swap drama. It kicked off with a web prequel on Toggle prior to its telecast on Ch 8, and introduced a 360 video experience that allowed viewers to step into the shoes of the main character.



**Fixer 线人, Ch U, Info-Ed, Wawa Pictures**

The series' feature on "fixers", who raise awareness about social issues to bring about interventions, was well-researched to present raw and emotive stories of profiles across Asia.



**Kidnapped 绑架, E City, Telemovie, August Pictures**

Members enjoyed the fresh faces being cast and the acting in the thriller about two mothers' search for their abducted child.



**Little Maestros 小当家, Ch 8, Info-Ed, Threesixzero Productions**

The series about youths who have taken up the role of caregivers and breadwinners of their family was found to be moving and well-produced.



**Run Chicken Run 鸡飞狗走, Vidsee, Short Film, Bert Pictures**

The short film presented a fresh take on family values and delivered clear messaging about maintaining family bonds in the face of dementia.

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*Little Maestros, Ch 8, Info-Education*



**Move On 放下, Ch U, Info-Education, Mediacorp**

Members found the series about individuals rising above difficult life situations heart-warming and inspiring.



**My Friends from Afar 知星人, Ch 8, Drama, Mediacorp**

The drama's local take on the popular concept of aliens visiting Earth, presented Singapore and quirks of Singaporeans in a humorous and relatable manner.



**Paper House 纸屋, StarHub GO, Drama, birdmandog**

The digital-only released short film depicted the significance of family ties, and was a refreshing take on traditional Chinese funeral customs as seen through the eyes of an Indian boy.



**Single City 单身之城, E City, Telemovie, mm2 Entertainment**

With its futuristic setting, the telemovie was a welcome exploration of the sci-fi genre which incorporated popular angles of a romantic comedy, as four singles try to escape their "crimes" of being unmarried.



**Voices 听我说, Ch U, Info-Education, Mediacorp**

Members found the premise of the investigative talk show interesting, with informative videos featuring field interviews, expert views and case studies to underline each discussion topic.

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MALAY

*Long Qiam Pass, Children's Drama, Suria*



**6 x 7, Suria, Drama, Thinkplate**

Chronicling the life of a young funeral service provider, members appreciated the well-produced drama for delivering important values of humility and filial piety.



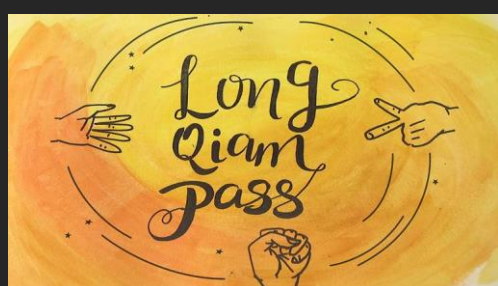
**Instageram, Suria, Drama, Ochre Pictures**

The youth-centric premise about social media struggles, was particularly well-received by younger committee members for its relevance in today's context.



**Kisah Tok Kadi Season 2 (The Solemniser's Tale), Suria, Drama, Thinkplate**

The returning drama featuring the life of a young marriage solemniser, received positive reviews for its wholesome storyline and the well-written script.



**Long Qiam Pass, Suria, Children's Drama, The Moving Visuals Company**

Set in and around a neighborhood provision shop, the children's drama was steeped in local flavour and driven by an educational storyline.



**Menantu International Season 2 (International In-Laws), Suria, Drama, DV Studio**

The light-hearted family drama continued to explore cultural differences within multi-racial families in a humorous yet effective manner.



**Potret (Portrait), Suria, Info-Ed, Film36**

The well-angled documentary about struggling Singaporeans succeeded in tugging heart-strings and encouraging self-reflection.

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MALAY

Swap Kerja S2, Suria, Info-Ed



### **SR115, Suria, Drama, Papahan Films**

The mystery-driven sci-fi plot (about the return of a missing plane decades later), brought to life by seamless editing and CGI and animation, was well-received by the committee.



### **Super Spontan Upsize Season 2, Suria, Variety, Dua M**

Featuring comedians from Singapore and Malaysia in a battle of wits, the stand-up comedy gameshow was praised for its balanced entertainment and educational value.



### **Swap Kerja Season 2 (Job Swap), Suria, Info-Ed, Xtreme Media**

Members appreciated the mindful exploration of different vocations through human interest angles and contextualisation of issues against the social, economic and historical background of various Southeast Asian countries.



### **Transformasi (Transformation), Suria, Current Affairs, Mediacorp**

The new current affairs series highlighted the transformation of the community in a clear and engaging manner.

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TAMIL

Naadam, Vasantham, Info-ed



**Achamillai Achamillai  
Season 2 (No Fear),  
Vasantham, Info-Ed,  
Rambutan Media Works**

The series continued to set itself apart from the other talk shows on Vasantham, with its focus on personal, success stories of both well-known and ordinary women who have overcome adversities.



**Athiyaayam (The Legacy),  
Vasantham, Drama, Millenia  
Motion Pictures**

A well-produced and engaging drama with a novel concept that highlighted the various challenges in running a family business.



**Azhagiya Theevey  
(Beautiful Islands),  
Vasantham, Info-Ed,  
Cosmic Ultra**

The travelogue had a good balance of information and entertainment, with the host effectively increasing the engagement value of the series.



**Ethirolai FY17 (Echo)  
Vasantham, Current Affairs,  
Mediacorp**

Members appreciated the refreshed approach to the long-running current affairs programme to include investigative angles and graphics.



**Nadaam (Rhythm),  
Vasantham, Info-Ed,  
Black Chair**

Members found the series well-researched and informative, with a fresh concept of exploring the origins of various Indian instruments through the lens of a young and popular Singaporean musician.



**Sathuranga Vettai  
Season 3  
(The Hunt), Vasantham,  
Info-Ed, Mediacorp**

The gameshow was both informative and engaging, with the host being able to inject energy and entertainment value to the series.

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TAMIL



Vettai Season 4, Vasantham, Drama



**Udayam (A New Dawn),  
Vasantham, Info-Ed,  
Perfect Image**

The series' intention of helping underprivileged families to transform a part of their home was meaningful. Members also acknowledged the challenges to find suitable profiles who were agreeable to be featured in the series.



**Vasantham Star 2017,  
Vasantham, Variety, Mediacorp**

The popular series experimented with a duets-based format, and was commended to be engaging and entertaining. It remained an important platform to identify and nurture aspiring local talents. The online publicity efforts were effective in creating hype and interest in the series.



**Vettai Season 4 (The Force),  
Vasantham, Drama, Mediacorp**

The gripping, well-produced and pacy series was a good undertaking by the channel to groom fresh acting talent.



**Vivegam (Lucky 13),  
Vasantham, Info-Ed,  
Violet Tales**

The informative gameshow was well-researched and posed suitably challenging questions to contestants on a wide range of topics

## About the Programme Advisory Committees

The Programme Advisory Committees (PACs) provide the IMDA with feedback from a community perspective on content standards matters and the quality of Public Service Broadcast (PSB) content. Their views are guided by prevailing broadcast programme codes and quality indicators for PSB content, in terms of production standards and overall information and public interest value.

The PACs are made up of four language-specific groups:

- Programme Advisory Committee for English Programmes (PACE);
- Advisory Committee for Chinese Programmes (ACCESS);
- Malay Programmes Advisory Committee (MPAC); and
- Indian Programmes Advisory Committee (IPAC)

Each committee comprises members from different walks of life, varied fields of interest and expertise, including academia, media and the public and private sectors.

More information on the PACs' terms of reference and membership can be found [here](#).

