Summary

Interview with Ambassador of France to Singapore, H.E Marc Abensour and Janice Koh

Ambassador of France to Singapore, H.E Marc Abensour and Festival Patron of Voilah! 2019 were in-studio at Singapore Tonight to share more about Voilah! France Singapore Festival. H.E Abensour shared more about the growth of France and Singapore collaborations over the years, and introduced Janice as the Festival patron, highlighting how she personifies the collaboration between both countries. Voilah! 2019 will see a line-up of more than 50 programmes, spanning across various fields, from culture, education, science, lifestyle, tourism, to sport. With over 100 programme presenters, Voilah! 2019 hopes to be a platform for increased collaboration between France and Singapore in these different fields.

Janice shared that she identifies with the direction of this year's Festival and how it emphasises collaborations and co-creation, serving as a platform for authentic conversations between France and Singapore. H.E Abensour also highlighted the various anniversaries Voilah! 2019 celebrates, including the 30th anniversary of cooperation in heritage conservation, 70th anniversary of the Alliance Française in Singapore and 200 years of cooperation in natural history since two French naturalists, Diard and Duvaucel accompanied Sir Stamford Raffles on his landing in Singapore in 1819. The Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum will release a book based off the work of these naturalists.

Festival-goers can look forward to a collaboration between Gautier Capuçon, Vladimir Ashkenazy and the Singapore Symphony Orchestra at the opening of Voilah! 2019 and NO TASTE FOR BAD TASTE, a design exhibition showcasing works from renowned French designers. Janice also shared more about The Bear's Mouth at Gardens by the Bay as a family-friendly event for viewers to visit, and Butter & Cheese Discovery with Jean-Yves Bordier, which will see the last artisanal butter-maker sharing his knowledge with visitors. Janice also highlighted the upcoming French Film Festival as part of Voilah 2019.