

ARTS
HOUSE
LIMITED

A stylized graphic element consisting of a brown line forming a partial house shape, with a diagonal line for the roof and a vertical line for the side, positioned to the right of the company name.

Arts House Limited (AHL) is a not-for-profit organisation committed to enriching lives through the arts. AHL manages two key landmarks located in the heart of Singapore's Civic District – The Arts House, a multidisciplinary arts centre with a focus on literary programming, and the Victoria Theatre & Victoria Concert Hall, a heritage building that is home to the Singapore Symphony Orchestra. It also runs the Aliwal Arts Centre and Goodman Arts Centre, two creative enclaves for artists, arts groups and creative businesses, and performing arts space Drama Centre. AHL presents the Singapore International Festival of Arts, the annual pinnacle celebration of interdisciplinary arts in Singapore commissioned by the National Arts Council.

AHL was set up in 11 December 2002 as a public company under the National Arts Council and was formerly known as The Old Parliament House Limited. It was officially renamed Arts House Limited on 19 March 2014.

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The Arts House

Occupying the almost 200-year-old building that was home to Singapore's first parliament, The Arts House continues in the distinguished tradition of this gazetted national monument and now plays a key role in the country's arts and creative scene. The Arts House at the Old Parliament, as it is affectionately referred to, promotes and presents multidisciplinary programmes and festivals within its elegant spaces. It focuses in particular on the literary arts, celebrating the works of written and spoken word artists from Singapore and beyond.





Chamber

Situated in the heart of The Arts House, the **Chamber** was the place where Members of the Singapore Parliament gathered to debate policies. The Chamber is furnished with customised furniture from London, complete with original upholstery from 1954.



A castle motif from the coat of arms used during the time Singapore was a Crown Colony can still be seen on some seats in the main chamber. Today, the versatile space accommodates up to 200 people and is used for recitals, performances and conferences. With a central aisle, the intimate space also serves as a great venue for fashion shows and wedding events.



Blue Room

Originally blue, the **Blue Room** retains its moniker as a reminder of its rich history. It was previously where Members of Parliament would relax in between debate sessions, and where Singapore's first Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew held discussions with his cabinet of ministers.



Neoclassical architectural details are seen in the Corinthian columns, and long Palladian windows fill the room with natural light. This adaptable space is used for performances and corporate functions that range from press conferences, product launches to receptions.

There is ample standing room for up to 120 people for cocktail events, 60 seated in a round table setting and 80 in a theatre style layout.



Council Room

The **Council Room** served as the former office of then-Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew when he attended parliament, and was subsequently used by Mr Goh Chok Tong until 1999.

With a floor area of 41 square metres, this is one of the smallest rooms in The Arts House. Long Palladian windows let in natural light and the Council Room comes equipped with projector and lights. It is a popular venue for board meetings, workshops and seminars, seating up to 30 people theatre style and 18 in a conference or classroom set up.

Living Room

The **Living Room** was a dynamic hive of activities where Singapore's history was documented and filed. From 1955 to 1959, it was the general office of the Old Parliament House where administrators coordinated papers and reports for Parliamentary sessions. Later in 1959, after the formation of the government, the room was used for meetings of the People's Action Party.



This intimate and regal space is perfect for seminars, receptions, book launches, workshops as well as rehearsals.

Accommodating up to 80 people for cocktail events, the space also accommodates 60 seated in a round table setting and 70 in a theatre style layout.





Gallery I

The building's Neo-Palladian architecture is reflected in the parallel rows of columns, allowing the 270 square metres space to be segmented to different sections that make it an excellent space for exhibitions.

The exposed brick entrance into **Gallery I** has retained its original form in the Old Parliament House built in 1827. The surfaces still endure to this day, and are so hard that nails cannot be knocked through.



Gallery I is best suited for exhibitions and as a venue to host large cocktail parties of up to 350 people.

Gallery II

The **Gallery II** used to be part of the Legislative Assembly Library. Important legislation like the Copyright Bill, the Maintenance of Religious Harmony Bill, the Parents Bill and many others were once deliberated and passed here.

The 132 square metres open visual arts space features high ceilings held up by tall columns and enriched by simple trimmings in its cornices. Equipped with multiple spotlights, it is a perfect venue for exhibitions, talks, corporate receptions and product launches.

There is standing room for 130 people for cocktail events, 100 seated in a round table setting and 120 in a theatre style layout.



Play Den

The **Play Den** was where the first court cases in Singapore were heard. Later in the 1950s, it served as the general office for Singapore's first Chief Minister, David Marshall, and in subsequent years, was used as a library. Today, the neoclassical architecture is reflected in the Ionic pillars that still flank four corners of the Black Box theatre.



Equipped with lighting, sound systems and retractable seats, this versatile space is ideal for experimental and interactive theatre performances, as well as seminars and corporate events. The Play Den accommodates up to 120 people.



Screening Room

This 75-seater film theatrette used to house several offices during Singapore's Legislative Assembly and Parliamentary years in the late 20th century.

Today, this versatile and intimate space is a perfect setting for corporate functions such as media briefings and presentations, or private screenings for special occasions.





Victoria Theatre & Victoria Concert Hall

First established in 1862, the Victoria Theatre & Victoria Concert Hall is one of the most recognisable landmarks in Singapore. The heritage building located in the heart of the city's Civic District contains a 614-seat Theatre and a 673-seat Concert Hall. In 2010, the national monument underwent a four-year refurbishment to restore its Neoclassical façade while getting new state-of-the-art facilities and amenities. The redevelopment also saw the addition of two smaller rooms for music, dance and theatre rehearsals. Having played a role in the country's history for over 150 years, the Victoria Theatre & Victoria Concert Hall continues to be an exciting platform that supports the growth of Singapore's arts industry. The latter has been home to the Singapore Symphony Orchestra since the orchestra's founding in 1979.



Victoria Theatre

Built in the era of Victorian Revitalism, an architectural style popular in the 19th century, **Victoria Theatre** is one of the leading mid-sized venues for performing arts in Singapore.

The intimate space features a curved seating plan that hugs the stage to bring the audience closer to the performers. Recycled cast iron components from the old Theatre chairs were re-purposed into the horizontal bends set across the timber walls to improve the acoustics of the space.

Set in a black box within a historical exterior, Victoria Theatre offers an optimised seating capacity of 614, with the flexibility for an extended forestage or an orchestra pit when required. With the orchestra pit in use, the seating capacity is 536. The theatre is wheelchair accessible in the stalls area.



© Singapore Symphony Orchestra

Victoria Concert Hall

Victoria Concert Hall has retained much of its old world charm of classical proportions and elaborate ornamentation. A grand Klais pipe organ consisting of 2,012 pipes take centre stage. The acoustics are excellent with a coffered ceiling and the balcony overhang on the second floor provides great views from all the seats.

Today, the Victoria Concert Hall is the home of the Singapore Symphony Orchestra and seats up to 673.



Music Studio

The **Music Studio** located on the third floor of Victoria Theatre is encased within a floating “Rubik’s cube” that is constructed out of the backs of the old Theatre’s chairs.

Small window openings placed among timber parcels allow natural light into the intimate space. With a seating capacity of 25, this space can be used for rehearsals, workshops and recitals.

Dance Studio

The **Dance Studio** is fitted with a sprung floor to accommodate dance recitals and rehearsals. The Dance Studio is also equipped with a truss system to facilitate simple lighting effects.

With a seating capacity of 60, the Dance Studio on the third floor of Victoria Theatre is suitable for staging small-scale performances, presentations and workshops.





Atrium

The central passageway that links Victoria Theatre & Victoria Concert Hall on the ground level is an original feature from when the landmark was completed in 1905. It was reinstated to provide easy access to surrounding arts establishments. The covered space represents the link between the building's past and present. Victoria Concert Hall's ornate archways and rusticated columns were conserved, while on Victoria Theatre's side, modern precast panels with etched reliefs were introduced to enhance the space.

A transparent sky light between the two performance venues allows natural light to filter through while providing a view of Victoria Theatre & Victoria Concert Hall's iconic clock tower.

Concert Hall Foyer Spaces

The **Concert Hall Main Foyer** on the second floor has a spiral staircase that leads up to the Circle seats in the balcony. This minimalist contemporary design detail complements the flow of foot traffic in the monument's historical architecture. Additionally, it creates the flexibility for the Concert Hall Main Foyer to be used as a space for hosting pre and post show receptions. Located on the third floor is the Circle Foyer which is accessible via a lift from the Central Atrium.



Aliwal Arts Centre

Aliwal Arts Centre is a multidisciplinary arts centre housed in a 1938 Art Deco style conservation building that was home to two early Chinese-medium schools. Living up to this illustrious past, the centre offers an inspired location within the historically and culturally rich Kampong Glam district for the artistic development of contemporary and traditional arts groups it is home to. As placemaker in a neighbourhood hailed for its seamless blend of historic institutions, conserved shophouses and modern stores, Aliwal Arts Centre is also a platform for connecting the traditional with the new, and Singapore artists with arts enthusiasts and the general public. To this end, it presents the popular Aliwal Arts Night Crawl, an annual presentation of arts with a focus on the area's rich heritage, and the Aliwal Urban Art Festival, a celebration of art forms inspired by international street culture.





1938

Aliwal Arts Centre

EKAMATRA

ALI WAL ARTS CENTRE

Aliwal Arts
Night
Crawl

Aliwal Arts
Night
Crawl

Aliwal Arts

Multi-Purpose Hall

The **Multi-Purpose Hall** is located on the ground floor of the symmetrical building, the heart of Aliwal Arts Centre. Built in 1938 and a former school, the building retains its Art Deco details which feature long geometrical lines in the Streamline Moderne architectural style.

With 220 square metres of cement screed flooring, the Multi-Purpose Hall features a high ceiling of up to 2.6m usable height and seats up to 140 people with flexible configurations.

The large, versatile hall is perfect for black box theatre performances, rehearsals, music performances, as well as corporate events like product launches.



Music Studio

The **Music Studio** on the ground floor was a classroom that has been converted into a studio and boasts abundant natural light. The acoustically-treated space of 92 square metres, complete with noise-tone metal slats and well-finished carpet flooring for soundproofing, is perfectly tailored for music-related bookings.



The Music Studio's excellent acoustics and versatile space is ideal for small-scale gigs, recitals, rehearsals, exhibitions, music examinations or training.



Multi-Purpose Studios

The **Multi-Purpose Studios**, housed within the converted Art Deco building still peppered with design elements from that era, are decked out with vinyl flooring and plastered walls. The approach to the studios is along a former classroom corridor with curved shapes and rounded corners in keeping with the distinctive style of the building.

Each studio is 64 square metres and available for individual bookings, or as a combined space with a total floor area of 128 square metres. With one studio fitted with mirrors, the space is popular for dance and theatre rehearsals, recitals, product launches or workshops.

Shared Office Workstation

The windows on both sides of the **Shared Office** retain their original Art Deco details that combine long geometric lines and curves. Located on the second floor, the shared office workstation of over 200 square metres has 17 work desks in a cubicle layout leased to long and short-term tenants, with a maximum hire of 12 months.

Complete with sofas in a spacious lounge area for meetings, breakout groups or simply to relax, the Shared Office combines the best of both worlds: the privacy of cubicle workstations and an open plan area for interactive exchange of ideas.

All office facilities including WiFi, printers, dedicated desks and locked cabinets are available to tenants. A majority of the tenants work in the arts field which makes the space a vibrant environment for creative exchanges and interesting conversations.







Goodman Arts Centre

Tranquillity, charm and community – these are the words that often come to mind when describing Goodman Arts Centre, an arts hive nestled along Mountbatten Road. Spread across seven leafy acres, the centre is the largest arts enclave in Singapore and is home to over 70 artists and arts groups, both established and emerging. This unique ecosystem of artists lends the estate the air of an incubator for creativity. Since its establishment in 2011, the centre has served as a place to bring artists, arts enthusiasts and neighbouring communities together to experience the arts in a laidback yet intimate manner. Nowhere is this more evident than during its annual open house events that bring the centre's resident artists and art to the community and public. Goodman Arts Centre is also the home of the National Arts Council.

The Atrium (Block O)

The **Atrium** at Blk O is an industrious space cocooned by repurposed container units and vertical gardens. Part of its eco-friendly and sustainable design direction, the landscape greenery is a feature to help lower the temperature of the building.

A versatile space for hire, one can turn the 149 square metres area into a gallery space, art forum, seminars, artist talks or for creative team building activities. Seating up to 65 people, the courtyard concept can also be turned into a space for social gatherings.



Multi-Purpose Studios (Block O)

Block O is the newest wing of the Goodman Arts Centre, comprising 11 arts studios constructed out of high-cube container units repurposed into **Multi-Purpose Studios** and project studios.

The versatile creative space receives ample natural skylight, which streams in through individual panels on the roof to create a mosaic of light and shadow on the floor and container walls. The Studios are suitable for rehearsals, literary readings and performances.

The Multi-Purpose Studios measure 78 square metres each, and are available for ad-hoc hire. They can also be combined into one large studio.





Multi-Purpose Rooms and Music Studios

Like many buildings built in the 1960s, the post-World War II buildings are industrial in look and utilitarian in function. The two **Multi-Purpose Rooms** have common details of repeated modular elements on the exteriors and interiors, a common architectural feature also found in old HDB public housing and schools built in the 1950s-1970s.

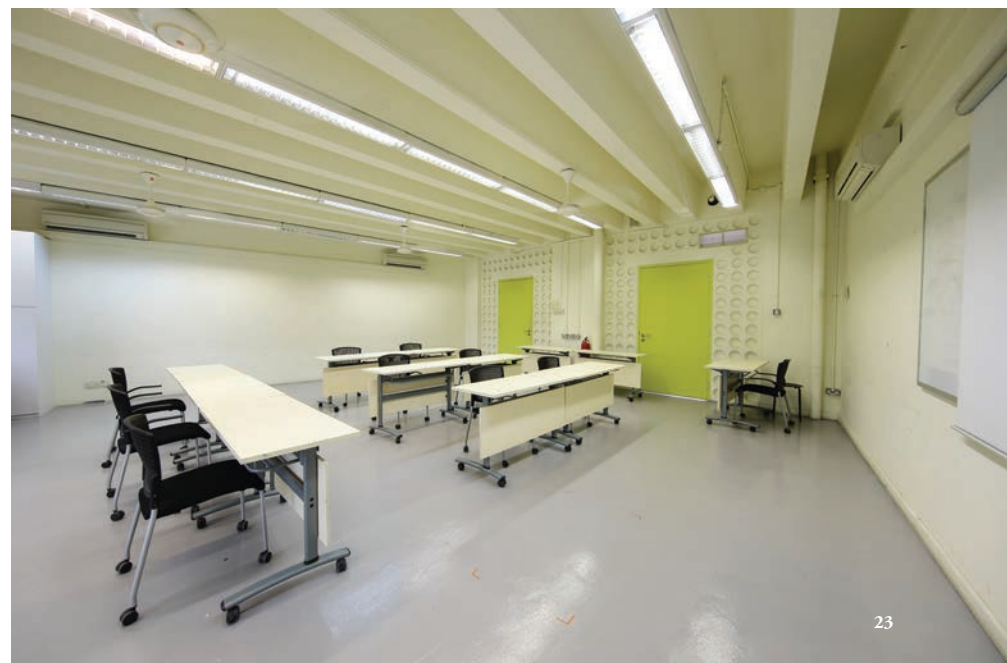
The first studio comes equipped with a piano and mirrors, making it perfect for dance, theatre rehearsals and live music, while the other is a versatile space for rehearsals, meetings and workshop seminars.

The **Music Studios** are dedicated spaces with sound-treated acoustic padded walls ideal for quiet, undisturbed practice. The 34 square metres spaces are equipped with a piano and furnishings that make them suitable for music rehearsals and small workshops.

Meeting Rooms (Block B)

The three **Meeting Rooms** are converted old classrooms with a utilitarian old school charm, with repeat circular details by the windows – a style typical of Brutalist architecture of the era.

Each Meeting Room is some 74 square metres and seats up to 20 people classroom style. Equipped with a projection screen, white board, tables and chairs, the setting is perfect for discussions, workshops and forums.





Black Box

Originally built in 1963, Goodman Arts Centre served as three different schools over the decades, most notably as the campus for the LASALLE College of the Arts. The former classrooms have since been converted into content creation spaces for arts groups and artists to work on projects.

The 158 square metres **Black Box** seats up to 128 and is fully equipped with theatre sound and light systems. The venue is ideal for rehearsals and experimental theatre or solo performances.



Lawns

The Lawn that hugs the Amphitheatre comes complete with garden furniture and garden umbrellas. There is standing room for 300 people, with the restaurant and bar area accommodating up to an additional 65.

The intimate green space is ideal for artwork installations and opening receptions.



Amphitheatre

Formerly the assembly grounds for students, the **Amphitheatre** is an outdoor performance area with a raised stage set in a charming old school garden.

Seating up to 250 people or with standing room for 400, the elevated stage measures 65 square metres. The outdoor theatre is suitable for corporate events, rehearsals and performances.

Drama Centre

Fondly remembered by arts lovers and the arts community, arts scene stalwart Drama Centre was built at Fort Canning Park on the site originally for the Singapore Council for Adult Education. It was the key platform for local companies starting out in the early 1980s, staging Singapore plays like *Emily of Emerald Hill*, *Lao Jiu* and *Army Daze*.

The original site at Fort Canning Park was closed on 15 July 2002 to make way for expansion of the Singapore History Museum, and Drama Centre reopened in 2005 in the new National Library building. The new location of the Drama Centre taps into and adds to the synergy with surrounding arts facilities, attractions and institutions, while also enlivening the area. With its 615-seat proscenium theatre, the centre adds variety to Singapore's performing arts spaces. It also meets the diverse demands of today's arts events – from mid-sized theatrical presentations, to intimate performances, talks and exhibitions – with its 120-seater black box, VIP lounge and function rooms.





National Library Building
↑ Drama Centre
Box Office/ Stairs/ Circle 1/
Function rooms/ Canteen
← Lifts
← Restrooms

drama centre



Theatre

The Central Public Library Building is home to the Drama Centre. Designed by local architect Ken Yeang, whose firm is known for their bioclimatic design of sustainable buildings, it has nature and greenery woven into its landscape.

The 615-seat proscenium **Theatre** located on the third floor is ideal for mid-sized productions. Equipped with state-of-the-art lighting, rigging and sound systems, it also includes an orchestra pit that forms a front stage extension if activated.



Function Rooms

The three **Function Rooms** are naturally lit with views of the city. At 67 square metres, 83 square metres and 168 square metres respectively, the Function Rooms are perfect for seminars, workshops, product launches or rehearsals.



Black Box

Located on the fifth floor of the Central Public Library building, the **Black Box** is a flexible performance space that offers many different configurations. This intimate setting seats up to 120 people, and is the perfect setting for experimental theatre, solo performances or dance presentations.

With a height of up to seven metres, the Black Box also comes fully equipped with highly adaptable staging, lighting and sound systems to meet different staging demands.

Foyer

The Drama Centre **Foyer** is the holding area before the show and during intermissions. Bright and airy, the 185 square metres Foyer is suitable for pre-show and post-show receptions, as well as meet and greet sessions held in conjunction with shows.



Visitors Centre

Offering both city views and urban landscape gardens, the **Visitors Centre** is the largest venue for functions and events hire at 220 square metres. Tall ceilings and its broad length make it perfect for hosting private events and product launches.



VIP Lounge

The **VIP Lounge** on the foyer offers VIP guests an area to rest and mingle before the show and during show intervals. An enclosed cube oasis separated from the foyer by frosted folding glass doors and furnished with bright red sofas for a cheeky pop of colour, the VIP lounge is used exclusively as a reception area or holding room with a private restroom.

The 46 square metres VIP lounge is available for hire and accommodates up to 20 people in a standing reception.





1 Old Parliament Lane
Singapore 179429
t: +65 6332 6900
email: venues@artshouse.sg



9 Empress Place #02-01
Singapore 179556
t: +65 6908 8818
email: enquiries.vtvch@artshouse.sg



28 Aliwal Street
Singapore 199918
t: +65 6435 0131
email: aac@artshouse.sg



90 Goodman Road
Singapore 439053
t: +65 6342 5790
email: gac@artshouse.sg



100 Victoria Street
National Library Building Level 3
Singapore 188064
t: +65 6837 8400
email: enquiries.dc@artshouse.sg