

Headline **Chitchatting with Malik Taufiq**  
Date **01 May 2010**  
MediaTitle **Cleo**  
Section **NEWS**  
Journalist **N/A**  
Frequency **Monthly**  
Circ / Read **56,572 / 106,540**

Language **English**  
Page No **234**  
Article Size **182 cm<sup>2</sup>**  
Color **Full Color**  
ADValue **1,595**  
PRValue **4,784**



## Chitchatting with ... **Malik Taufiq**



THIS FORMER CLEO BACHELOR HAS HAD HIS FAIR SHARE OF CHALLENGING STAGE ROLES, AND IT'S NOT ABOUT TO LET UP. HIS LATEST, *ADAM THE MUSICAL*, IS SET FOR ABOUT FIVE WEEKS WITH 35 PERFORMANCES. BUT IT'S AN EXPERIENCE MALIK AND HIS CAST MATES ARE EAGERLY LOOKING FORWARD TO.

### **Describe your character in *Adam The Musical*.**

Adam is in his young mid-30s, loves classic rock, sociable, selfless, simple, *lepak* guy; a *kampung* boy who was raised by his Aunty Noni (Faridah Merican), who moved to KL. Now he works at the Malaysian AIDS Council. He's just about to wed his soulmate Sylvia when they discover he has the HIV virus, and she's a good Catholic girl.

### **You were in a play called *Wake Up and Smell the Coffee*, in which you delivered a 45-minute monologue. How did you pull that off?**

That was a fun one to perform, a superb script by American ranter, David Mamet, directed by Abdul Qahar Aqilah, with 15 to 20 quirky characters. More amusing were the faces in the audience when I changed from one character to another – a guru promoting peace of mind to the devil on Christmas night to a dog running around, etc. How we pulled it off? Just trust your director, the creative process, the space and the ones who have trust in you, and God. I'd love to do the entire piece, which is 60 minutes long.

### **You've performed with the group *Improvaholics Anonymous*. How hard is improv?**

God, if you like freefalling, try improvisation. Unlike stand-up comedy, where it's preset, in improv you either think on your feet or plunge into a hole. It's fast and intense. You must possess a variably sized rolodex of information. All experiences are observed, recorded and improvised. Total fun.

### **This sounds like the most challenging thing you've done on stage.**

I found Sarah Kane's *4.48 Psychosis* mentally and emotionally challenging; *Ismail The Last Days* historically and emotionally challenging. This role is very challenging in another sense. It's given me a lot of freedom with my character. It's going to be tough, but I have trust in Adam and Joe [Hasham].