

IPS Prism ponders the future in style

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From what I've heard, there have been some doubts about the Institute Of Policy Studies' ongoing Prism exhibition. And like what I mentioned in my earlier post, I was also skeptical before the organisers presented the line-up. I dropped by the National Library on Saturday and found it to be stylishly thought provoking. Art as lip service? Nope. Do try to check it out. It ends on Wednesday, Nov 14.



Drama Box's *Wouldn't It Be Nice* forum theatre piece.

Check out Drama Box's *Wouldn't It Be Nice* forum theatre piece. It's got a deliciously intriguing story about what happens when a civil servant, a couple of social activists, an entrepreneur converge in a store that sells water, when there's no water left and Singapore is in tatters after a flooding disaster in 2022. What would you do? It's held every day at 11am, 3pm and 7pm. Thirty minutes before each show is a separate bit where you're invited to learn futuristic National Day Songs.

(Has anyone thought of how forum theatre can be translated into comics or into something social media-ish? It could work, you know?)



Some tastefully designed banners. Is there a T-shirt line coming up?

And then you've got these wonderful, wonderful posters. They're everywhere, including up on the fifth floor, where Prism extends. These would make for cool T-shirts and posters. (Why am I thinking about merchandise?)



The Useless Exhibition

And then there's the *Useless Exhibition* (also extends to the fifth level, where the Drama Centre black box is). Remember the *Museum Of Broken Relationships* at the Fringe Festival some

years back? Something like that but, er, social. Don't forget to say your piece and read what others have to say, too.



Some audience's thoughts at the Useless Exhibition

Aside from the *Useless Exhibition* extension upstairs, the Black Box foyer was also the venue for their Chit Chat Chop Chop talks. I caught Saturday's one where AWARE's Corinna Lim dissected the national pledge together with the audience. There's one more day of hour-long chats. On Tuesday, you'll have Lee Kuan Yew School Of Public Policy's Donald Low (12.30pm), Arts/Culture NMP Janice Koh (2pm) and Banyan Tree's Ho Kwon Ping (5pm).

Finally, don't dare miss *Future Screens, Tomorrow Scenes*, a multi-media installation set up inside the black box. I don't have photos but once you enter, choose a seat (which is part of the charm of the set-up) and watch a 20-minute video of a primetime news show in a future Singapore. Crop circles near MRT stations? The next phase of *Singapore Idol*? Woot.

More details [here](#).