

Organizer:



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# Vision To Venture:

## Building successful enterprises in the creative industry

Event Date: 13 - 14 December 2024 (Friday - Saturday)  
9am - 5pm

Programme Fee: S\$1950

Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts

80 Bencoolen Street, Singapore 189655

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### Speakers



**Shinichiro Ishikawa**

*Founder and President  
Gonzo*



**Luo Xiao (Brady)**

*Founder and CEO  
WATT AI PTE. LTD*



**Cuong Dang**

*Founder and Former CEO  
Forbes Vietnam*



**Shi Wei Lay**

*Vice President  
Evolve Capital Advisory*

**Mr Shinichiro Ishikawa**  
Founder and President, Gonzo

Shinichiro Ishikawa is a leading figure in the Japanese animation industry and the Founder and CEO of GONZO, leading animation studio known for producing iconic TV series such as Hellsing, Gantz, and the Emmy Award-winning Afro Samurai. Gonzo owns more than 50 titles line up of TV series and feature films, which makes Gonzo as a distinctive player in the international media market. With a deep understanding of the Japanese entertainment and media market, Ishikawa has played a pivotal role in shaping Japan's animation landscape. He has led GONZO through significant milestones, including raising venture and growth capital, and successfully taking the company public on the Tokyo Stock Exchange.

In addition to his work in animation, Ishikawa is an expert in market entry strategies for Japan, as well as business negotiations. He also has extensive experience in fundraising and IPO processes, including successfully buying back GONZO from Bain Capital controlled company.

A former Adjunct Professor of Entrepreneurship at GLOBIS Business School, Ishikawa holds a MSc from the University of Tokyo, for physics (cosmology and astrophysics) and an MBA from INSEAD, where he graduated with the Dean's List honor.

**Mr Cuong Dang**  
Founder and Former CEO, Forbes Vietnam

Cuong Dang is a seasoned entrepreneur, senior executive, and investor with over 20 years of experience in the media and technology sectors across Vietnam and the United States. He is the Founder and former CEO of Forbes Vietnam, where he led the magazine's operations and spearheaded initiatives to build business communities, such as ForbesWomen and Forbes Under 30. Cuong played a pivotal role in introducing global brands like Enterprise Rent-A-Car, National, and Alamo to Southeast Asia, starting with Vietnam. He also serves on the boards of various companies spanning industries such as software development, logistics, and mobility, providing strategic guidance on digital transformation, mergers and acquisitions, and growth strategies.

With deep expertise in media, digital entertainment, and technology, Cuong has been instrumental in helping businesses successfully enter the Vietnamese market. As a frequent speaker and mentor within the startup ecosystem, he consults on critical areas including market entry, business restructuring, and leadership. His work extends across both the public and private sectors, making him a key figure in shaping Vietnam's creative and business landscape.

**Mr Luo Xiao (Brady)**  
Founder and CEO, WATT AI PTE. LTD.

Recognised as a Top AI Entrepreneur in Forbes China's 2023 list of 100 Outstanding Overseas Returnees, Brady is an expert in Artificial Intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT) and creative technologies.

Brady is the Founder and CEO of WATT AI, a specialised GPU cloud and AI application service provider in Singapore. His experience in AI for creative technologies and applications positions him as a visionary in the intersection of technology and the arts. Prior to founding WATT AI, Brady led significant AI and IoT projects as the Founder and Chairman of Hangzhou Vastchain Technology, where he managed a team of 50 engineers to develop high-performance AI models. Brady also served at leading financial institutions such as MUFG Securities (Tokyo) and Oppenheimer Funds (New York) as their financial/modelling analyst and associate.

Brady's deep expertise in AI for Arts, coupled with his entrepreneurial spirit, has made him a sought-after speaker for professionals and business owners looking to integrate AI into creative and technological ventures.

Brady is a current AI PhD candidate at Zhejiang University, holding a Master's degree in Finance from Brandeis University, and a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from Beihang University.

**Mr Lay Shi Wei**  
Vice President, Evolve Capital Advisory

Mr Lay Shi Wei is a finance professional with extensive expertise in mergers & acquisitions (M&A) and initial public offerings (IPO) on global markets such as Nasdaq and the Singapore Exchange (SGX). Currently serving as Vice President at Evolve Capital Advisory, he has led several successful IPOs and M&A transactions, providing strategic financial guidance to companies in Singapore and beyond.

With over a decade of experience, Shi Wei has held positions at several boutique financial firms, including Evolve, RHT Capital, and Prime Partners Corporate Finance, where he advised on listings, M&As and financial advisory projects.

Since April 2024, Shi Wei has been an Independent Director and chairman of the audit committee of China Yuanbang Property Holdings Limited, a company listed on the Mainboard of the Singapore Exchange. He is also an Independent Director Nominee and will begin serving as an Independent Director of Fitness Champs Holdings Limited, a company seeking a listing on Nasdaq.

A Chartered Accountant of Singapore, he holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration (Accountancy) from the National University of Singapore. His experience and insights make him an invaluable speaker for creative business professionals looking to scale their operations through strategic financial management and market expansion.