



Featuring the latest property news,
trends, statistics and guides.

starpropertymy
all the right places



News

Business

Sport

Metro

Tech

Lifestyle

Opinion

Videos

Property

Jobs

Autos

More



Regional

[Home](#) > [News](#) > [Regional](#)

Sunday, 18 September 2016

Of pontianak and the scent of bananas

FACEBOOK

TWITTER

GOOGLE+

LINKEDIN



Popular Now in News

[Man drugs 12-year-old girl for sex](#)

[Former Penang journalist elected mayor of NZ town](#)

[RM30mil more in cash found overseas](#)

[Samsung halts sale and exchange of Note 7](#)

[Lin Dan's wife is pregnant](#)

Your sense of smell could mean life or death in this horror adventure computer game developed by Institute of Technical Education (ITE) students.

Scents released help you progress while playing the game. And if you smell bananas, beware, because it means death is just around the corner.

Tainted is a computer game based on Malay folklore of the *pontianak*, designed by 15 final-year students from ITE College Central's Higher National ITE

Certificate programme in Games Design and Development for their final-year project.

They collaborated with researchers from the Keio-NUS CUTE (Connective Ubiquitous Technology for Embodiments) Center, who developed the smell-emitting modules.

The game features four scents – banana, jasmine, pineapple and mango – which, paired with colours, serve as indicators of the game's progress.

Gameplay is about three minutes long, and it ends when the player is caught by the pontianak.

The project was supported by the National Research Foundation, Prime Minister's Office, under its International Research Centres in Singapore Funding Initiative.

Tainted will be featured this week at the Indie Game Area of the Tokyo Game Show (TGS), which attracts more than 200,000 visitors each year and showcases exhibitors such as SEGA Games and Konami.



ADVERTISEMENT



THE STAR ONLINE

The Daily Alert

Stay updated daily with our FREE email alerts

your e-mail address

Subscribe

By clicking on the Subscribe button, it is deemed that you consent to our [terms](#).

[View Sample](#)

Latest News

[Top U.S. Republican Ryan distances himself from Trump White House bid](#)

[Singapore shuts down Falcon Private Bank, slaps penalties on DBS and UBS after 1MDB probe](#)

[Pressure on Trump likely to be intense at second debate with Clinton](#)

[Colombia's Uribe presents proposals for peace accord changes](#)

[Clinton weighed reinstating Glass-Steagall, Wikileaks emails show](#)

It was selected as one of the eight finalists for the TGS Sense of Wonder Night for its unique use of smell-emitting modules to enhance the gaming experience.

Gaming technology has made leaps and bounds in recent years with virtual reality consoles such as the *Oculus Rift* providing a realistic and immersive gaming environment.

While there have been earlier attempts at incorporating smells into a game, such as the FeelReal add-on for the *Oculus Rift*, using a gamer's sense of smell to help progression in a game is still a foreign concept to most developers.

One of the ITE students involved is Benjamin Lim, 21, who graduated in February.

Lim, who is now pursuing a Diploma in Animation from Nanyang Polytechnic, was the one who came up with the idea of using the pontianak folklore for *Tainted's* story line.

He told *The New Paper*: "We chose horror as our genre because we thought it was the best way to use the modules, using scents to create suspense." He said when the character is near an item that is useful to the game's progression, the modules, which are fixed with coloured LED lights, will light up and a specific scent will be released into the air.

For example, red lights and a banana scent means the pontianak is nearby.

Raymond Koh, a lecturer at ITE College Central's School of Electronics and Info-Comm Technology, told *TNP*: "It was a challenge for the students because it's quite an abstract concept to use smells in a game, and they had nothing to refer to.

"We're always interested in pursuing new avenues to showcase our work and ideas, and the Tokyo Game Show is one of the biggest gatherings for game developers."

Another student, Nikki Danish Putra, 19, added that they had to go through countless rounds of trial-and-error before the game became ready.

But the six months of hard work, and staying in school for up to 10 hours daily turned out to be fruitful for the students when they found out Koh had submitted *Tainted* to be exhibited at TGS and it was accepted.

Lim said: "I was speechless when I heard the news, and I'm really pleased that our hard work is paying off even after we graduated." – The Straits Times/Asia News Network



Trending in Family



Your fear of growing old may be killing you sooner



You've been giving medicine to your kids wrongly



Dear Thelma: My wife avoids sex, may be cheating on me



Coping with infertility



There may be a limit as to how long you'll live

Powered by **star2**.com

Trending in Properties

'Review state housing policy'

Contest elevates interior design students' standards

A NEW APPLE CAMPUS AT BATTERSEA POWER STATION

More green lungs planned for Johor

Higher target price for Gamuda, eyes RM3bil to RM4bil infra projects

starproperty.my

HobbyKing's Hobby Range
RC Planes, Cars, Drones & More Free & Fast Shipping. Buy Now! Go to hobbyking.com/US

TAGS / KEYWORDS:

Pontianak , computer game





Star 45 IJM LAND
WIN WITH WORDS
 2016
 UPDATED EVERY 5 MINUTES
 5 Sept - 30 Oct 2016
CLICK HERE
 FOR MORE INFO

Our Sites More



Indonesian miners risk lives in modern-day gold rush

You May Be Interested



Brent oil price hits highest level in a year



Depression will be world No.1's disability by 2020, warns...



Proton gets overwhelming bookings for Saga, Persona...



Five facts about constipation



The best of Korean wave



Three Sabah beach destinations that you should visit

Others Also Read



Former Penang journalist elected mayor of NZ town



China's yuan sinks to six-year low after central bank drops midpoint



Ringgit decouples from price of crude oil

HobbyKing's Hobby Range

RC Planes, Cars, Drones & More Free & Fast Shipping. Buy Now! Go to hobbyking.com/US

ADVERTISEMENT

SITE MAP Home Videos News Business	SUBSCRIPTIONS The Star newspaper Other Publications RSS Feeds OTHER EDITIONS	COMPANY INFO About Us Contact Us Job Opportunities Investor Relations	OUR SITES Star2.com myStarJob.com Carsifu StarProperty.my	SEARCH THE STAR ONLINE <input type="text" value="Search"/>
---	--	--	--	--

Sport	ePaper	FAQs	Propwall	Stay updated with our FREE email newsletter! <input type="text" value="your e-mail address"/> Sign up!
Metro	Mobile	ADVERTISING	iBilik	
Lifestyle	SMS Services	View Our Rate Card	R.AGE	
Tech	MAGAZINES	POLICIES	mStar	
Opinion	Kuntum	Privacy Statement	Kuali	

[Our Sites](#) ▾ [More](#) ▾ UPDATED EVERY 5 MINUTES

TheStarTV.com	CONNECT WITH US    
StarCherish.com	

Content Partner   	Our Radio Stations    
---	---

Copyright © 1995-2016 Star Media Group Berhad (ROC 10894D)