

# MR ALL-ROUNDER

**AFTER THE HIGH OF PERFORMING HIS LATEST SINGLE IN FRONT OF THE PRIME MINISTER AT MENDAKI'S 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION, SINGER-ACTOR-HOST FAUZIE LAILY TELLS FANS TO EXPECT TO SEE A LOT MORE OF HIM IN 2023.**

Fauzie Laily is an all-rounder: someone who can sing, act and host. He entered the scene in 2005 as the second-runner up of the Malay-language singing competition, *Anugerah*. That paved his way into acting, initially in Malay productions, and later in English-language shows. He started emceeing on something he was familiar with — the 2007 edition of *Anugerah*. His biggest hosting gig thus far is arguably NDP 2021.

When asked which of these three roles he prefers, Fauzie could not decide. “It’s impossible to choose one because I genuinely enjoy the process behind all three. It’s like asking me to pick a favourite child,” he tells *Life Storeys* when we caught up with him at the void deck of his Bedok apartment, which he shares with his wife, Nurul.

Speaking of Bedok, this multitalented personality shares that the area is a huge part of his life. “My childhood home is less than 100m from here. Even when I moved into another flat, it was still within Bedok,” he adds. Furthermore, Nurul lived one block away from him when they attended the same primary school!

**You released ‘Tersebutlah Kisah’ in 2022. Tell us about it.**

‘Tersebutlah Kisah’ is my latest single after I released my EP in 2018. Every time I release new music, I attempt to re-introduce Fauzie Laily, the musician, to



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the masses. This time, I wrote about my journey when I just started out in the industry, and also integrated a form of traditional Malay poem, *Syair*. I also decided to collaborate with a fresh young producer, and got a young team to come up with my music video. It always invigorates me when trying new things. On 1 October last year, I got to perform ‘Tersebutlah Kisah’ in front of our Prime Minister at Mendaki’s 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration — that has been the highlight of this journey thus far.

### **What can your fans expect from you in 2023?**

I’m already working on a new drama series for Suria that’s slated to be released in March 2023. I also have a few hosting gigs coming up, and have been pencilled in for a major project right after that. I will also be releasing more original music that has been in the oven for quite some time.

### **Why did you choose to live in HDB after marriage?**

I love that my BTO estate is new, and it’s convenient to go anywhere from here. There’s a wet market just five minutes away, and lots of neighbourhood shops that my wife enjoys. When the opportunity came to apply for the BTO here, we took it. The main attraction of HDB living has got to be the neighbours; we’ve been fortunate to get good neighbours.

## **Share a heartwarming story about your interactions with your neighbours.**

I once casually mentioned that I was craving for durian or some desserts. One of my neighbours from the lower floors must have overheard and privately messaged my wife on Instagram, saying that she has some extra durian *pengat* and would send it upstairs to satisfy my craving. I thought it was very sweet of her — that really brought back feelings of *gotong royong* (a Malay term that refers to members of a community chipping in to relieve a common burden)!

## **Is there a spot in Bedok where you and your wife go to relax, exercise or get inspired?**

My wife and I love to walk to Bedok Reservoir Park, which is about 2.5km away. We often go there to exercise, relax our mind, and just talk about our day as we enjoy the sunset. It's beautiful and peaceful, and I love to wind down my day there with her.