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Yasmin's passing also felt across Causeway

SINGAPORE, July 26 — The demise of renowned film and advertising director Yasmin Ahmad, 51, in Kuala Lumpur last night was not only felt by Malaysians, but also impacted film enthusiasts in Singapore.

Her death, caused by a stroke, raised questions on what would happen to "Go, Thaddeus", a film that she was to direct, which is still in its early stages of production.

The film, based on a novel by Belinda Wee and its screenplay adapted by Yasmin, was backed by the Singapore Film Commission, Singapore Sports Council, Singapore Tourism Board and the 2010 Singapore Youth Olympic Games Organising Committee.

The film portrays the determination of a Singaporean teen triathlete, Thaddeus Cheong, who passed away at age 17 when he collapsed after the triathlon selection race for the 2007 SEA Games.

The film, which will be fully shot here, was scheduled for public screening to Singaporeans and Malaysians in August 2010 in conjunction with the Youth Olympic Games hosted by Singapore for the first time.

Ascension Pictures, the film's producer, had already started casting for actors here, earlier this month. Yasmin was also known here for advertising campaigns she directed for Singapore's Community Development, Youth and Sports Ministry.

One of them is "Eulogy" which depicts the story of a widow who recalls her husband's funeral ceremony, and another titled "Red Shoes" which tells the story of a teenage girl who grew up with a single father. —Bernama



The late Yasmin Ahmad being laid to rest earlier today. The celebrity filmmaker's death was also felt in neighbouring Singapore. — Picture by Choo Choy May

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