

IMDA Statement on Watain Concert

SINGAPORE – 07 March 2019: IMDA will cancel the “Watain Live in Singapore” concert on 7 March 2019, following security concerns recently raised by MHA.

IMDA had earlier allowed the concert with a rating of “Restricted 18 (R18)”. Given the band’s history, IMDA imposed further stringent requirements including the removal of songs which are religiously offensive, that the band cannot make references to religion or use religious symbols, and that no ritualistic acts are performed on stage.

MHA has today provided its assessment that the performance should not proceed. MHA has expressed serious concerns about the concert, given the band’s history of denigrating religions and promoting violence, which has potential to cause enmity and disrupt Singapore’s social harmony. *Watain* is known for its Satanist views and some of their previous controversial performances involved animal carcasses and throwing pig’s blood on its audience. The band also espouses anti-Christian views and advocates Satanism through their songs, and endorses violence.

MHA has therefore asked IMDA to consider cancelling the concert for reasons of public order, and IMDA has agreed.

For media clarifications, please contact:

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