



Yayasan Warisan Johor's cultural troupe at the Rainforest World Music Festival 2014

For 25 years, Yayasan Warisan Johor (Johor Heritage Foundation) has been the custodian of Johor's unique cultural legacy to preserve and promote the State's cultural gems – enduring testaments to the richness and vibrancy of Johor's history.



### ZAPIN

Believed to have been introduced by Middle-Eastern missionaries during the fifteenth century, this exhilarating Arab-influenced dance is characterised by catchy rhythms and captivating moves. It has become a form of traditional entertainment, and reflecting the uniqueness of the communities that have been perfecting this dance over the years, Zapin varies from district to district.



### GHAZAL

Ghazal is an Arab-influenced music created through various musical instruments including the oud (gambus in Malay). It was introduced in the royal courts of Johor in the 19<sup>th</sup> century by members of the aristocracy who first heard the music during their visits to Riau. It was made popular in Johor long before the international world music scene became mainstream in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century.

### KERONCONG

This melodic musical genre's name is derived from the ukulele-like instrument that typically accompanies the musical arrangement backing up the soulful singer. Originating from Indonesia,

keroncong music still holds its own in most parts of Johor.

### KUDA KEPANG

A mysterious dance originating from Java, Kuda Kepang is rarely performed nowadays but remains a symbol of Johor's distinction as a cultural destination, as evident in the stylised horse icon in Johor Tourism's brand identity.

For more information regarding Johor's cultural performances, log on to Yayasan Warisan Johor's website [www.ywj.gov.my](http://www.ywj.gov.my)

