

滅劇場第一屆「台灣國際黯黑舞蹈藝術節」新聞稿

Press Release for First Annual “Taiwan International Darkness Dance Festival”
by Huchia Dance Theatre

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First Annual “Taiwan International Darkness Dance Festival”

關於「黯黑舞蹈」

About “Darkness Dance”

The origin of “Darkness Dance” can be traced back to Japan in the 1960s. At the time, World War II had just ended, and war-torn Japan was suffering from a heavy loss of life. This led the legendary Kazuo Ohno to mourn the lost souls through dance, which also served as a form of protest against Japanese imperial power. With the unique feature of whitening his entire body, Ohno explored the fear and mysteries of death, while conveying the desperation of people when coming face to face with it. After this form of Japanese dance spread across the world, various dance troupes began incorporating their own ideas, resulting in a form built on original traditions yet also merged with new appearances.

For this performance by Huchia Theatre, the form of Darkness Dance being presented was conceived by the artistic director, Hu Chia, to promote the primal yet delicate art of physical dance of Taiwan. The form of this performance incorporates elements of Taiwanese martial arts that provide a reinterpretation of classical dance. Inviting dancers from around the world, the performance combines Eastern and Western musical instruments. Through the Taiwan International Darkness Dance Festival, Taiwanese audiences will be able to experience Darkness Art developed from local culture. And, through international exchange, they will also be able to enjoy the differences in the art of darkness dance from Taiwan and abroad, while discovering the seeds for hope amongst darkness in a shared concern and care for the disadvantaged. This also enables the primal yet delicate physical dance performance to continuously promote hope and a compassionate spirit. Come to Huchia Theatre to feel and experience a different type of performance.

Faced with the relentless passage of time and trials of life, while living in a universe where everything is subject to change, can you hear your heart's voice?
Can you find your true self?

These are the messages the International Darkness Contemporary Dance Troupe hopes to get across to its audiences. Their performances, with neither narratives nor plots, are a simple combination of pure body movements and tunes, aiming to evoke the sense of emotional fickleness deep down in our hearts. In addition, through organizing the Taiwan International Darkness Dance

Festival, the dance troupe uses the idea of “falling” to project the inner hearts of people, expressed in an impressively brilliant way to resonate with the audience off the dark, shadowy stage.

Dancers and musicians performing at the Festival are from Taiwan, Sweden, Finland, Japan, and Hong Kong—all of which received professional training in Butoh and contemporary dance, and martial arts. Bandsmen include vocal improvisationists, guqinists, cellists, pianists, and Nanguan musicians. Through collective creations, they bounce musical ideas off each other to put on a great performance. As the music plays, an endless cycle of dance and body movement goes on, while rounds of dim light and fluttering fire in the dark symbolize care for each other’s free and equal spiritual world.

演出資訊

Information about the Performance

地點：華山文創園區-烏梅劇院Huashan 1914-UmayTheatre

時間：中華民國106年11月25日（六）19:00

節目長度約75分鐘，無中場休息，演出後座談。（本次演出有裸露部分，請觀眾斟酌觀賞）

主辦：滅劇場

協辦：太禾藝創有限公司

指導：文化部

贊助：國藝會

鋼琴贊助：一心鋼琴事業集團

Venue: Huashan 1914-UmayTheatre

Date: November 25, 2017 (Saturday), 19:00

Program duration is approximately 75 minutes without intermission. A discussion will follow the performance. (Please be advised that this performance will feature nudity during certain segments.)

Organized by: Huchia Theatre

Co-organized by: Tai Wo Arts Limited

Advising unit: Ministry of Culture

Sponsored by: National Culture and Arts Foundation

Piano provided by: HEART ONE PIANO

Solo Dancers:

Taiwan | Hu Chia, Shaw-Chi Chen, Nomura Yu

Sweden | Rasmus Ölme

Hong Kong | Vinci

Japan | Mayako Ohkura

Live Performance Musicians:

Taiwan | Kang-Te Chang, Grace Kuo, Jie Pan

Finland | Antti Myllyoja

Video: Atou Hsu, Haoyu Chao

Photography: Te-fan Wang, Wei-chi Lin

Arts Ticket

<https://goo.gl/KEkfKJ>

Student Tickets via ACCUPASS

<https://goo.gl/zUeDZZ>

Dancer Information

1. Hu Chia

The countless repetition required for training in the martial arts enabled me to experience a delicate, keen, and natural reaction amidst a calm focus.

On my journey to embody a spirit of Budo, I deeply felt a sense of love and freedom. To defend all that I love, I fight, and obtain the “freedom” that is so fundamental to man. Human existence became meaningful.

This journey led me to explore the flowing illusions and inherent fun within the black and white ink imagery of calligraphy. This pushed me one step further, leading to the founding of Huchia Dance Theatre.

To me, “art” only presents things that catch my attention during my journey. Amongst the darkness, I discovered that there exists a light - that is the source of inspiration and growth for my art.

2. Rasmus Ölme/

After a career as a dancer – with choreographers such as Wim Vandekeybus, Roberto Oliván, Carmelo Fernández and Sam Louwyck – Rasmus Ölme founded his group REFUG in 2001. He produced and toured several works around Europe until 2008 as he started his PhD in choreography at DOCH/Uniarts (SE). In 2014 he successfully defended his thesis “From Model to Module – a move towards generative choreography”. During that time he made a series of presentations of the practical choreographical research under the name MODUL 1-6. Since Jan 2015 he is the head of the Dance and Choreography education at the National Danish School of Performing Arts in Copenhagen. He is currently conducting a research, financed by the Danish Ministry of Culture, on the materiality of movement.

3. Mayako Ohkura

Ohkura was studied Butoh under Mr. Masahide Ohmori, and performed in Mr. Ohmori's butoh company "TENROH-SEI-DOH (天狼星堂)" from 1999 to

2014. In 2001, Ohkura began solo butoh performance, performed in theater, outdoor, beauty salon, Art museum, and so on. In 2004, Ohkura received a new dancer award of Dance Critics Society of Japan. In recent years Ohkura's activities are butoh performance, work shop, talk show, dance festival curator, and so on, with various fields artists.

4. Vinci Mok

Vinci Mok currently serves as the artistic director for Moving Arts - Hong Kong and Mi Liu Dance. He was also the founder of the street cross-cultural art improvisation organization, ART WAVE as well as served as a key member of Y-Space Dance Troupe. In the 1950s, he drew inspiration from Japanese choreographer Tatsumi Hijikata, breaking taboo by transcending theater, dance, and action to reflect reality, as well as the creative spirit, attitudes, and forms of disadvantaged people. In recent years, his works have been based on dance, body, performance art, contemporary/popular theater, and modern and improvisational dance. He also occasionally mimes and does improvisational vocals, film/stage art and costume design, art writing, and more. Having previously studied at Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, he has trained and learned many different forms of traditional and modern concepts. Under the mentorship of Master Yun Yun, he was also deeply inspired by Lin Yan-yang, a veteran dancer from Taiwan's Legend Lin Dance Theatre; Bambang Suryono, an Indonesian mask dancer; and the main creative member of the early Japanese senior dancer / renaissance avant-garde theater, Mushimaru Fujieda; Japanese Butoh dance master Yukio Waguri; France Sunshine Theater Sebastien Brottet-michel; Taiwan Van Gogh Theater Wu Wencui and Japanese DM Action Theater main director, Hiroshi Ohashi.

5. Nomura Yu

Nomura Yu's creativity in painting and drama stems from her background living and studying with the Bangzi Opera Company for a decade beginning at the age of eleven. The costumes and headdresses seen in Yu's paintings are internalizations of familiar objects from her performances on stage as a child. One might even say that the costumes used in Chinese opera and Yu's body are inseparable. Through makeup, Yu's creations teem with theatrical qualities and fill the stage with illustrations of unclothed bodies. Dressing up, moving into the rhythm of a dance, and materializing objects — all are erroneous juxtapositions of time and space. These sights of mine are sights of objects of depiction, sights of the depicter, and above all, sights of sight itself. Through the various media of drama, dance, paintings, photography, and video, Yu finds expressions of herself. These expressions are tightly bound to movements in society and serve as a way to view and examine herself. She is indeed a versatile artist who transcends disciplines.

6. Shaw-Chi Chen

1984 began his dance training in "Cloud Gate Contemporary Dance Company"
1985-1991 study in Dance department of "National Institute of the Arts", Taipei

1991-1995 Free dancer and costume designer for different Dance or Drama Company
1993 nominee of "International Competition of Young Fashion Designers in Paris", France
1995-2008 Dancer of "Legend Lin Dance Theatre"
1997 Principal Dancer "Legend", Biennale Nationale de Dance du Val-de-Marne, France
1998 Principal Dancer "Miroirs de Vie", Festival d'Avignon, France
2001 Principal Dancer "Hymne aux fleurs qui passent", Maison de la Dance of Lyon, France and Festival Otono of Madrid. Spain
2002-2005 Premier Dancer "Hymne aux fleurs qui passent", Teatro Nuovo Giovanni da Udine, Italy, Biennale Nationale de Dance du Val-de-Marne, France, Wolfsburg International Dance Festival "Movimentos", Germany, Ballet Gala in Dresden, Germany, Bregenz, Innsbruck, New York, Palacio de Bellas, Mexico.
1997 Premier Actor of Taiwan's film "A Cha-cha for the Fugitive" (nominee of Berlin and Vancouver's International Film Festival)
2015 Principle Actor of Taiwan's Drama Documentary "Attabull"
2002-2010 Guest Dancer of "Han Tang Yuefu" as "Han Xizai" of Chinese Traditional Opera "The Feast of Han Xizai", National Theater of Taiwan and Het Muziektheater Amsterdam, and as "PanGU" of Tai.Chi "In the Beginning"
2007-now Mine Performer of Shang Orienttheatre
2011-2017 Avignon Off