



### Dance Film Exhibition

## Dance, the History of Body

2024.11.2 Sat. - 12.1 Sun.

National Kaohsiung Center for the Arts (Weiwuying) Crown Hall, Lecture Hall, Banyan Plaza

Kaohsiung Film Archive





#### Dance, the History of Body

In the era of film, dance has found a dynamic medium for documentation and creation. Film not only changes how dance is disseminated but also its pace and appearance. How can dance be preserved and understood in today's fast-paced world, or how can it avoid being forgotten? This is one of the reasons dance films exist.

Dance films have developed a rich vocabulary to date. They encompass not only the power and beauty between the lens and movement but also document and create historical memories of dance and the body. This year, Curator CHOU Shu-Yi has proposed the theme *Dance, the history of the Body*, hoping to discover works that move beyond traditional aesthetic images. Instead, the call seeks dance films that explore historical memories through: the personal, collective, kinetic, corporeal, past/future, documented/recreated.



#### Curator CHOU Shu-yi

CHOU Shu-yi has been an Artist-in Residence at National Kaohsiung Center for the Arts (Weiwuying) since 2020. CHOU is also the curator of 2024 Taiwan Dance Platform, a programme based in southern Taiwan, which aims to serve as a point of connection for contemporary dance in Asia. Using dance as a language to communicate with the world, CHOU focuses on the relationships between humans and society. In his creations, he harnesses the power of cross-disciplinary collaborations to express the public nature of arts.

Between 2022 and 2024, he also initiated the Bolero in Kaohsiung project, bringing dance performances out of the theatre setting and into the community, and at the same time, nurturing the next generation of dancers in Taiwan.

#### Solo Dance

Taiwan | 2021 | 83 mins



She is the first professional nude model in Taiwan in the 1950s and the 1960s, the muse for painters and sculptors in the art world, and the face for photographers'salons around the world; in the end, she reversed the dynamics of the subject vs. the object and went on to perform her first solo modern dance in 1975, turning herself from the state of passiveness to an active educator of the art of dance.

Dance educator LIN Ssu-tuan is over 80 years old, but she still fervently pursues her ideals and passions with her body; her path of life is indeed a book of female art history that communicates with the society in Taiwan.



#### Director | LEE Li-shao

Since 1999, LEE Li-shao has been making short films and documentaries. His works have received multiple Golden Harvest Awards and Taiwan Local Documentary Awards, and have been selected for the Taiwan International Documentary Festival, Taipei Film Festival, Golden Bell Awards, and various international film festivals. In 2013, his documentary Boundary Revelation was nominated for Best Documentary at the Golden Horse Awards. In recent years, he has focused on producing the Guerrilla Trilogy of Yunnan and Burma, exploring the national identity of the descendants of KMT soldiers stranded in Thailand and Myanmar.

Executive Producer | KUO Wan-ling Executive Supervisor | LAI Yen-ming Production Coordinator | LIU Wen-yen Production Manager | WU Chia-hui

Film Copyright | PTS Taiwan

Director, Organizer, Editor | LEE Li-shao Cinematographer | IBAK, LEE Li-shao Assistant Cinematographer | CHENG Chia-ming Aerial Cinematographer | OU Chien-chun Cinematography Assistants | TUNG Shao-chih, CHEN Wei-hung Sound Mixing | Jimmy Music Music | Point Culture Color Grading | IBAK Studio Transcription | YEH Chen-ting Translation | William LUE Xi-ming Opening Titles | LEE Chih-hsuan

#### Remembrance

Taiwan | 2009 | 11'42 mins



LU Yi-ching decided to pass on the café she had run for 20 years. On the final night before closing, TSAI Ming-liang visited to enjoy the last cup of coffee she brewed. The radio in the café played a broadcast about LIN Hwai-min's dance piece *Requiem* and the autobiography of the late dancer LO Man-fei. This stirred memories of his old friend LO in Ming-liang, and he told Yi-ching that he wished he could see Man-fei dance one more time…



#### Director | LEE Kang-sheng

Born in Taipei in 1968, LEE is an internationally renowned actor, celebrated for his vivid, natural, and distinctive acting style, which has earned him recognition from both audiences and critics alike. Discovered by TSAI Ming-liang on the streets, LEE has since become a long-term collaborator, playing key roles in most of TSAI's films and stage productions. He has also worked with other prominent Asian directors, including Ann HUI. In 1994, he won the Best Actor award at the Nantes Three Continents Festival and received a Golden Horse Award nomination for Best Actor for *Vive L'Amour*. In 2013, he won Best Actor at the 50th Golden Horse Awards, the Asia Pacific Film Festival, and the Taipei Film Awards for his role in *Stray Dogs*. LEE has also ventured into directing, with his feature films *The Missing and Help Me Eros* achieving notable success.

Director   LEE Kang-sheng	Screenwriter   LEE Kang-sheng,	Sound Recordist   LO Song-ce,
Cast   LU Yi-ching, TSAI Ming-liang	Branson JIANG	R.T KAO
Narration   Summer LEI	Cinematography   LIAO Pen-jung	Sound Effect   Dennis TSAO
Producer   TSAI Ming-liang,	Art Director   TSAI Ming-liang	Production   Homegreen Filims
Vincent WANG	Film Editor   LEE Chang-hsien,	
	CHEN Chien-ping	

Film Copyright | Homegreen Films

#### Manfei

Taiwan | 2017 | 120 mins



This is a story of deep yearning that introduces the life of a wonderful dancer and a great friend and teacher: LO Man-fei.

Major modern dance companies, such as Martha GRAHAM, Pina BAUSCH and Hofesh SHECHTER, all recognize Taiwan's standing in the dance world. In Taiwan, several young choreographers have shown the potential needed to achieve worldwide fame. These achievements are due in large part to the guidance and encouragement given by Man-fei.

Every year, Man-fei's relatives, students, and friends gather together to catch up on each other's news. When Man-fei became severely ill, she said: "If that day ever comes, I won't say goodbye to anybody. Just act as if I'm sleeping in the adjacent room."

A decade ago, she left; a decade later, she still remains.



#### Director | En CHEN

En CHEN belongs to the group of directors from the first wave of new Taiwanese movies. For more than 20 years, he has been working with several famous Taiwanese directors, such as YANG De-chang and HO Xiao-xien. He is a talented director in many ways, producing more than a hundred films. In the 2007 film *Island Etude,* he was responsible for screenplay, directing, and cinematography. The movie became a blockbuster and led to the phenomenon of cycling in Taiwan.

Present by | TUNG Tzu-hsien Producer | Ginny WEI Associate Producer | LIN Hwai-min Production Supervisor | Alex YANG

Director & Director of Photography | En CHEN Editor | HSU Wei-yao Executive Producer | Jerome WANG Scriptwriter | En CHEN, HSU Wei-yao Cinema Photographer | CHANG Hao-jan

Sound Supervisor | Aviec HSAI Music Composer | Mira I IN

Film Copyright | Ethos Original Co., Ltd.

#### **TPF-Tics**

Taiwan | 2015 | 68 mins



TPE-Tics is an intimate look into Dawang HUANG's way of life - incredibly different from the norm, largely incompatible with society. As links between HUANG's past trauma and present creations are revealed, his psychological anxiety is at once enlightening and heartbreaking. Despite his bouts of depression, HUANG's humor and witty introspection relieves the melancholy. More than merely music, the film examines human experiences and nuanced values that are precious yet rarely accessible.



#### Director | Jessica Wan-yu LIN

Live and work in Taipei. LIN is an independent filmmaker now engaged in documentaries and video design. She often cooperates with sound art performers, choreographers, and theater actors. The collaborators included Shu-Yi and dancers, Very Mainstream Studio, and Kandala *Records*. She was particularly concerned about the arts and culture for a small minority, and she aimed to investigate the different values of living. TPE-Tics is her first feature length documentary.

Producer & Director & Cinematographer & GoPro Selfie & Original Soundtrack Editor | Jessica Wan-yu LIN Additional Cinematographer CHEN Kuan-yu & Milla HUANG & LIN Po-hsun Animator of Darra Vita | LIN Po-hsun

Dawang HUANG Original Work of Darra Vita | Dawang HUANG Sound Mixer | CHOU Cheng Colorist | Timeline Studio

#### Boy Story

Hong Kong | 2020 | 104 mins



20 years flew by in a blink. One by one teenagers become uncles, fathers, bosses, and teachers. But it is more practical to do something than to reminisce.

Choreographed by Yuri NG in 1996, *Boy Story* is a legendary work from Hong Kong. NG brought together all the original dancers eighteen years after the premiere and could not resist treading the boards once more. *Boy Story* is more than the accolades it received and the places it visited. It is the story of struggles of Malaysian Chinese dancers. It is the other half of Hong Kong's dance history.

Hong Kong was where the boys'dreams came true. *Boy Story* was their paths intersected. Can Hong Kong still hold dreams?



#### Director | Maurice LAI

Born and raised in Hong Kong. Stay in Tainan.

One of Hong Kong and Taiwan most active directors of dance video art. A slash life wandering between video, dance, opera and food culture. MFA graduate of Cinema Production from The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts. He is currently an adjunct assistant professor of School of Dance, Taipei National University of the Arts and College of Arts, Tainan University of Technology, Vice-chairman of Board of Directors and Coordinator (Technical Support) of Utopia Cantonese Opera Workshop, Chairman of Board of Directors of Unlock Dancing Plaza, Theatre Panel of Programme and Development Committee of LCSD, Jury member of The Hong Kong Dance Awards. In 2020, he set up HoShunKing Artistic Workshop in Taiwan to engage in video creation.

Producer & Director & Editor | Maurice LAI Camera & Audio | Maurice LAI, Jason WONG, Ava CHAN, Rex NG, Ziv CHUN, CHIU Chih-hua Production | HoShunKing Artistic Workshop

Film Copyright | Maurice LAI Yu-man

#### ///SLASH\\\

Taiwan | 2023 | 10 mins



"Prometheus, for us your gift has been too great to tame. Hereby the return of your element." The use of the fire in the video symbolizes the development of civilization, yet being excessive and rapid in the world now we are living has put ourself on fire, in which it leads us being in the state of self-exploitation. LEE\VAKULYA continues to focus on the burnout society, using the physical body as a carrier to the frame of video, by manipulating the difference of immediacy and sense of time through the video resembles the physical and mental exhaustion in a confused state.

This video uses one individual being repeating his own journey day after day wishing to send back the fire, projecting the collective burnout phenomenon, LEE\VAKULYA's cultural perspective reflects what we are carrying and bearing in the modern society.



#### LEE\VAKULYA

Formed by LEE Chen-wei and Vakulya ZOLTÁN. The Brussels-based artist duo focuses on the process of making, questioning, in search of clarity and depth in performing arts since the premiere of their debut duo *Together Alone* in 2016. Their artistic works investigate time and human relationships in multidimensional space towards movements across dance, site-specific performance, and recently in video art and installation.

In 2023, they won the Taishin Arts Award for Performing Arts for BURNT [the eternal long now].

Creation & Producer | LEE Chen-wei, Vakulya ZOLTÁN Artistic Advisor | WANG Ding-yeh Sound Designer | FENG Zi-ming D.O.P | Shane, Y1, Eddie LIAN, Nick WU Video Editor | LEE:WAKULYA, Shane Still Photography | SICA, CHIUyU Stunt Guidance | Bruce Movie Special Effects CO, LTD. Special Effects Technician | LIN Chia-liang, TSENG Wei-chang, LU Ko-chin

Film Copyright | LEE\VAKULYA

#### Moving into Dance: Dancing Through a Quarter of a Century

Taiwan | 2018 | 59'52 mins



"Contact Improvisation" has taken root in Taiwan for 25 years, significantly shaping the country's modern dance scene. This documentary systematically traces the development of "Contact Improvisation" in Taiwan, led by Ku & Dancers. Using the group as a prism, it captures the beautiful spectrum of this creative form, recounting the journey and milestones of the past quarter-century. Today, "Contact Improvisation" has evolved beyond a dance form—it's a bodily practice, a philosophy, and a way of life that resonates with practitioners worldwide.



#### Artistic Director of Ku & Dancers | KU Ming-shen

Recipient of the 21st National Award for Arts, and Artistic Director of Ku & Dancers. Known for her expertise in improvisational dance, KU Ming-shen has left her mark globally, frequently invited to serve as guest professor and choreographer at universities and institutions across the United States, Australia, Europe, and Asia. She received the Wu San-Lien Award in 2009 and the Zhongxing Cultural and Arts Award in 1997. Since founding Ku & Dancers in 1993, she has continued to present new works while dedicating herself to the research and promotion of "Contact Improvisation." The New York Times dance critics have praised her work as "Simple and handsome." Artist Director & Producer | KU Ming-shen Director | HO Ming-jui Executive Producer | Christopher CHU

Cinematography | HO Ming-jui, FU Ming-quan, LI Yuan-hong Film Editor | HO Ming-jui, FU Ming-quan Writer | FAN Xiang-jun, KU Ming-shen Voice-over | KU Ming-shen, HO Ming-jui, Christopher CHU

Film Copyright | Ku & Dancers

#### UNBOXING

Taiwan | 2022 | 21'34 mins



As Dance Forum Taipei celebrates its 35th anniversary, it remains dedicated to its core values of artistry, creativity, and the essence of dance, shaping Taiwan's ever-changing contemporary landscape. Founder PING Heng has managed the dance company like crafting a gourmet meal. The 58 choreographers and 186 artists who have collaborated with the company are like master chefs, each contributing unique flavors to the 91 creations—a banquet of diverse tastes, akin to an elaborate feast and a sumptuous full-course banquet!

LEE Shiun-huan, who started his career as a dancer and is now a renowned director, has "unboxed" the three crucial stages of the company's evolution through long-term observation: cohesion, bridging, and transcendence. He vividly illustrates how Dance Forum Taipei continually pushes its limits and, through reflection and retrospection, moves forward.



#### Director | LEE Shiun-huan

Director of film and stage, as well as a graphic designer, LEE Shiun-huan hails from Taiwan's indigenous community. Deeply inspired from a young age by the noble and kind-hearted protagonist in the wuxia novel *Sentimental Swordsman, Ruthless Sword*, he adopted the name LEE Shaun-huan. Starting his career in theater, he focused on writing and directing stage plays under his given name from 2004 to 2008. Since 2010, he has shifted his focus to film, working as a director of commercials and documentaries. His work has earned him the Excellence Award at the Taipei Golden Eagle Micro Movie Festival.

Present | Dance Forum Taipei Executive Producer | PING Heng Associate Producer | YEH Chiung-fei Production Company | QianMo Studio Director | LEE Shiun-huan Producer | TU Ying-ying

Film Copyright | Dance Forum Taipei

#### **Dancing Home**

Taiwan | 2016-2024 | 89'41 mins



At first, I thought it was Bulareyaung leading these young dancers back to the indigenous community to perform. However, it was actually these young dancers who awakened the joy he had lost as a child. The self-denial of his indigenous identity, the unrecognized dream of dance, and the freedom to express himself through his body. Amid the constantly evolving forms and content of his works, what captured my attention the most was how he, through this process, gradually reconciled with his past and drew closer to the child he once was in the village.



#### Director | WANG Cheng-yi

Graduated from the Applied Media Arts at National Taiwan University of Arts. Short films *Please Insert Coins* and *The Good Days* were nominated for the Taipei Film Festival's Theme Award and Golden Harvest Award. Focusing on documentary cinematography work in recent years, and *Dancing Home* is the first feature-length documentary as a director.

Present | Modern Planet Productions Director & Photography | WANG Cheng-yi Producer & Photography | Mocy TSAO Producer | HUANG Yu-fang

#### 40 Years of Glory: The Legacy of Tso Dance

Taiwan | 2024 | 30 mins



It has been 40 years since the establishment of the Dance Division, Tsoying High School. The fabulous accomplishments have been accumulated during this period by all the teachers and alumni. The strength originated from the art of dance supports all of them to overcome all challenges and step forward with time.



#### Director | WANG Yu-shen

Graduated from Dance Division, Tsoying High School in 2004 and has his own film studio at present. He is good at direction, photography and project design. He was rewarded the best photography from Couch Film Festival in 2024.

Producer | Tsoying High School Project Manager | CHOU Su-ling (Chief Secretary, Tso's Dance Association) Director & Photographer | WANG Yu-shen Administrator | Tso's Dance Association Cooperator | Dance Division, Tsoying High School Montage | Yo Shen Yo Sher Film Studio

Film Copyright | Dance Class of Tsoying Senior High School

#### BIRDY

Taiwan | 2024 | 16 mins



*BIRDY* explores the interaction between freedom and limitation within Taiwanese society, expressing a consciousness that seeks to break free from constraints. The work reinterprets traditional Chinese opera props like the "rattan pole" and the headpiece "feather plume," symbolizing the breaking of class restrictions and the search for a balance between individual and nation.

The choreography incorporates gestures and movements from traditional Chinese opera, reflecting Taiwan's cultural background. Director K2 TSAI centers the theme on "feathers," designing animated scenes where feathers brush across skin and flocks of birds soar over Taiwan, symbolizing the connection between individuals and the land. The balance between the dancer's emotions and the dance captured on camera allows the audience to seamlessly move between subjective and objective experiences.



#### Director | K2 TSAI

Film director, photographer, and project coordinator. TSAI's work spans fashion, branding, commercials, music videos, and short films, with a style that blends fashion with cultural elements. He frequently collaborates across disciplines with new media and installation artists.

# Pilas

#### Choreographer | LAI Hung-chung

Founder and Artistic Director of Hung Dance, and a graduate of the Dance Department at Taipei National University of the Arts.

From 2017 to 2018, LAI's works garnered 13 awards in various international choreography competitions and embarked on international tours. His choreographic style blends freedom, constraint, elements of everyday life, and Tai Chi. His notable works *Goodbye* and *BIRDY* received critical acclaim and full-house performances at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, Adelaide Fringe, and Festival Off d'Avignon.

Production | Hung Dance Artistic Director & Choreographer | LAI Hung-chung Rehearsal Director | CHENG I-han

Film Copyright | Hung Dance

Dancer | CHENG I-han, LEE Kuan-ling, LU Ying-chieh, KUO Chueh-kai, WU Shin-jie, HO Tzu-wen, CHEN Ting-yu, CHANG Yu-cheng Composer | HSU Chia-wei Costume Designer | Summer LIN Company Administrator | CHEN Yuan-yu

#### [esc]

Sweden | 2024 | 14'14 mins



[ e s c ] is an Ongoing Realities award-winning dance performance turned into film.

[ e s c ] explores escapism as a concept and state. With components from different time periods and movement languages the work explores the need for pause and imagination. The choreographic inquiry delves into how old and new technologies shape and enhance what we escape from or into. [ e s c ] is a mysterious space and place where past, present, and future meet in an ongoing becoming.



#### Concept | Anna NÄSSTRÖM Johan BANDHOLTZ

#### Director | Tanne WILLOW

The creators of [esc] include choreographer duo Anna NÄSSTRÖM and Johan BANDHOLTZ (Ongoing Realities) and filmmaker Tanne WILLOW. Their joint experience ranges from art films, music videos, feature films, stage production and site specific work. Based in Stockholm, Sweden, their work has been shown both nationally and internationally and has received several awards.

Production | Ongoing Realities Concept & Choreographer | Anna NÄSSTRÖM, Johan BANDHOLTZ Director & Sound Editor & Videographer & Editor | Tanne WILLOW Dancer | Matilda BJÄRUM, Anna BORRÀS-PICÒ, ANNA NÄSSTRÖM, Johan BANDHOLTZ Music & Sound Design | Rosanna GUNNARSSON, Yared Tilahun CEDERLUND Shot on location | Värmeverket

Film Copyright | Ongoing Realities

#### If I Can't Dance

Hong Kong | 2022 | 17'02 mins



The initial keywords for this piece were: body, damage, skin, repair.

I kept pondering—what would happen if one day the body no longer allowed for filming, or if the environment no longer permitted creation? And then I thought about how dancers continue to create when they are injured.

I have heard more than one dancer say that after an injury, they can still perform a move by adjusting their body, even if they know deep down that it's different from how others do it. As Jennifer MOK, the dancer collaborating on this piece, once mentioned, a dancer's life is finite. At some point, they realize that they might never be able to dance again...

If you knew from the start that everything might seem futile, would you still be willing to begin?



#### Director | Dorothy CHEUNG

Dorothy CHEUNG is a filmmaker and artist from Hong Kong. Her practice explores the notion of identities and home through a double perspective - personal and political, memory and forgetfulness. Her moving-image works are internationally selected for film festivals including International Film Festival Rotterdam, Leeds International Film Festival, Seoul Women's Film Festival, and South Taiwan Film Festival. She has also received commissions from M+ (Hong Kong), Jumping Frames Hong Kong International Movement-image Festival (Hong Kong) and Visual AIDS (US).



#### Choreographer | Jennifer MOK

After graduating from the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, Mok became a dancer in the City Contemporary Dance Company. Later, she choreographed and performed her first dance - "A Major Clown in G Flat", for which she was nominated for Outstanding Choreography and Outstanding Performance by a Female Dancer at the Hong Kong Dance Awards 2016. Being concerned and curious about what it means to be human, Mok's unique approach to performances and storytelling goes beyond the framework of drama, dance, or other performance forms. She creates space within her works, allowing the audience to engage in introspection and ponder on their own experiences.

Director & Writer & Editor | Dorothy CHEUNG Co-producers | Cathy LAU, Elysa WENDI, Samuel CHAI, Yuri NG Choreographer & Dancer | Jennifer MOK Voice Over | Christy Poinsettia MA, Ching CHU, Dorothy CHEUNG, Jennifer MOK Production Manager | Kiki HO Director of Photography | LEUNG Ming-kai (H.K.S.C)

Film Copyright | Dorothy CHEUNG

#### Macau Blank Diary

Macau · Beijing | 2023 | 12'28 mins



A city that surrounded by the sea A group of people whom raised by the sea The smell of the familiar sea water gradually become strange with the passage of time I can't remember the ripples of the sea when the ship pass by I can't remember the shaking feeling of standing at the sea port I can't remember how birds spread their wings when they was flying I can't remember this memory that never belonged to me

Wandering in this age of indistinguishable self Fragile consciousness is persecuted by the beauty of illusion Faintness body is affected by the rhythm of the city I want to fight against the torrent of this era Using slowly body moves to rewrite this unrecordable diary A Blank diary about this old city Macau



#### Director | KAM Hiu-lam (Alexis KAM)

Born in Hong Kong and raised in Macau, started dancing at the age of 4. Studied ballet at the Macau Conservatory Dance School, and continued studies at Beijing Dance Academy Ballet Department, joined Beijing Dance/LDTX in 2014. AWPlanet Founder and MonkeyKam Art Channel Initiator.



#### Director | WANG Quan-qing (Dynamic WANG)

Art director, choreographer, visual designer,musician and AWPlanet Founder. WANG has been active in integrated creation across multiple medium and arts forms with dance, drama, music and visual. In 2016, he joined Taiwan's Horse Dance Theater and was a guest choreographer with BeijingDance/LDTX. In 2020, he won the Unsplash Award Photographer of the Year.

Director | Alexis KAM, Dynamic WANG Composer & Camera Man | Dynamic WANG Choreographer & Dancer & Post-edit | Alexis KAM

Film Copyright | AWPlanet

#### Monster Escape Operation

Taiwan | 2024 | 6'40 mins



In dance, how can the body break free from established aesthetics and cultural stereotypes? How can it undergo transformation through energy to pursue unrestricted purity and discover the true essence of self and bodily movement?

*Monster Escape Operation* is the first dance short film created by two dancers and filmmakers with street dance backgrounds. By reflecting on and questioning their own dance journeys, they create multiple variations of the body. The film was shot in a marginal space within the city, serving as a means to escape reality.



#### Concept | CHEN Pin-ni

Freelance artist from Chiayi.

Pin-ni initially engaged in street dance, participating in both individual and group street dance competitions. After joining the Weiwuying "Bolero in Kaohsiung" dance tour project in 2021, she began exploring contemporary dance. In 2023, she served as a guest dancer for Dance South - SU Pin-wen's *Ponytail* with Kua Bo Dance Theater in Chiayi.



#### Concept | CHEN Po-yi

A freelance artist and street dancer based in Kaohsiung. With a background in design, Po-yi has a passion for illustration and photography. In 2024, he created *Colide,* a work that focuses on the fusion of photography and art, reflecting the serendipity and collisions in everyday life, as he continuously seeks new visual languages. Concept & Production Design | CHEN Pin-ni, CHEN Po-yi Choreographer & Dancer | CHEN Pin-ni Director & Director of Photographer & Editor | CHEN Po-yi

Sound Designer | CHEN Wen-wen

Film Copyright | CHEN Pin-ni CHEN Po-yi

#### Searching for Tarab

Switzerland | 2022 | 52 mins



Two dancers from Geneva are confronted with numerous artistic and political challenges as they attempt to transform Tarab – the oriental musical concept – into an occidental dance performance.



#### Director | Sandra GYSI

Born in Aarau, Switzerland. Master of Arts in Social Anthropology, Film Studies and German Literature at the University of Zurich. Since 2000, she has worked as a director and producer on various documentaries. She is co-founder of Donkeyshot Filmproduction (Switzerland) and lives in Zurich and Cairo.



#### Director | Ahmed ABDEL-MOHSEN

Master in Media Studies and Journalism from the Faculty of Arts, South Valley University, Egypt and Film Directing from F+F Zurich, Switzerland. He has worked as a director and producer on several fiction and documentary films. He is co-founder of Donkeyshot Filmproduction (Switzerland), Karmakol International Festival (Sudan), Fekra Cultural Center (Egypt) and lives in Zurich and Cairo.

Director | Sandra GYSI, Ahmed ABDEL-MOHSEN Writer | Ahmed ABDEL-MOHSEN, Sandra GYSI Producer | Sandra GYSI, Ahmed ABDEL-MOHSEN, Sophie LUGON-MOULIN, Rachel LAM Cast | Laurence YADI, Nicolas CANTILLON

#### Slow Dance (Zoomed In): A Green Leaf

Hong Kong | 2024 | 6'55 mins



Dancer Gigi YANG Yi-zi looks back on the classic folk dance piece *A Green Leaf* where she won the Taoli World Dance Competition. In *Slow Dance (Zoomed In): A Green Leaf*, the piece is reinterpreted into a "slow" version, where the movements collide with the body silhouettes in her memory. The piece provides the opportunity for Gigi to re-visit her pursuit of dance over the past 20 years and review her current thoughts towards dance. While her version of *A Green Leaf* becomes a role model and has been popularly circulated, the piece itself is a proof of her youth as well as a revelation of the dancer's growing body.

#### Slow Dance (Zoomed In): Latin Dance 1

Hong Kong | 2024 | 5'22 mins



*Slow Dance (Zoomed In): Latin Dance 1* invited two acclaimed local Latin dancers, Cedric CHAN and TIN Lai-ki, to re-interpret the dance piece that is of utmost importance in their career. Performing an extremely slow Paso Doble next to the crowded seaside, the video created a strong contrast. The gorgeous and extroverted dance postures gradually blended in with the passage of time and became a scenery among the crowds in the city. From the gaze of the spectators, we discover another perspective of which Latin dance is viewed.



#### Concept | Joseph LEE

Joseph LEE, a choreographer, performer, performance curator and the Artistic Director of Unlocked Dancing Plaza. LEE focuses on creative process, cross-cultural contexts and physical creativity in the local contemporary dance culture, redefining the performativity through performance. He creates around pop culture, labor, and queer bodies etc. and received the Award for Young Artist in 2017.



#### Director | Kitty YEUNG

Kitty YEUNG, a Hong Kong filmmaker and artist, is recognised for her experimental and stylised imagery and sound. With her background as the former Lead Producer at Nowness Asia and as the founder of production company Pissbaby and art collective 135YCS, she expresses her observations and emotions through imaginative storytelling.

Production | Unlock Dancing Plaza Concept & Choreographer & Artistic Director | Joseph LEE Director & Editor & Producer | Kitty YEUNG Dancer | Gigi YANG Yi-zi (A Green Leaf), Cedric CHAN (Latin Dance 1), TIN Lai-ki (Latin Dance 1) Sound Designer | Lawrence LAU Costume Designer | Trista MA

Film Copyright | Unlock Dancing Plaza

#### The Rhythm of Sharing

Macau | 2024 | 4'11 mins



A food stall, much like a good listener, holds onto its unique flavors, hoping to keep them alive in its surroundings.

In a city, rediscovering familiar tastes can be challenging, as they often change with the evolving landscape and the movement of people. In Macau, this sense of constant transformation is particularly strong. The concepts of "listening," "hometown," and "city dwellers" are the connections that a restaurant tries to cultivate, always with the hope that past visitors will return. During this time, performers collect and share interesting and meaningful experiences with others.

#### Production | Four Dimension Spatial

Four Dimension Spatial (2013) is a non-profit artistic group in Macau. With the purpose of "Dance as a medium, expanding to other art forms", we endeavor to promote various forms, to explore different relationships between audience and performance and to build different platforms to encourage local artists interacting with foreign artists/ institutions.



#### Concept | Man-ian KU

Man-ian KU was born and raised in Macau. KU studied at the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, majoring in Contemporary Dance. She positioned herself in theater and dancing to explore her own communication in different fields and issues. Recently, she has been curiously exploring improvisational dance methods and gender themes. Production | Four Dimension Spatial Concept & Choreographer & Dancer | Man-ian KU

Film Copyright | Four Dimension Spatial

Photography & Editor | Keng-u LAO Art Director | Iat-hou UN

#### Weaving on the Moon

Taiwan | 2022 | 27'02 mins



Weaving is a universal myth shared by humanity, a practice that continues today in various forms. Life can be seen as a vast tapestry, with time as the warp and space as the weft, slowly advancing as each point of intersection creates its own rhythm and sound. Payi (grandmother) often weaves at night, and as sunlight spreads across the moon's surface, the rhythmic pung-pung of her weaving echoes like a myth.

One year, Yaya (mother) from the Atayal tribe in Wulai remarked, "People have already reached the moon, so why are we still insisting that only women can weave?" Traditionally, the older women in the tribe were hesitant to teach boys how to weave. So, I decided to start weaving as I walked on the moon.

#### Produciton | TAI Body Theatre

TAI Body Theatre was founded in 2013 by Truku choreographer Watan TUSI. "TAI", originating from the Truku language, means "to see" or "to observe". This selected term signifies Watan's gaze and contemplation of traditional indigenous culture, artistic director Watan pondered the following question: "In addition to traditional rituals or tourist performances, are there any new possibilities for indigenous music and dance?"



#### Director | William LÜ

William LÜ is a cinematographer and filmmaker with a unique background in dance. LÜ began as a founding member of the Los Angeles-based contemporary dance company Backhausdance, earning recognition such as Male Dancer of the Year by the Beverly Hills Journal in 2004 and Lester Horton Awards in 2007 and 2008. He shifted to filmmaking, starting with his dance short film, *Partita for One*, which premiered at the Scottish Dance Film Festival and appeared on the BBC Big Screen in the UK. His follow-up film, *STILL*, combined movement with visual storytelling and won Best of Fest at the International Speechless Film Festival. In 2019, he co-founded Crazy Family Productions, a bilingual video production company in Taipei.

Production | TAI Body Theatre Choreographer | Watan TUSI, Ising SUAIYUNG Costume Designer | Labay EYONG Video Director | William LÜ Cinematographer | William LÜ, HAN Min Dancer | Piya TALALIMAN, Irimilrimi KUPANGASANE, Temu MASIN, Qaulai TJIVULJAVUS Radio | Ryan LIEN Lighting | Ke-mo LI Image team | Crazy Family Productions Executive Producer | Dremedremane PASAKENE Photography | Mumu GAO Lighting and Sound | Zhengdian Enterprise Co, Ltd.

Film Copyright | TAI Body Theatre

# Special Mention

#### Untitled

Taiwan | 2020 | 11 mins



Untitled features a deliberate and powerful performance of bodily movements in the dark, accompanied by pre-recorded low-frequency sounds generated by the body's actions. This combination creates an illusion of live sound recording. The interplay between the body and sound sketches out a strange and primordial origin, symbolizing the body's situation and conflicts within society. It portrays the tangled loops of internal frameworks and self-imposed limitations.



#### Director | HSU Hai-wen

A graduate of the Dance Department at National Taiwan University of Arts, HSU Hai-wen spent nearly a decade in France, where she received training at the French National Choreographic Center EXERCE and Le Fresnoy National Studio of Contemporary Arts. HSU has also been a member of France's Compagnie Käfig and Ballet Preljocaj. Her dance film Siamoise was selected for the Taipei Film Festival, Kaohsiung Film Festival, and the Cinedans FEST in the Netherlands, among other international film festivals. In 2023, she presented her choreography Ténèbres Vacillantes at the Venice Biennale Dance Festival.

Director & Choreographer & Dancer & Editor | HSU Hai-wen DOP & Storyboard | CHAO Wei-chieh Sound | Leobardo ARANGO Costume | Anh DOUNG

Film Copyright | HSU Hai-wen

#### **Special Thanks**

PTS Taiwan / Ku & Dancers / Dance Class of Tsoying Senior High School / Bulareyaung Dance Company / Homegreen Films / Kaohsiung Film Archive / Dance Forum Taipei / Modern Planet Productions / Ethos Original Co., Ltd. / Claude WANG / William LÜ / LEE Chen-wei / Jessica Wan-yu LIN / PENG Hsiao-yin / Raymond WONG / HUANG Hsinchun / YANG Wei-hsin / Maurice LAI / SU Che-hsien

Promoted and Organized by |



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With All the Staff of National Kaohsiung Center for the Arts (Weiwuying)

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