

Kaohsiung Local Hi

Antinomy Company Embarking on a Drift to the Unknown

2025.6.14 Sat. 14:30 2025.6.15 Sun. 14:30

Weiwuying Recital Hall



Synopsis

Over sixty years ago, in the pursuit of survival and new opportunities, she boarded a ship and drifted off into the unknown. When she arrived at her destination, she was immediately taken to a pre-arranged wedding and married to a man she had never met. Sitting on a chair, she tells her story with distorted memories and lost words. She did not want to forget, and yet she did. She did not want to stay, but found herself left behind. This is a solo performance crafted through soundscapes and documentation, incorporating themes of history, decolonization, and multiculturalism. The interpretation of real stories evolves from the travel history of one woman into a family history, and the history of immigration and colonialism in Asia.

Director's Note

"Let the voices emerge."

This belief has accompanied me through my creative journey for a long time. To me, it is not only the driving force behind my works, but also a method of expression embodied within the creations themselves.

Embarking on a Drift to the Unknown centers on a historical memory that was real yet long-neglected—the immigration history of Chinese women and a life experience of migration to foreign lands, survival, building families, and growing old. This is not a piece that seeks to take everyone back to the past, nor is it an introduction to a certain history. It is rather a response to the here and now—why we've chosen to speak of this matter at this very moment.

Some existences cannot be neatly categorized or precisely named. They live along various borders, becoming "outsiders." These individuals cannot be defined solely by gender, class, or identity, but by their minority status—those who are always difficult to classify, allocate, or place.

When we speak of memory, fate, and survival, we confront a structure that is blurred and overlapping. What is "my memory"? What is "my language"? And what is "my culture"? The intersections of language, ethnicity, identity, and culture continue to surface and resurface in our lives. This layered condition is also a deeply relatable experience for those of us living in Taiwan. These particular bodily memories may not be a "major event" in history, but these small, fragmented recollections can still be powerful and precious expressions of a generation that represent the migrating traces of countless drifters.

Voice is a deeply rooted sensory experience through which we construct memory. We use it to remember the tiniest details of a scene—even if those details do not alter all the established facts—and it is precisely these details that make each memory unique and subjective. We try to bring forward the voices, not to narrate, but to summon. The voices we create are not a reproduction of what was once said, but a call toward the memories that cannot be recorded or faithfully retold. It is a path through which we try to understand via bodies, spaces, and voices.

We are not trying to complete a story, but to invite you to engage with us, to step into the space where voices emerge, and to listen anew to the memories that were never truly spoken—perhaps even including our own.

Director, Concept, Sound and Music | LI Yun

Director, sound/music designer, and exhibition & performance curator. Currently in charge of the creative collective Antinomy Company. His works span theater, sound, body, and installation art, with a strong emphasis on a practice-oriented approach rooted in "multiple forms, multiple participation, and multiple care." He is committed to constructing a distinctive creative language that bridges historical memory and sensory experience. His works explore themes such as the island memories in Asia, collaborations with nonprofessional performers, and site-specific devised projects. Through body and sound, he evokes forgotten memories and traces, transforming space into a flowing vessel of memory.

In recent years, LI has been actively engaged in researching Asian historical narratives and chorography, viewing historical events as pathways for contemporary and future reflection. In his creations, sound is treated as a force that brings history into presence. Through echoes, recordings, ambient sound, and object-based installations, perceptible memory spaces are created. By experimenting with scenographic language, he seeks to break the boundaries between viewers and space, inviting the audiences to re-examine their relationships with the past within the liminal zone between presence and absence.



Documentary Material and Co-Author | Genn LAU



Full name LAU Xin-hui, Genn LAU is a Malaysian artist currently based in Taipei. She graduated from the Department of Radio and Television at National Chengchi University, and later earned her MFA in Theatre Performance and Playwriting at the Taipei National University of the Arts (TNUA). She also completed the Film Acting Training Program at TNUA. LAU was awarded Best Actress in the Taipei International Golden Short Film Awards. Her work spans a wide range of fields, including film and television, theater, commercials, voice acting, and immersive experiences.

Her recent works include MOCA STUDIO's At the End of Dialogue and Somewhere Unknown in Indochina VR, Surprise Lab's Love and the City, and Boundary Creative's Journey of Automatic Car Wash.

Company Antinomy Company



Antinomy Company is a fluid and multi-modal creative collective that engages with the entangled relationships between body, memory, and site within contemporary contexts. Guided by the core principles of "multiple forms, multiple participation, and multiple care," the collective explores the layered ambiguities found in artistic materials, narrative structures, and modes of presentation. Working with text, body, light, sound, and space as materials, the company develops artistic practices that span across theater, sound, corporeality, and installation. Their long-term creative focus includes the re-narration of island memories in Asia, the embodied experiences of non-professional performers, and the perceptual reconfiguration of site-specific contexts, seeking to foster multifaceted dialogues between art and society.

Artistic and Production Team

Director, Concept, Sound and Music | LI Yun

Documentary Material and Co-Author | Genn LAU

Text | LI Yun

Performer | Genn LAU

Stage Manager | HUANG Yung-chih
Stage Designer | LIN Jhao-an
Lighting Designer | CHIEN Fang-yu
Movement Designer | YANG Yue
Graphic Designer | LI Yun
Video Designer | LI Yun
Sound Engineer | WEN Cheng-han
Lighting Technician | CHEHG Chu-hsin, WU Kuan-hsuan, LI Chia-yi
Stage Technician | WANG Yi-hung

Producer | YANG Yue
Production Assistant | CHU Man-ning

Special Thanks | Hua Ying and her family, LIM How Ngean, 435 Art Zone, KAO Yi-kai, KOK Heng Leun, Sky Ng, Thinkers' Studio



