

Bilik Mimpi

Her dreams come back to her in flashes throughout the day. She created him from her own fantasies. She can sense him in a way that is impossible in reality. And yet she still feels he watches over her, her soul mate.

Choreographed by Suhaili Micheline binti Ahmad Kamil
Performed by Siti Amellia Feroz and Raziman bin Sarbini
Music arranged by Fikri Fadzil
Thanks to ASWARA for the use of their studios for rehearsal.

Suhaili Micheline trained in classical ballet, contemporary and jazz. She holds a Bachelors degree in Dance (Hons) from Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne. She returned to Malaysia in 2007 where she quickly became known as a top 4 finalist of *So You Think You Can Dance* season 1. Awarded Best Featured Performer and Most Promising Artist at the 7th BOH Cameronian Arts Awards in 2009, Suhaili has also won awards at Short+Sweet and has recently performed in Hong Kong, New York, Melbourne and Seoul.

Ember

The glowing passion that sometimes precedes a fire is so small and light, it can be blown away by the wind.

Choreographed and performed by Alisya Razman Adam.
Thanks to Fairul Zahid for mentoring and for being the backbone of this piece!

Enduring

Some say, to face the road ahead, you have to believe in your own ability and the importance of persistence. Some say that, in the scale of the universe, a micro-organism has the same value as a human being. If both things are true, no matter how insignificant we are, always believe that even a micro-organism can be persistent!

Choreographed by Mak Foong Ming
Performed by Tan Bee Hung, Foong Siew Ching & Ma Hui Shan
Team leader: Amy Len (lighting) & Lee Choy Wan (music).

Mak Foong Ming is a full-time dance instructor and dancer, who graduated with a Bachelor of Food Science and Technology from University Putra Malaysia. After joining Kwang Tung Dance Company in 2005, she participated in Youth Studio of Dance 2004 and was nominated in the 5th Annual BOH Cameronian Arts Awards 2006 for the Best Choreography in a Mixed Bill.

Dancebox

8.30pm 17 December 2011

3pm 18 December 2011

FUSED Series

Performing Arts Center of Penang

penangpac
performing arts centre of penang



Theatre Supervisor: Naomi Lim
Theatre technicians: Dicky & Adeq
Front of house: Suresh
Stage manager: Stephanie Ho
Producer: Bilqis Hijjas

About Dancebox

Dancebox is a one-night performance platform presented by MyDance Alliance every few months at The Actors Studio, Kuala Lumpur, as part of the FUSED series. This is the first time Dancebox has been presented in Penang, and we hope it will not be the last! Dancebox aims to showcase new or experimental dance works from everyone from emerging choreographers to established artists. To get involved, email contact@mydancealliance.org.

MyDance Alliance is proud to be a part of the opening programs at The Performing Arts Centre of Penang. We are also proud to be able to present a selection of short contemporary dance works choreographed or arranged by emerging female choreographers based in Kuala Lumpur.

In the Malaysian contemporary dance community, as in many other places, most dancers are women. However, again like elsewhere, the processes of choreography and artistic direction are often dominated by men. Whether this is because male dancers are given special attention and therefore their confidence to lead and choreograph gets greater encouragement, or whether female dancers are so subjugated by the constant social pressure to do things correctly that they find it difficult to break out and do things creatively, I do not know. But as the president of MyDance Alliance, I am keen to encourage women to assume equal positions of leadership and responsibility in the dance community, and also to take chances with their artistic careers.

I am particularly pleased to include two works from the Kua Bu performance series produced by Kwang Tung Dance Company. Under the artistic direction of Amy Len, KTDC has an extremely effective and far-sighted system for encouraging emerging talent in their ranks, both male and female, ranging from its dance training program for community youth, to Kua Bu, a mentored platform for new works created by company dancers. Both have done extremely well in generating an informed audience for dance as well as nurturing valuable artists of the future.

The two solos in this presentation are in very different styles – butoh and lyrical contemporary dance – but both represent the terrific energy of new dancers breaking into the scene. In my opinion, Yeow Lai Chee has been a shot in the arm for the otherwise rather male-dominated Nyoba Kan, bringing a new sense of enthusiasm and, as you will see, a powerful stage presence. Alisya Razman Adam, meanwhile, is a very young but very promising performer who has already started to generate interest, and is a valuable role model for dancers of her generation.

Our show also features a duet work by Suhaili Micheline, a multi-award winning dancer and choreographer who erupted onto the KL scene in 2006, and since then has been steadily building her repertoire, working internationally and branching out into musical theatre. Datin Marion D’Cruz once said to me that all choreographers are emerging, no matter how old they are, as choreography is a never-ending process of emergence. Suhaili must now tackle the most difficult part of an ‘emerging’ artist’s career – how to maintain momentum after the initial excitement wears off, how to face new challenges and find new sources of inspiration, to continue to grow and mature. I wish her and all the other choreographers tonight much luck, and gratitude for sharing with us the fruits of their labour so far.

Enjoy the show!



--- PROGRAMME ---

Heart.Beat

Unable to recognize that person in the shadows, she is in fact no other but you.

Choreographed by Foong Siew Ching
Performed by Samantha Chong, Tan Bee Hung, Mak Foong Ming & Ma Hui Shan
Team Leader: Amy Len (lighting) & Lee Choy Wan (music)

Currently a full-time dance instructor and dancer, Siew Ching is a graduate in Social Science from USM. A member of Kwang Tung Dance Company since 2005, Siew Ching has participated in many company projects, including the Youth Studio of Dance 2004 and 2005, Youth Studio of Dance Bilateral Project *Romeo and Juliet-The Passion*, Kua Bu Series 2006, Tari in 2007, *We're Gonna Go Dancing*, *Patches of Dreams*, *Static Flow*, *Elephant in the Room* (which was also performed in Guangzhou, China), *Single Thought*, *On Anxiety*, *Wall* (also performed in Guangzhou, China), *No Exit* (also performed in Ludwigshafen, Germany) and *Bodies Across Boundaries*.

In the Forest

This piece is about the spirits and ghosts who appear and dance in the forest. They are 'living' in dreams all the time, never truly awake. This butoh performance is based on the butoh fu, or system of notation, devised by Hijikata Tatsumi, the founder of the butoh method.

Choreographed by Yukio Waguri
Adapted and performed by Yeow Lai Chee

Lai Chee started her performance career in 2004, as a dancer and vocalist for the musical performances produced by Musical on Stage. In 2009, she joined Nyoba Kan (寿板), the only butoh dance company in Malaysia, where she trains under Master Lee Swee Keong. She has participated in the Nyoba Kan International Butoh Festival in Kuala Lumpur since 2009. She is now learning the butoh *fu* from butoh master Yukio Waguri. She performed his work in Kuala Lumpur in 2009-2010, and in Beijing and Bangkok this year.