

7. The Art of Falling

Choreographed & performed by Hwa Wei-An
Music: 'Bed Spring' by Dirtwire, 'Dogma' by Objekt

To err is human, but that's not what falling has to be.

Wei-An started dancing because he thought it was cool. When he saw people in music videos grooving, spinning (often on their heads), flipping, and flying through the air, he wanted to be like them. This eventually led him to study in the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, work in Frontier Danceland, and into being an independent artist. During this time, he has had the opportunity to work with choreographers like Pichet Klunchun, Wu Chien-Wei, Noa Zuk, Ole Khamchanla, Christina Chan, Lee Mun Wai, Gabrielle Nankivell, Luke Smiles and Sita Ostheimer. He still likes to spin on his head, and continues to delve into the worlds of hip-hop, b-boying, and tricking, disciplines that feed into his study of The Art of Falling as well as the wider body of his contemporary dance practice.

Wei-An would like to thank Rimbun Dahan, Dance Nucleus (Singapore) and Arco Renz (Belgium) for the residencies and mentorship that they provided in the development of this piece.

----- want more info? -----

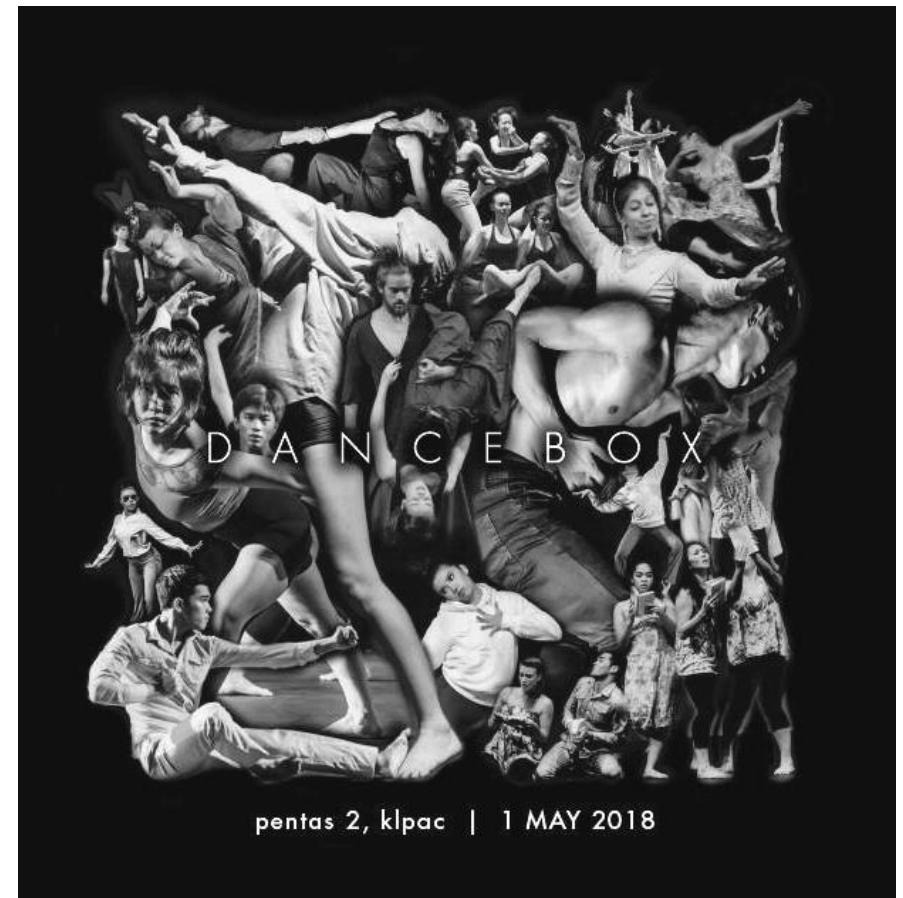
To find out about dance events in Malaysia, sign up for the MyDance Alliance free fortnightly e-newsletter in the foyer, or go to www.mydancealliance.org.

And LIKE our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/mydancealliance.

To get involved in other MyDance Alliance events, email contact@mydancealliance.org.

----- thanks -----

Huge thanks to the staff and crew of TAS and klpac for this continuing opportunity.



Producer, Programmer & MC – Bilqis Hijjas
Stage Manager – Rithaudin Abdul Kadir
Front of House – Lim Siew Ling

klpac Technical Crew – Mohamed Fairuz bin Mohamed Ariff @ Boy,
Syaiful Rizal bin Marsukiyono Soleh @ Ijai
klpac Technical Supervisor – Michael Joseph

----- programme sequence -----

1. Kaleidoscope (excerpts)

Choreographed by Kim-Sanh Châu (Canada / France / Vietnam)

Performed by Nhung Vo (Vietnam)

Composers: Chittakone Baccam & Michel F. Côté

Leaning between dance and installation, Kaleidoscope is a sensorial journey where bodies unravel subconscious and fleeting dreams. Floating through concise positions and with gentle corporeity, the dancer opens our oneiric imaginations. Wearing kaleidoscopic glasses, the audience slides into a surreal synesthetic realm of colors, music and emotions.

Kim-Sanh Châu is a French-Vietnamese dance artist based in Montréal. Her practice includes choreography, interpretation and curation. Trained in dance at UQAM, she also holds a master degree in finance. Her choreographic research evolves around the conception of structures, exploring the corporeity which lies in their interstices. Her work was presented at Quartiers Danes, MAI – Montréal, Arts Interculturels, Accès Asie, RAW Art Space (Malaysia) and Europe Meets Asia in Contemporary Dance, programmed by the Goethe Institute (Vietnam). *Kaleidoscope* will be presented at Tangente and Krossing-Over (Vietnam) in 2018. Châu is also very involved in screendance creation. In 2017, she was awarded Best Direction 2017 by Festival Quartiers Danes for *Inner Smoke*. Châu also curates a yearly screendance event at Studio 303.

Nhung Vo lives in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. She started dance training in 1999 at the Vietnamese Dance School. She won Best Female Dancer at the Vietnam Dance Festival, and 4th place in the TV Show So You Think You Can Dance Vietnam. A devoted, independent artist who trains in her own style on a daily basis. she has worked with choreographers Linh Rateau (Vietnam), Sébastien Ly (France), and Kim-Sanh Châu (Canada). In September 2017 she presented her show *Feel Yourself* at the Dancenter in Ho Chi Minh City. She is currently studying Modern Jazz with ISTD.

This project was supported by the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec (Vivacité and travel grant), LOJIQ foundation, La Serre - arts vivants, OFFTA, Espace Marie Chouinard (Canada) and DanCenter (Vietnam).

Centre. Last year, she co-created "Where's The Specificity" with dance artist Lee Mun Wai from Singapore. She has presented choreographies in Dancing In Place, Festival/Tokyo 2016, Festival BO:M 2015 in Seoul, amongst others. She has danced with The Human Expression Dance Company in Singapore, LeeSaar The Company in NYC, and DPAC Dance Company in Malaysia. She is a graduate of NAFA in Singapore and completed her BFA in Dance at the Purchase College, State University of New York. Thanks to Hwa Wei-An for helping out with this piece.

6. Cut Off

Choreographed by Fauzi Amirudin

Performed by Ahmad Zaidyansjah bin Ruddyansjah & Nur Syafiqah Najwa bt Jefri

Music: 'Smell Memory' by Múm

Inspired by our nation's society wherein we are constantly struggling to balance between what is deemed 'right' and 'wrong'. How long will it last? And how will it end?

The choreography has been constructed with images, shapes, and designs as the primary tools of exploration.

Fauzi was born in Jelebu, Negeri Sembilan, and holds a Diploma and a Bachelor of Dance (Choreography) Hons. from ASWARA. Fauzi is currently a principal dancer at ASK Dance Company (ADC). He won 3 gold medals at the World Championship of Performing Arts (WCOPA) at Los Angeles in 2011. In 2014, he also won the BOH Cameronian Arts Award for Best Choreographer in a Mixed Bill for his work '2 by 2', produced by ADC. Fauzi created the show *Pit-Stop* in 2015. In 2016, he performed in 'One Piece' produced by Japanese choreographer Un Yamada; in 2017, he was invited again to join Co. Yamada Un to perform her work *People Without Seasons* in Tokyo, Kuala Lumpur, and Kota Kinabalu. Recently, he took part in the International Young Choreographer Project 2017 (IYCP) in Taiwan, and was named one of the Top 10 Cultural Dancers in Malaysia by Top 10 Magazine. With thanks and acknowledgements to ASK Dance Company and 2twenty2 studio.

2. Curated Ideals/Chaotic Reality (A work in progress)

Choreographed and performed by Joanna Koleth

Music: travel sound recordings edited by Joanna Koleth,

'Mothersong: II. Shower' by Nico Muhly & Abigail Fischer

A dialogic expression between the insider/outsider self and how I grapple with my transcultural identity, displacement and the things that make sense so far.

Joanna Koleth is an independent dance artist-educator & BASI Pilates instructor. Born in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (Dance) from Belhaven University (USA). She was a member of Ad Deum II Dance Company (USA), and has appeared with Balletbase (Malaysia), Nibroll Dance Company - Mikuni Yanaihara (Japan), Un Yamada Co. (Japan), PGK Dance Project - Peter Kalivas (USA), Remnant Dance Theatre - Lucinda Coleman (Australia), San Diego Dance Theater's Trolley Dances, and somebodies dance theater - Kyle Sorenson (USA). She is currently living in Sabah, and pursuing a Master of Fine Arts in Dance at Hollins University (USA) in association with The Dresden Frankfurt Dance Company, The University of Music and Performing Arts Frankfurt, and Künstlerhaus Mousonturm Frankfurt (Germany). Thanks to Bilqis Hijjas, my thesis mentor, and to Lim Pei Ern.

3. The Enigma

Choreographed & performed by Maria Devonne Escobia

Am I being an enigma to myself or to you?

Recently shooting to fame as a finalist of Miss Universe Malaysia, Maria Devonne was born in 1993 in Kota Kinabalu. She picked up her dancing shoes at 16 years old as a hip hop dancer and pursued her dreams at ASWARA, completing a diploma and degree majoring in choreography. A member of ASK Dance Company from 2014 to 2017, she won the Gold Medal at Andong Mask Festival 2014 in South Korea and was nominated as Best Featured Dancer in the BOH Cameronian Awards for her performance in Mohd Yunus Ismail's "when they ate the apple". Aside from participating in *Jamu*, *Gelombang Baru*, *Tapestry*, *Short+Sweet*, *Main Zapin* and *Tari*, she has danced with choreographers such as Naim

Syahrazad, Fauzi Amirudin, Joseph Gonzales, and Gerard Mosterd. She recently danced the duet "between ears not legs" created with Mohd Shafiq, in *Release 6.0* in Singapore.

4. Langgar

Choreographed by Sharm Noh

Performed by Adhli Fadhlullah Bin Sa'adilah, Mohd Zhafir Muzani bin Mohamad (Zhafheybat), Ayie Elham, Peot & Akid Jabran.

Kalau boleh, semua benda nak langgar.

Syamsudin Bin Noh, known as Sharm Noh, hails from Shah Alam. He kicked off his career at 18, with a cheerleading squad, and honed his skills with a diploma in dance from ASWARA, and works including 'Do I?', 'Skremrem' and 'Illness' by Nadhirah Razid, Malar, 'Umbrella' and 'Unstated' by Maria Devonne, 'Dust to Dust' by Rithaudin Abdul Kadir, and '4 Stage' by Fione Chia Yan Wei. Sharm is an active performer in musical theatre, having starred in *MUD: Our Story of Kuala Lumpur* and *Uda dan Dara* (2015). He won 3rd place for group and a special award for solo competition at Andong Mask Dance Festival in Korea. His work was presented at *24hours Dancing* in Solo, Indonesia and *Short+Sweet Dance KL 2016* (winning Best Female and Best Female Supporting Dancer). He is also a coach for kickstart gymnastics company, and recently he joined Psycusix, a modern circus art company in Malaysia, as a choreographer.

5. RIDING HIGH TOGETHER

Choreographed and performed by Lee Ren Xin

This is an excerpt from a piece I was working on in Hong Kong last month, invited under the Cultural Management program at the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Based in Malaysia, Ren Xin works independently and collaboratively. Recently, she worked in *Version 2020* directed by Mark Teh of Five Arts