

7. *Never have I dealt with anything more difficult than my own soul*

Choreographed by Fahezul Azri bin Suhaimi
Performed by Megat Amiruddin Johan Bin Zakri Firdaus Jean,
Fahezul Azri bin Suhaimi, Seraphic Wong Shantie, Fatin Nadhirah
Rahmat, and Mohd Zulkarnain bin Zuber
Music composed by Romo Hernandez

Hope, love, faith: you are not alone!

Combining traditional and contemporary vocabulary in a futuristic approach, trying to break boundaries, at the same time appreciating similarities and taking advantage of the juxtaposition. Experimenting and thinking beyond just combining elements, using the concept of being sensitive towards our senses and awareness; what happens if there is an imbalance of both, and how it can develop into anxiety and depression.

Born to a Sabahan family in Kuala Lumpur, Fahezul Azri bin Suhaimi graduated with a Diploma in Dance (Performance) and Degree in Dance majoring as a performer at ASWARA. Currently a choreographer and dance captain under Pat Ibrahim Project Entertainment, he is highly influenced by hip hop, contemporary and traditional dances. He has performed in *Flatland* choreographed by Suhaili Micheline, *Tentang Cinta* by Khairulazhar Mohtar, *Seru* by Joseph Gonzales, the musicals *P Ramlee* and *Supermokh*, as well as in festivals, competitions and events in Korea, USA, and Indonesia. His short dance works 'Liku', 'bida', 'Puissance', 'Halus', 'Hidup Bersama' and the recent 'Voginang' have appeared in platforms like Gelombang Baru, Short+Sweet and Dancing in Place.

Thanks to the support of Dayang Entertainment, Pinkbox Studio, and Centrestage Vision Dynamic.

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

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

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



Pentas 2 klpac
2 September 2018



Producer, Programmer & MC – Bilqis Hijjas
Stage Manager – Rithaudin Abdul Kadir
Front of House – Yeow Lai Chee
klpac Technical Crew – Mohamed Fairuz bin Mohamed Ariff @ Boy & Khairil
klpac Technical Supervisor – Michael Joseph

MyDance Alliance has been producing the Dancebox series in partnership with The Actors Studio going back to the days of the Dataran Merdeka space, as well as the theatres in Bangsar, Lot10 and Taman Tun Dr Ismail.

It remains a popular platform for new or experimental dance works from emerging and established choreographers, presented in a professional theatre but an informal setting, and affordable and accessible to all.

Huge thanks to the staff and crew of The Actors Studio and Kuala Lumpur Performing Arts Centre for this continuing opportunity.

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

1. Anak Kampung (Son of the Countryside)

Choreographed by JS Wong

Performed by Mohammad Khairi bin Mokhtar

Music composition by Goh Lee Kwang

This is a movement study version and an excerpt of a work in progress entitled "Anak Kampung". In this version, a series of kinetic responses is composed to illustrate the journey of a kampung boy. The boy is in the city. He walks. He stops. He plays. He falls. He dreams. He pushes. He is being pushed. He runs. He has to run. He is no longer running.

Wong Jyh Shyong (JS), born in Seremban, Malaysia, is currently a dance artist who is thinking, creating, performing, and teaching dance. He received his Master of Fine Arts from Graduate Institute of Choreography, Taipei National University of the Arts, in 2013 and Bachelor of Fine Arts from The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts with First Class Honors in 2005. He was previously a dancer with Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan from 2005 to 2009. In the 9th and 11th BOH Cameronian Arts Awards in Malaysia, he received the Best Featured Performer award. From 2013 to 2016, he was the artistic director of DPAC Dance Company as well as Damansara Performing Arts Centre. JS has staged his own works and commissioned pieces in various festivals and venues in Australia, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Japan and India. He is now a lecturer in the dance department at University of Malaya.

5. Pandu Lalu

Choreographed by Mohd Nuriqram Bin Azhar

Performed by Wong En Li, Muhammad Haziq bin Basar, Aramy Rasyid bin Mohamed, Nurul Nadia binti Roslan, and Nabil Izwan Bin Norsaiful 'Adlan.

Ramai orang nak cepat tapi tak tabu keburukan yang akan terjadi kepada dirinya.

Mohd Nuriqram Bin Azhar is a second year Bachelor of Dance with Honours student in ASWARA. He represented Malaysia to the ASEAN-China Joint Cultural Performance in Siem Reap, Cambodia. He was one of the finalists for Bakat Ohsem Malaysia Competition 2017. He has collaborated with the Faculty of Theatre ASWARA in the theater production *Cus Cus Cus*. He has also been involved in productions organized by the Faculty of Dance ASWARA such as *Main Zapin, Jamu, Drama Tari Hang Li Po, Adub Seroja* and others. He created 'Kurang Kasih Sayang' (2017) and 'Out of Coverage' (2018) for the Gelombang Baru platform for new work at ASWARA.

6. New Friend, Old Friend 「新·朋友, 舊·朋友」 [Work in progress]

Choreographed by Matt Tan

Performed by Yeak Sue Ning, Chin Koh Lee, Jessie Lim, Kuan Chau Voon, and Chew Yee Hsuen

Friends. Everyone has friends in life. Friends are important. But there's nothing more precious than a true friend – a true friend will never be forgotten.

Matt Tan is a full-time choreographer and dancer. He has worked with Asian Musical Production (2012-2016) and was nominated as Best Featured Dancer at the BOH Cameronian Arts Awards in 2016. His works such as 《我愛你, 塞北的雪》, 《源滴勇潮》, 《回首》, 《鄉間物語》 have won several awards in the National Chinese Dance Competition Malaysia in 2012 until 2014. In 2016, 《姪紫嫣紅》 obtained First-Runner Up and the Best Choreography award and in the following year, 《芳心花語》 was awarded Champion and the Best Choreography award. Recently, his piece 'Friend' won the Gold Award at the 8th National Chinese Cultural Dance Open Competition and competed at the Bauhinia Cup Dance Championships in Hong Kong.

2. 'You'

Choreographed by Hafzal Aziz

Performed by Carmen Loh Jia Min, Kathryn Chew Yee Hsuen, Gwen Ng Wen Shi, Wong Yi Juan, and Esther Kuan Chau Voon
Music 'In This Shirt' by The Irrepressibles

'Liminality' refers to a state of 'in-between-ness' or ambiguous transitional space in which identity conflict and aspirational identity formation occurs. Individuals in the state of liminality endure a painful separation from their existing identity. As they negotiate this rite of passage, they are likely to show obedience and humility and simply fall in line with the expected new conduct and behaviour.

This work explores situations in which people change personalities based on the circumstances they face. We always try to be ourselves, although, in some circumstances we cannot. The betwixt and between of our feelings somehow creates the state where we become liminal, between the true self and 'you'.

Originally from Kuching, Mohd. Hafzal bin Aziz holds a Bachelor of Performing Arts (Dance) in 2017 and is currently pursuing his Master of Performing Arts (Dance) at University of Malaya. An instructor and dancer of NusPARC Dance Company (NDC), he has choreographed contemporary works 'Gemalai' for Young Emerging Choreographers in 2015 and 'You' for UMa Dance Showcase 2018. He has been performing, teaching and choreographing traditional dances, and has performed in contemporary dance works by Jack Kek, Leng Poh Gee, Rathimalar Govindarajoo, Rozilah Abd Rahman, Hamid Chan, and Joelle Jacinto. He recently appeared with NDC in the Philippines and Taiwan.

3. Bodies and Creatures of Time

Choreographed by Lim Paik Yin

Performed by Nikki Basharudin, Lim Paik Yin, and Sim Hoi Ling

A movement piece exploring the essence of past, present and future through everyday gestures.

Lim Paik Yin is an interdisciplinary artist working with photography and performance. Her work uses the human body as a visual motif to explore the various ideologies and political forces that shape attitudes towards human bodies. She started choreographing and performing site specific works in Malaysia and Indonesia from 2014 onwards. Currently she is pursuing her Masters in Visual and Media Anthropology after 5 years working as a photo researcher in a stock photography company. Her photography work has evolved to including her practice in performance art. She is influenced by permaculture and her dance practice in contact improvisation and Butoh. "By using the presence of oneself and transforming everyday space through performance, I can view the self as a separate entity and thus intervene in my everyday routine, creating a temporal opportunity to express what is unspoken or hidden."

4. Try – The Dialogue

Choreographed by Leng Poh Gee

Performed by Tay Yi Xuan & Yap Chiu Yi

Costume design by Tan Shioa Por

Two solo pieces that were initially choreographed this year for different occasions have been combined. 'Try' was created for a dance competition which emphasizes considerable virtuosity, while 'The Dialogue' was created to explore an imaginative communication between grief and letting it go.

Leng Poh Gee holds a Master of Arts (Performing Arts) from University of Malaya and Bachelor of Science (Human Development) from Universiti Putra Malaysia. He has served as a lecturer in the Dance Department, University of Malaya (2005-2016); Vice President of MyDance Alliance (2013-2018); dance notation facilitator to the Johor Heritage Foundation (2011-2012); and one of the dance judges for the BOH Cameronian Arts Awards (2011-2016). He is currently a dance lecturer in the Faculty of Music and Performing Arts, Sultan Idris Education University; and translator of *Langkah*, a bilingual online journal for local contemporary dance.

Thanks to Dua Space Dance Theatre Academy and University of Malaya's Dance Department that initiated the respective dance projects and sponsored rehearsal space.