

**Danny Yung is conferred with the 2015 Hong Kong Arts Development Awards :
Artist of the Year (Drama)**



“It is the start of a conversation. Next, we can discuss ways to make Hong Kong better. I sincerely hope to see the development in Hong Kong’s arts and cultural policy-making in real terms so that we will create a space for our next generation of talent to nurture and develop their creative gifts.” The experimental art pioneer, the awardee Danny Yung said.

In 2014-15, besides his four cross-cultural and cross-genre theater creations, Danny continued to nurture emerging artists through various ventures included the Toki Festival since 2011 – an endeavor to preserve and, more importantly, develop the national intangible cultural heritage Kunqu in a contemporary context.

Danny sees creativity as a means to make dialogues with people of all sorts, in the 48th Smithsonian Folklife Festival 2014, he created a large scale contemporary TTXS flower plaque based on the traditional craft originated from HK/Canton region in the National Mall of the United States in Washington.

In the same year, Danny was bestowed the Fukuoka Prize – Arts and Culture Prize for his contributions to the development of arts and culture.

More information of the Artist -

Danny Yung is a founding member cum Co-Artistic Director of Zuni Icosahedron. In the past 40 years, he has been actively engaged in various fields of the arts, including, theatre, film and video, comics, as well as visual and installation art. He was appointed the inaugural Dean's Master Artist in Drama of the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts in 2013.

Contempt 2014, Yung with nine young kunqu artists from the Jiangsu Kunqu Opera Theatre, had charted the journey that shaped the life and worldview. *Memorandum*, Yung's production in 2014 comprising four experimental short pieces on the theme of memory, offers an eclectic blend of Jingju (Peking opera), Kunqu (Kun opera), Chuanju (Sichuan opera) and contemporary theatre. *Flee by Night* was invited as the opening performance of arts festival of KunstFestSpiele Herrenhausen 2015 in Hanover of Germany.

In 2014 the 48th Smithsonian Folklife Festival, Yung designed the Gateway – Tian Tian Xiang Shang broad-scale flower plaque bamboo installation, featuring Hong Kong contemporary arts and southern China Lingnan cultural heritage of flower plaque. The installation stands on the National Mall of Washington DC during the Festival.

Yung is establishing contacts with the Bangkok Art and Culture Centre and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Singapore with a view to foster cultural collaboration between Hong Kong and its neighbouring regions regarding arts and cultural policy-making and the ecology of culture. In addition, Yung is now in talks with a group of Southeast Asian cultural leaders to establish a cultural think tank for the region. Arts and cultural policies of many regions were first advocated by cultural think tanks.

About Danny Yung:

YUNG is an experimental art pioneer and one of the most influential artists in Hong Kong and the neighbouring regions. Co-Artistic Director and one of the founders of Zuni Icosahedron, Chair of Hong Kong Institute of Contemporary Culture, Board Member of the Lee Shau Kee Hong Kong School of creativity. In the past 40 years, he has been deeply involved in various field of the arts, including, theatre, film and video, comics, visual art and installation. YUNG has contributed significantly to the provision of a platform for both acclaimed and emerging artists to explore and carry out cross-disciplinary and cross-cultural collaboration. YUNG has been involved in over 100 theatrical productions as director, scriptwriter, producer and stage designer, which has been shown in over 30 cities worldwide.

Awards:

In 2014, the Laureate of the Fukuoka Prize - Arts and Culture Prize

In 2009, bestowed the *Merit Cross of the Order of Merit on Ribbon of the Federal Republic of Germany* by the President of Germany

In 2008, conferred with the Music Theatre NOW Award by the International Theatre Institute of UNESCO

About Zuni Icosahedron:

Co-Artistic Directors: Danny Yung, Mathias Woo

Founded in 1982, Zuni Icosahedron is a Hong Kong based international experimental art company. Zuni has produced over 200 original productions of alternative theatre and multimedia performances, and has been active in video, sound experimentation and installation art, as well as in the areas of arts education, arts criticism, cultural policy research and international cultural exchange. In the past decade, Zuni has been undertaking the mission of preserving and developing Intangible Cultural Heritage (Performing Arts). Over the years, Zuni has been invited to over 60 cities in Europe, Asia, and America for cultural exchange and performances. Zuni is one of the nine major professional performing arts companies in Hong Kong, and has established itself as a premier experimental theatre locally, regionally and internationally. Since 2009, Zuni has become a Venue Partner of the Hong Kong Cultural Centre in where a series of theatre works and outreach education programmes were produced.

About Hong Kong Arts Development Awards

Organised by the Hong Kong Arts Development Council, the Hong Kong Arts Development Awards is an annual flagship event in the local arts scene. It aims to give formal recognition to distinguished arts practitioners, groups and organisations that have made significant contributions to the arts development in Hong Kong. Besides paying tribute to veteran arts practitioners, the Awards scheme presents different awards to recognise arts practitioners and up-and-coming artists with outstanding achievements. It also commends individuals and organisations that have actively participated in arts education and promotion, as well as patrons who have generously supported local arts events. By conferring the awards, the scheme aims to introduce diverse arts talents to the community, and to encourage active community support to the arts development in Hong Kong.

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