

Presented and Produced by Zuni Icosahedron

Danny Yung Experimental Theatre

Experimenting Chinese Theatre · Experimenting Stage Space

Contempt 2014

26-27/9/2014

Grand Theatre, Hong Kong Cultural Centre

Danny Yung will guide the nine *kunqu* opera artists to explore together the black hole of the “future”, and then return to the moment of now. In the journey, they will discuss what is “subversion”, what to think of “subversion” and how to deal with “subversion” for traditional theatre performers.

Contempt is about “future”. What do young artists think of “future”, and deal with “future”?

Contempt is about “subversion”. What do young artists think of “subversion”, and deal with “subversion”?

Placing traditional performing arts in museum is not the best way to preserve them. The traditional performing arts, such as the *kunqu* theatre, are living arts, which can only be preserved and fully developed through the creativity of their practitioners. Since 2010, Danny Yung has continued to engage the young *kunqu* artists in a series of cross-disciplines workshops, facilitating the platform for them to learn from and collaborate with top-notch Asian performing artists. Among them are artists from various fields such as *Noh* Theatre, Thai classic dance, Bali classic dance, contemporary theatre, contemporary dance. Through transcending, communication and collaboration, young artists are strengthened with knowledge and technique, and thus become capable of stepping out of the stereotypes of traditional stages.

Nine award-winning young *Kunqu* opera artists from the Jiangsu Province will boldly infuse issues of their concerns into the time and space of the theatre, subvert the traditional stage stereotypes, and develop a collective creation with the spirits of self-reflection. The Audience will witness how they integrate the traditional theatre art forms with contemporary stage space, and recreate fresh new stage experience.

Danny Yung Experimental Theatre – Experimenting Traditions Series

‘Yung is not just adept at breaking down boundaries in cultural production, his equally iconoclastic stance is also evident in his artistic practice. “Experimenting Traditions” series... keep the traditional arts alive... keep it as a life art form.’

-- Wah Guan Lim, Ph.D Candidate, Cornell University

Since 1990s, Danny Yung has been paying close attention to the heritage of traditional performing arts and started exploring the optimal way to develop it in contemporary society. He believes it is important to provide a platform for innovation and free exchange of ideas. By empowering our traditional performing artists and enabling them to discover their creativity and develop their potential to the full, our traditional performing artists will be able to take an active role in advancing cultural development and our heritage will also be able to keep on thriving.

With such aims in mind, Yung initiated the *Experimenting Traditions* series. Programs are designed to explore the innovation of Asia’s traditional performing arts in the context of contemporary theatre. Outstanding traditional performing artists of different backgrounds are invited to work together in cross-cultural settings in search of the new directions in contemporary theatre. By this *Series*, Zuni Icosahedron aims to search for the link among various cultures and possibilities for their future collaborative development and ultimately to develop a long-term cross-cultural dialogue and collaborative platform for the Asia-Pacific region.



Flee by Night, Hong Kong, 2010



Tears of Barren Hill, International Theatre Institute Music Theatre
NOW award-winning work.

Creative Team

Curator, Director & Designer: Danny Yung

Collective Creation and Performers (Nanjing): Cao Zhiwei, Liu Xiaoyun, Qian Wei, Sun Jing, Sun Yijun, Xu Sijia, Yang Yang, Zhao Yutao, Zhu Hong

Music: Pan Tak Shu

Programme Details

Tickets NOW Available at URBTIX

Ticket price: \$280

Credit Card Telephone Booking: 2111 5999

Internet Booking: www.urbtix.hk

Running time approximately 80 minutes without intermission, with Chinese and English text

In Collaboration with Jiangsu Performing Arts Group Kun Opera House

Programme Enquiries

Zuni Icosahedron | Tel 852-2566 9696 | Website www.zuni.org.hk

Media Enquiries Mr Luka Wong

Office Tel: 852-2893 8704 | Mobile: 852-6301 6569

Fax: 852-2838 7527 | Email: luka@zuni.org.hk