

Hung Dance



Hung Dance is a Taiwanese contemporary dance company founded in 2017 by artistic director and choreographer Lai Hung-chung. The company's name, inspired by the word "hung (如)," reflects their aspiration to soar. With a focus on annual productions, international collaboration, and tours, Hung Dance also organizes the Stray Birds Dance Platform to foster the creativity of choreographers and connect them to global resources.

The company has earned numerous awards for its exceptional choreographic pieces "Watcher" and "Birdy" in renowned competitions and festivals around the world. Building on this success, Hung Dance embarked on an extensive international tour, captivating audiences across Europe, Asia, America, and Africa with over a hundred mesmerizing performances.

Through performances, Hung Dance aims to provide audiences with transformative experiences, inviting them to interpret, imagine, and embrace the timeless beauty of dance. Lai Hung-chung's choreography explores human emotions, the connection between people and nature. By blending Tai Chi elements with contemporary concepts, he has created a unique dance vocabulary and training system.







LAI Hung Chung

"One of the best of the young choreographers working in Taiwan today. "— Taipei Times, 2020

Lai Hung-chung, a Taiwan National University of Arts graduate, founded Hung Dance in 2017, leaving a remarkable imprint on Taiwanese choreography. In 2016, he won gold and three awards at the Taiwan Creative Dance Competition, a record-setting feat. Lai's triumphs extended globally, garnering accolades in international choreography competitions.

Lai's creation, rooted in the theme of freedom, incorporates Tai Chi elements with contemporary concepts, fostering an inventive dance vocabulary and pushing creative boundaries. Noteworthy pieces like "Boundless" (2018), "See You" (2020), "Formless Erosion" (2022), and "Birdy" (2023) reflect this ethos. "See You" received Taishin Arts Award nomination and earned acclaim at prestigious festivals, including 9 five-star reviews at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and Adelaide Fringe Festival. "Birdy" sold out all its 20 shows at the Festival OFF Avginon in 2023.

Lai drives international collaboration and supports emerging talents. He founded the Stray Birds Dance Platform in 2019, spotlighting innovative, international choreography and offering production and touring opportunities. Lai's commitment to diversifying Taiwan's dance scene is evident in his cultural exchanges and connections.

In summary, Lai Hung-chung's Hung Dance legacy encompasses pioneering achievements, international recognition, and a commitment to enriching Taiwan's dance landscape through artistic exploration and global engagement.





2023

Adelaide Fringe Weekly Award AUS | Adelaide Fringe Festival

2022

Mervyn Stutter's Spirit of the Fringe Awards **Edinburgh | Edinburgh Festival Fringe – Taiwan Season**

2021

Nomination of Formless Erosion Taiwan | 20th Taishin Arts Award

2020

Nomination of See You Taiwan | 19th Taishin Arts Award

2019

Audience Award New York | Dance Gallery Festival

2018

3rd Prize: Germany | 32nd International Choreographic Competition Hanover

Audience Award: Switzerland | Tanzplatform Bern

2017

3rd Prize and Critics Award: **Germany** | **31st International Choreographic**

Competition Hanover

1st prize: Spain | Burgos & New York International Choreography Contest

Audience Prize: Spain | Masdanza International Dance Festival

Audience Award: Japan | Odoru Akita International Dance Festival



Birdy (8 Dancers)

TEAM 13 people

1 Choreographer, 8 Performers,

2 Touring Admins and 2 Technician

SPACE Theatre

Stage | 12 m (w) x 10 m (d) (minimum)

| black dance floor

DURATION 60 Mins

AGE 6+

*The schedule is negotiable which depends on the scale and complexity of theatre.

*The number of technical and administrative staff is also adjusted according to the tour schedule.

8-Dancer Version



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About "Birdy" (8 Dancers)

In "Birdy," Lai probes freedom and oppression's complex interplay, intertwining societal dynamics and Taiwan's communities. He examines how seemingly minor occurrences like emotions and history's echoes subtly breed fear, strife, or harmony in society.

Employing a cage and dreamer metaphor, Lai bridges personal sentiments, relationship dynamics, and the broader societal context. While deconstructing the traditional flower spear, he crafts a cage-like "Rattan pole," symbolizing life's constraints and challenges.

By portraying the image of a cage and a dreamer, Lai skillfully stretches the boundaries between an individual's innermost feelings, the dynamics of relationships, and the broader context of individuals within society, culture, or the world we inhabit.

Incorporating "Ling Zi" pheasant feathers, emblematic of warrior might in traditional Chinese opera, Lai reshapes their significance. In his work "Birdy," symbols of weapons that change history—pens and knives—empower wielders to reshape consciousness. Lai contends genuine freedom stems from heightened awareness, illustrated by the "Ling Zi" with its imagery resembling the spine's extension, echoing power's reach; this visual also evokes images of a bird, a cage, and dreams, subtly suggesting life's delicate balance.

These elements coalesce in a performance of profound exploration, revealing freedom, potency, and tenacity's intricate tapestry.

Technical Rider

Birdy







International Contact

SU Pei-shan

Agent

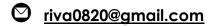
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