

NÜWA

Shang-Chi Sun



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Nüwa is based on Chinese mythology. The story consists of five key words: birth, death, rebirth, destruction and reconstruction. Using elements from Tai Chi, improvisation and a sense of weight and touch in a choreographic frame, the dancers transfer the viewers to an imaginary world through physical action.

Live piano accompanies the piece, with the pianist taking part in the improvisation, interpreting the sound of the Nüwa story. The sound creates characters, depicting keywords in the structure and specifying the quality of sound from the stage, which in turn changes the observer's perspective.

PRESS REVIEWS

Sébastien COTTE, Rue du Théâtre, 25th July 2009:

„It's a fluid, psychological, nervous/tense and technically perfect dance that is proposed. [...] More than a simple performance it's the experience of a intense feeling not only short but also indescribable.“

Diane Vandermolina, La Revue Marseillaise du Théâtre, 19th July 2009:

„And Sun with his choreography presents with intelligence and subtlety the different facets of this goddess. An elastic, aeronautical gesture contrastive to the game played on the ground [...] This creation visually gorgeous offers to the spectator a string of strong emotions, the beauty of the performance transcends the words that come naturally to close the performance, discovery of the world and of the other.“

Danièle Carraz, La Provence, 13th July 2009:

“Très conceptuelle, la chorégraphie semble plus devoir à la danse européenne qu'à une gestuelle exotique... Nul dépaysement, donc, mais demeure, très fort, le plaisir de la danse.”

Fatima Miloudi, Les Trois Coups, 16th July 2009:

“L'interprétation des deux danseurs représentant Nüwa est fascinante parce que, dans la vision des corps désarticulés ou dans la souplesse des déliés, chaque geste est d'une précision extrême. Cultures diverses, propices à l'évocation de la déesse. Beauté née du divers. Le souffle de Nüwa est passé.”

Choreography

Dance

Music/ Sound Design

Live Piano Improvisation

Light Design

Dramaturgy

Duration

Shang-Chi Sun

Nefeli Skramea, Shang Chi Sun

Julien Guillamat

Andreas Kern

Lutz Deppe

Shang-Chi Sun

50 minutes

TOURING DATES

2011

2010

HEILBRONN (D) Festival Tanz! Heilbronn

LEVERKUSEN (D) Spielzeit

CROLLES (F) Espace Paul Jargot

PARIS (F) Maison des Cultures du Monde

LYON (F) Maison De La Danse

TURINI (I) Lavanderia a Vapore di Collegno

2009

TEL AVIV (ISR) Suzanne Dellal Dance Centre/

International Tel Aviv Dance Festival

AVIGNON (F) Off Festival

PARIS (F) Taiwan Culture Centre

TAIWAN International Asia Pacific Week

BERLIN (D) Dock 11

2008

RAVELLO (I) International Arts Festival

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VIDEO TRAILER ON VIMEO

<http://vimeo.com/20402104>

SHANG-CHI SUN

Taiwan born dancer and choreographer Shang Chi Sun was educated as a ballet and contemporary dancer at the National Academy of Arts in Taipei and graduated from Ernst Busch University (Berlin) with a Master of Arts in Choreography. He has worked with various dance companies such as Sasha Waltz & Guests, Nürnberg Dance Theatre, Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan, Balletto Teatro Di Torino and Cie. Toula Limnaios. With his company „Shang Chi Move“, founded in 2001, he has created several works such as „Walk Faster“ (2007), „Dialogue II“ (2008), „Nüwa“ (2009) and „4.48/Ohne Titel“ (2010), which have been presented all over Europe and Asia (Maison de la Danse – Lyon, Festival Tanz im August – Berlin, Festival d’Avignon, International Taipei Arts Festival...).

In 2011 he creates five new works: „Genus“ in collaboration with Cloud Gate Dance Theatre 2 (Taiwan), „Je.Sans.Paroles“ at Le Manège in Maubeuge (France), „Traverse“ at fabrik Potsdam (Germany), „Ein Deutsches Requiem“ in Nuremberg (Germany) and a commissioned choreography for the Transitions Company London.

Awards

2005: Received "Bavarian Theatre and Literature Prize" from the IHK-Kulturstiftung.

2008: Won "First Choreography Prize" at the 12th International Solo Tanz Festival Stuttgart.

2009 and 2010: Received "LMF Dance Found " from Taiwan.

WORKSHOPS WITH SHANG CHI SUN

Surface and space of movements / Improvisation

Starting from the inner space of the body, Shang Chi Sun extends the frame of movement in three dimensionality. Simple Tai Chi practices help to find the inner balance and to improve the consciousness for the body. Further exercises enable to explore the environment, the surfaces, and the forces and to use them for different kind and qualities of movements: levels, balance, intensity and extension. Shang Chi Sun combines ballet and contemporary dance technics as well as Tai chi to vary and to use consciously the "resonance" of movements. Finally improvisation based on everyday life experience gives the opportunity to play with these qualities and to use them in dance phrases.

Energy, mind and body in movement

Energy and presence in movements are both a mirror of the mind. Dancing is an expression of the inner attitude that finds a translation through body and nerves. Shang Chi Sun uses this experience and proposes a dance technic combining body and mind as well as occidental and oriental body practices. First the consciousness and the inner balance are improved through simple Tai chi exercises. Then the action field of the body is widened to the surrounding space. Point after point lines and directions are being built and used to work on variable extension and energy of movement. The body is used as a whole to experience a better movement dynamic.



