

PRODUCED BY: PING SHADOW DANCE THEATRE

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INDIGO

DOSSIER DE PRESSE

Ping Shadow Dance



"paint a culture with a single color."

5-26 JULY, 2025

FESTIVAL OFF AVIGNON

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Content

Program introduction

“ Paint a culture with a single color.”

<INDIGO> is a contemporary dance work that explores color as cultural memory and identity. Inspired by a suspended moment — a return, a glance from the sky over Taiwan wrapped in oceanic blue — the piece sets out on a poetic quest: What is the blue of Taiwan?

This question becomes a choreographic journey through landscapes, stories, and daily life: from steel-toned coastal trains to indigo-dyed Hakka textiles, from temple ceramics to cobalt butterflies shimmering in the mountain forests. Blue becomes both substance and metaphor, drawing an emotional map of the island.

The scenography unfolds as a living collage of blue fragments — abstract textile landscapes, soft structures evoking natural dye patterns, and ceramic elements — creating spaces suspended between memory and imagination. The costumes are inspired by the chromatic transformations of Taiwanese porcelain, reflecting the inner world of the potter: from chaos to clarity, from emptiness to image.

Through fluid embodiment and layered stage design, the dancers move through strata of individual and collective memory, embodying a palette where tradition meets abstraction. The performance becomes a ritual of remembrance — a sensory tribute to a land where blue is not only seen, but felt.

This is not a documentary. It is a contemporary mythology, woven from movement and matter, revealing the invisible tones of a culture that breathes between rain and earth, fragility and resilience.



TRAILER



<https://youtu.be/vYtGajF-6sg>

Audience Engagement

Letting the Audience “Paint the Colors of Home” to Create a Giant Flag

After the performance of INDIGO, the audience isn’t rushed to leave. Instead, **they’re invited to stay and paint the “color of their hometown” using vibrant paints.**

This co-creation activity, titled **“If Home Were a Color,”** is a specially designed interactive experience by ping shadow . Audience members can **mix a color that represents their sense of home and paint familiar landscapes from memory onto individual pieces of raw fabric.** These pieces will later be sewn together to form a massive flag, which will be carried high during a street parade — a symbol of diverse “homes” and “memories” from different regions — and will also be displayed at the performance venue.

From a single dance performance to a large-scale fabric mural co-created by its audience, INDIGO extends the memory of the body into the streets and among the people, sparking a moving artistic dialogue.



Stage Photo

The Potter

The potter gazes at the unfinished, earth-toned vase,
as if time has come to a standstill.
Creatively drained and emotionally hollow, she longs
to rediscover the lost color.

photo credit to: CHEN-GUANG YANG



photo credit to: CHEN-GUANG YANG

Cobalt blue

Cobalt blue remains undefined, grayish as a dream, submerged in clay,
awaiting awakening in the fire.

The brush tip dips into cobalt, drawing out an ink-like blue-black. The ink
flows with the brush, but her heart feels empty.

This is not the destination of cobalt, but a beginning. She closes her eyes,
stills her mind, and lets her hands follow her heart.

The deep blue spreads quietly, awaiting the cleansing trial by fire.



DUSKY BLUE

Memories are shrouded in dim blue, like the potter's wandering soul, bound by invisible threads she cannot release.

She roams through this misty forest, trying to grasp the elusive chaos deep within her heart.

photo credit to: EN-CHI



photo credit to: EN-CHI

INDIGO HAKKA

Images of a Hakka village surface in the potter's mind, and she sees her unrestrained youth.

She and her childhood companions splashed creativity onto indigo-dyed cloth—

That sense of freedom seems to rekindle the spark within.



STREET BLUE

She recalls an old street at dusk—

The blues of vendor tarps and plastic sheeting blended with neon lights and fireworks, softly glowing, never glaring.

The weathered blue of delivery trucks and corrugated gates bears the marks of time.

Each one carries livelihoods and dreams, small businesses born of grit and hope.

This is a blue faded by dust and human stories, tinged with gray—

Ordinary, yet real, infused with the texture and resilience of Taiwanese everyday life.

photo credit to: CHEN-GUANG YANG



photo credit to: CHEN-GUANG YANG

LABOR BLUE

Smoke and mist mingle.

Workers in blue-and-white slippers, clutching Taiwan Beer in blue packaging, toil with earnest hearts.

Simple but grounded—lives laced with sweat, soil, laughter, and the scent of beer. This blue reflects the unpretentious attitude and steadfast spirit of the working class.

That day, the potter raised a glass with friends, toasting to those quiet, solid years.



MOUNTAINS & STREAMS

She remembers that year on the mountaintop, watching the clouds rise.
The sound of flowing streams, a Formosan blue magpie soaring across the sky, wings beating strong—
Rivers ran through the valleys, gleaming bright blue from mineral-rich waters.
The surface mirrored the sky, glistening like jade.
Bright blue frogs leapt, lizards basked on sun-warmed stones, and cobalt butterflies fluttered through.
Among clusters of hydrangeas and morning glories, they danced like glowing sprites in a fantastical ballet.

photo credit to: CHEN-GUANG YANG



photo credit to: CHEN-GUANG YANG

DEEP BLUE

Following the stream, the water babbled gently.
Women of the tribe danced their ode to life beneath the vast azure sky.
Their movements, fluid like water, revealed the potter's deep connection with the land and its people—
She felt one with the mountains and rivers, as if sensing the sacred energy hidden in the pea



OCEAN BLUE

Taiwan, an island surrounded by sea on all sides—
The deep blue ocean like a vast satin ribbon, ebbing and flowing in
endless rhythm.
Waves crash upon rocks, at times serene, at times wild, bearing
messages from afar.
In the distance, bioluminescent “blue tears” shimmer like stars in
the night, blending with the city lights across the sea into a
painting of midnight blue.

photo credit to: CHEN-GUANG YANG



photo credit to: CHEN-GUANG YANG

TAIWAN INDIGO

Moonlight spills through the window, casting a glow on
the potter as she watches the spinning wheel.
Her heart surges with inspiration, like a rising tide.
At the peak of creation, she lets his brush flow, crafting
masterpiece after masterpiece—
Each one a meeting, a release of the soul and its muse.
At last, in this vast blue sea of creativity, she discovers the
color she’s been searching for—Indigo.



Copywriting (for social media)

English Version:

"A contemporary dance piece exploring blue as cultural memory. Inspired by a glance at Taiwan, it evokes trains, Hakka indigo, ceramics, butterflies... The stage blends textiles, porcelain, and fluid movement into a poetic sensory journey."

French Version:

"Une pièce de danse contemporaine explorant le bleu en tant que mémoire culturelle. Inspirée d'un regard sur Taïwan, elle évoque les trains, l'indigo hakka, la céramique, les papillons... La scène mêle textiles, porcelaine et mouvements fluides dans un voyage sensoriel poétique."

Media Reports

Festival Hua Sui (Malaysia) 人生具象黑白變 – June 17, 2016
<https://youtu.be/dndhkJYO0IM?si=W0-p7KIh3dyaPt0f>

大馬華穗節 台灣4隊獻技

2016-06-15 中央社訊

分享       

台灣4個表演團隊共34位藝術家參與馬來西亞華穗藝術節，不但與大馬文化藝術團體交流，並讓大馬人看到更多台灣藝術文化。

馬來西亞華穗藝術節8日特別為台灣參演的4個傑出表演團隊舉辦推介禮，並於11日、17日與29日在大馬盛大登場。其中大會主席兼馬來西亞婦女家庭及社會發展部副部長周美芬親自主持，駐馬來西亞代表章計平出席推介禮。

這次台灣演出的團隊，包括世界輪椅冠軍舞者林秀霞、萍影舞集、Punch打擊樂團，以及由舞蹈家吳義芳帶領台師大研究所演出的「靈山」音樂舞蹈劇場。

章計平致詞時表示，大馬與台灣彼此相鄰，關係一向友好，感謝華穗藝術節的精心策劃與邀請，讓台灣的4個表演團隊能有機會呈現給大馬觀眾。他期許台灣與華穗藝術節的未來互動關係得以更加緊密與深耕，並在新南向政策下，台灣的藝術團隊得有更多機會與大馬的藝術團體交流。

8th Festival des Arts de Sibul (Malaysia) 聖筊 – August 11, 2019
<https://www.facebook.com/share/15usWH12sF/?mibextid=wwXlfr>



Festival de Cugand (France) 紅龜粿 – August 18, 2016




TAIWAN


**New Taipei City Art Group
& Ping Shadow Dance Theater**

New Taipei et Ping-Shadow nous vient de ce pays atypique qu'est Taiwan. Administré par un gouvernement national mais considéré comme la 23ème province chinoise.

Sa culture est absolument similaire à celle de la Chine à une différence près : les arts martiaux, considéré comme un Art à part entière et comme un signe de respect envers leur divinité.

Ces ballets, créés en 2010 ont pour objectif de présenter au plus grand nombre, les arts culturels taiwanais, en les valorisant par une mise en scène novatrice et ambitieuse.





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Intuition Coiffure

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International Performance Experience

- **Festival Hua Sui (Malaysia)**
人生具象黑白變 – June 17, 2016
- **Festival de Cugand (France)**
紅龜粿 – August 18, 2016
- **Festival de Toulouse (France)**
紅龜粿 – August 20, 2016
- **Festival des Arts de Xi' an (China)**
布袋戲尪仔 – September 11, 2018
- **8th Festival des Arts de Sibiu (Malaysia)**
聖筊 – August 11, 2019



About Ping Shadow

Founded in 2006, Ping Shadow Dance Theatre blends ethnic dance, classical ballet, and modern movement to create contemporary works rooted in Taiwanese cultural identity. **The company draws from everyday life and regional imagery to develop a distinct choreographic language that connects tradition with modern aesthetics, making art more accessible to diverse audiences.**

Their repertoire often centers on the landscapes and folklore of Taiwan and the broader Chinese-speaking world, transforming cultural elements into poetic, emotionally resonant performances. Works such as The Beauty of Peach Blossom Land, Puppet Heroes Dance, and Sacred Moon Block reflect this unique fusion of classical and contemporary expression.

In addition to **regular premieres at the Taoyuan Cultural Center and participation in public and community arts initiatives, the company has toured internationally to festivals in France, China, and Malaysia, sharing its artistic vision with a global audience.**

Ping Shadow Dance Theatre continues to explore new possibilities for Taiwanese dance by bridging cultural heritage with innovative performance.



Team Members



Ya-Ping, Yeh

**ART DIRECTOR/
DANCER**

*-founder of **Ping Shadow Dance Theatre**.*

*-integrates elements of **Taiwanese and Eastern culture** through innovative choreography, blending **folk dance and modern dance** vocabulary.*

*-dedicated herself to discovering and nurturing talented young dancers, **providing systematic and holistic arts education** to help them build a strong foundation in dance.*

-international performance experiences:

- Festival Hua Sui (Malaysia), <人生具象黑白變> - June, 2016
- Festival de Cognac (France), <紅龜粿> - August, 2016
- Festival de Toulouse (France), <紅龜粿> - August, 2016
- Festival des Arts de Xi'an (China), <布袋戲尪仔> - September, 2018
- 8th Festival des Arts de Sibu (Malaysia), <聖筊> - August, 2019

Team Members



Ding-Han, Jian

CREATIVE PRODUCER

- responsible for production planning, team coordination, and international communication.
- oversees the program's development from creation to performance, including festival applications, technical documentation, and liaison between the artistic and production teams.

Festival des Arts de Xi'an (China),
<布袋戲尪仔> - September, 2018---
stage designer



Wai Pui, Tang Billy

LIGHTING DESIGNER

- lighting designer of Hong Kong Dance Company and City Contemporary Dance Company for 20 years.
- contract lighting designer of Ping Shadow Dance Theatre.
- lighting design of Hong Kong Pavilion in 2023 Prague Quadrennial.

Team Members



Kuan-Nan, Chiang

SET DESIGNER

-mainly engaged in set design for the performing arts, including drama, dance and music.
-Other creations include puppetry, props and graphic design.

-set design:

- Taipei Fringe Festival, <姊妹>, 2024
- Taipei Children's Arts Festival, <遊心出發>, 2024



Yu-Chieh, Yen

COSTUME DESIGNER

-based in Taipei, Taiwan.
-participated in costume design for numerous stage plays and dance performances.
-also passionate about illustration and teenage art education.

-costume design:

- Banlam Grand Theater (China), <還在路上>, 2023
- Taipei Fringe Festival, <愛滋味>, 2022

Team Members



Ding-Chin, Jian

DANCER



Ling-Lin, Luo

DANCER



Chih-Ping, Chuang

DANCER

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Youtube: [UCzIvdXJaxtAZgzbkRUi_Blg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzIvdXJaxtAZgzbkRUi_Blg)