

Malaysia × Japan co-present:

Asia Performing Arts Exchange Project Spread our common sense with Malaysia

DANCE DRAMA 「Breakthrough Journey」 Screening & Talk session

Diversity is what makes us evolve.



International Communication Center for person with disabilities (BiG-i) presents a Screening and Talk session to follow up on the "Breakthrough Journey" performance held in Japan, 2021. This event will be held to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Look East Policy.

In 2020, in the midst of the spread of the COVID-19, the dance company "Dazzle", international choreographers and dancers from six locations in Japan and four countries in Asia (Malaysia, Singapore, Hong Kong and Taiwan), and dancers with disabilities selected by audition created a highly diverse DANCE DRAMA "Breakthrough Journey" with a total of 80 people.

While overseas dancers were unable to come to Japan due to COVID-19, this performance, organized by JAPAN CULTURAL EXPO and opening on January 30, 2021, was a great success and closed the curtain.

This time, in addition to the screening of the performance video, in the session, choreographers, directors, and dancers with disabilities will reunite to reflect on the project's efforts over the past year, share the results, and discuss a wide range of possibilities for future artistic activities by people with disabilities.

— Everyone deserves a chance to be on stage.

We hope you will take this opportunity to enjoy to your heart's content a dance performance that breaks through the shell of another dimension. And let's trace through the performing arts of Asian dancers with disabilities, which we don't often have the opportunity to know, and touch the consciousness and world of expression of dancers with disabilities who are living together today.



Audition scene in 2020



"Breakthrough Journey" Performance, Japan, 2021/Photo by Ryohei Tomita



Program Outline:



- Date and Time Sunday, February 27, 2022, 2:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Venue Kuala Lumpur Performing Arts Center, Pentas2
- Organizers Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan/
International Communication Center for person with disabilities
- Special Cooperation Dua Space Dance Theatre

[TIME TABLE]

Part1 : 14:30-16:15 "Breakthrough Journey" Screening

1. Special Screening (Dance Scene performed by Dua Studio Dance Theater)
2. "Breakthrough Journey" Screening
* Languages: Japanese (With English subtitles)

Part2 : 16:30-18:00 Talk session

- * Languages: English / Japanese (With real-time English subtitles)

Program Detail:

International Communication Center for person with disabilities (BiG-i) presents a screening and talk session to follow up on the "Breakthrough Journey" performance held in Japan, 2021.

Last year, in the midst of the spread of the new coronavirus, the dance company "Dazzle", international choreographers and dancers from six locations in Japan and four countries in Asia (Malaysia, Singapore, Hong Kong and Taiwan), and dancers with disabilities selected by audition created a highly diverse DANCE DRAMA "Breakthrough Journey" with a total of 80 people.

This time, in addition to the screening of the performance video, in the session, choreographers, directors, and dancers with disabilities will reunite to reflect on the project's efforts over the past year, share the results, and discuss a wide range of possibilities for future artistic activities by people with disabilities.

Program

Part 1 14:30-16:15 "Breakthrough Journey" Screening (105 min. * No interval)

1. Special Screening (Dance Scene performed by Dua Space Dance Theatre)
2. "Breakthrough Journey" Screening
* Languages: Japanese (With English subtitles)

Intermission (15 min.)

Part 2 16:30-18:00 Talk session (90 min. * No interval)

* Languages: English / Japanese (With real-time English subtitles)

[Facilitator]

Amandus Paul Panan

Artistic Director of Malaysia International Dance Organization (MIDO) / lecturer in Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) and Faculty of Film, Theatre and Animation (FiTA)



Amandus Paul Panan

Speakers:

[Choreographer, Director]

Tatsuya Hasegawa – Japan –*

Leader of DAZZLE / General Director of "Breakthrough Journey"

Aman Yap Choong Boon – Malaysia –

Artistic director of DUA SPACE DANCE THEATRE

Kyoko Suzuki – Japan –*

Deputy Director of International Communication Center for Persons with Disabilities / Producer of "Breakthrough Journey"



Tatsuya Hasegawa



Aman Yap Choong Boon



Kyoko Suzuki

[Dancer]

Nerosha Krishnan – Malaysia –

Ammar Ameerzy – Singapore –

Mizuki Kajimoto – Japan –*

DAICHAN – Japan –*



Nerosha Krishnan



Ammar Ameerzy



Mizuki Kajimoto



DAICHAN

*Remote participation

How to apply

Please register on our website or contact us for more information

Facebook: 共享空间 Dua Space Dance Theatre (<https://www.facebook.com/duaspace>)

Whatsapp us at +6018-207 2006 | <https://wa.link/ngzjxy>

For guests who apply

- This event will be conducted based on the SOP (Standard Operating Procedure). If there are any mandates by governments to refrain from holding the event, or regardless of government mandates, depending on the spread of the disease this event may be postponed, canceled, or have its contents changed.
- You will be refused entry if you are not wearing a mask.
- Please take your temperature before going out and if you have a fever, please do not participate. And, if you are feeling sick (have symptoms of a possible infectious disease), please consult with a medical institution before visiting the venue.
- No lockers and place to change clothes. Please change into your clothes at home.
- For PR and documentation purposes, the administration team will take photos and record movies. And the photos and movies will be posted publicly on websites, publication papers, SNS and movie sharing sites.

Contact

Enquiries & Application: Dua Space Dance Theatre
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/duaspace/>
Youtube <https://www.youtube.com/duaspace>
Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/duaspace/>
Hotline: +6018-207 2006 | <https://wa.link/ngzjxy>

Address | Klpac

The Kuala Lumpur Performing Arts Centre, Sentul Park, Jalan Strachan off Jalan Sultan Azlan Shah, 51100, Kuala Lumpur
Getting here ⇒ <https://www.klpac.org/getting-here/>

DAZZLE (Dance Company)



DAZZLE is an award-winning dance company found in 1996. The company's unique and original dance style is a fusion of street and contemporary dance. Under their vision of "Belonging to all genres and no genres," their artistic creativity and interpretation of the world has been expressed in acclaimed stage productions. One of their most acclaimed stage productions, Hana to Otori (Misty Mansion) has won numerous awards both inside and outside Japan.

They have performed at SIBIU International Theatre Festival (2011, Romania), Fajr International Theater Festival (2012, Iran), and Expo 2017 Astana (2017, Kazakhstan). In 2018, they have performed in the opening act of True Colours Festival, a performing arts festival in Singapore hosted by UNESCO and the Nippon Foundation, with disabled dancers selected through auditions.

In Japan, they have produced immersive theater productions and have been leading the way in the genre.

Their acclaimed immersive theater productions include

Touch the Dark (2017), Toki no hako ga hiraku toki (2018) – a DAZZLE produced production in collaboration with Tokyo

One Piece Tower, and SHELTER (2019) – a production set in a five floor building.

And now, a new immersive theater "Venus of TOKYO" is running daily in Tokyo until the end of next March.

<https://venus-of-tokyo.com/>

Dua Space Dance Theatre



A contemporary dance company founded by Anthony Meh and Aman Yap in 1998. "Dua Space" brings the meaning of interaction and sharing. The company is currently expanding its artistic scopes by creating dance for various communities and online platforms, sharing dance with the public.

BiG-i

International Communication Center for Persons with Disabilities

BiG-i is a national institute, established at Osaka, Japan in 2001, for the commemoration of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons (1983 - 1992).

We promote the participation of people with disabilities in society through projects such as the spread of information on artistic and cultural activities of people with disabilities, international exchange and cooperation, and logistical support in the event of a major disaster.

Getting here ⇒ <https://www.big-i.jp/>



About the DANCE DRAMA “Breakthrough Journey”:



Dates : Jan. 30, 2021 - Jan. 31, 2021

Venue : International Communication Center for person with disabilities(BiG-i), JAPAN

DANCE DRAMA "Breakthrough Journey Breakthrough Journey" is a dance work by professional dancers active in Japan and Asia and dancers selected by audition, regardless of disabilities. It is written, directed and choreographed by DAZZLE, a dance company that continues to create highly original works with its unique dance style that fuses street dance and contemporary dance.

Written and Directed by Tatsuya Hasegawa (Dazzle)
Creative Direction by Koichiro Iizuka (Dazzle)

Performed by
Dazzle/Ensemble/Miffy/Yoshiki Maeyama /Botan/Kazuyo Morita
Domestic and International Dancers 64 persons

Organizers
Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan / The Japan Arts Council

Organizers and Production by
BiG-i-International Communication Center for Persons with Disabilities

Co-sponsored by
The Fenice Sacay Hall, Sakai City, Japan

Cooperation
Dance Studio, OneMove, Japan/Social Workerz, Japan/Culture Foundation of Shimane Prefecture Civic Center, Japan/Warakoh Museum of art, Japan/Dance Cream, Japan/Normalization Dance Crew, Liberty, Japan/Lin Ching-lan Dance Company, Taiwan/City Contemporary Dance Company, Hong Kong/Arts with Disabled Association Hong Kong/Dua Space Dance Theatre, Malaysia/Very Special Arts Singapore/The Nippon Foundation DIVERSITY IN THE ARTS, Japan/KAAT Kanagawa Arts Theatre, Japan/NPO Theatre Accessibility Network, Japan/Cinema Chupki Tabata, Japan/Kyowakai Healthcare Corporation, Hannan Hospital, Japan

TATSUYA HASEGAWA



Leader of DAZZLE, dancer, director Performed and choreographed live performances for SMAP, V6, KETSUMEISHI and TVXQ!. Choreographed the stage production "Barare" (Akasaka ACT Theater), comprehensively directed by Kabuki actor Tamasaburo Bando. Overall direction and starring role in " *ASTERISK," an evolutionary dance entertainment that brought together over 100 of Japan's leading street dancers at the Tokyo International Forum in 2013 and 2014. He has won numerous awards at contests and theater festivals in Japan and abroad.

Diversity in Co-creation, Achievements in Japan and other Asian Countries Culture Expressed in the Here and Now



STORY: A young boy from Asia is forced to live in poverty. He survives by holding tightly to his dream of becoming a photographer and being able to access the world of the internet with his smartphone. However, even his faintest hopes are swept away by his daily reality. Despair and loneliness prevail.

One day, the boy encounters a video of an aspiring dancer. He dreams, but is unable to take any action. Unlike himself, the girl is making progress toward her goals one step at a time. Yet, she too struggles to overcome obstacles. She seeks to put her feelings into dance and to find a place to belong to. The boy crosses the sea and encounters the girl's soul, deciding to begin a journey to overcome a reality that does not change and an unchangeable self.



Photo by Ryohei Tomita

PRODUCTION NOTE:

2019	June	Project launching
2020	January	Pre-event, Dazzle Dance Workshop (18th)
	April	Selecting choreographers and main organizations from 6 regions in Japan, and 4 overseas countries
	July	Workshop style auditions conducted at each region
	September	Sequential announcement of casts
	October	Starting of program production at each region
	December	Rehearsal for main casts (19th to 23rd)
2021	January	Rehearsal (24th to 29th) / Performance (30th, 31st)
	-----[Related Programs]-----	
	March	Hong Kong Symposium: Asia Performing Arts Exchange Project Spread our common sense 2021
2022	August – October	Screening and Talk session in Japan (Aomori/Tokyo/Osaka/Shimane/Kochi/Okinawa)

Message

KYOKO SUZUKI

Arts Executive Producer

Collaboration with people of various nationalities, ethnicities, languages, bodies, disabilities, and cultures was humming along when suddenly, we found ourselves contending with a common challenge, the spread of the novel coronavirus. Before we knew it, the content and timing of the auditions in Japan was being changed; auditions were cancelled in Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong and Taiwan; and dancers from those regions were no longer allowed to perform live. Nonetheless, we were united in our desire for the show to go on! We have the pandemic to thank for pushing us to resolve these issues through earnest communication and discussions that ended up bringing us closer, strengthening our trust in one another, and forging lasting bonds. We intend this Dance Drama Breakthrough Journey, to become a force in the creation of a new paradigm and hope that everyone viewing this performance will realize that mature societies accept diversity.

◆ International Dancers and Choreographers

Singapore



CREATION
Very Special Arts Singapore

PROFILE
Since 1993, VSA Singapore has been empowering persons with physical and intellectual disabilities through the arts. We promote visual, performing and literary arts through various programmes and events for persons with disabilities. VSA Singapore has also established pathways for them to progress and excel in their fields and pursue a career in the arts.

MEMBERS
Timothy Lee/Ammar Ameerzy/Tang Sook Kuan/Luqman B As'ad/Tong Eileen/Nur Arianty Bte Djoaede/
Luqman B As'ad (Choreographer)

Malaysia



CREATION
Dua Space Dance Theatre

PROFILE
A contemporary dance company founded by Anthony Meh and Aman Yap in 1998. "Dua Space" brings the meaning of interaction and sharing. The company is currently expanding its artistic scopes by creating dance for various communities and online platforms, sharing dance with the public.

MEMBERS
Kenny Leow Thiam Aik/Lim Hong Jie/Chiam Elaine/Howard Hew Fuh Hoong/Nerosha Krishnan/
Aman Yap Choong Boon (Choreographer)

Hong Kong



CREATION
Arts with the Disabled Association Hong Kong
City Contemporary Dance Company

PROFILE
Arts with the Disabled Association Hong Kong believes that every individual has the right to appreciate art and create art. Through our mission, 'Arts are for Everyone', the association is committed to promoting equal opportunities among people with disabilities.
City Contemporary Dance Company is the leading dance company in Hong Kong, renowned for reflecting the vigor and creativity of Hong Kong's vibrant, multifaceted contemporary culture.

MEMBERS
Janette WONG/Jason WONG/Christine LAU/Edgar CHAN/Cyrus HUI (Choreographer)

Taiwan



CREATION
Lin Ching-lan Dance Company

PROFILE
We are a group of hearing-impaired dancers from Taiwan. We use our hearts to listen to the rhythm of the music, and feel the vibrations it sends through the floor. Following the direction of the founder of Lin Ching-lan Dance Company, the dancers have performed with great confidence, and pursued their dream of dancing professionally.

MEMBERS
Lin Ching Lan/Lin Pei Shan/Cheng Kun Hsing/Ewen Chiu (Choreographer)

◆Japan Domestic Dancers and Choreographers

Aomori



CREATION
Dance Studio, OneMove

PROFILE
The five members of our group are active hip-hop dancers in Japan and overseas. We live in Hachinohe City, Aomori Prefecture. With sharp moves and passion as our weapons, we have taken on the challenge of incorporating a variety of styles in this performance.

MEMBERS
Rinka/Ritsuko/Kohki/Uta/Rio

Tokyo



CREATION
Social Workeerz

PROFILE
Social Workeerz provides a space and time for people with and without disabilities to play, express themselves and create through dance. The creative team they formed for this performance includes Tomoya, Naga, Heidi, Nagisa Yamaguchi, Ayumi Uyama, Yu-Ri, and Reno Nishikawa. This is dance for social inclusion.

MEMBERS
Tomoya/Naga/Heidi/Nagisa Yamaguchi/Sayuri Ando/Sayono Naruoka/Yuine Taki/Hirono Sasaki/Harmy/Ayumi Uyama (Choreographer)/Yu-Ri (Choreographer)

Osaka



CREATION
Osaka Prefecture Stage Performing Arts Project for Persons with Disabilities

PROFILE
The Osaka Prefectural Government has sponsored the Osaka Prefecture Stage Performing Arts Project for Persons with Disabilities since 2001 to create opportunities for anyone, with or without a disability, to express themselves through the performing arts. Programs provide opportunities to experience and enjoy creative expression in the genres of dance, theater, and music, as well as to train and take one's creativity, skill, and artistry to the next level. The dancers supporting the Stage Performing Arts Project played a central role in creating this Osaka dance scene with the auditioned dancers.

MEMBERS
Mayuko Moriyama/Mika Fujiwara/Yumiko Nakashima/Asayo Yamamoto/Soma Ishihara/Ayano/Ebihara/Maho Nakamura/Maruko/Yuko Minami/Momoko Eto/Sonoka Wakabayashi

Shimane



CREATION
Shimane Prefecture Foundation for Cultural Promotion (Shimane Civic Center)

PROFILE
The Shimane Civic Center is the prefecture's hub of cultural and artistic opportunity. Persons with disabilities can comfortably participate in concerts and programs held at this facility which has its own audio guide interpreter training program. The center dispatches artists to schools, supports artists in the prefecture and conducts a variety of cultural programs. The dancer, Maki Tabata, choreographs creative movement pieces with people with visual impairments and conducts workshops at special needs schools through the center.

MEMBERS
Anna/Hibiki Kawatsugu/Kyogo/Yuki Kubota

Kochi



CREATION

Warakoh Museum of art / Dance Cream

PROFILE

Warakoh Museum of art, was created to provide equal physical and social access to a space where anyone can connect with and enjoy a diverse range of creative expression. We invited Takahiro Ogura of Dance Cream to make this as his base. He is creating performance pieces that analyze and sincerely confront the limits of the body.

MEMBERS

Miyuki Kataoka/Mayu Nagae/Miyuki Nawa/Kanako Yamamoto/Aki Yoshida/Azuki/Takahiro Ogura (Choreographer)

Okinawa



CREATION

Normalization Dance crew Liberty

PROFILE

Our team leader, Yukie Shinjo, in fact, our entire dance team, came together through an audition. We hope to bring the warm winds of Okinawa to everyone in Osaka.

MEMBERS/Yukie Shinjo/Neo Chibana/Ryona Nagasaki/Yuzuka Higa/Himeri Kinjo/Riku Furukawa

JAPAN CULTURAL EXPO

The Japan Cultural Expo is a nationwide celebration of Japanese arts and culture, designed to appeal to a broad domestic and international audience through a diverse program of content, including exhibitions, performing arts productions, and arts festivals.

Led by the Agency for Cultural Affairs and the Japan Arts Council, it is a collaborative, inter-agency project drawing on the cooperation of numerous public- and private-sector partners. One of the Expo's chief objectives is to attract international visitors to destinations beyond Japan's main urban centers before, during, and after the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Initiatives nationwide leverage the distinctive cultural resources of communities and regions across Japan, including disaster-affected areas.

The Expo was launched in March 2019 and is currently scheduled to run until March 2021 showcasing Japan's 10,000-year artistic and cultural heritage. Content is divided into eight categories spanning subjects such as fine art, cultural treasures, the performing arts, media arts, music, literary arts, food and nature, daily life, design, and fashion. This comprehensive initiative also explores the arts in the context of multiculturalism, the creation of an inclusive society, and recovery from natural disasters.