

Press Release

Immediate Release (5 pages in total)

Grand Original Dance Poem  
***Shan Shui: An Ode To Nature (Re-run)***  
A Waltz of Nature's Timeless Charm



***Shan Shui: An Ode to Nature*** will be staged again from 14 to 16 October 2022 at Lyric Theatre, The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts. Premiered in 2021 as Hong Kong Dance Company's opening performance for its 40th anniversary dance season, the show has won wide acclaim and was selected as one of ISPA 2022's Pitch New Works projects.

***Shan Shui*** (landscape) paintings are an important vehicle for art and philosophy in traditional Chinese culture. Through depicting the external environment, artists give expression to the internal human world, revealing the relationship between man and nature.

**Sense the power of nature through the body**

Hong Kong Dance Company's Artistic Director draws on the image of nature under the brush, painting an inner world beyond the confines of time or space through dance. The dancers' bodies become the brush's dots, dashes and vigorous strokes; they are the artist's eye for rhyme, rhythm and internal beauty. The Company's three-year research study on Chinese Martial Arts and Chinese Dance has brought elements of Chinese martial arts into dance training, constructed a richer texture of dance and taken the dance performance in *Shan Shui* to another level.

***"Shan Shui: An Ode to Nature"*** reveals a unique sense of vitality and tranquility. It demonstrates a dance aesthetics that embodies elements of traditional Chinese paintings and martial arts, in powerful compositional flow and rhythm." Said Dr. Elaine Chan, film and cultural studies scholar (extracted from Master Insight Media)

Sense the power of nature through the body, take in worldly beauty and meditate on the origins of life. Pass through mountains and over waters, and with a full heart, let the limits of the self and the physical world dissolve.

[Browse the website](#)

[The latest trailer](#)

[The high resolution photos](#)

### Abstract ( app. 170 words )

Premiered in 2021 as Hong Kong Dance Company's opening performance for its 40th anniversary dance season, *Shan Shui: An Ode to Nature* has won wide acclaim. The Company's three-year research study on Chinese Martial Arts and Chinese Dance has brought elements of Chinese martial arts into dance training, constructed a richer texture of dance and taken the dance performance in *Shan Shui* to another level. *Shan Shui* was selected as one of ISPA 2022's Pitch New Works projects.

Hong Kong Dance Company draws on the image of nature under the brush, painting an inner world beyond the confines of time or space through dance. The dancers' bodies become the brush's dots, dashes and vigorous strokes; they are the artist's eye for rhyme, rhythm and internal beauty. Sense the power of nature through the body, take in worldly beauty and meditate on the origins of life. Pass through mountains and over waters, and with a full heart, let the limits of the self and the physical world dissolve.

14-16.10.2022 (Fri to Sun) Lyric Theatre, The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts

Fri, Sat 7:45pm \$480、\$380、\$280、\$180、\$80

Sat, Sun 3:00pm \$440、\$340、\$240、\$140、\$80

Tickets are now available from HK Ticketing | Internet Booking [www.hkticketing.com](http://www.hkticketing.com)

Ticket Purchase Hotline 31 288 288 | Programme Enquiries 31 031 807 | [www.hkdance.com](http://www.hkdance.com)

## Programme Plus

### Experience *Shan Shui* in Tranquillity

*Shan Shui* in the City - Chinese Ink Painting Contest

Entry Submission: 26.8 - 23.9.2022

*Shan Shui* on the fan – Chinese Ink Painting Workshop

Tutor: Dr. Chui Pui Chee (Chinese paintings and calligraphy specialist)

18.9.2022 (Sat) 3 - 5pm | HART Haus | HK\$400 up |

including 1 place in the workshop + 1 ticket for Matinee show

### Experience *Shan Shui* in Sound

Singing Bowl · *Shan Shui*

Tutor: Mr Tsang Man-tung (Singing Bowl Artist)

1.9.2022 (Thu) and 8.9.2022 (Thu) | 8– 09:30pm | HKDC | \$450 up

including 1 place in the workshop + 1 ticket for Evening show

### Experience *Shan Shui* @ Central Market

*Shan Shui: A Voyage* Exhibition

1 - 17.9.2022 | 2/F 24hours Passageway

*Shan Shui* the Dance Poem - Live Performance

2.10.2022 (Sun) | G/F Oasis

### Talk: Of *Shan* and *Shui*

Moderator: Dr Louis Ho (Ph.D, Department of Humanities and Creative Writing of the Hong Kong Baptist University / Writer

Guest Speakers: Mr Cheuk Cheung (Filmmaker)

Mr Yang Yuntao (Artistic Director of Hong Kong Dance Company, Director & Choreographer of *Shan Shui*)

8.10.2022 (Sat) | 2 - 4pm | the HUB @The Commercial Press, Tsim Sha Tsui Book Centre

## Meet the Artists

15.10. 2022 (Sat) | 3pm To be held after the Matinee performance. For ticket holders of this performance only.

## Performance information

The grand original dance poem <i>Shan Shui: An Ode to Nature</i>	
Date and Time	14-15 Oct 2022 (Fri - Sat) 7:45pm 15-16 Oct 2022 (Sat - Sun) 3:00pm
Venue	Lyric Theatre, The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts
Ticket Price	Evening performances on Fri and Sat \$480 \$380 \$280 \$180 \$80 Matinee performances on Sat and Sun \$440 \$340 \$240 \$140 \$80 Tickets are now available from HK Ticketing  Full-time students, Senior Citizens aged 60 or above (50% off, with quota) People with Disabilities & the Minder/Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Recipients (50% off)
Internet ticketing	<a href="http://www.hkticketing.com">www.hkticketing.com</a>
Ticketing Enquiries	31 288 288
Programme Enquiries	31 031 807   <a href="mailto:hkdance@hkdance.com">hkdance@hkdance.com</a>
Presenter's website	<a href="http://www.hkdance.com">www.hkdance.com</a>
Age Limit : 6 (Person below this age not admitted) HKDC reserves the right to change the programme and substitute artists	

## Creative Team

Director & Choreographer:	Yang Yuntao
Composer & Music Director:	Paul Yip
Set & Costume Designer:	Tsang Man-tung
Lighting Designer:	Gabriel Fung
Digital Image Designer:	Oliver Shing
Sound Designer:	Anthony Yeung
Live Music Performance :	Wan Xing

### **Mr Yang Yuntao (Artistic Director of Hong Kong Dance Company)**

Winner of two Hong Kong Dance Awards in 2003 and 2006 for his outstanding dance performance, and awarded Best Artist (Dance) at the Hong Kong Arts Development Awards 2009, Yang Yuntao is an accomplished dancer and choreographer. He joined the Hong Kong Dance Company (HKDC) in 2002 as Principal Dancer. He was the company's Assistant Artistic Director from 2007 and has been its Artistic Director since November 2013.

Yang has choreographed for various dance companies. His award-winning choreography credits for HKDC include: *Spring Ritual · Eulogy*, winner of Outstanding Achievement in Production at the 2013 Hong Kong Dance Awards and presented in Beijing and Taipei in 2013; *The Legend of Mulan*, winner of Outstanding Production and Outstanding Ensemble Performance at the 2014 Hong Kong Dance Awards and presented in New York and Sydney in 2015, London in 2017 and Minsk in 2019; *Storm Clouds*, winner of three awards at the 2015 Hong Kong Dance Awards; and *L'Amour Immortel*, winner of three awards at the 2016 Hong Kong Dance Awards and presented in Beijing, Guangzhou, Taipei, Shanghai and Hangzhou from 2017 to 2019. His other works for HKDC include *The Butterfly Lovers* (presented in Seoul in 2016), *Romance of the Three Kingdoms*, *Voices and Dances of the Distant Land*, *Blanc in Reveries of the Red Chamber*, *Chinese Hero: A Lone Exile*, *In the Beginning in Vipassana*, *Lady White of West Lake*, *Waiting Heart*, *Dance of Strings*, *A Tale of the Southern Sky* and *Convergence*, a culminating work created through a three-year interdisciplinary research study on Chinese dance and Chinese martial arts traditions.

### **Mr Tsang Man-tung (Set & Costume Designer)**

Tsang Man-tung was a special research fellow at the Yale School of Drama in 2010/11. Renowned for his conceptual and minimalist style, his ritual theatre works include *The Heart Sutra* and Hong Kong Dance Company *Vipassana*.

Tsang has received numerous awards, including Best Set Design, Best Costume Design and Best Make-up and Image Design at the Hong Kong Drama Awards and Award for Best Artist (Theatre) (2007/08) at the Hong Kong Arts Development Awards. Tsang was a three-time winner at the Hong Kong Dance Award for Outstanding Set Design for Dance (2012, 2016 & 2017). In addition, he was among the awardees in the "Secretary for Home Affairs' Commendation Scheme" in 2015 for his contribution to the development of arts and culture. He received the Silver prize for Set Design at the World Stage Design 2017 for his work *Storm Clouds* this year.

An accomplished musician, Tsang is an expert on meditation through singing bowls, having performed many times around the world. Tsang has released his first album *The Seed of Sound* in 2018.



## Hong Kong Dance Company

“Dancing across East and West, Moving to the Tempo of Hong Kong”

### Mission Statement

We are nurtured in the cultural tradition of China, combined with the creativity of contemporary art, to impress the world with Chinese dance of Hong Kong character.

Established in 1981, the Hong Kong Dance Company (HKDC) was incorporated in 2001 as a charitable and non-profit-making institution, and is financially supported by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. As one of the nine flagship performing arts companies in Hong Kong, our mission is to promote Chinese dance with contemporary artistic visions and Hong Kong character. Since its inception, the Company has staged over 200 productions over the decades, many of which were highly popular with critical acclaim. Recent productions include *The Legend of Mulan*, *Red Poppies*, *Spring Ritual-Eulogy*, *The Butterfly Lovers*, *Storm Clouds*, *L'Amour Immortel*, *Dream of the Past: Ancient Chinese Court Dances*, *Reveries of the Red Chamber*, *Chinese Hero: A Lone Exile*, *Vipassana*, *Lady White of West Lake*, *Tale of Three Cities*, *Waiting Heart*, *Liu Sanjie*, *Ode to the Silk Road*, *Dance of Strings*, *A Tale of the Southern Sky*, *Mazu the Sea Goddess*, *The Moon Opera*, *Shan Shui: An Ode to Nature*, *Nine Songs*, *Nezha: Untold Solitude*, as well as *Convergence*, a culminating work created through a three-year interdisciplinary research study on Chinese dance and Chinese martial arts traditions.

As a cultural ambassador of Hong Kong, HKDC constantly brings the city's unique artistic style to the world by touring to different cities across the globe, engaging local audiences and encouraging cultural exchange. In recent years, we have brought our award-winning productions to the Lincoln Center in New York, Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., Sony Centre in Toronto, the Concourse Theatre in Chatswood, Sydney, the Southbank Centre in London and The Belarusian State Academic Musical Theatre in Minsk, among others.

#### Media Enquiries :

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