

MASSES



“What do we look for in a mass movement? Is it the realization of collective ideal or the awaken of one’s own life?”

➤ **About the project**

The social and political movements all over the world are a force impossible to be omitted in the last decade. We sympathize the protesters, angry with the excessive force by the police, and get disappointed with the tough response from the authorities. Our emotions and political awareness are aroused by the protests and escalated along with the movement extended: exhaustion, doubt, alienation etc. all of them occupied our mind. Is movement a festivity of collective consensus or actually an illusional dream which force us to recognize the absurd reality?

Masses is a solo dance piece created by four independent artists: metteur en scene, WANG Shih-Wei, choreographer and dancer, TIEN Hsiao-Tzu, lighting and stage designer, Helmi Fita, and sound artist, LI Tzi-Mei. With theatrical elements, it presents protester’s intricate mindset and outlines the tumultuous ambiance of

social movement. The dialogue between body and material contrasts the subjectivity and objectivity, emphasizes the individual solitude in a masse.

Masses aims to sensitize audiences' perception to open their dialectic reflection on the ambiguity of social movement, even in this treacherous social political circumstance today.

➤ **Creative Team**

Director, WANG Shih-Wei

After finishing his P.H.D. degree in University of Paris III, Shih-Wei works between France and Taiwan as an artist, cultural journalist and translator.

His projects comprise a variety forms, including theatrical adaptation, "Bal-con" (2019), performance in the gallery, "Masses-working in progress" (2016), and collective creation, "Blossom of the Fallen Flowers" (2011).

Shih-Wei is also the critic of *Performing Arts Review* and *NTT Post*. His translation works include the plays of Edward Albee and of Joël Pommerat.

Choreographer/ Dancer, TIEN Hsiao-Tzu

Born in 1984 in Tainan, Taiwan. Graduated from Department of Dance, National Taiwan University of Arts. Based in Taipei, Hsiao-Tzu works as choreographer, dancer and movement designer both in Taiwan and abroad. She has collaborated with numerous choreographers and companies in Taiwan and abroad. Her works have been premiered in Taipei Arts Festival, Dance Massive (Melbourne), America Dance Festival, among others. The Hole and Stem have been presented respectively in Avignon Off, Shenzhen Contemporary Theatre Biennale and Dance Bridges Festival (Kolkata). The Hole was nominated for Taishin Arts Award in 2015.



Visual and Lighting Designer, Helmi Fita

Helmi Fita is a professional theatre practitioner and arts Educator. He has worked with various theatre companies both in Singapore and internationally. With almost 28 years of theatre experience under his belt, Helmi has worked as a performer, director, production manager, stage manager, lighting designer and technical manager.

Helmi was given the Honorable mention for special achievement in Lighting during the 3rd DBS Life Theatre Awards 2003.

Sound Designer LI Tzi-Mei

Taipei based sound artist / music producer, and member of the experimental electronic music group " Printed Noise "; also known as DJ LiHaiShen (the Earth Ranger) in Taipei underground techno/ house music scene. In recent years Li focuses more on the auditory sphere and pursues to bring out the essence of sound in a music composing. By performing live with samples, synthesizers and sound effects, her works show strong Characteristic of space, texture, and the fluidity of sound. In both her solo productions and collaborations with Taiwan theatre groups, Li attempts to get beyond the border rationality through the experiment of sound.



- Masses is supported by Songshan Creative Lab and going to premiere in December 2019. For further information and touring dates, please contact Mina Wang (Producer) minahpwang@gmail.com +886-916033479