

The 26th Macao Arts Festival (MAF), organized by the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC), will be held in May 2015. In order to increase the number of performances and exchange opportunities for local professional dancers, the MAF and the Taipei National Theatre and Concert Hall, Taiwan have jointly commissioned the W C Dance Company from Taiwan to create a dance piece entitled *Aerodynamics*, which will be presented in Macao and Taipei next year in May and June, respectively. The recruitment of local dancers is now ongoing.

> Introduction

In aviation science, aerodynamics obeys the laws of physics for the calculation of various relationships between the aircraft and airflow, and for the study of operation of an aircraft in the air. Every piece of creation is like an experiment of the body in the eyes of choreographer Lin Wen-chung who, inspired by this scientific method, seeks to dance with both body images and 'flying' movements.

Through the reorganisation of the stereoscopic dimension of space and time, he carefully observes the details of muscle movement, studying how to create movement and propel off the ground to create a set of movements which demonstrates the body image of rising, temporary stay, constant speed, gliding, flipping, floating and so on. *Aerodynamics* employs dancing as a metaphor to express the human desire against gravity, travelling between physical and psychological spaces and generating infinite imagination of body's dynamics.

W C Dance Company

Residing in America for 10 years, Lin Wen-chung was a dancer with the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company for seven years, establishing the W C Dance Company after returning to his hometown, aiming to 'be a small but sophisticated dance group, present the simplest and most dedicated movements, featuring a contemporary dance style and a new kind of body aesthetics'

In *Small* (2008) - the first creation of the company to catch public attention - five dancers performed in a 3-stere acrylic box to express the concept of 'mini-theatre'; audiences used telescopes to watch the performance, the bodies of the dancers and their delicate movements, along with the dramatic tension. This first dance piece was considered a mature and refined work, and was lauded as a "dance performance that should not be missed in 2008" by the *Taipei Times*. Since then, Lin Wen-chung has created a new dance performance in the 'Small' mini-theatre series on average yearly, including *Love Song* (2009), *Ma* (2010), *Little Nanguan* (2011), and *Small. End* (2013).



Among his creations, the most popular is the reconstructed dance piece *Love Song* (2009) featuring 13 completely different ancient and modern love songs of both Western and Chinese styles. An ancient Nanguan melody, 'Eyes to the Moon', motivated Lin Wenchung to explore the possibility of mixing contemporary-style dance with traditional music: *Little Nanguan* was based on this melody. In *Little Nanguan* Lin had the dancers do field research and even invited a Nanguan musician to perform with them on stage. Lin's creation was praised by Hong Kong's *Wen Wei Po*, who described it as 'inspired by traditional sources but not treating them as a burden, demonstrating a delicate and sincere emotion, [it] presents the beauty of tradition that immediately touches the audience.'

After a short break in Bali and India, Lin Wen-chung returned to Taipei to create *Small*. *End* to conclude his 'Small' series. Eliminating the existing movement skills and dance language, the choreographer employed a very abstract space-time structure and extremely pure body image to present the flow of the universe. One of the most original dance pieces of all his works, *Small. End* was nominated one of the 'Top 15 Works of the Year' in the 12th Taishin Arts Awards.

In 2014, Lin Wen-chung launched his latest work *Slowly Rock and Roll* at the Taipei National Theatre and Concert Hall in the Taiwan International Festival of Arts. This piece could be regarded as a sequel to *Little Nanguan*, and further explores the vocabulary of traditional Nanguan and modern dance performances, although this bold attempt has attracted both positive and negative comments. The W C Dance Company, however, has successfully sustained its popularity in the traditional dance circles through this piece, and was the only contemporary dance company invited to the 2014 Changhua Traditional Music Opera Festival and Cross-strait Folk Arts Festival as well as the 2015 Taipei Traditional Arts Festival.

While it continues to develop in Taiwan, the W C Dance Company also actively participates in overseas creations. In 2012, the company was invited by Chicago's famous dance group The Seldoms to join a month-long creation project entitled *Small Series & his Friends* in Chicago. This show was performed in Taiwan and Chicago. The W C Dance Company always participates in international dance events on behalf of Taiwan, including in APAP (2009) in New York, Festival d'Avignon Off (2011), and Festival/Tokyo (2012).

> Fee

Admission is free. Each selected candidate will receive a *per diem* of NT\$20,000 during the period of rehearsals and performances granted by the W C Dance Company.



> Place

About 3-4, depending on the outcome of the selection.

> Eligibility

Applicants must fulfil the following requirements:

- 1. Be a Macao citizen 18 years old or above;
- 2. Be a graduate of a dance faculty (including fresh graduates) and/or possess dance performance experience and be passionate about dance.

> Application, Selection, Rehearsal and Performance Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Event
13/11/2014	5:00pm	IC Building at Tap	Application deadline
(Thu)		Seac Square	
16/11/2014	10:00am-	Dom Pedro V Theatre	Registration and warm up
(Sun)	12:00 nn		
	12:00nn-	Dom Pedro V Theatre	Selection ²
	5:00pm ¹		
12/2014-06/2015	Mon-Thu	Taipei ³	Rehearsal (Classes in the
	Full day		morning and rehearsals in the
			afternoon)
05/2015	TBC	Macao Cultural Centre	Performance in the MAF
06/2015	TBC	Taipei National	Performance
		Theatre and Concert	
		Hall	

Remarks:

¹Each dancer will be notified of the actual selection time after the application deadline.

² Please prepare a 1-2 minutes floating/ flying or an improvised dance solo for the audition; background music is optional.

³ The W C Dance Company will provide accommodation in Taipei; air ticket arrangements will be discussed between the selected candidates and the company.

> Application

Regulations and application forms can be downloaded from the MAF website (<u>www.icm.gov.mo/fam</u>), or collected at the IC Building reception at Tap Seac Square. The application deadline is <u>13 November 2014 (Thursday), at 5:00pm.</u>



Interested candidates must **complete and sign** the application form and submit it to the IC Building reception desk at Tap Seac Square or by email it to <u>cklou@icm.gov.mo</u> in PDF format; please indicate '**Application for Dancers Recruitment for** *Aerodynamics* – '**Applicant's Name**' in the subject field of the email.

All selected candidates will be informed by phone. For enquiries, please call Mr. Lou at (853) 8399 6625 during office hours or email <u>cklou@icm.gov.mo</u>, indicating **'Enquiry - Dancers Recruitment for** *Aerodynamics*' in the subject field of the email.

*If there is any inconsistency or ambiguity between the regulations in Chinese, Portuguese and English, the English version shall prevail.