

Producer's Message

Get ready to experience the diverse facets of street dance and its culture over three days at *FL/OW – The FULL OUT* Weekend. Presented by Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay as part of *da:ns focus* from 1 – 3 Dec 2023, *FL/OW* promises exciting performances, workshops, battles and parties!

The street dance scene in Singapore is active and growing with a busy year-round calendar of events organised by local dance studios. Esplanade's launch of *FL/OW* as a biennial platform complements the existing vibrant scene by bringing focus to what street dance can be beyond the conventional.

To inspire more creative approaches to street dance choreography, we are presenting some of the world's best longer-form street dance theatre works. We will also encourage the creation of new street dance theatre works by independent Singaporean street dance artists through commissions or programmes that support such development. In addition, presenting *FL/OW* regularly in *da:ns focus* provides us with the platform to commit to collaborations with local partners and work together to strengthen the development of both emerging and seasoned Singapore choreographers. Finally, by presenting street dance in Esplanade's large venues, we want to continue to inspire audiences and artists to high levels of artistry and diverse techniques by presenting world-renowned dance crews, which importantly include styles and expressions from Asia.

The weekend starts strong with ***FULL OUT! 2023***, Esplanade's street dance showcase which returns to the Esplanade Theatre for its fourth edition. Four awe-inspiring dance crews from around the world will rip the stage this year. Brace yourself for electrifying performances by three-time World Hip Hop Champions **The Royal Family** (New Zealand), Korean Kiki house pioneers **House of Love** (South Korea), international breaking sensation **ILL-Abilities** and a Singapore crew led by **ScRach MarcS**.

Another highlight of *FL/OW* is ***Dance Mixtape***—a mixed bill featuring a collection of street dance theatre works by **The Rugged**s (The Netherlands), **Spoken Movement** (United Kingdom) as well as an Esplanade commissioned work by **Stirring Ground** (Singapore). Also known as hip hop theatre, street dance theatre is a genre that emerged in the 1990s, blending street dance with theatrical elements and structures. These works embrace a diversity of contemporary creative approaches, often with a focus on exploring a particular idea, content or form. We are excited to introduce the ever-evolving genre of street dance theatre to *FL/OW*.

In conjunction with *FL/OW*, artistic director of Spoken Movement, **Kwame Asafo-Adjei** (United Kingdom), will undertake a week-long creative residency with dance students from **LASALLE College of the Arts**. Audiences may register for ***In the Studio****, comprising an informal sharing of the work-in-progress created through the creative residency, and casual conversation sessions with the artists.

Get ready to turn up the heat as homegrown street dance choreographers make their debut at a fresh edition of ***5.6.7.8 – a collaboration between Esplanade and O School***. Twelve emerging Singapore choreographers and crews will either create a new work or reimagine a recent choreography, which will be performed at the DBS Foundation Outdoor Theatre.

Curious beginners can pick up basics of street dance at ***FL/OW Dance Workshops****; while seasoned street dance enthusiasts can attend ***FL/OW masterclasses*** led by the international

FL/OW artists. Come party with friends and dance to a night of good music and vibes at ***FL/OW AFTER PARTY***—a celebration of the vibrancy of our street dance community, where you may just find yourself grooving with the international stars of *FL/OW*!

With over 30 different programmes, street dance lovers and anyone seeking a fun weekend should not miss the jam-packed *FL/OW – The FULL OUT Weekend!*

Iris Cheung

Producer

on behalf of *da:ns* team, Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay

**In the Studio with Kwame Asafo-Adjei and LASALLE College of the Arts and FL/OW Dance Workshops* are programmes taking place on 18, 19, 25 & 26 Nov 2023, as a lead up to *FL/OW* weekend on 1 – 3 Dec 2023.