

ALICE (IN WONDERLAND) HONG KONG BALLET



21 – 23 FEB 2025
FRI, 7.30PM
SAT, 3PM & 7.30PM
SUN, 3PM
ESPLANADE THEATRE

About Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay

Esplanade is Singapore's national performing arts centre. It hosts a year-round line-up of about 4,000 live performances and activities presented by Esplanade, its partners and hirers. As an arts centre for everyone, Esplanade also creates opportunities for seniors, youth, children and underserved communities to experience the arts. More than 70% of the shows that take place each year at the centre are free for all to enjoy.

Esplanade also brings the arts virtually to audiences in Singapore and beyond, through its diverse range of digital programmes on *Esplanade Offstage*, an all-access backstage pass to the performing arts and guide to Singapore and Asian arts and culture, with videos, podcasts, articles, quizzes and resources.

The centre works in close partnership with local, regional and international artists to develop artistic capabilities and content, push artistic boundaries and engage audiences. Esplanade supports the creation of artistic content by commissioning and producing new Singapore and Asian work for the international stage. It also develops technical capabilities for the industry nationally.

Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay is operated by The Esplanade Co Ltd (TECL), which is a not-for-profit organisation, a registered Charity and an Institution of a Public Character. TECL received the Charity Governance Award – Special Commendation for Clarity of Strategy in 2016 and 2022, the Charity Transparency Award from 2016 – 2023, and the Charity Transparency Dedication Award in 2024. Esplanade is Singapore's first Dementia-Friendly Arts Venue and a certified Dementia Go-To Point, as well as a guide/assistance dog friendly centre.

TECL receives funding support from Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth and its Community Programmes are supported by Tote Board Family, comprising Tote Board, Singapore Pools and Singapore Turf Club.

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PRODUCER'S MESSAGE



Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay is excited to present *ALICE (in wonderland)* by Hong Kong Ballet as the centrepiece for the second edition of *da:ns focus – Ballet by the Bay*, which will take place from 21 – 23 Feb 2025.

Hong Kong Ballet, which last performed at Esplanade in 2004 as part of *Huayi – Chinese Festival of Arts*, will be making a significant return after 20 years. This presentation will be the first featuring an Asian ballet company and a family-friendly ballet production under the *da:ns* banner. It is important for us to showcase an Asian ballet company, offering the Singapore audience, especially the younger generation, a chance to see themselves represented on stage.

A key highlight of this production will be its large cast of local children. Ballet students in Singapore will have the unique opportunity to not only watch the performance but also to audition, rehearse and perform with Hong Kong Ballet on the Esplanade Theatre stage. We hope that such experiences will deepen the appreciation of ballet for our audiences, and inspire our next generation of dancers and artists.

This *da:ns focus* presentation also coincides with the 160th anniversary of Lewis Carroll's novel *Alice in Wonderland*, allowing audiences to rediscover the classic tale through the vibrant, colourful and imaginative staging by Septime Webre, Artistic Director of Hong Kong Ballet.

As Mr Webre said about the work:

"I had goals going into the production, to have young people fall in love with ballet and to have the dancers challenged technically. I wanted the dancers to come out of the experience better dancers than going in...There is a lot of virtuosity in the production...it's certainly entertaining, but it's not there because it is entertaining. It is a metaphor. When a dancer can do amazing turns, jumps, these tricks that are super-human...we are sending to the audience a message that 'life can be lived in its fullness...Go for the jugular in life, just go for it and you can be your best self.'"

I believe ballet fascinates and is loved worldwide because of its unique ability to convey extreme physicality and beauty through the human body, serving as a powerful affirmation of life and its boundless possibilities. Thank you for joining us at *da:ns focus - Ballet by the Bay*, and we wish you a wonderful journey with Alice!

Izumi Asakawa

Producer, The Esplanade Co Ltd



MESSAGE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



We're thrilled to share Alice's wild ride to Wonderland with you! This is a very special work brimming with boundless energy, excitement and optimism and reminds us to look for the magic in the world around us every day.

It is an honour and a privilege to be at Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay, one of the premier performing arts destinations in the world, to share *ALICE (in wonderland)* with our fabulous Singapore audiences. I would like to extend a very warm thank you to the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Singapore whose generous support made this exciting tour possible.

ALICE (in wonderland) is a dynamic collection of young Alice's unexpected, humorous and outlandish experiences in a fantastical world. Each time the show is performed, the unforgettable characters are renewed, reinvigorated and reinvented, stretching artistically and adjusting to maximize theatrical effects. I really love the challenging partnering and powerful solos. When the dancers are amazing and seem almost superhuman, they are sending you a message that life can be lived to its fullest.

It's been wonderful partnering with Esplanade, and we are also excited that this production features 99 talented ballet students from all over Singapore performing as adorable baby flamingos, charming piglets, cartwheeling cards and more in four shows alongside Hong Kong Ballet dancers. We are all so proud of them for their dedication and hard work, and we thank Singapore Ballet Academy for the community spaces for the children's rehearsals. Now, sit back, and enjoy the wondrous characters and magical adventure!

Septime Webre

Artistic Director
Hong Kong Ballet



ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

**“It’s great entertainment for children,
parents and ballet lovers alike”**

– South China Morning Post

“A feat of fevered imagination”

– The Washington Post



Get ready for a whimsical ride down the rabbit hole...

Full of energy and imagination, Hong Kong Ballet Artistic Director Septime Webre's *ALICE (in wonderland)* is infused with excitement and fantasy. Marvel at the playful and theatrical costumes, colourful sets and beloved original score. Revisit the fantastical world of Lewis Carroll's classic tale in the year of its 160th anniversary through this enchanting, reimagined ballet production. Come meet Alice, the Cheshire cat, the Queen of Hearts and many more magical characters in this spectacular adventure by Hong Kong's award-winning premier ballet company.



This programme is part of *da:ns focus – Ballet by the Bay*, a ballet lovers' weekend of classics and neo-classical works. Be inspired by world-class productions and be introduced to new perspectives on this celebrated art form.

2hrs, including 20min intermission

Advisory: Some haze and strobe lighting effects are used in this performance.



PROGRAMME & CAST LIST

ACT I

PROLOGUE

Alice daydreams as her family swirls around her chaotically. She is mesmerised by the mysterious and quirky Lewis Carroll, a family friend, who takes Alice on a boat ride and picnic in the country.

Alice

Nana Sakai (21 Feb, Fri, 7.30pm & 22 Feb, Sat, 7.30pm)

Loo Suet Ying Zoe (22 Feb, Sat, 3pm & 23 Feb, Sun, 3pm)

Mother

Wang Qingxin (21 Feb, Fri, 7.30pm & 22 Feb, Sat, 7.30pm)

Gao Ge (22 Feb, Sat, 3pm & 23 Feb, Sun, 3pm)

Father

Garry Corpuz (21 Feb, Fri, 7.30pm & 22 Feb, Sat, 7.30pm)

Gouta Seki (22 Feb, Sat, 3pm & 23 Feb, Sun, 3pm)

Twin Sisters

Ashleigh Bennett, Teng Ronger, Yuen Ao Xin Hennes,
Zhu Jiaying

Grandfather

Jeremy Chan, Basil James

Grandmother

Chen Yunshi, Leung Saulong

Butler

Shen Jie (21 Feb, Fri, 7.30pm & 22 Feb, Sat, 7.30pm)

Ma Renjie (22 Feb, Sat, 3pm & 23 Feb, Sun, 3pm)

Lewis Carroll

Jonathan Spigner (21 Feb, Fri, 7.30pm & 22 Feb, Sat, 7.30pm)

Basil James (22 Feb, Sat, 3pm & 23 Feb, Sun, 3pm)

Guys In White

Luis Cabrera, Jeremy Chan, Kent Eguchi, Rio Fukunaga,
Basil James, Kai Kanzaki, Kan Ka Kit Jordan, Leung
Chunlong, Li Yaze, Jeremy Power, Gouta Seki, Wang Zi,
James Yan



DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE

During the picnic, Alice drifts off to sleep while listening to a story of a little girl's adventures in a wonderland. A White Rabbit hops by, quickly leaps into a rabbit hole and Alice follows, falling for what seems like miles. Alice lands with a thud in a hallway. She drinks a potion and grows quite tall; she fans herself and shrinks quite small. When Alice eats some cake and returns to normal size, she can no longer fit through the tiny door.

White Rabbit

Shen Jie (21 Feb, Fri, 7.30pm & 22 Feb, Sat, 7.30pm)

Ma Renjie (22 Feb, Sat, 3pm & 23 Feb, Sun, 3pm)

Large Doors

Luis Cabrera, Jeremy Chan, Kent Eguchi, Rio Fukunaga, Basil James, Kan Ka Kit Jordan, Li Yaze, Jeremy Power, Gouta Seki, Jonathan Spigner, Wang Zi, James Yan

Small Doors

Chang Yutong Laura, Chow Pei Bing Liorah, Genevieve Gardner, Ho Yixi Janelle, Amanda Zee Ning Law, Kai En Kyra Lee, Gemma Lim, Liv Katimansah, Reeya Prabhuram, Rui Ze Quek, Si Ying Amelia Sim, Wanyu Wang, Wen Yi Poh, Yutong Una Xie, Alyssa Xin Yu Tan, Zhen Liu

Key

Cherelle Tan, Michelle Jia Qi Wong

Queen of Hearts

Wang Qingxin (21 Feb, Fri, 7.30pm & 22 Feb, Sat, 7.30pm)

Gao Ge (22 Feb, Sat, 3pm & 23 Feb, Sun, 3pm)

POOL OF TEARS AND THE CAUCUS RACE

Frightened and confused, Alice cries a pool of tears. The Dormouse swims by and befriends Alice. Then a Dodo Bird, an Eaglet and a flock of Flamingos plop into the pool. The Dodo Bird decides the best way to dry everyone is to dance a Caucus Race.

Dormouse

Leung Saulong (21 Feb, Fri, 7.30pm & 22 Feb, Sat, 7.30pm)

Chen Yunshi (22 Feb, Sat, 3pm & 23 Feb, Sun, 3pm)

Dodo Bird

Yonen Takano (21 Feb, Fri, 7.30pm & 22 Feb, Sat, 7.30pm)

Albert Gordon (22 Feb, Sat, 3pm & 23 Feb, Sun, 3pm)

Eaglet

Zou Mengjie (21 Feb, Fri, 7.30pm & 22 Feb, Sat, 7.30pm)

Sun Jia (22 Feb, Sat, 3pm & 23 Feb, Sun, 3pm)

Flamingos

Ashleigh Bennett, Chen Yunshi, Choi Jayeon, Lai Nok Sze Vanessa, Lai Pengxiang, Leung Saulong, Leung Sze Chai Cindy, Larissa Li, Liang Wanting, Natalie Lu, Sun Jia, Teng Ronger, Wan Ho Yee Chloe, Wang Yueh Erica, Yao Zhenyuan, Yuen Ao Xin Hennes, Xu Shentian, Zhu Jiaying, Zou Mengjie

Baby Flamingos

Chen Xi Aurora Lim, Alicia Ai Xin Koh, Mayuka Komoda, Zi Xuan Xaylee Lam, Myra Lee Yun Shan, Hui En Isabelle Leong, Lang Gynn Liew, Yun Xi Lim, Chloe Xin Ying Liow, Hsi-Chih Sophie Kang, Laura Ong Qi Qi, Alyssa Shi En Tang, Kaylyn Tan, Leeia Teh, Jia Ying Janelle Yeo, Xin Rui Chia

Four Flamingos

Ashleigh Bennett, Teng Ronger, Yuen Ao Xin Hennes, Zhu Jiaying



Photo Credit: Conrad Dy Liacco, Courtesy of Hong Kong Ballet

PIG AND PEPPER

Alice then meets a Fish and a Frog footman delivering an invitation to the Duchess, who is agitated because the Cook has put too much pepper into the soup. Alice sees Duchess' babies suddenly turn into pigs!

Fish

Basil James (21 Feb, Fri, 7.30pm & 22 Feb, Sat, 7.30pm)

Jonathan Signer (22 Feb, Sat, 3pm & 23 Feb, Sun, 3pm)

Frog

Luis Cabrera

Duchess

Garry Corpuz

Cook

James Yan (21 Feb, Fri, 7.30pm & 22 Feb, Sat, 7.30pm)

Kan Ka Kit Jordan (22 Feb, Sat, 3pm & 23 Feb, Sun, 3pm)

Piglets

Emma Ching, Isabella Choo Xin Ying, Margot Hall, Victoria Kong Yu Han, Ariana Binte Nor Shahrin Iskandar, Dionne Kong Fei, Mikaela Ong Yun Jie, Alyssa Siew Yuchen, Melanie Tan Yan Rui, Gwyneth Tan Si Tong, Julia Tang Hui Ting, Wong Qian Han



THE CHESHIRE CAT, ADVICE FROM A CATERPILLAR, THE MAD HATTER'S TEA PARTY

Later, Alice meets a Cheshire Cat, who appears and disappears, and a Caterpillar who smokes a hookah pipe and transforms into a butterfly. Next, Alice stumbles into a chaotic tea party with the Mad Hatter, the March Hare and the Dormouse.

Cheshire Cat

Gouta Seki (21 Feb, Fri, 7.30pm & 22 Feb, Sat, 7.30pm)

Kai Kanzaki (22 Feb, Sat, 3pm & 23 Feb, Sun, 3pm)

Caterpillar

Lai Nok Sze Vanessa (21 Feb, Fri, 7.30pm & 22 Feb, Sat, 7.30pm)

Ashleigh Bennett (22 Feb, Sat, 3pm & 23 Feb, Sun, 3pm)

Mad Hatter

Jonathan Spigner (21 Feb, Fri, 7.30pm & 22 Feb, Sat, 7.30pm)

Basil James (22 Feb, Sat, 3pm & 23 Feb, Sun, 3pm)

March Hare

Basil James (21 Feb, Fri, 7.30pm & 22 Feb, Sat, 7.30pm)

Jeremy Chan (21 Feb, Fri, 7.30pm & 22 Feb, Sat, 7.30pm)

Dormouse

Leung Saulong (21 Feb, Fri, 7.30pm & 22 Feb, Sat, 7.30pm)

Chen Yunshi (22 Feb, Sat, 3pm & 23 Feb, Sun, 3pm)

Gerber Daisies

Chang Ruoxuan Lorraine, Shermaine Han Jun Chew,
Natasha Binte Hendriawan, Huang Lixuan, Hui Yi Julia
Goh, Liew Lang Vui, Jiyan Ow, Rheann Rui Ern Ding, En
Ting Janelle Tang, Keira xie Theodas, Leck Xuan Keira Lim,
Faye Yong

INTERMISSION

ACT II

QUEEN'S GARDEN PARTY AND CROQUET GAME

Meanwhile, card gardeners accidentally planted white roses in the Queen's red rose garden. Fearing her wrath, they paint the roses red. The Queen invites Alice to play a game of croquet using Flamingo mallets and Hedgehogs as croquet balls. Blaming the Hedgehogs for losing the match, the Queen proclaims, "Off with their heads!". Alice saves the Hedgehogs and the angry Queen chases her into the forest.

Queen of Hearts

Wang Qingxin (21 Feb, Fri, 7.30pm & 22 Feb, Sat, 7.30pm)

Gao Ge (22 Feb, Sat, 3pm & 23 Feb, Sun, 3pm)

King of Hearts

Garry Corpuz (21 Feb, Fri, 7.30pm & 22 Feb, Sat, 7.30pm)

Gouta Seki (22 Feb, Sat, 3pm & 23 Feb, Sun, 3pm)



Photo credit: Corrado Di Iacopo. Courtesy: Hong Kong Ballet

Joker

Albert Gordon (21 Feb, Fri, 7.30pm & 22 Feb, Sat, 7.30pm)

Jeremy Chan (22 Feb, Sat, 3pm & 23 Feb, Sun, 3pm)

Roses

Ashleigh Bennett, Gao Ge, Lai Nok Sze Vanessa (21 Feb, Fri, 7.30pm & 22 Feb, Sat, 7.30pm) Teng Ronger, Zhu Jiaying, Zou Mengjie (22 Feb, Sat, 3pm & 23 Feb, Sun, 3pm)

Painting the Roses Red

Jeremy Chan, Kent Eguchi, Basil James, Gouta Seki
(21 Feb, Fri, 7.30pm & 22 Feb, Sat, 7.30pm)

Luis Cabrera, Kent Eguchi, Rio Fukunaga, Jeremy Power
(22 Feb, Sat, 3pm & 23 Feb, Sun, 3pm)

The Cards

Ashleigh Bennett, Chen Yunshi, Choi Jayeon, Lai Nok Sze Vanessa, Lai Pengxiang, Leung Saulong, Leung Sze Chai Cindy, Larissa Li, Liang Wanting, Sun Jia, Teng Ronger, Wan Ho Yee Chloe, Wang Yueh Erica, Yao Zhenyuan, Yuen Ao Xin Hennes, Zhu Jiaying, Zou Mengjie

Luis Cabrera, Jeremy Chan, Kent Eguchi, Rio Fukunaga, Albert Gordon, Basil James, Kai Kanzaki, Kan Ka Kit Jordan, Leung Chunlong, Li Yaze, Jeremy Power, Gouta Seki, Jonathan Spigner, Wang Zi, James Yan

Junior Male Card

Matsuharu Wesley Kato

Junior Cards

Dorcas Hui Wen Cheam, Xin Yi Stephanie Leow, Qixin Luo, Ng Shevonne, Julia Sheu, Cherelle Tan, Ser Suen Tan, Yuuna Miyata Tan, Naomi Tie, Michelle Jia Qi Wong, Shan Rou Wong, Arielle Yong

Card Guards

Xuan Wen Cortina Cheng, Hei Yin Kaitlyn Chiu, Kassabelle Chia Xin Rui, Natalie Foo, Anya Gan, Alexa Grace Goh Rui En, Shi Ern Shelomi Goh, Anna Gruber, Han Jing Xuan Tiffany, Caela Lee Yu Han, Yi Ting Natalie Ho, Koh Ka Yee, Jamie Lee Zi Shan, Charlotte Lim, Lim Ying Xuan Celestial, Kyra Ng Xin Yuan, Charmaine Peh Si Min, Sarah Alexa Rivera, Ellie Sim, Helene Tang, Wee Shi En Emmeline, Yen Xi Tan, Zinuo Zhou, Zoe Quah

Flamingo Mallets

Leung Sze Chai Cindy, Leung Saulong, Lai Pengxiang, Liang Wanting, Yao Zhenyuan

Hedgehogs

Teo Rynett Blix, Eva Dania Binte Muhammad Firdaus, Ena Lin Xuanle, Maya Shmulevich, Sophie Naomi Tan, Eva Wu, Rae Zhu Yi'an

TWEEDLE DUM AND TWEEDLE DEE AND THE JABBERWOCK

In the forest, Alice happens upon a Rocking-Horse-Fly, a Bread-and-Butterfly and beautiful Snap-Dragon-Flies. Tweedle Dee and Tweedle Dum playfully argue as they pass by. Alice and her friends are suddenly threatened by the ultimate danger: the Queen's Jabberwock. To protect her new friends, Alice slays the beast.

Tweedle Dee & Tweedle Dum

Jeremy Chan, Basil James

(21 Feb, Fri, 7.30pm & 22 Feb, Sat, 7.30pm)

Luis Cabrera, Rio Fukunaga

(22 Feb, Sat, 3pm & 23 Feb, Sun, 3pm)





THE TRIAL AND HOME AGAIN

Back at the Queen's palace, Alice is arrested and put on trial for her crime. Utter confusion breaks out in the court as the Queen shouts, "Off with her head!". When Alice realizes the silliness of the Queen and her court, they fall like a house of cards. She awakens from her dream and finds herself at home.

END OF THE SHOW

PRODUCTION CREDITS

Choreography

Septime Webre

Music

Matthew Pierce

Concept and Costume Design

Liz Vandal

Set Design

James Kronzer

Lighting Design

Clifton Taylor

Re-Lighting

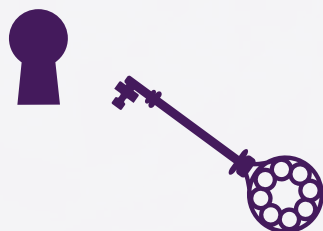
Mak Kwok Fai

Puppet Design

Eric Van Wyk

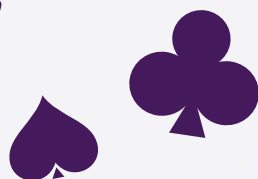
Children Rehearsal Director

Irene Lo



ABOUT HONG KONG BALLET

Artistic Director: Septime Webre
Executive Director: Heidi Lee



Hong Kong Ballet (HKB) is recognised internationally as a world-class institution that represents Hong Kong's unique character. Since its inception in 1979, HKB has evolved into a vibrant performing arts organisation with a dynamic repertoire, forward-thinking community engagement initiatives and an emphasis on excellence.

Comprised of 50 dancers from all over the globe—Hong Kong, Mainland China and other parts of Asia, Australia, New Zealand, Europe and North America, HKB has won recognition both regionally and internationally with celebrated re-stagings of the classics, neoclassical masterworks by George Balanchine and others, and original ballets created for HKB and about Hong Kong. Additionally, HKB performs works by some of today's most sought-after choreographers, including Alexei Ratmansky, Christopher Wheeldon, Wayne McGregor, Justin Peck, Jiří Kylián, Nacho Duato and Annabelle Lopez Ochoa as well as innovative new works by its Choreographer-in-Residence, Hu Song Wei Ricky, and numerous emerging Hong Kong choreographers.



Photo Credit: Worldwide Dancer Project

With almost 50 tours to 11 countries, HKB has recently toured throughout Europe, the US and Asia and places a special emphasis on representing Hong Kong in mainland China and the West. HKB maintains the Hong Kong Academy of Ballet, a professionally-oriented ballet school, as well as a full schedule of award-winning community programmes and crossover collaborations throughout Hong Kong to ensure ballet is accessible to all. HKB has also produced engaging original videos and dance films that have collectively garnered over 10 million views online, connecting with ballet lovers worldwide.

Hong Kong Ballet is represented exclusively by Matthew Bledsoe, Executive Vice President of IMG Artists.

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

Septime Webre

Artistic Director, Hong Kong Ballet
Choreographer of *ALICE (in wonderland)*

Septime Webre is an internationally recognised ballet director, choreographer, educator and advocate. He joined Hong Kong Ballet as its Artistic Director in July 2017 after 17 years as Artistic Director of The Washington Ballet in Washington DC, US. Previously he served as Artistic Director of the American Repertory Ballet, based in Princeton, New Jersey, US for six years. In addition, Webre has served as the Artistic Director of Halcyon, a Washington DC-based foundation standing at the intersection of creativity and social impact.

Webre's tenure at The Washington Ballet ushered in a period of unprecedented growth in the quality and breadth of its work, both onstage and in its engagement



Photo Credit: Dean Alexander

and educational initiatives, with its annual budget growing over 500% during that time. In Hong Kong, Webre recently staged a pair of new productions for HKB: *Romeo + Juliet* set in early 1960s Hong Kong, and *The Nutcracker* set in Hong Kong in the early 20th century. In addition, he has staged a number of productions for HKB, including new productions of *Giselle*, *ALICE (in wonderland)*, *Sam and Her Amazing Book of Dinosaurs*, *The Great Gatsby*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Cinderella* and *Peter Pan*.

As a dancer, Webre was featured in solo and principal roles from the classical repertoire as well as in contemporary works by choreographers such as Twyla Tharp, Paul Taylor and Merce Cunningham. He has served on the juries of a number of international ballet competitions, including those in Varna, Bulgaria, Istanbul, Cape Town, New York, Seoul, and elsewhere. He has served on the board of Dance/USA and his work has received numerous honors, grants and awards. He holds a degree in History/Pre-Law from the University of Texas at Austin, and is the seventh son in a large, boisterous Cuban-American family.

Matthew Pierce

Music / Composer

Matthew Pierce is celebrated for his new classical scores commissioned and performed by major American ballet companies. Born in Brooklyn in 1968, Pierce grew up in Seattle, studied violin at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore and moved to New York where he began writing music for the theatre. *ALICE (in wonderland)*, with choreography by Septime Webre has been produced by 13 companies with more than 100 performances. Washington Post called his *ALICE (in wonderland)* score, “The cherry on top: Pierce’s visionary result, a shimmering landscape that weaves together bits of our own world with a contemporary edge and a spirit of discovery. And, yes, wonder.”



Liz Vandal

Costume Design

Liz Vandal is a renowned costume designer, design teacher, and speaker for international organisations. Beginning her career as a self-taught fashion designer in 1988, she has infused originality into dance, circus, and film. Vandal has collaborated with prominent choreographers, including Edouard Lock and Marie Chouinard. Notably, she designed costumes for Cirque du Soleil's OVO and Cirque Eloize's *Cirkopolis* and *Le Géant*. She created 3,000 costumes for the 2015 European Games' closing ceremony. Vandal's 20 years of collaboration continues with Artistic Director Septime Webre with *The Wizard of Oz*, *Peter Pan*, and *ALICE (in wonderland)*, winning Best Costume Design at the Hong Kong Dance Awards.

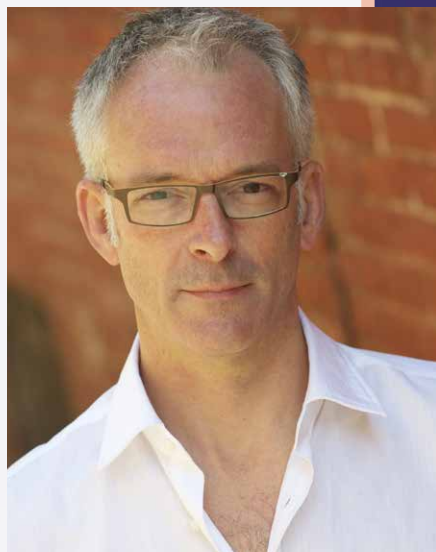


Photo Credit: Stéphane Caron

James Kronzer

Set Design

Scenic Designer James Kronzer resides in Washington DC, US and Italy. He is an award-winning scenic designer with credits internationally, on Broadway, Off-Broadway and regionally throughout the United States. He has also designed scenery for Disney Cruise Lines and has shows running on twelve ships on the Norwegian Cruise Line. He has designed over 300 standup comedy specials many noted comics for Comedy Central, Showtime, HBO and Netflix. Kronzer has received eight Helen Hayes Awards and two Barrymore Awards and has been nominated for an Art Director's Guild Award. His works can be seen at www.jameskronzer.com.



Clifton Taylor

Lighting Design

Clifton Taylor has created designs for Broadway shows and performing arts companies around the world, including commissions by American Ballet Theatre, Alvin Ailey, Mikhailovsky Ballet, Scottish National Ballet, Rambert, San Francisco Ballet, and Dance Theater of Harlem. He has collaborated with Septime Webre over the past two decades. He has also designed scenery and lighting for Ningbo Song and Dance Company's *Farewell My Concubine* and was the first lighting designer to be invited to work at Japan's Yokohama Noh Theater. Taylor has worked extensively in Indonesia (with Sardono Kusumo), Cambodia and other Asian countries. He is also a well recognised fine art painter and teacher. More information: cliftontaylor.com



Mak Kwok Fai

Re-lighting

A graduate of The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts (HKAPA) and Queensland University of Technology, Mak Kwok Fai worked as a HKAPA Lighting Lecturer from 2000 - 2018. Over the years, he has collaborated on various artistic projects worldwide and designed lighting systems for shopping malls, commercial buildings and performance venues. His designs in Hong Kong Ballet's *Shenren Chang (Harmony between Gods and Men)*, *The Rite of Spring* and *The Last Song* were nominated for Best Visual Effects at the 2017, 2020 and 2022 Hong Kong Dance Awards, respectively. His recent works include *Meeting of the Gods - Death of Generals* (Danny Yung Experimental Theatre X Hanoi Opera House) and *WHIZZ X GDJYB 《—》 Live* (Macpherson Festival).



Eric Van Wyk

Puppet Design

Eric J. Van Wyk received his MFA in Scenic Design from the University of Maryland, College Park and his BA in Fine Arts from Dordt College. His puppetry and scenic designs have been featured at Open Eye Figure Theatre, Imagination Stage, The National Theatre in Washington DC, The White House, The Washington Ballet and Cincinnati Ballet. His company WonderStruck Theatre Co created *Mop Dog* and received two Jim Henson grants, including one for the world premiere of *The Elephant speaks Jazz*. His designs for *The Big Friendly Giant* received a Helen Hayes Award, and he thanks his family for their inspiration.



ARTISTIC LEADERSHIP HONG KONG BALLET



Hu Song Wei
Ricky
Choreographer-
in-Residence

Wei Wei
Associate
Ballet Master
Principal
Character Dancer

Xuan Cheng
Ballet Mistress
Principal Dancer

Yuh Egami
Ballet Master



Septime Webre
Artistic Director



Luis R. Torres
Ballet Master



Tang Min
Chief Representative,
Mainland, China



Shen Jie
Associate
Ballet Master
Principal Dancer

DANCERS & MUSICIAN



Xuan Cheng
Principal Dancer
Ballet Mistress



Ye Feifei
Principal Dancer



Wang Qingxin
Principal Dancer



Yang Ruiqi
Principal Dancer



Shen Jie
Principal Dancer
Associate
Ballet Master



Garry Corpuz
Principal Dancer



Yonen Takano
Principal Dancer



Wei Wei
Principal Dancer
Associate
Ballet Master



Jessica Burrows
Soloist



Gao Ge
Soloist



Kim Eunsil
Soloist



Nana Sakai
Soloist



Albert Gordon
Soloist



Ryo Kato
Soloist



Ma Renjie
Soloist



Jonathan Spigner
Soloist
Pilates Instructor



**Lai Nok Sze
Vanessa**
Coryphée



**Lai Pui Ki
Peggy**
Coryphée



Zhang Xuening
Coryphée



Luis Cabrera
Coryphée



Jeremy Chan
Coryphée



Basil James
Coryphée



Kai Kanzaki
Coryphée



Leung Chunlong
Coryphée



Gouta Seki
Coryphée



Henry Seldon
Coryphée



Wang Zi
Coryphée



Ashleigh Bennett
Corps de Ballet



Chen Yunshi
Corps de Ballet



Choi Jayeon
Corps de Ballet



Lai Pengxiang
Corps de Ballet



Leung Saulong
Corps de Ballet



Leung Sze Chai Cindy
Corps de Ballet



Larissa Li
Corps de Ballet



Liang Wanting
Corps de Ballet



Loo Suet Ying Zoe
Corps de Ballet



Natalie Lu
Corps de Ballet



Sun Jia
Corps de Ballet



Teng Ronger
Corps de Ballet



**Wang Yueh
Erica**
Corps de Ballet



Xu Shentian
Corps de Ballet



Yao Zhenyuan
Corps de Ballet



**Yuen Ao Xin
Hennes**
Corps de Ballet



Zhu Jiaying
Corps de Ballet



Zou Mengjie
Corps de Ballet



Kent Eguchi
Corps de Ballet



Rio Fukunaga
Corps de Ballet



**Kan Ka Kit
Jordan**
Corps de Ballet



Li Yaze
Corps de Ballet



Jeremy Power
Corps de Ballet



James Yan
Corps de Ballet



Wan Ho Yee
Chloe
Apprentice



Nicholas Lau
Pianist

SPECIAL THANKS

Teachers for the child performers of Singapore presentation of *ALICE (in wonderland)*

Ji Hui (Singapore Ballet Academy)

Xin Ling Ho (Singapore Ballet Academy)

Hong Kong Ballet and Esplanade - Theatres on the Bay would like to thank Singapore Ballet Academy for providing rehearsal spaces for the child performers for *ALICE (in wonderland)*.

Other programmes as part of *da:ns focus – Ballet by the Bay*



Choreographic Exploration: Crafting Dances informed by Character, Emotional Atmosphere and Narrative

Septime Webre

(International Choreographer and
Artistic Director, Hong Kong Ballet)

Discover how to generate original
movement phrases inspired by narrative
and character in this dynamic session of
dancemaking, exploration, and creativity.

(2hrs, no intermission)

Admission age: 18 and above

22 Feb, Sat, 10.30am
Esplanade Rehearsal Studio

\$70 Pre-registration is required.



Masterclass by Hong Kong Ballet

Join an inspiring ballet masterclass with
Xuan Cheng, Ballet Mistress of Hong Kong
Ballet, a premier ballet company led by
Artistic Director Septime Webre.

(1hr 30mins, no intermission)

Admission age: 14 and above

23 Feb, Sun, 10.30am
Esplanade Rehearsal Studio

\$60 Pre-registration is required.



Ballet 101: Foundations for New Audiences

Learn about the foundations of ballet and be treated to performances of short dance excerpts in this showcase designed by ballet experts.

Created and Directed by:
Etienne Ferrère & Rosa Park

Performed by:
Chihiro Uchida, Kenya Nakamura,
Pia Angela Custodio, Ma Ni, Cayla
Aw Yong Kai Li (SOTA), Yong
Leigh Ann (SOTA), Toh Cheng
Kye, Jamiel (SOTA) & Varcus
Kang Jing En (SOTA).

(30mins, no intermission)

**21 – 23 Feb, Fri – Sun
7.15pm & 8.15pm**

**DBS Foundation Outdoor Theatre
at Esplanade**

Free

Footwork

by Various Studios (Singapore)

Discover the joy of movement and learn new dance moves in ballet through these introductory dance workshops for all ages.



Adults & Preschoolers
(3 – 6 years old)



Adults & Kids
(6 – 8 years old)



Just Kids
(8 – 12 years old)



Open
(13 years old and up)

1 & 2 Mar
Various timings
Esplanade Rehearsal Studio
\$20^

TELL US

WHAT YOU THINK!

Help us make your next Esplanade experience even better by taking a moment to share your thoughts with us.

We look forward to creating more wonderful memories with you soon.

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"*Lived Fiction* is full of wit, sophistication and spellbinding movement. Over and over again, its intensity and invention take you by surprise."

– *The Observer*

LIVED FICTION

by Stopgap Dance Company (UK)

Earnest and contemplative, *Lived Fiction* provides new perspectives on dance and life through the stories and experiences of performers with and without disabilities.

1hr 30mins, including
15min intermission

11 – 13 APR 2025

FRI, 7.30PM

SAT & SUN, 4PM

**SINGTEL WATERFRONT
THEATRE AT ESPLANADE**



\$40^

Limited concessions available

^Esplanade&Me specials available

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RE Relaxed Environment **CAP** Captioning

AL Assistive Listening **AD** Audio Description



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stage artist in the new century.”

– Japanese contemporary theatre master Suzuki Tadashi

“新世纪亚洲最具影响力的舞台艺术家。”

– 日本现代戏剧大师铃木忠治对李六乙的评价

雷雨 Thunderstorm

编剧
曹禺

WRITTEN BY
Cao Yu

导演
李六乙

DIRECTED BY
Li Liuyi

Jixin Culture (Beijing) Ltd.
Beijing Li Liuyi Theatre Studio (China)

集欣文化(北京)有限公司
北京李六乙戏剧工作室(中国)

胡军
Hu Jun

苗驰
Miao Chi

卢芳
Lu Fang

李红
Li Hong

李小萌
Li Xiao Meng



28 – 30 Mar 2025

Fri & Sat, 7.30pm | Sun, 2pm | Esplanade Theatre

From \$38

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(UK)



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WITH FUN DETAILS
AND MAGICAL IDEAS.'**

- THE STAGE

7 - 29 MAR 2025

**VARIOUS TIMINGS
ESPLANADE BLACK ROOM**

Where will your curiosity take you?

Uncover a world of stories in a mysterious travelling library, an immersive theatre experience by award winning Punchdrunk Enrichment.

(55mins, no intermission)

FROM \$68[^]

Limited concessions available

[^]Esplanade&Me specials available

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Supporting Sponsor



Candida Thompson
Director & Violin

Kian Soltani
Cello

"Soltani fills gracefully shaped phrases with eloquent, butterscotch-tinted cello sound."

– Gramophone

11 Mar 2025, Tue, 7.30pm
Esplanade Concert Hall

Kian Soltani and Amsterdam Sinfonietta

(Austria/Iran, Netherlands)

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

Haydn – *Cello Concerto No. 1 in C major, Hob. VIIb/1*

Schubert – *Du bist die Ruh, D.776*

William Walton – *Sonata for Strings*

(1hr 40mins, including 20min intermission)

From \$40

Limited concessions available

Esplanade&Me specials available

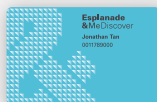
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you spend \$500



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you spend \$1000



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12 years & under



Free for ages
17 to 26 years



Free for ages
55 & above



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Gift a Seat

Inspire the future

Imagination, empathy, creativity—the arts both embody and inspire these human qualities that help us make a better future for ourselves, our families or even society.

Your donation opens up opportunities for young people to experience and be inspired by the arts.

It also supports the aspirations of emerging Singapore artists as they create and express their vision for the future.

Leave a legacy.

Donate and dedicate a seat in our iconic Concert Hall or Theatre.

In appreciation of your donation:

- ▶ Seat plaque acknowledgement for the next ten years
- ▶ Donor acknowledgement on Donors Wall in Esplanade
- ▶ Invitation to receive *Esplanade&Me Black Card*
- ▶ Full tax deduction of donation amount



esplanade.com/giftaseat

Esplanade gives our heartfelt thanks

to our Esplanade partner, arts benefactor, donors and sponsors for believing in our vision to be a performing arts centre for everyone. They made all these possible!^



4,231

activities took place at Esplanade.



3,007

 Free

737

 Paid

3,809,486

People attended our activities at the centre.



Free

3,367,291

Paid

141,565

*Figures for Esplanade's activities from Apr 2023 to Mar 2024.



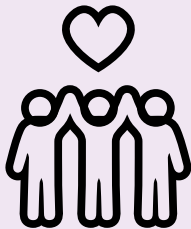
636

 Activities

17,949

 Participants

We believe that everyone should be able to experience the joy of the arts, including children, youth, seniors, migrant workers and individuals with special needs. Our community engagement activities bring the arts to those in need.



Your contribution* will make a difference.

On behalf of the communities we serve, thank you!

Find out how you too can make a difference through the arts at Esplanade.

Donate at www.esplanade.com/donate

To find out more, email us at donations@esplanade.com or speak with us at 6828 8321.

Esplanade is a charity and an Institution of a Public Character. Your donation to us is matched dollar-for-dollar by the Cultural Matching Fund. Please note that the prevailing tax exemption scheme for donors and sponsors of Arts-Related Businesses will depend on the qualifying criteria imposed by IRAS.



With Gratitude

Esplanade–Theatres on the Bay is a charity, a not-for-profit organisation and Singapore’s national performing arts centre.

We seek to entertain, engage, educate and inspire through the arts. We thank everyone who has helped us bring positive impact to Singaporeans by supporting the arts and Esplanade.

Our heartfelt appreciation goes especially to our Donors and Sponsors, for their steadfast belief in our mission and for their generous contributions.

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The above are donors and sponsors who contributed \$1000 and above from April 2023 – March 2024.

Join us in sharing the joy of the arts and help us reach more communities in need.

We believe that an experience with the arts is special and that with your generous support, more people will get a chance to enjoy the arts. Join us in sharing the joy of the arts and help us reach more communities in need.



Esplanade also receives grants from the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth, as well as support for our Community Programmes from the Tote Board Family, comprising Tote Board, Singapore Pools and Singapore Turf Club.



CANOPY IN WONDERLAND

Complimentary Down the Rabbit Hole fries for ALICE (*in wonderland*) ticket holders!

Enjoy crispy fries generously topped with rich Parmesan cheese and a hint of luxurious truffle. Complete your experience with the Mad Hatter Cocktail (\$14) or a Nursery Mocktail (\$11).

Promotion valid until 28 Feb 2025.

Limited quantities available, while stocks last.

T&Cs apply. Find out more at esplanade.com/mall

Present a valid ALICE (*in wonderland*) e-ticket at Canopy Esplanade (#01-10/12)

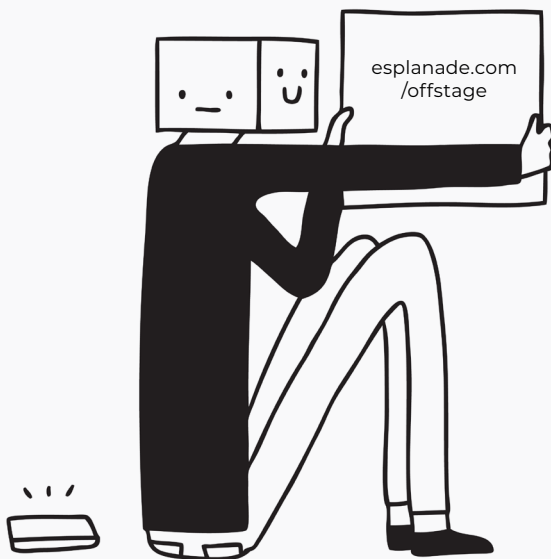
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(who is not related to Offstage)





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