

KYLD

KUN-YANG LIN/DANCERS

**AUDIENCE
FEEDBACK**

2019 Spring Season Audience Testimonials





“Incredible performance... Lin's 20 years of dance and choreography is paying off...he's a master at his art in my eyes... thanks for being in Philadelphia...” - F K

“Awesome show ! congratulations to all of the company” - R L

“Gorgeous work this evening KYL/D, thank you for having me!” - AN

“Thank you KYL/D for the transcendent show!” - SS

(Insta Video): “Kun-Yang Lin Dancers presenting a beautiful program at Annenberg Center Live yesterday. Thanks for sharing your amazing work with our audiences!” - CG

“Remarkable performances by the Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers” - LBM

“Congrats to all on a triumphant concert” - LW

“Congratulations on a well-wrought program and a memorable and beautiful new work. It reminded me of some of Paul Taylor's best work when I was at Orchestra of St. Luke's – only with Kun-Yang's own inimitable artistry. Bravo all around!” - BR

“CONGRATULATIONS on a spectacular program and premiere at Annenberg last week! Absolutely beautiful work, my friend.” - BR

“I had the pleasure of meeting you at the luncheon hosted by the Annenberg Center staff to review the plans the upcoming 2019/2020 season. I also had the pleasure of being in the audience for the 2pm matinee on the same day. I just



wanted to share with you how much I enjoyed your choreography and the talent and dedication of your

dancers. The show was very thoroughly inspiring and entertaining. Continued success to you and your company.” - IC

“Wonderful performance last night! ”
- T-WE

“Thank you so much for the opportunity to see KYLD in action. Wow! The dancers, choreography, and afternoon were just magical! Thank you again for thinking of me. Looking forward to moving dance education forward with you!” - SH (Arts Education Consultant with the SDP)



“Just came back from your matinee performance today and could not wait to tell you how magnificent the show was! The dancers were so top quality and each piece was unique and inspiring. The costumes and the lighting just added the finishing touch! Kudos to everyone involved!” PS

“Your dancers are so very talented...Really fantastic work! Just a note on your premier piece, it was incredibly lovely. Such a burst of color, sensation, energy, and imagery. It was truly memorizing, the opening was breathtaking, really intriguing. I definitely saw Nijinsky elements in there. You take the piece in so many new and different directions, it was fascinating to see where it was going, to experience the journey. It was a true expression of spring, you have your own *Rite of Spring* now :-)) and it was beautiful! Just loved it... Thanks for the experience.” CC

“I am a subscriber of Annenberg Center for over 30 years, your show is one of the best shows I have seen... Thank you!!” -Anonymous

“it was such a beautiful collection of works. Spring 101 was so cheeky and fun! I have to say Dreamscape is most definitely my favorite of the night, though! That's my spooky-electro jam. :-)) Please extend my gratitude to the whole staff for inviting me!!” – S T

“Such a beautifully detailed and emotionally laid out program!” - M M

“The show was truly amazing! And I think Mr. Lin and the dancers knew it was by the standing ovation:))” - E Y

“My pleasure, truly. Fantastic performance!” - D F (Rutgers)

“Was a really good show! The dancers were strong and diverse. The choreography was wide ranging and therefor made for an interesting program. I was particularly drawn by the first and second pieces (equally), followed by the fourth and third, in that order. The final piece, Spring, had some good moments but it did not feel as cohesive as the others ... just one person's preferences.” - Anonymous



“I posted very complimentary comments and a link to the Annenberg website with a brief clip of the company on Facebook to encourage others to see the company perform” - Anonymous

“The overall performance is excellent. I really like the performers and the show. The only suggestion I have is that the performance is a little too abstract for me. I couldn't understand what message the show would like to convey (I believe this is my own problem). The best show I've ever seen from your group is the one about the shooting accident in Orlando. Even though that was an unfortunate accident, but I could feel the spirit from the performance.” - Anonymous

“I loved: the synchronous movement, that I sat closely enough to hear dancers breathe, the mix of strength and fluidity of movement - like the juxtaposition of rock and water and that the dancers' expressions showed their seriousness but also the fun they were having on stage.” - Anonymous

“I really enjoyed the performance, I saw bits of Buddhism, praying as part of the dance and I loved, loved the music, wish there was a soundtrack, perfect alignment of music and dance. Thanks for a wonderful show-
Artie”

“First time seeing the company and enjoyed the performance very much.” - Anonymous

“The performance I saw on Saturday is still very much in my thoughts. It was inspiring, beautiful, and energizing. It was a real break from ordinary life, and refreshed me in a way that only real artistry can. I look forward to seeing KYL/D again, hopefully soon, and hopefully regularly. The company has a unique vision and energy that I would like to experience much more.” - Anonymous

“Loved it. One of best dance recitals I've seen.” - Anonymous

“Loved it!” - Anonymous

“Loved the first two numbers. Liked the debut piece as well!” – Anonymous





"It was breathtaking! I enjoyed it" - Anonymous

"Enjoyed the performance, as did my wife which was the really important issue. Dancers were great. Bravo to everyone involved!" - Anonymous

"absolutely awesome I was entranced" - Anonymous

"Amazing grace, variety in different works, creative, unique. Would definitely attend future performances. Loved it!" - Anonymous

"Flawless! Great to have such quality company in Philadelphia." - Anonymous

"Enjoyed the performance for the variety of styles, performers' skills, music and diversity of dancers" - Anonymous

"The performance was wonderful. So many emotions expressed by dance." - Anonymous

"The entire performances were incredible, will not have a problem about going to any other shows." - Anonymous

"I *loved* the premiered piece (last in the program). Generally, I resonated with the more recent work more than the older one." - Anonymous

"Absolutely brilliant. We loved it! When is the next performance???" - Anonymous

"The performances somehow get better and better every year!" - Anonymous

"This was one of the best dance performances I have seen. It brought me to tears." - Anonymous

"Truly World Class Performance and company." - Anonymous

"My heartfelt congratulations on the success of the season! It was a gorgeous show" - David Harrison

"Every piece was so full of such refined gestures and exquisitely masterful in its artistry. The music was so so uplifting, I loved the Baroque selections. The synergy between the artists was palpable. The dancers were so engaged in their solos, duets and group pieces. It was the best representation of Kun-Yang Lin's signature choreography, which is so prized for his rich understanding of the powerful control behind the art of nuanced expressive movements and gestures. All the dancers got it while we as the audience also got it! " - EG

"world class dance troupe!!"

"I loved seeing the entirety of *Spring 101*, and the two friends I brought with me, who have not seen KYLD/D perform yet, told me they both thought the entire performance was gorgeous (I agree!)" - H B

"KYLD at the Annenberg was a powerful and engaging show!" - Anonymous

"Didn't like the 3rd piece before intermission but really liked all the others." - Anonymous



“Absolutely loved the first half--felt spiritually uplifted, even having seen the performances in different venues over different years. The dancers are tremendous: so heartening, too, to see such growth. Also enjoyed simply watching the audience's response in this venue (several around me hadn't seen KYL/D before, being Annenberg subscribers who 'took at chance.')

Still mulling over the last piece.” - Anonymous

“I thought it was incredible. I immediately recommended seeing KYL/D to a young dancer in New York.” - Anonymous

“Loved it. Love the intensity. Love the look into another culture. Love the different type of dance.” - Anonymous

“The last piece was my favorite” - Anonymous

“I loved the show! The dancers have excellent technique and expression. The choreography was pleasant to watch and similar to my own style of dance.” - Anonymous

“I was immediately drawn in the the space and movement. The dancers are incredible and the choreography engaging.” - Anonymous

“The program was a jewel that encapsulated artistry, technique, and creativity beyond any reasonable expectation. The performance provided a spiritual journey into the wonders of the human being through the use of the human body. This exploration was a unique adventure where a united body, mind, and spirit moved through time and space while breathing as a single organism, and thereby enticed the audience to participate in the production of an extraordinary life-changing experience for all.” - Anonymous

“Best dance performance ever! I saw my culture in the dance and it's so impressive. Love the performance!” - Anonymous

“I loved the uplifting and joyful quality of Spring 101. THE variety of the programming was excellent.” - Anonymous

“Beautiful!” - Anonymous

“After following every performance since 2009, this debut at the Annenberg with the premiere was a world class performance! I invited eighteen people and everyone agrees. Congratulations Kun-Yang and Dancers!!! Exceptional . Bravo!! I hope everyone who missed it can get another chance somehow to see it.” - E G



Faith Project/THE DOOR

Audience Feedback (2018)



"I saw creation and destruction
Of lives
Of cities
Of communities
And breaking down the walls of yes, symbols of faith but more of our inner barriers
I saw the question of confronting our demons
Struggling with our greatest fears.
You personally, within the dancers, and asking the audience
For the thing that we love and fear are exactly the same thing
And that is LOVE at its purest state
Religion creates a structure or a vehicle for believing in something greater than you
For the world
For loving your purpose of existence
But when you are so clear and sure about your greater purpose than the structure for faith
is no longer externalized.
It's internal- and that is KNOWING!
I see you going deeper
Keep digging
I always like to ask myself before I dance, " where is the devil?"
Because I find my most honest and pure self that can never be defined by words
Only KNOWING
I am honored to be a part of the history of your work and company. And just so you know
your work has great ripples and I am watching and making the ripples pool out into the
whole world the way I know it needs to."



(Rob Li Photography)

"I was on the edge of my seat during the entire performance last night. I just loved Dedication and was honored to be in the audience as the 10th anniversary transition was made. Nikolai was wonderful."

"The Door was stunning. Kimerer's presentation was so interesting and a powerful introduction. Having been to one of the Studio events, it was really exciting to see the work in its entirety."

"I like the partnering a lot! And the real-time special effects graphics were great! Thank you for sharing your gifts with our community."

"Profound and beautiful - an absolutely stunning production. Bravo!"

"I LOVED the dance performance Saturday afternoon. Thank you for alerting me to this group. While some of the 'spiritual' meaning/references of the dance went over my head, just the choreography itself was amazing, and 'scenes' from it are still in my head. So beautiful. I have never seen multimedia used as effectively as it was in this performance. It was a 'genius' idea both in concept and execution."

"Oh my goodness gracious!!! I was so blown away by the show last night! You all were beyond wonderful!"

"Bravo! Brilliant. Honored to bear witness to this extraordinary work."

"May prayer reward your hard work, deep thought search, and exquisite beauty. Thank you for your grace."

"FANTASTIC... Such GRACEFUL ARTICULATE expression motion and dance... PEACE AND LOVE"



(Rob Li Photography)

"Power and beauty"

"Can I just say how AMAZINGLY IMPRESSED I am with the High-Quality Performance of Kun-Yang Lin and his dancers. The agility, stamina, technique, strength and inner power it takes to perform such a beautiful and intense showcase in front of a packed audience at the Prince Theater."

"I apprenticed with Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers when I was a Dance Minor at Boyer College of Music and Dance, Temple University and I cannot tell you how excited and happy I am for the beauty that KYLD creates every single year and every single day.

Also shout out to Annielille Gavino and the rest of the ensemble, which includes some of the most inspirational movement artists the world has seen. YOU ALL ARE AMAZING, PASSIONATE, & BOLD!"

"I feel so lucky. Tonight, I saw Kun-Yang Lin's Faith Project/The Door. It was a beautiful combination of strength, sensitivity, acute and delicate detail, and sweeping force. Visually stunning with a powerful score. To see dancers sustain their presence and poise for 60+ minutes is humbling and inspiring. What a blessing to have been able to share in the journey with KYL/D. Thank you!"



(Photo: Mike Hurwitz)

"exquisite and enthralling"

"Congratulations to Kun-Yang Lin and his beautiful dancers for a great performance 🙌🙌🙌, and a shout out to Alyssandra Docherty for an amazing lighting design, and all that were involved (projection, music, all the foundations, and individuals that made it happen) 🙏, please go and support and enjoy this wonderful work. Bravo"

"SO AMAZING!!!!!!!!!!!! I was blown away... I just had to tell you how moved I was. Bravo to you. Your collaborators, and the dancers."



(Photo: Mike Hurwitz)

"It was incredible!!!! KYL/D kept me on the edge of my seat throughout the entire show, even the moments where the dancers were moving slow I could feel the immense sensations and energies spewing out of their bodies. The dancers morphing into the imagery backdrops was so captivating, this collaboration brought the piece to a completely new world. I plan to continue to see this company perform!"

"The imagery was stunning!"

"What a joy and fun challenge to switch my brain space back into the world of dance, and I'm grateful for the trust and commitment I received from the creative team and the inspiring dancers."

"Heaps of congratulations to cast, collaborators, and staff, to Ken and Kun-Yang Lin!! May you bask in the glow of the gift you have given!"

"It was the greatest dance performance ever. Kudos to all who helped put this together, loved all 3 performances. May God continue to bless you all"

"Thank you, Kun-Yang Lin, it was an emotional performance, your committed and talented dancers translated your vision beautifully!"

"Go see it! It's 1000% worth the experience. The quality of movement from each dancer dug into my soul. The elements of light, projection, and sound were all in harmony with the performers. Awesome work on the part of KYL/D and all those involved in the Faith Project. It's all around PHENOMENAL."

"Powerful and stunning A must see show this weekend"

"Amazing performance that we had the pleasure of attending, Evalina Wallis Cain Carbonell was phenomenal"

"It was beautiful and moving - I could watch it over and over!"

"Beautiful dancing"

"Congratulations to Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers ... you absolutely rocked it this weekend... enthralled, beautiful...or those that missed these performances ... keep your eye out... and get out to see this troupe... proud to know all of you."

"Gorgeous performance!"

"Those were not tears running down my cheeks. It was allergies. Yea, yea that's what it was... allergies. #music and my interpretation had me like 🤔😭😭😭😭 Brava, Keila Perez-Vega. It was a beautiful presentation."

Fantastic work of art!"

"Very enjoyable performance! And I look forward to the next one!"

"Dedication made me feel in ways I haven't felt in a long time. I can't explain it. I was almost in tears."

"memorable performance."

"Last night's premiere of "Faith Project: The Door" was beyond spectacular. I loved the expansive vocabulary of the dance...to the unpredictable (but seamlessly connected and absolutely gorgeous) music; to the tremendous variations of tempo and intensity and volume and pace (from stillness to freneticism of both the dance and the music); and the spectacularly coordinated/integrated color palettes of costumes and lighting, both of which were sensuous and completely complementary to each other. I also loved the multimedia elements. They supported and enhanced the stage work without ever dominating it (or, worse, without ever supplementing for whatever was lacking, which is too often its role in dance)."

"The show was spectacular. Really beautiful and thought provoking"

"Was so impressed and happy about the performance last night, congratulations!"

"I enjoyed the performance on many levels. I thought so many parts of it were exquisite... still digesting"

"It was a spectacular vision you shared with us, great performance"

"Last night seeing "The Door" was absolutely STUNNING. The dancers, multimedia and performance and artistry were PHENOMENAL"

"I've been seeing KYL/D work for years and last night seeing all of the beautiful and inspirational teachers and peers of the Philly dance community was quite special. Thank you, Kun-Yang, for dancing from a place where not only hardcore dance is honored, but the importance of friendship, community and respect are all cultivated into a holistic experience!"

" I'm still thinking about your brilliant performance! 👍 Ps. Your movements were simultaneous, synchronous, and visually compelling! 🤖🤖"

"My family (including a 12-year-old) and myself enjoyed this wonderfully, emotionally charged performance. Thank you!!"

"I have had a subscription to Dance Affiliates for over 20 years so I have seen a lot of contemporary dance which I love. Thursday's performance was one of the best I have ever seen. The precision, the music, the creative movement were all so in sync that it blew me away.

I was in awe and gasped when the fellow who flipped over in one of the most interesting moves I have ever seen!! Every dancer was so talented, agile and expressive.

I loved the costumes- gender neutral and interesting. The music was wonderful and all the dancing fit it perfectly. My question- Which comes first the music or the dance??? Such synergy!!!

I look forward to your next performance

“星期六进城看林昆阳舞蹈团本季新作:信仰工程/门。非常享受,我尤其喜欢现代舞,表达纯粹和抽象的概念,向音乐靠拢。你们团太棒了![偷笑]”

Translation: Visited the city of Philadelphia on Saturday specifically for KYL/D's Home season - Faith Project/The DOOR. I really enjoyed it. I like watching contemporary dance because of its abstract concept, authentic embodiment, and the connection with the music. What a great company and team!!!

“演员们跳得非常好,舞台效果也很棒。很精彩的演出!虽然不太懂他们用动作表情传达的每一个细节,但还是能被很多环节感染到,缠绕,痛苦,挣扎,蜕变.....Zoe 也看得津津有味 谢谢老师的推荐,我们都很喜欢这次现代舞的表演!”

Translation: All the of the dancers are amazing; and the setting, lighting and the projection were so beautiful! What a fabulous show!!! Although I could not understand fully every movement and details, I was so moved by the atmosphere happening onstage. I felt the feelings of struggle, pain, transformation, etc. My daughter Zoe also enjoyed watching it so much. Thank you for your recommendation about this show. We all liked this performance!

“感谢你们带给观众一场触动心灵的演出。期待下一次!”

Translation: Thank you so much for bringing such a heart-felt performance to us. Looking forward to the new work next time!

“今天的演出非常精彩!之前对舞剧的讲解及之后的讨论都非常棒!帮助观众更好的理解舞剧和了解舞者的付出。整场演出为大家呈现了一个现代文艺的盛宴!祝演出成功!”

Translation: The performance was extremely marvelous. The curtain speech and the talk back were very helpful for us to understand the dance. Also, it helped us know how much effort the whole team dedicated into the process of this piece. The entire show felt very

contemporary and cultural. Congrats!

“林坤阳导演的舞蹈，展现了不同文化背景下人们对宗教的理解和追求，穿梭在不同信仰间会有门吗？如果有，那门会是什么呢？如果面前有这样的一扇门，你确信你敢穿过去吗？演出很精彩，座无虚席，祝贺美女指导！” [得意]

Translation: Kun-Yang's dance embodied a holy religious belief of people who have diverse cultural backgrounds through their journey of life. After watching the dance, I asked myself: "Is there a 'door' among various religions? If there is, what would that be? If there is a 'door' right in front, will you be brave enough to knock and go through?"

“Congratulations and thank you for a great performance!!”

“I have seen a lot of dance, and I mean A LOT of dance, but this is the most beautiful thing I have ever seen.”

“I am so very proud of my former students and dancers Frankie and Keila! They were fabulous in the Kun-Yang Lin Dancers' show. I was inspired as a choreographer, dancer, rehearsal director and teacher. The company was amazing and looked like a well-oiled machine. Kun-Yang you did an exceptional job and you truly are a visionary. The multimedia, the score, the dancers, the ambiance, the lights: Gestalt!!!! Bravo”

“Faith Project/The Door was one of the most satisfying events I had been to in a long time. It left me almost without words. My friend loved the performances as well. I actually wanted to see it again but Sat. Night only offered extreme seating. That was good news.

“I think I was most impressed by 3 things - in no particular order -
1) the way in which Kun-Yang blended some of the characteristic traits of the dancers into one whole - I saw many of the same movements they were employing in the fall -
2) the control of the dancers - I haven't attended a great many dance programs, and usually have a view from a distant balcony - watching their movement was a Wow!
3) seeing what to me were some of the universal themes of our faith traditions -

the play of individuals/communities - the place of compassion - etc. - the movements which went along with the picture shared today called up the beautiful compassion of Kuan Yen - last fall I shared an image of Avalokiteshvara and the manner in which she received several heads and multiple arms - and unlike the guest from Harrisburg, I saw the arms of the group catching Weiwei as an act of compassion - not as the tormenting of Jesus - And of course, I recognize that we all see (to some extent) what we bring with us to the performance. Blessings to each of you”

“I was able to see the show on Friday night and it was exceptional. I thoroughly enjoyed getting a glimpse into the process as I am very intrigued with religion and how people gravitate and up hold different spiritual values and how that intersects with people of various faiths. The movement captured me and really took me on a journey. I am so inspired and humbled by your work, your process, and how you are able to craft art. The multi- media aspect was amazing and just added so many layers to the project as well as the score! The Dedication solo really touched my heart and was very emotional. I could watch it 10 more times! Bravo for a job well done! I kept telling everyone to go see it and all the people I have talked to said how much they enjoyed the show!!!! Thank you for your artistry I hope to work with you at some point”

“I was enthralled...the whole performance. Never been so close...to see individual expressions...the forcefulness of bodily movement...the meditative stance. And now, to be able to “remember” some of this with videos posted on your website! I will revisit often. I love your work! And thank each of you for what you are manifesting”

“My Dear Kun Yang, I remember so well the first time I ever saw your work. Ruth Grauert and I went up to that loft in NYC down on Broadway to meet you and Ken, and what ensued was a spiritual experience. When I saw those people enter as one body, taking little tiny steps and murmuring as they worked their beads or their rosaries. I was captured. They were all so sensitive to each other yet fully committed to their own being. Up to that point I had never seen anyone but Nikolais achieve that state of performance with a group of dancers.

And there was such a strong spirituality, I knew I would be a fan of yours for life. The thing is that you have not strayed from the path you were on. You've always been true to yourself. You've worked very hard, and now you have dancers who can do anything you ask them to - they really are magnificent. And the artists with whom you collaborate are superb. But what gratifies me so much to see, is that the core of you is still there and that it would not be jarring to see the original band of dancers enter The Door murmuring and stepping along.

One of my favorite Dances I've ever seen is "Dedication." The first time I ever saw it was in a place near City Hall and that memory stays with me as well. When I think of it I feel as if I do it with you. I was blessed to see you do that dance a few times. It was very big of you to give that dance to Mo, and he did it honorably, and I'm so glad that he has stuck with you. He is an amazing combination of a brilliant technician with a very beautiful and tender soul, and you are the perfect choreographer for him.

Well, Kun Yang, I adore you-you brilliant artist and lovable man. Thank you for letting me come around - It keeps my soul alive."

"Dear Ken Metzner and Kun-Yang Lin – Saw the performance last Friday (Premiere – Faith Project/The Door!) Really tremendous and energizing, as well as peaceful. Congratulations."

"At one point, I stopped thinking and I only felt in my body. During one section, I felt the sunrise and I started to smile, but I didn't know why. The way the music, set and choreography combined created a sensation in me and my body just responded to it"

"Favorite KYL/D show. Ever."

"Freakin' Incredible"

"Moving and powerful. So glad I got to see it"

"The more I see professional contemporary dance, the more I realize how much I enjoy Kun-Yang's work over all other companies"

"What an amazing performance!! One of the best I have seen"

“Not to be missed performance! Perfect in every way. Get tickets now! You will thank me as my friend did who I shlepped to the performance last night. She is still talking about how wonderful it was today. And guess what? So am I”

Summary of Student Reflections on Faith Project

“I experienced a highly visceral reaction through my whole body that I had not unlocked in a while from witnessing a dance work...In many moments, my body and senses became overwhelmed, and I felt a connection to a strong power (similar to how I feel in the presence of the congregation and Torah in synagogue)... All elements of the production came together in a way that supported and brought upon these feelings in myself. The projections that spanned the entire cyc and space of the stage suggested an extraordinary force consuming the dancers. The flowing and malleable white costumes acted as canvases at times and suggested a sense of openness to spirit. The powerful, stunning score ranging from a staccato rhythm to a light string reminded me of the sense of emotional release I feel after the Amidah (a Jewish prayer that includes a section of personal reflection as its conclusion). The dancers’ energy that flowed from bound to free and back again and again referenced the cyclical patterns in a relationship with religion.”

“This show was a spectacular amalgamation between dancers and a vast variety of members of the faith community, which I came to appreciate even more through the discussion and video before the start of the piece... It peaked my curiosity as an audience member to want to explore what exists beyond my realm of knowledge for my new community of Philadelphia and what the dancers personally brought to the table from their own background and connected to for the faith discussions...”

Overall, this was an evening that took every audience member on their own journey within themselves, their life experiences in relationship to religions both know and unknown. For myself I saw the parts of faith and religion that I hold dear to me, and the belief of connection on a larger scale to bring joy, goodness and understanding. As well as the violence, hate and misunderstanding that can pollute religions from the outside and from within and how to grow and heal these wounds. I struggle to identify personally with one religious background when I find value in so many of the teachings. This made me hungry and curious to know more and to take a look inside myself to find what is blocking me from finding a less superficial connection to spirituality in my everyday life. I left the theatre feeling as if i had been invited to be the recipient of a divine gift and what I do next, or where I go from here will be my own faith project. What happened on stage is meant to be carried with us, to bloom into an endless number of possibilities that all started with this small, yet significant thought of faith.”

“powerful and breathtaking...a spiritually moving and thought-provoking piece.”

“When we think of religion, there are so many different beliefs and “gods” people pray to, but seeing every dancer share the same energy on stage showed me that we as citizens can let go of those strong beliefs to co-exist as one humanity... Although my feelings were very internal, the movement and energy from the dancers gave me a sense of involvement. Another theme for me was letting go, knocking all those boundaries, differences, and walls down that religion can unconsciously form...”

“Going into seeing “Faith Project/The Door”, I was unsure how I would interpret the piece or feel about it as someone who doesn’t associate myself with one particular religion. However, that uncertainty melted away as soon as the piece began. The movement and energy of the dancers was elevated, and reached beyond their bodies as if towards a higher power or meaning. I thought about what draws people to practice faith, and what unifies faiths, and I realized that this idea of something higher and bigger is the common factor in the many different religions around the world...I really enjoyed the ending of the piece, where all the dancers sat in a meditative state and slowly rocked back and forth, completely immersed in whatever internal process they were having. It was peaceful and beautiful in its simplicity, and really tied the piece together.”

“The dancers resembled a group of travelers exploring different sections of the world together. I felt that I was taken on a journey with the dancers travelling through deserts and caves... I could see hints of the interpreted religious values. It was very interesting to see how the movements seemed to take on ancient or tribal qualities which brought my imagination back to the beginnings of religion or how it all began. In other words, the travelers not only traveled throughout the world, but they seemed to travel through time, as well. As the travelers faced the center of the stage and formed a circle, they sat on their knees, banged their fists on the ground, and stomped rhythmically around their fellow passenger dancing in the middle. This image was very striking and immediately drew my mind to the idea of community and rituals. It made me wonder what religion or ritual, space, and time this moment had been drawn from.”

“I had been expecting an assault of religion only to be lulled into a state of contemplation. I feared there would be dictation and direct representations of the religion that divides my family, yet I found myself admiring the beauty of abstraction... It created an environment of peace and resolution that ensured every person got to the “ending”

they saw fit, regardless of the beliefs they held prior. My mom always said religion should be treated as though it's one hill with many paths, and this work embodied this concept. The fact the dancers and movements symbolized different religions felt like a genuine reflection of the various religions represented in society today. The reprise of familiar movements with a softer background sparked my inclination towards a death or passing of sorts. Yet, it was the true ending, where all the dancers sat practically motionless, that triggered my connection to all people ending up in the same place. One hill, many paths.”

“As someone who is agnostic, and not particularly religious, I was unsure what I was going to see going into this. I was appreciative of the video in the beginning because it introduced the multiple religions and faiths that we would be exposed to. It calmed my mind and stopped me from over analyzing the specific religions represented in the dance. The video also allowed me to see the dancers in a more personal setting so when they entered the stage, I was able to see more than just bodies... The lights and projection were truly stunning and helped support the dancing without being overwhelming. The moments that the dancer(s) were downstage in a silhouette highlighted the movements itself. The video being projected on the dancers presented the wall that we put up around one another who may have a different faith or religion. The pounding seemed to be the dancers breaking down those walls and blending their ideas and beliefs. The end section when the music lightens, and the dancers begin to fall into one another really represented a resolution to me. The dancers have begun to help one another and understand the different perceptions and philosophies.”

“I loved that the audience got a look into the creative process. ...It was awesome that we had the opportunity to see all that really goes into creating a great show, before even seeing the show... I think the point that the choreographer was trying to get across was that we are all the same. Religion teaches us to ultimately be good people, no matter the religion that one chooses to practice. We can be different in that way but that doesn't mean that we can't be present for one another. There is hope for people. There is light. There can be understanding. This piece had a great message and interesting process which helped to create a great show. I'm so happy that I had the opportunity to experience it.”

“I found this show very moving and impacting. The piece brought all different religions together with movement and grace. Being a person of faith I was eager to see this show... The video in the beginning was a great idea and set the tone for Faith Project... This video showcased the dancers asking a scholar questions of religion with a Q&A type of format, this allowed me to view the dancers on a more personal level.

There were so many moments of pure beauty through this piece... When the dancers were behind the silks dancing with light shining on them; it showcased beautiful figures. I loved seeing this because you did not know what race they may have been, gender or religion. It was just simply beauty within dance and the dancer....

It's a beautiful thing when dance brings everyone together and the Faith Project brought and welcomed all religions together in a safe space to witness art.”

“The work expressed honesty and conviction. It explored spirituality through the acknowledgement of various religions. It reached out to not just the common religions in America but many different faiths from many different cultures and walks of life. Despite the diversity in background of the individuals involved in the Faith Project the final product came together in an inspiring blend of a phenomenal musical score, persuasive lighting, reflective projection images, and striking movement.... The end took the beginning and softened it. Violence became empathy; division became unity. The work settled with a satisfying conclusion and left me feeling renewed.”



(Jeison Moreno Photography)



(Rob Li Photography)



(Rob Li Photography)

SANCTUARY



"Thank you for sharing your company's lovely and humanely important work."

"Thank you, Kun-Yang, and the brilliant company for a beautiful and moving experience. It will live in me"

"Bravo bravo! Tonight's World Premiere was astounding, passionate, intense, impactful and so emotionally engaging. I was in tears when I left with feelings of sadness, pain, hurt, confusion and turmoil that was demonstrated so artistically by the Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers yet the takeaway of LOVE which implies forgiveness was a message that help heal and soothe the emotions that emerged. I congratulate Kun-Yang Lin and his dancers for using this format to share this trauma, but express a positive outcome of love and forgiveness so we can move, breathe and look beyond gender, race and seek ways to change racist behavior, change violent exchanges, to see all mankind as equal and seek spiritual healing. Thank you for Sanctuary."

"Friends, I just saw Kun-Yang Lin's SANCTUARY and it was incredibly moving. ONE: Immortal Game starts the show with crisp choreographic metaphors, and SANTUARIO closes it out with shocking power - it's disturbing yet beautiful. This is definitely a show to take home with you. Go see it!"

"This is an incredibly powerful show. Take the time a check it out this weekend at the Prince Theater."

"Absolutely stunning performance from Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers. A must see event this weekend!"

"This is honestly one of my favorite shows come into existence. Every time I've gotten the chance to sit in on rehearsal I find it very hard not to burst into tears. It is going to be absolutely incredible. Everyone should come see it!"

"CONGRATS!!!"

"Went last night to the opening at Prince Theatre...Blown away with emotion and awe. The mastery of movement, the music and the lighting created a first class experience of theatrical contemporary dance at its best."

"Philadelphians time to go!!! and see what your local KYL/D troupe has to say about life's challenging times. Reading and watching news clips last year about the awful targeted shooting in the Pulse night club only becomes truly real through the brilliantly choreographed vision of Kun-Yang. A suspended succession of profound moments

that touches your heart for all humanity and certainly speaks to the vulnerability of the LGBT community."

"Beyond amazing! This show will stay with me for a long time!"

"I saw the unity of Daoism in the first part, and the kindness of Humanism in the second part."

"I always feel that dancing is such a beautiful art format, it can simply shake your soul through soundless movements. KYL/D did it last night, and I'm sure I'm not the only one who's feel the running tears on my face."

"Last night's Kun-Yang Lin/ Dancers' concert was great. Santuario is best dance I have ever seen! Touched my heart and soul! Everyone should go see it this weekend at Prince Theater!"

"Extraordinary, thought-provoking, dynamic and exciting. So wonderful. And I loved the costumes."

"Thank you and your beautiful dance company for a very moving performance Saturday afternoon. As you saw, I was moved to tears. "Santuario" was so powerful, and beautifully performed. Thank you all for "resisting", as the saying goes since the election, and speaking out as best you know how... with your bodies and your grace. I look forward to your next performance in Philadelphia."

"You're all amazing and inspiring. I aspire to perform as well as you. Can't wait to take class at KYL/D asap!"

"Loved the performance. Technically talented and very empowering dancing. Words cannot describe the 2nd act- You captured so much emotion and made it into art."

"Dramatic, exciting, innovative, empowering."

"Stunning, stirring and haunting performance. Congratulations to Kun-Yang Lin, KYL/Dancers, staff, Ken Metzner, and board!"

"Congratulations all; beauty and hope are your messages. What better prospect than that?"

"Beautiful!!"

"Please let the company know how beautifully I think they'll performed Saturday night! Their performance was stellar, and the choreography was so moving and well crafted"

"Kudos Kun-Yang! How wonderful that you're doing this work."

"If you are able to make it to see the last showing of this amazing piece please do!!!! It's is a memorable and touching performance"

"Go see it!"

"You guys were great! Congratulations to all!"

"You articulated this beautifully, as we experienced everything you said, too! Was it Jessica who said the audience is in your care? You, as artists, took us on the journey with you...I am blessed to have witnessed it twice! All of your performances will be forever in my heart!"

"I'm still seeing images from your performances. Beauty and horror combined in my mind"

"...moving, inspirational, thought-provoking piece"

"Amazing show"

"You don't want to miss this experience"

"One of, if not the best dance concert I have ever seen!! Do not miss it if you like dance"

"You are were truly inspiring!"

"When Arts and Charity meet, it's a beautiful thing"

"Absolutely heart wrenchingly gorgeous amazing visually stunning performance by Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers. I am so lucky to know you beautiful people. Thank you for that performance."

"Beautiful people, beautiful art in motion"

"It was a wonderful and powerful performance. Few dances I have ever seen touched me the way Santuario did. Bravo to all!"

"Wow"

"Congratulations on a successful home season run. I was able to catch Saturday evening's show, and as usual, I was equally impressed with the company's technical prowess as I was with your bravery and candor in tackling some of the heaviest political issues of our time. Thanks for an engaging and striking performance!"

"What a great show!"

"Friday night was wonderful. People around me were saying it was the strongest work yet."

"All performers did a fantastic job during both routines at Prince Theatre, thanks again for that. I also wanted to make mention that part of what made SANTUARIO so powerful was the segment that the dancers were displaying emotions to the aftermath of the shooting. Jessica's blood curdling screams were reminiscent to a horror production which captured the events vividly."

"I attended Thursday night's show and was breath taken. Confronting the divide that is prevalent in society today and answering with love and acceptance is a message that I can really resonate with."

"Powerful. As always, the athleticism of that troupe is amazing. I thought the words at the end of the second piece weren't necessary, we already were *there* with the movement."

"It was such an absolute pleasure to experience your work."

"Fantastic Show!"

"Santuario is devastatingly beautiful. I appreciated how present I was with the individual humans as well as the ensemble. A diverse and gorgeous cast, with a lot to say with their bodies - energy well spent towards urgent purpose. Thank you"

"Thank you so much. We both loved it!"

"I was blown away by Santuario. 'Love can't stop a bullet. A bullet can't stop love.'"

"The KYL/D show...was FANTASTIC and haunting. Dance was so expressive it became a document of emotions."

"It was phenomenal!! I was literally in a trance watching the performers"

"Every movement is timed perfectly and done deliberately. Even if there is no music, dancers still move as one! It is so emotionally charged; Even if you're not 'into' Modern dance, You. Will. Be. Moved!"

"Even days later, the show still is having an impact on me."

"Temple Friends and Everyone I know in Philly, if you have not had the chance to see Kun-Yang Lin's dance company performance this weekend at the Prince Theater, it's a must see! This is the kind of art that changes people and makes the world a better place!!!! You need to GO! It will make you look at art and dance in a whole new way!"

"You all were so hot you set the fire alarm off :) Keep it up"

"We loved it and highly recommend to anyone to attend one of the performances."

"Wanted to tell you that I am still thinking about the dances I saw on April 27! They were amazing especially "Santuario" which was stunning and meaningful on so many levels. I was especially aware of the visual effects of the dancer's movements and the lighting.... everything worked so well together and was astounding!! The group posings at the end reminded me of Renaissance paintings, including the Last Supper."

"Best modern dance piece I've ever seen"

"Had the privilege of seeing the performance on Saturday as a gift from my daughter. It was truly magnificent"

"I really was pleased to see the company as it has been several years since I was able to attend. I enjoyed the dancers and the dancing, as well as the choreographic concepts. It is amazing there is so much wonderful dance here in the city and all so very different. It certainly proves NYC doesn't own dance and Philadelphia is second to none, your programme proved that. So thank you again for all you do. Congratulations to all the dancers"

"I know the accolades have been pouring in from your season opener at the Prince a couple of weeks ago so I hope you've been basking in it all. At least for a brief period before back to work... The artistry was astounding. My guest and I were moved beyond words...My best for continued success - and for the inspired work that touches so many in such an elemental way."

"Please accept my Belated thanks for a wonderful evening! The performances were riveting and quite beautiful...Congratulations on the production! I look forward to attending future performances."

"I just wanted to say thanks again for the opportunity to see the KYL dance program. The performance was truly fantastic. The second act provided an opening for a deep and touching conversation between my son and I. I wish we didn't have to talk about hate but we do and for him to see so many adults expressing pain, compassion and community in the beautiful art form of dance was incredibly important."

"Superlative dancers, choreography, costumes, music, and lighting"

"Thank you for the very moving and beautiful piece on Orlando Pulse. You all captured the trauma and moments of paradoxical community around that tragedy so well. I wish we lived in a world where we experienced no such events and our art could find other inspiration. In this world, I'm so glad you're here to do this very important work. Thank you."

"Love the movements- so complex and precise!"

"Terrific all the way around!"

"Awesome, poignant, uplifting"

"Very talented, inspiring, great mission and cause"

"Your beauty and grace in this piece Jessica was outstanding, the icing on the cake, and your son played such a grand impact"



HOME/

S. 9th St.



HOME/S. 9th St. Audience Acclaim

1. Jim Kenney: Mayor of Philadelphia

After witnessing the magnificent City Hall courtyard performance of the Kun-Yang Lin Dancers as part of the Performances in Public Spaces program this past spring and **the response they garnered from their audience**, we wanted to find a way to continue showcasing **our city's rich community of performance artists** at City Hall.

2. Joyce Drayton: Founding Executive Director of Georgia E. Gregory Interdenominational School of Music

Such a **thought provoking** artistic expression in dance. **Outstanding and depthful** performance. Kudos to the KYL Dancers and to you for your leadership. Please let us know when you have another event. Thank you again for a stirring afternoon of talented dancers with a message.

3. DonnaFaye Burchfield: Director of the Dance Program at University of the Arts

HUGE congratulations to Kun-Yang and all the extraordinary dancers. It was **heartfelt and welcoming**. I was so happy to be there to share in the experience with everyone.

4. Tatiana Hassan:

Fantastic, **awesome**, wonderful etc etc etc.... loooooooved it!... I could write a page long e-mail on how much and why I loved the performance, the whole piece, the set, costumes MUSIC, EACH ONE OF YOU, the images, emotion, composition, lights etc....for ever and ever. I'll just give you hugs when I see you. I can't be more proud of kyld and happy for having contributed the way I could.

You have my love and support forever and ever!!!! Awesome job!!!!

Kun Yang: once again.... Your work leaves me speechless maestro!!!

5. Virginia Dillon: My Dear Kun-Yang, it was such a pleasure to watch your beautiful dancers perform Home/S. 9th Street yesterday. There were so many things about it that were special, and some of my favorites are: The way each dancer's personality was allowed to show through, as when Helen Hale starts looking for a lost child.

Or when Wally recites American words such as ice cream truck or avocado. Or when the Filipino woman sees a handsome man. Or Mo's exquisite solo, so cool and spectacular emphasizing his isolation. Though I'm not sure it's a personality trait, there is a moment in the second half when everyone is against the backdrop, recovering. Everyone is on their feet, except for Jessica who is crawling along with her chair, and the moment is so poignant, and is such an example of struggle.

Of course Wei Wei's Chinese song was very special. The opening is **very powerful** with everyone concentrating on going forward with that one person looking back. I'm so glad that there are fun, playful moments between the immigrants, cause for a while the dance was looking very serious, hard and difficult, and if there's no joy in life there's no point in going to all the trouble of emigrating. But you are so smart, and such an artist that you always know what your dances need, so I really don't have any critical comments. One of the ladies I was with had an interesting comment, pertaining to when Grace told [during the post-show conversation] how she sat offstage watching the dancers as she carefully put the Chinese notes in between the incense sticks, and that then when she came out how she carefully made sure they were all shaken free. Kay wondered how it would be if she were visible while she watched them and placed the notes. Then in the end she just got up and dropped them across the stage as she did the other day. Interesting.

I'd love to see the dance again to get more of a sense of the narrative, **and to enjoy it again, and again, and again.....**

6. Irma Jennings:

"The show last night **took my breath away**. I walked away from the performance with a deeper understanding of the pain so many are going through and have gone through in their lifetime.

The dance piece put a face and feelings to it. Even though I have searched my family ancestry, gaining knowledge that my great grandfather left A civil war in his country of Spain, going to the island of St Vincent in the West Indies, to begin a new life. A white man amongst a "dark as the night" population, that journey lives in my DNA.

John asked if I wanted to stay afterwards and say hi. I was so struck I just needed to allow the process and understanding to go more inward. John and I discussed the piece on many levels.

Your movements were **a treat to my eyes**, Wally. Your "HELLO" were as innocent and curious and profoundly childlike bringing a deep feeling of familiar.

Please let Kun-Yang know how grateful I am for his body of work!"

7. Nathan: Barnes Museum

Wonderful show. Beautiful, **thought provoking**. Great movement. Loved the lighting and music selection. Congratulations on a great job!

8. Dawn Marie Bazemore Had an awesome date with Maria Bauman!!! We ate, laughed and saw some dance! Bravo Kun-Yang Lin and dancers!!!
#veryimportantwork!!

9. Brandi: **I can't begin to tell you how wonderful** that show was. It made me feel so many things. Just amazing Kun Yang. Seriously, beautiful. It made me want to be there on stage. You are one of a kind.

10. Karyn Lyman

Show was **phenomenal!!** Really loved it and think the space added so much to the experience, too. The different viewpoint, looking down, really

put people in a place of inquisition and judgment. Very powerful, I felt it especially with the customs/interview and Liu Mo's pull-apart (not sure what to call it) moments. A **tremendous** work from everyone. Congratulations! I'm so delighted for everyone and am confident HOME will have a long life!

11. Hilda: Community participant

Hola solo puedo decir GRACIAS me encanto ver la obra completa y sobre todo me hicieron sentir muy emotiva no sé si es por participar en el círculo o por el tema que trata pero me gusto muchos gracias por atreverse a tomar este tipo de temas y compartir de manera tan bonita nuestro sentir

TRANSLATION: Hello I can only say THANK YOU. I loved seeing the completed work and above all you made me feel very emotional. I don't know if it's for having participated in the [story] circle or for the subject matter but I liked it. **Many thanks for daring to take on these kinds of issues** and for sharing in such a nice way our feelings.

12. Frank Bicking: Photographer

Thank you again for allowing me to share this experience with you all. Loved the show, the message, the feelings it provoked and **the energy was amazing**.

13. David Harrison: Board Member

gorgeous dance...

I wanted to further comment that I LOVED the set! I loved the isolation that it created, and the sense that it was anywhere and nowhere at once, all of which played into the themes of the work so well. Ditto for the costumes which blended into the set and made everyone look so similar, so much the way immigrants have no personal identities, the way we talk about "Syrians" these days, save for tragic three year-old boy found dead on a shore, we don't know anything of their personal stories . . . Yet through the wonderful text and Kun-Yang's gorgeous dance, the immigrant dancers of HOME did tell us their stories. BEAUTIFUL! PERFECT!

And, I was really touched to see so many people who participated in the HOME community work, in attendance. It obviously meant a great deal to them to be there, and it meant a great deal to me as audience member to

see them there, knowing it was partly their stories on stage.

14. Barbara Silzle: Executive Director, Philadelphia Cultural Fund It was my great pleasure to be in the audience Friday night to

experience HOME/S.9th St. What a **moving, thought-provoking, bold, exhilarating and luminous production!** Thank you all for a memorable evening.

15. Robert Levin: Community Relations Liaison, National Museum of American Jewish History

BRAVISSIMO! What an **inspiring and insightful** evening

16. Yuchen Zhang

般欣赏不了艺术的现代舞，可是Immigration这个主题实在是好有共鸣。一把椅子，可以支撑你完成所有动作，也可以变成你的框架舒服你的行为和思想，可以让你坐上一把“成功”的交椅，也可以是你身上无法移去的烙印。不关于谁好谁坏，只在于来自自己的骄傲与认同。其实，无外乎你从哪来，总会有悲欢喜乐，总会有质疑支持。正如你每天都会呼吸，每天都会喝smoothie。感谢M小姐邀请，让我平凡的周四变得很有深度，燃烧了大脑细胞之后整个人都变成了小粉丝，期待更多作品！

TRANSLATION: I did not know how to understand and appreciate contemporary dance art, but the theme of immigration is such a great topic that I can intimately resonate with. A chair, can support you to move through the space, can be a “box” or “frame” to restrict your behaviors and mind, can resemble a position of authority, and also can be like a birthmark that you cannot get away from. It’s not about who is good and who is bad, instead, it’s about who we are and how we embrace our self-recognition and our own culture. No matter where you are, life is always intertwined with happiness and sadness, and there are also innumerable people who question and support you. It’s all nature, just like we breathe in and out every day, and drink smoothie every day. Thanks Maggie for inviting me to watch the show, it made my boring/normal Thursday become **very meaningful and deep**. My brain is on fire now processing all I have seen from the show, and I have become one of the fans of KYL/D. Looking forward to seeing more works!!!

17. Michelle Currica: Program Manager, Philadelphia Cultural Fund

I really appreciated Home/S. 9th St not just as an immigrant but also as a student of movement. **Really powerful.** Kudos to KYL/Dancers. I'm so glad you all decided to make Philadelphia your home :)

18. Xiao Yao

表演不仅仅是美的呈现，而是用肢体表现出对于自我认知的心理裂变。卷缩躯体下被压抑的恐惧，肢体被肆意撕扯的无力。。。将immigration对身份认知的追求与彷徨表现的淋漓尽致。

TRANSLATION: Thanks Maggie for your invitation of Home/S. 9th Street. To me, dance performance is not only the embodiment of beauty now, it also is an embodied art form that invites the audience to contemplate and discover who we are, emotionally and psychologically. I sensed an oppressive fear when the dancers curled their bodies, and I felt the vulnerability when a physical body was manipulated... **All perfectly and reflectively represent the voice of immigration**, a simple pursuit of self-identity and the struggle behind wandering in a new continent...

19. Christina Castro-Tauser

“I was personally moved by Home/S. 9th St. from the moment I entered the theater and saw the stark white walls and two simple white chairs placed stage left. I knew I was about to be transported to a different place. The movement and short spoken phrases **allowed the audience to experience the universal stories of so many immigrants, but more importantly their personal lives and experiences were given significance and prominence.**”

The journey and travels of each immigrant was so visible through the movement of the white chairs that very quickly began to disappear and just become part of the dancers. The movement was so driven and detailed, the articulations of every joint kept me more intrigued in what they were physically saying and portraying than what they were doing or performing.”

20. Brittany M. Johnson

“The world premiere of dance artist, Kun-Yang Lin’s, Home was a positive experience for me. I personally enjoyed the movement aesthetic, as it was very physical, quirky, smooth, and clicky. The work was introspective, provocative, and thought provoking for the whole of society, providing context for difficult topics within foreign immigration policy. For me, I was

mostly moved by the first act of the performance as it impacted me first emotionally, and then it took me to a place of kinesthetic empathy. **I felt as if I was being allowed into this mysterious and misunderstood world of a foreign immigrant for a brief moment in time.**

Receiving so much information about the psyche, emotions, relationships, and perceptions of a foreigner away from home, I could hardly believe these individuals experience this every day, as opposed to experiencing this world for only two hours. I felt that the first act addressed the personal adversity encountered while being so far away from home as a foreigner. I witnessed the exploitation and mistreatment of someone so physically different, the pressure of having to take on a second language or adapt to a second culture, the loss of being torn away from your country, and the blame and accusation of economic issues placed on foreigners by Americans.”

21. Emily Bless

Matt and I wanted to thank you for treating us to the HOME performance. It was certainly a unique experience for us as neither of us had seen professional interpretive or modern dance before. Some of the acts really struck a chord while others were difficult for me to connect to the immigrant experience and message.

Matt and I both think that what helped tremendously in our enjoyment and understanding of the piece was staying for the discussion at the end. It helped put the various parts of the piece in context. Specifically, I don't think I would have been as cognizant of the interplay between the music, lighting, and costuming if we hadn't heard the discussion and it gave us food for thought on our drive home.

We also both decided that we really enjoyed the dancer wearing the red socks, I think her name was Wally. I found her **riveting**.

22. Brian Sanders: Artistic Director/Founder of JUNK

Wow, beautiful! So inspiring. Congrats and thank you!... The performers, set and lights, all stunning.

23. Anonymous

“This was an excellent example how to find both variety and cohesiveness in one piece.....I feel it shows how one thought or idea can be explored in so

many different ways. Home /S.9 St. is **a moving, significant and compelling piece of art.**”

24. Anonymous

“Loved it! Great dancers, beautiful set, powerful and moving.”

25. Anonymous

“ **Very other worldly. Compelling.**”

26. Anonymous

“ **Breathtaking!**

27. Anonymous

“The show was very moving and amazing! **Enjoyed every moment.**”



KYL/D: Be/Longing: Light/Shadow

Mandell 2014

Feedback Surveys Thoughts or Comments about the Performance

- Splendid work by Kun-Yang Lin and by dancers. Really enjoyed.
- Very inspirational; always a joy to see the dynamic and visuals come together as a whole.
- Always love to see Kun-Yang works. They are inspirational and up-lifting. He is a wonderful choreographer.
- Wonderful and enlightening
- So beautiful! Thank you so much! As a long time dance lover, I have been in audiences for over 40 years and yours is one of my all time favorite companies. Did KYL study with Merce? Much more balletic, but the quiriness is reminiscent. Very much your own movement vocabulary and style though, with a great deal of heart. Most warming.
- I'm from Arts Academy at Benjamin Rush, I saw your expert and decided to see the show. Great job everyone!
- Experience darkness... yet remember the light.
- Lovely!! Challenging & inspirational, as always. Thank you!!
- This show was so inspiring and will stay with me and in my thoughts. It was beautiful and different and I am in love! –S
- It was wonderful.
- I loved the performance. Would love to learn to move that way.
- Inspirational, great music, spiritual.
- It was amazing!! At parts especially the shadow- I was frighten- scared! Emotional- at end I had tears in my eyes. *Jessica you are awesome!! Chills!!
- I felt the piece is highly contemporary by letting the individual dancers use their own personal material within the piece. I admire how different art forms are incorporated into one piece-puppetry, dancers, experimental light performance and visual art.
- Excellent! Unbelievable movement- heartfelt!
- Very good dancing! Loved the puppetry
- The performance hasn't even started and I LOVED it! (as always)
- Awesome, inspiring, peaceful
- Beautiful visuals, sonorous music. Thoughtful messages, very deep and inspiring. Love the audience/artist interaction.
- Great Work!
- Interesting
- Fascinating & Inspiring!
- AMAZING. No words till the end, but I could feel/read/experience everything to be felt/thought and such for this magical and energetic performance!

- By moving its mask, she was able to connect in a much stronger way with the audience!
Great idea!! The show was spectacular. I really enjoyed its flow from one point to the other. Following connections was easy.
- Love the light thing and the puppet!
- Peace, love, and light
- We loved it- I was very moved.
- I liked it better in a simpler setting w/o lights colors etc. It was more purely spiritual to me; more heartfelt/ less like a “performance” more like a “connection.”
- Today performance was powerful, visually stunning and emotionally charging.
- Beyond words.



Selected Feedback from KYL/D's "One: Gifts from Afar"

Chessmen – stored energy like stored memory. Memory stored genetically through animal kingdom. Behavior is intergenerational stored social memory. The chess game allows for the expression of strategy and emotion stored through time and space and still stored in the moment.

Absolutely beautiful! "One" transcended time. I watched entranced and wondered where the time went as the lights went down. Thank you for all that KYL/D does! ~LB

One – very creative and interesting use of staging for the chess game. Intriguing movement of individuality to unity. I loved the use of the dancer behind the scrim and one or two dancers on the main stage. I also enjoyed the use of the long-sleeved costume. It was surprising and mysterious when it was first unveiled behind the scrim. Great use of simple props. ~CM

I love the precision of the dancers. It is impeccable choreography!!! Beautiful dancers. Amazing dynamics. It feels very spiritual and empowering. I loved the Mandala Project!! ~TH

I have never cried at a dance performance in my entire life. I knew I would be amazed, but saying that I was blown away would be an understatement! ~LW

I am blown away! No where have I seen unity and the individual live in tandem – such beauty and strength paired with a dynamic consciousness. ~LJ

It made me think a lot of issues like a chess game, clash of civilization, children games, moving small dots in a computer system... So it made my brain work in a different manner than the normal, which is a great thing! ~IK

Phenomenal and inspiring – the alignment of the dance, music, attire, and lighting created a spiritual experience. ~EW

Thank you for the multidimensional experience! ~KS

Amazing! I've never seen something so beautiful in my life, and I saw the Lion King when a certain KYL/D member was a part of it. Please keep sharing this with the world!!! I will! ~YAD

I am awestruck. The tension, the release is exquisite – you feel it from within. The energy palpates throughout the performers and audience members. I am pulled in my experience is otherworldly. The coming together of dance, sound, lighting, costumes, setting, leaves me breathless. Magnificent. ~LS

Friday, March 22, 2013 Feedback:

Inspiring. Passionate. Deep. Magnificent. WOW!!! Thank you!

One felt distant to me, but that may be because I was exhausted. Mandala was powerful and moving. Again. Loved Olive dancing PREGNANT!

It was really awesome!

LOVE the second performance!

1st performance – Beautiful! 2nd Performance – Bravo!!

Very good! Love the passion and emotion.

Beautiful! Inspiring!

Thank you for the multidimensional experience! ~KS

Fantastic! The best! ~Z

Fabulous & inspiring! ~JS

Awesome! Breath taking! Inspiring! Juicy! ~CN

Breathtaking and deeply moved... ~SM

Amazing! I've never seen something so beautiful in my life, and I saw the Lion King when a certain KYL/D member was a part of it. Please keep sharing this with the world!!! I will! ~YAD

I am awestruck. The tension, the release is exquisite – you feel it from within. The energy palpates throughout the performers and audience members. I am pulled in my experience is otherworldly. The coming together of dance, sound, lighting, costumes, setting, leaves me breathless. Magnificent. ~LS

So amazing! ~CY

Love! ~KL

Kun-Yang, you are beautiful! I strive to be as beautiful a person as you are one day! ~CA

Amazing! Perfection! ~MS

Different than previous performances I've seen (classical ballet and post modern). Liked the music-calming. Liked it! Impressive body strength and skill in all dancers. ~KB

It was emotional and beautiful. I look forward to coming back! ~L

Dancers are very in tune with one another. Great collective energy on stage that radiates to the audience. ~CC

Inspiring. Amazing. ~SS

It was great! I loved it and would definitely come back again! ~JP

Very sexy! ~KO

I appreciate Kun-Yang's spiritual/ philosophical expression through dance. ~HM

Great! Big fan of Modern! Best seen yet! ~JP

Inspiring. ~HB

Congratulations! Incredible! ~SW

I like it. ~RC

It was very inspiring and unusual. Dancers presented great physical abilities, as well as emotional and spiritual. Their body movements were very balanced and full of energy! ~KD

Mo Liu was the best! ~MT

Mo Liu was the best thing since sliced bread! ~VC

It was a fabulous work with intelligence. It combines Asian culture and modern dance. I love Asian culture! The performance was amazing! ~SL

Saturday, March 23rd Feedback from Matinee & Evening Performances:

It was strong, jaw dropping, fluid and inspiring! ~KM

Thank you! ~LG

Very inspirational! A mixture of Eastern and Western culture! Very good energy! Love it!! Thank you for creating real art!

Amazing! ~DR

Great, beautiful, thought provoking. (Initial music in opening scene was too loud! Then again, in 2nd act, 2nd scene too loud in parts...)

Great job!

From the beginning I liked the deep tone of the music. I love hearing the dancers use vocals and counting. The intricacy of the movement was mesmerizing. To hear the solo female dancer in the second Mandala Piece use and give her breath as she did was so moving. All in all – it was a most elegant performance from start to finish. It was hard for me to fall asleep after seeing so much beauty. I tried to re-play all of it in my mind. Many blessings to all of you! ~SR

Merde! ~TH

I really liked how I recognized different dancing styles, it really showed diversity (as well as the dancers).
~JL

Amazing! ~TM

Chess piece was very creative, body movements were very flexible. Lots to think about. ~AJ

I got goosebumps. It was so well executed. ~LH

Gorgeous. Evoked many emotions. I can't wait to see another performance. Makes me want to dance again! ~JM

Great! ~CD

Moving! ~TS

Amazing! Very inspirational! ~JR

Absolutely spellbinding, mesmerizing! I am deeply moved and am leaving the performance uplifted.
Thank you to the Artists! ~S

Beautiful! Great study of contrasts – movement, light, form. Very hypnotic and luminous. ~AB

Complex, inspiring, & transcendent. ~BD

Powerful. Evocative. Whole. ~JF

Incredible! ~JD

Breathtaking! Mesmerizing! Transporting! ~JB

Loved it and glad for my children to see it! ~CM

Absolutely beautiful! Thank you so much! ~AS

Thank you so much for the invite! The performance was wonderful and I am happy I was able to attend.
~LH

Phenomenal and inspiring – the alignment of the dance, music, attire, and lighting created a spiritual experience. ~EW

Thank you. I thought the dancers were incredible. I loved Mandala Project! ~MK

Amazing. ~BB

I am so impressed how dancer Olive Prince can dance when she is pregnant!! All the dancers did so well and I would love to see them again. ~PP

I really enjoyed it and would love to see more. ~MO

Very creative, surprising, enjoyable. Really liked the variety of the dancers which truly enhances the effect. ~JR

Absolutely beautiful performance. The breath combined with graceful, strong movements is breathtaking. ~AB

Amazing work!!!! Thank you! ~ZB

I am blown away! No where have I seen unity and the individual live in tandem – such beauty and strength paired with a dynamic consciousness. ~LJ

It made me think a lot of issues like a chess game, clash of civilization, children games, moving small dots in a computer system... So it made my brain work in a different manner than the normal, which is a great thing! ~IK

It was so moving! Magnificent! ~MP

There should be live musicians! ~PC

So interesting & captivating. Extremely creative & it is obvious there is depth & intent behind the works. ~EM

Love the costumes! Also great to see some of the movement in class on stage. ~JS

I love the precision of the dancers. It is impeccable choreography!!! Beautiful dancers. Amazing dynamics. It feels very spiritual and empowering. I loved the Mandala Project!! ~TH

I have never cried at a dance performance in my entire life. I knew I would be amazed, but saying that I was blown away would be an understatement! ~LW

Calming. Capturing. Whole. ~JB

Thank you! ~EL

Absolutely beautiful! Impeccable technique & really groundbreaking work. ~J

Chessmen – stored energy like stored memory. Memory stored genetically through animal kingdom. Behavior is intergenerational stored social memory. The chess game allows for the expression of strategy and emotion stored through time and space and still stored in the moment.

Very enjoyable. I enjoyed Kun-Yang's different choreographic style. ~JB

Extraordinary! ~RM

Beyond words! ~PK

I enjoyed the performance and would come again. ~LA

Absolutely beautiful! "One" transcended time. I watched entranced and wondered where the time went as the lights went down. Thank you for all that KYL/D does! ~LB

One – very creative and interesting use of staging for the chess game. Intriguing movement of individuality to unity. I loved the use of the dancer behind the scrim and one or two dancers on the main stage. I also enjoyed the use of the long-sleeved costume. It was surprising and mysterious when it was first unveiled behind the scrim. Great use of simple props. ~CM

Great show! I most certainly enjoyed myself! Thanks! ~MR

Spectacular! I want to see more! Thank you. ~SH



KYL/D: Retrospective Performance @ the Painted Bride Art Center

Nov. 2013

Audience Comments

Energizing, inspiring, riveting – words aren't enough. ~AB

I was very inspired and intrigued. I love dance because it speaks a beautiful language and the moments leave me speechless. ~KE

The performance was otherworldly, ritualistic and unexpected. Some movement seemed impossible to perform by the human boy but the dancers managed to do them flawlessly. I was mesmerized by the intensity of the dancers and the purity of movement. ~JT

Wonderful. Dynamic, alive, vivid and powerful. Athletic, flexible and vulnerable. ~NB

Emotional roller coaster. Heart thumping. Very creative. ~HG

It's really amazing! Each representing something different and unique! The ending was very nice as well not something I would normally see at a show. ~AH

Enjoyed very much. Will return. Great musical selections. ~SL

Awesome! Great cool fun. ~T

I am always inspired by the passion, power, creativity, commitment, agility of dance – this is especially true of KYL and your dancers. Congratulations! And thank you! (Loved the complementary of the stoup and the pieces)

Evalina is wonderful – help her bow less stiffly ☺ Drunk in Shall We – unnecessary, we thought. Moon + Liu = gorgeous. I thoroughly enjoyed seeing KYLD for the first time!! ~VB

Congrats on 5 years in Philadelphia!

Far more theatrical than I anticipated. What is Brandi Ou listed as an apprentice? (As gifted as anyone on the floor.) ~JF

I was so inspired by today's performance. Truly amazing and talented dancers. ~MM

Today's performance was amazing! ~JN

I really loved the first two pieces. You could feel the dancers' energies expanding off of them. It was very inspiring. ~SB

Wonderful! Such talent, fabulous movement. Awesome talent. Extraordinary body mechanics. ~CR

Beautiful! Absolutely loved it! ~CB

Absolutely fantastic. First two numbers were outstanding in particular – and I have yet to see the second half! Enjoyed world premier! Loved everything in the last half!!! Shall we...? Was superb! Such fun!!
Thank you for an exquisite performance! Bravo! ~JR

Amazing! Will come again! ~SB

Nice amazing great team work ~DA

The dancers all were able to express and showcase their unique qualities which created a seemingly seamlessness. Thank you to ALL! ~CM

Fantastic performance. Touches the soul, the intellect, and the senses. The choreography inspires emotion and creativity. The dancers are elicitly yet project a variety of emotions. Liu Mo has a special ability to mesmerize. Really all the dancers are amazing. I love the sounds, the multicultural music and the sets were fantastic! What a treat. Choreographically magnificent. Thank you! ~Ross

Great performance. Very creative. ~CB

Loved it! Thanks for your hard and beautiful work! ~CF

It was beautiful. The mix of inspiration and overall quirkiness was wonderful. Thank you so much! ~IG

Really enjoyed! Glad I could see the performance and went. Very interesting!

Better than my expectations! Enjoyed it a lot. One of my favorite dance performances.

Excellent! One of the very few performances I have been to and I must say I enjoyed it very much! ~YG

We brought friends and family varying in age from 10-59. The performance was enjoyed by all. Thank you! ~KS

Gorgeous, wonderful, silly, hot, amazing, and much more! ~GB

!!!! ~GF

Great work! ~MR

WOW!!! ~AH

Fabulous! A wonderful program! Variety! ~PF

5 stars! ~LM

It was an enjoyable escape from my busy life and I realize now that I must take more time to see more art! THANK YOU! ~MS

Loved it! I've learned several dances before but modern is something I'd love to look into and try! It's beautiful! ~JW

Beautiful! Unexpected and inspiring. A balance of intensity and fun. Look forward to more shows! ~KS

Freaking loved it! Great job!!

Great performance! Great choreography! Great music!

Loved it! HM

LOVED IT!!! ~RC

PAINTED **BRIDE** ART CENTER

Presenting Passage to Alternative Worlds of Culture & Creativity



Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers

BEYOND THE BONES

Revisited (2002/2012)

March 29-31



Selected Audience Feedback Painted Bride 2012

Amazing!

Quite moving! Very organic! Loved the set. Love the use of fabric - material.

Fantastic performance and experience as always.

Beautifully done. Excellent dancing, music, stage art and singing. Bring on more!

It was excellent and moving.

Wonderful, moving, well done.

Like dying and living again.

Fabulous! Soulful!

Magnificent! I felt like crying the whole time. The whole experience was so touching but the piece at the end really pushed me over the edge to crying. Thank you so much for sharing this with the world. You are all wonderful in everyway. Blessings!

There were many times I was moved emotionally and felt impacted by the dancers movements. Their facial expressions added to their body movement. I like to see if their face expresses the same sincerity as their body movements. They did. What a wonderful experience.

Amazing performance. I look forward to commenting about it.

Very interesting. Loud noises, sounds. Very difficult for dancers. Ended happily!

Great!

Beautiful!!!!

Very well done!

Amazing movements - very moving - such dedication to roles and performance.

It was awesome nothing we ever experienced before.

I thought it was beautiful and emotional. I'm so thankful I got to experience this performance I wish I had chosen to dance and not to go to school for psychology.

I really love this performance. I really enjoyed it.

I am Rob's daughter. I'm only ten but I loved this performance. It was very captivating and thrilling. It was almost scary. This was an awesome performance.

It was fascinating. Kept my children's attention even.

It was surprising. Loved it, but thought the high pitched audio was uncomfortable.

It was great! Would definitely see it again!

Dance is universal. Thus that this response of "Beyond the Bones" resonates as a communal experience of one's memories of 9/11, of the shared experience of New Yorkers and their reaction to the apocalyptic day. More importantly, the liberating experience of the days after when the spirit of the city/ country/ world was revitalized/ renewed. I got a sense of journey and fulfillment from the dancers' movements and finale.

So wonderful to see Rhonda as well as the continuing collaboration with Hua Hua Zhang.

Absolutely wonderful and moving.

The solo part was a bit too long and abstract. Wish it was short and straight to the point. Otherwise, the performance was great.

Branches as limbs. Loved Olive's explanation. Powerful embodiment of RAW emotion - grief, shock, anger, chaos, hope. Favorite parts involved the branches as synecdoche for transformation. Loved the "mystique" threaded through the old woman character.

Loved the costumes and chorus but NOT the other music. Group dancing was wonderful. A dear friend died the night before and Rhonda channeled her spirit for me at tonight's performance. Wonderful use of weight shift in dancers' bodies. Challenging yet at the end the birth of core. The last movement was magical.

Brilliant. Moving. Powerful. Calming. Genius on all levels from dancing to story to music to set design. I am now a follower.

It was amazing! KYL/D is inspiring.

Cool. Beautiful. Visual.

Breathtaking!

I really enjoyed this performance - it really took me on a trip to a calm area and frame of mind. I felt very peaceful after this show.

Great first experience. Very unexpected.

It was a visceral and shocking experience. Nothing like I've ever seen before.

It was a nice experience.

Fresh out of the show it's still hard to put into words. Being the first time I've seen a performance as being as intense as it was I find myself wanting to see it again. The performance was excellent and gave me a great first impression for me of the art of dance and the displays of pain, life, and more. Wonderful performance.

Fantastic

Exquisite. Profound. Forever. Lovely.

Loved it! Great dancers, beautiful set - powerful and moving.

Very other worldly. Compelling.

Very good.

It was truly sacred space. Mesmerizing and incredibly well communicated. Thank you for the commitment to beauty and truth. Namaste.

Amazing.

Mesmorizing, engaging, poignant. Wanted to paint it, sculpt it, and show it to the world. Congratulations!

Amazing, beautiful, wonderful.

Powerful. Compelling.

The show was very moving and amazing! Enjoyed every moment.

I loved it. My life would be less beautiful without this performance.

Wonderful - unusual - I loved the controlled movement of the dancers.

Beautiful but disturbing also no need to reference EZAN here.

You should come to Boone, NC. Your performance was thought provoking and very emotional. The ED is cute. drumming up support for the program. :-) Love it!

Wonderful; very fulfilling. Glad to see you perform! Thanks!

Great performance. Loved the voices. Moving ending.

Beauty transfixed.

It was like watching life beginning to emerge. It was like watching raw, new beginnings before structures become solid. The newness. The unknowing. The bare, raw beingness. It was like watching people dance

with their focus on being and the rawness of becoming rather than structure and form. The lack of pretense is astonishing. The rawness is so real. Thank you!

Loved it!

Intense and beautiful!

I'm trying to "think" less during good dance performance so I don't have much to "say." But I would watch "Beyond the Bones" a second time! How about that. We enjoyed the panel before Saturday evening's performance. ..Thanks for the good art.


Choreography doesn't seem an adequate word to describe what Ruth and I saw last night. The spiritual architecture of the piece had a remarkable way of moving time forward and backward through cultural history, while also moving it horizontally through a landscape of human experience. I read Ellen [Dunkel's] review after seeing the work, and found it totally empty of emotional content, largely a recitation of the piece's mechanics rather than an exploration of its spiritual message. Too bad.

As we left the Bride, I said to Ruth we are so fortunate to have a place like that and levels of work by artists such as you in Philadelphia. Thanks.

That was a wonderful experience Kunyang. I am so glad that I came. The company is beautiful together -- the voices at the end were amazing and the last moment ... so human and hopeful.

I haven't had a chance to tell you how much I loved Beyond the Bones. It is a tour de force, and so raw and immediate. The company danced beautifully – Jennifer Rose did your solo – WOW - is all I can say, and Olive Prince continues to be one of my favorite dancers. She has a richness and maturity that is rare, and I always feel as if she's allowing me in to her private world. She always conveys dignity and honesty to me. The piece as a whole was "a Whole." Towards the end I started to think what can heal this? (I was in New York at 9/11 as well and I know what you mean about the beauty that was expressed between people.) And with that the voices entered and harmony was established as the night drew to a close – thank God. I was grateful to see you all form the circle and I was smiling and grateful to you for the journey and for a good homecoming. The thing is now that I really want to see the piece again – when and where?...

THE REGION'S ALTERNATIVE
ARTPORT FOR WORLD TRAVEL

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presents



KUN-YANG LIN / DANCERS
mandala project: returning to the circle
February 10-12, 2011

Thursday, February 10, 2011 [49 comments]

"I wanted to let you know how inspiring I found the performance. This was my first live dance experience and I loved it. The dancers had such incredible line, control, and timing. You should truly be proud of such a fantastic art work and for inspiring culture in Philadelphia." - DM

"Loved 1st piece – much fun – joyful. OMG – From the Land so evocative – each movement really conveyed the focus of the piece. Loved the stylized, ritualistic movement. Mandala Project – Loved it – Great music serpentine movement – last part evoked Fritz Lang's Metropolis + 1984 combined - :)" - CF

"The performances were simply beautiful. I would come again. Keep up the good work." - VT

"That shit was crazy!!" - Anonymous

"I enjoyed the show very much. Very unique." - BD

"Excellent! Very well dance[d]. Spiritually inspiring!" - Anonymous

"Fabulous!" - Anonymous

"Great show. A vibrant concept & strong concert. Twirls were very coordinated." - VR

"I thought it was incredible. Dance performance has never effected me emotionally before, and I felt like I was about to cry most of the performance." - JK

"Beautiful & powerful!" - JD

"Good show overall! Girl in brown ponytail with solo was amazing." - CP

"Awesome! So surprising. Very spiritual. Loved it." - KY

"Very well done. Great spiritual aspect." - CJ

"Lovely, mysterious, thought provoking, personal." IM

"Breath taking, absolutely amazing." - JK

"Great!!" - MS

"Great performance." - AE

"The performances overall were interesting to observe. Although I didn't know the meaning or concept, the dancers were passionate with their movement." - KC

"Enjoyable and moving." - FB

"Excellent performance! Congratulations!" - VP

"Being a first time dance performance 'viewer,' I really enjoyed the movements and the style of dance brought to my attention." - DP

"Beautiful! The dancers are wonderful. They move so nicely and they are flawless." - AK

"Loved the music and intensity..." - JB

"Performance was beautiful and unique." - CA

"Loved it. Dancers great. Choreography so amazing." - AA

"Very good! Very unique. I enjoyed it." - AJ

"Dancers were great from beginning to end." - KWW

"Great show." - Casey

"Entertaining and fascinating..." - JW

"It's very different from any other performance I have ever seen. It was interesting." - NH

"Amazing! Super effective!" - MC

"This was so good!" - ML

"Interesting." - Anonymous

"I thought it was elegant and very fluid." - Anonymous

"Great job! Seriously. I know you'll hear it a lot." - TC

"Great!" - AK

"Beautiful / moving! LOVED the music choices!" - AO

"Beautiful!" - Alyssa

"Excellent performance and venue." - DG

"Dancers were AMAZING." - Anonymous

"Awesome! ." - KB

"Loved it!!!" - SR

"Sooo lovely and wonderful, loved it, OMG so lovely." - DC

"Sooo lovely!" - MM

"Wow'd away! Too hot!" - TH

"It was amazing!!!" - Alec

"What a wonderful, uplifting experience you shared with so many of us." - NW

By email:

"I want to express my appreciation for the warmth & graciousness that you & Kun Yang extend to others. There is a wonderful sense of community at CHI, and I hope that the center and the company continue to draw extraordinary and giving people to you." - IM

Friday, February 11, 2011 [57 comments]

"All three performances in the program were terrific; at times mesmerizing and mystical. The dancers were excellent and appeared to be part of a single life force. The music and lighting were astonishing and integral to the performances. Everything was integrated marvelously. The dedication to detail and the hard work by the cast and "crew" resulted in a world-class tour de force performance that was both beautiful and evocative. The show had all of the rare qualities to think of the performance and consider my small space in the universe and make me happy to be at my rung on the ladder of the struggle." - BB

"Inspiring, powerful and spiritual. The space was sanctified. The performance was fluid and magical." - ZB

"It was a truly meditative experience – I felt my body carry the experience inside. All that was missing was a collaborative meditative experience as an audience. I was not a spectator but a participant. I am inspired for my own creativity. Thank you!" - CK

"Awesome – the integration of spirit, body, and breath is sacred to me. I loved every second of this profound work. The meditation was rich. With great respect – thank you." - PH

"Ragtime – fresh, charming, spirited, fun. From the land: beautiful, moving, interweaving of chi, yoga, chant, mystery, magic and beauty. Very moving and centering... Really found the flow and blending of bodies and shapes quite meditative. The Kun-Yang Lin performance was very meditative and transfixing. The overall sense of the sacred that perfused the group is a gift to the audience. The paper sculpture was fascinating too." - JP

"Evoked many emotions. Body movement was unreal; music brought dance alive and dancers became one with the music." - CW

"Beautiful! Loved it. Really wonderful emotionally and visually." - VH

"My favorite segment was Earth Mandala. It was like plastic bags or leaves floating in the wind!" - ZK

"1. Ragtime was a fun, new KYL creation. Looking forward to Kimmel Center in April. 2. Land of Lost Content was amazing and beautifully done with great projections. 3. Mandala – terribly creative and superbly presented." - Anonymous

"Beautiful dancing" - GS

"Great team chemistry. Very powerful choreography. Thanks for my first, and not last, performance here!" - AG

"I was blown away as usual." - KG

"Mandala = sublime; by final movement = transcendence achieved. Excellent work from choreography to execution. Thank you!" - NR

"Dynamically thoughtful and incredibly human. Multi-dimensional and captivatingly sincere. Gracious and radiant commitment ." - MM

"Incredible performance and vision. Thank you!! I was sincerely moved by the heart of the dancers and the beauty of the pieces. Congratulations." - KCM

"Truly inspirational. I'm wanting to start moving my body and mind!" - DH

"Spectacular! The most unique movements in dance I've ever seen." - PA

"Movement was beautiful. Lighting and music was amazing. Beautiful! Thank you!" - Anonymous

"I loved it. How can I take part? Seriously, contact me." - CO

"Dramatic, fluid, precise. Amazing! Rock on." - Anonymous

"Land of Lost Content – beautiful – especially Jennifer. Mandala Project – beautiful from start to finish. Made me twitch in my seat." - VO

"'Land' was my favorite. I've never seen/felt dancers so consistently embody the emotions – all range of emotions. Beautiful – powerful – bravo!! Thank you." - EC

"Beautiful! I loved all of it, especially the way you all integrated the meditation and martial arts. But to see the use of objects 'fabric,' mudras whirling dervish movements – what joy." - NW

"Excellent combination of breath, movement, spirit and joy! Thank you!" - LR

"Absolutely inspiring! I enjoyed every moment of it. I am a true follower!" - MF

"Strong individual performances, yet group connection always. Moving! Daring, inspiring, thank you." - PC

"I am speechless. Incredible and enriching performance." - CN

"First half – loved Jen's solo - - strong and beautiful! Second half – loved entire section. Made me want to dance." - BO

"Beautiful, passionate performers." - AS

"Inspirational. Thank you." - CC

"Wonderful work." - CH

"It was amazing" - Anonymous

"It was really good." - Anonymous

"Fabulous!" - Anonymous

"Wonderful!!!" - TB

"Beautiful. Particularly struck the emotional intensity." - CP

"Very fluid and strong. Beautiful work." - CB

"Kimberly Miller was Amazing!" - KS

"Exceptional, provocative, and enlightening." - MS

"It was inspiring, meditative, & beautiful. I love dance & just don't get the chance to see dance that often." - JS

"Excellent." - LP

"Particularly love the inter-twining of dancers – with each other & with fabrics... Love the pairs & multiples of entanglements. The lonely one (hope?) was very moving. All flowed and fit." - AH

"Beautiful and atmospheric. I loved the way the music complemented the movement." - Kumari

"The clarity of line, the contrast between sustained and sharp movement and the overall grace of the choreography and movement, costumes, lighting, and music are truly astonishing! Jillian Harris is one of the most powerful dancers I have seen in a long time." - MP

"Wonderful!!!" - NC

"Congratulations! What a magnificent performance. I'm looking forward to seeing you at Kimmel Center. Ragtime will certainly demonstrate your versatility and artistry. Great job." - JL

"Awesome and beautiful!" - JW

“Very impressed.” - Anonymous

“It was delightful to see such a different side of KYL’s work in Ragtime. So light and full of jest. Very refreshing to see. ‘Lost’ reminded me of the natural power of vines. So slow, with branches growing individually, though part of the same plant. Overtime it covers a building and by the end, you see that it has the strength to move stones and bricks; the foundations of a building. I actually enjoyed the visual absence of the bodies in the opening of Mandala. To see shadows and slender peeks of body parts among a greater sculpture was a banquet for the eyes. Such texture. So curious yet satisfying. The dancers have such discipline and strength; both required elements in choreography so physically and mentally challenging.” - AN

“I don’t know anything about dance, but it is safe to say that this is an amazing performance. It is choreographed so well and the dancers must work very hard because they do a spectacular job. Again, amazing!!!” - MG

“Great show. Enjoyed it a lot. Everyone was so in sync. Loved Kimberly.” - TL

“Very very nice! Enjoyed the music a lot.” - Anonymous

“Olive Prince is the most amazing human to walk this Earth. Teach me your ways.” - CD

“Really inspiring and beautiful. Nostalgic. Olive Prince is beautiful.” - TW

“As always, stunning!” - CB

“Wonderful performance. Incredible energy. Congrats!” - JS

“Awesome. Beautiful.” - VR

Saturday, February 12, 2011 [61 comments]

“Thank you for your hard work and attention to detail. This is one of Philadelphia’s most professional dance companies. Bravo!” - E.G.A

“Beautiful treat for all of the senses.” - VA

“The dancers never sunk to or evoked a reliance on the exotic. The play between the temporal/transcendent defined the embodied spirituality that is part of the human.” - EM

“Unbelievably moving and spiritual. Total energy!” - JH

“Spiritual. Amazing dancing/choreography. Kun-Yang’s solo was breath taking. I wanted more. It was beyond dancing.” - SZ

"1. Superb. Never a loss of tension. Fresh movement qualities....Frenetic pace perfectly suits the allegory. 2. Monster is breath taking. Solo master's dance exquisite in measured flow. Whole company is amazing in rapport and focus." - GB

"Transcending." - Anonymous

"Always a gorgeous performance. Watching this company is a joyful experience." - JD

"Wonderful dancers. Meditative, expressive, joyful." - RR

"Extraordinary – gorgeous, surprising and delightful. I thoroughly enjoyed the amazing, demanding performance and the original, beautiful choreography." - DT

"Stunning. I wish Bartenieff could have seen this performance. She studied Asian movement arts at the University of Hawaii every winter and spoke constantly of the meeting of east and west in the Balkans where Laban grew up." - CM

"It's like watching children play. Wonderful." - JL

"Brilliant! This was a new experience for me and I was blown away. Lighting was so cool." - PA

"I felt relaxed and meditative. Enthralled with sound and motion." - EH

"Embodied the true spirit of the metaphysical. Created new meaning for a breath of air and redefined the American fascination with self identity." - SK

"I am intrigued by Kun-Yang's sensibility – the modern dance vocabulary mixed with Eastern philosophy and movement." - ML

"Creative and interesting lighting. Beautiful moments – good ensemble work. Solo lovely." - LD

"It made me think about how wonderful it is to be alive." - GC

"Absolutely stunning; I particularly enjoyed the use of breath and the way the dancers separated and rejoined one another so fluidly." - ET

"Loved it! Sensuous, peaceful, beautiful. Exquisite choreography. Innovative." - SF

"Bravo!! Beautiful and inspiring." - YG

"It was so impressive because of harmony." - EJ

"Unique. Athletic. Artistic. Exquisite symmetry. Quietly interesting." - MC

"Olive Prince was amazing! Open, light, fierce." - JO

"We are so amazed! Transformed! And in awe of all this talent!" - LG

“Sublime!” - RS

“Exquisite! Wonderful performance. Good bye Kimberly. We remember you from dance fusion days. God speed.” - HM

“Breath taking. Thank you.” - PB

“Wonderfully calligraphic dance.” - TJ

“Mandala – Slow and reverential yet warm and welcoming. Slow like meditation and mighty like ocean waves. Slow like phases of the moon, sun up and sun down. Thank you.” - JH

“I loved it. I really loved it, and I actually don’t love much dance.” - Anonymous

“Amazingly meditative.” - NM

“The performers were inspiring.” - CH

“Lovely!” - ND

“They are the greatest! Fantastic.” - JS

“Loved the performance. The dancers do a perfect job and love the costumes.” - SG

“Amazing.” - WH

“Fantastic and more!!!.” - SG

“Thank you for a beautiful show!” -BM

“Beautiful!” - SC

“Wonderful!” - Anonymous

“Excellent.” - AB

“Outstanding performance! Very impressive!” - FX

“Great!” - Eric

“Lovely, gracious and graceful. Costumes were beautiful.” - MR

“Wonderful!” - PL

“Amazing and inspirational!” - AC

"The performance of 'Land' was greatly improved from the first time we saw it years ago. The dancers work really well together." - CH

"Beautiful. Loved the costume, lighting, and choreography." - Anonymous

"Enjoyed very much." - BS

"Lost Content was gorgeous. The martial parts were amazing." - GB

"Excellent!" - KD

"The dancers are wonderful." - MM

"Beautiful." - LJ

"Loved it." - Anonymous

"Always enjoy KYLD and very sad to see Kimberly leave." - Anonymous

"Wonderful!" - DV

By Email:

"Some words about Saturday night....Transformative. Chilling. Thrilling. Profound. Electric. Intoxicating.Magnetic. Healing. I could go on and on. It was rich. So rich. This city is so blessed to have you here. I can only imagine how many Souls were stirred to the core these past few nights....Goodness gracious, I think I'm still digesting it all, my already rotating head is still spinning." -- HW

By Email:

"I want to take a few moments to convey some responses I had to the performance last night before my first impressions either evaporate or become too constrained by analysis. Since I have practiced yoga for 23 years and am a seeker of enlightenment I am open to the notion that we are all in an energetic feedback loop. That there are so many ways to find meaning and to make meaning, to communicate and be understood. Over the last two years I have had the ability and privilege to be a witness and sometimes a participant as you with your corp of dancers have opened up to the potential of eastern philosophy and practices. Last night I certainly did observe the results of that shared experience...By that I mean that the dancers were communicating in new ways with each other and that allowed them to create more prana. And of course, I had cognition that there was excellent art being made. But the dance transcended mere technical and artistic excellence. And it was not just artistry and technique that you conveyed. I was aware in a gestalt way that you all were creating energy and sharing it. The energy created was far more than the sum of the parts. What was truly awesome for me was that I was transformed. I transcended mere observer and became part of the whole. It became my meditation even though it was you and the dancers who started the ball rolling so to speak. Your prana informed mine and although I did not move, the dancers breath, expression, energy and movements moved me. When it was over....when the movement of the bodies stopped and the music and lights went down, I was different too....So please accept my sincere thanks for your work and devotion to art as a vehicle for expressing constructive human awareness and energy." -- JS

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DANCE with the BRIDE presents

Kun-Yang Lin / Dancers Autumn Skin: Journey of East / West

Thursday – Saturday, March 18-20, 2010 | 8pm

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Hailed as a “theatrical visionary” by the Philadelphia Inquirer and named one of the Painted Bride’s 2009 Artists of the City, choreographer Kun-Yang Lin creates contemporary movement that draws on Eastern philosophy and Western dance forms. His company, Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers, transcends cultural boundaries and celebrates the ability of dance to integrate body, mind, and spirit. They kick off a three-year collaboration with the Bride premiering new work, like Autumn Skin. A solo performance by Kun-Yang is featured in Traces of Brush, a piece inspired by the ancient art of calligraphy. Discover why the New York Times Radio says Lin “has found the key to making dances that show what individuals are all about.” For more info about KYL/D please visit: kunyanglingin.org

KYL/D: Elrey Belmonti, Jillian Harris, Kun-Yang Lin, Kimberly Miller, Scott McPheeters, Olive Prince, Jennifer Rose, Eiren Shuman (apprentice), Jessica Warchal-King (apprentice)

Get your tickets early as last years' shows sold out!

For tickets please visit:
www.paintedbride.org or
call 215-925-9914

Painted Bride Art Center,
230 Vine Street
Old City, Philadelphia

cover photo by Gabriel Biencycki



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Non-Survey Audience Feedback (from emails/Facebook):

1. JS. says, "Saw your performance at the painted bride. WOW , was blown away. please put me on your email list of performances, I definitely want to see more of you."

2. Autumn Skin – "I now know the pain and passion that we endure for the sake of love."

Namaste,
JA

3. "soooooo inspiring and illuminating. oh yea magical and amazing..."CM

4. "Dear Kun Yang and Ken-

Thank you so much for a beautiful, invested, striking concert this past weekend. I still catch myself thinking of moments of movement that hit me over and over. Congratulations. !!!!"
JO

5. "Congratulations on your impressive sold-out concert. The work is powerful, disciplined, and meticulously crafted. The movement is physically demanding and the dancers work hard to get it across." MS

Audience Survey Feedback

Thursday (20 comments/62 surveys completed)

Very interesting show. I have never seen anything like this before

I really liked the 2nd Act.

Dancers had so much energy in their movements. It was amazing.

Very dynamic and precise movement...very well thought out. I enjoyed it!! Thank you.

Incredible show.

It was a great performance. I liked it.

It was a great performance and incredibly performed. Loved it.

I found it very interesting. The first piece was rather eerie and dark while the second was very fluid. Again, very interesting.

KYL/D at Painted Bride March 18-20, 2010

It was intensely beautiful. The finale was incredible.

I love your work—Thank you.

Brilliant

This performance was interesting and intriguing.

It was amazing

It was excellent.

Very intense, strange, awesome dramatic choreography.

Great show!

Very enjoyable. I would love to come back.

Love it – very original.

The show was wonderful!! I would like to come back and visit definitely!

FRIDAY (62comments/107 surveys completed)

Breathtaking and life giving!

The best gig in town

This was a “massage” for my soul!

It’s good to see that avant-garde doesn’t have to give up being beautiful.

The dance and space is electrified with a crispness I have never seen elsewhere.

It’s interesting to see the imagery from calligraphy blended with the modern dance based trained bodies. I enjoyed the fan and back choreography the most. Strong dancers! Thank you.

I love the company – disciplined, passionate, talented and committed to the moment of the performance.

Splendid

Wow.

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Dancers are really together. You can tell they spend a lot of time together, dancing and outside the studio.

Interesting show. Great performance! Liked the 2nd half a lot.

Spectacular! Very impressed.

We love it!

Strong; honest.

Loved it. Could go for one light hearted piece mixed in.

I love how the movements flow through the dancers so effortlessly.

Harsh. Beautiful

Autumn Skin. Expression worthy of Martha Graham in a performance whose dancers were as good as the choreography, which was fine.

Beautiful, passionate performance. Brought tears to my eyes. Bravo!

Inspired me to take modern dance, tai chi and pick-up my yoga practice again!
Beautiful! Thank you!

I live a nice average happy life here in the city. I know very little about dance or live arts but after watching tonight's performance, I have to say that art is good for the soul. I can't believe I've lived here for so many years and missed this side of Philadelphia. Beautiful!

Wonderful. Disciplined. Powerful images. Fast – speed!

Simply stunning and beautiful. Beautiful!

Great!

I like it!

A lot of pain, sad but I liked it. Real emotional.

Wow!!

Quite interesting!

Beautiful

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Great discipline of movement.

Brooding – intense.

Enjoyed first act.

Strong & crisp – wonderful.

Beautiful choreography – Dancers look beautiful and very together.

Wonderful! Amazing! Fantastic!

Excellent!

Great!

Wonderful!!! Will come back for other performances often.

Amazing – thrilling!

The first part: It was good. I felt like it contains kung-fu positions.

Gorgeously articulated.

Lovely!

Wonderful

Well done!!!

Amazing! Loved it!

Beautiful. Philip Glass music does not equal dancer's grace.

It was powerful!!

Loved the tension yet expansion of bodies. Amazing material. Very articulate and precise.

Fantastic!

Amazing!

Awesome show!!

Thank you. Spring peace!

KYL/D at Painted Bride March 18-20, 2010

I adore "Traces" – Thank you! Jen & Scot's duet in Autumn blew me away. Gorgeous.

Wonderful

Impressive/beautiful.

It was beautiful. Completely stunning.

Loved it.

Very interesting – Love the flow and smooth and easy transitions. Passionate dancing. Surprising Choreography. From a calligrapher's point of view, the costumes should have been more flowing. Like ink & strokes.

Wonderfully exciting vocabulary, inviting and visceral for the audience. ? was not expecting such (at times) a traditional use of male (as "the lifter").

Wonderful. I want more of you guys in Philadelphia...Wonderful dancers.

Yeah!

Really enjoyed it!!

SATURDAY (45 comments/81 surveys completed)

Brush: Controlled, nuanced movements in harmonic fluid body of expression reflects the singular & collective soul. Bravo!

Autumn Skin: only music, movements and tears can express this poetic justice
You accomplished all this. Thank you, my loving friend

The best of Kun-Yang so far!

Amazing choreography and execution by highly talented dancers.

Amazing! Loved the stories told!

Fantastic

Awesome!!!

Amazing

"Traces" was a very tight performance. We missed Kun-Yang in the solo. The new piece is so different from his other works – it is great to see the company

KYL/D at Painted Bride March 18-20, 2010

extend themselves. The PB Arts Center lends itself to this dramatic type of work. It was wonderful to see.

Amazing! Spiritual, human, sensual, breathtaking, mesmerizing.

My heart changed beats during the first piece...and the second. Thank you.

Beautiful performance!

Amazing!!!

It was wonderful

Excellent!!!!

It was an amazing display of movement artistry, very high quality. Very illuminating and inspiring.

Terrific! Put me on your address list/ mailing list.

Beautiful. Full of strength, like a waterfall.

A meditative catharsis.

Phenomenal!
Energetic, complexity, exotic. Music a tad loud.

Awesome!!

Wow!

Magnificent – A spiritual Intensity.

#1 Wow! Amazing! #2 Intense! Well-done!

This was moving, stimulating, well-crafted and totally entertaining – wonderful art! Wonderful to see commitment.

I love you guys!

Very enjoyable.

Good! Keep it up.

Excellent emotional observations of human struggle.

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Wonderfully entertaining visual art.

Wow. Would love more performances. I'd love to bring friends – wish there were more.

A blend of grace, rage, innocence, conviction, commitment and a whole, complete fullness of spirit/body.

Extraordinary flow of chi –Traces of Brush. Autumn Skin – Far too expressionistic.

Wonderful, intense emotional release.

Will return for more!

Absolutely breathtaking! I finally understand what Kun-Yang was trying to teach us in class!!!

Excellent!

Fantastic!

Brilliant x 10!

Wonderfully uplifting!
Amazing!!

A wonderful illustration of strength and life through body movement.

I am biased, but I loved it.

Wonderful. Powerful.

Excellent – Great work.