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ASCENDANCE

PRODUCTION 2016
FLARE DANCE ENSEMBLE

Artistic Director

What a way to finish off my last year as Artistic Director of Flare Dance Ensemble (FDE). The year began with yet another new intake of young, talented and very enthusiastic dancers. Thanks to the dedication and hard work of the Committee, and with the assistance of several members of the Ensemble, we managed to reach a whooping number of over 900 members this year. Once more, I was honoured to have the opportunity to work with as many new faces possible throughout the year - from casual classes, workshops, video projects, performance classes and last but not least, our annual production. I've also had the pleasure of working with a few new choreographers this year, who brought with them visions that were a very refreshing addition to our current skill sets.

In previous years, we've seen our choreographers pushing boundaries, breaking through comfort zones and challenging themselves. This year, our choreographers have once again raised that bar, so you're in for one heck of a ride! FDE is built around encouraging our dancers to continue challenging themselves, and to aim for new heights. Support, encouragement and love is what has gotten us to where we are today.

This year, FDE celebrates our 15th production. Tonight, you will witness pieces that will touch your heart, and we hope you will ride this emotional roller coaster with us.

To my successor, I am very confident you will take on this job well and bring FDE to new heights. Remember to enjoy yourself as this is one amazing and rewarding experience.

I would like to also extend my special thanks and gratitude to:

- Kaeden Trinh, my Production Manager - who has been incredibly organised, and never failed to lift my spirits and give me the strength to push away doubts throughout the year.
- The 2016 Committee - for not only supporting me, but always extending a helping hand even when you had your plates full. It was a pleasure working with all of you, and kudos for all the wonderful things you have achieved as a Committee this year.
- Jane Khoo, the founder of FDE - for creating such an amazing platform. Your efforts and generosity have had life-long impacts on so many dancers. Words cannot describe what an amazing thing you have done for the generations to come. Thank you for creating this family.
- My wonderful friends who have long departed the club - I dedicate my production piece to you. May we continue to support one another no matter where we are.

To our young dancers who are performing on stage for the first time, don't forget to enjoy yourselves and take in this wonderful experience. To the Flarefamily, Congratulations and Well Done! I hope that you will all treasure the memories you have made this year, and make the most of every minute you spend on that stage, as you have all worked with incredible tenacity this year to make this production what it is: 'Chookas' for your performances and let's bring the house down!

Without further ado, FDE proudly presents to you our 15th Annual Production, "Ascendance".

Jun Takahashi

Executive Committee

Welcome to *Ascendance*, Flare Dance Ensemble's 2016 Annual Production. This year marks a new and exciting milestone for the ensemble as our magnificent cast has worked hard all year to bring you our 15th production.

Flare has always been a club that emphasises growth and learning as core values and this year has been no exception. Along with our casual and gig classes - the foundation of our members' training, we have provided many opportunities to further their skills with our annual 'Workshop Week' and a new class genre known as 'Performance Classes'. Our annual dance camp, UMDC, organised with RMIT's Funkadelics and Melbourne Breakdancing Club, also aimed to develop our members' skills and expose them to different genres and styles of dance.

We have provided many opportunities to put this training to the test, with performances at UMSU International's Night Market and Festival of Nations, Grand Malaysian Ball, and Hong Kong Student Association's Le Bal Masque. Our annual Cocktail Night - 'Toybox', was also a huge success. This year, we have created more video projects in addition to those in the past, fostering the skills of not only our budding dancers, but developing choreographers as well.

We are very proud to have our charity efforts this year go towards e.motion21, who provide a platform for children and young adults with Down Syndrome to dance and share in the same passions that we do.

We would like to express gratitude to our committed members for all their hard work this year. Union House Theatre for their lovely venue and our dear production crew and cast for making all this possible.

The executive committee especially would like to acknowledge and thank the work of our amazing sub-committee who have worked tirelessly to bring everything together, we love you all. To our choreographers, we thank you for your dedication to your cast and Flare. To Jun, our parting Artistic Director, we thank you for not only the guidance that you have given us, but also the effort you have put in to make Flare what it is today.

We would also like to extend our thanks to you, the audience, for coming to experience and share in our passion, your continued support motivate us to push harder in our dancing.

Finally, to all the Flarians, whether you are sitting in the audience or dancing on stage, old or new, today's Flare is a product of your dedication and hard work, and even if we have gone our separate ways, we will always be family. This show is for you.

Your 2016 Executive Committee,

William Deng, Jiwon Lee, Karlo Julian, Kristie Ho, Aaron Au Young

Synopsis

Ascendance:

There are moments in our lives when we are placed in a challenging environment. Sometimes we feel that overcoming them is near impossible. We feel defeated and no longer have the strength to keep fighting on our own.

In these times of desperation and struggle, we can always find strength from those around us. Their support, encouragement, and love can give us the much needed burst of energy to push through any obstacle.

These experiences have helped shape who we are. We have learned to rise higher in life and in dance. We will reach our goals together as one.

We are Flare.

'Ascendance' marks a huge milestone for Flare Dance Ensemble - this will be our 15th production in our 16th year as an organisation. We give our love and gratitude to those who came before us. This is our tribute to you.

Performance Line-Up

- | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. | Milestones | Adinda Nindyachandra |
| 2. | Mig[Ration]ality | Rizqy Aryadi (Reba) |
| 3. | Warriors | Bonnie Su |
| 4. | Ripples | Kaeden Trinh |
| 5. | With You | Naomi Wo |
| 6. | Revenge | Chun Kay Yoong |
| 7. | What's Stopping You? | Daniel Lewis |
| INTERVAL | | |
| 8. | Gilgamesh - Episode 2 | Jonathan Yeo |
| 9. | Staying High | Mei Li Kok |
| 10. | Showtime | Christine Walsh |
| 11. | 憶 - (Yi) | Bud Lo & Jacqueline Lo |
| 12. | Grief | Jonathan Xian & Kaeden Trinh |
| 13. | Dedicated | Jun Takahashi |

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ASCENDANCE

PRODUCTION 20
FLARE DANCE ENSEM



1. Milestones

Choreographer — Adinda Nindyachandra

The greatest leap you could ever take is to have the courage to embark on a new adventure and find your true self.

Cast: Adinda Nindyachandra, Arnesia Ranggi, Auriel Yeap, Daniel Lewis, James Cummings, Jodie Wong, Jovanry Celline, Kaeden Trinh, Latasha Choy, Lois Wo, Nicole Li, Rizqy Aryadi (Reba), Sarah Chua



2. Mig[Ration]ality

Choreographer — Rizqy Aryadi (Reba)

What does it mean to have "moved" somewhere? What does it mean to connect to someone and to know your roots? Does it lose meaning if you do it over and over again? Can you truly be at home when you don't know where home is?

Mig[Ration]ality splits up the word Migration and Rationality, to the thinking behind the decision to move and the actions that create the move and are created by the move. Ration also refers to food or sustenance, and it's meant to highlight what we need to sustain ourselves when we move and adapt to a new place. Join us as three girls move away from home, and all the stories within that frame, to a new place where new stories are ready to be made and intertwined.

Cast: Anna Urokochara, Arnesia Ranggi, Auriel Yeap, Avada Harjosewoyo, Christine Walsh, Cleodara Wijaya, Erica Hwin, Herson Putra, Indani Suyanto, Jonathan Law, Kaeden Trinh, Kathy Liu, Kristie Ho, Mei Li Kok, Natalie Lim, Renee Sahetapy, Risa Watanabe, Ritika Bhandari, Rizqy Aryadi (Reba), Sally Lam, Tanisha Miranda Harahap, Tira Itham



3. Warriors

Choreographer — Bonnie Su

Set in 1939, *Warriors* depicts a society foreshadowing an invasion by a neighbouring country. When the inevitable occurs, lovers bid their farewells as their male counterparts prepare for war.

Cast: Anna Urokohara, Ashleigh Noto, Beverly Xin, Bonnie Su, Cheng Cheng Chua, Daniel Lewis, Daryl Lee, Georgia Zheng, Justine Rancy, Kaeden Trinh, Karlo Julian, Keera Feng, Kristie Ho, Kyle Su, Le-Suong Le, Nancy Tran, Natalie Lazo, Phillip Trinh, Quang Nguyen, Quenton Goh, Risa Watanabe, Simon Kong, Stephanie Quan, Tira Ilham, Victor Nguyentat, Wen Lim, Yuen Yuen Lin, Zoe Yang



4. Ripples

Choreographer — Kaeden Trinh

Ripple effect:

The continuing and spreading results of a single event or action.

This piece explores the concept of the ripple effect across three phrases of movements.

Cast: Adinda Nindyachandra, Amesia Ranggi, Ashleigh Noto, Bonnie Su, Bud Lo, Cheng Cheng Chua, Christine Walsh, Daniel Lewis, Diana Ong, Jacqueline Lo, James Cummings, Jonathan Xian, Justine Rancy, Mei Li Kok, Nadine Lee, Natalie Lazo, Nicole Li, Rachael Lee, Risa Watanabe, Rizzy Anyadi (Reba), Sheehan Yu

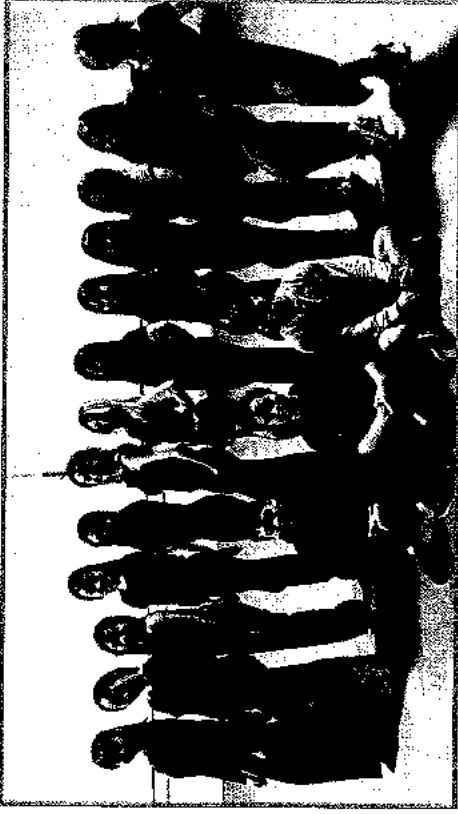


5. With You

Choreographer — Naomi Wo

"There comes a moment in time when you realise there is nothing you want more than to wake up next to that special someone, every morning for the rest of your life."

Cast: Daniel Yuong, Helene Nguyen, Herson Putra, Jordan Yap, Kevin Chau, Kristie Ho, Lois Wo, Mei Li Kok, Naomi Wo, Quang Nguyen, Renee Sahetapy, Robert Diao, Sarah Chua, Tran Le, Victor Nguyentat, Vincent Lu, Wen Lim, William Deng



6. Revenge

Choreographer — Chun Kay Yoong

Revenge: a dark emotion. Everyone perceives betrayal differently, but revenge is always rooted from hate, wrath, bitterness and rage. This piece encompasses the other path from revenge where rather than hurting someone, you strive to become a better version of yourself – a person who shines through the bad and the worst. You evolve into someone your friends and family are proud of by moving past the betrayal and showing your inner confidence.

At the end of the day, life is short. Let go of grudges. Count your happiest days and have fun with it! If you waste your days, you will eventually breed another dark emotion called regret.

"A little party ain't never gonna kill nobody, so we gonna dance till we drop".

Cast: Aliyah Zaini, Amanda Law, Benedict Nathaniel, Boyuan Pang, Chun Kay Yoong, Jindani Suyanto, Jacqueline Lo, Kristie Ho, Mei Li Kok, Natalie Lim, Rachael Lee, Renee Sahetapy, Ritika Bhandari, Stephanie Quan, Tira Itham, Zachary Ho



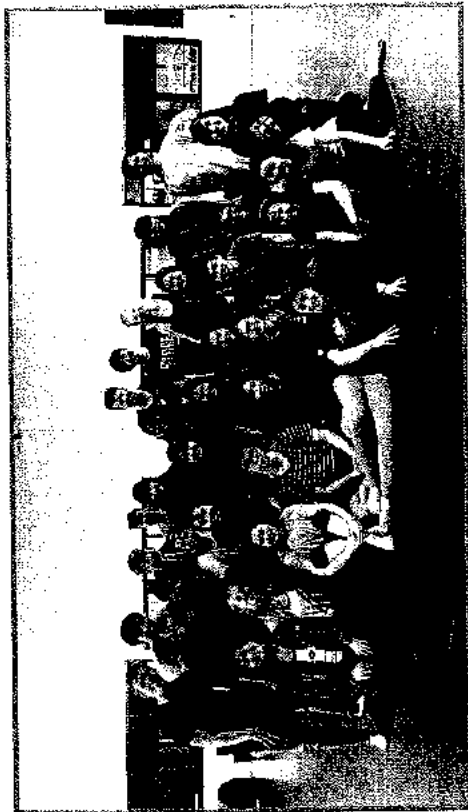
7. What's Stopping You?

Choreographer — Daniel Lewis

'What's stopping you?' depicts an individual's struggle with depression. Feelings of abandonment, isolation, anger and self-loathing writhe within, vying for dominance, mixing to form the dark haze that engulfs the mind. As control slips, a crossroad is reached. In that moment, the internal dialogue is examined. Is there faith that things will get better?

"This prayer is for everyone that feels they're not good enough. This prayer's for everybody that feels like they're too messed up. For everyone that feels they've said 'I'm sorry' too many times. You can never go too far when you can't come back home again"

Cast: Ashleigh Noto, Benedict Nathaniel, Bonnie Su, Carmen Nguyen, Cheng Cheng Chua, Daniel Lewis, Daryl Lee, Georgia Zheng, Jerriel Bay, Jonathan Xian, Justine Rancy, Kaeden Trinh, Kristie Ho, Kyle Su, Naomi Wo, Natalie Lazo, Phillip Trinh, Rachael Lee, Risa Watanabe, Rizzy Anyadi (Reba), Vilesh Arvind, William Deng



8. Gilgamesh Episode 2: Escape from the Underworld

Choreographer — Jonathan Yeo

*In Gilgamesh 2013, we followed Gilgamesh as he lamented Enkidu's death and became fearful of death. His journey to find eternal life was met with numerous obstacles which all ultimately exposed his impending mortality.

Now in Episode 2, we follow Enkidu as he enters Irkalla, the underworld. Irkalla is similar to the concept of limbo, a realm where the dead are neither punished nor rewarded. It is a desolate landscape, where the dead are stripped of all their belongings, with the only food they have being the dust and dirt around them.

In order to return to his friend, Enkidu must attempt to do what none have succeeded in doing before, an escape from the underworld. What lie in his path are the guardians and wardens of Irkalla, tasked with ensuring none leave once they have entered. Enkidu must gather all the help he can if he is to face these unsurmountable odds.

*Prelud in appendix

Cast: Adinda Nindyachandra, Aliah Zaini, Anna Urokohara, Annalee Cobden, Ashleigh Noto, Auriel Yeap, Bonnie Su, Boyuan Pang, Bud Lo, Cheng Cheng Chua, Christine Liu, Daniel Lewis, Daryl Lee, Diana Ong, Djacint Dumapias, James Cummings, Jordan Yap, Justine Rancy, Karlo Julian, Kristie Ho, Latasha Choy, Lois Wo, Nadine Lee, Natalie Lazo, Phillip Trinh, Risa Watanabe, Robert Diao, Timothy Law, Tira Ilham, Towa Chan, Vincent Liu



9. Staying High

Choreographer — Mei Li Kok

This piece explores the emotional struggles of individuals upon discovering that their partners have been unfaithful in the relationship. Sometimes, we choose to stay with our partners against our better judgment and despite their infidelity in hopes that maybe one day, we would be enough for them. But often times, that day never comes and so we live our days plagued with insecurity and haunted by a past we can never escape.

"Can you promise me it will never happen again?"

"I don't want to make promises I can't keep."

Cast: Aliah Zaini, Avada Harjosewoyo, Benedict Nathaniel, Bonnie Su, Christine Walsh, Georgia Zheng, Jacqueline Lo, Justine Rancy, Kaeden Trirth, Kristie Ho, Mei Li Kok, Nadine Lee, Naomi Wo, Natalie Lazo, Renee Sahetapy, Rizqy Ariyadi (Reba)



10. Showtime

Choreographer — Christine Walsh

Bag. Costume. Shoes. Tights. Hat. Hair. Brush. Tie. Pin. Perfect. Mirror. Face. Smile. Pout. Eyes. Makeup. Glitter. Done. Practice. Warm Up. Stretch. Flex. Stretch. Turn. Jeté. Pilé. Practice. Practice. Remember. Character. Focus. Stage. Wait. Cue Dancers. Lights. Camera. Music. Dance. It's Showtime.

Always dance like the whole world is watching.

You deserve the spotlight.

Cast: Annalee Cobden, Amesia Rangi, Aniel Yeap, Bud Lo, Christine Liu, Christine Walsh, Djacint Dumapias, Effie Tan, Elyc Phanyathong, Jacqueline Lo, Jodie Wong, Justine Rancy, Kaeden Trirth, Kathy Liu, Kerry Chen, Latasha Choy, Marjorie Pereira, Mei Li Kok, Risa Watanabe, Ritika Bhandari, Sarah Chua



11. 憶 - (Yi)

Choreographer — Bud Lo & Jacqueline Lo

In our journey through life, we create lots of different memories with the people around us. There are memories that are sad, memories that will make us angry, and some that make us feel depressed. But, out of all these memories, there will always be a happy memory that allows us to move on and cherish what we have right now.

Cast: Auriel Yeap, Benedict Nathaniel, Bing Qing Zheng, Brenda Yap, Bud Lo, Christine Walsh, Diana Ong, Djeint Dumapias, Elvic Phanyathong, Faye Chen, Indani Suyanto, Jacqueline Lo, Jeffery Ho, Jonathan Xian, Jono Sun, Karen Hoi, Karlo Julian, Kathy Liu, Mei Li Kok, Rachael Lee, Renee Sahetapy, Susanna Huang



12. Grief

Choreographer — Jonathan Xian and Kaeden Trinh

"Grief is like the ocean; it comes in waves ebbing and flowing. Sometimes the water is calm, and sometimes it is overwhelming."

"All we can do is learn to swim."

Cast: Aliah Zaini, Anna Urokohara, Camille Lim, Daniel Lewis, Jacqueline Lo, James Cummings, Jonathan Xian, Jordan Yap, Mei Li Kok, Nadine Lee, Nicole Li, Rachael Lee, Ritika Bhandari, Sarah Chua, Zachary Ho



13. Dedicated

Choreographer — Jun Takahashi

Common interest and a bit of curiosity can bring people together. Initially, when we join a club like Flare, most of us never imagine that Flare becomes a second family and home for us, and that we will build such close relationships with each other. It normally starts off with simple things like going to the same dance classes and going to rehearsals together, and then becomes bigger things like having dinner together after class and studying together late into the evening. All of a sudden, you realise that you're seeing them every day, and they become an important part of your life. Unfortunately, this feeling doesn't last forever. We graduate, our commitments grow and expand, and some eventually return to their home countries away from Australia.

Saying goodbye is never easy – for both the ones leaving and the ones left behind. This piece is a dedication and a tribute to my friends who have come and gone, to my predecessors who created and built this club, and to all the generations of dedicated dancers of Flare whose love for dance allowed this club to flourish to what it is today.

"We started with a simple hello, but ended with a complicated goodbye"

- Unknown

Cast: Aaron Au Yoong, Aliah Zaini, Amanda Law, Ashleigh Noto, Benedict Nathaniel, Camille Lim, Carmen Nguyen, Cheng Cheng Chua, Chun Kay Yoong, Daniel Yuong, Daryl Lee, Djacint Dumapias, Farah Diyanah, Georgia Zheng, Indani Suyanto, Jake Makaling, Jericho Mendoza, Jessica Noto, Jiwon Lee, Jun Takahashi, Karlo Julian, Kristie Ho, Kyle Su, Lois Wo, Nancy Sanjoto, Naomi Wo, Natalie Lazo, Rachael Lee, Rani Susilo, Renee Sahetapy, Shu Won, Simon Li, Tira Ilham, Vilesh Arvind, Vincent Liu, Vincent Lu, Wen Lim, William Deng, Yuen Yuen Lim, Yulanda Cao, Zachary Ho

Choreographers

Introducing your choreographers for 2016! They have worked incredibly hard this year to bring their pieces to life and are excited to share their work with you all.



Adinda
Nindyachandra



Bonnie
Su



Bud
Lo



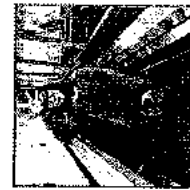
Christine
Walsh



Chun Kay
Yoong



Daniel
Lewis



Jacqueline
Lo



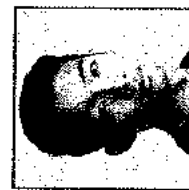
Jonathan
Yeo



Jonathan
Xian



Jun
Takahashi



Kaeden
Trinh



Mei Li
Kok

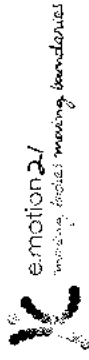


Naomi
Wo



Rizqy Aryadi
(Reba)

Charity Raffle



Who is e.motion21?

e.motion21 is a non-profit organisation that provides an Australian-first, evidence based, innovative dance and fitness programs for children and young adults with Down Syndrome.

It was founded by Cate Sayers, after she was unable to find an appropriate dance class to meet the learning needs of her daughter Alexandra, who has Down Syndrome.

Vision

To enhance lives and change perceptions of Down Syndrome within society through our strategic moving bodies and moving boundaries programs

- *How the raffle event will work:*
On each night of production, winners will be announced during the half-time intervals.
- *How to enter:*
Purchase your raffle ticket/s on the respective nights that you'll be attending for production. Approach the front of house team for further details.

Ticket prices:

- \$2 for 1
- \$5 for 3

Special Thanks

Flare Dance Ensemble would like to extend their gratitude to the production crew working tirelessly to ensure technical and administrative tasks are performed flawlessly.

Artistic Director

Jun Takahashi

Executive Committee

Aaron Au Yoong, Karlo Julian, Kristie Ho, Jiwon Lee, William Deng

Sub Committee

Barry Lio, Boyuan Pang, Chermaine Yong, Indani Suyanto, Jono Sun, Lois Wo, Natalie Lazo, Renee Sahetapy, Simon Kong, Tiffany Lam, Timothy Law, Vincent Lu, Wen Lim

Production Manager

Kaeden Trinh

Stage Manager

Ben Walsh

Assistant Stage Manager

Tash Ghani

Lighting Technician

Myles Roxas

Sound & Vision Operator

Jonathan Yeo

Front of House Manager

Joyce Liu

Ushers

Bobby Cheng, Chermaine Yong, Ethan Tsang, Tiffany Lam,

Runners

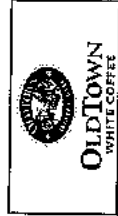
Bobby Cheng & Sheehan Yu

Announcer

Carmen Nguyen

Sponsors and Affiliates

Flare Dance Ensemble would like to take this opportunity to thank our sponsors and affiliates for their support and encouragement through the year.



Old Town White Coffee



BKODE Studios



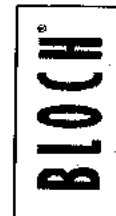
Dancehouse



O2 Studios



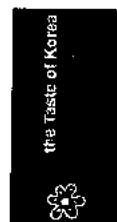
The Space



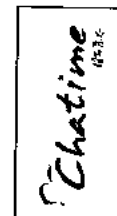
Bloch



Passion Studios



Oriental Spoon



Chatime



Tutto