

E-CONCERT PROGRAMME



DEWAN FILHARMONIK PETRONAS
KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA



A Dance Spectacular

Showcasing Traditional
and
Contemporary Chinese Dances

2026 SEASON

PERFORMANCE AT
DEWAN FILHARMONIK PETRONAS



DEWAN FILHARMONIK PETRONAS

Dewan Filharmonik PETRONAS (DFP) is Malaysia's first concert hall dedicated to classical music. Located at the PETRONAS Twin Towers, it was officially opened on 17 August 1998 by the Patron of the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra (MPO), YABhg. Tun Dr. Siti Hasmah Haji Mohd Ali and Prime Minister, Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad.

Designed by Cesar Pelli, the hall takes its inspiration from the traditional shoe-box shape of the great 19th century European concert halls with the magnificent Klais Pipe Organ providing a spectacular backdrop to the stage.

The hall seats 920 people at one time which includes box seats, corporate suites and a royal suite. Acoustics experts Kirkegaard & Associates have incorporated unique acoustical devices into its design to maximize the hall's natural qualities.

DFP plays an integral part in the music and cultural landscape of the city of Kuala Lumpur and Malaysia. It continues to enthral audiences since the day it first opened its doors. Among renowned Malaysian artists who have mesmerized audiences at DFP include SM Salim, Sheila Majid, M Nasir, Siti Nurhaliza, Hattan, Jamal Abdillah, Khadijah Ibrahim, Ramli Sarip, Aishah, Ella, Yuna, Faizal Tahir, Dayang Nurfaizah,

Aubrey Suwito, Akim, Hazama, Hujan and Misha Omar among others.

International superstars who have graced the stage are Harry Connick Jr., Diana Krall, Anoushka Shankar, Laura Fygi, Zakir Hussain, Larry Carlton, Harvey Malaihollo, Ruth Sahanaya, and Judika.

World renowned orchestras that have performed here include the New York Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra, BBC Symphony, and Vienna Symphony.

Beyond classical music, DFP has hosted ensembles of jazz and world music genres such as the Count Basie Orchestra, Yellowjackets, Ladysmith Black Mambazo, Mezzoforte, Igudesman & Joo, Pink Martini, and Gotan Project.

DFP has also been the venue for many local and international cultural performances, corporate events and film recording. Some of the clients that DFP have worked with are PETRONAS, UMW Toyota, Netflix, Warnakala, Allianz Malaysia, SP Setia, Embassy of The Republic of Korea, Embassy of Japan, MCKK Foundation, Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS (UTP) and The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur.

DFP's success is attributed to its exceptional architectural design, superior acoustics, and recording studio modelled after the legendary Abbey Road Studios. As the first purpose-built concert hall in Malaysia, DFP will continue to become the premier iconic hall with diverse music and cultural offerings to create unique experience for all.

A Dance Spectacular: showcasing traditional and contemporary Chinese dances

Sat 5 Sep 2026, 8:00pm

04 ASK Dance Company
06 Dua Space Dance Theatre

PROGRAMME

PEARL OF THE ORIENT 45 mins
ASK Dance Company

20-mins intermission

**PASSAGE INTO THE UNKNOWN:
EARTH, WATER, FIRE, WIND** 45 mins
Dua Space Dance Theatre

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ASK Dance Company

biography

ASK Dance Company was established in 2011 by Prof. Dr. Joseph Gonzales, a leading artistic voice in Malaysia. Since 2016, Imran Syafiq became its General Manager. It is a full-time professional dance collective that specializes in training, workshops, masterclasses, performances and choreography while engaging in collaborative projects and consultancy for traditional and contemporary dance genres.

The company comprises dancers who trained in Malaysian universities. It has received numerous awards including at the World Championship of Performing Arts, Selangor Young Talent Award 2011, BOH Cameronian Arts Awards and JKKN Wilayah Arts Activist 2023 as well as international scholarships and prizes.

Since 2011, the company conducts Malaysia's groundbreaking outreach project, Forging Traditions, teaching dance to the youth and supported by Yayasan Sime Darby. This project was enhanced through the collaborative dance annual production *Menempa Tari Tradisi* supported by Yayasan Hasanah from 2022. In 2024, another historic milestone for Malaysian dance was achieved when the group partnered with Taylor's University to deliver the Dance Specialization for its Bachelor of Performing Arts (Honours) programme, a first of its kind.

The company's philosophy is, to be alive, one must continuously learn and be unafraid to 'ASK' pertinent questions. Its productions serve as a platform for this dialogue, from issues on inclusivity and diversity to celebrations of life. The company is a shining example of Malaysia's plurality showcased through its repertoire and the ethnicity of its members.

The company is a force within Malaysia's arts ecosystem while providing employment, experience and career pathways. The group plays a significant role in bridging boundaries and bringing dance into the national narrative and the global stage.

ASK Dance Company...dancing the Malaysian!

Production Team

Artistic Director / Founder
Creative Producer
Assistant Creative Producer
Lighting Designer

Prof. Dr. Joseph Gonzales
Imran Syafiq Mohd Affandi
Kimberly Yap Choy Hoong
Tan Eng Heng

Choreographers

Imran Syafiq Mohd Affandi
Mohd Zulkarnain Zuber
Wong Chi Ying
Wong Shan Tie
Chee Kar Hung
Chin Sze Qing

Dancers

Jackson anak Janda
Mohd Zulkarnain Zuber
Muhammad Iman Amsyar Mohamed Nizal
Muhammad Haziq Hakimi Azman
Chee Kar Hung
Ameerul Izzat Azman
Haikal Zulfitri Hadanan
Wong Shan Tie
Fatin Nadhirah Rahmat
Ng Yu Jun

Jocelyn Nathania Jowono
Ng Po Qin
Chai Xin Yi
Woo Yi Xin
Cheng En Qi
Chin Sze Qing

Apprentice

Koh Jue Ann





Dua Space Dance Theatre

biography

Dua Space Dance Theatre embodies the spirit of sharing and interaction. Established in 1998 by Anthony Meh and Aman Yap, the company is a full-time contemporary dance company dedicated to create diverse dance productions. It integrates elements of Malaysian ethnic dances into contemporary forms while actively developing educational programmes, community outreach initiatives and cross-disciplinary collaborations to bring dance closer to the community.

Dancers

Kenny Low Thiam Aik
Lim Hong Jie
Tan Xin Rey
Howard Hew Fuh Hoong
Low Min Xi
Neoh Khai Juin
Fung Zhi Yng
Leong Gin Gin
Low Xin Ping
Lai Qian Xin

Special Appearance

Vocals	Evelyn Toh Ching Ling Heo Yueh Ren
Percussions	Thong Yoong How and Cross Chin Chun Ket

Creative & Production Team

Artistic Director	Aman Yap Choong Boon
Founder/Managing Director/Choreographer	Anthony Meh Kim Chuan
Lighting Designer	Tan Eng Heng
Production Manager	Vivien Koh Yun Wen

Composers

'Fire'	Tan Jen Shen
'Water'	Cross Chin Chun Ket (Souls Impact Percussions)
'Earth'	Thong Yoong How (FrhythmS Percussion)
'Wind'	Howz

concept

PEARL OF THE ORIENT

by ASK Dance Company

ASK Dance Company presents *Pearl of the Orient*, a captivating evening of Chinese dance that explores the journey of cultural traditions across time, geography and generations.

Inspired by the rich diversity of Chinese dance heritage, the production traces the movement of culture from Mainland China to Malaysia (then Malaya), reflecting how traditions are carried, adapted and reimagined within new environments. Through a vibrant collection of dance works, audiences will witness movement vocabularies rooted in ethnic traditions, folk practices, community rituals and historical narratives that have shaped Chinese cultural expression.



The performance opens with dances inspired by the vast cultural landscapes of China, drawing from movement traditions that embody the spirit, resilience and artistry of its people. As the journey unfolds, these traditions arrive in Malaya, where they encounter new histories, communities and cultural influences. Through this process of migration and adaptation, the work reveals how dance continues to evolve while maintaining its connection to heritage.

Rather than telling a single story, *Pearl of the Orient* celebrates the essence of dance itself; its precision, symbolism, musicality and deep relationship to identity and place. The production reflects on how cultural traditions endure not through preservation alone but transformation and renewal.

The title draws inspiration from the metaphor of the pearl: a precious form shaped gradually over time by its surroundings. In the same way, Chinese dance in Malaysia has emerged through generations of cultural exchange, preserving its roots while embracing new influences and experiences.

Featuring dynamic choreography, evocative music and striking visual imagery, *Pearl of the Orient* offers audiences a reflective and engaging journey through heritage, migration, memory and belonging. The production highlights the richness of Chinese cultural traditions while celebrating Malaysia's multicultural landscape, where identities continue to intersect, evolve and flourish.

This performance affirms dance as a living art form, one that bridges past and present, honours tradition while embracing innovation, and connects communities across cultures and generations.

About The Performance

ASK Dance Company presents *Pearl of the Orient* that traces the journey of Chinese culture from Mainland China to the shores of Malaya, exploring how traditions travel, adapt and flourish within new environments.

Structured as a choreographic journey, the performance begins in the vast cultural landscapes of China where communities lived in close connection with nature, history and tradition. Through movement inspired by diverse Chinese dance forms, audiences encounter the beauty, strength and spirit that shaped these cultural foundations.



The evening opens with **Spirit of the Fire Horse**, a dynamic work that celebrates courage, resilience and determination. Drawing inspiration from the symbolism of the horse in Chinese culture, the dance embodies the energy and ambition of a people constantly moving forward.

The journey continues with **Dai Dance**, inspired by the Dai ethnic community of Southern China. Characterised by graceful movements, flowing gestures and an intimate relationship with nature and water, the dance evokes a sense of harmony, serenity and cultural richness.



As communities travelled across landscapes and generations, protection and perseverance became essential. **Sword Dance** follows as a powerful expression of discipline, honour and safeguarding one's people and traditions. Blending martial strength with artistic refinement, the work reflects both defence and cultural pride.

The narrative then shifts beyond the mainland as waves of migration brought Chinese communities across the seas to Malaya. Upon arrival, many became involved in industries that would help shape the development of the nation. **Tin Mining Dance** pays tribute to the labour, endurance and collective spirit of the early communities whose efforts contributed significantly to Malaya's growth and prosperity.

As communities established roots, traditions evolved into everyday cultural practices that fostered connection and belonging. **Mahjong Dance** captures the social rituals, humour, strategy and camaraderie associated with one of the most beloved communal activities within Chinese households. Through playful movement and theatricality, the dance celebrates family, friendship and cultural continuity.

The production culminates in a joyous celebration of identity and community through dances inspired by Chinese New Year, one of the most significant festivals in Chinese culture. Drawing from the festive energy of the **Lion Dance** and the communal symbolism of Yee Sang, reimagined through a vibrant **Chopstick Dance**, the finale embodies prosperity, unity and renewal. It is a celebration not only of heritage preservation but of culture continuously renewed through generations.



Like a pearl formed over time through layers of experience and environment, this performance reflects the evolving story of Chinese cultural identity in Malaysia. Through dance, music and visual imagery, the performance celebrates the resilience of tradition and the beauty of transformation, offering audiences a meaningful reflection.

Pearl of the Orient is a celebration of heritage in motion where past and present meet, and where tradition continues to find new expression in contemporary Malaysia.



PASSAGE INTO THE UNKNOWN: EARTH, WATER, FIRE, WIND

by Dua Space Dance Theatre



Passage Into The Unknown is a contemporary Chinese dance work that contemplates our humble existence within the vast grandeur of nature. Drawing inspiration from the elemental forces of earth, water, fire and wind (each is rich with symbolic meaning in Chinese culture), the performance explores how these natural energies reflect the human spirit and offer enduring insight for navigating uncertainty.

- *Earth* embodies quiet strength and unwavering devotion; an eternal promise of support and sacrifice.
- *Water* reveals resilience through fluidity, showing how transformation emerges from persistence.
- *Fire* burns with purpose and passion, a force of both destruction and renewal, ignited by one's original intention.
- *Wind* moves with clarity and unpredictability, symbolizing the courage to embrace change.

Blending the refined aesthetics of traditional Chinese dance with the expressive freedom of contemporary movements, the choreography offers a fresh, embodied interpretation of Chinese wisdom. Each gesture and transition becomes a vessel for ancestral philosophy while engaging with the pressing realities of our modern world.

As we move through an increasingly complex and unpredictable age, *Passage Into The Unknown* becomes a poetic reflection; a meditation on how the elemental forces of nature can guide us towards living with clarity, courage and compassion.

Moments during the media preview at
Dewan Filharmonik PETRONAS on 17 August 2026.





DEWAN FILHARMONIK PETRONAS
KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA

WHERE EVERY BEAT TELLS A STORY

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Mohd Fahmi Md Radzi

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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Qaleeda Talib
Ong Li-Huey
Wynn Ch'ng Way Sean
Muhammad Fikrizaki Zakaria

ORCHESTRA MANAGEMENT

Fadilah Kamal Francis
Farah Diyana Ishak
Khairul Anuar Mohd Sabri

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Ahmad Muriz Che Rose
Shireen Jasim Mokhtar
Amin Mikhail Ahmad Zabidi

COMMUNICATIONS & CREATIVE SERVICES

Munshi Ariff Abu Hassan

BUSINESS & STRATEGIC RELATIONS MANAGEMENT

At Ziafrizani Chek Pa (covering)

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Malaysian
Philharmonic
Orchestra



Jaclyn Victor

Gemilang

BERSAMA MPO

17
OCT
2026
SAT 8:00PM

PERFORMANCE AT
DEWAN FILHARMONIK PETRONAS
PETRONAS TWIN TOWERS

Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra
Ahmad Muriz Che Rose, conductor
Jaclyn Victor, vocals

The MPO continues to spotlight outstanding, homegrown music stars and this time, Malaysian Idol champion Jaclyn Victor takes to the stage. Expect fresh arrangements and emotional depth in a soul-stirring evening that blends orchestral refinement with contemporary Malaysian music. Helmed by Ahmad Muriz Che Rose, Jaclyn's voice, lifted to new heights by the MPO, promises a rich, moving experience that will resonate with everyone in an evening celebrating her musical journey of two decades.

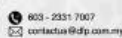
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DEWAN FILHARMONIK PETRONAS
KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA



Simfoni Mantra:

KUNTO AJI

bersama MPO

**14
NOV
2026
SAT 8:00PM**

PERFORMANCE AT
DEWAN FILHARMONIK PETRONAS
PETRONAS TWIN TOWERS

Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra
Ahmad Muriz Che Rose, conductor
Kunto Aji, vocals

After his 2022 performance at the DFP, Indonesian singer-songwriter Kunto Aji returns for an extraordinary evening of music, this time with the MPO, where his songs will infuse pop sensibility with orchestral grandeur and enhanced poignancy and profound emotions. A familiar and welcomed presence in the regional musical landscape, Kunto Aji has an influence that has steadily reached the Nusantara audience with his unique vocal timbre and heartfelt compositions.

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IN CONCERT

Malaysian
Philharmonic
Orchestra

Gerard Salonga, conductor
12 - 13 December 2026

Dewan Filharmonik PETRONAS



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DEWAN FILHARMONIK PETRONAS
KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA



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KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA

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KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA

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