



KUN-YANG LIN/DANCERS

Executive Artistic Director, Founder **Kun-Yang Lin**
Co-Founder **Ken Metzner**

Company

Liu Mo, Evalina Carbonell, Weiwei Ma, Grace Stern, Annielille Gavino,
Nikolai McKenzie, Keila Pérez-Vega, Frankie Markocki, Kyan Namazi, Barbara Craig Liu

Assistant Artistic Director **Lingyuan (Maggie) Zhao**
Lighting Designer/Stage Manager **Matthew Lewandowski II**
Sound Designer/Music Consultant **Cory Neale**
Business Director **Kathryn Moore**
Education Manager **Gracianna Coscia-Collins**
Booking Manager **KMP Artists**

Board of Directors

Alex Carbonell, Ellen Gayda, David Harrison, Brea Heidelberg, Elizabeth Klaproth,
Kun-Yang Lin, Ken Metzner, Janet Stern, Ellen Rosenberg, Ellen Schwartz

PROGRAM

There will be an intermission.

Friday, April 12 @ 8 PM
Saturday, April 13 @ 2 PM

Zellerbach Theatre

NextMove
DANCE

The 18/19 dance series is presented by Annenberg Center Live and NextMove Dance.

PROGRAM NOTES

CHI (2002)

Choreography Kun-Yang Lin

Costume Design Heather McGinnis

Music Glen Velez

Performers The Company

Inspired by the interplay of the visible and invisible as manifested in the ancient art forms of tai chi and calligraphy, “chi” means breath, energy or life’s source.

Premiere: April 12, 2002, The Taipei Theater, NYC

Moon (1993)

Choreography Kun-Yang Lin

Costume Design Kun-Yang Lin

Music Dead Can Dance

Performer Liu Mo (Weiwei Ma)

Premiere: September 18, 1994, Danspace Project, NYC

From the Land of Lost Content (2000)

Choreography Kun-Yang Lin

Costume Design Tamaki Kawano, Kun-Yang Lin, Sarah McCorrison

Music Philip Glass, Lama Gyurmes, Jean-Philippe Rykiel, Kirby Schelstad

Photography Harry Beach

Performers The Company

- I. Pilgrimage
- II. Compassion
- III. Our Land
- IV. Hope
- V. Faith

Premiere: June 29, 2000, The Yard, Chilmark, MA

INTERMISSION

Dreamscape (2016)

Choreography Kun-Yang Lin

Costume Design Cat O’Callaghan

Music Daniel Rhode

Performers The Company

Premiere: April 14, 2016, The Prince Theater, Philadelphia

Spring 101 (World Premiere)

Choreography Kun-Yang Lin

Costume Design Jill Peterson

Music Telemann (*Suite in F Major for Horn, 2 Oboes & Strings*, III. Der Alster Echo), Stölzel (*Concerto in D for 6 Trumpets & Strings*), Purcell (*The Staircase Overture in B Flat for 2 violins & Basso continuo*), Handel (*Water Music* VI. Mov.), Vivaldi (*The Four Seasons*, Spring, II. Largo), Sammartini (*Concerto in C for Viola Pomposa & String*, I. Andante), Bach (*Harpichord in G Minor*, First Mov.)

Sound Design Cory Neale

Performers The Company

This world premiere breathes new life into Baroque music through a pairing with contemporary movement and sound design. Evoking the joy of spring and the excitement of new beginnings, *Spring 101* celebrates Lin’s 101st choreographic work in his creative journey.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers (KYL/D)

Based in Philadelphia and hailed for its superbly trained dancers and inventive choreography, the internationally active KYL/D probes at the limits of national identity. Drawing upon Eastern philosophies while expanding the perimeter of contemporary dance, Executive Artistic Director Lin's zen-inspired practice of dance manifests in lush works of poetic sensibility that *The New York Times* says, "create and inhabit worlds of their own." Lin draws upon multicultural insights from his ongoing research throughout Asia, creating a personal movement language that is an unexpected hybrid between Western and Eastern cultures, suffused with strong spiritual underpinnings.

KYL/D has performed around the world, including at the Tanzmesse International Dance Festival (Dusseldorf), Busan International Dance Festival (Korea), Jogja International and AsiaTri festivals (Indonesia), Festival Internacional de Danza in Queretaro (Mexico), Victoria Theatre (Singapore) and HsinChu Performing Arts Center (Taiwan).

In the U.S., KYL/D has performed at numerous venues including Lincoln Center Out of Doors Festival, Interlochen Festival, Columbia Festival, Kaatsbaan International Dance Center, Jacob's Pillow Inside/Out, the Painted Bride Art Center, the Kimmel Center, the Forrest Theater, the Prince Theater, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Barnes Foundation and Philadelphia's City Hall. kyl.org

Kun-Yang Lin (Executive Artistic Director & Founder)

Lin views dance as his first language. Raised in Taiwan in a home where his parents never spoke the same language, Lin learned to communicate most articulately through gesture and action. Many other tensions in his life have shaped Lin's artistry — he was raised in the faith of his father (Catholicism) in an environment steeped in the traditions of his mother (Buddhism and Taoism), and he navigates life as an Eastern immigrant in a Western society. Lin is deeply invested in the dialogues between innovation and tradition, the individual and collective, the visible and invisible — "in-between spaces" that he finds to be fertile ground for exploration.

Among the primary impulses nourishing Lin's artistry are Buddhist and Taoist worldviews and the internal energetic flows of the many Eastern arts he has practiced over the years including tai chi, martial arts, chi gong, calligraphy, meditation and Chinese opera movement. These impulses are filtered through his extensive training and performance experience across a broad range of contemporary dance techniques and improvisation practices, and are framed by Lin's ongoing research in dance as a medium for the integration of body, spirit and mind.

After receiving his BFA from Taiwan National University of the Arts, Lin accepted a fellowship to the Laban Centre in London and a position there with Transitions Dance Company. Following extensive international touring with Transitions, he came to New York in 1994 where he engaged in intensive study at the schools of Graham, Limón, Cunningham and Movement Research. Over the course of 10 years, Lin performed in the companies of many iconic American choreographers including Martha Graham, Doris Humphrey and Anna Sokolow, and in the companies of Jennifer Muller, Kevin Wynn, Janis Brenner and "post-modernist" dancemakers, Lynn Shapiro and Paula Josa-Jones. In 1998, he formed his own company, KYL/D, to further develop his artistic vision. While in New York, Lin was recognized on multiple occasions by *The New York Times*, *Back Stage* and other notable publications for both his dancing and choreography. Lin was awarded a full fellowship to NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, from which he received an MFA in 2003. That year, Temple University recruited him to teach and, in 2008, he relocated KYL/D from New York City to Philadelphia. He then established CHI Movement Arts Center (or "CHI MAC") to build upon his practice-as-research, deepen his own artistry and advance conversations between the Temple campus and the communities of Philadelphia and beyond. Since 2008, Lin has developed a broad range of programming at CHI MAC for aspiring, professional dancers and community members including the InHale Performance Series for emerging dance artists.

Lin's choreography has been commissioned by numerous companies including Dance Ensemble Singapore, Ballet Nacional de Mexico, Ballet Philippines and Cleo Parker Robinson Dance.

Liu Mo (Dance Artist)

Liu Mo is from Xi'an, China and trained at the prestigious Beijing Dance Academy from

middle school through college. He received a degree in classical Chinese dance with a focus in performance and education. Following the completion of his degree, Mo served as an instructor in the foundations of classical Chinese dance at the Beijing Dance Academy until 2011. Since then, he has been performing as a company member for Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers. He has also choreographed commissioned works for Ballet 180 and Hua Hua Zhang.

Evalina Carbonell (Dance Artist)

Known affectionately as "Wally," Carbonell received her early training at the National Ballet School in Maryland. She went on to earn her BFA in dance from Florida State University, studying with such luminaries as Jawole Willa Jo Zollar and Suzanne Farrell. Upon graduation, Carbonell joined the Roxey Ballet Company, dancing as a principal artist from 2005-2011. As a freelance artist, she has worked and choreographed extensively, and continues to be an active performer as a guest artist nationally and locally. Carbonell joined Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers in 2012.

Weiwei Ma (Dance Artist)

Ma is a Chinese dancer, teacher and choreographer who graduated with a BFA degree in choreography from The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Academy of Arts. After graduating, she taught Chinese classical dance and choreography at Beijing Contemporary Music Academy. Ma moved to Philadelphia and graduated with her MFA from Temple University in 2016. During this time, her work was selected for presentation at the 2016 ACDDA conference in Brockport, NY. Ma has been a member of Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers since 2013.

Annielille "Ani" Gavino (Dance Artist)

Gavino is a native of the Philippines and attended University of the Philippines before pursuing training at the Alvin Ailey School. She danced professionally with Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Ensemble and Dallas Black Dance Theater. Gavino has worked with legendary choreographers Katherine Dunham, Donald McKayle, Eleo Pomare, Diane McIntyre, Alonzo King, Ronald K. Brown, Chuck Davis and others. She continues her journey as a political artist and choreographer through her company, Malayaworks (named after her daughter). Gavino joined Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers in 2015.

Nikolai McKenzie (Dance Artist)

McKenzie was born in Kingston, Jamaica. He graduated with a BFA in dance and choreography from Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, VA. McKenzie has had the pleasure of working with artists such as Sidra Bell, Alexandra Wells, Adam Barruch, Ernesta Corvino, Antonio Brown and Shannon Gillen. His choreography has been performed in Richmond, VA; Steamboat Springs, CO; Norfolk, VA; and Philadelphia, PA. McKenzie joined Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers in 2015.

Grace Stern (Dance Artist)

Stern grew up in Nebraska and began her training at the Omaha Academy of Ballet. In 2012, she received a BFA from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. Stern's education also has included American Theater Ballet, Hubbard Street, Summer Stages and Ballet Magnificat intensives. She has had the privilege of working with and performing works by Janis Brenner, Doug Elkins, Maurya Kerr, José Limón, Alwin Nikolais, Helen Simoneau, Olive Prince, Myra Brazell and others. Stern joined Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers in 2015.

Keila Pérez-Vega (Dance Artist)

Pérez-Vega is a 2015 BFA University of the Arts graduate. In 2012, Pérez-Vega became a principal dancer at Eleone Dance Theatre. Thereafter, she worked with numerous local artists and companies: 10HL Projects (NYC), Melissa Rector & dancers (PHL) and ARTolerance (PHL), among others. Outside of concert dance, Keila is a passionate social salsa and bachata dancer, instructor and performer. She is recent founder of Artsi, an events organization that prides itself in transforming spaces to connect different audiences to the arts through artistic nightlife experiences. Pérez-Vega joined Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers in 2016.

Francis Markocki (Dance Artist)

Markocki is a Philadelphia native and began his training at the age of 15. Markocki graduated with his BFA in dance from Temple University in 2016. He is a certified M'singha Wuti instructor in the Umfundalai Dance Technique, for which he studied under its founder Dr. Kariamu Welsh. Markocki is a dance teacher, choreographer and private instructor for queer performers in Philadelphia. He joined Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers in 2016.

Kyan Namazi (Dance Artist)

Namazi grew up in Liverpool, England before attending London Contemporary Dance School, graduating in 2015 with his BA in contemporary dance studies. There, he was privileged to perform works by choreographers Kerry Nicholls, James Cousins, James Wilton, Didy Veldmann and Crystal Pite. He has since performed throughout the UK with Avant Garde Dance, James Wilton Dance, Encompass Collective and Lauren Tucker Dance. Namazi moved to the U.S. in 2016, where he performed in a revival of *La Cage aux Folles* and joined SHARP Dance as a guest artist. In 2017, Namazi joined Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers.

Barbara Craig Liu (Dance Artist)

Craig Liu was born in Shaker Heights, OH and began her training with the School of Verlezza Dance and Cleveland City Dance. Later, she attended Ballet Mets pre-professional program before dancing with Europaballett Sankt Pölten in Austria. In 2014, she was invited to train and perform with The Pennsylvania Academy of Ballet. Since then, she has performed with many companies and choreographers, including Bryan Koulman Dance Company, Nora Gibson Contemporary Ballet and Verb Ballets. Craig Liu joined Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers in 2017.

Matthew F. Lewandowski II (Lighting Designer/Stage Manager)

Production management credits include Philadelphia Theatre Company, Shen Wei Dance Arts, Mural Arts, the New York Music Theatre Festival, American Repertory Ballet, and the Tony Award® winning, Crossroads Theatre Company. Touring has taken Lewandowski throughout the Americas, the Far East and Europe serving in various capacities for tours such as *Cats*, *Crazy for You* and *Disney on Ice*. Lewandowski serves on the boards of Theatre Philadelphia and Philadelphia Scenic Works. He is a graduate of the Hartt School of Music with a degree in music direction and conducting, and is a native of Philadelphia.

Cory Neale (Composer/Sound Designer)

Neale is an architect, bassist/composer and sound designer from Philadelphia, PA. He is a native Philadelphian and graduate of Temple University School of Architecture. He is resident composer and sound designer for Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers and *Birds on a Wire* Dance Theater, and works with a variety of artists across the media spectrum, including the Walnut Street Theater, keila cordova dances and Krista DeNio/Echo Theater Suitcase, and as producer for Earthdance's E|MERGE Interdisciplinary Collaborative Arts residency. Neale was the recipient of the American Association of Community Theater Sound Design Award in 2011 for Bootless Stagework's production of Martin McDonagh's *The Pillowman*, and a 2015 Rocky Award recipient for collaborative contributions in the Philadelphia dance community. He is a member of the bass section for the Abington Symphony Orchestra.

Jill Peterson (Costume Designer)

Peterson is based in Atlanta, Georgia, and has been designing and constructing for classical ballet companies and contemporary dance since 2006. In 2015, she designed costumes for Dance Canvas, whose mission is to provide opportunities and venues to increase the appreciation and awareness of professional dance in metro Atlanta. She has designed costumes for dance departments at Agnes Scott College, Brenau University and Kennesaw State University, and taught costuming and sewing seminars to dance majors. Peterson received training in construction drafting at the U.S. Engineering School in Alexandria, VA. Her Army engineering experience, as well as her previous work as an interior designer, assist in the problem-solving aspects and intense details necessary in costume design.

Lingyuan "Maggie" Zhao (Assistant Artistic Director)

Zhao received her BFA degree from Beijing Capital Normal University, where she fell in love with modern and contemporary dance. Following graduation, Zhao worked in the Asian Dance Research Center as a dance teacher and as Assistant to the Artistic Director at Chinese Children's Musical Theater. Later, she went on to receive her MFA degree in choreography at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro in 2015. Zhao has also been an invited guest teacher/lecturer at UNC Charlotte and Cabrini University. She joined KYL/D in 2015 as a Management Associate and now serves as Assistant Artistic Director.