

The Annenberg Center Presents Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers Thursday, April 22

*Livestreamed program features **world premiere of The Wind, performed by Kun-Yang Lin**, in his first return to the stage since his retirement from dancing in 2013*

(Philadelphia – March 30, 2020) — The Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts presents **Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers**, streamed live, on **Thursday, April 22 at 7 PM**, in a program of works that features the world premiere of *The Wind*, performed by **Kun-Yang Lin** himself. This performance marks the first time Lin returns to the stage since his retirement from dancing in 2013, in the first piece he has choreographed for himself since 2010. The five other works on the program—*New Normal?*, *Inside, Renaissance, Spring Duet*, and *The Calling*—reflect on the state of the world with prevailing messages of hope and unity. Lin seeks to illustrate how isolation can provide opportunities to reflect, grow and evolve, allowing us to form a deeper connection with all humanity. This event will include a live, interactive Q&A with the performers. This performance is rescheduled from November, 2020. Visit AnnenbergCenter.org for more information.

About Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers (KYL/D)

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 (Düsseldorf), 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 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 Annenberg Center, the Kimmel Center, the Forrest Theatre, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Barnes Foundation and Philadelphia's City Hall.

KYL/D has been supported by numerous funders including the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), the Jerome Robbins Foundation, The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage, the William Penn Foundation, MidAtlantic Arts Foundation and the U.S. Department of State.

Kun-Yang Lin (Executive Artistic Director & Founder of CHI Movement Arts Center) has received numerous awards in his native Taiwan and has been widely recognized in the United States for both his

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dancing and choreography including, in 2002, by *BackStage*, which selected Lin as “the year’s most promising choreographer.” Before moving to Philadelphia in 2003, Lin performed the works of numerous European post-modernist choreographers on tour world-wide with the London-based Transitions Dance Company. In New York City, he continued his body research in the sources of American modern dance including in the companies of Martha Graham, Doris Humphrey Repertory Dance Company, Mary Anthony Dance Theatre, Anna Sokolow, Jennifer Muller/The Works, Kevin Wynn Collection, Paula Josa-Jones and Janis Brenner & Dancers, and in improvisation projects with renowned musician John Zorn and award-winning artist, Lynn Shapiro. Lin has been called “an extraordinary dancer” (*The New York Times*), a “theatrical visionary...outstanding choreographer and a compelling performer.” (*The Philadelphia Inquirer*). Lin’s devotion to artistic excellence, movement research, education and community building inspired him to found the CHI Movement Arts Center (CHI MAC), described by former Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell as “a place where the entire Philadelphia community can experience the art of multicultural creative dance expression.” In 2009, Lin was named by the Painted Bride Art Center an “Artist of the City” for his outstanding contributions to the arts and culture of Philadelphia. In 2010, the Mayor of Hsin-Chu, Lin’s hometown, honored him as a “son of the City” for his cultivation of artistic excellence at the international level and in 2011, he was named a “Creative Connector” through a nomination process coordinated by Leadership Philadelphia. As well, in 2017, Lin was selected by NBC News from a nationwide pool as one of 30 LGBTQ “changemakers, innovators and rising stars” for its inaugural Pride Month leader list.

Lin’s choreography, described as “deeply spiritual, remarkable” (*Dance Magazine*), has been presented throughout the United States as well as in Asia, Southeast Asia, London, Vienna and Mexico. Lin’s choreography has been commissioned by numerous companies including Dance Ensemble Singapore, Ballet Nacional de México, Ballet Philippines and Cleo Parker Robinson Dance.

Highly sought as a teacher, Lin is regularly invited to offer master classes and workshops throughout the U.S. and abroad. Since 2003, Lin has been a professor at Temple University’s Boyer College of Music and Dance in Philadelphia.

Photographs of Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers can be accessed in the Annenberg Center’s [Press Room](#).

About the Annenberg Center’s 2020-21 Digital Season

The Annenberg Center’s 2021 spring digital season comprises livestreamed performances featuring world premieres and Philadelphia debuts by top dance companies and outstanding jazz artists, collaborative music performances, and screenings of independent films. Designed specifically for the digital stage, the live performances are broadcast using state-of-the-art digital technology from the Prince or Zellerbach Theatre, integrating live chat, and concluding with interactive discussions with the creators and performers. Livestreamed performances are available online for 48 hours after the start time for those who purchased access. Full season calendar can be accessed [here](#).

About the Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts

The Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts serves as a major cultural destination and crossroads connecting the University of Pennsylvania and the Greater Philadelphia region through innovative human expression in theatre, music, dance and film, serving an annual audience of over 80,000. The Annenberg Center also serves as a key resource for the arts at Penn, connecting master artists with Penn students in support of and as an enhancement to the arts curriculum. Student performing arts groups are also key users of the Annenberg Center’s multiple performance and rehearsal spaces, while also staffing many operational roles throughout the academic year. In reflection of Penn’s core values as a world-respected academic institution, the Annenberg Center emphasizes artistic and intellectual excellence, diversity and rigor in its presentations; prioritizes broad inclusiveness in the artists, audiences and groups it serves;

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manages outstanding performance, conference and meeting facilities; and stresses comprehensive event planning, production support and customer service. The Annenberg Center is a major provider of performing arts access for school children and actively engages a broad range of primary, secondary and post-secondary student audiences and inclusive constituencies from the campus, community and surrounding region. Visit AnnenbergCenter.org.

CALENDAR LISTING

LIVESTREAM

Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers

Thursday, April 22, 7 PM

Described as "deeply spiritual and remarkable" (*Dance Magazine*) and known for lush works of poetic sensibility, Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers returns to the Annenberg Center stage in a program of works that features the world premiere of ***The Wind***, performed by **Kun-Yang Lin** himself. This performance marks the first time Lin returns to the stage since his retirement from dancing in 2013, in the first piece he has choreographed for himself since 2010. The five other works on the program reflect on the state of the world with prevailing messages of hope and unity. Lin seeks to illustrate how isolation can provide opportunities to reflect, grow and evolve, allowing us to form a deeper connection with all humanity. This event will include a live, interactive Q&A with the performers. Visit AnnenbergCenter.org for more information.

Program:

New Normal?

Inside

Renaissance

Spring Duet

The Calling

The Wind (World premiere)

This is an original, live event performed on the Annenberg Center stage and streamed online. It will include an interactive Q&A with the performers.

Access Information for Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers

Visit AnnenbergCenter.org to purchase access to this show until 7:30 PM on April 22.

The performance may be watched live at 7 PM on April 22 to participate in the chat and artist Q&A. It will be available on-demand to ticketholders through April 24.

Visit the Annenberg Center's [FAQs](#) for additional details.

*Support for **The Wind** is provided to Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers by the National Endowment for the Arts.*



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CONTACTS:

For the Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts

Katherine Blodgett, Communications Consultant

katherineblodgett@gmail.com

215.431.1230

Alexander Freeman, Director of Marketing and Ticketing

Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts

freemana@ac.upenn.edu

215.898.9081