

30 NOV 2024

SINGTEL WATERFRONT
THEATRE - ESPLANADE

SIGMA CONTEMPORARY DANCE

DODV
HISTORY



**DIRECTOR'S
MESSAGE**

Dear Friends,

Thank you for joining us for Body History. This work is a deeply personal exploration of the body as a vessel for memories—memories that shaped who we are, yet remained fluid—as they shift with time and circumstances. It reflects our ever-changing identities that are shaped by lived experiences, and invites us all to pause, reflect, and consider the stories our bodies carry and the choices they make.

For Body History, I am privileged to collaborate once again with longtime friend Redwan Hamzah, as well as Namie Rasman and Rudi Osman, whose music brings emotional depth and grounding to this work. From its initial iteration at National Gallery Singapore to tonight's presentation, the creation of Body History has been highly collaborative, with each dancer lending their unique voice to the piece.

This cast represents the history of Sigma Contemporary Dance itself—featuring dancers who have been with us since the very beginning, our first batch of Associates, alumni of our inaugural Sigma Youth Programme, and the youngest members from the cohort that just graduated. Their collective journeys and perspectives have enriched this work immeasurably. Together, we hope to create a layered, sensory experience that resonates with you.

I am especially grateful for your presence tonight. In today's climate, contemporary dance often struggles to find its audience. It is sometimes perceived as abstract or inaccessible—but perhaps not every work is meant to be understood in a conventional sense. Dance is a dialogue of the senses, an exchange of energy, and an experience to be felt rather than analyzed. Each of you will encounter Body History differently, and it is this diversity of interpretations that makes live performance so powerful.

Your support allows us to take risks, push boundaries, and continue creating works that challenge, inspire, and transform. Thank you for being part of the Sigma journey, and for allowing us to share our efforts with you tonight.

With gratitude,
Hong Guofeng
Artistic Director
Sigma Contemporary Dance

SYNOPSIS

The body—a living repository of memories—memories that evolve, distort, and shift over time, much like our fluid identities. This work is a meditation on how our ever-changing selves, shaped by experiences, environment, and circumstances, parallel the malleability of memory.

Body History extends beyond its gallery roots, continuing a journey of questioning and transformation. The work also invites audiences to reflect on their own memories, and perceptions, asking how the fragments of our past might be reimaged into new realities.

Body History was originally commissioned, developed, and presented as part of National Gallery Singapore's Resonates With Residency (April - June 2023) in response to the Gallery's exhibitions, Living Pictures: Photography in Southeast Asia, and Siapa Nama Kamu? Art in Singapore since the 19th Century.

ARTISTIC TEAM

DIRECTION & PROJECTION

Hong Guofeng

CHOREOGRAPHY

Hong Guofeng in collaboration with the dancers

MUSIC & SOUND

Redwan Hamzah

Rudi Osman

Namie Rasman

ART STYLING

Audrey Ng

LIGHTING DESIGN

Clement Cheong

DANCERS

Au Shu Qi

Bernice Liao

Cherilyn Chia

Chua Chiok Woon

Foo Qi En

Germaine Cheng

Kong Weijie

Leong Kit Yee

Mark Tay

Nah Jiemin

Tajima Emiri

BODY HISTORY DOCUMENTARIAN

Burke Raby

PRODUCTION PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOGRAPHY

Sroyon Mukherjee (Photos & Videos)

Jingkai Kuang (Photos)

ARTISTS' BIO



Direction, Projection & Choreography

Hong Guofeng is an independent artist and the Artistic Director of Sigma Contemporary Dance. He has contributed to the extensive body of work for Sigma Contemporary Dance since its inception, establishing Sigma's distinct identity in the Singapore dance scene.

His novel approach to choreography has driven him to create innovative pieces that extend beyond conventional stages. Notably, his portfolio includes site-specific performances at Dock 65 within the Esplanade Park, as well as a well-received online production titled "Survei:ance," fully conceived and executed on Zoom, and subsequently streamed via Facebook Live. His choreographic creations have been featured in prominent local arts festivals, such as the M1 Contact Festival and the SMU Arts Festival, as well as international dance festivals, including the Sibuh International Dance Festival, Dance Circus, and the Blossom Arts Festival.

Sources like The Straits Times and Arts Equator, have described his works as "compelling" and "immersive." In 2019, he collaborated with long-time partner Chua Chiok Woon to produce a duet that premiered in Singapore, and was invited to perform in arts festivals in Hong Kong, Macau and Indonesia. Most recently, he spearheaded a collective called "Unsound Bodies," dedicated to exploring innovative collaborations across multidisciplinary elements.



Redwan Hamzah is a composer, singer/songwriter, musician and educator.

Interfacing with different disciplines, he has composed for dance, theatre and film: works include Dock 65, Hypnagogia, Civil Twilight, Eudaimonia, In Parallel, Body History: III (Sigma Contemporary Dance), Stolen Dance (Translucent Bodies) and Sunny (Viddsee). He has also performed in an improvisatory context for various shows, most recently Unsound Bodies and Weaving Worlds (Esplanade).

He writes and performs guitar with the likes of Sezairi, Tim De Cotta, Taufik Batisah, Imran Ajmain and aeriqah, gracing stages such as ASEAN-IMF (India-Seher), Laneway, Baybeats, SingJazz etc.

Currently a resident artist at National Gallery Singapore, his work blends synthetic and organic sounds in search of magic between familiarity and fantasy.

Namie Rasman is a versatile vocalist and composer whose work spans jazz and experimental genres, seamlessly integrating electronic elements into her performances. Her playful spirit fuels collaborations across disciplines, including dance and poetry.

Driven by a passion for improvisation, Namie continually explores new sonic landscapes, pushing the boundaries of her artistic expression. Her innovative approach to composition reflects a commitment to creativity, making her a unique voice in contemporary music.



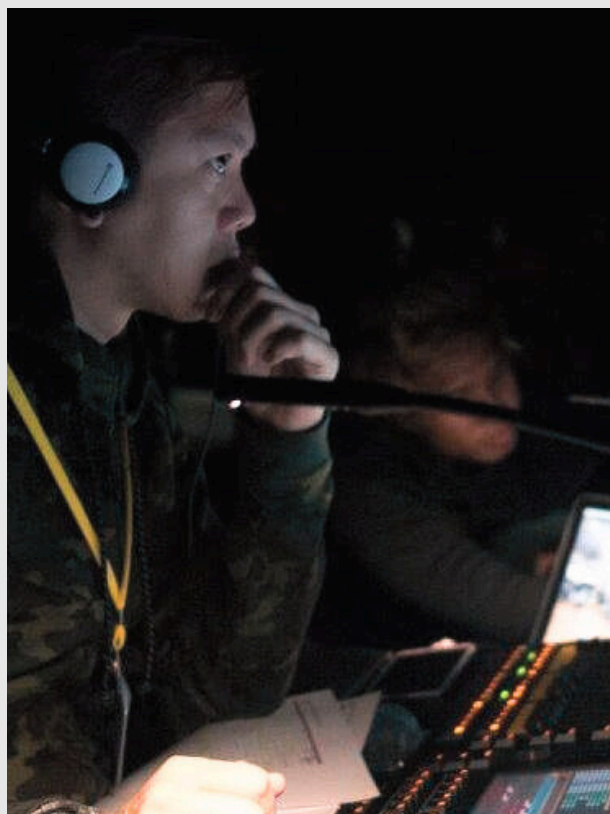
Rudi Osman is an improv electric guitarist and composer from the Singapore heavy music scene, where he emerged in 2003 as a founding member of post-hardcore stalwarts A Vacant Affair, who toured the region and released their debut album Reasons To Leave, on Universal Music, in 2008.

As a solo instrumental act, Rudi combines elements of ambient, glitch and post-rock with a deep interest in meditation to carve tones of dissonance, noise, stillness, rest and contemplation. His solo concert debut was titled blue. (2022), which documents his journey through a deafeningly quiet depression together with movement artist Sonia Kwek.

His first foray into the sound art space was in 2021, with butoh practitioner XUE for Drifters (2021) a fiery, post-apocalyptic piece slathered in distortion.



Audrey Ng, an interdisciplinary artist with over a decade of experience in textile artistry, blends traditional techniques with contemporary flair, weaving a tapestry of metamorphosis from conception to realization. She sees costumes as transformative elements that evolve with dancers, shaping character and movement. Her designs transcend mere adornment, acting as catalysts for narrative expression and kinetic exploration. She celebrates cultural roots while embracing future possibilities, enriching the dance experience with dynamic storytelling through fabric.



“Lights is not just about a simple switch but is to paint a picture for the audience” – this is a phrase that triggered **Clement Cheong** to make his major career switch from a graphic artist to a lighting designer in 2006.

With more than 15 years of experience, Clement’s accomplishments include projects for University dance shows, rock concerts, TV shows, dance theatre productions, art installations, cultural performances, musical productions and overseas productions. Some notable projects include National Day Parade 2013-2015 & 2022, and Lighting Design for Chingay 2022 and 2023.

Burke Raby is a photographer and documentarian from the US who has been living in Singapore for over six years. His work primarily focuses on dance photography and portraiture, but he also explores various subjects using analog and alternative photography methods. This is his third year collaborating on and off with all things Sigma.

All Body History photos here are taken by Burke Raby. He has been working on a documentary series that will be coming out soon!

Stay tuned on [@sigmacontemporarydance](https://www.instagram.com/sigmacontemporarydance).



DANCERS

Chua Chiok Woon
Dance Teacher



Nah Jiemin
Postdoctoral Research Fellow



Germaine Cheng
Artist-educator



Kong Weijie
Programme Manager



Foo Qi En
Educational Psychologist



Bernice Liao
School Teacher



Au Shuqi
Physiotherapist



Tajima Emiri
Housewife



Cherilyn Chia
Aerial Arts Instructor



Leong Kit Yee
Business Associate



Mark Tay
Architectural Executive



Photos by: Burke Raby

PRODUCTION TEAM

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Chen Wanxin

STAGE MANAGER

Peter Teo

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER

Ginnie Tan

FINANCE MANAGER

Melissa Ng

MARKETING MANAGER

Chua Chiok Woon

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS AND REFLECTIONS

Thank you for watching Body History! Your thoughts, reflections, and feedback mean a lot to us—could you spare 2 minutes for a quick survey?

[**CLICK HERE**](#)

SUPPORTED BY



12.ANCE FESTIVAL 2024
30 NOV - 15 DEC

12.ance Festival facilitates moments for sharing and performance, appreciating the many interpretations and possibilities that contemporary dance offers. Participants are invited to step into roles as both learners and creators, discovering fresh ways of thinking about movement and expression. Through working with artists of diverse philosophies and methodologies, the festival encourages everyone to challenge your physicality and perspectives on contemporary dance—whether it's through technique, improvisation, or creative process—and connect with the evolving world of dance.

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME



CONTACT IMPROVISATION INTENSIVE

WORKSHOPS & CLASSES

JAMS & PERFORMANCES

Instagram: [@12.ance](#)
Facebook: [@12.ance](#)
Email: info@gmail.com

DANCE CLASSES IN 2025



The company artists and associates run contemporary dance and ballet classes at Sigma Collective Space. Take a look at the available classes [HERE](#).

Instagram: [@sigmacospace](#)
Facebook: [@sigmacospace](#)
Email: sigmacospace@gmail.com

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

STREAMS WHERE DEER DRINK AN IMMERSIVE, ROVING PERFORMANCE



"..a brilliant exploration of impermanence" – Jocelyn Chng (The Straits Times)
View full review [here](#).

"I've never seen anything else like it. It engaged all my senses." – Anna (audience)

"I was really moved by the performance, and I loved how it melded together different art mediums, like spoken word, dance, and film." – Ines (audience)

Set in 10 Raeburn Park, home to Sigma since September 2020, this work unfolds in unexpected spaces within the compound. Living with the constantly evolving landscape of Singapore, the temporal comfort of familiar landmarks and the unsettling realisation of the imminent end to their existence parallels our limited time in this world.

Wander through timelines and perspectives alongside our performers. Join us once, or come again, as many times as you want.

2025 PERFORMANCE DATES

1 March 2025 / 7:20PM
5 April 2025 / 7:11PM
3 May 2025 / 7:06PM
7 June 2025 / 7:09PM
5 July 2025 / 7:15PM
2 August 2025 / 7:16PM
6 September 2025 / 7:07PM

Location

10 Raeburn Park, Singapore 088702

TICKETS

ABOUT SIGMA CONTEMPORARY DANCE

Sigma Contemporary Dance, an independent dance collective from Singapore, marks its 14th year of practice this year—a mere phase in their ongoing pursuit. Sigma has actively contributed to Singapore's contemporary dance scene by defying norms and creating innovative works. Unique to the collective is its eclectic mix of dancers, from all walks of life, spanning ages 20 to above 40, bringing a wealth of experience and relatability to Sigma's works.

Under the leadership of Artistic Director Hong Guofeng, and in recent years, along with Resident Choreographer Christina Chan, the collective fosters a collaborative creation process with its dancers encouraging curious, honest, intuitive, and original responses. Sigma's interest in cross-disciplinary collaborations has produced immersive experiences, touching audiences with authenticity, boldness, and arresting visuals.

Over the years, Sigma has produced and performed multiple theatre and site-specific works, acclaimed digital performances, and held numerous community workshops and classes.

Notable performances include black box and stage productions *Eudaimonia - A Triple Bill* (2022), *Civil Twilight* (2021), and *Optical Delusion* (2014, 2017), site-specific outdoor performance at Singapore's iconic Esplanade Park, Dock 65 (2019); and two acclaimed digital works, a site-specific performance on Zoom, *Survei:ance* (2020), as well as a 360° site-specific dance film, *Hypnagogia* (2020), in a refurbished bungalow, once residence of the senior British officers, along Cranwell Road which reflects historic significance of the early Singapore. Sigma was most recently commissioned to participate in a three-part artist residency with National Gallery Singapore and made a body of works titled *Body History* (I Recall, In Parallel & III).

International dance festivals that Sigma and members of Sigma have participated in include *Huayi – Chinese Festival of Arts, Singapore* (2024), *Hong Kong Dance Exchange (H.D.X.)* (2019), *Macau CDE Springboard* (2019), *Blossom Arts Festival in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia* (2017), and *Dance Circus International Dance Festival in Kluang, Malaysia* (2016).

Sigma's dedication to pushing the boundaries of dance and to connect with Singaporeans of all walks of life defines its significant role in Singapore's dance landscape, consistently delivering performances that are bold, authentic, and transformative, that inspire connection and shared experiences.

SUPPORT SIGMA TODAY

If what we do resonate with you, your support will be greatly appreciated. Your generosity will help fund rehearsals, costumes, and collaborations, keeping our performances and programmes alive, and in time, grow the community. Together, we can create meaningful experiences through dance.

To support, you may paynow to **UEN: T15S0027G** [Indicate "Support Sigma" in the comment section.]



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Website: [sigmadance.co](#)
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