

**UPHILL**  
**SHANG-CHI**  
**SUN**



# UPHILL SHANG-CHI SUN

**Choreography** Shang-Chi Sun

**Assistant** Annapoola Leso

**Dance** David Essing, Ross Martinson,  
Shang-Chi Sun

**Music** Jörg Ritzenhoff

**Stage, Light design** Hans Fründt

**Photos** Philipp Dümcke, Ping Hsu

**Management** Laurent Dubost

**Duration** 60 min

## A produktion by

Company Shang-Chi Sun commissioned  
by the National Chiang Kai-Shek  
Cultural Center, Taiwan

## A co-production by

fabrik Potsdam in frame of  
Programm Artists-in-Residence

## With friendly support of

Sophiensaele Berlin

## With financial support of

Culture administration of Berlin Senate

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## Video teaser

<https://vimeo.com/62497009>

## Video full length version

<https://vimeo.com/62497619>

Password: davidross

"Uphill" is a game of hide and seek. The room is bare, only three men stand at its centre. The music is loud and pulsating, almost tangible. The simplicity of the stage underlines the bodies' architecture and the invisible lines of tension. The dancers are at the same time an obstacle, a promise, a facade or a shelter. The wordless action reveals the unexpected power of body language and the complexity of the danced emotions. Shang-Chi Sun, David Essing and Ross Martinson owes very unique physical appearances and use them with disarming clarity in their search for the other.

The result is a trio of simple beauty at the edge between game, provocation and confidence. Sometimes meditative, sometimes radical, they look for the core of human being between the visible and the hidden. Like the cyclical nature of time, the situations and the relationships are repeated, but never the same. Always there is the desire of the Other - the friend, the brother, the stranger and perhaps even the enemy.

*"I see this creation as the final part of a trilogy that began with Je.Sans. Paroles and Traverse. The trilogy refers to three different notions of time. In the first part is the time of mythology. The linear, structured and abstract time in the second part. The third part the cyclical time of nature."*

**Shang-Chi Sun**

## PRESS REVIEWS

**PA-REVIEW (TW) 3/9/13, Ping-Xiu Cheng**  
"In „Uphill“ and in this 60 mins. Shang-Chi Sun has firmly shown the pureness of the body in a dynamic and highly tuned rhythm. He shows his thinking on dance esthetics and his knowledge of body movement. He built a complete language style."

**ART FORUM (TW) 3/14/13, Tai-So Cheng**  
"Shang-Chi Sun penetrated and articulated the connection between Eastern and Western cultural bodies – a connection supported by joints and sound. It is definitely not an act of forced collage. It is not only about stillness and patterns, but about an awakened inner power in the silence, like an energy awaits to project the future from the body presence. This is virtual reality, organismic floating, not only execution."

## DATES

**December 5 2013**  
COLOGNE, tanz.tausch  
Festival

**July 23 2013**  
BEIJING, Int. Dance Festival

**June 13 to 16 2013**  
BERLIN, Sophiensaele

**March 8, 9 & 10 2013**  
TAIPEH, Chiang Kai-Shek  
Cultural Center



國立中正文化中心  
National Chiang Kai-Shek Cultural Center, R.O.C.



Taiwan born dancer and choreographer Shang Chi Sun was educated as a ballet and contemporary dancer at the National Academy of Arts in Taipei and graduated from Ernst Busch University (Berlin) with a Master of Arts in Choreography. He has worked with various dance companies such as Sasha Waltz & Guests, Nürnberg Dance Theatre, Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan and Balletto Teatro Di Turino. With his company founded in 2007, he has created several works such as „Walk Faster“ (2007), „Dialogue II“ (2008), „Nüwa“ (2009) and „4.48/Ohne Titel“ (2010), which have been presented all over Europe and Asia (Maison de la Danse – Lyon, Festival Tanz im August – Berlin, Festival d'Avignon, International Taipei Arts Festival...).

In 2011 he created five new works: „Genus“ in collaboration with Cloud Gate Dance Theatre 2 (Taiwan), „Je.Sans.Paroles“ at Le Manège in Maubeuge (France), „Traverse“ at fabrik Potsdam (Germany), „Ein Deutsches Requiem“ in Nuremberg (Germany) and a commissioned choreography for the Transitions Company London.

In August 2012 he presented his new dance/film production „Breakfast“ at the Taipei Arts Festival. 2013 his new production „Uphill“ was premiered in Taipei and Berlin as the last part of a trilogy started with „Je.Sans.Paroles“ and „Traverse“.

#### **Awards**

2005: Received "Bavarian Theatre and Literature Prize" from the IHK-Kulturstiftung.

2008: Won "First Choreography Prize" at the 12th International Solo Tanz Festival Stuttgart.

#### **Supports**

2008 - 2012: Received "LMF Dance Found" from Taiwan.

2012: Traverse is selected for the priority list of the European network Aerowaves

2011 - 2012: "Je.Sans.Paroles" and "Breakfast" are supported by the district of Berlin-Pankow

2013: "Uphill" is supported by Berlin Senat

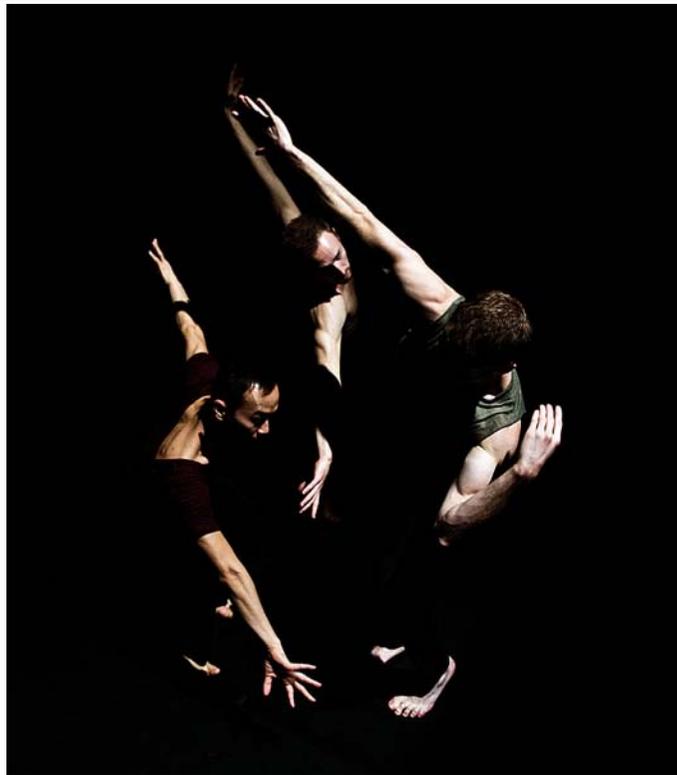
## **WORKSHOPS WITH SHANG-CHI SUN**

### **Surface and space of movements / Improvisation**

Starting from the inner space of the body, Shang Chi Sun extends the frame of movement in three dimensionality. Simple Tai Chi practices help to find the inner balance and to improve the consciousness for the body. Further exercises enable to explore the environment, the surfaces, and the forces and to use them for different kind and qualities of movements: levels, balance, intensity and extension. Shang Chi Sun combines ballet and contemporary dance technics as well as Tai chi to vary and to use consciously the "resonance" of movements. Finally improvisation based on everyday life experience gives the opportunity to play with these qualities and to use them in dance phrases.

### **Energy, mind and body in movement**

Energy and presence in movements are both a mirror of the mind. Dancing is an expression of the inner attitude that finds a translation through body and nerves. Shang Chi Sun uses this experience and proposes a dance technic combining body and mind as well as occidental and oriental body practices. First the consciousness and the inner balance are improved through simple Tai chi exercises. Then the action field of the body is widened to the surrounding space. Point after point lines and directions are being built and used to work on variable extension and energy of movement. The body is used as a whole to experience a better movement dynamic.



Photos  
Ping Hsu