

JE.SANS.PAROLLES  
Shang-Chi Sun





# JE. SANS. PAROLES

*"A little tree descends from flies, lands. It has a single bough some three yards from ground and at its summit a meagre tuft of palms casting at its foot a circle of shadow. He continues to reflect. Whistle from above".*

*Samuel Beckett, Act Without Words I*

"Je. Sans. Paroles" is a solo performance inspired by "Act Without Words I" originally written in French (Acte sans paroles) by Samuel Beckett in 1956.

A man falls into a desert and can't escape. It seems he is expelled from a womb-like condition, and there he struggles with his relationship to objects in the desert (cubes, carafe of water, palm tree, a knotted rope and scissors). He feels manipulated, out of control, but always compelled to go on with the game.

"Je. Sans. Paroles" is a dance and video performance that translates the absurdity of an environment that cannot be understood, a fascinating world where the borders between reality and imagination, logic and surrealism, seriousness and humour are permanently moving. What is the goal of the game? Who is playing? Who is acting and who is observing? The edge of the stage is vanishing, the audience could be God, the performer a victim or the manipulator.

Exploring the connections between media and bodily expression, "Je. Sans. Paroles" incorporates live interaction between dancer and video art installation to investigate the intersection of the living body and the virtual world.

## PRESS REVIEWS

„Shang-Chi Sun makes for a treatise on this story through a dance and without words. "Je.Sans.Paroles" in Lofft showcases the work of an exceptional dancer, whose gracefulness is characterised by a precision unheard-of.“

**June 18, 2011, Leipzig Almanach, Alexandra Hennig**

„It has moves that at the same time have a solid foundation in Beckett's stage directions, but also emancipate themselves from them in a spectacular choreography. It is fascinating to see, how the artwork is extended playfully and effortless. Namely, it is extended into compression, towards a more and more condensed microcosm of abstraction. How theatrical and dramatic all this is, what might sound theoretical here, is a must-see.“ **June 10, 2011, Leipziger Volkszeitung, Steffen Georgi**

„There is technical accuracy, presence, power and gracefulness. How this is supported by the unique body language of Tai Qi, shall not be explored further here, because this association chain of a critic in case of an Asian dancer might be too cursory. Still, this tradition fosters a symmetry between tardiness and a stream of concentrated tranquillity, which in the dissonance and contrast to the abrupt and harsh disruption of movements is simply brilliant.“ **June 10, 2011, Leipziger Volkszeitung, Steffen Georgi**

## Music

Helmut Lachenmann, Reigen Seliger  
Geister/ Quatuors à cordes

## Choreography & Dance Animation, programming

Shang-Chi Sun  
Yoann Trelu

## Scenic Design

Anita Fuchs

## Light Design

Hans Fründt

## Mentoring

Holger Teschke

## Photos

Philipp Dümcke, Dr. Achim Plum

## Management

Laurent Dubost

## Length

35 min.

## A co-production with

Le Manège – Scène Nationale de  
Maubeuge  
Theater LOFFT.Leipzig

## With friendly support from C

entre Culturel de Taiwan à Paris  
La Gare Numérique de Jeumont

The production is made possible by a grant from the Lo Man-fei Dance Fund, Cloud Gate Dance Foundation, Taiwan.

## Contact

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## TOURING DATES

December 8 2012

SINGAPORE, CONTACT 2012

July 20 2012

GDANSK, Gdansk Dance Festival

June 27 & 28 2012

WEIMAR, Deutsches Nat. Theater

December 10 2011

BRÜGGE, December Dance Brugge

August 18 – 20 2011

BERLIN, Dock 11

June 8, 9, 10 2011

LEIPZIG, Lofft Theater

June 4 & 5 2011

POTSDAM Potsdamer Tanztage

March 31, April 1st 2011

MAUBEUGE Via Festival 2011 /Scène

Nationale de Maubeuge,

## VIDEO TRAILER ON VIMEO:

<http://vimeo.com/20220985>



# SHANG-CHI SUN

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 Torino. 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“ will be 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.

2009 and 2010: Received "LMF Dance Found" from Taiwan.

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

## 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.



