# **Guests from Oversea**

## John Ashford

Director

#### **Aerowaves**

http://www.aerowaves.org/

UK



John Ashford is Director of Aerowaves, a European network for research and presentation of emerging dance companies with partnerships in 34 countries. Founded in 1997, resulting performances are now shown in 38 cities, and its annual itinerant festival Spring Forward was inaugurated in Ljubljana in 2011, featuring 22 new companies. The second festival appeared in Bassano del Grappa last August, and the third will be at the centre of Zurich Tanzt this May. John was Theatre Director at The Place in London from 1986 to 2009, initiating annually repeated dance seasons Spring Loaded, Resolution!, The Turning World; and the biennial Place Prize, the choreographic research project Choreodrome, and the international showcase now known as British Dance Edition. He was previously Director of the ICA Theatre, and founding Theatre Editor of Time Out, the London listing magazine, championing Fringe Theatre and performance work. In 1980 he lived in Tokyo studying theatre and dance thanks to a Japan Foundation Fellowship. In 2002 John Ashford was honored as a CBE.

#### Elisabetta Bisaro

Programme Manager

#### **Dance Ireland**

http://www.danceireland.ie

Ireland



Elisabetta Bisaro has worked in a managerial and programming capacity in the filed of dance for the past 9 years both in Ireland and internationally. As the Programme Manager of Dance Ireland, she is responsible for the development and delivery of the organisation's artistic professional programming and all international projects. Her most notable achievements in this area include devising and managing the International Associate Artist Programme, overseeing Dance Ireland's Choreographic Research and Services programme and developing a range of international networks, residencies and exchanges.

## **Zvonimir Dobrovic**

Artistic Director

#### Queer Zagreb

http://www.queerzagreb.org

Croatia



Artistic Director of Perforations Festival and Queer Zagreb Season in Croatia as well as Queer New York International Arts Festival in USA. Perforations is a festival dedicated to young and emerging artists from the Balkan region. The mission is to commission and present new work, as well as to promote international collaborations and partnerships between and among artists from the Balkans and different countries abroad. Perforations festival usually presents 20-25 performances, of which most are premiering at the festival taking place in 3 cities in Croatia (Rijeka, Zagreb, Dubrovnik).

#### Swee Boon Kuik

Artistic Director

T.H.E. Dance Company

http://www.the-dancecompany.com

Singapore



Former principal dancer of Compania Nacional de Danza in Spain, Kuik has worked with Nacho Duato as well as several renowned choreographers including Jiri Kylian, Mats Ek, Ohad Naharin and Wim Vandekeybus. Prior to leaving for Europe, Kuik danced with the Singapore Dance Theatre (SDT) since 1991. Kuik's exceptional artistry led him to receive a nomination in 2003 for the Benois De La Danse Arwards. In 2007, he was awarded one of the most prestigious arts awards in Singapore – the Young Artist Award from the National Arts Council. In September 2008, Kuik founded T.H.E Dance Company. The company's inaugural full-length work Old Sounds was commissioned by the Singapore National Heritage Board.

# Jong Ho Lee

Artistic Director

SIDance Festival (Seoul International Dance Festival)

http://www.sidance.org

Korea



He began his career as a journalist at the "Courrier de la Coree," a French weekly published in Korea. He has been active in reviewing the performing arts since 1980. He established Seoul Section of the Int'l Dance Council CID (Conseil International de la Danse) in 1996. His tireless devotion to this group led the success of the 13th CID-UNESCO General Assembly held in Seoul in 1998. And SIDance (Seoul International Dance Festival), he launched in 1998, has been an annual event ever since, held every autumn. Now, SIDance is said to be the best dance event in Korea. In 2010 he became a co-president of AAPAF (Association of Asian Performing Arts Festivals) and has been strengthening cultural exchanges between Asian countries besides worldwide cultural exchange.

# **Kajo Nelles**

Director

#### internationale tanzmesse nrw

http://www.tanzmesse-nrw.com

Germany



Kajo Nelles has been a social worker, dance producer, and writer. Since 2006 he has been the Director of the NRW Landesbüro Tanz and since 2002, Director of the Internationale Tanzmesse NRW. After an early career as a social worker, Nelles was introduced in 1983 to dance by James Saunders, a US-born artist and soloist with the Tanzforum Köln and the Frankfurter Ballet. Together with him, Nelles founded the Tanzprojekt Köln in 1984. It was with the Tanzprojekt that he began his collaborations with Japaneses dance. He also serves on the Board of Directors of iDAS nrw, a new dance service provider for artists of North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW) and jury member for different international panels and competitions.

#### Sunmyung Oh

Artistic Director

#### **Hanguk Performing Arts Center**

http://www.hanpac.or.kr

Korea



- Producer (Dance). Seoul Performing Arts Festival (SPAF)
- Producer (Dance). Development & Public Programs Division of Hanpac (Hanguk Performing Arts Center)
- Ph.D. Paris VIII University (Aesthetics and Analysis choreography)



# **Guests from Oversea**

#### Tina Rasmussen

Director of Performing Arts

#### **Harbourfront Centre**

http://www.harbourfrontcentre.com

Canada



During the past 16 years, Tina has been engaged in a variety of capacities including Artistic Director, Manager, Administrator and Artistic Producer in organizations specializing in both multi-disciplinary contemporary and classical works. Ten years ago, Miss Rasmussen was appointed Director of Performing Arts at Harbourfront Centre, assuming responsibility for all performing arts at Canada's most prestigious contemporary cultural institution. She continues to sit on many national and international performing arts panels and juries including Made in Scotland at the Edinburgh Festival, Total Theatre Awards, Irish Theatre Institute and many others

#### Katri Riikonen

Communications Officer

#### **Dance Info Finland**

http://www.danceinfo.fi/

**Finland** 



I am Communications Officer Katri Riikonen. I am Master of Social Sciences and have graduated from the University of Tampere, Finland. In addition, I have done studies in Berlin, Germany and Shanghai, China. I have worked in Dance Info Finland for 1 year and 8 months now, with international communication, and international co-operation and fair projects. I have participated in PAMS 2011 and 2012, TPAM in 2012, internationale tanzmesse nrw 2012 and CINARS in 2012. I speak Finnish, English, Swedish, German and satisfactory Spanish.

#### Natalia Medina Santana

Director

#### **MASDANZA**

http://www.masdanza.com

**SPAIN** 



Natalia Medina holds a degree in Physical Education by the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria and a Master's degree in Scenic Arts by King Juan Carlos University in Madrid. Trained as a dancer in London, Paris, New York, Madrid and Barcelona.

She works as a teacher, choreographer and dancer in different artistic projects. She directs her own dance center and dance company.

In 1996 she founded MASDANZA, The International Contemporary Dance Festival Of The Canary Islands and in 2013, Natalia will celebrate her eighteenth anniversary as Director.

# In-young Sohn

Artistic Director

# Incheon Metropolitan Dance Company & Incheon Dance Festival

Korea



After having studied Dance education and received MA from Columbia University, compared traditional Korean dance and contemporary American dance, Sohn In-young has come up with 'Dance as Calligraphy' Training Method for dancers in Korea and abroad.

Using her experience as a dancer in the National Dance Company and artistic director at the Seoul Performance Arts Company (SPAC), she has been dedicated to recreating traditional dances and staging contemporary dances that synthesize traditional Korean dance and contemporary dance.

She received the prize "Art of the Year" with the work < Internal & External > in 2005.

# **Acty Tang**

Interdisciplinary arts practitioner



Acty Tang 鄧暢為 is an interdisciplinary arts practitioner from Hong Kong/South Africa, working in performance, choreography, dramaturgy, education and academic work. Born in Hong Kong, he has a Master of Arts degree from the drama department at Rhodes University, South Africa. He has created 18 dance and physical theatre performances, including solo and ensemble works, site-specific works, and devised theatre works. He is currently teaching at the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts and the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. His writing has been published in performing arts journals.

# Hong Kong/South Africa

Tibu Adrian loachim

Communication Director

#### Sibiu International Theatre Festival

http://www.sibfest.ro

Romania



Last educational degree: July 2011, Master in the Arts at Lucian Blaga University Current working positions:

Since July 2010, PR Coordinator at The Radu Stanca National Theatre in Sibiu Since January 2011, member in The Administrative Board of The Radu Stanca National Theatre in Sibiu

Since January 2011, Communication Director for Sibiu International Theatre Festival

# **Wansoon Yook**

Artistic Director

# The Modern Dance Promotion of Korea

Korea



Dr. Wansoon Yook is known as the first lady of modern dance in Korea. She is a pioneer who introduced the new style of American modern dance to Korea for the first time in 1963. She has an undergraduate degree (BA) in dance from Ewha Womans University, Korea's most prestigious university for women, and a master's degree (MA) in dance from the Ewha Womans University Graduate School. She pursued further study in dance and American modern dance at the University of Illinois, the Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance, and in a summer course at the University of Connecticut with Martha Graham and Jose Limon.

