Minorities

Yang Zhen—Red Virgo

WHEN:
FRIDAY & SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 1 & 2, 2019
8:00 PM

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3,
2019
2:30 PM

VENUE:
BING STUDIO
Artists

Minorities by Red Virgo (Beijing, China)
Concept and Choreography: Yang Zhen
Music and Photography: Qi Ray, Yang Zhen

Dancers:
Lou Hio Mei
Ma Xiao Ling
Aodonggaowa
Gan Luyangzi
Guzhanuer Yusufu
Singer: Huang Ping

Animations and Video: Zhang Yongji
Technical Director: Liu Hengzhi
Tour Manager: Li Jingxian
Agent: Menno Plukker Theatre Agency

Minorities runs 75 minutes without intermission.

Minorities is a co-production of the 2017 International Dance Festival in Munich (DANCE2017) and the Taipei Arts Festival. Special thanks to Nina Hümpel

Season Sponsor

Stanford
HEALTH CARE
STANFORD MEDICINE

PROGRAM SUBJECT TO CHANGE. Please be considerate of others and turn off all phones, pagers, and watch alarms. Photography and recording of any kind are not permitted. Thank you.

Upcoming Events

Hell’s Fury,
The Hollywood Songbook
Dec 6 & 7 | 7:30 PM
Bing Concert Hall

Rite of Spring
Yang Liping
Feb 21 & 22, 2019 | 7:30 PM
Memorial Auditorium

Tickets and information: live.stanford.edu
Minorities is the third production of a trilogy: Revolution Game by the choreographer Yang Zhen from Beijing, China.

The first work of Revolution Game is Just Go Forward and was created in 2014. This work deals with the situation of women in contemporary Chinese society, at the time when the ‘One-Child Policy’ came to an end and women were allowed to have two children.

The second work of the Trilogy is In the Field of Hope, created in 2015, and this work focuses on the hopes and ambitions of young people living in Mainland China.

About the Program

In Minorities Yang Zhen is paying attention to the social situation of a new generation of ethnic minorities in China. With dancers and performers from the Tibetan region, Inner Mongolia, the Uyghur Autonomous Region Xinjiang and Macao as well as a Korean-Chinese dancer and an opera singer from Hunan Province, Yang Zhen shows us that these women all have a different identity and self-awareness. In the context of a constant conflict between social prejudice and their own consciousness, how can they express themselves and talk to us and relate to the world they live in? Dance, theatre and documentary material from Yang Zhen’s extensive travel experiences as well as the performers’ memories form the basis of this interdisciplinary and immersive work of theatre.

In May 2019 a new theatre/dance work by Yang Zhen premiered in Munich at the DANCE2019 Festival, “Delta,” about the Pearl River Delta and the three cities Guangzhou, Macao, and Hong Kong.

In September 2019 another dance piece by Yang Zhen premiered in Germany, “Destination,” a work about gender and different perspectives from the Eastern and Western world, with 4 dancers including Yang Zhen himself.

About the Artists

On May 12, 2017 Minorities had its World Premiere in Munich, followed by a tour to Heilbronn, Gießen, Münster and a year later to Freiburg-im-Breisgau.

Yang Zhen / Company Red Virgo
Yang Zhen obtained his bachelor’s degree in Choreography at Minzu University of China in Beijing. As an independent choreographer he presented his productions at prestigious festivals in China and abroad, for example at Julidans in Amsterdam, the Taipei Arts Festival in Taiwan, the Beijing Dance Festival, the Guangdong Dance Festival and at China Dance Forward 2014 in Hong Kong.

In Germany he presented his work in 2015, 2017 and in 2019 at the Festival DANCE in Munich.

Lou Hio Mei
Lou Hio Mei, a citizen of Macao S.A.R., graduated from Beijing Dance Academy. She is currently based in Macao and works as an independent choreographer and dancer. She is interested in issues of self-identity and social identity and likes to work with different types of artists, who inspire her to further explore her own art.

Ma Xiaoling
Ma Xiaoling, who is Chinese Korean, graduated from the Dance College of Minzu University of China. She is now based in Beijing and teaches traditional Korean dance for dancers and non-professional performers. She is also a choreographer and has achieved impressive results in major dance competitions across China.

Aodonggaowa
Aodonggaowa is from Inner Mongolia and graduated from the Arts College of Inner Mongolia University. After graduation, she established an arts and cultural brand named You Mu in

Ma Xiaoling

Lou Hio Mei

Aodonggaowa
Inner Mongolia. She is also a director and choreographer for events and conferences.

Gan Luyangzi
Gan Luyangzi is from Tibet and has been invited to play important roles in many Grand Ethnic Dance Pieces. She is currently based in Gansu and is now a dancer and model independently.

Guzhanuer Yusufu
Guzhanuer Yusufu is from Xinjiang Weiwuer Autonomous Region. She graduated from the Dance College of Xinjiang Art University. After working as a director’s assistant in Beijing for two years, she decided to further her studies at California State University, Northridge. Currently, she is working on her final master’s work, “Tags.” Yusufu believes art should reflect the reality and problems in today’s society.

Huang Ping
Huang Ping was born in 1960 in Hubei Province. When she was young she began to study dance. During the Cultural Revolution in 1976 she participated in the performance of revolutionary operas. Since then, she has been engaged as an opera singer. Although she is now retired, she still loves stage performances and actively participates in folklore opera.

Statement by Yang Zhen, choreographer of Minorities

Minorities is a work about the realization and exploration of personal identity in the context of globalization for the young female generation. The piece is trying to recall the memory of bodies, with animation, video, pop songs. The piece explores the issues of minorities and majority from a female viewpoint, to move towards a combination of modern civilization and traditional culture, with female warmth and tenderness. Humanity is the most significant thing I am concerned with in the contemporary context. We love the land we were born and growing up in, putting our energy into loving the people who are living on this land. We believe in respect, with friendly affection, among most of us, to devote our life to a beautiful future full of love.

This is my show, and I created it two years ago. The performance you are about to see can be interpreted in many ways, depending on your predispositions and beliefs. I only want to show you my art without any forced opinion or motive.

Minorities

是关于我们年轻一代的女性在全球化的语境中的对于自我身份认识与探索。

作品通过运用当代的美学语境，记录影像、动画、流行歌曲，来唤醒大家的身体记忆。作品以女性视角作为切入点，来探讨Minorities和Majority；藉女性的力量，来拥抱现代文明和传统文化之间的磨合。在当代语境中，“人”是该作品最为关注的点。我们热爱我们出生和成长的这片土地，还有这片土地上的人儿，我们坚信我们之间存在互相尊重的爱，一起致力创造更友爱的未来。

这是我两年前创作的作品。您可以根据您的预设和信仰以多种方式解读您即将会观看到的演出。我仅希望向您展示我的艺术作品，不带任何强迫性观点和动机。

——《少数民族》编导杨朕