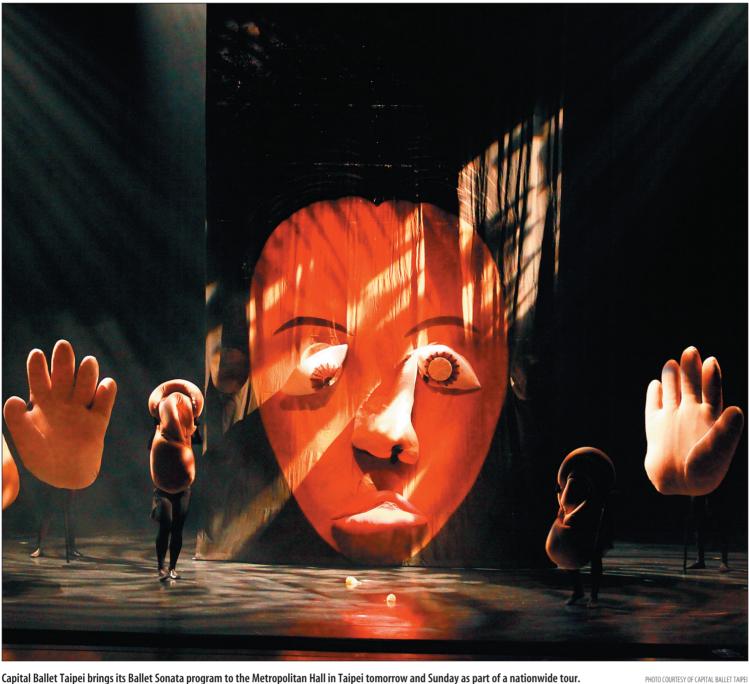
AroundTown

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P15



Out on a limb

napital Ballet Taipei (台北首督芭蕾舞團) is marking its 20th year with a nationwide tour of its newest program, Ballet Sonata (舞言歌), which began on Saturday in Keelung and moves to Taipei's Metropolitan Hall for two performances this weekend.

The semi-professional company, founded by Hsu Chin-feng (徐進豐) and his wife Lee Shu-hui (李淑惠), has built a reputation for works — created by Hsu and others — that combine classical ballet with themes that reflect modern life and conflicts in Taiwanese society. The term semi-professional is not a slur on the group's enthusiasm but a fact of life.

Although the troupe was launched as a fivedays-a-week class/rehearsal company, finances long ago reduced its scope to a three-days-a-week commitment. That the company has survived for 20 years is a testament to its members' dedication.

This year's program is made up of two very disparate works by Hsu, The Sound of Dancing and My Senses.

The Sound of Dancing is a classical 30-minute piece, set to String Sonatas No. 1 and No. 2 by 19thcentury Italian composer Gioachino Rossini. What's interesting about the score is that the two pieces were written over a three-day period when Rossini was just 12 years old. There is no story line to the ballet; Hsu designed

it to be more of an exploration of the eight individual dancers' talents and movements. He is also credited with the design of the costumes and the set.

Hsu also did the set for the 28-minute-long My Senses, which is more an experiment in dance theater, supposedly inspired by a choreographer's dreams.

In the dream, the choreographer's senses and limbs (largely his feet and hands — literally) develop a life of their own, eventually taking on a nightmarish quality as they morph into a toothless mouth, an eye, a cataract, a burro and creatures that are meant to represent stereotypes of humanity. The costumes were designed by Weng Meng-ching (翁孟晴).

According to the program notes, the piece is supposed to be an allegory of Taiwanese politics,

with reference to The Senator Was Indiscreet, a 1947 film by George Kaufman about a US senator who tries to blackmail his way into the presidency by using a diary detailing all the shady tricks his party has played for decades.

My Senses is set to Sergei Prokofiev's Scythian Suite, Op. 20 and Chout Suite (Buffoon in Russian), both of which were originally composed for Serge Diaghilev's Ballet Russe, although only the latter was ever used by the company.

PERFORMANCE NOTES

WHAT: Capital Ballet Taipei, Ballet Sonata (舞言歌)

WHEN: Tomorrow at 7:30pm and Sunday at 2:30pm

WHERE: Metropolitan Hall (城市舞台), 25, Bade Rd Sec 3, Taipei City (台北市八德路三段25號) ADMISSION: NT\$400 to NT\$1,000, available at NTCH box office or online at www.artsticket.

ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCES: Sept. 17 at 7:30pm at Cultural Affairs Bureau of Taoyuan County Government (桃園縣政府文化局), 21 Sianfu Rd, Taoyuan County (桃園市縣府路21號), admission is NT\$400; Oct. 9 at 7:30pm at Chiayi Performing Arts Center (嘉義縣表演藝術中心), 265, Jianguo Rd Sec 2, Minsyong Township, Chiayi County (嘉義縣民雄鄉建國路二段265號), admission is NT\$250 to NT\$400; Oct. 15 at 7:30pm at County Cultural Center Performance Hall (苗栗縣 文化局演藝廳), 50 Zihjhih Rd, Miaoli City (苗栗市自 治路50號), admission is NT\$200 and NT\$300; Oct. 23 at 7:30pm at Performance Hall of the Bureau of Cultural Affairs Hsinchu City (新竹市文化局演藝 廳), 17, Dongda Rd Sec 2, Hsinchu City (新竹市東 大路二段17號), admission is NT\$300 and NT\$500

Theater

The Puppet & Its Double Theater (無獨 有偶工作室劇團) turns the art of paper cutting into a theater of fantasy and imagination in **The Cutter of** Happiness (剪紙人), where human

actors and puppets perform together to tell a fairy tale about a little boy and his grandma who cut paper for a living in a mountain village.

- Experimental Theater, Taipei City ■ Tonight at 7:45pm, tomorrow at
- 2:45pm and 7:45pm, Sunday at 2:45pm ■ Tickets are NT\$600, available
- through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

For **The Impossible Times**

(渭水春風), the last installment of the Taiwan Musical Trilogy, the All Musical Theatre Company (音樂時代劇場) collaborates with Flux Waves Dance Theater (流浪舞蹈劇場) and the Taipei Symphony Orchestra (台北市立交響樂團) to tell the story of the legendary life of Chiang Wei-shui (蔣渭水), an important figure in Taiwan's resistance movement against Japanese colonial rule.

- National Theater, Taipei City ■ Tonight at 7:45pm, tomorrow and
- Sunday at 2:45pm and 7:45pm ■ Tickets are NT\$500 to NT\$3,000,
- available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

Capital Ballet Taipei (台北首督芭蕾舞團) presents Ballet Sonata (舞言歌) and My Senses (我的眼耳口鼻). The former is inspired by Italian composer Gioachino Rossini's String Sonata No. 1 and No. 2. The latter piece tells of a composer's dream in which performers

virtue. [See story above.] ■ Metropolitan Hall (城市舞台), 25, Bade Rd Sec 3, Taipei City (台北市八德路三段 25號)

become the embodiments of vice and

- Tomorrow at 7:30pm, Sunday at 2:30pm
- Tickets are NT\$400 to NT\$1,000, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

In Meeting Pandora (遇見潘朵拉) by What's Theatre, part of the Taipei Fringe Festival (台北藝穗節), two women journey into secrets hidden inside Pandora's box. The show contains violence and nudity. Audience

discretion is advised. ■ Bamboo Room, Taipei Artist Village (台北國際藝術村幽竹廳), 7 Beiping E Rd,

- Taipei City (台北市北平東路7號) ■ Tomorrow at 2:30pm and 7:30pm, Sunday at 2:30pm
- Tickets are NT\$175 to NT\$250, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

Red Monster & Blue Monster (紅鬼青鬼) by the Theatre Company of Wanhua (萬華劇團) is a theatrical performance that explores the

- spiritual realm. ■ B2, Taipei Fine Arts Museum (台北市立 美術館B2), 181, Zhongshan N Rd Sec 3, Taipei City (台北市中山北路三段181號).
- Tomorrow at 6pm
- Free admission

Classical music

A series of concerts organized by The Frederic Chopin Foundation of Taipei (財團法人蕭邦音樂基金會) to celebrate the bicentenary of Chopin's birth opens tonight with **An Evening of Chopin** Etudes (練習曲之夜), featuring Russian-trained pianist Andrei Yeh (葉孟 儒) performing 27 Chopin etudes. This will be followed tomorrow by **An Evening of Chopin Nocturnes** and Preludes (夜曲與前奏曲之夜) in which Chen Pi-hsien (陳必先), who has been praised by the European media as the "Chinese miracle," will perform 24 nocturnes and preludes. On Sunday, an **Afternoon of Chopin Ballades**

- and Impromtus (敘事曲與即興曲之 will feature performances by Lu Chia-hui (盧佳慧), Chen Tze-yi (陳孜怡) and former Council for Cultural Affairs Chairwoman Tchen Yu-chiou (陳郁秀).
- Today and tomorrow 7:30pm, Sunday 2:30pm
- Novel Hall (新舞臺), 3-1 Songshou Rd,
- Taipei City (台北市松壽路3-1號) ■ Tickets are NT\$400 to NT\$2,000 for all concerts, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

As part of the **International Chopin** Festival 2010 (20X10蕭邦 CHOPIN國際音樂節), Vietnamese-born pianist Dang Thai-Son will perform in a series of concerts in Kaohsiung, Taipei and Taichung. Trained at the Moscow State Tchaikovsky Conservatory, Dang

Competition last year ■ Wednesday (Kaohsiung) and Thursday at 7:30pm (Taipei), Sept. 19 at 2:30pm (Taichung)

has been recognized as a major Chopin

interpreter after winning the Chopin

- Kaohsiung Cultural Center's Chih-teh Hall (高雄市立文化中心至德堂), 67 Wufu 1st Rd, Kaohsiung City, (高雄市五福一路 67號); National Concert Hall, Taipei City; Taichung Chungshan Hall (台中市中山 堂), 98 Syueshih Rd, Taichung City (台中 市學士路98號)
- Tickets are NT\$600 to NT\$3,600 (Taipei), available through ERA ticketing or online at www.ticket.com.tw. Also available through ibon, FamiPort and Life-ET kiosks

Listening to Taiwan — NTSO Cross-Strait Cultural Exchange Concert (樂見台灣 — 2010 NTSO 兩 岸藝文交流) is a concert by the National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra (國立台灣 交響樂團) in preparation for its tour of China, with stops in Suzhou and Shanghai next month. The concert will feature two works by Chinese composers, including Tyzen Hsiao's (蕭泰然) Concerto for Violin in D Minor, Op. 50 and Bao Yuankai's (鮑元愷) Musical Portraits of Taiwan (臺灣音畫選曲). The program will also include Stravinsky's Concerto for Violin in D Minor and Beethoven's

■ Today at 7:30pm ■ Chunghsing Concert Hall, Taichung (台中中興堂), 291-3 Chingwu Rd, Taichung City (台中市精武路291之3號)

Symphony No. 7 in A Major, Op. 92.

■ Tickets are NT\$300 to NT\$800, available through NTCH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

Contemporary

Legacy Taipei, located in a former warehouse at Huashan 1914 Creative Park (華山1914), hosts top Taiwanese pop performers and international acts. Tomorrow pop diva **A-mei** (阿妹) performs as her alter-ego Amit (阿密特) in a show that's being billed "See You Next Time/Special Private Live" (阿密特 再,見!私.密) Wednesday features two groups that sing or rap in Hakka: rock band **Zenkwun** (神棍樂團) and hiphop outfit **Kou Chou Ching** (拷杖動).

- Huashan 1914 Creative Park (華山1914), Center Five Hall (中五館), 1, Bade Rd Sec 1, Taipei City (台北市八德路一段1號)
- Shows start at 6pm tomorrow and
- 8:30pm on Wednesday ■ Entrance is NT\$1,000 tomorrow (tickets available only through Rose Records outlets, for locations and more information visit www.g-music.iticket. com.tw/#SaleSite). Wednesday's show is NT\$500 (NT\$400 in advance). Tickets can be purchased at ERA ticketing outlets, online through www.ticket. com.tw or www.legacy.com.tw or at 7-Eleven ibon kiosks

Metal-core/emo band 831 (八三夭) appears tonight at The Wall (這牆), Taipei's premier venue for indie rock artists. Tomorrow night the venue hosts Jun Onose, aka J, front man for the popular Japanese art rock band **Luna Sea**. On Sunday it's upbeat punks Punkhoo (胖虎樂團) and KoOk (庫克) and garage rockers Mary See the Future.

- B1, 200, Roosevelt Rd Sec 4, Taipei City (台北市羅斯福路四段200號B1). Tel: (02) 2930-0162. On the Net:
- Shows start at 8pm tonight, 7pm

www.thewall.com.tw

tomorrow and 7:30pm Sunday ■ Entrance is NT\$500 tonight (NT\$400 in advance), NT\$1,700 tomorrow (NT\$1500 in advance) and NT\$500 Sunday (NT\$400 in advance). Tickets can be purchased online through www. thewall.com.tw or tickets.books.com.tw

Tonight Witch House (女巫店) hosts performances from both indie-rock bands and folk artists in a coffeehouse setting. Tonight it's up-and-coming pop singer-songwriter Andrew Yeh (葉懷 佩). Tomorrow popular folk-rock singer Europa Huang (黃建為) takes the stage. Acoustic group Xiaoyu Watermelon

- (小玉西瓜) appears on Thursday. ■ 7, Ln 56, Xinsheng S Rd Sec 3, Taipei City (台北市新生南路三段56巷7號). Tel: (02) 2362-5494. On the Net: www.witchhouse.org
- Performances start at 9:30pm. Restaurant/bar with gueer/feminist bookstore and large collection of board games open 11am to midnight Sundays through Wednesdays, 11am to 1am Thursdays through Saturdays ■ Entrance for music shows is NT\$300
- Tonight the Riverside Cafe (河岸留言) hosts Dark Eyes (夜幕之眼), which performs gypsy jazz. Tomorrow it's all-girl rock band **Cherry Boom** (櫻桃幫) and

Malaysian Mando-pop singer **Rynn Lim** (林宇中). On Sunday it's solo acoustic artist **Gelresai** (陳世川) and singer **Leo** Chen (陳永龍), both members of the Aboriginal music collective Wild Fire Music (野火樂集). The venue hosts its weekly open jam on Monday.

- B1, 2, Ln 244, Roosevelt Rd Sec 3, Taipei City (台北市羅斯福路三段244巷 2號B1), next to Taipower Building (台電 大樓). Tel: (02) 2368-7310. On the Net: www riverside com tw
- Shows start at 9:30pm tonight and 9pm on all other nights. For a list of standard songs and ground rules for the open jam, visit the venue's Web site
- Entrance is NT\$400 tonight and tomorrow, N1\$350 on Sunday and NT\$150 on Monday

Tonight Riverside Live House (西門 紅樓展演館) hosts a group of aspiring Mando-pop singers, which include **Hsu** Che-wei (徐哲緯) and James Chu (祝鏘 博). Tomorrow it's rapper **Dr Reniculous** Lipz (白悟空) and The Skallyunz, who share the bill with pop-rock bands P!SCO and Chemical Monkeys (化學 猴子). On Thursday it's **Bearland** (貝爾藍 德) and Mando-pop singer-songwriter

- Debbie Hsiao (蕭賀碩) ■ 177 Xining S Rd, Taipei City (台北市西 寧南路177號). Tel: (02) 2370-8805. On the Net: www.riverside.com.tw
- Shows start at 8:30pm tonight, 8pm tomorrow and 8:30pm on Thursday ■ Entrance is NT\$450 tonight, NT\$400 tomorrow and Thursday. Tickets can purchased online through

www.riverside.com.tw/livehouse or

tickets.books.com.tw

Tonight **Underworld** (地下社會) hosts Japanese indie rock band Mugenhoso and electro-rock outfit Varo, a band led by Huang Wan-ting (黃腕 婷), guitarist of the now-defunct girl punk group Ladybug and post-rock band Tin Pan Alley (錫盤街). Tomorrow the venue hosts beloved wacky indie rockers and Spring Scream legends **The** Clippers (夾子電動大樂隊), with Parachutes (降落傘) as the opening act. On Wednesday it's Tough Black Tea (硬式紅茶) ■ B1, 45 Shida Rd, Taipei City (台北市師

- 大路45號B1). Tel: (02) 2369-0103. On the Net: www.upsaid.com/underworld ■ Music shows run from 9:30pm to
- 11:30pm on Fridays and Saturdays and 9pm to 11pm on Wednesdays. Underworld is open daily from 9pm, closed on Mondays. Happy hour on Tuesdays and Thursdays before midnight
- Entrance for music shows is NT\$300 on Fridays and Saturdays, which includes one drink, and NT\$100 on Wednesdays

Paris-born, New York-based saxophonist Alex Terrier performs tonight at Sappho de Base, the late-night lounge bar and hangout for musicians from Taipei's jazz and blues scene. Tomorrow it's the **Earl Hines II** Jazztet. On Tuesday Joy and Friends take the stage. **Grace's Jazz Trio** plays on Wednesday. On Thursday Misterioso, composed of a guitarist and drummer, performs the songs of Thelonius Monk and Ornette Coleman.

■ B1, 1, Ln 102, Anhe Rd Sec 1, Taipei City (台北市安和路一段102巷1號B1). Tel: (02) 2700-5411. On the Net: www.sappho102.biz

- Music shows begin at 10:30pm tonight and tomorrow and 10pm on all other nights
- Entrance is NT\$300 tonight, NT\$150 tomorrow, free on other nights

EZ5 Live House hosts Mando-pop singers backed by a live band every night. Highlights for the week ahead include Mando-pop songstress Julia Peng (彭佳 慧) and male crooner Shin Lung (辛隆), who performs every Saturday.

- 211, Anhe Rd Sec 2, Taipei City (台北 市安札路_段211號). Tel: (02) 2738-3995.
- On the Net: visit www.ez5.com.tw ■ Music shows run from 9:45pm to 12:30am
- Entrance fee (includes two drinks) ranges from NT\$600 to NT\$850, depending on the performer

Tonight at **Roxy Roots** it's blues, psychedelic soul and surf rock from the Blues Vibrations. Tomorrow night is ladies night for Fiesta Latino, which features a live band and DJs.

- 90 Songren Rd, Taipei City (台北市松 仁路90號). Tel: (02) 2725-3932. On the
- Net: www.roxy.com.tw ■ Shows start at 10pm
- Entrance fee for music shows is NT\$300 (NT\$200 credited toward food and drinks). Free entrance for women for Fiesta Latino night tomorrow

Taipei Swing holds dance socials on Friday nights at Capone's, with live music from blues band BoPo-MoFo (クタロロ). Dancers of all levels are welcome, and beginner's lessons are offered while the band takes a break. Tomorrow drummer Abe Nbugu Kenyatta leads a band playing music from his hometown of New Orleans.

- 312, Zhongxiao E Rd Sec 4, Taipei City
- (台北市忠孝東路四段312號) ■ Live music from 9pm to 11:30pm on
- Fridays, 8pm to 11:30pm on Saturdays On Fridays there's a minimum charge of one drink (dancers receive a drink coupon). On Saturdays the minimum charge is NT\$300

The Wall (這牆) programs regular live rock shows at Kaohsiung's Pier 2 Arts Center (高雄駁二藝術特區). Tonight features upbeat punks Punkhoo (胖虎樂 團) and KoOk (庫克) and garage rockers Mary See The Future. Singer Huang

- Jie (黃玠) takes the stage tomorrow. ■ 1 Dayong Rd, Yancheng Dist, Kaohsiung City (高雄市鹽埕區大勇路 1號). On the Net: pier-2.khcc.gov.tw,
- www.thewall.com.tw ■ Shows start at 7:30pm
- Entrance is NT\$300 tonight and NT\$400 tomorrow

Tomorrow The Mercury (水星酒館), an indie rock club in Kaohsiung, hosts

- post-rock group **Silverbus** (銀巴士). ■ 46 Liwen Rd, Zuoying Dist, Kaohsiung City (高雄市左營區立文路46號). Tel: (07) 550-8617. On the Net: mercurybar. blogspot.com
- Tomorrow at 9pm
- Entrance is NT\$200, includes one drink



BY MARCUS AURELIUS



MC Insatiable represents the Foreign Affairs crew on the yacht.

aipei has its fair share of glitz and glamour with the laser madness at the entrance of Luxy, the dance floor on the ceiling at Spark, the nouveau riche at Room 18 and the "puppy squad" (狗仔隊) snapping photos of celebrities outside of Primo. This weekend, three underground parties dare to go against that grain and play the music they feel people need to hear. Charles (陳思愷) earned his stripes in party rocking

when he attended the DJ Scratch Academy in New York City. He teams up with a newcomer on the scene, Lucy (金長泰), for Spark Light at Kosa Bar tonight. Charles' tastes veer towards block-rockin' old school

hip-hop, with his favorites ranging from Run-DMC to De La Soul and N.E.R.D. Lucy prefers to play indie rock and promises that people will enjoy dancing to his selections like Dat Politics and The Pipettes. When asked what to expect from the party, Charles said, "I can guarantee the freshness.

Spark Light, tonight from 9:30pm to 3am at Kosa Bar, 66-1 Yanji St, Taipei City (台北市延吉街66之1號). Tel: (02) 8772-0676. Admission is NT\$500, all-you-can-drink.

A different form of the underground sound will be out at Bass **Invaders** at Hook Bar tonight with an all-UK lineup of Robi Roka, Radio Rahim, Stoppa, Dave Da Rave and Richie (Richie Partridge). While the speaker system at Hook is known to be very sensitive, Partridge is excited to be playing with his fellow countrymen. "It will be the best of old and new bass shakin' electro and drum and bass,'

Bass Invaders, tonight from 11pm to 3am at Hook Bar, 1, Alley 7, Ln 205, Zhongxiao E Rd Sec 4, Taipei City (台北市忠孝東路四段205巷7弄1號). Tel: (02) 2771-7107. Admission is NT\$150 and comes with a drink.

It's hard to call a party underground when it's on one of the nicest yachts in the Tamsui harbor and the captain recently spent NT\$10 million to upgrade the sound system

Tha Shamen (Elliot Tsai, 蔡一暐) promises nothing but hardcore beats. Rhymes will be making waves on water as he is ioined by his homies from THC (Taipei Hip-hop Crew, H中P在台北), the Grand Trapperz and Foreign Affairs for

the 911 Clash of the Titans (911嘻哈<瘋>神榜遊艇派對). While it is the anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, Shamen promises he won't be lighting fire to any biblical texts. Instead, he just wants to burn up your brains

with rhymes. 911 Clash of the Titans, tomorrow from 10pm to 6am at the *Lixing No. 1* yacht at Tamsui Fisherman's Wharf (淡水漁人碼頭). The yacht leaves the wharf at 12:30am sharp. Admission for men is NT\$500 with two drinks. Admission for women is NT\$400 with two drinks. For reservations call Chika Sun at 092-615-0321.









