

SEARCH : HAMLET

Site-specific at Kronborg
Castle, Elsinore, for the
Hamlet Sommer Festival.

16, 17, 20 & 21 August 2002
KL: 20.00

Tour edition at Betty Nansen
Theatre, Edison Venue
during Kulturbro 2002

11-24 September 2002,
KL: 20.00





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Opens at Kronborg Castle, Elsinore
16, 17, 20 & 21 August 2002

A Site-specific performance for the Hamlet Sommer Festival moving on to Betty Nansen Theatre at Edison, Copenhagen, 11 - 24 September 2002.
Both part of Kulturbro 2002.

A co-production between FACE to FACE (DK) and TheatreWorks (Singapore), this is an intercultural production conceived and directed by Singaporean Ong Keng Sen, with artists and designers coming from 11 countries in Asia-Pacific and Europe. Keng Sen is known in Europe for his highly critical intercultural production of 'Lear' that was presented in 1999 in Berlin and Copenhagen.

The production will open at the Kronborg Castle as a site-specific performance. It will take place in different rooms, dungeons and the central courtyard of Kronborg Castle. The castle was the original setting which inspired Shakespeare to write Hamlet.

Shakespeare's Hamlet provides the performance with basic elements, including the gallery of characters. The performance itself will be created via workshop processes. The creative process began with a week's workshop in Singapore in December and will be followed by another week-long workshop in Elsinore in April 2002. The rehearsal process will begin in July 2002 in Denmark. In the workshops, the artists will develop their characters by utilising their individual disciplines and their specific cultural backgrounds. Through this, they will evoke the necessary tension that lies beneath the conflicts in Shakespeare's Hamlet.

Unlike other productions, Search : Hamlet centres around an absent Hamlet. Each participant will enter a dialogue that will develop and interpret the contemporary search for Hamlet in their cultures, their communities today.

Following the site-specific performances at Kronborg Castle, Search : Hamlet will be re-interpreted into an exciting theatre space at the Betty Nansen Theatre venue Edison in September 2002.

Collaborating artists:

Carlotta Ikeda (Ghost) - Butoh dancer and choreographer from Japan now based with her company, Ariadone in Bordeaux, France

I Wayan Dibia (Claudius) - Mask dancer from Bali, Indonesia

Pichet Klunchun (Gertrude) - Thai classical dancer from Bangkok, Thailand

Dicte (Ophelia) - Pop-rock composer and vocalist from Copenhagen, Denmark

Ann Crosset (Polonius / Grave-digger / Rosencrantz) - Dance performer from US, choreographer of Lars von Trier's Dancer in the Dark, now based in Copenhagen, Denmark

Aida Redza (Laertes) - Contemporary Martial Arts dancer from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Kota Yamazaki (Horatio) - Contemporary dancer from Tokyo, Japan

Charlotte Engelkes (Storyteller / Gravedigger / Guildenstern) - Performer from Stockholm, Sweden, last seen in Heiner Gobbels' piece Hashikigari and based in Schauspielhaus Hamburg

Dicte (Contemporary musician and composer from Copenhagen, Denmark) leading an ensemble of Keyboard, violin and cello from Denmark.

I Wayan Sadra (contemporary gamelan musician from Solo, Indonesia) leading an ensemble of Gamelan percussion and saxophonist from Indonesia and Japan.

Ensemble - Kæv Gliemann (Keyboard and European Conductor from Denmark), Hayashi Takahito (Saxophone from Japan) and I Ketut Lanus (gamelan from Bali, Indonesia), as well as a violinist and two cellists.

Wu Wen Guang (documentary film maker from Beijing, China) who will create a film and video images of the actors group

Set Designer - Justin Hill (Australia-Singapore)

Lighting Designer - Jesper Kongshaug (Denmark)

Costume Designer - Koji Hamai (Japan)

The performance will move to Copenhagen for the ASEM in September 2002. This marks the start of an international tour. In Copenhagen it will open on 11 September 2002 at the Betty Nansen Theatre at Edison.

Search : Hamlet is part of Kulturbro 2002 and is supported by Hamlet Sommer, Kulturbro Foundation, The Danish Music & Theatre Council, Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), Danish Center for Culture and Development (DCCD), the Singapore National Arts Council, The Japanese and Indonesian Embassies of Denmark and the Foundation of King Frederik & Queen Ingrid of Denmark.

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