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MEDIA RELEASE

Book Launch

Dance Odyssey – A Decade of Brilliance

A 10th anniversary publication by Odyssey Dance Theatre

8 Nov 2010, 8pm

Drama Centre Theatre



'Dance Odyssey - A Decade of Brilliance' is a coffee table book that documents the 10 years of development and challenges at Odyssey Dance Theatre, through the eyes of Danny Tan, the company's founder and artistic director.

The publication provides a new insight of Tan as a contemporary artist, capitalizing on his dance experiences and marrying this creative output with dance choreographic ideas. It highlights the moments of space, rhythm, line, pulse and energy of ODT's dance works and endeavors that are transformed into stunning images with help from new printing technologies and special printing effects. An avant-garde piece of living art for the reader, it is a refreshing perspective of ODT's ten year journey including its spiritual and aesthetic building process, and showcases an in-depth representation of ODT and Tan's voice in Singapore and internationally.

The book will unveiled by Mr Lee Suan Hiang, Executive Director, Arts and Culture Development Office of the Ministry of Information, Communications and the Arts.

The unveiling will be accompanied by performances from **ODT's young dance company**, a **guest performance by Kim Hyung-Nam** (dance professor from South Korea's Sejong University) and a **preview of "The Story Continues"** by ODT's Lo Pui Sze and our Artiste-In-Residence (Music) Artsylum Quartet.

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Artistes Profile

Ms Lo Pui Sze (Singapore)

Pui Sze started performing with Odyssey Dance Theatre in 2001 and is currently the Acting Director of ODT's young dance company – the Young Artists Project Performers. Trained in ballet, contemporary dance and various dance styles, she represented Singapore for ODT's performances at ASEAN Festival of Arts 2003 and Asian Dance Choreographers Festival 2004. Pui Sze has performed in more than 20 repertoires by Mr. Danny Tan, with leading roles in "*The Story Begins*", "*Black and/or White*" and "*Red Tears*". In 2008, she ventured into choreography at ODT's choreographic platform series. She is currently pursuing her Master in Fine Arts degree at Queensland University of Technology, Australia.

Young Artists Project Performers (Singapore)

Since 2002, YAPP has provided systematic dance-training for our young local dancers to achieve proficiency in dance-making and performance. The YAPP projects ODT's young dynamic voice and performance of professional works with conviction and dance ability. It showcases the strengths and versatility of our young dancers and choreographers in performing diverse repertoires, as they become the next cultural gem of Singapore. Many of these young dancers have either further their dance education or have chosen dance as their careers and representing Singapore in cultural expeditions.

Artsylum Quartet (Singapore)

Artsylum Quartet has been playing at the Singapore Chamber Music Festival since 2005. While the group started out playing classical quartet works, they have since diversified with performing Chinese classics, Disney and Japanese animation music, Broadway tunes, jazz and opera favorites, as well as numerous original compositions by budding local composers. Artsylum Quartet has also collaborated with local rock musicians Jack and Rai, and 53A. Made up of violinists Chia Jit Min, and Ong Xinyi, violist Christoven Tan and cellist Elizabeth Tan, Artsylum Quartet relishes the creative process of quartet playing and hopes to be able to infect others with the joy of communal music-making as well. Artsylum Quarter is the Artiste-In-Residence (Music) at Odyssey Dance Theatre for 2010/11.

Prof Kim Heung-nam (South Korea)

Professor Kim Heung-nam, choreographer of Tatmaroo Dance Company, is currently a professor at the Department of Dance in Sejong University, one of Korea's most distinguished and prominent academic institutions. He won the Grand Prix for "A Man on the Beach" in Dong-A Dance Concours in 1995. He was awarded South Korea's Young Artist Award of Merit Medal in Culture & Art by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism in 2007.