



MAP EXPERIMENTUM

ART & NATURE • 11-24 NOV 2019 • MELAKA

MAP Fest – Traces of Transformation

The theme for **Melaka Arts and Performance Festival (MAP Fest)** is ‘Traces of Transformation’, which speaks in direct correlation of a desire and universal need for performance work that speaks of regeneration through a rekindled past and traditional practice still passed down through generations. Boldly moving forward, capturing the imagination whilst harnessing the potentials offered up by both the collective and the individual. It aims to take each individual thread, to then weave these into a tapestry of knowledge, colour and life. At MAP, artists present individual and collaborative works of art that incorporate the experimental. They produce on-site works and performances that are profound, empowering and transformative to the audiences. The next **MAP Fest** will be a **Biennial Festival** starting in **2020**.

MAP EXPERIMENTUM – Art & Nature

MAP EXPERIMENTUM will be a ‘in-between event’ and takes a focus to workshops and collaborations, two weeks leading to **22-24 November** festival weekend.

MAP and the Environment - MAP’s focus this year is on the power of art to generate awareness of the environment and sustainability. What has contributed to the critical change in climate and what is our capacity to affect change in what is a global crisis at an individual level?

We need to register the change in humanity’s collective consciousness from a basic ‘gut’ level of understanding to make real effect. This is the artist’s premise for their creative motivation. We need to shift our way of thinking from seeing ourselves as separate from nature, to accepting that we are an integral part of nature. Recognising the natural environment as inherent to our spirit, imagination and creativity is a vital link to ecological wellness and recovery.

‘Poor Festival’

To explore these questions, we are extending MAP’s art festival model to incorporate the philosophy and power of the ‘poor theatre’ (*Towards a Poor Theatre*, Jerzy Grotowski). Here the use of extravagant props, material and decorative ornamentations will be challenged with nature’s fundamental power of the use of the body, mind and spirit (the psyche) in the creation of art.



The singer's power is in their vocality; the dancers in their psycho-physicality and the visual artist in their use of available basic materials from both nature and refuse. Innovation is key to the artist's task to convey their stories and their messages. Grotowski coined the term 'poor theatre', defining a performance style that rid itself of the excesses of theatre, such as lavish costumes and detailed sets (hence 'poor'). 'Poor Theatre' centers on the skill of the actor and is often performed with only a handful of props. 'Poor theatre' can be performed anywhere in bare spaces and MAP's link in this is the site-specificity and proximity to spectators. We experiment the elasticity within this range and the use of simple and waste materials for expressing the common and deep inner human experience.

Who are MAP Artists?

MAP artists traditionally are independent artists from all cultures spanning the local and global. They include accomplished professionals as well as emerging individual voices in dance, performance and visual art, music and multidisciplinary practices. At MAP, artists present individual and collaborative works of art that incorporate the experimental. They produce on-site works and performances that are profound, empowering and transformative to audiences. The artists play a vital role in this mental and spiritual shift.

Morphing Festival

One challenge is to allow the festival to morph naturally and to meet with transitory support. So ideas are met with the imminent reality. In reality, the festival has its own way of cutting its path and it is futile to resist. The response from artists has been overwhelming and the wealth is still in within the artistic exchanges the artists bring and the long-term relationship that is monumental in its effect to the artists creative possibilities. This artists-led festival presents to the spectators a richer and diverse palate of creative works away from commercial and often homogenised market of art production. Artworks originating from the imagination of artists built from individual experiences and wealth from all cultures and life paths, brings a strong human message for positive transformation and a love for art, irrespective of culture, beliefs and religious differences. MAP provides platforms for a collective of individual and independent voices and long-term relationships.

Important Dates:

11-17 Nov: **EXPERIMENTUM**
18-21 Nov: **CONTEMPLATIVE TRANCE**
22-24 Nov: **PERFORMANCE**

> EXPERIMENTUM

- Artists led collaborative & experimental space. This is a collaborative and experimentation for all interested artist. Facilitation is modelled on a founded base for free-flow of ideas from all.

- **Lim Paik Yin** will introduce methods for short film-making (with your smartphone!). One-to-two minute video. The focus will be a group performance / installation event on finale on Sunday night. Details available during this week.

- Any proposals/ideas on collaborative workshop from any artists are welcome.

- New information will be updated and shared **on-line**.

Tony Yap together with **Kien Faye, Takashi Takiguchi, Lim Paik Yin** and **Brendan O'Connor** will help facilitate.

- **Registration:**

Deadline 31 August 2019

<https://form.jotform.co/91668491458876>

> CONTEMPLATIVE TRANCE

- **4 Day Intensive Workshop** – 11-17 Nov
Workshop on contemplative trance and movement aesthetics. This is a contemporary look at **trance aesthetics in contemporary application** especially on performance practice. Intensive focus on **deep trance aesthetics**. This workshop will be led by **Tony Yap** with **Agus Riyanto**.

- Booking: **Aud\$150**

<https://www.trybooking.com/BDQOS>

> PERFORMANCE

Mapping Performance - 22,23,24 Nov
optional participation - Daytime site-specific performance/installation,

EXPERIMENTUM finale Performance

optional participation

- Sunday Night 24 Nov

Other information:

> Lighting and sound

This workshop & collaboration festival spans two weeks leading to the final three days and nights of presentation of works. E-Plus Global, will provide the permits for sites, however not their usual elaborate **technical crew and support. This means, we artists will take a position to light the night installations** ourselves with experimentation of all sources we can find. Eg. Light reflections on water, multitude of candles, portable and reachable flood-lights, etc.

> Equipment

We'll have **3 Bose portable/rechargeable** speakers and one powerful speaker/amp for the main space.

> Mapping

Daytime Mapping remain quite **unchanged** from previous years!

> Programs

Programs will all be available **online**.

> Funding

Artists are responsible for their own acquisition for funds and MAP can provide letters of invitations for the artists' individual funding applications from their own countries or sources.

> Support (Voluntary)

- Performance permits: E-plus Global
- On-line publicity: E-plus and Tony Yap
- Program and publicity: Tony Yap
- Artistic Direction: Tony Yap
- Associates: Brendan O'Conner, Kien Faye Lee, Lim Paik Yin Takashi Takiguchi
- All participating artists
- All enthusiastic photographers

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

MAP Fest acknowledges the spirit-filled and generous support provided by **Andrew Ching, Suen Kar Nee** and the staff from **E-Plus Global** for past decade. MAP is non-profit and there'll be a website and publicity. All support people provide their work voluntarily.

