

Tony Yap

Bio

Dancer and artistic director.

Born in Malaysia, Yap is an accomplished dancer, director, choreographer and visual artist. Tony was one of the principle performers with IRAA Theatre (1989 - 1996) and has worked extensively in Australia and overseas including *Agamemnon* Festival Colline Torinese, Italy, and *The Trojan Woman*, Vienna International Art Festival. As the founding Artistic director of Mixed Company (now Tony Yap Company) in 1993, he has made a commitment to the exploration and creation of an individual dance theatre language that is informed by psycho-physical research, Asian shamanistic trance dance, Butoh, Voice and Visual design. For Mixed Company Tony has directed *Icarus*, *Print of a Pulse*, *Narcissus' Dream* and *St. Sebastian. Narcissus' Dream & Icarus* were both nominated in the Best Innovation New Form category for the Melbourne Green Room Awards. Tony has collaborated with many companies and individuals in Australia, Indonesia, Austria, Italy, France, Malaysia, Denmark, China, South Korea and Japan. He danced in an international collaborative work in *The Silence of the Forest* with Company Lian in Paris and *The Night Gardener* in Marseille for the Mai-diteranee Festival, France. Tony has received numerous nominations and awards including his solo work *The Decay of the Angel* which won him a Green Room Award for Best Male Dancer. Tony received an AsiaLink Residential grant to work in Indonesia in 2005. He returned to his place of birth to research into the Malaysian shamanistic trance practised for *E1-Evocation of a Lost Boy*.

Tony collaborated on a project at Gwanju, South Korea as part of the prestigious LACM (Little Asia Creators Meeting) and Asia Artplex Performing Arts Collaboration Pilot Project. LACM is a cross-cultural, cross-medium collaborative initiative. The result was *RIAU*, inspired by the plight of the nomadic sea people of the Riau Islands, Indonesia. This year Tony received a two-year Dance fellowship from the Australia Council for the Arts to develop and produce a major solo work, *The Buddha Body Series*.