

A person wearing a bright blue raincoat is walking away from the camera on a narrow path through a dense, lush green forest. The forest is filled with various types of plants, including large green leaves and many ferns. The lighting is natural, suggesting an overcast day. The overall atmosphere is serene and immersive.

Culture Yard and Tofu Collective
presents

Living Gaya Dreaming Hagay

A day at Helsingor, Denmark
August 31, 2024

With Shu Lea Cheang,
Dondon Hounwn & Elug Art Corner members

An Artist Talk

with Shu Lea Cheang & Dondon Hounwn

Artist/project director Shu Lea Cheang and Artistic Director/Healer Dondon Hounwn have been collaborating on a theatre work named Hagay Dreaming since 2020. Shu Lea Cheang works with up-to-date technology in her genre-bending, gender-hacking art practices. Dondon Hounwn, an inheritor of tribal ballads, instruments and rituals, blends ancestral knowledge with avant-garde, cross-gender aesthetics. This talk focuses on the process of their collaboration, Gaya living principles and Hagay's gender fluid approach to knowledge sharing.

A Walk in the Forest

Weaving Forest Weaving Gender

In the Truku tribe, "Tminum" means weaving. For binary societies, weaving has always been a woman's job. For the tribal communities, weaving, using living and non-living materials, is non-binary in its way of transmitting Gaya living principle. Patterns like the tribal totem are woven with threads; natural plants and flowers are woven into wreath; trees are bound with threads wrapped around. Through identifying natural resources in the forest and learning about ecological ethics, Weaving Forest Weaving Gender transforms a walk in the forest into knowledge sharing experience as we recount the legend of a hunter's meeting with the non-binary Hagay spiritual beings. As we weave, we chant, sorting out the criss-cross lines of weaving patterns that narrate complexities of living, allowing our bodies to be holistically liberated in Gaya's all-embracing universe.

A Ritual Performance

Welcoming the Spirits

In Truku tribe, Powda ritual strengthens the connection between humans and the spirit world. A ritual with symbolic offerings informs the local spirits of human presence and asks the ancestors and the spirits for blessing and protection. As an artist, performer and healer, Dondon Hounwn is entitled to lead a Powda ritual with participants. The spirits are received with collective chanting and dance moves, leading us to Gaya's spiritual world where the merging of bodies and souls allows access to 'snhiyi', a power of total trust.

CHANTS. LYRICS.

Meeting Song

sndamat su balay wi
We miss you very much
kana ita mnswayi
All of our relatives
dhuq da pqqita
We have arrived, we are going to meet
biqi balay qnbahang uyas mu nii
We offer you our most genuine voices
kana ita mnswayi
All of our relatives

You can, I can, you look

lyo siyo si
You can, I can, you look
Tlamay teyxal
Try again
Snyami nii
It's just us
Snney ka ebey
No one can surpass us
Ana bi rabang
Even if we have ambitions
Pahung truku
This is the bravery of the Truku people
Tlamay ta da
Everyone, try again
Srisaw sayang
All the young men in the field

Pounding Millet Song

sa sa sa
Pound, pound, pound
saskimasyo
Let's continue (Japanese)
lokah ta miyun
Everyone, pound with force
lokah ta mucu
Everyone, pound like this with force
k(qh)oniwa no*4
Here, everyone, let's cheer together
to re wa sima
(empty words)
yo re wa si ma
(empty words)
to re wa sima
(empty words)
yo re wa si ma
(empty words)
oho leyley kwe*4
We are pounding millet here
to kiya to kiya to kiya
(empty words)

Everyone Come

Iki masiyow ta , Odo rimasiyo
Let's go, let's dance together
Emeywa rahuy , Emkiya hiya
Mature women, should be like this
Emnami nii da , Seysey mu balay
This is all of us, like grains of rice joining together
Ya hiyi ciyoman, Risaw bisoring
Join us, friends, young men
Uxay ku baka , Risaw mniyah
I haven't danced enough, come along, friends

Gathering Song

kana ta risaw
All the young men
kana ta uwa
All the young women
supu ta mqaras
We are joyful
supu ta mgrig
We dance together
kana ta payi
All the elder women
kana ta baki
All the elder men
Imglug qaqaq su o
Lift our feet
laqi brax(bnaw) u o
Come on, children
ohnay ohnay
Very joyful, very joyful

Joyful Gathering Song

rimuy su rimuy yun la uy
qutux riyax sasiyoni
Today is a beautiful day
niyux ta ya musilomuy
a lomuy pinusasiyaqan u u
We gather together, laughing and playing

Living Gaya Dreaming Hagay

Cultural Exchange Europe 2024

Artistic Director | Dondon Hounwn

Singer | Kumu Basaw

Performers | Dondon Hounwn, Pilaw Uraw, Dremedreman · Ljaculjingilijing, Kiyu Pahauran

Installation artist | Temu Basaw

Laser artist | aka_chang

Administration | Cheng Hsuan Weng

Coordination | Hsin Yu Hsieh

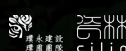
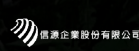
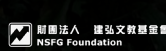
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Project Director | Shu Lea Cheang

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Sponsor |



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