



TheGlobalSoul



THAILAND



CAMBODIA

The Global Soul

Contemporary travellers
journeying through
urban life,
searching for
contact,
for connection



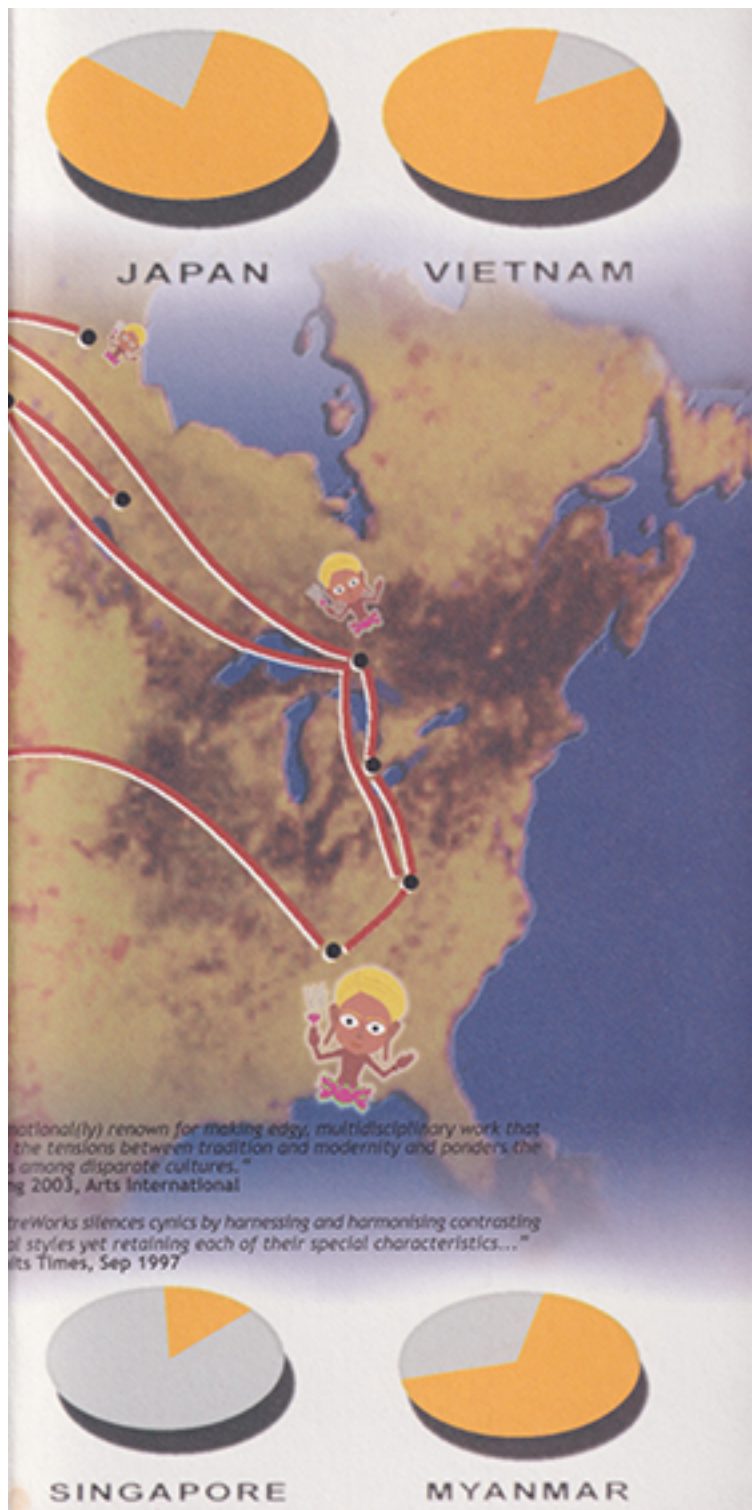
"...Internet
explores
dynamic
(all) spirit
"...Theat
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TIBET



SRI LANKA



JAPAN

VIETNAM

...ational(ly) renown for making edge, multidisciplinary work that
 ...the tensions between tradition and modernity and ponders the
 ...among disparate cultures."
 ...g 2003, Arts International

...reWorks silences cynics by harnessing and harmonising contrasting
 ...al styles yet retaining each of their special characteristics..."
 ...its Times, Sep 1997

SINGAPORE

MYANMAR

"The Global Soul" - the Buddha project

Conceived & Directed by Ong Keng Sen

In collaboration with Charlotte Engelkes,
Kang Kwon Soon, Pichet Klunchun, Sophiatou Kossoko,
Toru Yamanaka, Zeng Jing Ping

Designed by Justin Hill, Scott Zielinski, Heman Chong
Dramaturged by Robin Loon

A TheatreWorks Production,
commissioned by the Singapore Arts Festival,
with support from the House of World Cultures, Berlin

When Gautama Buddha, as a young prince, first saw the pains of the mortal world, he became alienated. He strove to understand the spirit and soul beyond the diseased, the dead, the old and the wasted bodies. He flagellated his body by starving himself to a point where his backbone could touch his sternum, where his hair fell in patches whenever he touched them. He then realised that he needed a strong body to gravitate towards the spirit. Sitting under the bodhi tree, Gautama travelled the world in the depths of his imagination.

*Perhaps he was the first global soul;
perhaps when we travel, when we search for home in
our restless world today, sometimes we can touch him...*

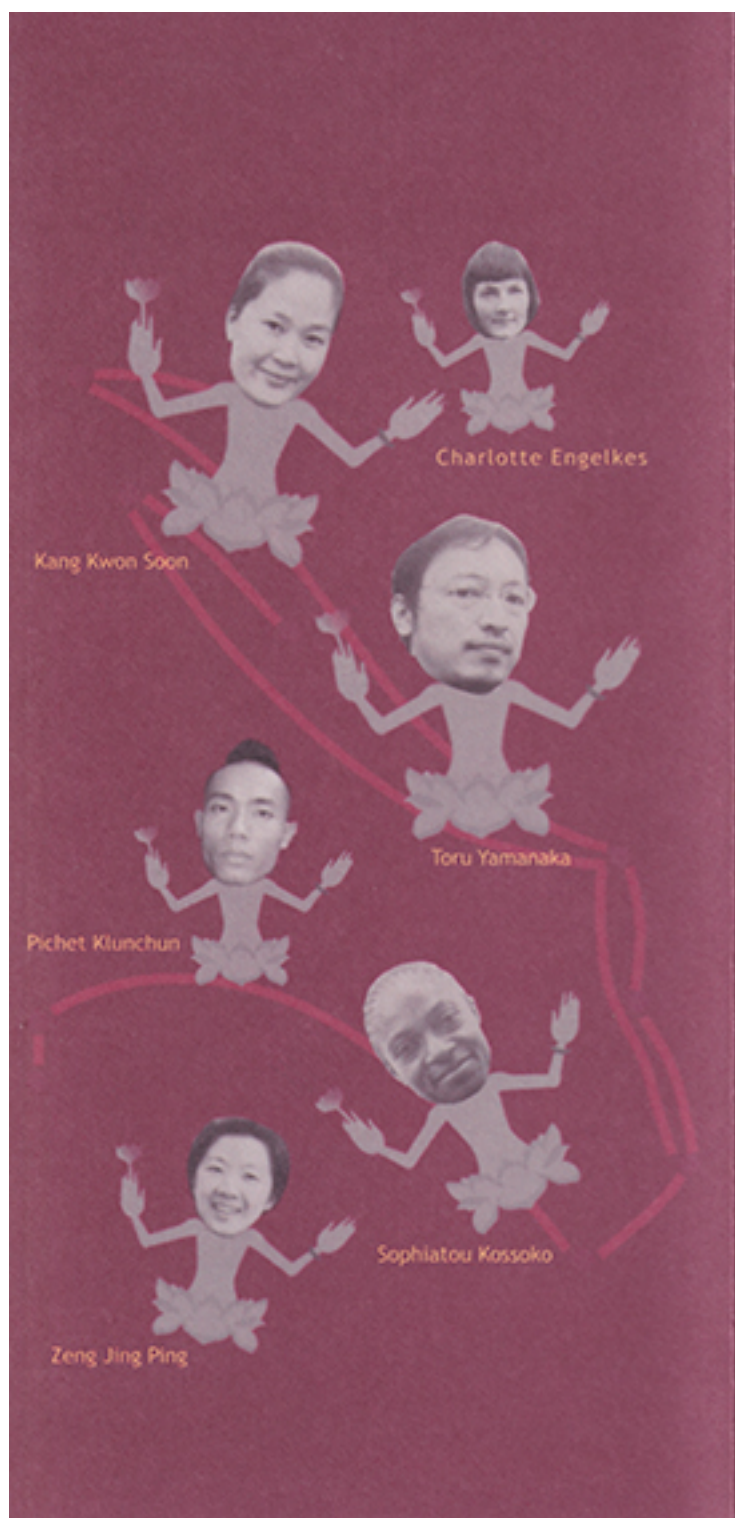
One of the most influential figures of Asian contemporary theatre, director Ong Keng Sen embarks on his next production following the success of *Search: Hamlet in Denmark*. Inspired by Gautama Buddha and the musings of travel writer Pico Iyer, *The Global Soul* is a poignant tale of contemporary travellers in urban landscapes pursuing connection, contact. It embraces stories of Buddha, jet lag, airports, Liyuan opera (a thousand-year-old Chinese operatic form), and the meditative Korean classical court songs within a contemporary soundscape by Toru Yamanaka of Dumb Type. Contemporary mobility and ancient cultural treasures are brought together into this trip with no return ticket.

Starring as the travellers are Charlotte Engelkes, the stunningly tall Swedish actress last seen in Helner Goebbel's *Hashirigaki* (Singapore Festival of Arts 2001); Paris-based Nigerian dancer Sophiatou Kossoko, and Pichet Klunchun who won glowing reviews for his innovative fusion of Thai classical royal dance and contemporary performance in *Search: Hamlet in Denmark*.

World Premiere 19 June - 21 June 2003
Victoria Theatre, Singapore

Preview 30 May - 1 June 2003
House of World Cultures, Berlin, Germany

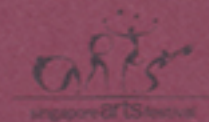
Tickets for Singapore World Premiere available at SISTIC: 6348 5555
or www.sistic.com.sg



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