

THAILAND



CAMBODIA



JAPAN



VIETNAM

Contemporary travellers journeying through urban life, searching for contact,

for connection



World Premiese 19 June - 21 June 2003 Victoria Theatre Singapore

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

The New International Production by















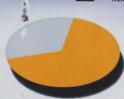
TIBET



SRI LANKA



SINGAPORE



MYANMAR



TheatreWorks, The Black Box, Fort Canning Centre, Cox Terrace, Fort Canning Park. Singapore 179618

Charlotte Engelkes

Kang Kwon Soon

Toru Yamanaka

Pichet Klunchun

Sophiatou Kossoko

"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 Zielinkski, 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 fc'llowing the success of Search: Hamlet in Denmark. Inspired by Gautama Buddha and the musings of travel writer Pico lyer, 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 Heiner 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.

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

Zeng Jing Ping

The New International Production by

HEATREWORKS

For more information, call TheatreWorks at tel: +65 63384077, email: tworks@singnet.com.sg or log on to www.theatreworks.org.sg