













Rizman is the co-founder of Multi-disciplinary art collective, Kill Your Television (KYTV). Apart from performances, he works on collages, installations and drawings, which have been the primary force behind his outrageous performances. Well-known for his alter ego, Manic Jango; Rizman is also a singer/songwriter for local indie-rock outfit, Tiramisu.

Impulsively, I lift the mud-spattered pages to my face and inhale deeply. I am totally unprepared for the assault upon my nostrils. Impregnated into the very essence of the paper, where it has lain for five decades waiting to be released, is that over-ripe smell of the jungle, that sickly, sweet aroma of decaying leaves, of damp and dank earth, of mould and rotting vegetation. It is the smell of death. It is the smell of Borneo.

Lynette Ramsay Silver, author, Sandakan: A Conspiracy of Silence

l assisted in the improvisations of making splints to hold the decayed legs of the prisoners. Many of them could only get around if their legs were reinforced with wood, their bones not being strong enough to carry their own weight... Out of the whole party of 500 leaving Sandakan, there were only 183 who arrived at Ranau. On 17th July 1945, there were 76 alive 38th August, 40 alive. Out of that 40, only 6 were able to walk around. That was when I escaped.

William Hector Sticpewich

By disposing of them I meant that in circumstances where nothing could be done in regard to both Japanese and prisoners of war, to kill them. I sympathized with Capt Abe for taking such a difficult and delicate business to escort prisoners of war so if he had to dispose of them as

a last resort, I told him that I would take responsibility for what he did and I shall sacrifice myself for him.

Capt Yamamoto Shoichi













A cross-media collaboration between Singapore, Japan and Australia artists based on war-crimes trial records, survivors' accounts of the death march in Borneo at the end of World War II. It metaphorises the experiences of war and brutality as a journey into the heart of darkness.

An emotive performance on humanity and dignity told through dance and movement by Kota Yamazaki, renown dancer and choreographer from Tokyo; Matthew Crosby, one of the best actors from the Australian stage; Gojo Masanosuke, highly acclaimed kabuki star; quirky contemporary performer, Rizman Putra of KYTV (Kill Your Television); emerging contemporary dancer Tim Harvey and veteran Singapore actress Lok Meng Chue.

Sandakan Threnody is directed by cultural medallion winner 2003, Ong Keng Sen; with evocative music by critically acclaimed Australian composer, Jonathan Mills. After Singapore, the work will next be seen in Brisbane and Melbourne.

To evoke is to call forth; to bring to recollection imaginatively; to summon a spirit by invocation. Perhaps we are evokers of a forgotten past, a past erased and evaporated. We evoke what could not be said before.



Presented by The Singapore Arts Festival in association with Melbourne International Arts Festival and Energex Brisbane Festival.

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This project has been assisted by the Confederation of Australian International Arts Festivals through the Major Festivals' Initiative of the Australia Council, the Australian Government's arts funding and advisory body; Melbourne International Arts Festival and Energex Brisbane Festival.

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