

Choreographer's Message

In 2020, the world suddenly came to a standstill. At the beginning of the year, I was touring Europe with the dancers—from France to London and Stockholm, across eleven cities—continuing to refine *13 Tongues* along the way, while COVID-19 seemed to follow close behind us. When we returned to Taiwan, we went into home quarantine, and one performance after another was put on hold.

As life slowed down, I discovered a quiet within. In those days, my senses opened up. I listened to leaves rustling, to insects hopping near and then far away. As I watched and listened, my hands and feet somehow began to move on their own. At that moment, a light surfaced within me—a light left behind by the child in me who had never grown up.





The Chinese title of *Sounding Light*, *dīng guāng* 《定光》, borrows its name from an ancient Buddha. In Buddhist scriptures, the Buddha is known as *dīng guāng fó* “錠光佛”, or Dipankara Buddha. The character *dīng* “錠” originally refers to a lampstand with legs. We removed the radical that represents metal, *jīn* “金”, from this character, leaving behind only *dīng* “定”. This character, on its own, represents a sense of being settled, to allow the light, *guāng*, to shine from within.

When I was young, I often went hiking and crossed streams with my father. The mountains and forests were my earliest teachers of dance. While creating *Sounding Light*, I took the dancers up the North Peak of Mount Hehuan, guided by mountaineers Lu Chung-han and Chang Yuan-chih. Clouds drifted over the mountaintops, casting broad shadows that spread like ink across paper. Looking out toward Qilai and Chungyangjian in the distance, I began to understand that seeing mountains from another mountain gives you a sense of distance no maps can convey.

The sun turned everyone's ears and noses bright red. For many of the dancers, it was their first time standing at such a high altitude, and they laughed so hard they were almost more breathless from laughing than from climbing. We listened to the shapes of rhododendrons and observed the five-needle pines and the shapes of the rocks. Let the soles of our feet remember the uneven earth; as our feet shift, the knees, hips and waist began to loosen, and movement grew from there. The answers were not in the mirrors of the rehearsal studio; they were out there, along the mountain ridge.

In my earlier works, I poured the clamour of the streets and the restless energy of temple squares onto the stage. That was the restless part of myself. This time, with *Sounding Light*, the stage is clean and bare. The light remains on from beginning to end. There is no darkness, no dramatic rise and fall.

Lim Giong draws on the sounds of the singing bowl, sanxian, and yueqin to create a soundscape of stillness and light. Chang Shiu-an spent two years getting to know the unique texture of each dancer's voice, composing music tailored to each of them. Lulu Lee calculates angles and timing with mirrored surfaces, allowing light to move and breathe across the stage as if alive, never quite fading away. Chen Shao-yen uses pigments from traditional Chinese painting to color the dancers' bodies; as sweat seeps through, the colors bleed and spread, leaving traces of time passing. Sound, bodies, light, and shadow accumulate layer upon layer until, within the theater, they grow into a forest built from sound.



Sounding Light has no story to tell. It is more like a mirror. The dancers sound the floor with their feet as their bodies shift and sway. Being settled does not mean being still. It means finding, amid all that swaying and movement, a moment when you can land.

In the end, what I hope for is not that you leave understanding what the work “means.” I hope that when you walk out of the theater, a little quiet remains within your body. It is a quiet I am still learning to find, and one I would like to share with you.

Cheng Tsung-lung

Choreographer



《定光》，写给即将入场的你

2020年，世界忽然停下脚步。欧洲那趟巡演，法国、伦敦、斯德哥尔摩，十一座城市，我和舞者一路修整作品《十三声》，新冠肺炎也一路跟着。回国，居家检疫，演一场场被迫按下暂停键。脚步慢下来，人反而静了。那些日子，耳朵打开，听树叶摇，虫子在身边跳近又跳远，看着看着，手脚竟自己想动起来。就在那一刻，心里浮出一道光，是那个始终没有长大的孩子留下来的。《定光》其实也是跟一尊古早以前的佛借的名字。佛典里祂叫“锭光佛”，“锭”是有脚的灯座。我们把金字边取下，只留“定”，让光打从心里，自己亮起来。

小时候常跟爸爸爬山渡溪，山林是我最早的舞蹈老师。构思这支舞的时候，我和舞者爬上合欢北峰，请登山家吕忠翰、张元植领路。云飘过山头，投下大块的影子，像墨水晕开；数着远处的奇莱、中央尖，才知道从山看山，是地图给不出的距离感。太阳把大家的耳鼻晒得通红，很多人第一次站在这么高的地方，笑得比爬得还喘——听杜鹃、看五叶松、石头的形状，让脚底板记住不平整的土地，脚底一变，膝、胯、腰跟着松，动作，就从那里长出来。答案不在排练场的镜子里，在棱线上。



以前的作品，我把街头的喧闹、庙口的躁动，全都摊在作品里，那是不安分的自己。这一次《定光》，舞台干净，灯从头亮到尾，没有黑暗，也没有起伏跌宕。林强用磬、三弦、月琴这些台湾日常的声音，做出安定生光的音场；张玟花两年摸熟每个舞者的声音质地，替他们(量声)谱曲；李琬玲用镜面算角度、算时间，让光像有生命，在舞台上游移呼吸，自然不灭；陈劭彦用国画颜料替舞者肉身上色，汗水一渗，晕出时间走过的痕迹。声音、身体、光影叠起来，最后在剧院里，长成一座位用声音盖出来的森林。

这支舞没有故事要讲，它更像一面镜子。舞者踏响地板，挪移身躯。安定，从来不是静止不动，是在晃动里，找到一个能落地的瞬间。其实最后，我希望的不是你看懂了什么，是走出剧场的时候，身体里留下一点点安静。那份安静，我这些年还在学，也想分享给你。

郑宗龙



Production Credits

制作团队

CHOREOGRAPHY AND CONCEPT

编舞暨构思

Cheng Tsung-lung 郑宗龙

MUSIC 音乐

Lim Giong 林强

SOUND AND VOICE 声音暨人声创作

Chang Shiuan 张弦

LIGHTING DESIGN 灯光

Lulu W.L. Lee 李琬玲

COSTUME DESIGN 服装

Chen Shao-yen 陈劭彦

MUSIC DIRECTOR OF CLOUD GATE

云门音乐指导

Liang Chun-mei 梁春美

CO-PRODUCTION 共同制作

**National Performing Arts Center -
National Theater & Concert Hall
(Taiwan)**

国家表演艺术中心国家两厅院(台湾)

**National Kaohsiung Center for the
Arts Weiwuying (Taiwan)**

国家表演艺术中心卫武营国家艺术文化中心
(台湾)

National Taichung Theater (Taiwan)

国家表演艺术中心台中国家歌剧院(台湾)

CAST 演出舞者

Chan Pui-pui 陈珮珮

Chang Hung-mao 张宏茂

Chen Tsung-chiao 陈宗乔

Chou Chen-yeh 周辰烨

Fan Chia-hsuan 范家瑄

Hsu Chih-hen 许志恒

Huang Mei-ya 黄嫩雅

Huang Po-kai 黄柏凯

Huang Yen-cheng 黄彦程

Lin Sin-yu 林欣妤

Shao Hsing-wen 邵幸纹

Yen Hsueh-hsin 颜孝芯

Premiere on October 1, 2020 at
National Theater, Taipei, Taiwan
2020年10月1日于台北国家戏剧院
首演

Touring Members

巡演行政与技术群

ARTISTIC TEAM 艺术团队

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR 艺术总监
Cheng Tsung-lung 郑宗龙

ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
助理艺术总监
Lee Ching-chun 李静君

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM 行政团队

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR 执行总监
Kathy Hong 洪家琪

SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER
资深演出经理
Janice Wang 王淑贞

TECHNICAL TEAM 技术团队

PRODUCTION DIRECTOR 技术总监
Richard Lee 李永昌

STAGE MANAGER 舞台监督
Chen Chia-ju 陈家如

LIGHTING SUPERVISOR 灯光技术指导
Tseng Yen-min 曾彦闵

STAGE SUPERVISOR 舞台技术指导
Kao Tang-chieh 高堂杰

SOUND SUPERVISOR 音响技术人员
Liou Yun-chang 刘云章

WARDROBE MISTRESS 服装管理
Lin Yen-jung 林彦融

Find out more about *Sounding Light*

关于《定光》

Find out more about Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan

关于云门舞集

Find out more about Cheng Tsung-lung, Artistic Director
of Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan

关于云门舞集艺术总监郑宗龙

Find out more about Lin Hwai-min, Founder of Cloud Gate
Dance Theatre of Taiwan

关于云门舞集创办人林怀民