

LASALLE College of the Arts
presents

¡SALÚD!

Choreographers:
Fairul Zahid
Gianti Giadi
Liu I-Ling
Zhuo Zihao

From the Dean

The LASALLE Show season is an extended opportunity for the Faculty of Performing Arts to present the remarkable talents of students graduating from our programmes in the School of Contemporary Music and the School of Dance and Theatre.

LASALLE offers intensive and demanding training and education at the highest international level. Our musicians, composers, actors, musical theatre performers, dancers and technicians graduate from LASALLE all set to adapt and pivot to a rapidly changing environment. Our students are ready for the world of work and ready to change the world with their skills, creative thinking and knowledge.

Throughout February to April, we are showcasing productions by our programmes in BA(Hons) Acting (*Summer of Love*, based on *La Ronde* by Arthur Schnitzler, translated by Wolfgang Muench and directed by Leon Rubin), BA(Hons) Musical Theatre (*The Addams Family*, directed and choreographed by Kaye Tuckerman, with musical direction by Aloysius Foong), Diploma in Dance (*¡SALÚD!* featuring works by Young Artist Award recipient and alumnus Zhuo Zihao, award-winning choreographers Liu I-Ling and Fairul Zahid), as well as Diploma in Performance (*Grimm Tales* directed by Matt Grey).

In addition, there are over 60 exciting, public music recitals for our graduates in Diploma in Music and the BA(Hons) Music in pop, jazz, electronic music, compositional and classical piano taking place at LASALLE. This year, the concerts will all be streamed on LASALLE's YouTube channel.

Many of our performances are supported by the exceptional work of final year Diploma students in our Theatre Production and Management and Audio Production programmes.

The team behind the training is drawn from the best teachers and technical teams from Singapore and many countries around the world. The faculty has outstanding and acclaimed staff in all the disciplines we offer. This is all part of what LASALLE offers in the performing arts.

The LASALLE Show is an excellent showcase for the graduating students and demonstrates how far they have already travelled on their learning journey. Former students are seen in exciting venues and companies in Singapore and overseas, including in London and New York. These new graduates are prepared to join them as part of the ever-growing family of practitioners from LASALLE.

They have studied in a specialist college of the arts, dedicated to contemporary arts that relate to the world around us, and our staff and students connect what they do in the studios, theatres and classrooms to the events swirling around us; this will support their understanding of how to make an impact when they leave us. So, watch out for that exploding impact on all of us as they finish The LASALLE Show!

Professor Leon Rubin
Dean, Faculty of Performing Arts

About the show

A toast to the Diploma in Dance graduating class of 2023 on the versatile dance, performance and choreographic skills that they have amassed over the past three years.

We present a choreographic reflection by the graduands on renegotiating their social space. The performers comment on the recent and distant events that have shaped them in a dance by award-winning choreographer Liu I-Ling (Taiwan). Their sense of presence is further stretched in the work by Young Artist Award recipient and alumnus Zhuo Zihao, while Fairul Zahid and alumna Gianti Giadi draw from a mix of traditional dance and contemporary dance backgrounds to challenge the bounds of their physicality.

From the Programme Leader

I wanted to name this performance *No More Pandemic Dances*. I thought it would be funny. But more importantly, it captures our current sentiments in these times and in the performance. We are sick of talking about the pandemic but we can't escape the fact that it has changed us.

From disciplined pandemic living to daily dance classes, the impact of our daily practices on who we are is expressed in Liu I-Ling's *Normal Life*. Liu first worked with our students in 2016 for a Singapore International Festival of the Arts presentation of Bill T Jones' *A Letter/Singapore*. Six years later, I was delighted to have the chance to invite her to create a group work adapted from her own autobiographical solo performance. The nature of the work is dependent on the personal stories of the cast, so although the two versions were created with the same strategies, they developed differently. It was first seen as a work-in-progress at Esplanade Theatre's da:ns festival.

Allocentric has also gone through several iterations with a few different casts. The moment we could travel in 2022, this work by lecturer Fairul Zahid took the students to New York City for the Battery Dance Festival to have their 'revenge travel' experience.

Shall We Talk? came from the dancers' desire to express the difficulties of communication in their shifting group dynamics when stuck with each other day in and day out. In these situations, if the walls could talk, it might look something like Zhuo Zihao's *The Witness—Merely Observing*.

The restrictions imposed due to COVID-19 robbed many performers of long awaited opportunities and as in Gianti Giadi's work, a lot of us had to give up our dreams and bury them in order to move forward. Because this performance is about celebrating the future while acknowledging the past, we raise a glass and say to the dancers and you—¡SALÚD!, which means 'health' in Spanish. This is a toast to the good things to come and a wish for us all to stay in good health.

Melissa Quek

Head, School of Dance & Theatre

Programme Leader, Diploma in Dance

Programme

Allocentric

Choreographer	Fairul Zahid
Synopsis	To dominate or be dominated...
Music	‘Stare’ by Ólafur Arnalds & Nils Frahm
Dancers	Aldie Wong, Bella Neo, Kang Minchae, Natasha Koo, Stanley Ian Cuneta, Jocelyn Tay

Normal Life

Choreographer	Liu I-Ling
Music	‘Dynamite’ by BTS ‘3_180’ by Michael Wall ‘06 7 83’ by Austin Booth and Michael Wall
Dancers (Friday 8pm and Saturday 2:30pm)	Aldie Wong, Dibyaani Rath, Syae, Pang Xue Jing, Stanley Ian Cuneta, Akshara Pradeep, Haziq Abdullah, Lauren Sim, Tan Edwina
Dancers (Thursday and Saturday 8pm)	Evelyn An, Bella Neo, Jacob Daniel Bautista Oliveros, Kang Minchae, Natasha Koo, Amanda Tan Jia Chian, Summer Sanchez, Kim Yoo Young, Sandy Goh

Programme

Shall We Talk?

Choreographers	Kang Minchae and Stanley Ian Cuneta, with Natasha Koo, Pang Xue Jing, Amanda Tan Jia Chian, Jocelyn Tay
Music	‘Licht’ by Komet ‘Stream 08 – Tramway V Remix’ by Komet and Tramway V
Dancers	Aldie Wong, Evelyn An, Bella Neo, Dibyaani Rath, Jacob Daniel Bautista Oliveros, Natasha Koo, Syae, Pang Xue Jing, Amanda Tan Jia Chian, Jocelyn Tay

The Witness—Merely Observing

Choreographer	Zhuo Zihao
Synopsis	You see, I see. Who is seeing?
Music	Zhuo Zihao
Dancers	Evelyn An, Dibyaani Rath, Jacob Daniel Bautista Oliveros, Kang Minchae, Syae, Pang Xue Jing, Stanley Ian Cuneta, Amanda Tan Jia Chian, Jocelyn Tay

Programme

Kenang

Choreographer	Gianti Giadi
Synopsis	To leave something behind... a tribute, a legacy turning the pages of life onto the next chapter...
Music	Krakatau - Rhythms of Reformation Matahari Supercollider Partita for 8 Singers No. 1 Allemande
Dancers	Aldie Wong, Evelyn An, Bella Neo, Dibyaani Rath, Jacob Daniel Bautista Oliveros, Kang Minchae, Natasha Koo, Syae, Pang Xue Jing, Stanley Ian Cuneta, Amanda Tan Jia Chian, Jocelyn Tay

Creative and production team

Professional ⊛
In-house ⊕
Alumni ^
Student ⊕

Artistic Director	Melissa Quek ⊕
Lighting Designer	Tommy Wong ⊕
Stage Manager	Ng Siaw Hui ⊛
Technical Manager	Just oops ⊛
Production Coordinator/Assistant Stage Manager	Sage Tan ^
Sound Engineer	Teo Wee Boon ⊛
Sound Operator	Pung Ki May ⊛
Runners/Follow Spot	Annabelle Phoebe Budyanto ⊕ Evangeline Koo ⊕ Keena Ouh ⊕ Lee Leqi Chloe ⊕

All production work is supported by Senior Technical Officers Patrick Wong and Sayuthi Bin Jasmin, Technical Officers Muhammad Herman Bin Abdul Rahim and Haleem Huff.

Choreographers

Fairul Zahid

Fairul Zahid holds a master's degree (MFA) from New York University, Tisch School of the Arts. He was a principal dancer/choreographer at ASK Dance Company, Christina Noel and the Creature NYC, The Nutcracker New York City Ballet, and LaneCo Arts NYC, as well as an artistic director of Asia Duo Dance Company. He has worked with several local and international choreographers.

Fairul was a lecturer at several universities in Malaysia, including the National Academy of Arts, Culture, and Heritage (ASWARA) and University Technology MARA (UiTM), and is currently a dance lecturer at LASALLE College of the Arts' School of Dance and Theatre. He was also invited to several universities as a guest lecturer/choreographer, including Minzu University, Capital Normal School (Beijing), University of Philippines, and Temple University Philadelphia.

Fairul is a prolific and versatile choreographer/dancer working in the disciplines of contemporary ballet, Malay dance, Chinese classical dance, Indian classical dance and jazz. He has also won local and international awards, including Best Choreographer, Best Group Performance and Best Feature Artist at the Cameronian Arts Award and Yokohama Dance Collection for the MASDANZA prize. He was a recipient of the Royal Arts Gala and Star Scholarship Award by Yayasan Sime Darby Malaysia.

Fairul is currently pursuing his Ph.D. at the University of Malaya (UM) Malaysia, focusing on practice as research in choreography.

Choreographers

Gianti Giadi

Gianti Giadi is a choreographer, a performing artist and the owner of Gigi Art of Dance Studio, Company and Foundation in Jakarta, Indonesia since 2009.

Starting with Indonesian traditional dance when she was four, Gianti continued learning various genres such as Broadway, hip-hop, traditional, contemporary and ballet, eventually graduating with a BA(Hons) Dance from LASALLE College of the Arts, Singapore. She has been teaching for four years and is back this year to choreograph for the Diploma in Dance graduation show.

Gianti won the Most Promising Work and Most Favourite Work awards in 2012 and 2015 respectively as part of Sprouts, a Singaporean choreography competition. Her choreographies have been showcased in different events such as Indonesian singers' concerts, site-specific performances, commercials, contemporary festivals and musicals in Indonesia, Singapore, Philippines, Malaysia, America and Europe.

Gianti's work often explores the theme of human life through storytelling, emotional journey and bodily experience.

Gianti has been teaching for more than 20 years in various genres. She believes that through the performing arts, she can make a positive impact in the community. Gianti is passionate about introducing performing arts to the younger generation as a platform to find their superpower and be the best version of themselves.

Choreographers

Liu I-Ling 劉奕伶

Liu I-Ling is a contemporary dance artist originally from Taiwan, and a former member of Bill T. Jones/ Arnie Zane Company for 11 years.

Liu has been creating choreographies that focus on reminiscence, trauma, social observation and the re-definition of body ‘technique’. In 2022, her duet work *... and, or...* won the Jury Prize of the Yokohama Dance Collection Competition I. She was one of the recipients of the Cloud Gate Art Makers Project in 2021 and her solo work *Normal Life* was presented in da:ns festival 2022 at the Esplanade Singapore.

In recent years, Liu has also collaborated with visual artists, photographers, composers, directors and actors in theatre and film. Since 2019, she has collaborated with filmmaker Su Hui-Yu and performed *The White Waters* in New York City, Taipei and Melbourne. Since 2020, she has participated in artist Ming-Wei Lee’s work *Our Labyrinth* and performed in the Metropolitan Museum and Tate Modern. In 2022, she was the rehearsal director in the Taiwan version of Australian choreographer Stephanie Lake’s work *Colossus*. She is currently a part-time assistant professor at the Taipei University of the Arts.

Choreographers

Zhuo Zihao

Zhuo Zihao is a highly accomplished dance artist with over 23 years of experience in the industry. He is a graduate of the LASALLE-SIA College of the Arts with a Diploma in Dance (2002) and holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Honours) in Dance (2008) from the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts. Zihao's career began with Odyssey Dance Theatre from 2000 to 2004 before he co-founded Dance In Situ (DIS) in 2015. He was also a founding member of The Human Expression (T.H.E) Dance Company, where he served from 2008 to 2016 and has maintained an Associate Artist position since. He currently works as an independent dance artist after leaving T.H.E in 2016.

Zihao has received many accolades throughout his career, including the Young Artist Award (Dance) in 2012. He is known for his iconic works, including *Felt.Sense* in 2013, which was created in collaboration with Bani Haykal's sound composition, exploring what trauma feels like by combining 3D video projection and live performers. Another notable piece is *Being* from Dance In Situ in 2016, which was selected by Straits Time Life! as one of the three "Best of The Year" pieces.

In addition to his stage works, Zihao has also been actively involved on digital and social media platforms. In 2020, he produced 10 episodes on dance for the National Arts Council's 'From the Living Room' Facebook series. He also created 'C.R.A.M - The Prologue' in 2021, a research and development project that explores his philosophy and principles on performance, supported by Raw Moves.

Zihao's latest work and performance is *Half*, a collaborative dance film commissioned by Esplanade Theatres by the Bay for Huayi Festival 2022. The film was conceptualised and directed by award-winning Royston Tan, with music by Chong Li-Chuan, and co-choreography by Yarra lleto and Zihao himself.

Overall, Zhuo Zihao is a visionary dance artist who continues to push boundaries in the industry with his innovative and thought-provoking works.

Alden Wong (Aldie)



[CV](#)

Alden (Aldie) was born and raised in Singapore and has trained in dance since 2018. They are graduating with a Diploma in Dance from LASALLE College of the Arts in 2023. Although Aldie started out with a background purely in street dance, they have expanded practice to include contemporary dance.

They are dedicated to making what they perform their own and expressing the many facets of themselves with gender fluid performances. As a performer who is versatile in many genres, Aldie is interested in both the commercial and abstract worlds of dance. They aspire to find spaces between genres – be it contemporary, jazz or street dance—in order to inform the way they move and choreograph.

Amanda Tan Jia Chian



[CV](#)

Amanda Tan Jia Chian has more than 10 years of professional training as a dancer and facilitator. She is graduating with a Diploma in Dance from LASALLE College of the Arts in 2023. Amanda has formal training in ballet, contemporary dance, rhythmic gymnastics, jazz, street dance, belly dance, Latin dance and Chinese traditional dance.

Prior to her journey at LASALLE, Amanda was a ballet assistant coach for five years in Malaysia and recently started choreographing and teaching contemporary dance and ballet classes in Singapore. Upon graduation, she looks forward to being a performer and inspiring teacher who is able to convey the beauty and knowledge of dance to the general public.

Diploma in Dance

Bella Neo

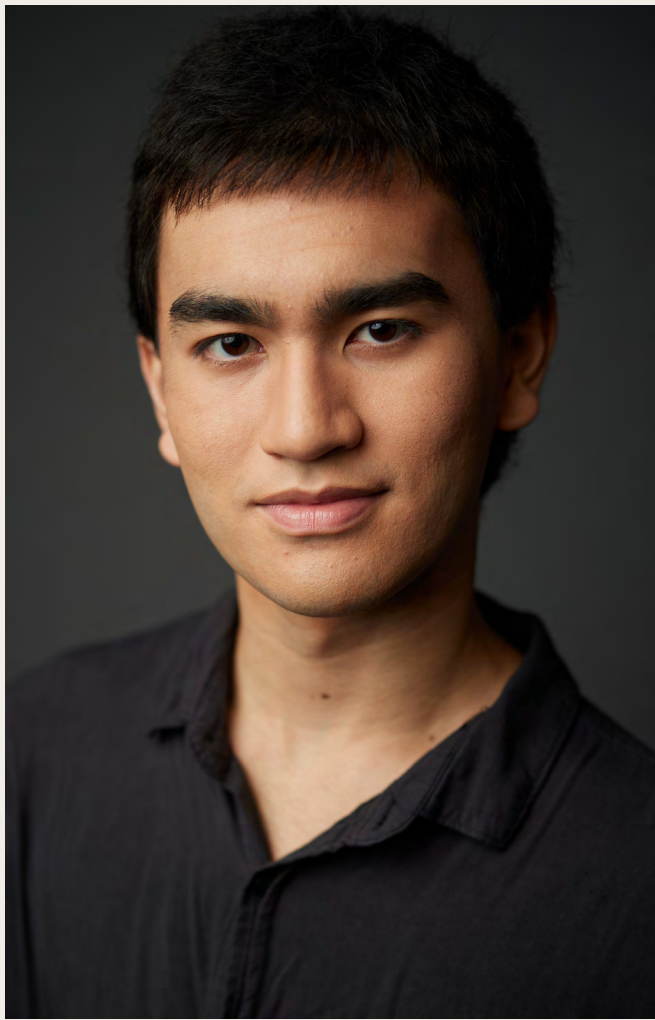


[CV](#)

Bella started her LASALLE journey at the age of 17, determined to pursue dance as a career. Here, she expanded her range of dance genres to include contemporary, ballet and jazz on top of street dance, which she had prior training in. Using the new knowledge acquired from her studies in LASALLE, Bella has continued to find new ways of dancing in order to evolve as a dancer.

Bella also started her teaching journey by becoming became a student apprentice to her mentor in a dance studio. She hopes to inspire her students and help guide them through their dance journeys, cultivating their love for the art form.

Cody Oliveros



[CV](#)

Growing up, Cody loved performing. He would often join school musicals, live performances and even perform in front of his family in the dining room. With a passion for the stage, he decided to pursue an education in dance.

Upon entering LASALLE’s Diploma in Dance programme, Cody was exposed to many different genres such as ballet, jazz, street dance and contemporary dance. With the knowledge he gained from his time here, Cody is now not only more confident in his performances, but more open-minded and passionate about trying new things. He hopes to continue finding deeper meaning about himself as an artist.

Diploma in Dance

Dibyaani Rath



[CV](#)

Dibyaani is graduating with a Diploma in Dance from LASALLE College of the Arts in 2023. She trained in kathak, an Indian classical dance style, ballet and street styles prior to joining LASALLE.

Dibyaani’s training in LASALLE exposed her to many other styles and several industry opportunities. She intends to pursue being a performer and exploring movement therapy in the future. Most of all, Dibyaani hopes to inspire and help people with her knowledge and love for movement.

Evelyn An



[CV](#)

Evelyn is graduating with a Diploma in Dance from LASALLE College of the Arts in 2023. With her dance training strongly rooted in street styles, her time in LASALLE provided her with a platform expand into different genres, as well as demonstrate her talents and abilities in choreography and performance. Evelyn’s performances in the College include *Tipping Points*, Esplanade’s da:ns fest, and the dance grad show.

Evelyn harnesses the power of structured dance movements to help with physical rehabilitation as well as enhance coordination, strength and health. She aspires to further her career as a dance instructor and dance therapist, using dance and movement as a therapeutic method to treat physical, emotional and behavioural problems. Evelyn also hopes to inspire and share her love for dance with people with disabilities and those struggling with mental illness.

Diploma in Dance

Jocelyn Tay



[CV](#)

Jocelyn comes from a strictly ballet background. She is an aspiring performer who is graduating with a Diploma in Dance from LASALLE College of the Arts in 2023. Since coming to LASALLE, Jocelyn has been exposed to various dance genres and ways of moving.

During her school breaks for the past two and a half years, Jocelyn has been assisting and teaching in ballet classes, and she constantly seeks new ways to improve her skills as a teacher and dancer. She hopes to inspire and guide students through her teaching.

Kang Minchae



[CV](#)

Kang Minchae is a passionate dancer and aspiring choreographer. She is graduating with a Diploma in Dance from LASALLE College of the Arts in 2023. Minchae’s experiences and studies have helped her to see dance in diverse perspectives and approach it thoughtfully. She believes dance can take many different forms and hopes to explore the form in unconventional ways.

Minchae is deeply interested in choreographing movement works and has been developing her skills to grow as an artist. She collaborated with the Puttnam School of Film and Animation on a dance film called *Dispel*, which was presented at the SWEAT Hong Kong International Festival 2022.

Diploma in Dance

Natasha Koo



CV

A spirited individual with a bubbly demeanour, Natasha is a passionate and driven dancer who has taken many leaps of faith in order to achieve her lifelong goal of becoming a performer. In her efforts to make her performing dreams come true, she has explored a range of disciplines in the industry, letting her love for the arts propel her learning.

After specialising in dance at School of the Arts Singapore from 2015 to 2019, Natasha decided to advance her dance studies. She is now graduating from LASALLE College of the Arts where she honed her skills in ballet, contemporary dance, jazz and street dance.

As of late, Natasha completed her internship with Singapore Chinese Dance Theatre, and following her performance in the successful world premiere of *Allocentric* (choreographed by Fairul Zahid) in New York, Natasha was offered a place at LaneCoArts, a dance company in New York.

Diploma in Dance

Pang Xue Jing



[CV](#)

Xue Jing is graduating with a Diploma in Dance from LASALLE College of the Arts. She started dancing at the age of 17 when she joined ITE Modern Dance in 2018 as her co-curricular activity. Upon graduation from ITE College West, she continued her passion in the performing arts and took up dance in LASALLE.

Having performed previously in Hong Kong and *Emblazon* in 2018, 2019 and 2022 in Singapore, Xue Jing has received several awards locally and internationally over the years. She is most in her element on stage and is able to express herself with ease when doing what she loves best—performing.

Stanley Ian Cuneta



[CV](#)

Stanley is a passionate dancer who strives to hone his artistry in the form. Graduating with a Diploma in Dance from LASALLE College of the Arts, he has capitalised on his street dance background, such as popping, to help him advance in classes and his choreography.

Being a versatile and reflective dancer, Stanley wishes to be able to create works that investigate human interactions and develop his own way of moving. Stanley also conducts rollerblading classes for kids and adults outside of dance as he finds joy and satisfaction in promoting a healthy lifestyle.

Diploma in Dance

Syae



CV

Syae started her dance training in 2016 and is graduating with a Diploma in Dance from LASALLE College of the Arts in 2023. On top of her background in street dance, Syae has expanded her skill sets, infusing contemporary movements in the way she moves. Her time at LASALLE has also developed her conceptual thinking as a choreographer.

Syae choreographed competition pieces for her ITE junior team for three years and is currently active in performing and competing with an external street dance crew. She is an expressive performer who hopes to inspire and nurture the younger generation of dancers by sharing her experience and knowledge.

Faculty of Performing Arts

Singapore is situated at the crossroads of Western and Eastern performing arts cultures and practices, and LASALLE College of the Arts's Faculty of Performing Arts is committed to pushing the boundaries in contemporary performing arts. The Faculty provides students with the requisite skills, training and critical knowledge to develop their artistic sensibilities to professional employment levels, significantly contributing to the development of practice-based research in Singapore and on the international stage.

LASALLE's Faculty of Performing Arts offers a range of comprehensive undergraduate programmes in Dance, Music, and Theatre. The degree programmes are offered at Honours level and include Acting, Music (Jazz, Popular Music, Classical Music, Composition, Music Technology), and Musical Theatre. In addition, the Faculty offers diplomas in Audio Production, Dance, Music, Performance and Theatre Production and Management.

Professional alumni include some of the most distinguished performing arts practitioners in Singapore and beyond including: actor/singer Kit Chan, actor Elena Wang (*Beauty World*, *The King and I* on The West End), theatre practitioner Natalie Hennedige (Cake Theatre), theatre practitioner Tan Beng Tian (The Finger Players), Noor Effendy Ibrahim (theatre director), actor Seong Hui Xuan (Best Supporting Actress, Life! Theatre Awards 2013), actor Linden Furnell (*La Cage aux Folles*), actor Rosanna Hyland (*Sister Act*, *Carousel*, *Shrek The Musical* on West End), actor Tim Carney (*Mamma Mia!*), Hilde Holme (*No Regrets*), actor Oon Shu An (FLY Entertainment artiste), dancer Elysa Wendi (independent choreographer), music entrepreneur Julie Tan (Music Essentials), sound designer Philip Tan (Philipbeat Studios), arts scholar

Vincent Yong (the first Singaporean admitted to the prestigious Rotterdam Dance Academy), percussionist Riduan Zailani (Wicked Aura Batucada, Singapore Youth Award 2013 recipient), music artists Mark John Hariman (Allura), Nick Chim, Michaela Therese, and Amanda Ling.

Several alumni have also received Young Artist Awards, including Sufri Juwahir (2018), Zulkifli Mohamed Amin (2018), Yarra Iletto (2017), Riduan Zalani (2015), Ian Loy (2014), Lee Mun Wai (2014), Zhuo Zihao (2012).

Faculty of Performing Arts

School of Dance & Theatre

Find out more
here.

Offering BA(Hons) programmes for Acting and Musical Theatre, as well as Diplomas in Dance, Performance, and Theatre Production and Management, the School of Dance & Theatre takes students on a challenging but personal learning journey, nurturing the talent of today into the leading arts practitioners of tomorrow.

With the ability to push the boundaries of performance and production by exploring the fluidity of cultures and disciplines, the School's ethos focuses on contemporary performance, actively engaging with technologies and practices that encourage experimentation. Situated in the hub of rising Asia, students will be exposed to a rich variety of performance cultures from around the region.

During the course of studies, students will learn through rehearsal processes under the direction of LASALLE staff, local and international visiting directors, choreographers and music directors. Students' learning journeys are punctuated by performance opportunities at a range of sites and venues and culminate in performances at the College's professionally-equipped theatre venues, as well as film and recording studios. They can also look forward to gaining real-world experience through the development of new works in conjunction with global industry and community partners.

Upon graduation, not only will students be technically proficient, but also collaborative, critical thinkers capable of working across disciplines, industries and media as artists and entrepreneurs.

Faculty of Performing Arts

School of Dance & Theatre

Diploma in Dance

Find out more
here.

The close guidance of lecturers, a supportive environment and many performance opportunities provided by this holistic programme will help students develop into a versatile performer in a range of artistic and commercial dance contexts—highly sought-after as a dancer, dance teacher and choreographer and well prepared for further study.

An international faculty of lecturers and guest artists will teach a diverse range of dance techniques: Street Dance, Jazz, Ballet and Contemporary Dance. Over three years, students will focus on techniques and styles decided through negotiation with lecturers. Allied classes will also improve technical proficiency, strength, expressive range and versatility in performance. The classes also include somatic based approaches, performance techniques and Asian movement practices.

Strength in creativity and performance is further enhanced through choreography, improvisation classes and a range of exciting choreography and cross-disciplinary projects with renowned arts venues and institutions. These may be augmented with a variety of theatrical and acting techniques such as Viewpoints, Dance Improvisation, Contact Work, Mask Work and Animal Work. Exposure to these many techniques will help students to be a more expressive and multidisciplinary performer. This is supported by performance opportunities in multiple performance venues, styles and situations.

Employability is further enhanced through exposure to dance pedagogy, career paths and options, audition techniques and the local industry. Critical thinking and self-reflexivity is part of the training at every level.

Click here to view
The LASALLE Show
season guide.



