

ODC Theater Staff

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Mission and Impact:

ODC Theater exists to empower and develop innovative artists. It participates in the creation of new works through commissioning, presenting, mentorship and space access; it develops informed, engaged and committed audiences; and advocates for the performing arts as an essential component to the economic and cultural development of our community. The Theater is the site of over 150 performances a year involving nearly 1,000 local, regional, national and international artists.

Since 1976, ODC Theater has been the mobilizing force behind countless San Francisco artists and the foothold for national and international touring artists seeking debut in the Bay Area. Our Theater, founded by Brenda Way and currently under the direction of Rob Bailis, has earned its place as a cultural incubator by dedicating itself to creative change-makers, those leaders who give our region its unmistakable definition and flare. Nationally known artists Spaulding Gray, Diamanda Galas, Molissa Fenley, Bill T. Jones, Eiko & Koma, Ronald K. Brown/EVIDENCE, Banarra and Karole Armitage are among those who's first San Francisco appearance occurred at ODC Theater. ODC Theater reopened in September 2010 after a successful capital campaign resulting in a brand new state of the art facility dedicated to dance.

For more information on ODC Theater and all its programs please visit:
www.odctheater.org

Support:

ODC Theater is supported in part by the following foundations and agencies: Creative Work Fund, The Wallace Alexander Gerbode Foundation, Grants for the Arts/San Francisco Hotel Tax Fund, James Irvine Foundation, LEF Foundation, National Dance Project, National Endowment for the Arts, San Francisco Foundation, San Francisco Arts Commission, Walter & Elise Haas Fund, William & Flora Hewlett Foundation, the Zellerbach Family Foundation and The Fleishhacker Foundation. ODC Theater is a proud member of Association of Performing Arts Presenters, Chamber Music America, Dance USA, Dancer's Group, and Theater Bay Area.

Funding has been made possible by the Puffin Foundation

Photo by Elazar Harel



ODC Theater and Epiphany Productions *sdt*
with Refugee Transitions Present

HOME SEASON 2011

Honoring the strength and courage of refugees from around the world
in correspondence with World Refugee Day.



Home Season 2011

Alonesome/Twosome

A duet created from an air mail drawing given to Epifano by artist Remy Charlip.

Choreography and Costumes: Kim Epifano

Dancers: Christine Bonansea, Antoine Hunter

Composers/Musicians: Stephen Kent, Kim Epifano

Lighting Design: Tony Shayne, Randy Symank, Kim Epifano

Solo lo Que Fue “Just a Moment” (work in progress)

Filmed in Bar El Norteño, est. 1954. Mexicali, Mexico

Conceived and Directed by Kim Epifano

Dancers: Eunice Hidalgo, Rosa Andrea Gómez, Verónica Gaytán, Francisco Herreron, Hildelena Vázquez, Innés Herrera, Mónica López, Manuel Torres, Ricardo Zavala

Pura Pulpa: Aida Corral, vocals; Sergio Vela, guitar, tambourine; Iván Anguiano, violin

Editor: Claudia Sequeiros **Cameras:** Alberto Zamudio, Cesar León, Claudia Sequeiros

Following the Birds

A song created on a wooden porch in a downpour in Hawassa, Ethiopia

Musicians: Kim Epifano, Stephen Kent, Sally Davis

Song written by Kim Epifano **Arrangement by** Kim Epifano, Stephen Kent

The Internationals EPSDT Mentorship Program with Refugee Transitions

Performers: Jyoti, Hema

Director: Kim Epifano

Lighting Design: Tony Shayne

Boys’ Band of Burma EPSDT Mentorship Program with Refugee Transitions

Musicians: Stephen Kent, Kap Khan Lian, Oo Reh, Zar Ni Maung

Liberian Next Generation EPSDT Mentorship Program with Refugee Transitions

Performers: Christina, Samuel, Donald, Patience, Adralyn, Beatrice

Director, Director of Photography: Kim Epifano

Video Editor: Gladys Kawai Liu

Intermission: ODC Lobby Photo Gallery by Kim Epifano

Heelomali “Unique” in Amharic.

The name given to Lucy’s Bones by the Afar people of the Rift Valley, excavated on Nov. 24, 1974.

Conceived, Directed and Choreographed by Kim Epifano *with input from the dancers.*

Performers: Christine Bonansea, Laura Elaine Ellis, Ara Glenn Johanson, Janine Trinidad

Composer/Musicians: Su Wai, Stephen Kent, Kim Epifano, Sally Davis

Poetics: Miranda Mellis, Kim Epifano

Songs: Kim Epifano, Stephen Kent, Su Wai, Miranda Mellis, Ara Glenn-Johanson

Lighting Designer: Tony Shayne

Visual Design and Costumes: Kim Epifano

Videography: Gladys Kawai Liu

Internationals - Jyoti and Hema

Jyoti was born in Bhutan and lived in a refugee camp in Nepal for 15 years. She came to the U.S. in 2009 and attends high school in Oakland. Next year, she will attend San Francisco State University and plans to study international relations, Asian American studies and/or biology.

Hema grew up in a refugee camp in Nepal where she lived for 17 years before resettling to Oakland in 2008. Hema is an avid dancer and was selected to perform in a Bollywood film when she was living in Nepal. Next year, she will begin a nursing course at Lake Merritt College.

Hema and Jyoti, along with Kap Khan Lian, a member of Boys Band of Burma, are Refugee Youth Leaders with Refugee Transitions and also attend their after-school tutoring program at Oakland International High School.

Boys Band of Burma - Kap Khan Lian and Zar Ni Maung

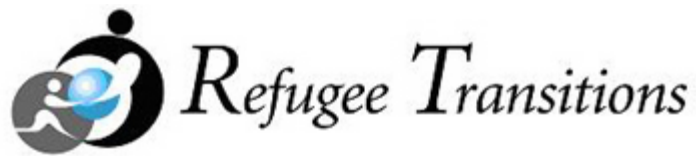
Kap Khan Lian left Burma for Malaysia in 2006, and resettled in Oakland in 2008. His first summer job was painting murals for the city of Oakland, and with the money he saved he bought his first guitar since leaving Burma. Next year, Kap Khan Lian will attend community college. He aspires to be a famous singer.

Zar Ni Maung grew up in Rangoon and was active in the student democracy movement while at university. He fled the country in 1989 and first arrived in Accra, Ghana where he lived for over three years before resettling in Daly City with his two young sons. Zar Ni co-founded and managed a Burmese rock band called C4 (1997-2002) and he is very excited to return to the stage. He is also a staff member at Refugee Transitions and dedicates his life to serving refugee communities.

Background on Bhutan, Burma, and Liberia

Bhutan has the reputation for being the happiest country in the world. However, a large number of refugees have fled due to Bhutan’s program of ethnic cleansing. Since 1990, thousands of Bhutanese citizens of Nepalese descent have been victims of rampant persecution and now live in refugee camps in neighboring Nepal where, despite ethnic ties, they are also unwelcome. **Burma** has been under military rule since 1962. It is the source of one of the world’s most protracted refugee crises. Around 150,000 people have lived in refugee camps in Thailand for over two decades. **Liberia** has experienced decades of civil war. Over 750,000 Liberians (out of a total population of 2.5 million) were forced to leave their homes – many living for years in refugee camps in neighboring countries such as the Ivory Coast.

To support Bay Area refugees by getting involved with Refugee Transitions as a volunteer or donor, or to learn more about the organization, please visit their website at <http://www.reftrans.org> or call (415) 989-2151.



Refugee Transitions students participated in a six month mentorship/residency program with Epiphany Dance Productions to prepare for tonight's performances. Refugee Transitions has been serving the Bay Area's refugees - individuals who are forced to flee their home countries due to war or persecution - since 1982. The organization's mission is to assist refugee and immigrant families in becoming self-sufficient by providing services to help them attain the English language, life, job, and academic skills they need to succeed in their new communities. Refugee Transitions is the only agency in the Bay Area to offer individualized, home-based English language and civics education instruction, in addition to classes and after-school tutoring at community sites and schools, family support, citizenship preparation, and leadership opportunities to refugees.

In Refugee Transitions' home-based tutoring program, trained volunteers are matched with refugee youth or adults to serve as tutors and mentors, offering individualized attention and lessons in the safety and comfort of their student's own home. These dedicated students and volunteers work together for at least six months. Many tutoring relationships last for years.

Refugee Transitions offers an array of vital programs for refugee youth. Their after-school tutoring programs support refugee and immigrant students whose guardians often struggle to support their children with their studies. Each year, Refugee Transitions also holds summer camps for refugee youth that encourage students to participate in enriching activities, make lasting friendships, practice their English, and have fun in a safe and supportive environment.

Additionally, highly motivated refugee youth and adults participate in Refugee Transitions' leadership programs as Refugee Youth Leaders or Community Navigator Interns - developing skills in leadership and peer tutoring, and linking their communities to supportive resources.

Liberian Next Generation - Adralyn, Beatrice, Christina, Donald, Patience, Samuel

Performers in Liberian Next Generation are refugees from Liberia who maintain their culture and traditions in part through the art of dance. Having arrived in the U.S. with very little formal education, these students have made remarkable gains in their short time here. Samuel completed high school last year and is now working in Oakland; **Patience, Adralyn, Donald, Beatrice** and **Christina** are working hard in high school to reach their dreams of being nurses, doctors, childcare workers and professional dancers! Members of Liberian Next Generation have been enrolled in home-based tutoring programs through Refugee Transitions since their arrival, and most have attended Refugee Transitions' summer camps.

Epiphany Productions Sonic Dance Theater

Kim Epifano founded Epiphany Productions in 1997 to aid her work in "sonic dance theater," a genre-bending blend of dance, theater, and vocalization in which dancers, musicians, aerialists, and actors work together to weave a story on stage. Winner of the San Francisco Weekly's 2010 "Best Transit Ballet," EPSDT presents San Francisco Trolley Dances (SFTD), a Free annual festival, named by audiences "Art for Citizens." Presented along the City's trolley lines, SFTD commissions new site-specific work by Bay Area choreographers, with Kids on Track, an educational component for Bay Area schools. The company has developed 18 large-scale, multi-disciplinary collaborative productions, including "The Big Meadow Ball," performed in the SF Botanical Gardens; "Alonesome/Twosome" March 2010 preview performance at a dance festival in Tunis, Tunisia, produced by Mad'Art Carthage; "Chula," performed 4 miles from the US-Mexico border; "Speaking Chinese," and a cross-cultural collaboration that premiered in the San Francisco International Arts Festival at YBCA. EPSDT has received the SF Weekly's Black Box Award for Best Dance Ensemble, and placed first in Mexico's Bi-National Competition. EPSDT is dedicated to educational and cultural outreach, spanning the distance locally and internationally, forging new bonds and creating new work with underserved and neglected populations. EPSDT's most recent exchange is with Escuela de Artes de la Universidad Aut6noma de Baja California, in Mexicali, Mexico, teaching master classes and creating a site-specific video with local artists. EPSDT has received support from the National Endowment for the Arts, Creative Work Fund, Dance/USA's Dance: Creation to Performance, The Irvine Foundation, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, San Francisco Hotel Tax Fund, Walter and Elise Haas Fund, Kenneth Rainin Foundation, San Francisco Arts Commission, California Arts Council, Phyllis C. Wattis Foundation and others.

Artistic/Executive Director: Kim Epifano

General Manager: Kelley Riebel

Technical Director: Tony Shayne

Publicist: Lisa Okuhn

PR/Assistant Stage Manager: Ami du Cre

Videography: Gladys Kawai Liu

ASL Interpreter: Sherry Hicks

Intern: Caitlin Hafer

Epiphany Productions' Sonic Dance Theater Board of Directors

James Hunter, Elaine Hamblin, Shana Hudson, Richard Kittle, Joan Moon, Kim Epifano, Kristi Reed, Randy Symank. Advisor: Christy Rocca

The Epiphany Productions Sonic Dance Theater 2011 Home Season is funded by the San Francisco Hotel Tax Fund/Grants for the Arts; the Lighting Artists in Dance Award, a program of Dancers' Group; the Walter and Elise Haas Fund; Rainbow Grocery and the Lucky Star Foundation.

Thanks to: Lucy Callahan, Hanae Cricket Kambara-Coughlin, Roger Hillyard, Richard Kittle, Brenda Marie, Courtney Nock, ODC Theater, Jody Radzik, Mark Wagner, Anthony Zulu. Refugee Transitions: Laura Vaudreuil, Lauren Markham, Sandy Nating, Zar Ni Maung.

Donate Today! To support Epiphany Productions *sdt* as a volunteer or a donor. For more info, please visit www.epiphanydance.org or by call (415) 647-1443.

Join us for the 8th Annual San Francisco Trolley Dances, October 15 and 16, 2011!

Kim Epifano has a 25-year history as an award-winning choreographer, director, performer, and educator in the Bay Area and around the world. She has been awarded four Isadora Duncan Dance Awards (IZZIES) and nominated on as many occasions. Epifano is a 2011 CHIME mentor selected by the Margaret Jenkins Dance Company, was a Djerassi Foundation artist-in-residence and was awarded several grants from the San Francisco Arts Commission Individual Artists program. Her works have been presented by the Aerial Dance Festival, Boulder CO, San Diego's Sushi, Switzerland's TanzOlten Festival, Mexico's Paralelos 32 Co., Los Angeles' Catch Me Bird, Germany's ResistDance and Ireland's Croi Glan Integrated Dance Company, among others. Recent collaborations include new works and community residencies in Chile, Ethiopia, India, Tunisia, and Vietnam. Epifano was a key member of two of San Francisco's most noted dance companies: the Dance Brigade and Contraband. Epifano is the co-director of the Mudd Butt Mystery Troupe, celebrating 25 years of excellence in theater, dance and music in Telluride, CO. Cofounder/ artistic director of Mudd Butt International, a cross-cultural program connecting young artists together from around the world. She received her MFA in Choreography from UC Davis and has more than 15 years of experience teaching dance at the collegiate level, including UC Berkeley, UC Davis, UC San Diego, Stanford University, Arizona State University, Skidmore College, and University of San Francisco.

Christine Bonansea is a French dancer, choreographer and filmmaker living and performing in the USA for 4 years. She studied in France Literature at the University La Sorbonne, pursued her training in a National dance school where she got the national Modern dance graduation. Selected in National Choreographic Dance Centers with Catherine Diverres, Regine Chopinot (ENMD), and Mathilde Monnier (Exerce 99) she completed her research and explored diverse visual arts as well as physical performing techniques. She's been performing and collaborating internationally with various artists over the last 12 years.

Sally Davis works as a musician, theater director, and arts educator in Telluride, Co. and in communities around the world. She is a recipient of the Telluride Institute Visionary Award and has recently received three Just for Kids grants. She has performed with Epiphany Productions, Telluride Repertory Theater, and composers Terry Riley and Peter Whitehead. Her ongoing projects with children include, Circus Holus Bolus, Mudd Butt Mystery Theater Toupe, Story Theater and the Telluride Institute's Watershed Education Puppet Theater.

Laura Elaine Ellis is principal dancer with Dimensions Dance Theater and tours nationally and internationally with this award-winning company. Ellis has had the honor of performing in works by choreographers Joan Lazarus, Donald McKayle, Garth Fagan, Duncan Macfarland, Anne Bluethenthal, and Robert Moses. She is recipient of the 08-09 Izzie Award for Outstanding Individual Performance. Ellis is also a teacher, choreographer, and the Executive Director of AAAPAC; co-presenters of the Black Choreographers Festival Here & Now. The Heelomali journey has been joyous!

Antoine Hunter is an African-American Deaf and Hard of Hearing choreographer, dancer, dance instructor, model, actor and poet, performing internationally. Mr. Hunter has appeared on the front cover of DEAF LIFE Magazine and was the 2011 MJ Chime Award and Bay Area Dancer's Choice award winner. He has performed with Savage Jazz Dance

Company, Nuba Dance Theater, Sins Invalid, Epiphany Productions Sonic Dance Theater. Mr. Hunter is the Founder/Director of Urban Jazz Dance Company, a faculty member at East Bay Center of the Performing Arts, Dance-A-Vision, youth, in Arts, Shawl and Anderson Dance Center and Ross Dance Company.

Ara Glenn-Johanson has been seen in The Lily's Revenge (Mary Prime Love) at The Magic Theatre, Trolley Dances 2010 with Epiphany Productions SDT, Romeo & Juliet and Twelfth Night at Impact Theatre, Glory Glory with Front Line Theatre, The Magik*Magik Orchestra at the Palace of Fine Arts and SFMOMA, Sextuple Indemnity in the NYC Fringe, and Equus at CharasNYC. Her original performance compositions have been shown in SF at venues including ODC, CounterPULSE, Dance Mission Theatre, The Garage, and SOMArts. She holds a BFA in drama (NYU/Tisch - ETW & CAP21) and an MFA in acting (UCD). Ara is a founding member of Front Line Theatre.

Stephen Kent is an international multi-instrumentalist and composer, and is one of the premier Didgeridoo players in the contemporary world. From his position in 1981 as MD of Australia's Circus Oz, award winning composer for Barcelona contemporary dance, to a catalog of over 20 CD releases, including multiple group projects Trance Mission, Lights in a Fat City and, most recently, Australian Bebop Ragas & Baraka Moon. He has worked with extraordinary musicians around the planet including Airto Moreira (Brazil), Zakir Hussain (India), Habib Koite (Mali), Chirgilchin (Tuva), Omar Sosa (Cuba), Del Sol Quartet (USA). He has collaborated with Kim Epifano on 4 projects, including 2 Trolley Dances and a 2010 Tunisia tour. Stephen has hosted a weekly "Music of the World" show on KPFA for 15 years. www.stephenkent.net.

Tony Shayne lighting: dance, John Jasperse: Beyond Belief, Reparté, ShadowLight, Once Upon a Plie and 125 Years of Dance; plays, Oklahoma!, #5 The Angry Red Drum, Noises Off, The Swan, Trojan Women; technical direction, Ah, Wilderness, The Country Club, Absolute Turkey, MFA Workshops 2005-6. Tony received his graduate degrees at UC Davis in Lighting & Scenic Design. His designs include Paheliyan: The Story of Alice, a bollywood dance adaptation of Alice in Wonderland and a fundraiser event CirqueWood, involving Cirque Du Soleil aerialists and contortionists. Film and television: animation lighting, Family Guy(Fox) and Holidayz (ABC). He has served as the lighting intern at the San Francisco Opera, SF Ballet, Houston Ballet, and LA Opera.

Janine Trinidad is a movement artist who began her dance training in jazz, ballet, tap, and lyrical. She went on to study (post)modern dance at UC Berkeley and graduated with a BA in Rhetoric and a minor in Dance & Performance Studies. Janine has performed with La Alternativa (formerly MotionLab), Jess Curtis/Gravity, Smith/Wymore Disappearing Acts, project agora, Amy Raymond, Pearl Ubungen, among others, as well as in her own work. This is her first appearance with Epiphany Productions.

Su Wai was born and lived in Burma until she recently arrived in the US. She is a top Saung Gauk (Burmese harp) player, and singer in Burma and in the US. Hearing her father play Burmese mandolin in the evenings in the small village where they lived inspired Su Wai musically. She progressed rapidly in her harp studies, passing the stiff requirements to attend the University of Culture, where she excelled in harp and vocal. Recently Su Wai was featured in the 3-night long San Francisco World Music Festival in Nov 2010. Her new CD is called GITA PON YEIK (The Image of Music).