

XIAO KE x ZI HAN  
Dance + Documentary Theater

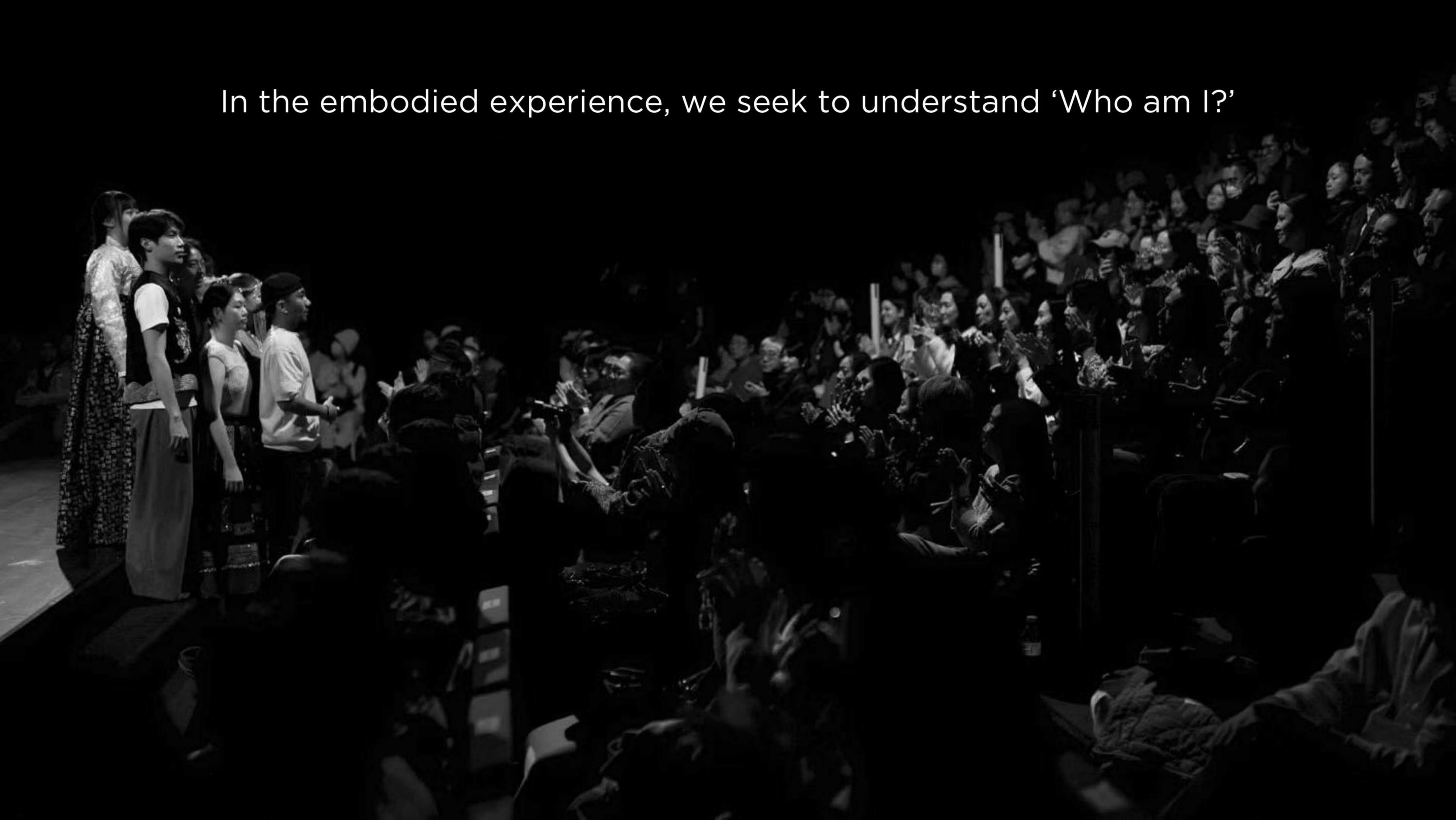


## **All Possible Bodies AP91**

is a contemporary theatre work commissioned by PSA, Power Station of Art Museum Shanghai and the Chanel Culture Fund. Created in 2025 by the artist duo XIAO KE X ZI HAN, it explores contemporary identity and worldviews through the medium of the physical body, personal memory, cultural identity, and ethnic dance.

The work employs the fusion of personal and ethnic identities as its research methodology, undertaking an archaeological excavation of personal histories within contemporary life and cultural integration. Blending dance theatre with documentary theatre, it presents a research and theatrical project composed of personal chronicles, offering a response to the present moment.

In the embodied experience, we seek to understand 'Who am I?'



This world seems increasingly inclined towards a singular identity—one bestowed by modern civilisation. As we prepare to enter the era of all-encompassing intelligence, how should we comprehend our past traditions? How do we preserve the meaning bestowed upon us by our physicality? Xiao Ke and ZiHan's theatrical work *All Possible Bodies AP91* invites you into the reality of the individual and the interpretation of the hidden historical codes within the body, embarking on a shared cultural journey. How we understand ourselves determines how we comprehend the world.

● 447

在你的民族文化中，会一起跳舞吗？👯👯👯👯

In your ethnic heritage, do you dance together?



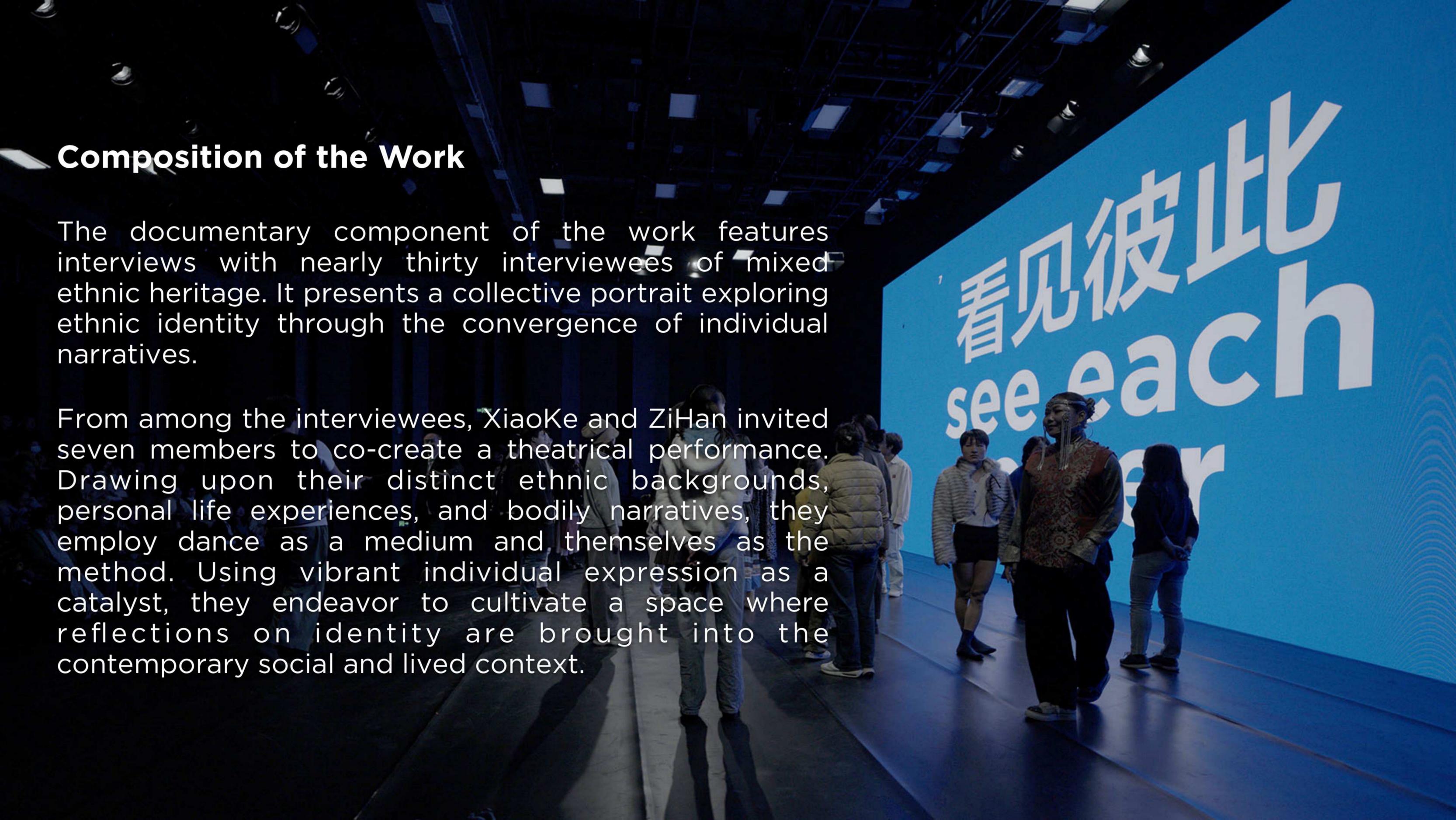
Bloodlines, ancestry, roots, origins—these foundations that bind our existence have grown blurred. We find greater comfort in the collective conformity of ideology, yet we constantly express our individual differences.

Employ yourself as the method: return to the flesh, seek out your own unique code, trace the genetic threads of diverse cultures within you. In an age where everything can be replicated and reconfigured, refresh your crystallized sense of identity. Recognize those “minority” components residing within your own body—for it is precisely these that affirm the existence of the singular individual.

## Composition of the Work

The documentary component of the work features interviews with nearly thirty interviewees of mixed ethnic heritage. It presents a collective portrait exploring ethnic identity through the convergence of individual narratives.

From among the interviewees, XiaoKe and ZiHan invited seven members to co-create a theatrical performance. Drawing upon their distinct ethnic backgrounds, personal life experiences, and bodily narratives, they employ dance as a medium and themselves as the method. Using vibrant individual expression as a catalyst, they endeavor to cultivate a space where reflections on identity are brought into the contemporary social and lived context.

A large blue wall with white text in Chinese and English, and a group of people in a dark space. The text on the wall reads "看见彼此" (See each other) in Chinese and "see each other" in English. The background is a dark space with a grid of lights on the ceiling and a group of people standing in the foreground. One person is wearing a traditional Chinese costume.

看见彼此  
see each other

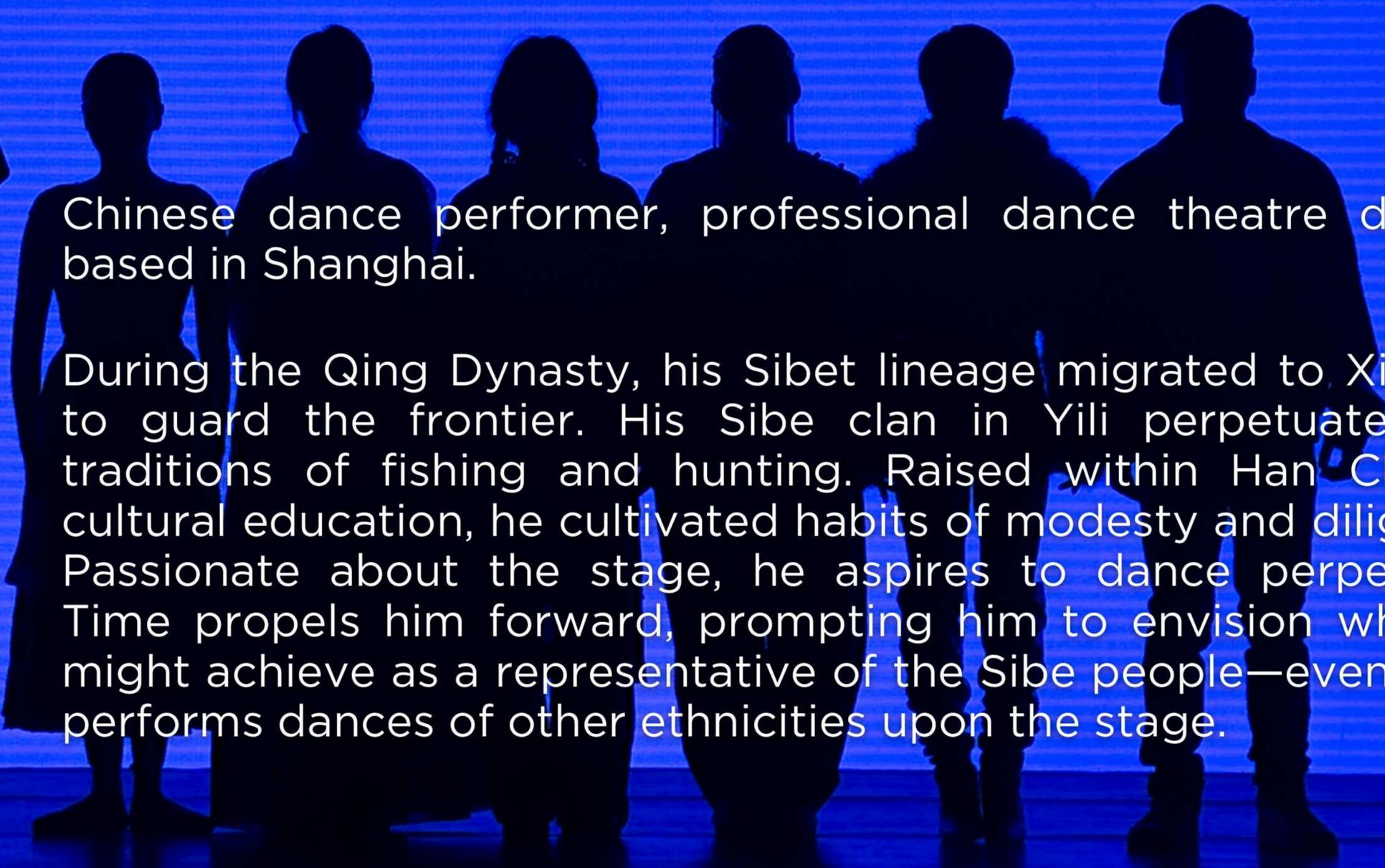
Performer | **Song Yanlin** (Yanlin)

Sibet ethnicity, 25 years old.



Chinese dance performer, professional dance theatre dancer, based in Shanghai.

During the Qing Dynasty, his Sibet lineage migrated to Xinjiang to guard the frontier. His Sibe clan in Yili perpetuated the traditions of fishing and hunting. Raised within Han Chinese cultural education, he cultivated habits of modesty and diligence. Passionate about the stage, he aspires to dance perpetually. Time propels him forward, prompting him to envision what he might achieve as a representative of the Sibe people—even as he performs dances of other ethnicities upon the stage.

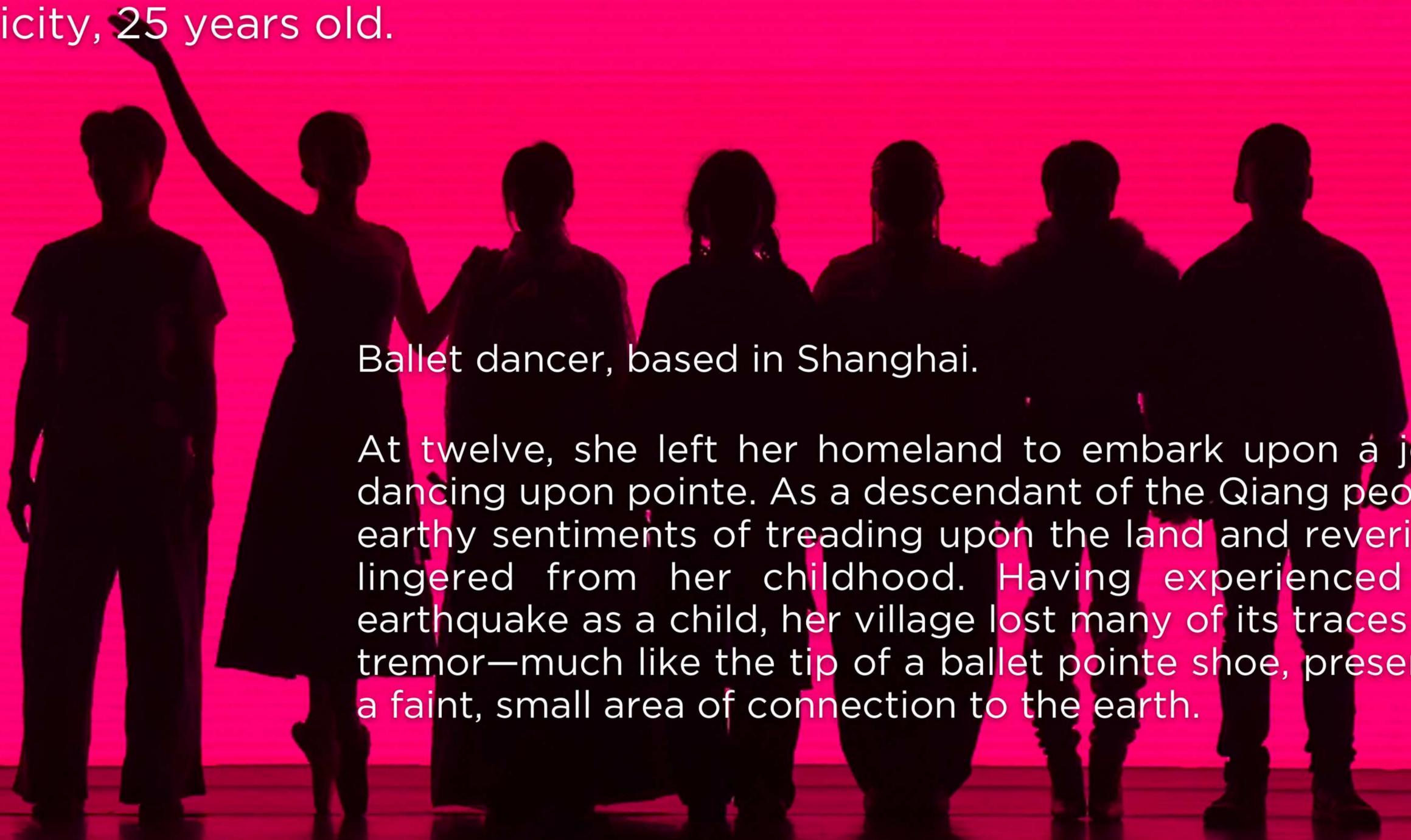


Performer | **Yan Qixin** (Dingding)

Qiang ethnicity, 25 years old.

Ballet dancer, based in Shanghai.

At twelve, she left her homeland to embark upon a journey of dancing upon pointe. As a descendant of the Qiang people, those earthy sentiments of treading upon the land and revering nature lingered from her childhood. Having experienced a major earthquake as a child, her village lost many of its traces after that tremor—much like the tip of a ballet pointe shoe, preserving only a faint, small area of connection to the earth.



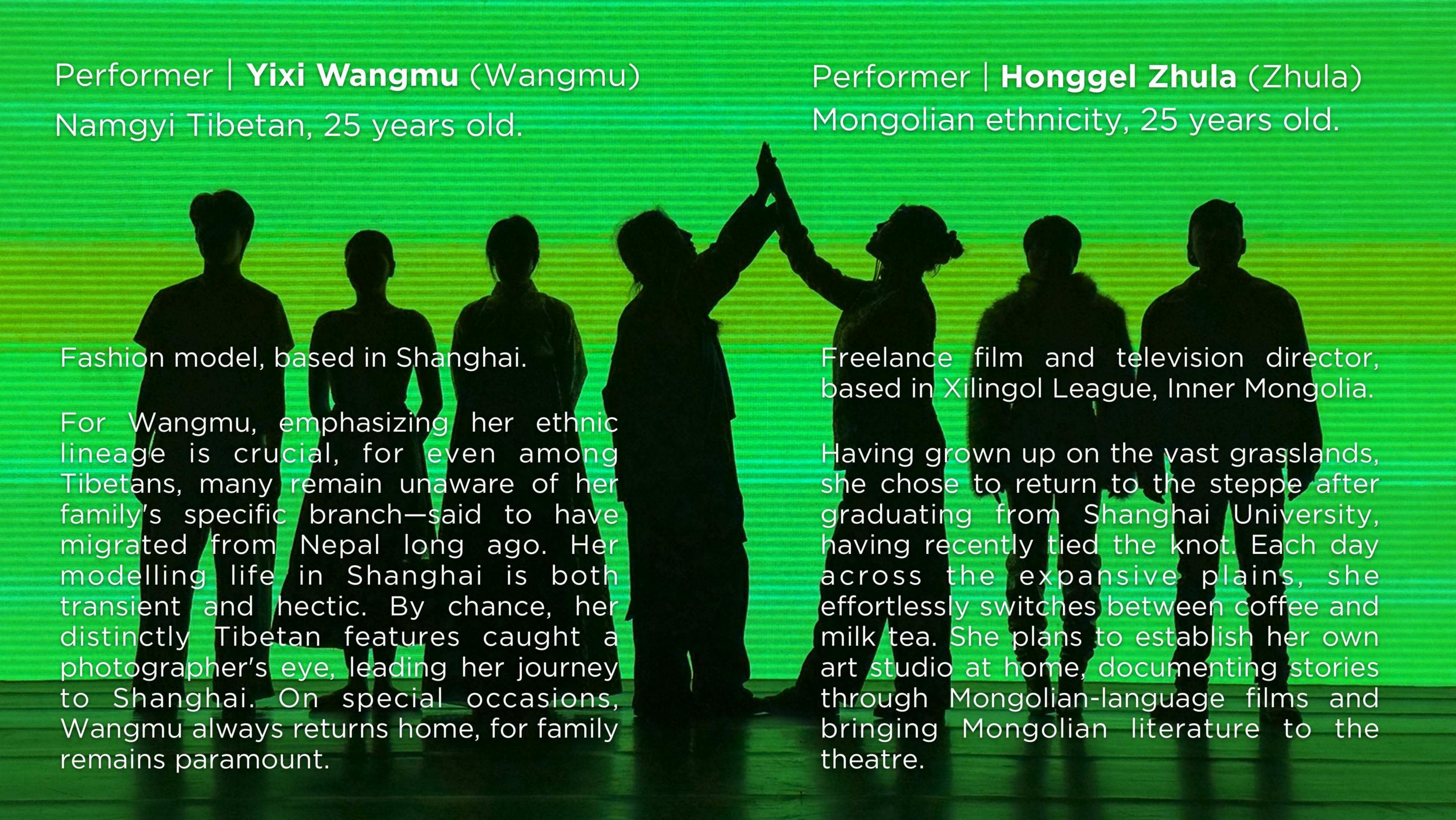
Performer | **Han Jinfeng** (Jinzǐ)

Korean ethnicity, 25 years old.



Freelance dancer and choreographer, based in Shanghai. Holds dual bachelor's degrees in choreography and stage lighting design. Her maternal ancestors migrated from North Korea to Northeast China, while her paternal lineage came from South Korea to Yanji, China.

Throughout her upbringing, Korean culture exhibited a pronounced Chinese character yet simultaneously harbored an apparent yet enduring contradictory tension.



Performer | **Yixi Wangmu** (Wangmu)  
Namgyi Tibetan, 25 years old.

Fashion model, based in Shanghai.

For Wangmu, emphasizing her ethnic lineage is crucial, for even among Tibetans, many remain unaware of her family's specific branch—said to have migrated from Nepal long ago. Her modelling life in Shanghai is both transient and hectic. By chance, her distinctly Tibetan features caught a photographer's eye, leading her journey to Shanghai. On special occasions, Wangmu always returns home, for family remains paramount.

Performer | **Honggel Zhula** (Zhula)  
Mongolian ethnicity, 25 years old.

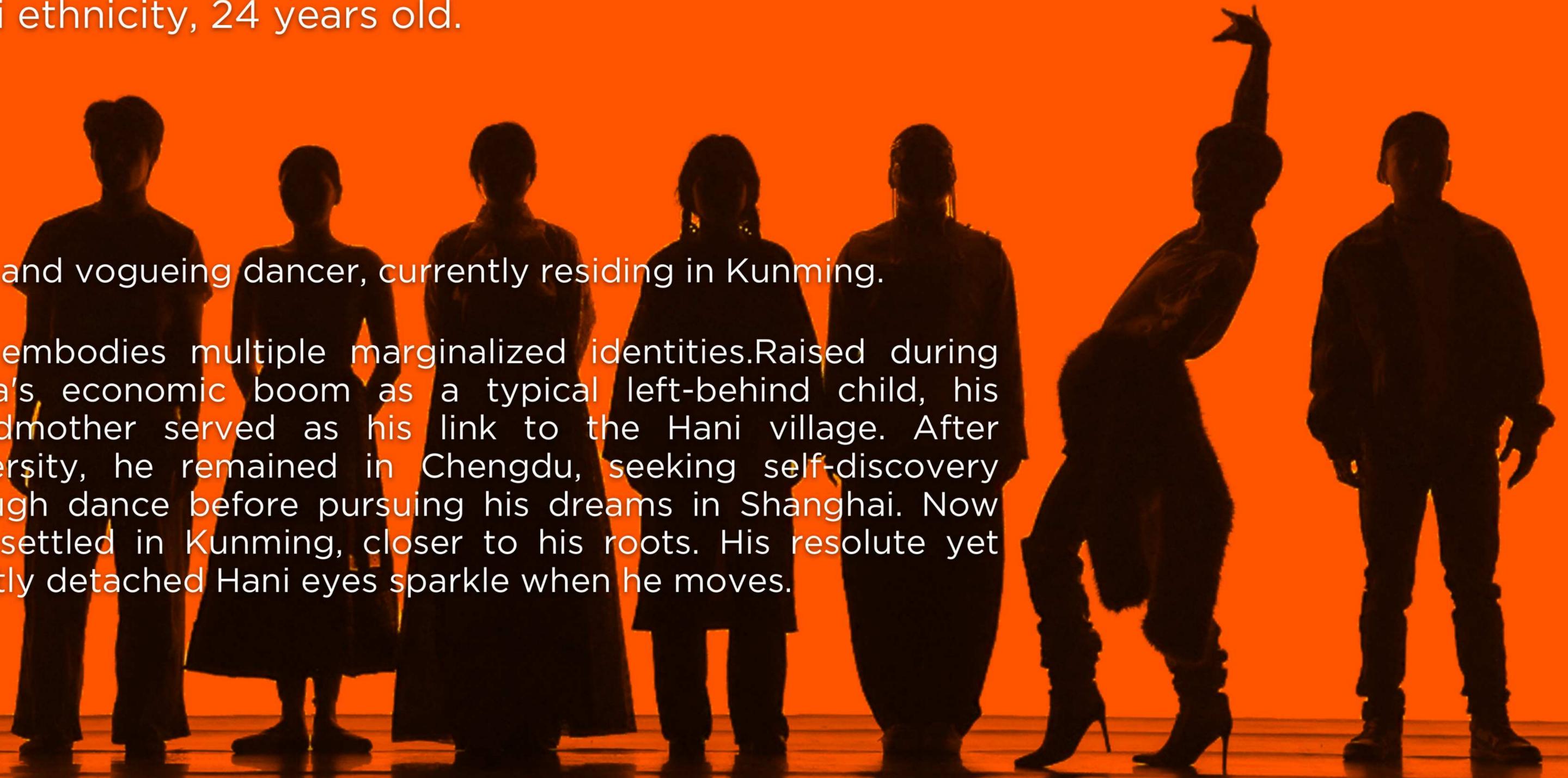
Freelance film and television director,  
based in Xilingol League, Inner Mongolia.

Having grown up on the vast grasslands, she chose to return to the steppe after graduating from Shanghai University, having recently tied the knot. Each day across the expansive plains, she effortlessly switches between coffee and milk tea. She plans to establish her own art studio at home, documenting stories through Mongolian-language films and bringing Mongolian literature to the theatre.

Performer | Li Qingyu (Sun)  
Hani ethnicity, 24 years old.

Jazz and vogueing dancer, currently residing in Kunming.

Sun embodies multiple marginalized identities. Raised during China's economic boom as a typical left-behind child, his grandmother served as his link to the Hani village. After university, he remained in Chengdu, seeking self-discovery through dance before pursuing his dreams in Shanghai. Now he's settled in Kunming, closer to his roots. His resolute yet slightly detached Hani eyes sparkle when he moves.

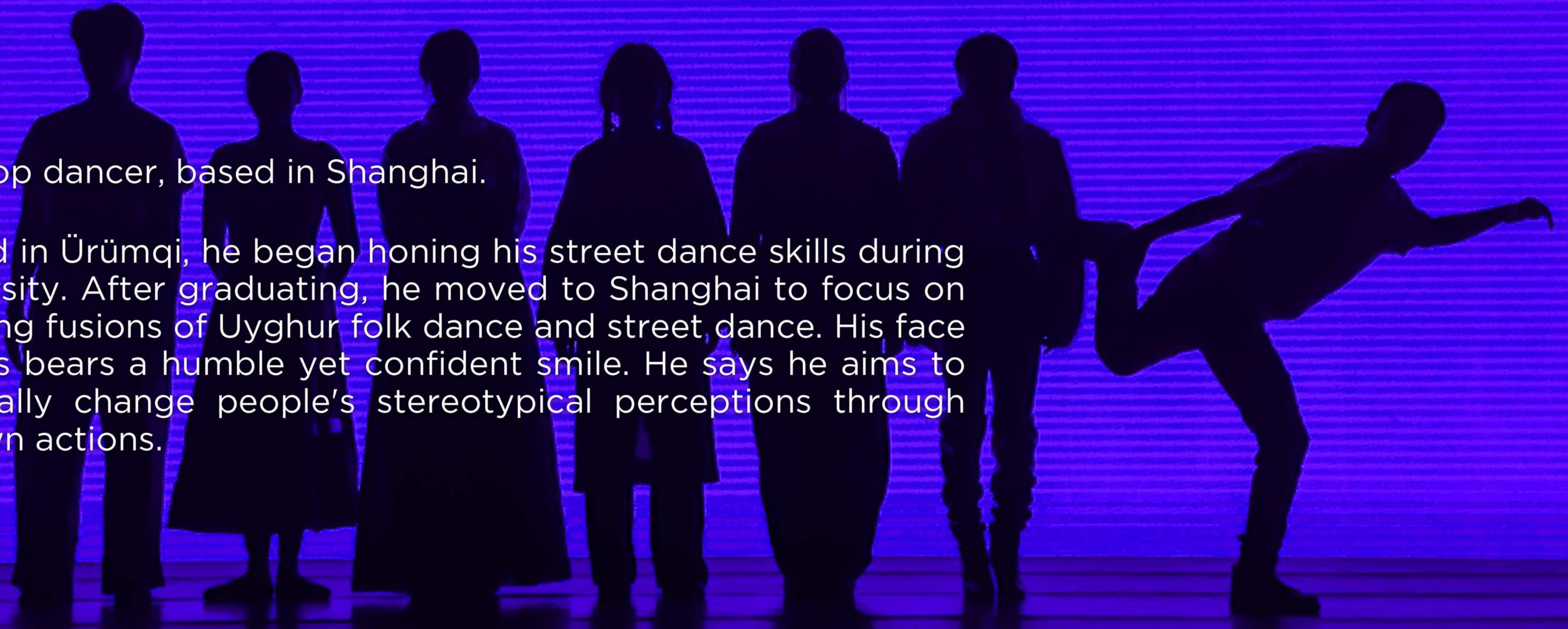


Performer | **Yilpan. Mijiti. Kader** (Xiaohei)

Uyghur, 27 years old.

Hip-hop dancer, based in Shanghai.

Raised in Ürümqi, he began honing his street dance skills during university. After graduating, he moved to Shanghai to focus on creating fusions of Uyghur folk dance and street dance. His face always bears a humble yet confident smile. He says he aims to gradually change people's stereotypical perceptions through his own actions.



## Special Performer 😊

The work introduces AI as a “special” performer, extending the exploration of the boundaries of “self” outward. By employing artificial intelligence as an assistant, it opens a new cognitive dimension within the digital age. In the forthcoming era of AGI, in what ways might we still comprehend our own selves?

# XIAO KE x ZI HAN Creative Practice Trajectory on Identity Issues (2018–2025)



Since 2018, XiaoKe and ZiHan have conducted research and created works exploring various themes centered on personal identity. Following 2020, their focus shifted more intensely towards domestic Chinese issues, delving into contemporary life and social perceptions to uncover neglected topics closely tied to individual existence. This has led to the establishment of multifaceted themes addressing the question: 'Who am I?'

## 2018 **CHINAME** International Edition Documentary Works and Lecture Theatre



CHINAME is a contemporary theatre project initiated by Xiao Ke and Zi Han in 2018. Through their nomadic life experiences, the two artists began exploring questions of personal and ethnic identity. From individual anxieties, the artists seek reflections on the collective national community. The project has been presented at festivals and documentary screenings across Germany, Australia, the Netherlands, Thailand, Taiwan, China, Macau, Japan, Malaysia, India, Singapore, Latvia, and beyond.

# 2024 **CHINAME-Mainland China Version**

## Exploring Personal Identity Through Game Theatre



In January 2024 at Shanghai West Bund Museum, XIAO KE x ZI HAN launched an interactive theatre-based collective participatory game seeking answer to 'Who am I?' Within the fluid dynamics of group dynamics, participants pursued their own positions as the game's objective, culminating in a collaborative creative presentation.

## 2024 TA & TA Amateur Theatre on Gender Issues



TA & TA is XIAO KE x ZI HAN's 2024 contemporary theatre project, exploring gender issues through amateur theatre and zero-rehearsal experimentation. The project comprises three integrated works: the female theatre piece She, the plant theatre piece TA, and the male theatre piece He.

# 2025 All Possible Bodies AP91 Dance+Documentary Theater



All Possible Bodies AP91 employs a hybrid form of dance theatre and documentary theatre to trace the traces and lineage of Chinese ethnic dance and the ethnic body alongside the audience. Through the unfolding of the work, it constructs the vital significance of individual identity recognition.

# 2025 **All Possible Bodies AP91** Dance+Documentary Theater

Premiered on 23 November 2025

Venue\_PSA Power Station of Art Shanghai

Commissioned by\_PSA Power Station of Art Shanghai | Chanel Culture Fund

Duration\_130 minutes Includes a 95-minute theatrical performance + 35-minute documentary

## Creative Team Introduction

Theatre Director\_Xiao Ke, Zihan Documentary Production\_Zihan

Academic Advisor:\_Liu Xiaozhen Music\_Li Xin

Lighting Design\_Bei Wen Executive Producer\_Qiu Bo

Publicity Production\_Wei Man Photography/Cinematography\_Jin Hai, Zhang Xuezhou

Sound Engineer\_Yu Xiang

## Co-creative performers

Han Jinfeng (Korean ethnicity) Honggel Zhula (Mongolian ethnicity)

Li Qingyu (Hani ethnicity) Song Yanlin (Xibe ethnicity)

Yan Qixin (Qiang ethnicity) Yilpan Mijiti Kader (Uyghur ethnicity)

Yixi Wangmu (Tibetan ethnicity)

## About **XIAO KE x ZI HAN**



2011, XiaoKe and ZiHan commenced their collaborative work in contemporary theatre as a duo, extending their creative reach from the stage into photography, moving image, live performance and installation. Their practice centers on the individual body, exploring the limits of expression within China's public discourse. The artists reintegrate artistic concepts into everyday life, fulfilling the very essence of their philosophy: 'concepts born from life, dissolving back into life.' Their work has been invited to major art festivals, dance festivals, and theatre institutions across Europe and Asia for performances and residency exchanges, touring over 20 countries and establishing long-term collaborative relationships with numerous contemporary theatre and arts organizations.

Xiao Ke commenced dance training at the age of six, pursuing twelve years of study and performance in Chinese ethnic dance. At eighteen, she gained admission to Fudan University in Shanghai, where she began independent research into modern dance. In 1998, she established her personal dance studio, Xiao Ke Dance Studio, and commenced cross-media artistic creation in 2002. In 2005, she co-founded the independent artist collective Zuhe Niao with Zhang Xian and others in Shanghai, which went on to win the prestigious ZKB Award at the 2006 Swiss International Theatre Festival. In 2007, she established the UGLY Conceptual Movement Studio in Beijing. Since 2010, working as an independent artist, Xiao Ke has pioneered the development of movement-based art and contemporary theatre works closely attuned to China's social realities. Her artistic practice transcends the confines of traditional theatre, embracing increasingly diverse forms.

Zi Han began his creative practice through photography. Between 2008 and 2010, he co-founded CANART, an independent contemporary art organization based in Shanghai, where he curated and organized numerous contemporary art exhibitions and theatre performances. In 2010, he participated in the creation and touring of the Shanghai-based independent artist collective Zuhe Niao through video and live performance. Subsequently, he established a consistent creative direction centered on integrated visual and theatrical live music. His practice encompasses photography, moving image, contemporary theatre, and sound creation.