

Hong Kong Arts Development Council Presents JOCKEY CLUB New Arts
Power 2018

Wuji Ensemble returns with atmospheric music theatrical performance *Beyond
the Senses*

Leading audiences to find their way back to nature through sound

18 to 20 January 2019

7:45pm

Hong Kong Jockey Club Hall and Joseph Lau & Josephine Lau Roof Garden,
Asia Society Hong Kong Center

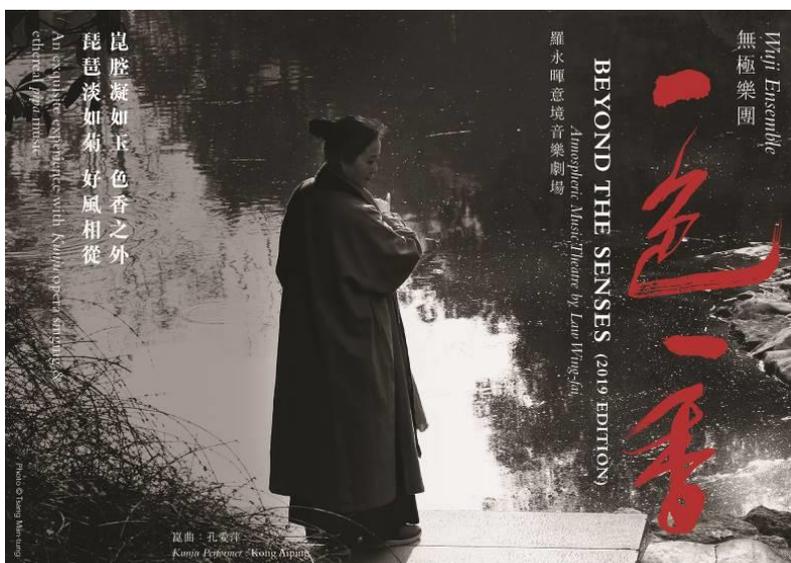
Ticket price: \$250 (Asia Society members) / \$320 (Non-members)

Tickets are now available via Asia Society and art-mate:

<https://asiasociety.org/hong-kong/events/wuji-ensemble-beyond-senses-2019-edition>

<https://www.art-mate.net/doc/51781>

#JCNewArtsPower #OurTalentsOurPride



Caption: *Beyond the Senses* (2019 edition) by Wuji Ensemble

(Hong Kong, 8 January, 2019) Presented by Hong Kong Arts Development Council, **JOCKEY CLUB New Arts Power** 2018 showcases **Wuji Ensemble**'s internationally acclaimed *Beyond the Senses* this January. Combining singing, recitation and dancing, *Beyond the Senses* is accentuated with atmospheric stage and lighting design to create a sense of artistic sensibility that leads the audience on a journey to become at one with nature through the natural timbre of classical instruments.

With a name whose meaning can translate to 'boundless', 'endless' and 'continuously evolving', **Wuji Ensemble** was established in 2003 by a number of Hong Kong artists vision to create performance platforms for local talents, including the Founder and Artistic Director, **Law Wing-fai**, who is also the local leading composer and has crossed over the boundary between commercial music and the arts. Integrating the music of the West and East, and the past and present, the

Ensemble constantly commissions new works as well as new arrangements of existing repertoires from Chinese and Western music, which is often complemented by other theatrical elements.

Beyond the Senses is divided into three movements, namely “Autumn Palette”, “Water Zen” and “Listening to the Incense”. In addition to works by young composers **Yau May-kei** and **Cheng Lo-yan**. Law has also written new pipa and voice compositions for this performance for celebrated Kunqu performer **Kong Aiping**, pipa soloist and Wuji Ensemble Music Director **Wong Chi-ching**, and soprano **Margaret Yim**. The programme will be led by renowned xiao and dizi master **Zhang Fan**. Other featured talents include clarinetist **Leung Chi-shing**, sheng player **Loo Sze-wang**, yangqin performer **Bryan Lai**, guzheng player **Au Yuen-ying**, ruan players **Lam Tsan-tong**, **So Pui-yi** and **Tong Ming-hok**, and singing bowl master **Tsang Man-tung**, who has also designed the costumes and the set, a secluded, serene garden in which the performers stroll leisurely while playing their instruments. With elements including a tea ceremony, singing bowls, live musical performances and close interaction with artists, the audience will be invited to reflect on the natural world and a person’s place within it.

Beyond the Senses represents Law’s ongoing exploration of a genre he has termed Atmospheric Music Theatre. “Simply put, Atmospheric Music Theatre utilises the contemporary theatre as a means of expression, revolving around the natural timbres of Chinese musical instruments coupled with poetry, songs, music, dance and various visual elements to cultivate a mood for reflection as well as a taste for Oriental aesthetics.”

Beyond the Senses premiered in Hong Kong in 2016 and was then showcased in the Hong Kong Music Series in London in 2017. The upcoming performance will be the first time that **Wuji Ensemble** has staged the show in an outdoor setting. With lighting playing a critical role in Law’s vision of atmospheric music theatre, the lights from the surrounding environment will greatly impact the performance and create a unique challenge for the performers. Even there are uncertainties and uncontrollable changes where continuous trials and adjustments are required, the Ensemble adheres to their belief and commitment to present the best to Hong Kong audiences.

For updates about **JOCKEY CLUB New Arts Power**, please visit:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/newartspower/

Instagram: www.instagram.com/newartspower/

High-resolution images can be downloaded here:

Link: <http://gallery.sinclaircomms.com/>

Password: talkofthetown



Caption: *Beyond the Senses* at Hong Kong Music Series, London 2017



Caption: Salon Concert: Song for the Exile



Caption: Salon Concert: Sound of Nanguan



Caption: Salon Concert: Beauty of Kunqu



Caption: Singing Bowls



Caption: The Wuji Tea & Music Experience

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About JOCKEY CLUB New Arts Power

With a commitment to promoting Hong Kong arts overseas, the Hong Kong Arts Development Council (HKADC) has been actively presenting outstanding local artists in the global arts scene. The 12 groups of artists participating in *JOCKEY CLUB New Arts Power* have all been supported by the HKADC in presentations of their work overseas, where they have gained wide international acclaim. The much-anticipated *JOCKEY CLUB New Arts Power 2018* showcases 12 groups of brilliant artists from September 2018 to January 2019, featuring some of the finest contemporary Hong Kong artists and celebrate of their contribution to the cultural scene of Hong Kong.

Funded by The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, *JOCKEY CLUB New Arts Power* also includes the development of web pages and mobile applications that carry information on the participating artists, so that the general public can learn more about them and their work. To maximise the community impact of the programme, *JOCKEY CLUB New Arts Power* has worked with participating artists, non-governmental organisations and governmental organisations to co-organise workshops, customising activities for target participants.

About Wuji Ensemble

“Wuji” in Chinese means “boundless”, “endless” and “continuously evolving”. Founded in 2003, the Ensemble is dedicated to exploring the realm of Chinese music to reflect the quintessence of oriental aesthetics, and creating a performing platform for local musicians to nurture artistic accomplishments. With the renowned composer Law Wing-fai as artistic director and Pipa soloist Wong Chi-ching as music director, together with a group of local musicians, the Ensemble constantly commissions new works as well as new arrangements of existing repertoires in Chinese and Western music, complemented with other theatrical elements.

The Ensemble has actively organized and presented a variety of multi-media performances and activities, as well as participated in local and oversea arts festivals. The Taiwan, Beijing and Shanghai Sub-ensembles were also subsequently established, thereby further extending the

Ensemble's artistic ideals beyond Hong Kong. Premiering in Hong Kong in 2016, *Beyond the Senses* was showcased at Hong Kong Music Series in London in 2017 presented by HKADC.

About Hong Kong Arts Development Council (HKADC)

Established in 1995, the Hong Kong Arts Development Council (HKADC) is a statutory body set up by the Government to support the broad development of the arts in Hong Kong. Its major roles include grant allocation, policy and planning, advocacy, promotion and development, and programme planning. The mission of HKADC is to plan, promote and support the broad development of the arts including literary arts, performing arts, visual arts as well as film and media arts in Hong Kong. Aiming to foster a thriving arts environment and enhancing the quality of life of the public, HKADC is also committed to facilitating community-wide participation in the arts and arts education, encouraging arts criticism, raising the standard of arts administration and strengthening the work on policy research.

About The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust

Founded in 1884, The Hong Kong Jockey Club is a world-class racing club that acts continuously for the betterment of our society. The Club has a unique integrated business model, comprising racing and racecourse entertainment, a membership club, responsible sports wagering and lottery, and charities and community contribution. Through this model, the Club generates economic and social value for the community and supports the Government in combatting illegal gambling. It is Hong Kong's largest single taxpayer, one of the city's major employers and one of the world's top ten charity donors.

Working with Government, non-governmental organisations and community partners, the Club is committed to improving the quality of life of Hong Kong people through its Charities Trust donations, and providing immediate relief to those most in need. The Trust also proactively seeks out the root causes of social issues and brings multiple and cross-sector parties together to tackle them, pioneering innovative approaches that transcend disciplines and skills. While the Trust continues to fund a wide range of projects, it is placing special emphasis on four areas of strategic focus, including Youth, the Elderly, Sports, and Arts, Culture & Heritage.

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