



KE SUP EN

KESUPEN

By **Tony Yap Company** (Melbourne, Australia) & **Surya Kencana** (Yogyakarta, Indonesia)

Kesupen is a process of transformation: to forget something, in order to see something new.

Kesupen is part dance, part song cycle, framed by contemporary music, and visual installation.

Visual installation and a contemporary score performed live hold space for the dance and singing.

Choreographically, Yap's elemental, masculine style is counterpointed by the traditional Srimpi dance, adapted especially for this work.

The artistic language for **Kesupen** has evolved in our awareness of the artificiality of separating, in the Western tradition, the modalities of dance, plastic material and sound/music.

On stage are five dancers and one singer, and two musicians.

Background & cultural context

This new work arises from the decade-long personal and creative relationship between Tony Yap, Agung Gunawan, and Master R.Ay Sri Kadaryati Ywandjono, who is a deeply respected cultural figure in Yogyakarta. The Dance Master for the Kraton (Palace) and the Sultan of Yogyakarta, Ibu Kadaryati has created new dance forms that are now part of the traditional dance canon, notably in the srimpi form which is key to this work. **Kesupen** is her first ever international collaboration. For this work, Ibu Kadaryati has created an original libretto in the Javanese tembung mencapat style of poetry in song form, and also new choreography together with Agung Gunawan, her former student, an independent choreographer, performer and festival director.

The longevity of association between the Australian and Indonesian artists has allowed them to form a way of working that can incorporate their respective traditional processes within contemporary interdisciplinary practices.

Kesupen is resonant with feeling, and aesthetically beautiful. It has the delicacy of finely-honed collaborative practice, and the authority of involvement with a Master Artist who can take traditional forms into exciting new territory.

Srimpi dance has only been seen outside the Palace in Yogyakarta since the 1960s. This new contemporary work Kesupen is an exciting new phase in its experimentation and evolution.

Developments

Kesupen has been developed in Australia and Indonesia in two stages over late 2013 – early 2015. It is now ready for premiere.

Space & time requirements

After 1 week of rehearsals, 3 days in the venue will be required before the first performance.

Kesupen requires a minimum playing space of 12m x 10m.

It is suitable for proscenium arch, black box, white box, or alternative spaces including outdoors where there are rigging points for the installation

Lighting is yet to be developed but will be simple, including colour washes and haze

A projector will be required to project surtitles for the Javanese libretto.

Sound

- > Small grand piano
- > Headset microphone (for singer)
- > Piano mic (pref boundary)
- > Mic on boom stand (instrument type)
- > Small mixing desk -- 8 in, 2 main out, 4 x Aux sends
- > Pair of powered full range PA speakers
- > One x subwoofer
- > Stereo Graphic EQ unit

Credits

Direction/performer: Tony Yap

Choreography & song composition: Agung Gunawan & Master R.Ay Sri Kadaryati Ywandjono (Nyi K.R.T Kusumaningrat)

Srimpi Dancers: Rm Sagitama Krisnandaru, Antis Tri Cahyani, S.Sn; Harin Setyandari, S.Sn; R.Aj Sabina Siti Nurul Pristidari, S.Psi

Visual Installation: Naomi Ota

Music/sound: Madeleine Flynn & Tim Humphrey

Producer: Kath Papas Productions

Production enquiries

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