

DANIEL KOK YIK LENG, 32
DANCE

Daniel (better known by his moniker, daniel k) has been credited with revitalising the local dance scene through his brand of contemporary and multi-disciplinary choreography. In 2007, he was listed number one by The Straits Times in the “Faces to Watch” category of its annual round-up of the arts scene in Singapore.

Often linked to nightscape, his work embraces surrealism and reverie, while remaining uncompromising in the search for a space that merges the formal and abstract nature of dance with the immediacy and tangibility of bodies in motion.

With more than 25 productions to his credit, Daniel challenges the conventional definition of “contemporary dance” by infusing dance with other genres like spoken-word, video and performance art.

Many of his productions have received critical acclaim. For example, *Vermillion* (presented at M1 Singapore Fringe Festival in 2007) was voted by The Strait Times as one of the five best dance performances that year.

His other noteworthy performances of 2007 include *Fight Club*, *A Chorus*, commissioned by the National Museum of Singapore for its 120th anniversary celebrations, and *Morpheus*, commissioned by the National Arts Council for the second instalment of Forward Moves, part of the Singapore Arts Festival.

Daniel was a recipient of the Overseas Specialist Award (Teaching), a Singapore Public Commission scholarship, to pursue his degree at Goldsmiths College (London) in 1997. He graduated in 2001 with a degree in Fine Art & Critical Theory. He also received a certificate in Choreological Studies from Birbeck College and a certificate in Choreography from Laban Centre, both in London.

Since his return from London, he has created choreographic and installation works, like *Melatonin* (2002), which was presented at The Substation; *Melatonin2* (2003), which was presented in Tiny Alice Theatre (Toyko) and The Esplanade Theatre Studio; *MERCURY* (2005), which was presented at the Patravadi Theatre as part of the Bangkok Fringe Festival; and *MERCURY & Other Heavenly Bodies* (2006), a solo exhibition held at The Substation gallery, consisting of video, installation and dance works.

Daniel is an Associate Artist of The Substation and Artistic Director of diskodanny.com, a multimedia arts collective in Singapore. He is also currently a teacher in the Art Elective Programme at Hwa Chong Institution.