

THUNAR
員劇團

圓劇團 X 法國傑若·湯瑪士劇團《手路》

Thunar Circus X Compagnie Jérôme Thomas
Main Agile



Premiered in March 2022 at the courtyard of the Zhongshun Temple in Mucha, Taipei City

★Nominated of "Taishin Arts Award"★

1. About Thunar Circus:

Thunar Circus practices and explores folk acrobatics and contemporary circus. All of the company's creative actions and perspectives are connected to the land and culture where it is rooted, allowing the works naturally express humanity and warmth. Our performances of folk acrobatics and contemporary circus speak to and connect with our audience, sparking reflections on modern society through genuine and poetic feelings.

Important representative works: *Main Agile*, *Hung Tung's Fantasy*, and *Melancholic Mambo*.

2. Artistic Consultant | Jérôme THOMAS

Jérôme THOMAS, the famous master of French contemporary circus, is the founder of founder of the first festival of contemporary, improvised juggling: Dans la Jungle des Villes. He is the artistic director of ARMO (research workshop in object manipulation) / the Jérôme Thomas Company.

In 2003 he received the SACD (Society of Dramatic Authors and Composers) prize for Circus Arts and was elected Administrator for the Circus Arts at the SACD in 2009 and 2015.

Compagnie Jérôme Thomas was created in Bourgogne in 1992. Its creations and self-created performance training system by artistic director Jérôme THOMAS have had a strong influence on the development of juggling around the world.

Jérôme THOMAS established a training method called cubic juggling which in many ways created the poetic body of the actor, and focused on how the body engage in juggling, liberating the circus body to be versatile. He anticipates the communication and interconnection between contemporary circus, body, space, and object and seeks to find the creative and expression forms for contemporary circus.

3. Company Head/Director | LIN Cheng-Tsung:

LIN was born in Tongxiao, Miaoli. With a master's degree in Drama from National Taiwan University of Arts, he is a contemporary circus performer/artist as well as an art educator. He currently focuses on the production of contemporary circus performance. Combining traditional arts and the interaction between human body, objects and physical space, LIN continues to explore "Taiwanese circus." When teaching performing arts, he has developed unique art programs which combines solar terms and local elements. He is currently an art teacher at Natural Way Elementary School, Hsinchu and Qinghe Waldorf Institute, Taipei.



4. About the show:

*A Tent Theater for Taiwanese Circus and Processional Troupe Dance
Roaming Footsteps, the Art of Folk Acrobatics, the Show Plaza of Our Times, and a
Touring Theater Troupe*



A collaboration between Thunar Circus from Taiwan and Compagnie Jérôme Thomas from France, *Main Agile* is based on the folk culture of thin-thau (religious processional troupes) in Taiwan. The production involved field research of the incense-offering pilgrimage of Sai-káng in Tainan and training for the techniques of thin-thau. Drawing inspiration from traditional folk arts, *Main Agile* creatively translates the old into contemporary circus.

Following the beaten path of traditional performance movements, a real and fictional plaza is staged to present contemporary life, accompanied by lovely singing and patterns of gestures. Come and join the gong and drum band of Thunar Circus. The parade of *Main Agile* will take you to an outdoor tent theater at a temple courtyard. Celebration is waiting. Let's see how the traditional performance movements are revived by the living theater and is tied to the community, culture, life and society.

The details and formation of every body movement, gait, posture, and gesture of *Main Agile* are meaningful and rich in stories. They also convey a depth of symbolism and connotations, as they are connected with our lives and reflect the changes and development of the times.

5. Duration: About 80 minutes (without intermission)

6. Type of venue and stage size required: outdoor tents, outdoor plazas, and theaters are all suitable. The stage is about 12 meters x 9 meters.

7. Documentation videos of Main Agile's creative process and folk art field research and training:

7-1. Full video of the program: <https://youtu.be/jWINNXbKcpg>

7-2. Highlights of the program: <https://youtu.be/YIHpGhCjwK4>

7-3. *Main Agile* promo: <https://youtu.be/4emCVFrZQoc>

7-4. *Main Agile* by Thunar Circus, Circus as the Way of Life:

<https://youtu.be/QQ3H2E16ji8><https://youtu.be/QQ3H2E16ji8>

7-5. Let's Hang Out: Field Research on and Training in the Art of Processional Troupes of Tainan <https://youtu.be/GS12PVQwfnA>

7-6. Jérôme THOMAS on *Main Agile*: <https://youtu.be/7RCNjAshsBI>



8. Production Team (Premier)

Artistic Consultant: Jérôme THOMAS

Research Consultant/ Calligraphy: GONG Jow-Jiun

Director: LIN Cheng-Tsung

Circus Design: Jérôme THOMAS

Circus Design Assistant: Valentin LECHAT

Music Design & Musicians: HUANG Snow, TSENG Yun-Fang

Space and Installation Design: WANG Ding-Yeh, LIN Cheng-Tsung

Lighting Design: HUANG Chun-Yen

Choreographer: LIN Ting-Syu

Costume Design: TSAI Hao-Tien

Prop Design and Making: LIN Cheng-Tsung, Jérôme THOMAS, HU Jun-Hsiang

LIN Jian-Cheng, Yingchuan Xuejia Jhong Jhou Stilt-walking Formation Group

Performers: LIN Wen-Yin, James Neil TROY, LI Cheng-Han, LIN Cheng-Kuan,

HUANG Chao-Ming, TU Wei-Chang, CHEN Chia-Ying

Theater Performance Instructor: LIN Wen-Yin

Stage Manager: CHANG Ching-Hsiang

Rehearsal Assistant: HSU Yue-Wei

Space and Installation Design: WONG Shu-Lian

Marketing Material Designer: LO Mirr

Producer: CHEN Yi-Ling

Production Promotion: WANG Hsu-Ping

Executive Producer: LO Yi-Jung

Marketing: CHOU Ching-Lun

Hair & Makeup: SHIH Hui-Shiuan

Promotional Video: SouthLink Film, JHANG Jing-Hong

Documentary: GRain Studio

Live Performance Photography: CHEN Chang-Chih

Rehearsal Photography: CHEN Yin

Head of Lighting: KUO Hsin-I

French Translation: WANG Shih-Wei

9. Touring Troupe

Director: LIN Cheng-Tsung

Music Design & Musicians: HUANG Snow, TSENG Yun-Fang

Space and Installation Design: WANG Ding-Yeh, LIN Cheng-Tsung

Lighting Design: HUANG Chun-Yen

Performers: LIN Wen-Yin, James Neil TROY, LI Cheng-Han, LIN Cheng-Kuan,
HUANG Chao-Ming, TU Wei-Chang, CHEN Chia-Ying

Stage Manager: CHANG Ching- Hsiang

Producer: CHEN Yi-Ling

Executive Producer: LO Yi-Jung



10. Reviews and Feedback

★ The Taishin Arts Award Nominators:

Main Agile not only pioneers in creating impressive and powerful physical expression for both circus and dance theater but connects with the common grass-root experiences of rural live concerts and outdoor theater. The production introduced circus/dance theater into atypical space and condensed half a century's development of folk culture, offering engagement, spectacles and entertainment. With a simple and metaphorical narrative, this hauntingly brilliant show has created unique physical scenarios and musical imagery.

★ CHI Hui-Ling, Critic of Performing Arts Review (04/06/2022)

Using space like a canvas and bodies like brush, the performance movements channeled the energy of folk arts. The show is like a wavering river which blurs reality and fiction. A contemporary theater was achieved when narrative was removed, leaving only an evening of merriment and a giant physical presence.

★ CAI Meng-Kai, Critic of Performing Arts Review (03/26/2022)

A dialogue with the space, scenario and venue. *Main Agile* juxtaposed various scenes of reality/fiction as well as past/present. Therefore, this production of contemporary circus addressed the nuances of the collective memories of folk society.

★ CHEN Zheng-Xi, Critic of Performing Arts Review (04/09/2022)

A top-notch work of new circus theater.

★ LI Qiao-He, Critic of Performing Arts Review (04/11/2022)

The expressions, inquiries and attempts made through traditional form and objects are fascinating and full of tension. They profoundly reflected the creators' exploration of and reflection on the dynamics of modern forms.

★ WANG Jing-Ling, Professor of the Aletheia University (04/14/2022)

Main Agile offered the audience a mixed experience of circus and folk acrobatics. The show took them on a nomad's journey in a venue belonged to a settled community of faith.

★ LIN Li-Hsiung, Critic, PAR magazine Issue 346, May, 2022

Drawing the spirits from folk arts while avoiding total reliance on traditional circus props...the show finds an unique and viable path for contemporary circus by sourcing circus elements from local and everyday life.

★ WU Yue-Lin, NCAFe

Main Agile also adopted a setting which is half circus tent and half traditional ceremonial canopy, implying the show was half circus and half folk acrobatics.

★ JIANG, Zhao-Lun, Journalist of Central Broadcasting Station (03/22/2022)

A combination of processional troupes and Taiwanese style circus. "Traditional acrobatics were the true circus of Taiwan." said LIN Cheng-tsung.

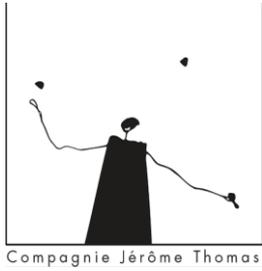
11. Performance Stills











THUNAR 員劇團

Co-creation : Thunar Circus and Compagnie Jérôme Thomas

Producer: Sunny Tel: +886-928-119-464 E-mail: sunnyc29@gmail.com

Thunar Circus E-Mail: thunarcircus@gmail.com

<http://www.thunarcircus.tw/>

<https://www.jerome-thomas.fr/>

<https://www.facebook.com/thunarcircus/>

Address : 4F., No.11, Aly. 29, Ln. 127, Sec. 1, Anhe Rd., Da'an Dist., Taipei City 106, Taiwan

