

## Asia+ Festival's multimedia dance performance "+1+1+1+" to explore new forms of artistic expression (with photos)

Presented by the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau and organised by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, this year's Asia+ Festival is offering "+1+1+1+", a multimedia dance performance featuring a mesmerising mix of music, dance and technology. Japanese media art pioneer Daito Manabe, the production's director, composer and video designer, will be joined by J-pop dance artist, stage and choreography director MIKIKO with her all-female dance troupe ELEVENPLAY. Together, they are set to join forces to broaden the artistic horizons of audiences.

Manabe has worked with such artistic luminaries as Björk and Ryuichi Sakamoto. Rather than forging a sense of realism in such a way that the audience would experience really being there in his works, he is keen on highlighting interesting things about the human physique, data and programming per se, in his contemplation of the relationships and boundaries between the analogue and the digital, the real and the virtual. MIKIKO's long list of collaborators includes rock diva Ringo Sheena and Olympic figure-skating gold medalist Yuzuru Hanyu, while her choreography is seen in celebrated performances of electro-pop group Perfume and heavy metal group BABYMETAL. She is also extensively involved in media art, and is particularly noted for her ability to fuse advanced technology with mass culture, breaking down barriers between pop and the experimental.

In "+1+1+1+", a multimedia dance performance themed around time and structure, dancers and the richly layered performance space become an organic whole, made possible by the masterful use of motion capture and holographic projection technology. The latter creates a hyperreal realm, where the stage, lighting and music are constantly evolving to evoke a dream-like quality. Not only does "+1+1+1+" unravel the endless possibilities between humanity and technology but it brings together the structure and rhythm of traditional and contemporary arts, venturing into the uncharted territory of music, dance and technology to offer new ways of expression.

"+1+1+1+" will be staged at 7.30pm on November 8 and 9 at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre Grand Theatre. A meet-the-artist session will be held after the November 8 performance. Tickets priced at \$240, \$360, \$480 and \$580 are now available at URBTIX ([www.urbtix.hk](http://www.urbtix.hk)). For telephone bookings, please call 3166 1288; or use the mobile ticketing app "URBTIX". For more details about the show, please refer to [asiaplus.gov.hk/2024/en/+1+1+1+](http://asiaplus.gov.hk/2024/en/+1+1+1+).

The second Asia+ Festival is running from September to November, highlighting the arts and cultures of nearly 30 countries from Asia, the

Middle East and Belt and Road regions. Apart from stage programmes, there are also thematic exhibitions, an outdoor carnival, film screenings, outreach activities and more, numbering over 100 in total. For programme enquiries and concessionary schemes, please call 2370 1044 or visit [asiaplus.gov.hk/2024/en/](http://asiaplus.gov.hk/2024/en/).

