

# TOPAZ ARTS 23rd Year Celebration presents

Terrain *長江頭* by Huiwang Zhang

Saturday, October 21, 2023, 4:00pm TOPAZ ARTS, Inc. 55-03 39th Avenue, Woodside, NY



## Terrain 長江頭

Dance by: Ching-I Chang and Huiwang Zhang Sound design by: Todd B. Richmond

Through echoing of each others essence, the mirage of Terrain 長江頭 forms. How do our bodies — moving fields of knowledge, synchronize and syncopate with each other through various distance of mis/understandings?

Terrain 長江頭 is a new dance work-in-process, created and developed at TOPAZ ARTS through the 2022-23 AAPI Dance Residency Program.



Celebrating AAPI dance artists, TOPAZ ARTS supports choreographers with time and space to focus and develop the creation of new works. TOPAZ ARTS' AAPI Dance Residency Program is supported, in part, by the Robert Rauschenberg Foundation, NYS DanceForce, and by public funds from NYC Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.

#### About the Artists:

#### Ching-I Chang

Made in Taiwan, active in America and quiet places. She has a deep love for dance and nurturing harmony. She has worked with Gesel Mason, Michel Kouakou, Punchdrunk, Susan Marshall, Wendy Jehlen and many brilliant artists. She received her MFA from University of Utah in 2017. She is a Certified Laban/Bartenieff Movement Analyst, Yoga and Yoga Nidra Meditation Facilitator. And she loves bananas.

### **Huiwang Zhang**

Has been a member of the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane company since 2017. Thanks to TOPAZ ARTS' pristine studio space in Woodside, Queens, the two dancers are able to attend moves and ideas with a fresh perspective. He is grateful to work with the incredible Ching-I Chang.

Zhang is a 2022-23 AAPI Dance Artist-in-Residence at TOPAZ ARTS. His choreography, often through a sociocultural lens, gives voices to communities at risk of social exclusion and people whose stories are lost in the official narratives, carefully structuring an alternative history from the personal and private stories of individuals. His work has been exposed internationally in China, U.S. and Germany. He danced with China Opera and Dance Drama Company and Paper Tiger Theater Studio in Beijing. He joined the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company in 2017 after the completion of his Master study in Dance and Choreography from the U.S and Germany under great mentorships of Stephen Koester, Sharee Lane, Ellen Bromberg and Katharina Christl. He has also performed with Pearsonwidrig dance theater and Yin Mei Dance. Huiwang's movement research and teaching are inspired by his traditional training in Chinese Classical Dance, Martial Arts and all teachers like Jennifer Nugent, Sarah Pearson, Leah Cox, Patrik Widrig, Tao Ye, Eric Handman, and Janet Wong. Huiwang voluntarily edits a dance e-journal "upsidedown" in China where he writes and translates perspectives in contemporary dance making into Chinese language.

#### In the Gallery:

New Painting Installation **by Todd B. Richmond.** Richmond is a visual artist, curator, filmmaker, and composer, and Co-Founding Director of TOPAZ ARTS. He received his MFA in Fine Arts at Otis College of Art & Design, and California Institute of the Arts/CalArts MFA Graduate Program of Art & Technology; BA from City College of New York in Music & Audio Technology with Film Studies. As a visual artist, he was assistant to renowned artist Richard Artschwager from 1990-95 creating major works for museums and galleries worldwide. Richmond's large-scale paintings and installations have been shown in NYC and Los Angeles.



## Support TOPAZ ARTS' 23rd Year! Help us #keepTOPAZrunning

http://www.topazarts.org/donate/

TOPAZ ARTS, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit arts organization founded in 2000 by Todd B. Richmond (visual artist/composer) and Paz Tanjuaquio (choreographer/dancer) to support the creative process and foster new works in contemporary performance and visual arts. Celebrating 23 years, our programs seek to support the artistic process while engaging creative and cultural exchange with audiences. Since our inception in 2000, TOPAZ has been a vital presence, making an impact on the lives of artists and local community, largely supporting immigrant and BIPOC artists. Through artistic explorations, our vision is to bring works that reveal and inspire new ideas, making cultural connections within NYC.

TOPAZ ARTS public programs are made possible, in part, with support from NYS Council on the Arts, a state agency; NYC Dept. of Cultural Affairs in partnership with City Council; foundation support from Indie Space with funds from Howard Gilman Foundation; Mosaic Network at the New York Community Trust. TOPAZ ARTS Dance Program is made possible with support from Dance/NYC with funds from Andrew W. Mellon Foundation; Mertz Gilmore Foundation; New York State DanceForce with funds from NYSCA Dance Program; and by the generosity of private individuals. <a href="https://www.topazarts.org">www.topazarts.org</a>