



HOME/S. 9th St. Audience Acclaim

1. Jim Kenney: Mayor of Philadelphia

After witnessing the magnificent City Hall courtyard performance of the Kun-Yang Lin Dancers as part of the Performances in Public Spaces program this past spring and **the response they garnered from their audience**, we wanted to find a way to continue showcasing **our city's rich community of performance artists** at City Hall.

2. Joyce Drayton: Founding Executive Director of Georgia E. Gregory Interdenominational School of Music

Such a **thought provoking** artistic expression in dance. **Outstanding and depthful** performance. Kudos to the KYL Dancers and to you for your leadership. Please let us know when you have another event. Thank you again for a stirring afternoon of talented dancers with a message.

3. DonnaFaye Burchfield: Director of the Dance Program at University of the Arts

HUGE congratulations to Kun-Yang and all the extraordinary dancers. It was **heartfelt and welcoming**. I was so happy to be there to share in the experience with everyone.

4. Tatiana Hassan:

Fantastic, **awesome**, wonderful etc etc etc.... loooooooved it!... I could write a page long e-mail on how much and why I loved the performance, the whole piece, the set, costumes MUSIC, EACH ONE OF YOU, the images, emotion, composition, lights etc....for ever and ever. I'll just give you hugs when I see you. I can't be more proud of kyld and happy for having contributed the way I could.

You have my love and support forever and ever!!!! Awesome job!!!!

Kun Yang: once again.... Your work leaves me speechless maestro!!!

4. Virginia Dillon: My Dear Kun-Yang, it was such a pleasure to watch your beautiful dancers perform Home/S. 9th Street yesterday. There were so many things about it that were special, and some of my favorites are: The way each dancer's personality was allowed to show through, as when Helen Hale starts looking for a lost child.

Or when Wally recites American words such as ice cream truck or avocado. Or when the Filipino woman sees a handsome man. Or Mo's exquisite solo, so cool and spectacular emphasizing his isolation. Though I'm not sure it's a personality trait, there is a moment in the second half when everyone is against the backdrop, recovering. Everyone is on their feet, except for Jessica who is crawling along with her chair, and the moment is so poignant, and is such an example of struggle.

Of course Wei Wei's Chinese song was very special. The opening is **very powerful** with everyone concentrating on going forward with that one person looking back. I'm so glad that there are fun, playful moments between the immigrants, cause for a while the

dance was looking very serious, hard and difficult, and if there's no joy in life there's no point in going to all the trouble of emigrating. But you are so smart, and such an artist that you always know what your dances need, so I really don't have any critical comments. One of the ladies I was with had an interesting comment, pertaining to when Grace told [during the post-show conversation] how she sat offstage watching the dancers as she carefully put the Chinese notes in between the incense sticks, and that then when she came out how she carefully made sure they were all shaken free. Kay wondered how it would be if she were visible while she watched them and placed the notes. Then in the end she just got up and dropped them across the stage as she did the other day. Interesting.

I'd love to see the dance again to get more of a sense of the narrative, **and to enjoy it again, and again, and again.....**

5. Irma Jennings:

"The show last night **took my breath away**. I walked away from the performance with a deeper understanding of the pain so many are going through and have gone through in their lifetime.

The dance piece put a face and feelings to it. Even though I have searched my family ancestry, gaining knowledge that my great grandfather left A civil war in his country of Spain, going to the island of St Vincent in the West Indies, to begin a new life. A white man amongst a "dark as the night" population, that journey lives in my DNA.

John asked if I wanted to stay afterwards and say hi. I was so struck I just needed to allow the process and understanding to go more inward. John and I discussed the piece on many levels.

Your movements were **a treat to my eyes**, Wally. Your "HELLO" were as innocent and curious and profoundly childlike bringing a deep feeling of familiar.

Please let Kun-Yang know how grateful I am for his body of work!"

6. Nathan: Barnes Museum

Wonderful show. Beautiful, **thought provoking**. Great movement. Loved the lighting and music selection. Congratulations on a great job!

7. Dawn Marie Bazemore Had an awesome date with Maria Bauman!!! We ate, laughed and saw some

dance! Bravo Kun-Yang Lin and dancers!!!
#veryimportantwork!!

8. Brandi: **I can't begin to tell you how wonderful** that show was. It made me feel so many things. Just amazing Kun Yang. Seriously, beautiful. It made me want to be there on stage. You are one of a kind. ♥

9. Karyn Lyman

Show was **phenomenal!!** Really loved it and think the space added so much to the experience, too. The different viewpoint, looking down, really put people in a place of inquisition and judgment. Very powerful, I felt it especially with the customs/interview and Liu Mo's pull-apart (not sure what to call it) moments. A **tremendous** work from everyone. Congratulations! I'm so delighted for everyone and am confident HOME will have a long life!

10. Hilda: Community participant

Hola solo puedo decir GRACIAS me encanto ver la obra completa y sobre todo me hicieron sentir muy emotiva no sé si es por participar en el círculo o por el tema que trata pero me gusto muchos gracias por atreverse a tomar este tipo de temas y compartir de manera tan bonita nuestro sentir

TRANSLATION: Hello I can only say THANK YOU. I loved seeing the completed work and above all you made me feel very emotional. I don't know if it's for having participated in the [story] circle or for the subject matter but I liked it. **Many thanks for daring to take on these kinds of issues** and for sharing in such a nice way our feelings.

11. Frank Bicking: Photographer

Thank you again for allowing me to share this experience with you all. Loved the show, the message, the feelings it provoked and **the energy was amazing.**

12. David Harrison: Board Member

gorgeous dance...

I wanted to further comment that I LOVED the set! I loved the isolation that it created, and the sense that it was anywhere and nowhere at once, all of which played into the themes of the work so well. Ditto for the costumes which blended into the set and made everyone look so similar, so much the way immigrants have no personal identities, the way we talk about "Syrians" these days, save for tragic three year-old boy found dead on a shore, we don't know anything of their personal stories . . . Yet through the wonderful text and Kun-Yang's gorgeous dance, the immigrant dancers of HOME did tell us their stories. BEAUTIFUL!
PERFECT!

And, I was really touched to see so many people who participated in the HOME community work, in attendance. It obviously meant a great deal to them to be there, and it meant a great deal to me as audience member to see them there, knowing it was partly their stories on stage.

13. Barbara Silzle: Executive Director, Philadelphia Cultural Fund

It was my great pleasure to be in the audience Friday night to

experience HOME/S.9th St. What a **moving, thought-provoking, bold, exhilarating and luminous production!** Thank you all for a memorable evening.

14. Robert Levin: Community Relations Liaison, National Museum of American Jewish History

BRAVISSIMO ! What an **inspiring and insightful** evening

15. Yuchen Zhang

般欣赏不了艺术的现代舞,可是immigration这个主题实在是好有共鸣。一把椅子,可以支撑你完成所有动作,也可以变成你的框架束缚你的行为和思想,可以让你坐上一把“成功”的交椅,也可以是你身上无法移去的烙印。不关于谁好谁坏,只在于来自自己的骄傲与认同。其实无外乎你从哪来,总会有悲欢喜乐,总会有质疑支持。正如你每天都会会吸,每天都会喝 smoothie。感谢M小姐邀请,让我平凡的周四变得很有深度,燃烧了大脑细胞之后整个人都变成小粉丝,期待更多作品! TRANSLATION: I did not know how to understand and appreciate contemporary dance art, but the theme of immigration is such a great topic that I can intimately

resonate with. A chair, can support you to move through the space, can be a “box” or “frame” to restrict your behaviors and mind, can resemble a position of authority, and also can be like a birthmark that you cannot get away from. It’s not about who is good and who is bad, instead, it’s about who we are and how we embrace our self-recognition and our own culture. No matter where you are, life

is always intertwined with happiness and sadness, and there are also innumerable people who question and support you. It’s all nature, just like we breathe in and out everyday, and drink smoothie everyday. Thanks Maggie for inviting me to watch the show, it made my boring/normal Thursday become **very meaningful and deep**. My brain is on fire now processing all I

have seen from the show, and I have become one of the fans of KYL/D. Looking forward to seeing more works!!!

16. Michelle Currica: Program Manager, Philadelphia Cultural Fund

I really appreciated Home/S. 9th St not just as an immigrant but also as a student of movement. **Really powerful.** Kudos to KYL/Dancers. I'm so glad you all decided to make Philadelphia your home :)

17. Xiao Yao

表演不仅仅是美的呈现,而是用肢体表现出对于自我认知的心理裂变。卷缩躯体下 被压抑的恐惧,肢体被肆意撕扯的无力...将 immigration对身份认知的追求与彷徨表

现的淋漓尽致。 TRANSLATION: Thanks Maggie for your invitation of Home/S. 9th Street. To me, dance performance is not only the embodiment of beauty now, it also is an embodied art form that invites the audience to contemplate and discover who we are, emotionally and psychologically. I sensed an oppressive fear when the dancers curled their bodies, and I felt the vulnerability when a physical body was manipulated... **All perfectly and reflectively represent the voice of immigration**, a simple pursuit of self-identity and the struggle behind wandering in a new continent...

18. Christina Castro-Tauser

“I was personally moved by Home/S. 9th St. from the moment I entered the theater and saw the stark white walls and two simple white chairs placed stage left. I knew I was about to be transported to a different place. The movement and short spoken phrases **allowed the audience to experience the universal stories of so many immigrants, but more importantly their personal lives and experiences were given**

significance and prominence.

The journey and travels of each immigrant was so visible through the movement of the white chairs that very quickly began to disappear and just become part of the dancers. The movement was so driven and detailed, the articulations of every joint kept me more intrigued in what they were physically saying and portraying than what they were doing or performing.”

19. Brittany M. Johnson

“The world premiere of dance artist, Kun-Yang Lin’s, Home was a positive experience for me. I personally enjoyed the movement aesthetic, as it was very

physical, quirky, smooth, and clicky. The work was introspective, provocative, and thought provoking for the whole of society, providing context for difficult topics within foreign immigration policy. For me, I was mostly moved by the first act of the performance as it impacted me first emotionally, and then it took me to a place of kinesthetic empathy. **I felt as if I was being allowed into this mysterious and misunderstood world of a foreign immigrant for a brief moment in time.**

Receiving so much information about the psyche, emotions, relationships, and perceptions of a foreigner away from home, I could hardly believe these individuals experience this everyday, as opposed to experiencing this world for only two hours. I felt that the first act addressed the personal adversity encountered while being so far away from home as a foreigner. I witnessed the exploitation and mistreatment of someone so physically different, the pressure of having to take on a second language or adapt to a second culture, the loss of being torn away from your country, and the blame and accusation of economic issues placed on foreigners by Americans.”

20. Emily Bless

Matt and I wanted to thank you for treating us to the HOME performance. It was certainly a unique experience for us as neither of us had seen professional interpretive or modern dance before. Some of the acts really struck a chord while others were difficult for me to connect to the immigrant experience and message.

Matt and I both think that what helped tremendously in our enjoyment and understanding of the piece was staying for the discussion at the end. It helped put the various parts of the piece in context. Specifically, I don't think I would have been as cognizant of the interplay between the music, lighting, and costuming if we hadn't heard the discussion and it gave us food for thought on our drive home.

We also both decided that we really enjoyed the dancer wearing the red socks, I think her name was Wally. I found her **riveting**.

21. Brian Sanders: Artistic Director/Founder of JUNK

Wow, beautiful! So inspiring. Congrats and thank you!... The performers, set and lights, all stunning.

22. Anonymous

“This was an excellent example how to find both variety and cohesiveness in one piece.....I feel it shows how one thought or idea can be explored in so many different ways. Home /S.9 St. is **a moving, significant and compelling piece of art.**”

23. Anonymous

“Loved it! Great dancers, beautiful set, powerful and moving.”

24. Anonymous

“ **Very other worldly. Compelling.** “

25. Anonymous

“ Breathtaking! “

26. Anonymous

“The show was very moving and amazing! Enjoyed every moment.”