



Emotional, haunting
and introspective,
Chronotopia is an ode
to the senses, a magical
tour de force through
the voyage of life.

Attakkalari's Repertory Company has evolved a unique movement language and is at the forefront of interdisciplinary works in India. The company tours widely in India and abroad, performing at prestigious art and cultural events such as Juli Dans (Amsterdam), Monaco Dance Forum, Munich Contemporary Dance Festival, Venice Biennale, Bologna Festival of Contemporary Dance, Poland Contemporary Dance Festival, and the Dusseldorf International Dance Festival.

Attakkalari's Diploma in Movement Arts & Mixed Media offers professional training in contemporary dance and allied subjects and its Education Outreach Programme takes dance to diverse sections of the community. Attakkalari has done several noteworthy research projects, such as Nagarika, and also offers performance technology services through its technical division, TransMedia Technologies.

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Oscillating between memory and experience, Chronotopia explores human predicament in a time of rapid changes.

Inspired by the Tamil epic *‘Chilappathikaram’*, Attakkalari's multimedia dance production is an episodic journey, traversing layers of temporal and physical locations that often defy conventional notions of space and chronology.

Establishing a link, between the landscape and the emotional as well as spiritual mindset of the protagonist, images from ordinary human existence encounter the intervention of inexplicable forces that change and catapult them out of orbit.

The performance by Attakkalari's talented Repertory, anchors on a central female character represented by three dancers. Chronotopia's unique abstract movement vocabulary reflects and embodies the human circumstance, and in the process, time dissolves and dislocates, infusing the landscape with tenderness and loss.

Highly translucent traces of projected images (Christian Ziegler), complemented by abstracted light installation (Chris Salter and Marije Baalman), create an interactive context for the evocative performance, highlighted by Thomas Dotzler's restrained and refined light design.

Intricate choreography by Jayachandran Palazhy (along with the dancers) is set to an original, vibrant and melodic score by French composer Mathias Duplessy, (created in collaboration with Carnatic musicians from Bangalore).

KEY COLLABORATORS

Jayachandran Palazhy is Artistic Director, Attakkalari and Director, Attakkalari India Biennial. He has trained in India in the dance forms of Bharatanatyam, Kathakali, Indian folk dance and Kalarippayattu martial art, and in Contemporary Dance at the London Contemporary Dance School. He has also studied Ballet, Tai Chi, Capoeira and African Dance. He has worked extensively as a freelance choreographer, teacher and consultant in different parts of the world.

Christopher Salter, Ph.D, is Assistant Professor in Design and Computation Arts at Concordia University in Montreal, Canada. His work investigates real time sound, image and technologies of interaction in responsive environments and live performance and has been extensively shown internationally at the Venice Architecture Biennale, Ars Electronica, Transmediale, Villette Numerique, Exit and many other festivals and conferences.

Chris Ziegler is a Digital Artist, Dipl. in Arch., acting background, creating non-linear visual media installations and interactive environments for performance. He has worked since 1994 for Ballett Frankfurt and other companies on multimedia productions. He received an award in Munich for his first production “Scanned V” (2001) with Jayachandran Palazhy, followed by “Transavatar” (2002) and “Nagarika” DVD-ROM (2006). At present he is Associare Artist at the Center for Art and Media, ZKM Karlsruhe.

Thomas Dotzler is a Light Designer based in Sweden. He has been designing lights for dance and drama in Europe for the last 10 years. He has worked on most of Attakkalari's important productions including Purushartha over the past three years. In 2005, he worked with Kenneth Flak on “Über”. He is also an excellent teacher of his craft and has conducted workshops for Attakkalari's Diploma in Movement Arts and Mixed Media as well as Facets, Attakkalari's international choreographic laboratory.

Mathias Duplessy is a Paris based composer, producer, guitarist, works on acoustic arrangements, a vocalist and plays multiple instruments including the Mongolian stringed instrument the morin khuur. His range includes composing for long and short films, documentaries, theatre, dance and musicals. His unique energetic style is a combination of Flamenco, Classical, Asian and Gypsy Jazz.

Marije Baalman completed her Ph.D. on Wave Field Synthesis and electro-acoustic music and is currently a post-doctoral researcher in Computation Arts at Concordia University in Montreal. Her research goes into the use of wireless networks for live performances and installations. She has performed and exhibited work across Europe and beyond.

Jason Cherian & Anshu Arora : Smallshop is a collaborative of beautifully blended aesthetics of Jason Cherian and Anshu Arora. Together they straddle both home and fashion and have been recipients of the EDIDIA Elle Décor Award –Bedroom. Jason has enjoyed an artist residency at the Garden Museum in Boston and collaborated with monks to create 'Rato' for the international market, while Anshu has sold both fashion and home at Selfridges in London, and shown at various fashion weeks in India, Brazil and Singapore.