

AS YOU TAKE TIME



AS YOU TAKE TIME is a performance installation project created by choreographer/film-maker Sue Healey. It brings together Japanese performer Norikazu Maeda with Australian performers Shona Erskine, Lisa Griffiths, Kei Ikeda and Rachelle Hickson.

The work will be developed at Gallery 4A, (Asia-Australia Arts Centre) Sydney from JULY 23 - AUGUST 10, with exhibition/performances from AUGUST 14-25.

AS YOU TAKE TIME is;

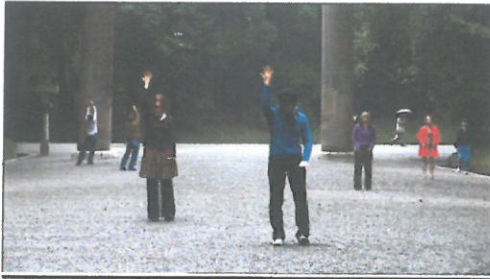
- 1) Live performance integrating dancers and projected imagery, (with set performance times).
- 2) Video and super 8 film installations screened continuously in the gallery spaces.
- 3) Forums discussing this work and recent collaborative work in Japan (major projects 1997, 1998 and 2002 at The Aichi Arts Centre, Nagoya).
- 4) Screenings of dance films.
- 5) Public Workshops

BACKGROUND

During the 2006 celebrations of exchange between Japan and Australia, this project began through support from Neon Rising/Asialink and the Australia Council.

- Stage 1 occurred in Japan, with filming and research (Oct 2005). The resulting film ***Will Time Tell?*** was a finalist in 3 major international competitions in 2007: **Dance on Camera New York, Videodanza Barcelona and Cinedans, The Netherlands.**
- Stage 2 occurred in Sydney (July 2006) with a rehearsal period for the performers, and a work in progress showing at Drill Hall, Sydney. (Asialink, Critical Path and Japan Foundation assistance.)
- Stage 3 has received funding from the Australia Council. A tour to Japan in late 2007 is being planned.





AS YOU TAKE TIME is the culminating work in the series **IN TIME** – a suite of works for film and performance, devoted to ideas and perceptions about **time**:

- **Three Times** (2004) dance film
finalist Reeldance 2006,
Special mention Napolidanza, Italy 2006
- **Once in a Blue Moon** (2005) dance film for the mothers and performers of
finalist Best Dance film Ausdance awards 2006
- **Inevitable Scenarios** (2006) Major work for a company of 6
presented by **Sydney Opera House**
toured to Artshouse, Melbourne.
- **Will Time Tell?** (2006) short film,
finalist Dance on Camera New York 2007,
Cinedans-Holland & Videodanza -Barcelona

The installation, addresses the partnership of projection as narrative framing, as well as being a light source for the dance. It will create a filmic and temporally altered environment for the dance to inhabit - a magical and contemplative space.

AS YOU TAKE TIME is drawn from the surreal shift in perception of time, when one is immersed in a new culture. It explores differences between Japan and Australia; How do the Japanese think about time? Do we have a peculiarly Australian way of dealing with time?

In this speed-obsessed age of ours, what do we do to cope with the ever-increasing pace? In Japan we found some intriguing solutions, eg a fishing pond in central Tokyo, where people go to be still, contemplate time and simply fish. Japan is an ideal place to compare our own views to this slippery subject. The pace and rhythm of life is intensely different to ours. The contrasts are extreme and make for dramatic and sensual movement expositions. The dancers are choreographed into the projected imagery, emphasizing acute tempo contrasts; from the chaotic streets of Shinjuku, to the centuries old Meiji forest; from the frenetic speed of trains, to creating a moment where time seems to stand still.

A meditation on scale and speed, the images are manipulated in size and tempo; small scale film images flicker onto a body moving very fast, large scale video is dramatically slowed to emphasize the passing of time. Each frame is choreographed with particular attention to speed, rhythm and timing.



Artists involved

Sue Healey	choreographer/director/designer	Ben Walsh	composer
Shona Erskine	performer/researcher	Mark Pugh	cinematographer
The Lab	image production		
Rachelle Hickson	performer	Louise Curham	super 8 film
Norikazu Maeda	performer	Paul Tibbles	Technician
Kei Ikeda	translator/performer		



SUE HEALEY PROFILE

Sue Healey is a Sydney-based dance artist with extensive experience as a performer, educator, choreographer and dance-film maker. Sue has created many works for live performance and film, in Australia and internationally. Her works have toured to the United States, United Kingdom, China, Japan and New Zealand.

Sue Healey's career has seen her working as a founding member of Danceworks 1983-88, as a commissioned individual artist and as Artistic Director of Vis-à-Vis Dance Canberra 1993-95 and the Sue Healey Company.

2 recent major works *Inevitable Scenarios* (2004) and *Fine Line Terrain* (2006) were presented by the Sydney Opera House.

Sue's work in film and video has had wide international exposure, with several recent international awards for *Niche* and *Fine Line*. (Il Coreografo Elettronico, Napolidanza Italy and Best Dance-film Reeldance Australia 2004 and finalist 2006.) Other credits include choreography for the feature film *The Goddess of 1967* (2002) and the creation of *Quantum Leapers* (2005), a documentary film about Quantum Leap Youth Choreographic Ensemble. In 2005 ABC Television screened 5 of Healey's recent dance films.

She is currently lecturing at School of English, Media and Performance, UNSW.
For further information: www.suehealey.com.au





History of collaborations between Sue Healey Company and Aichi Arts Center, Nagoya (1996-2002).

In 1996 Sue Healey was commissioned by the Victorian Arts Centre to travel to Nagoya to undertake a major collaboration with the Aichi Arts Centre. This has been a catalyst for Healey's enduring connection with Japan. She has created 3 major events there since 1996, in addition to the film *Will Time Tell?*.

1) *Kan* – created in association with Japanese choreographer Sumei Yonei, director Katsuhiko Yamaguchi, 4 Australian performers, 10 Japanese dancers, multimedia artists and live musicians. Performed throughout the Aichi Arts Center, this work traversed the 10 levels of the building. The performance lasted an entire day and was seen by many thousands.

The relationships forged during this time continued to build and evolved into 2 further major projects:

2) *En* 1998 (also as a result of the Victorian Arts Centre/AAC relationship) Healey created a new epic site specific performance, with her company and 5 Japanese dancers, live musicians, multi-media artists. An entirely new work set within the dramatic architecture and resources of the AAC.

A mini version of this work (with both Japanese and Australian dancers) toured to the Melbourne International Festival in 1998 and was performed on a floating stage in the moat of the National Gallery of Victoria (designed by Michael Pearce).

3) *NICHE/Japan*, a dance performance was created in 2002, commissioned by the Aichi Arts Centre, as a choreographic development opportunity for 12 Japanese artists. This project spanned 6 weeks and resulted in a sellout season at the AAC and several work in progress performances in satellite cities (Togo-town and Toyohashi). It was also a collaboration with a composer and filmmaker. This work formed a vital part of Healey's *Niche series*, informing the creation of the acclaimed full length work *Fine Line Terrain*, after returning from Japan.

