



the buddha my body  
pressrelease

## PROCESS

'The Buddha My Body' was the original title when Won Young-Oh and Tony Yap first discussed the collaborative project in Gwangju, South Korea, in 2006.

Creating the work, while living together in the converted primary school which is Theatre Nottel's home (Dec 2007) brought an intensity and a deep engagement with each other. The project came about through the connection made between Tony Yap and Mr Won, initially at the Little Asia Creators Meeting in 2004. Each day we met after communal breakfast and cleaning we met in the studio: which was transformed daily by Naomi's visual design from paper and rock.

We improvised, scored and discussed (via several languages) what was working and what the language of the work would be. We had trips together to a local, small and beautiful Buddhist temple and Sculpture Park, to Wonju to the chimchilbang (a communal bath house with saunas, hot baths, and plenty of families), to the Korean BBQ restaurant complete with karaoke, to Seoul to visit the Arko Theatre where we will perform in 2008. This was a deep experience of creation: intercultural, and interdisciplinary- with the centre of the focus being the ability of the artists involved to create from their imaginations..

## INTENTION OF DIRECTION

The Buddha My Body - A Palimpsest investigates an eastern perspective on corporeal memory – the body with memory and the body without memory.

The characters float within memory and wander through their daily lives, wafting in and out between the two. 'My memories, her memories, mother's memories, and the man's memories, engaging with one another, trying to find the origin of existence. This work is not a play of aesthetic exercises. It is an inquiry into what is forgotten in daily life, of the things beyond existence. The dramatic text of the author Hyun-woo Kim transforms into a spatial language of body and sound.'

"Without desire, there is no going and coming. Without going and coming, there is no death and birth. Without death and birth, there is no this world and the other world or the world between them. All the sadness ends at this moment." – Won Young-Oh

"When my body cannot remember me, the watch stops at 10:10." – Won Young-Oh

DIRECTOR: Won Young-Oh

PERFORMERS: Tony Yap, Lee Jee-Hyun, Agung Gunawan, Lim So-Young, Lee Eun-A,  
Yun Sang-Don, Eom Ju-Young

COMPOSERS/MUSICIANS: Madeleine Flynn, Tim Humphrey

INSTALLATION ARTIST: Naomi Ota

WRITER: Lee Hyun Woo

LIGHTING DESIGNER: Yoon Kwang Duk

PHOTOGRAPHER: Baek Kyoung Suk