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## EDUCATION

California Institute of Arts(CalArts) in the US  
 An MFA, double-majoring in Interactive Media for Performance (Theatre) and Choreography (Dance)  
 2023-2026

The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts (HKAPA)  
 Bachelor of Fine Arts (First Class Honours)  
 major in Contemporary Dance  
 2014-2019

Exchange student from HKAPA to Northern School of Contemporary Dance, UK  
 2017-2018

Guangdong Dance and Drama College, major in Ballroom Dance and Ballet  
 2009-2014

## SCHOLARSHIP

Asian Cultural Council's Altius Fellowship (Graduate Scholarship)  
 2023-2026

CalArts Graduate Scholarship  
 2023-2026

The Hong Kong Jockey Club Scholarships (3 years)  
 2016-2019

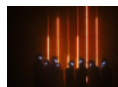
# ZELIA ZZ TAN

*Young Asian dance artist crossing over to film and technology*

Zelia is a cross-disciplinary dance artist focusing on *presence* and *identity*. She is a pioneer in dance X technology in Asia, creating virtual and hybrid performances with motion capture, AR, VR, avatars, etc. Her research interest is in the future of body, experience and interaction, in a quest for "*future dance*". She is also an experimental filmmaker whose works were featured in 18 film festivals. A freelance and founder of TechDanceLab, she is based in Los Angeles and Hong Kong, works globally with masters like Gilles Jobin and Sasha Waltz.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE selected

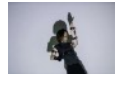
City Contemporary Dance Company  
 Full-time Dance Artist + part-time Dance Teacher  
 2019.1 - 2023.5



Performed in *Brown*, choreographed by Kim Jaeduk and Maria de Buenos Aires, choreographed by Helen Lai (Contemporary Dance x Tango Opera x Live Music Performance). 2022



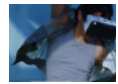
Directed & choreographed *Accelerating Dimension*, a live mocap interactive dance performance/experience with 5 dancers, avatars and AR, with a cross-disciplinary team, in Phygital\_D Festival, presented by West Kowloon Cultural District. 2022



Choreographed, designed & performed *Sensing Adjacency*, a mocap experimental work (online); choreographer, media artist & performer in *Sensing Adjacency* (documentary video). 2022



Co-created a solo *Trans* with Xing Liang and Anothermountain (artist) in *O*, in Hong Kong Cultural Center and online at PCVR web. 2020



Performed in *Mr. Blank and Remark* choreographed by Sang Jijia in City Contemporary Dance Festival. 2019-2020



Performed in *Rite of Spring* choreographed by Helen Lai, in Taipei, Beijing, Hong Kong

## INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS selected



Commissioned new VR dance project REfract@6degrees by Goethe Institut and West Kowloon Cultural District, work as director and multiple roles with media artist, Acci Baba and Dramaturg, Cally Yu, etc.



Invited by Sasha Waltz & Guest (Germany) to rehearse *In C*, and participate in phygital workshops, with international artists. 2022



Created real-time VR dance performance in *La Comedie Virtuelle* with world renowned choreographer Gilles Jobin (Switzerland) and remote global dancers. 2021



Invited by ROXY-TanzLabor (Germany) to co-create and perform AR dance *Tanz mit dem Tiger*, choreographed by Pablo Sansalvador, with remote global dancers. 2021



## AWARD/RECOGNITION

Awarded the Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia's grant for 4 weeks research trip in Switzerland about XR dance

2024

Selected as one of the finalists for the Emerging Choreographer at the Hong Kong Dance Awards

2023

*ID in Bodies* and *Sensing Adjacency* selected by the film program of Asian Futurisms Conference - Linking Asia's Digital Imagination to the World, Zhuhai, China

2022

Awarded Goethe Institute Grant to several cities & events in Germany as a dance scholar

2022

Film works *Over Here?* and *Moon Paradox I* screened in 18 international dance film festivals (official selections)

2020-2021

Semi-finalist in Sci-Tech Young Artist Awards in China, by Raiden INST

2021

*Blank* was finalist of Jumping Frames International Dance Video Festival (student section)

2016

Invited by Helsinki Festival in 25x25, a program featuring 12 young emerging Chinese artists (being the youngest, at 17)

2015

Semi-finalist in Korea International Modern Dance Competition

2015

1st Prize at the 13th China Ballroom Dance Federation Championship (professional colleges section, Modern and Latin dance category)

2012

## AR/VR/FILM X Dance



As a director, executive producer, choreographer and performer, works for *Refract@6Degrees*, a hybrid performance with a solo dancer interacting with motion capture system, avatars and XR technologies from 2023-2025.



Directed & choreographed *Accelerating Dimension*, a live mocap/avatar/AR interactive work. 2022



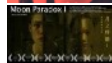
Directed & choreographed *ID in Bodies*, a VR creation/experience with avatars in Cyprovolex (virtual platform) and a documentary, presented by Randian INST. 2022



Choreographed, designed & performed *Sensing Adjacency*, a mocap experimental work (online); choreographer, media artist & performer in *Sensing Adjacency* (documentary video). 2022



Directed, choreographed & produced film *Over Here?*, commissioned by Jumping Frames International Dance Video Festival. 2020



Directed, choreographed & produced dance film *Moon Paradox I*. 2018



Choreographed & performed in *Blank*, a dance film. 2016

## CHOREOGRAPHY



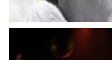
*Animating Our Tracks*, in *Open House Dance Concert*, at CalArts. 2023



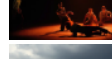
*Auditūs*, full length theater work with 2 performers (remote, online), with Ku Manlan, commissioned by Max Dance Hall, Macau. 2021



*inCOMing*, solo, commissioned by E-Side Dance Company. 2021



*Trans*, solo, in multimedia live streaming. 2020



*Another Day on The Moon*, for 6 dancers. 2019



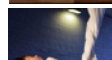
*Interspherence II*, for 2 dancers. 2017



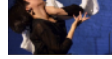
*Interspherence I*, solo. 2016



*Lapses*, solo. 2016



*disCOVER*, solo. 2016



*Signal*, solo. Premiered at Helsinki Festival. 2015

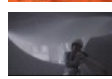
*Addiction*, solo. (created at age 15) 2012

## PERFORMANCE (FREELANCE) selected



Performed/danced in multiple works by renowned choreographers:

- *His Temple*, a live dance and music theatre commissioned by French May Arts Festival, created with Olivier Cong and Ongyong Lock at at Hong Kong City Hall. 2023
- *It took the night to believe*, by Emilie Pitoiset, in Tai Kwun Contemporary Centre Heritage of Arts Exhibition. 2018
- *Radio Live*, by Aurélie Charon & Caroline Gillet, in Centre National de la Danse, France. 2018
- *Metamorphosis*, by Iratxe Ansa & Igor Bacovich, in Shanghai International Dance Centre Theater. 2017
- *Serious Immobility*, by Ari Benjamin Meyers, in Installation Festival, Hong Kong. 2016
- *Bolero*, by Mui Check Yin, in Asian Transformation Symposium. 2014



Worked with choreographers Christine Gouzelis, Damien Jalet, Dam Van Huynh, Kuik Swee Boon, John Utans, Leila McMillan, Gabrielle Nankivell etc. 2016-2019

## COMMUNITY

Founder of TechDanceLab, the first and only professional community-based entity in Hong Kong focusing on the interaction of dance and technology  
2022

Taught an online workshop on Latin Dance for medical practitioners during the pandemic  
2020

Initiated & led inSIGHT, a series of dance workshops on body-and-mind connection for visually impaired teenagers, in Ebenezer School & Home for Visually Impaired  
2018

Held creative workshops & cultural events for 200 children (Jockey Club Service Trip, with 12 JC Scholars) in Hunan, China  
2018

Participated at Love Love Run, signature fundraising event for AIDS Concern Hong Kong  
2015



## TEACHING

As an artist and instructor, initiated Tech Dance Media workshops for multimedia creators in Roxy's Tanzlabor in Ulm and Dock 11 in Berlin, Germany and Label Dance studio in Shanghai, China. 2023

As Guest Artist at School of Theatre and Entertainment Arts, HKAPA, held 2 workshops for MFA students, explore creative methodologies for phygital performance in 2 weeks. 2023

Taught Ballroom intro, Body Conditioning & Somatic Practice, in Tai Po Art Centre, Hong Kong. 2021-2023

As Visiting Artist & Guest Teacher of School of Dance, HKAPA, held 4 workshops for BFA and MFA dance students in 7 months. 2021-2022

Held a dance workshop for 706 Youth Space in Berlin. 2022

Held workshops on creative physical practice for year 3 students in Guang Dong Dance School. 2016-2018

Held 2 dance workshops in the Helsinki Festival. 2015

Obtained Class A Ballroom Latin dance and Modern dance Teacher Certification from China Ballroom Dance Federation. 2013

## RESEARCH, RESIDENCE & WRITING

Research residence at Cie Gilles Jobin, Studios44/MocapLab, Switzerland, working with a technologist on virtual interaction and mocap system. 2022

Author of an article on future dance, published in Dance Journal/HK. 2022

As Visiting Artist, researched on virtual dance in the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts for 7 months. 2021-2022

Artist-in-residence at Leonardo21 (digital arts organization in Hong Kong), conducting artistic research on body and technology. 2021

Author of an article on mocap experiment, published in Dance Journal/HK. 2021

*Flaneur*, a series of site-specific improvisation movement research in Paris, Bangkok, Ho Chi Minh City, Hong Kong etc. 2015-2021

## CONFERENCE & EXCHANGE

Invited in the panel at ArtTech Forum (Switzerland) as a speaker, discuss with Susanna, Phillip, Gilles about cutting-edge digital dance. 2023

Invited to a panel discussion at Dance and Somatic Practice Conference in UK, as a dance scholar. 2023

Invited to attend *M+ Game Night: City Building as a Board Game*, by M+ Museum, Hong Kong. 2022

Attended Tanzkongress Mainz, VRHAM! VR & Art Festival in Hamburg, Art Laboratory event in Berlin, and documenta15 in Kassel, as a dance scholar supported by a grant from Goethe Institute. 2022

Presented a talk on *ID Transfer in future dance VR*, at 25th Digital Research of Humanity and Arts Conference, Berlin. 2021

Attended Zuhören #4 forum, *Climate change & democracy: from complexity to action*, at the Radialsystem, Berlin. 2019

Attended Dance Dramaturgy Workshop, presented by Ibsen International, in Beijing. 2018

Dance Journeys, project/networking/research trips to 14 countries. 2015-2022