

Portfolio

Project 03

Kangzhi Men

2021

Dancing with the Wind

Performance of Cooperation between Human and Nature

It is an Performance about the sensation of wind and the cooperation between the nature and human beings. I have long been sensitive to wind in daily life and had specific affection towards this natural phenomenon. This is on the grounds that wind can show the existence of itself, which is like the great power of a lifeless object that has been alienated. When wind strokes my hair or grazes against my skin, I come to recognize the presence of it and also myself. After all, the variation of different kinds

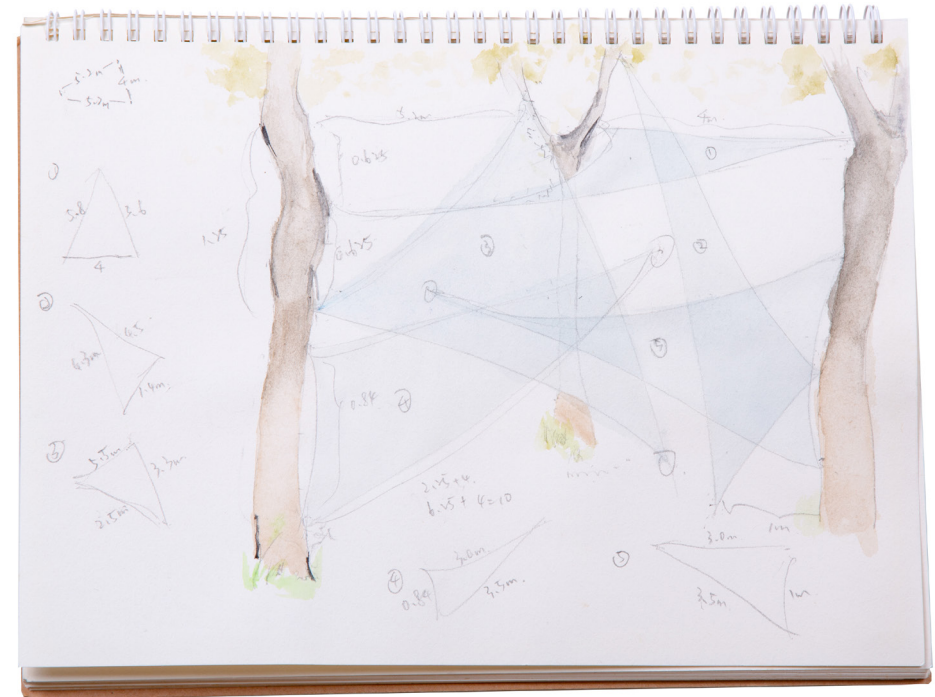
of wind, our physical contact, and the feeling it gives me prove the power it possesses.

I love sailing, which is a sport dealing with the wind. As the helmsman of our team, I need to detect the direction fo the wind and react to every change of it. On the other hand, I have a special interest in dancing, and I can sense the connection between dancing and the wind as well.



This time, it is not the wind that takes the initiative role of touching me but me, in turn, that takes the initiative role of stirring the air to form wind.

Therefore, this Performance is to demonstrate my unique connection with the wind, with special elements about sailing and dancing.



Since the wind was from nature, I chose to locate the installation in a natural setting, which was eventually the woods. And because the wind was intangible, in order to present it, I needed to visualize it. This was done by having five pieces of white chiffon cut into triangles which was the shape of sails, according to the measurement and estimation that I had done in the woods between trees. In this shape, the

pieces of chiffon could be blew up or filled by the wind when they were hung up on trees. Furthermore, the wind was related to my body movement via the media chiffon. Two corners of the triangle were pinned on the trunk, and the other one was tied to my limbs or core, and thus I could interact with the force provided by wind whenever I moved and danced.



When I started moving, I sensed the direction and strength of the wind and any changes in them and reacted accordingly through the language of dance, in order to form a dynamic between the wind and myself and achieve a relationship between the nature and human beings.





It, again, resonates with the project FLOW, indicating the theme of 'control' and 'out-of-control' — I was trying to dance with the chiffon pieces while the wind is sometimes cooperating with me and sometimes behaving against me; the wind and the inelastic chiffon were also restricting my movement.