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Chen-Wei Lee

14 Kinds of Exercise with Endurance

4-channel dance video installation

Full HD, coloured, sound, looped

Concept, choreography, performer: Chen-Wei Lee

Images, editing: Maël G. Lagadec

Sound design: Jeanne Debarsy

Art consultant: Ding-Yeh Wang

Dimensions variable

2020

To experience physical endurance and resist drag on propulsive force, dancers explore different movements with different limbs in different scenarios. As the movements build up over time, the process of change in shape due to pressure and energy consumption creates an instantaneous exit from the equilibrium between motion and stillness.

When an artist experiments with bodily endurance, they feel the same bottomless demand we feel ourselves. Such a state is the cadence and pace at which the body moves in the direction of modern culture. Mechanization and quantification have become the basic elements of material production in society. As both producers and consumers, we proceed within a non-linear temporal consciousness, striving physically and mentally to pursue time while also being pursued by time. Existing in the midst of this predicament, we must interpret the intermeshing state of chasing and being chased.

In the process of this work, the artist observes the closely connected partnership between the body and the will, which perpetually adjusts and extends life. Within these constraints, it extracts all kinds of freedoms. Conversely, it also bears the weight of life, fragile yet tenacious, solid as a rock yet ready to crumble.