表演藝術界 防疫大作戰

文/郭士榛

圖片提供/郭士榛、國家兩廳院、高雄市愛樂文化藝術基金會、朱宗慶打擊樂團



國家音樂廳前台防疫人員全副武裝進行消毒

2020年3月5日,曾於2月底來臺演出的澳籍中提琴音 樂家布萊特狄恩 (Brett Dean) ,爆出離境後確診新 冠肺炎消息,可說是在疫情緊張的臺灣,對已受到影 響的表演藝術界,開出了致命的一槍。當晚,文化部 部長鄭麗君要求文化部所屬的樂團與表演藝術團體, 暫停3月國際邀演,同時呼籲民間相關的表演藝術活 動,也需進行風險評估。

延期 目前最妥善的決定

配合政府政策,國家表演藝術中心的國家兩廳院、臺 中國家歌劇院與衛武營國家藝術文化中心公布 2020TIFA臺灣國際藝術節延期,國家兩廳院藝術總監 劉怡汝表示:「支持防疫措施的同時,又希望不折損 演出作品的完整體驗,延期是目前場館能想到最妥善 的決定。」

因疫情日漸擴散,衛福部中央流行疫情指揮中心於3 月25日宣布:「100人以上室內活動、500人以上室外 活動,建議停辦」,對此,國家表演藝術中心董事長 朱宗慶表示,如何符合防疫需求,兼顧觀眾安全,並 滿足表演藝術臨場感,以及維持與觀眾互動,對表演 藝術界來說,真的是相當大的考驗;而表演團隊大多 靠售票演出生存,此次疫情,讓許多表演團隊受到極 大衝擊,疫情指揮中心的停辦建議,也讓各大劇場後 續節目,幾乎全面停擺。



北市國特別策劃的 「網路直播音樂會-望春風」, 已有近6萬名觀眾藉由網路平台, 欣賞到精彩的演出,音樂影響力持續擴散中



高雄春天藝術節的草地音樂會 每年吸引上萬人前往聆聽

防疫 演出大受影響

以高雄春天藝術節爲例,主辦單位高雄市愛樂文化藝 術基金會執行長朱宏昌表示, 高雄春天藝術節每年 3月初開始,10年來以戶外的草地音樂會打頭陣,兩 檔共4場演出,每場聚集約5千人,整個活動預計會有 近2萬多人次參與,因屬大型民眾聚集場合,對此高 雄市政府2月底即發布防疫指示,因此決定演出活動 延至下半年,是最早開始防疫措施的單位。

朱宏昌也提出,因爲高雄市國樂團和交響樂團,有許 多音樂家和客席指揮來自兩岸或華人地區,2月也正 是華人地區疫情延燒最厲害時期,多方考量後,爲防 疫情擴散,只能將之後的演出活動取消或延期。

繼續傳遞 更多美好與希望

在疫情嚴峻時期,臺北市立國樂團團長鄭立彬認為, 音樂團隊仍應將好聽音樂傳送給每位喜愛音樂的人 們,爲此,北市國特別策劃了一場「網路直播音樂會 一望春風」音樂,已於3月21日北市國的YouTube頻道 上播出,雖然沒有現場觀眾,但當晚3千多名的觀眾 藉由網路平台,一起欣賞到精彩的演出,成爲了防疫 時期,表演藝術團隊演出的典範。

來自臺東的布拉瑞揚舞團,因應防疫建議,新作《沒 有害怕太陽和下雨》也延期演出,團長布拉瑞揚決定 在原定國家戲劇院首演的4月17日,於臺東鐵花村進 行網路直播演出,希望帶給大家正面能量,因應當 前低迷環境,積極面對。

政府與民間齊力 望為表演工作者

面對疫情,除了文化部藝文紓困補助外,爲了鼓舞 表演藝術界,紙風車劇團3月推出專爲具舞台演出經 驗之幕前、幕後表演工作者量身打造的線上劇場「紙 風車返笑日」徵件活動,上傳具有創意感、幽默感、 戲劇張力的1分鐘影片,就有可能獲得獎金,稍稍紓 解因疫情造成表演工作者無收入的困境。

紙風車劇團執行長李永豐表示,劇場是最後的手工 業,沒有人才就沒有劇場,紙風車劇團28年來能走過 全臺,演員和技術人員是極為重要的一環,在非常時 期,希望能與大家一同共度難關。

18

SILK K AL

Battle Against COVID-19 Epidemic by Performing Arts Communities

Writer / KUO Shih-Chen
Photo / KUO Shih-Chen ` National Theater & Concert Hall `
Kaohsiung Philharmonic Cultural & Arts Foundation ` Ju Percussion Group ` Paperwindmill Theatre

According to the news on March 5, 2020, Brett Dean, an Australian viola musician, was infected with novel coronavirus, who had performed in Taiwan at the end of February 2020. The unfortunate news was a severe blow to performing arts communities in Taiwan, that have already been severely affected by the outbreak of COVID-19. On that night, CHENG Li-Chiun, head of Taiwan's Minstry of Culture, demanded the orchestras and performing arts communities under the Minstry to temporarily suspended overseas performances in March, and she also appealed for risk assessment of virus infection for performing arts activities, held by private organizations.

Postponement is the best choice at present

In response to the government's anti-epidemic policy, the National Theater & Concert Hall of the National Performing Arts Center, the National Taichung Theater and the National Kaohsiung Center for the Arts (Weiwuying) announced that the Taiwan International Festival of Art of 2020 (2020TIFA) would be postponed. LIU Yi-Ru, Art Director of the National Theater & Concert Hall, said, "in order to cooperate with the epidemic prevention measures and not damage the perfect experience or art, we think the best way at present is to postpone the Festival."

Due to the escalating problem of COVID-19, the Central Epidemic Command Center (CECC) of Taiwan announced on March 25, "It is recommended to stop indoor activities involving more than 100 people and outdoor activities involving more than 500 people." JU Tzong-Ching, chairman of National Performing Arts Center, said that it is really a big challenge for the performing arts communities to meet epidemic prevention requirements and ensuring the health and safety of the audience, while giving the on-the-spot feeling of the performing arts and interacting

with the audience at the same time. Upon the suggestion of the CECC to ban public gatherings, the major theaters almost all postponed the performance of the follow-up programs. As a result, many performing arts teams have been greatly impacted by the outbreak of the COVID-19, because most of them rely on box office revenue to survive.

Performances have been greatly affected due to COVID-19 epidemic

The Kaohsiung Spring Arts Festival, which is to be sponsored by Kaohsiung Philharmonic Cultural & Arts Foundation annually in early March, has been postponed because of the novel coronavirus. Chief executive CHU Hung-Chang said that, in the last 10 years, the Festival has begun with an outdoor grassland concert which has two sections of four performances with a total audience of about 20,000 people and is a large-scale public gathering. In response to the epidemic prevention guidelines issued by the Kaohsiung Municipal Government at the end of February, the Foundation, being the first to take the antipandemic steps, decided to postpone the Festival to the second half of the year.

CHU also pointed out, many musicians and guest conductors of Kaohsiung Chinese Orchestra and Symphony Orchestra come from both sides of the Taiwan Strait or Chinese communities and the spread of novel coronavirus in Chinese areas was the most severe in February 2020. Therefore, after careful consideration, the subsequent performances had to be cancelled or postponed in order to contain the virus.



National Performing Arts Center Chairman JU Tzong-Ching



Kaohsiung Philharmonic Cultural & Arts Foundation Chief executive CHU Hung-Chang

Delivering more beauty and hope

CHENG, Li-Pin, general director of the TCO holds the belief that musicians should still transmit splendid music to everyone who loves music even if the epidemic situation is severe. Therefore, TCO presented a special concert entitled "Live Webcast Concert- Craving for the Spring Wind" (*Wang Chun Feng*), which was broadcast on the YouTube of TCO on March 21. Although they couldn't watch the programs in the theater, thousands of music lovers appreciated the wonderful performance together through the internet. Taipei Chinese Orchestra has also become a model for performing arts teams during the period of isolation.

In response to COVID-19, the new work *Not Afraid of the Sun and Rain* of the Bulareyaung Dance Company from Taitung has also been postponed. Bulareyaung, leader of BDC, has decided to perform the work live on the internet in Tiehua Village of Taitung on April 17, the scheduled date of performance in National Theater. He hopes to take this opportunity to bring positive energy to everyone so as to actively deal with the current unfavorable environment.

Bailout programs for performing artists iniciated by Government and private sector

In addition to the subsidies from the Ministry of Culture to assist the arts and culture sector to tackle the difficulties arising from the COVID-19 epidemic, Paperwindmill Theatre, in order to cheer up the performing arts communities, has specially initiated an activity Papaerwindmill Regains Smile for the performers and staff behind the scenes. Those who upload a one-minute video with creativity, sense of humor and dramatic tension will have a chance to win prizes, thus slightly relieving the difficulties of performing arts workers caused by the COVID-19 epidemic.

LEE Yung-Feng chief executive of Paperwindmill Theatre, says that the theater is the last handicraft industry and talents are indispensable to the theater. The brilliant achievements of Paperwindmill Theatre in Taiwan in the past 28 years have depended greatly on the contributions of performers and technicians. He hopes to work with everyone to overcome the difficulties.

21