

Multimedia Performance that Synthesizes Arts and Technology

By Lampo Leong

My current multimedia performing art series, *Moving Ink*, employs a visual language that incorporates the intrinsic movement and vitality of ink washes and the rhythmic movement of wild cursive Chinese calligraphy with the dynamic color of abstract expressionism painting. With arrays of ink splashes constantly forming and dissolving as well as calligraphic marks dancing and intertwining, a mysterious cosmic space is created and the atmosphere shifts between meditative, ethereal, energetic, and vibrant with lights emanating from within. These familiar yet abstract images make us aware of the miraculous vitality in nature and the enigmatic process of creation in the universe. Reflecting a reverence for both the spirit of Daoism and the Sublime, as well as an ever-renewed wonder at a universe revealed to us through modern science, my work celebrates the dynamic energies that give birth to new life, new planets, and new stars. This unique experience is attained and heightened by the engagement of sound, video animation projection, and human interaction. Through the manipulation of light in these site-specific installations or on stage, visitors or performers are seen intermingling with the evolving imagery around them while interacting with the aural and visual textures in the space, generating an engaging visual impact and an experience that would be difficult to achieve by any single medium alone. The end result is transcendental and timeless, a synthesis that is greater than the sum of its parts. These interdisciplinary efforts and multimedia art form arise from my continuous investigations on wild cursive Chinese calligraphy as a culturally coded icon for communication, as well as my commitment to develop innovative approaches to capture and enhance effectively our unique experiences in this increasingly globalized, multimedia-oriented, and progressively complex postmodern digital world.