

Time Out

Hong Kong

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Around Town

and
Kids!

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Previews

Aedas My Footsteps



They got hops *The Aedas My Footsteps crew getting some air*

The Bethanie Saturday 24

The Bethanie building in Pok Fu Lam can be many things to many people. To HKU students, it's the birthplace of the HKU Press. To up-and-coming Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts (HKAPA) performers, it's a campus for learning arts and crafts. To others, it's a place for holy gatherings. And for 20 young dancers, it's going to be part of their stage.

In a collaborative project between the Hong Kong Youth Foundation and New York arts company Third Rail

Project, a site-specific dance training and performance takes place this fortnight at the Bethanie. So what is site-specific dance? "It's a dance created specifically for an allocated place," explains Zach Morris, co-director of Third Rail Project. "The choreography is generated through research and interpretation of the site's cultural matrix of characteristics."

Maria Wong, performing arts manager of the HKYAF, adds that the Bethanie was chosen for its "gothic church elements" and "long hallways." "It's going to make for an interesting

dance," she says. "Site-specific dance will bond the dancers with the location. It'll open up a new perspective." In other words, expect this dance to focus on the Bethanie's ties to education and art with a bit of gothic ambiance and history thrown in.

Titled *Aedas My Footsteps* ("Because footsteps are important to dance, and Aedas because they're the sponsor," explains Wong), the 20 young performers are being trained by Morris and fellow Third Rail Project co-director Tom Pearson for the dance, to be performed on Saturday 24.

"Site-work can be profoundly effecting," says Morris. "We hope that this workshop and performance will stimulate the participants to think creatively about performing in public spaces."

Wong adds that another goal is to change people's perception of the Bethanie. "We want people to look at it in a different light, to see the creativity and to understand the history in a way that's not boring." *Ben Sin*

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