

# Tree of caresses



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The 2015 3rd Ten Drum Cultural & Creative Park International Artist-in-Residence project invited well-known French composer-cum-piano soloist, sound sculpture creator Alexander Levy, for a one-month residency creation in Tainan Rende Sugar Cultural & Creative Park. The main creation « Tree of Caresses » is the exclusive first one in Asia. According to the surrounding natural and cultural environment of Rende Sugar Refinery, Artist Levy specially created the outdoor interactive voice devices in Banyan Pond of the park. This device successfully integrates artificial products and nature (interactive computer programs, immediate soundscape, and realistic lianas sculpture). In the local environment as the main idea of the creation, the concept of cross-border and cross-domain concept combines art and cultural creativity to witness the retro atmosphere of century industrial relic activation within the park. They expect to provide the public an art exhibition journey full of slow living in southern region. Levy thinks music is best medium to understand oneself and to listen to others, and to strengthen the main shaft of his creation through the active participation of people. Levy is good at constructing his music world through multiple compound music performance, regardless of the classical instrumental music, vocal music, opera form, or the co-creation with crossover performer, and we can feel his high openness to pursue artistic aesthetics. In addition to the stage works, also, Levy often completes many In Situ creations in specific architectural spaces and natural heritage field, and through the creations of musical works in the public spaces, such as in urban areas, parks, and so on, trying to open people's auditory acuity, listen carefully to natural poetic feeling pouring from daily life around, and also echoes Levy's creative inspiration in the natural environment. Through these subtle sounds lead people into his world of music.

Introduction of Tree of Caresses – “Tree of Caresses” is an invitation to stroll through an interactive set made up of real vines, which serve as extensions of the surrounding natural environment. Immersion within this installation lets the audience experience heightened sensations of touch, through sounds that evoke feelings and fantasy.

In particular, the soundscape of “Tree of Caresses” created in Ten Drum Culture Village picturing the poetic spirit of Ten Drum nowadays, including drums, Dream Sugar Refinery, and natural sounds. All sounds used in this work were recorded during Alexandre Lévy's artist-in-residence in Ten Drum. This is an installation which can be touched, felt, and listened to the spirit of Ten Drum. [...]