# SS RELEASE

Ningxia Lisiyao Children's Troupe and Chongqing 303 Cultural Transmission (China)

# Words That I Never Tell by Li Siyao



Emerging young director, Li Siyao, presents the inner thoughts of primary school students in a poetic exploration of generational differences and pursuing dreams.

'Your children are not your children. They are the sons and daughters of life's longing for itself.'

Inspired by this quote from Kahlil Gibran's poem *On Parenting,* this experimental piece poetically stages the original thoughts of 20 primary school children from Chin, examining and combating the disconnect between generations.

Children in China seldom have the freedom to make their own choices. Struggling to pursue their dreams, the older generation ignores their cry for independence and the need to embrace personality development. This experimental work challenges this status-quo, presenting the inner voices of children in the spotlight. The production asks parents to reflect on their anxiety of overprotection and the necessity to encourage freedom of expression.

This show was first devised by **Li Siyao** with 20 primary school students and premiered in Yinchuan in 2017. As well as high artistic acclaim, the work was also met with self-examination from the parents of featured children. This positive impact incited Siyao to develop more productions with different groups of students. Each production is unique as every child contributes new perspective.

The latest version of this production works with **MOCA Yinchuan**. The largest contemporary arts gallery in north west China and featured a cast of 400 from local primary schools.

**Li Siyao** is one of the most talented young theatre directors and theatre educators currently working in China. He is renowned in contemporary Chinese theatre, where he has been active in a number of youth festivals such as Beijing Fringe Festival. He founded the first independent theatre and Fringe Festival in Yinchuan and has collaborated with local school and the Education Commission of China to promote the benefits of teachings theatre to remote regions. From here he presents their work to the world.

### **Notes to Editor**

This is China Ningxia Li Siyao Children Experimental Troupe & Chongqing 303 Cultural Transmission Co., Ltd. Edinburgh Fringe debut. They bring a cast of 18 to C **venues** as part of its international tour.

### **Listings Information**

Venue C aquila, Roman Eagle Lodge, 2 Johnston Terrace, venue 21

Dates 11-13 Aug Time 10:45 (0hr50)

Ticket prices £8.50 / concessions £6.50 / under 18s £4.50

C venues box office 0131 581 5555 / www.CtheFestival.com/2019/words-that-i-never-tell

Fringe box office 0131 226 0000 / www.edfringe.com

## C venues

vibrant vivacious variety

C venues press office tel 0131 581 5550 press@cvenues.com

Edinburgh press office 2019
Left hand door in NW corner
Rose Street North Lane)
Rear of **C** viva (Kimpton Hotel)
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Ticket collection at any  ${\bf C}$  venue

C venues box office tel 0131 581 5555 www.CtheFesrtival.com



