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The site-specific Urban Dance performance at TaiKoo Place in Quarry Bay reflects elements of the environment. Photo: Steve Cray

Students step up to dance with the professionals

Liz Gooch

Dance troupes from Los Angeles and New York will join more than 200 local pupils today as part of a contemporary dance performance that incorporates the surrounding environment.

Students from 40 schools across Hong Kong and professional dancers from the LA-based Collage Dance Theatre and New York's Third Rail Projects will perform "site-specific" dance at Quarry Bay's TaiKoo Place from 11am to 6pm.

The 15 dance performances are

part of the Swire Island East Urban Dance Festival, which is organised in collaboration with the Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation.

The foundation's performing arts manager Maria Wong Chi-yan said site-specific dance was entirely created at the location of the performance.

"The piece will have elements of the environment," she said.

"Sometimes they will incorporate the historical background and social background and they will observe the people using that area to see how they can incorporate those elements as well."

Education

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Above photograph of "Strangers on Tong Chong Street" by Tom Pearson and Zach Morris of Third Rail Projects.

(From left to right): Tom Pearson, Elizabeth Carena, Donna Ahmadi, Tara O'Con, and Marissa Nielsen-Pincus