

# West Papua Highlands

Film: Peter Chin

Music: Sop Korer

Interviewer: Tedd Robinson

Peter Chin's 1997 trip to the Baliem Valley highlands of West Papua, the western half of the island of Papua under Indonesian control, reveals beautiful moments of simple and warm connection. Later Chin contemplates the brutal control over these indigenous peoples by the Indonesian government, and the Papuan's fight for self-determination.

**PETER CHIN** is a multidisciplinary artist born in Jamaica and based in Toronto and Cambodia. He has been part of the cultural life of Toronto for almost 50 years, starting with singing in Massey Hall in 1972. Peter Chin is the founder and artistic director of dance-driven trans-disciplinary company Tribal Crackling Wind, and co-founder and director of the NKK International Dance Centre in Siem Reap Cambodia. Chin has been described as a renaissance man of the dance world, and is recognized as a composer / musician, choreographer / dancer, designer, writer and filmmaker. His works have received 5 Dora Mavor Moore awards, and many nominations. Chin has also received a Gemini award for his performance in the film 'Streetcar' by Nick de Pencier. He was also an inaugural winner of the K.M. Hunter Artist Awards - Interdisciplinary Arts category, and has been recognized with the Muriel Sherrin Award, among others. Chin is the inaugural laureate of the Eldred Family Dance Award. Chin's works have been presented across Canada, United States, Mexico, Jamaica, Columbia, Amsterdam, UK, Cambodia, India, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Japan, and Taiwan.

**TEDD ROBINSON** is a Canadian choreographer, performer and educator, best known for his idiosyncratic solo works. As Artistic Director of 10 Gates Dancing, he has created repertoire for some wonderful dance artists in Canada. His collaborations have included creation with dance artists Louise Lecavalier, Margie Gillis, Ame Henderson and composer/performer Charles Quevillon. He has lead choreographic labs in Ireland, Scotland, Australia and across Canada, and has been consulted on the work and work practices of over 50 choreographers.

Tedd is a National Arts Centre Associate Dance Artist, the 1998 Chalmers National Dance Award winner and the recipient of the 2014 Walter Carson Award. His work "Canvas 5 X 5" for Halifax's Mocean Dance won the 2016 Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia Masterworks award. His work is influenced by his six years of study as a monk living in the Hakukaze soto zen monastery in Ottawa. [www.tengatesdancing.ca](http://www.tengatesdancing.ca)