



# BREAKIN' THE DANCE FLOOR

## WITH FELLEST

*Fellest Yan is a 26-year-old well-known street dancer and dance choreographer from Kota Kinabalu. In just less than a decade career as a professional dancer, he already has a long list of achievements to be proud of and some of it are creator and judge for Battleground, ASTRO's Street Dance Competition; judge and choreographer for Junior Idols, TVB's reality TV show; Stage Director and choreographer for TVB Mega Concert 2009; choreographer for artists like Bosco Wong, Ron Ng, Melissa Indot, Hannah Tan, Liang, Danny One and Eric Leong; and owner of Royal Phantom Dance Studio and Wild Stream Productions.*

### How long have you been dancing?

**Fellest :** I've been dancing since I was 15 years old. But took it seriously when I was in college at the age of 18 years old. By the time I reached 20, I decided to take dance as a career for my life.

### What kind of dance do you do?

**Fellest :** I do street dancing. There are a lot of styles in street dancing - Locking, Popping, Breaking, House Dance, New Jack Swing, Krumping, Waacking, Voguing, L.A. Hip Hop. I'm a pure street dancer and therefore I am pretty much learning all of that. It's hard to say which one I specialise in. I started as a Bboy, then I moved into L.A. Hip Hop and then Locking and Popping. When I met my teacher, Marcus Tucker, from Philadelphia of the USA, I got into House Dancing and New Jack Swing. Dance is knowledge and it's never ending, therefore I am still learning each of the dance styles that I've just mentioned. You never stop learning, no matter what level you are at.

### How did you start your career as a professional dancer?

**Fellest :** I started out as an instructor in a dance company. After four years, I left the company and pursued my own path. I have stopped teaching dance as I've ventured into events and productions that are still related to dance. Some of the things that I've done are reality TV dance shows, dance competitions, conceptualising events and concerts.

### What's your biggest achievement as a dancer?

**Fellest :** My biggest achievement as a dancer is not about appearing on TV shows or dancing for artists or getting all the fame and attention. Rather my biggest achievement is all the values that I have learned along my journey to make me a better person. I'm grateful for all the mistakes that I've made and all the failures that I went through as I learned so much from it.

### How long do you train in a day?

**Fellest :** It really depends but averagely my team and I would train around two hours in dance and another hour in fitness training, and then me might hit the club to dance again so around four to five hours a day.

### Is that how you maintain fitness and stamina?

**Fellest :** Yes, just keep on dancing! I mean, don't even think about stamina or fitness, just dance and let the music take you away, you'll be dancing so much you won't even realise that it actually improves your stamina and fitness.

### What does it take to be a good breaker?

**Fellest :** Being free and connecting with break beats (breaking music). Freestyling is very, very important, not just about the STUNTS! Foundation is there to be learned and it's a must, but once you have learned it, flip it and be creative and make it your own style and dance with it. But stunts are mandatory too as it is part of the breaking foundation.

### What's the future plan for yourself and the Royal Phantom Dance Studio?

**Fellest :** Future plan for myself is to expand in the event industry side, using dance as a main concept and entertainment to link up and conceptualise quality and high-end events. As for Royal Phantom Dance Studio, the future plan is to enrich and expand the dance culture in Malaysia by bringing in more international dancers to share their knowledge and create better platforms for Malaysia's dancers to grow into the entertainment industry.

### Would it be possible for you to give the Brezze team a free one-hour crash course on breaking? =)

**Fellest :** Oh, definitely! I will make Jonathan Bong do a head spin! Ha, ha!

