



Chinese New Year at Navy Pier: Year of the Tiger 4708
Sunday, February 14, 2010
Navy Pier Crystal Gardens
12:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

PROGRAM

12:00 Welcome remarks by Chinese Fine Arts Society President Julie Tiao

12:05 Lion Dance and Martial Arts Demonstration

Chicago Chinese Cultural Center Lion Dance Troupe

12:30 Little Star Dance Troup from Jin Qiu Yue Dance Studio

- “Dance of Dunhuang”
Lucy Zhuo, Helen Li, Meara McMahon, Jennifer Zhuo, Amanda Lang,
Christina Lang, Li Ochs
- “Hei An Girls”
Julie Joyner, Anna Macaulay, Camryn, Zdziarski-West, Giselle Schiet,
Carolyn Wilken, Phoebe Spratt, Talia Seidman, Cecily Abbott
- “Flying Fairies”
Sharon Lau (刘颖璇), Sharlin Lau (刘颖慈)

12:45 TKZ All Male Voice Ensembles

- “If” (如果)
- “A-Mei A Mei” (阿美阿美)
- “Visiting Spring” (拜訪春天)
- “Grandma’s Pern-Hu Gulf” (外婆的澎湖灣)
- “The Girl Over There Looked At Me” (對面的女孩看過來)
- “Under Silver Moon Beam” (銀色月光下)
- “You Came” (妳來)

- “Love” (愛情)

Band musicians: Eric Cheng, David Shih, Dennis Tsai, Shaye-Cheng Yang

1:00 Bei Dou Kung Fu All-Stars

Master Wu and students perform Kung Fu and Martial Arts from Bei Dou Kung Fu

1:20 Chinese Instrument Demonstrations and Solo Vocalist

- “Fisherman’s Evening Song” 漁舟唱晚 – GuZheng Music
GuZheng (Chinese Zither): YuQi Deng
- “Fong-Yang Drum Song” – GuZheng and Voice
- “The Moon Represents My Heart” – GuZheng and Voice
- “Meet Me in the Oue Bao” – Inner Mongolian Folk Song

Soprano: Lori Ho Tenor: Dennis Tsai GuZheng: YuQi Deng

- “New Horse Racing” – Erhu Music
Erhu: Alex Li
- “Spring Flowers” – Bamboo Flute Music
Bamboo Flute: Kerry Leung
- “Happy New Year” – GuZheng, Erhu and Bamboo Flute Ensembles
- “Shepherd Ballad” – GuZheng, Erhu and Bamboo Flute Ensembles
- “The Moon Followed by the Colorful Cloud” – GuZheng, Erhu and Bamboo Flute Ensembles

GuZheng: YuQi Deng Erhu: Alex Li Bamboo Flute: Kerry Leung

1:50 Little Star Dance Troupe from Jin Qiu Yue Dance Studio

- “Peach Fairies” (桃妖)
Fran Reckers, Lea Scheck, Lucy Capone, Celina Madden, Kari Everson
- “Moonlight Over the Lotus Pond” (荷塘月色)
Sarah Luepker, Lindsey Zoziarski-West, Thea Chiet, Lauren Macaullay,
Olivia Spratt, Abby Leonard

10 minute break (2:00 – 2:10)

2:10 Lion Dance and Martial Arts Demonstration

Chicago Chinese Cultural Center Lion Dance Troupe

2:30 Chicago Hakka Chorus and Bartlett International Chorus

- “Peach Blossom” by Chicago Hakka Chorus
- “Happy New Year” by Chicago Hakka Chorus
- “Spring Guests” by Chicago Hakka Chorus and Bartlett International Chorus
- “Love from the Sunshine and Raindrops” by Chicago Hakka Chorus and Bartlett International Chorus

Conductor: Lori Ho

Pianist: Phyllis Muhling

2:45 Little Star Dance Troupe from Jin Qiu Yue Dance Studio

- “Hwa Mulan” (花木兰)
Zoe Haralambidis, Nina Gallagher, Lizhong Dubreiu, Gwen Abbott
- “Peach Fairies” (桃妖)
Meara McMahon, Helen Li, Lucy Zhuo
- “Happy Milk Maids”
Sharon Lau (刘颖璇), Sharlin Lau (刘颖慈)
- “Peacock”
Jie Ji, Becky Chow, Karen Hsu, May Yu, Fang Yi Jia, Ke Shan Wang, Karin Tsang

3:05 TKZ All Male Voice Ensembles

- “If” (如果)
- “A-Mei A Mei” (阿美阿美)
- “Visiting Spring” (拜訪春天)
- “Grandma’s Pern-Hu Gulf” (外婆的澎湖灣)
- “The Girl Over There Looked At Me” (對面的女孩看過來)
- “Under Silver Moon Beam” (銀色月光下)
- “You Come” (妳來)
- “Love” (愛情)

Band musicians: Eric Cheng, David Shih, Dennis Tsai, Shaye-Cheng Yang

3:20 CFAS Fashion Show by CFAS Board Members, Sunrise Chorus and Volunteers

- “God of Fortune”
- “King and Queen with Soldiers and Maids”
- “Bride and Groom”
- “Wang Zhou Jun”
- “Miao Tribes”
- “Hakka Tea Picking Costumes”

3:35 Bei Dou Kung Fu All-Stars

Master Wu and students perform Kung Fu and Martial Arts from Bei Dou Kung Fu

10 minute break (4:00 – 4:10)

4:10 Chinese Instrument Demonstrations and Vocalists

- “Fisherman’s Evening Song” 漁舟唱晚 – GuZheng Music

GuZheng (Chinese Zither) YuQi Deng

- “Fong-Yang Drum Song” – YuQi Deng and Lori Ho
- “The Moon Represents My Heart” – YuQi Deng and Lori Ho
- “Meet Me in the Oue Bao” – Inner Mongolian Folk Song Duet

Soprano: Lori Ho Tenor: Dennis Tsai GuZheng: YuQi Deng

- “New Horse Racing” – Erhu Music

Erhu: Alex Li

- “Spring Flowers” – Bamboo Flute Music

Bamboo Flute: Kerry Leung

- “Happy New Year” – GuZheng, Erhu and Bamboo Flute Ensembles
- “Shepherd Ballad” – GuZheng, Erhu and Bamboo Flute Ensembles
- “The Moon followed by the Colorful Cloud” – GuZheng, Erhu and Bamboo Flute Ensembles

GuZheng: YuQi Deng Erhu: Alex Li Bamboo Flute: Kerry Leung

4:30 Little Star Dance Troupe from Jin Qiu Yue Dance Studio

- “Fan Dance”
Melody Lee
- “Peacock”
Jie Ji, Becky Chow, Karen Hsu, May Yu, Fang Yi Jia, Ke Shan Wang, Karin Tsang
- “Catching Fish”
Frank Wappel, Karissa Wappel
- “Opera Dance”
Students from Jin Qiu Yue Dance Studio

4:50 Fashion Show by CFAS Board Members, Sunrise Chorus, and Volunteers

- “God of Fortune”
- “King and Queen with Soldiers and Maids”
- “Bride and Groom”
- “Wang Zhou Jun”
- “Miao Tribes”
- “Hakka Tea Picking Costumes”

The Little Star Dancers are invited to be on the stage during the Fashion Show.

5:00 Lion Dance and Martial Arts Demonstration

Chicago Chinese Cultural Center Lion Dance Troupe

5:30 End of Event.

About the Chinese Fine Arts Society (CFAS)

The Chinese Fine Arts Society was founded in 1984 as a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization dedicated to the education and promotion of the Chinese Cultural Arts. In a culturally diverse society such as Chicago, CFAS provides programs and activities that promote the understanding of Chinese culture through music and other fine arts.

Celebrating its 26th year, the Music Festival in Honor of Confucius, its flagship program, encourages young musicians to excel in their musical endeavors through a rewards system which includes opportunities for public performance as well as a variety of symbolic and tangible awards. Every fall, hundreds of young musicians participate in this festival by performing selected Chinese music from a required repertoire as well as a western piece of their choosing for a panel of judges. The top-scoring performers in each age category play in the annual Winners' Concert at Preston Bradley Hall in the Chicago Cultural Center.

Upcoming major CFAS events include:

- All Chinese Music Concert, Chicago Cultural Center, Preston Bradley Hall, May 16, 2010 at 3:00 p.m.
- MFHC Winners Concert, Chicago Cultural Center, Preston Bradley Hall, November 21, 2010 at 3:00 p.m.

For more information about CFAS, please contact us or visit our website at www.ChineseFineArts.org

Outreach Programs: Mei Lin, 773-391-1964
Music Festival: Katherine Chang, 847-886-8895
General Information: Sabina Shie, 312-369-3197

Special acknowledgment: Costumes are on loan from the Cultural Center of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Chicago.

ABOUT THE PERFORMERS

The Bartlett International Chorus is sponsored by Arts in Bartlett, and began in April of 2007. The chorus received a grant from Target for its work involving senior citizens in the community chorus and learning music from other countries and cultures. The Bartlett International Chorus has performed for the Bartlett Arts Festival every summer, the Senior Lifestyle Expo at Drury Lane, Oakbrook, Victory Centre of Bartlett, 9/11 Patriot Day Ceremonies, Arts in Bartlett Holiday Parties, Bartlett High School Spring and Winter concerts, The American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging Annual Conference and Village Hall History Museum programs, Chinese Gala Choral Concerts at Schaumburg Prairie Arts Center, and at many Hakka events. In March, 2010, the Bartlett International Chorus will have a concert tour with Chicago Hakka Chorus at the Taiwan Hakka Folk Music Festival. This marks the chorus's first performance at Navy Pier.

Bei Dou Kung Fu All-Stars, under the direction of Xiao Fei Dong and Jin Tsao Wu, two prominent martial arts masters in the greater Chicago area, the Bei Dou Kung Fu All-Stars have performed in many events for the Chinese Fine Arts Society. The core group of instructors at Bei Dou—Masters Dong, Chen, Song, and Li—are graduates of the top martial arts schools in China, and have spent years in the international competition circuit. They have trained international teams in China, Indonesia, Korea and the United States.

Chicago Hakka Chorus was founded in 1995 by a group of Hakkanese interested in singing Hakka folk music. Led by conductor and soprano Lori Ho and piano accompanist Wen Ming Leung (CFAS Music Director), the Chorus has actively participated in many outreach programs, including: "Hai Hwa Arts and Music Festival," "The Midwest Hakka Association Chinese New Year Celebration" and "The Westmont Folk Festival." The Chorus was invited to perform in Indianapolis by the Hakka Indianapolis Association in 2003 and also by the Toronto Hakka Association in 2005. The Chicago Hakka Chorus performed to great acclaim at the 2006 All Chinese Music Concert at the Chicago Cultural Center, sponsored by the Chinese Fine Arts Society. In 2008 and 2009, Chicago Hakka Chorus presented a program in Detroit and Toronto. In March 2010, the Chorus will appear at the Taiwan Hakka Folk Music Festival.

Chicago Chinese Cultural Center Lion Dance Troupe Directed by P.C. Leung, the troupe has participated in many of the Chinese Fine Arts Society's outreach programs as well as many other cultural festivals in the greater Chicago area.

YuQi Deng is a virtuoso GuZheng (Chinese zither) performer and was born in Xi'an, China. She graduated from the Traditional Chinese Music Department at Central Conservatory of Music (CCOM) (中央音乐学院) in China and was one of the winners of the 1995 National GuZheng Competition sponsored by the China Culture Bureau. She is also a member of the Chinese Musician Society of China, Chinese Guzheng Society, and Ethnomusicology Society of China. After graduation from CCOM, YuQi worked at the China Opera & Dance Drama Company (CODDC) (中国歌剧舞剧院) as a GuZheng soloist and performed widely in China and other countries in Asia and the Americas. She was the solo GuZheng performer in the Chinese National Traditional Music Concert in celebration of return of Hong Kong, she also performed

during former US President Bill Clinton's visit to China. She has frequently recorded GuZheng music for record companies, CCTV, and a large number of TV series and programs. From 2003-2007, YuQi pursued her Master's degree in Ethnomusicology at the University of Washington in Seattle and also served as the GuZheng instructor for the Department. Meanwhile, she was invited to give concerts, workshops and lectures at UW, University of Kentucky, University of South Dakota, Northern Illinois University, as well as music festivals such as Seattle Folklife Festival. She is a member of the Chinese Fine Arts Society and a frequent contributor to the Chinese Fine Arts Society's outreach programs.

Lori Ho, Soprano/Conductor A graduate of Shih-Chien University's School of Music in Taiwan, Lori is trained in classical opera performance. A much sought-after voice teacher and performer, Lori is the music director and conductor of six community choruses in the greater Chicago area. Her latest appearance was a solo performance with the Youth Symphony of DuPage. She sang the "Madame Butterfly" solo at the Sunrise Chorus' 10th anniversary concert in December 2006 to great acclaim. In March 2007 she appeared with the renowned Chicago Children's Choir for the Silk Road Collaboration Concert at the Art Institute of Chicago. She has toured with the Sunrise Chorus and the Melody Chorus in Taiwan in 2006 and 2008, respectively, and received great reviews for both choruses. She teaches private piano lessons as well as private vocal lessons to children and adults in greater Chicago area. She is a member of the Chinese Fine Arts Society and a frequent contributor to the Chinese Fine Arts Society's outreach programs.

Kerry Leung, music director of the Moon Festival, is a Chinese multi-instrumentalist. He is a member of the Chinese Music Society of North America and the Chinese Fine Arts Society. Beginning his music studies at the age of twelve in China, he has been actively involved in performing and promoting Chinese music in the West since 1981. Some of his performances here in the United States include: pipa and bamboo flute in the Yellow River Concerto with renowned pianist Yin Cheng Zhong and the Peoria Symphony; magic jade flute in the Field Museum's "Sounds from the Vaults" recordings; and pipa and bamboo flute with the Silk and Bamboo Ensemble at the Ravinia Festival.

Alexander Li, Erhu, has been studying string instruments for nearly twenty years. He had studied under several renowned musicians and professors, such as Master Leung-Tak Tong, Professor Shee-Wing Wong, Do-Chong Chui and most recently, Zhong-Cai Yang. As a youngster, he won many top prizes in several music competitions and was assigned as the soloist, leader, and concertmaster in several orchestras and ensembles, during which he toured and performed in countries around the world, such as China, United Kingdom, France, Canada, United States and the Southeast Asian countries. Prior to moving to Chicago, he was the concertmaster of the BC Chinese Orchestra and the Director of Music Affairs of the BC Chinese Music Association. In the 2005 Vancouver Kiwanis Music Festival, he became the Chinese instrumental class champion with a record score of 98.1, then went on to become the first runner-up at the Gala Showcase finale. He was the first player from the Chinese instrumental class to win in the 80-some years of history of the festival finale. These two records are still unbroken to date. Since moving to Chicago, Alex continues to seek performing opportunities and to promote Chinese classical music in the community

Little Star Dance Troupe (Xiao Xing Xing) is led by Ms. Jin Qiu Yue, one of Chicago's foremost Chinese dancers, choreographers and educators. Composed of teens and adults from the Chicagoland area, Little Star's mission is to share the richness of Chinese heritage and culture through the professional training and performance of traditional, classical and folk dances.

Rita Lopienski, Conductor, is the president of Arts in Bartlett and the founder and director of the Bartlett International Chorus. She is also the Community Life Manager at the Victory Centre of Bartlett. Rita holds a Master's Degree in Music and is a Registered Music Therapist, Certified Activity Consultant and Laughter Yoga trainer. She directs music at her church and plays the violin and guitar. Rita is on the Advisory Board of the International Council on Active Aging. She recently won the 2009 Studs Terkel Humanities Service Award.

Phyllis Muhling Phyllis began piano studies at the age of four and continued training in classical music through her teens. She graduated from Wayne State University in Detroit with a degree in Elementary Education and has taught extensively in the public school system and giving private lessons from her home in Bartlett. She continues to be active as a pianist and accompanist for church services, public recitals and programs. In addition to providing piano accompaniment for the Bartlett International Chorus, she is an active member of the Glen Ellyn Music Club.

TKZ All Male Voice Ensembles TKZ All Male Voice Ensembles have performed in many Naperville Chinese community events and are the members of the Naperville Chorus. This is their first appearance at Navy Pier's Chinese New Year Celebration.

PROGRAM NOTES

Flying Fairies (飞天) – Folk Dance

Flying fairies are the symbols of Dunhuang's art. In almost all the caves of the Mogao Grottoes there are large numbers of Flying Fairies, flying in all directions with the help of their flowing garments and colorful dancing bands. Some are soaring high up into the clouds; some diving from the sky like meteors; some drifting elegantly through high pavilions like dragons; and some floating leisurely in the wind, natural and graceful. It is a rich and colorful Chinese classic dance.

If (如果) – Chinese Popular Song

LYRICS: "If you are the morning dew, I would rather be a tiny blade of grass. If you are a floating cloud, I would rather be the sprinkling rain. Stay close with you always. I surely know whenever I am with you and keep you near, how beautiful it will be."

A-Mei A-Mei (阿美阿美) – Chinese Popular Song

LYRICS: "A Mei, A Mei, Are you ready to marry? Hurry up baby, you're driving me crazy. A Mei, A Mei, Don't you wait too long. Your youthful looks won't outlast this song. So tell it to me straight. If you think this might be fate, please don't delay. I need your 'yes' today."

And while I'm not rich, or all that good looking, and while I don't own a car, or a place of my own, and can't afford a fancy dinner... You need to remember your looks are no better than mine. I promise if you marry me, I guarantee I will feed you very well."

Visiting Spring (拜訪春天) – Chinese Popular Song

LYRICS: "Years ago we went to the hill side, it was sprinkling. Your hair flew in the Spring wind while we were walking into scenic poems.

You said, "I was like a raindrop of rhyme, softly falling on your glowing face." Ah, I was so lost and so drunk from your love.

This year you came to my doorstep, you simply looked at me with your dark eyes with a smile on you face. Every season is Spring".

Grandmother's Pern-Hu Gulf (外婆的澎湖灣) – Chinese Popular Song

LYRICS: "The evening breeze gently touches the gulf of Pern-Hu. The ocean waves play games with the sand. There is no coconut tree to decorate the sunset beach, only a vast blue ocean.

Grandma and I sat on the small stool in front of the house and thought of how we imprinted our foot prints on the sand at the sunset beach. The gulf of Pern-Hu is my grandma's gulf. There are many fond memories of my childhood. The memory of my grandma holding my hand while making footprints in the sand created a stream of laughter as we spent our time together....

Grandma and I lingered on the beach until the evening's arrival. The gulf of Pern-Hu is my grandma's gulf. There are fond memories of my childhood. Now, in addition to the sunshine, the beach, the ocean waves, and the cactus, we also have an old captain by the beach."

The Girl Over There Looked At Me (對面的女孩看過來) – Chinese Popular Song

LYRICS: "The girl over there looked at me. The performance here is fabulous, please don't ignore me. The girl over there looked at me. Don't be scared of me...in fact, I'm cute. The sadness of a lonely boy, who can understand me? Please give me your charming glimpse, make me happy. I looked up, I looked down, I looked left, I looked right, and then I realized girls are hard to understand. I guessed... I thought... I just couldn't figure out what the girl was thinking."

Under Silver Moon Beam (銀色月光下) – Chinese Popular Song

LYRICS: "On a golden sandy beach, bathed in silver moonlight, I recalled a long lost memory. So faded now, so faded now, nothing is more than a dream. Where are you hiding, my love? If only I had wings of feathers, so I could fly like a swallow into the blue sky, back into your arms.

You Came (妳來) – Chinese Popular Song

LYRICS: "You came, in the morning, quietly. When the rising sun had not yet shined onto the window sill, you walked through the wet garden, picked up a rose dripping with dew.

Let me whisper to you about the dream I had yesterday. I dreamed about my hometown. It was covered with blowing autumn leaves. You came in the afternoon; silently bright sunlight was spreading among the shadows of trees, while birds were dozing.

Don't sing loud lest those birds will be disturbed. That will make me miss home that much more. You came, in the evening, slowly. The clouds at sunset were sinking into dusk.

Moon light climbed on the window sill where I was waiting for you to play on the strings.

Those old melodies always make a tear run down my cheek.

Love (愛情) – Chinese Popular Song

LYRICS: “If I say I love you, I’m cheating you. If I say I don’t love you, that would go against my feelings. I thought about this all night. Still I cannot forget you today. I can’t forget you, just can’t. Is it love?”

Fong-Yang Drum Song – Chinese Folk Song

LYRICS: “In my left hand I hold a cymbal, in my right a drum. With these instruments, I sing you a song. I don’t know how to sing other songs except for “Fong-Yang Song”.

My life is hard, truly hard. I’m married to a lazy husband. Others have husbands with high positions and money. My husband only knows how to play the drums.

In my left hand I hold a cymbal, in my right a drum. With these instruments, I sing you a song. I don’t know how to sing other songs except for “Fong-Yang Song”.

I am unfortunate, truly unfortunate, because I married a terrible wife. Other guys have wives who can sew, cook and clean. My wife has only large feet, each 12 inches long.”

The Moon Represents My Heart (月亮代表我的心) – Chinese Popular Song

LYRICS: “You have asked me how much and how deep have I loved you? My love for you is very sincere and true, just like the moon which represents my devoted love to you! You have asked me how much and how deep have I loved you? My love for you will never change, just like the moon which represents my devoted love to you! Your kiss has touched my heart dearly! Our love has created a loving memory for me, adoring you to this day! You have asked me how much and how deep have I loved you? Please think about it and take a look at me...then you know how much I love you! Ah, the moon represents my heart!”

Meet Me in the Oue Bao – Inner Mongolian Folk Song

LYRICS: “The rising of the moon failed to bring the spark of the color to this world. He expects to see a beautiful girl’s arrival, but in vain. If you are patiently waiting, your dream girl will appear in front of you! The sky failed to bring the rain, there will be no flower blooming. Be patient, your dream girl will appear in front of you!”

New Horse Racing – Erhu Music

This Erhu masterpiece is intended as showman’s music. The strong galloping sounds in the music illustrate a vivid picture of the horse racing.

Spring Flower – Bamboo Flute

This is solo piece was composed by the famous bamboo flute Master Zhao Song Ting in 1979.

Happy New Year (Xi Yang Yang) – GuZheng, Erhu and Bamboo Flute Ensembles

This is one of the most celebrated folk songs from the Shang Xi Province.

Shepherd Ballad – GuZheng, Erhu and Bamboo Flute Ensembles

This music was composed by Wang Li Ping for the Chinese Kung Fu movie, “Shao Lin Shi.”

Moon Followed by the Colorful Cloud – GuZheng, Erhu and Bamboo Flute Ensembles

All three instruments harmonize to create a romantic depth of feeling.

Fisherman’s Evening Song – GuZheng Music composed by Lou Shuhua

The classic style is shown in its title which was the verse of a famous Tang poem, describing the labor of fishermen in the beautiful sunset.

LiuYang River – GuZheng Music composed by Tang Biguang, arranged by Zhang Yan

A celebrated song from the Hunan Province about the happy lives of the ordinary people living along the banks of the LiuYang River.

Moonlight Over the Lotus Pond (荷塘月色) – Folk Dance

This folk dance depicts the beauty of lotus blossoms under the moon. The reflection of the moon in the placid lake and the purity of the lotus blossoms enhance the delights of a tranquil summer evening.

Peach Blossom – Hakka Folk Song

This Hakka Folk song depicts a man who adores his lady and wishes to get married.

New Year Celebration – Hakka Folk Song

LYRICS: “In lunar calendar January 1st, we celebrate the New Year, a cheerful greeting from the dragon and lion dancers that visit each household. Words of wisdom written on the scroll that’s placed on the door bring fortune to each household. Men and women, young and old, enjoy the New Year festivities. Everyone is returning home with lots of presents for the celebration of New Year. We are all looking forward to this festive gathering!”

Spring Guests – Hakka Folk Song

LYRICS “Riding a beautiful flower-decorated carriage, we celebrated the New Year festival with music and song. Hand-in-hand, Grandpa and Grandma greeted all guests as they arrived for the festive New Year celebration! Please come into the house and be our guests. We, Hakka people, enjoy being friendly and provide the best hospitality toward the guests!

As we ride in a beautiful flower-decorated carriage, the swallow chirps, welcoming the arrival of Spring. A young lad tightly held onto the waist of the young lass returning home for the celebration of their happy marriage. Please come into the house and be our guests. We, Hakka people, are the most beautiful and the nicest people toward the guests!

As we ride in a beautiful flower-decorated carriage, hundreds of flowers are blooming. Mom held onto Dad and went into the house. They drank tea and sang many Hakka folk songs. What a lovely couple! Please come into the house and be our guests. We, Hakka people, enjoy being friendly and provide the best hospitality toward the guests.

Love from the Sunshine and Raindrops – Chinese Popular Song (陽光和小雨)

LYRICS: “If there is a day, the sun has not shined. The world becomes colder and you can see nothing! If there is a day, the rain did not fall. The earth will dry out. The flowers will never bloom! Because our hearts possess a deeper love so that Sunshine and Raindrops will always remain with us! Love is like sunshine. Love is like raindrops! Sunshine and raindrops never depart from you and me!”

Hua Mulan (花木兰) – Folk Dance

The name Hua Mulan is historically synonymous with the word “heroine” in Chinese society and culture. During the Sui Dynasty, about 1,300 years ago, a woman named Hua Mulan joined an all-male army and disguised herself as a soldier to take her old father’s place in the army. In the dance, an army of majestic-looking and awe-inspiring Mulans galloped through the battlefield. The dance is meant to be a reflection of Chinese women’s personality.

Peach Fairies (桃夭) – Folk Dance

“Peach Fairies” is a Han-Tang Dynasty classical dance. The Peach Fairies created in the dance are the symbols of beautiful young girls. Through their graceful and lithe postures, they express the girls’ complicated feelings before marriage: they are shy, yet they dream of a happy bright future. The whole dance is permeated with an atmosphere of happiness and liveliness.

Opera Dance (戏魂)

This dance is typically performed by a group of females in Peking opera. The dance movements are a combination of ancient opera and classical dance. 戏魂，演绎人生的情怀。
一群漂亮的花旦，戏中有舞，舞动戏魂



ABOUT KUNG FU

The term “Kung Fu” has been applied to the Chinese Martial Arts for centuries, and means “hard work,” a fitting description of the rigors involved in the learning and practice of the Chinese Martial Arts. A student of Kung Fu is expected to practice the art diligently and faithfully, enduring many tiring and sometimes painful hours of training. This, combined with the higher moral character and mental discipline expected of the student, gives the student a highly rigorous and demanding path to follow. Other terms exist for the Chinese Martial Arts, among them “Chuan Shu” (Fist Art), “Wu Shu” (Martial Art), and “Kuo Shu” (National Art), yet none of these names has received as widespread use and popularity as “Kung Fu.”

Kung Fu is not only a form of healthy exercise and highly effective system of self-defense, but is also a benefit to the practitioner’s mental and spiritual well-being. A person’s body cannot act without the mind, and a calm spirit must direct the mind. The practice of true Kung Fu requires that the teachings become integrated into the way of life of the practitioner, influencing every aspect of life. Kung Fu blends mind, spirit, and body together, enabling the harmony of elements in a person’s life.

Chinese philosophy consistently stresses the importance of harmony within the natural order, as is perhaps best symbolized by the ancient Chinese symbols of *yin* and *yang*. Neither side of the symbol is larger or more important than the other; both sides must be in perfect balance, or the whole is affected. This is the same with the practitioner of Kung Fu. The true mastery of Kung Fu may only be achieved when all elements of a person’s life are in balance.

The harmony that must exist within an individual practitioner of Kung Fu is also extended to harmony within the Kung Fu school, and within society. Within the school, students are taught respect for each other, their instructors, and for the society in which they live. All students lend a hand in the care of each other and of the school itself. In this way, a Kung Fu school acts as a family. In fact, in the Chinese tradition, members of the school are referred to as “brother” and “sister”. The master in this sense is the “father” of the school, and thus receives much more respect than an ordinary teacher.

The students know the master of a Kung Fu school as “Sifu.” The Sifu is a highly learned and versatile person who has knowledge not only of self-defense, but of many other areas as well, such as philosophy, Chinese culture and literature. Not only a teacher of martial arts, the Sifu is also responsible for providing guidance and acting as a prime example to students. A common saying in Kung Fu is that the student “starts in a dark room while the master stands in the sunlight.” The saying exhibits how important the Sifu is in developing not only the student’s Kung Fu skills, but also attitude and philosophy as well.

ABOUT THE CHINESE INSTRUMENTS

Erhu

The Erhu is a spike fiddle with two strings. It has a long neck and a round, hexagonal, octagonal or tubular body made of wood and covered with the skin of a python or other snake. Historically, the strings were made of twisted silk, but are now more often made of metal. The bow used to play the erhu is made of horsehair strung on a stick of bamboo. In performance, the erhu is held in the player’s left hand and supported on the left thigh while the right hand moves the bow.

Instruments similar to the erhu have been prevalent in Chinese music since the 12th century C.E. The fiddle’s fine, lyrically expressive sound has made it a popular solo instrument in small folk and classical ensembles and in Chinese national orchestras.

Guzheng

Guzheng dates back 2000 years. The Chinese Guzheng, the Japanese Koto, the Korean Kaygum, and the Vietnamese Dan Tranh are all decedents of the Qin Zheng which originated from the Qin State during the Warring period (450- 221 B.C.). Of all the Chinese traditional musical instruments, guzheng has the most beautiful sounds.

The modern day Guzheng is a plucked, half-tube zither with movable bridges and 21 strings, although it can have anywhere from 13 to 26 strings. The Guzheng’s strings were formerly made of twisted silk, though by the 20th century most players used metal strings. Since the mid 20th century most performers use steel strings flat wound with nylon.



Tiger - Born in 1914, 1926, 1938, 1950, 1962, 1974, 1986, 1998, 2010, 2022, 2034, 2046

As the fighting animal, those born under tiger’s sign are sensitive, aggressive, unpredictable, charming, emotional, courageous and capable of great love. Often risking themselves, they have a carefree life. Tigers usually will be outstanding as a boss, explorer, racecar driver, or matador. A happy marriage can take place with a Horse or a Dog but never a Monkey.