

Gala Night

Dance: The Dialogue with Nature, Life and the World

4/29 | 19:15 - 21:00

Venue: New Theatre, Shanghai Theatre Academy Changlin Road Campus

The order of the performances is subject to change.

Karanga - The First Voice

MAU, New Zealand

Red Lip

Beijing Dance Academy

Excerpts from Love to Death

MAU MAPUCHE, Chile

Eternal Flower

Dance College, Shanghai Theatre Academy

Introduction to the Message Author

Tobias Biancone, Director General of ITI

Walk in the Night

Shanghai Song and Dance Troupe Company

Presentation of the Message by YANG Liping

Yuan Ding

Shanghai Opera House

The Spirit of the Peacock

Yunnan Yang Liping Art & Culture Company

Impression of Fly Apsaras Murals of

Northern Wei Dynasty

Beijing Xianwuren Dance Studio

The Swan Flies High

Dance College, Shanghai Theatre Academy

Jiangnan

Dance College, Shanghai Theatre Academy

Fighting Between Dragon and Tiger

Busan National Metropolitan Dance Company, South Korea

Impression of a Great River

Shanghai Theatre Academy Affiliated Dance School

Gala Performances



Karanga - The First Voice

Performance group: MAU, New Zealand
Choreographer and director: Lemi PONIFASIO
Performer: Rosie Terauwhea BELVIE

Karanga represents the power of Maori women, a spiritual call that spans generations and is the initial voice in the rite of encounter. Accompanied by powerful dance moves, the dancers pay tribute to the deceased and point to a future reunion.



Excerpts from Love to Death

Performance group: MAU MAPUCHE, Chile
Choreographer and director: Lemi PONIFASIO, Natalia GARCÍA-HUIDOBRO
Performer: Natalia GARCÍA-HUIDOBRO

In 2020, the work was premiered in Santiago, Chile, the latest creation from a decade long collaboration between Lemi ponifasio and the indigenous Mapuche people Chile. *Love to Death* is a meditation on the notion of power, Chile, Mapuche, Earth and woman.



The Spirit of the Peacock

Performance group: Yunnan Yang Liping Art & Culture Company
Choreographer and director: YANG Liping
Performer: XIAO Ronghao

This female solo dance was choreographed and performed by the renowned dancer Yang Liping, premiering in 1986. The Dai people consider the peacock, also known as the sun bird, to be a symbol of love and their totem. Yang Liping created a series of dance movements to express the shape of a peacock in her performance titled *The Spirit of the Peacock*. Through her dance, she expresses her yearning for a holy and peaceful world. In the epilogue of *Yunnan Image*, Yang Liping combines her solo and group dances, along with new choreography and sound and light effects, resulting in a performance that is full of quiet spirituality and harmonious life consciousness.



The Swan Flies High

Performance group: Dance College, Shanghai Theatre Academy
Choreographer and director: DONG Jie, XING Sang
Performer: ZHU Fei, XU Liang, WANG Fan, etc

The swan soars into the sky, aiming to reach the highest heights. It gazes down at the thousands of miles of mountains and rivers, then gracefully lands on the ground. In the same way, we reflect on our inner selves and hold onto our determination. We embark on a spiritual journey, then look back at the serenity of our homeland.

Gala Performances



Fighting Between Dragon and Tiger

Performance group: Busan National Metropolitan Dance Company, South Korea

Choreographer and director: KOOK Soo-ho, LEE Jeong-yun

Performer: HEO Tae-seong, CHOI Eui-ok, JUNG Seung-jun

"Fighting Between Dragon and Tiger" is a metaphorical representation of a battle between two strong individuals. The storyline is based on the Battle of Red Cliff, as narrated in Luo Guanzhong's novel *Romance of The Three Kingdoms*. The musical performance is an amalgamation of song and dance, inspired by the traditional Korean folk art, Pansori's *Red Cliff Song*. The choreography involves a pair of male dancers leading a dance duel that symbolizes the fierce battle between the dragon and the tiger.



Red Lip

Performance Group: Beijing Dance Academy

Choreographer and Director: TONG Ruirui

Performer: HUA Xiaoyi

Lonely days and nights - the woman applies her red lipstick, but her man never arrives. Despite her youth and beauty, she waits for her lover to return home. The dance portrays a lonely woman missing her beloved through implicit expression, yet there is a fire in her heart. The performance highlights the unique hand, eye, body, step, method, and spirit of Chinese classical dance, conveying a sense of beauty to the audience.



Eternal Flower

Performance group: Dance College, Shanghai Theatre Academy

Choreographer and director: HU Songwei, MAI Jingwen

Performer: WANG Xiaofan, LI Yichun, etc

The "Eternal Flower," also known as the "Flower That Never Withers," is made from real flowers that maintain their color, appearance, and texture. Every woman desires to be like this flower, to remain in a beautiful state at all times, and to become more impeccable. However, some may be trendy but lack true fashion sense, while others may be popular but not classic. Some may be beautiful but quickly forgotten. Only when a woman can cultivate inner strength and beauty will she become like the eternal flower - enduring and never fading.



Walk in the Night

Performance group: Shanghai Song and Dance Troupe Company

Choreographer and director: HE Junbo

Performer: HE Junbo

On a moonlit night, he, walked alone.

Gala Performances



Yuan Ding

Performance group: Shanghai Opera House
Choreographer and director: MA Tao
Performer: TAN Yimei, SONG Yu

The piece *Yuan Ding* (Destiny) is a selection from the "Love" duet between Mr. and Mrs. Xiang in the dance poem *Jiu Ge · Promise*. The story follows the two water gods as they hold hands and pursue love along the sparkling Xiang Riverbank for three thousand years. Despite the passing of time, the lovers always find a way to reunite and uphold their promises.



Impression of Fly Apsaras Murals of Northern Wei Dynasty

Performance group: Beijing Xianwuren Dance Studio
Choreographer and director: ZHAO Xiaogang, SHEN Xubin
Performer: SHEN Xubin

"Apsaras" portrays some of the kindest and most beautiful images in the world. The work is inspired by the early mural modeling of Apsaras in the Mogao Grottoes of Dunhuang. Using a combination of rigid and soft dance movements and a healthy, optimistic aesthetic tone, "Apsaras" expresses the uplifting and cheerful feelings of life within the context of ancient Eastern culture. This vitality is at the core of the Apsaras art form.



Jiangnan

Performance group: Dance College, Shanghai Theatre Academy
Choreographer and director: LV Zimin, LI Dan
Performer: GE Jingyi, ZHU He, TAN Mei, ZHENG Xin, CHEN Xiaoran, XIAN Zihan

It is a great time to pluck lotuses in Jiangnan, south of the Yangtze River, where lush lotus plants flourish. Shoals of fish swim among the lotus leaves, playfully darting about in all directions. The green river and distant fishing fire narrate the charm of Jiangnan, while walking in the garden allows one to enjoy the views and explore the spring scenery of this beautiful region. The scene is as picturesque as a painting, and the poem emanates from the depths of the heart, serving as a love letter to Jiangnan.



Impression of a Great River

Performance group: Shanghai Theatre Academy Affiliated Dance School
Choreographer and director: OU Siwei
Performer: Jiang Jiajun, Huang Xuwenxuan, Yang Guangsen, Lu Siqi, Chi Yingxuan, etc

The wide river undulates, while the wind carries the scent of the rice flowers on both banks. The new generation has not endured the struggles of their revolutionary ancestors, yet in a time of peace, they still remember the grace of the Mother River. Therefore, we use our bodies to preserve the memories, inscribing the gentle power of the Mother River.