

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



JOIN THE BEAT

CELEBRATING EAST ASIAN
TRADITIONAL PERFORMANCE ARTS

RAKUGO - OCTOBER 25, 2016

NANGUAN - OCTOBER 26, 2016

P'ANSORI - OCTOBER 27, 2016

Join the Beat: Celebrating East Asian Traditional Performance Arts focuses on creative, cultural, and academic endeavors featuring performers from Taiwan, Japan and Korea. In addition to the public performances, the performers conduct workshops with MSU students in theater, language arts, and other disciplines throughout the three days of cultural celebration.

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JAPANESE RAKUGO

OCTOBER 25, 2016

7:00 - 8:00 P.M.

SNYDER AUDITORIUM (LOWER LEVEL)

From Japan, we are bringing back the popular Rakugo performers who visited MSU in the summer of 2015. Rakugo is a unique comedic form of traditional Japanese storytelling where the performer sits on a cushion and paints vividly comedic vignettes.

PERFORMANCE

What's Rakugo? (Maruku and Denimu)

The Prohibition (Maruku)

Okiku's Plates (Pairu)

PERFORMERS

Eiji Hamaoka (Kabutoya Maruku 甲家丸久)

Natsuko Dohi (Kawaiya Denimu 可愛家でにむ)

Atsuko Deguchi (Kawaiya Pairu 可愛家ぱいる)

Mariko Morimoto (Kawaiya Momen 可愛家もめん)

CHINESE NANGUAN

OCTOBER 26, 2016

7:00 - 8:15 P.M.

SNYDER AUDITORIUM (LOWER LEVEL)

Renowned Taiwanese troupe Lan-Hun-Koh (formerly Gang-a-tsui) will include MSU in its 2016 U.S. tour! The troupe consists of a musical ensemble and actors performing Nanguan music (a traditional musical form from southern China) and traditional Taiwanese theater. The music is played on Chinese flutes and string instruments, and the actors' movements combine dance, mime, and singing. Nanguan has been designated by UNESCO as Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

PERFORMANCE

Plum Blossoms, Section I (Traditional)

I Push Away the Pillow (Traditional)

Enjoying the Flowers (Nanguan Theater Excerpt)

Withholding the Umbrella (Nanguan Theater Excerpt)

Plum Blossoms, sections II to V (Traditional)

PERFORMERS

Featuring Lam-Hun-Koh Nanguan Music and Theater Troupe from Taiwan

NANGUAN MUSICIANS

Kuei-An Yeh
Chih-Cheng Hsu
Yu-Ning Liao
Ying-Yu Lu
Jia-Chi Chen

NANGUAN ACTORS

Ming-I Wen (Wu-Niang Huang)
Ya-Lan Lin (Chun-Yi)
Mei-Hui Wei (San Chen)

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Muî-Hue (Plum Blossoms)

Plum Blossoms is one of four pivotal nanguan instrumental pieces. This suite comprises five sections. The first section starts at a meandering pace and depicts the tranquil scenery at the very start of the spring, when after a long winter, the plum buds are covered in snow. From one section to another, the buds blossom, until they reach full, vibrant blooms in the last section.

I Push Away the Pillow

Pushing away the pillow, I get up to dress,
Feet lazy, lifeless I sit by the window.
Stars and Lady Chang'e of the moon,
I ask you time and again the date of his return:
No reply; I sadly wave my sleeves in self-pity.
I blame him for wasting my youthful time,
I blame him for carelessly letting go of my youthful life.

I Push Away the Pillow is the ending passage of the suite *Ui Gun Kir Si* (Because You Left). The lyrics describe a young maid missing her absent husband and her agitated longing for his return. The central theme is strengthened and elaborated in form through simple repetitions; on a larger scale, the piece comprises a single long verse repeated twice; on the smaller scale, the very last words repeat in parallel construction.

FROM THE OPERA *THE LYCHEE AND THE MIRROR*

Enjoying the Flowers

Plot: Lady Wu-Niang Huang has been feeling melancholy because, being a lady from a good family, she cannot express her love for a young scholar, San Chen. Meanwhile, Da Lin, a vicious young lad from a rich family, has been forcing Wu-Niang's parents to marry her to him. One day, the maid Yi-Chun accompanies Wu-Niang on a stroll in the garden to appreciate the flowers. This act features the lady and the maid's garden stroll, in which the actresses will display their movements amidst virtual space with elaborate body postures and gestures, thereby visualizing the paths and stairs in the garden that brims with oral fragrance and the chirps of birds.

Withholding the Umbrella

Plot: Although San Chen is actually a descendent of a prestigious family, he is now disguised as a mirror polisher; to approach Wu-Niang, he purposely breaks the Huang family's heirloom mirror and claims he cannot pay for it, thereby enslaving himself as a servant at Huang Mansion. Three years have elapsed, yet San has not received a single message or hint from Wu-Niang. Out of frustration, he plans to return to his hometown and begins packing, the action of which is noticed in timely fashion by the maid Yi-Chun. This act features Yi-Chun's withholding of San's umbrella, along with her witty and persuasive words—all in an attempt to have the leaving man stay. Holding on to the other end of the umbrella, San eventually yields to the persuasion.

KOREAN P'ANSORI

OCTOBER 27, 2016

7:00 - 8:00 P.M.

SNYDER AUDITORIUM (LOWER LEVEL)

Pansori is a solo-singer storytelling designated as Korea's intangible treasure and UNESCO world oral heritage. Its narrative structure alternates between spoken passages that moves the plot and sung passages that further define the musical poetics. Five classical narratives remain with their vocal stylistics vividly revealing the ancient Korean cultures, beliefs, and expressions.

PERFORMANCE

Song of Water Palace

PERFORMER

Chan E. Park, Professor
Korean Language, Literature, Performance
The Ohio State University

Accomplished Korean performer Dr. Chan E. Park will feature a solo performance of P'ansori traditional Korean storytelling and singing. In her performance, she takes on a variety of characters, all conveyed by her vocal artistry, and further heightened by the beat of the drum she plays.

WORKSHOPS

RAKUGO

WORKSHOP I

October 25, 2016

9:30 - 11:00 a.m.

MSU Auditorium, Arena Theater
542 Auditorium Road (Basement)

WORKSHOP II

October 26, 2016

3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

MSU Auditorium, Studio 60 Theatre
542 Auditorium Road (Basement)

NANGUAN

October 27, 2016

10:20 - 11:40 a.m.

B310 Wells Hall
619 Red Cedar Road

P'ANSORI

October 27, 2016

1:30 - 3:00 p.m.

MSU Auditorium, Studio 60 Theater
542 Auditorium Road (Basement)

WE WISH TO THANK ALL THOSE INVOLVED IN THE CREATION OF JOIN THE BEAT.

- **JOIN THE BEAT PLANNING COMMITTEE**
- **MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY STAFF**
- **STUDENT VOLUNTEERS**

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