



"Dafengche" encourages children to give their ideas and to be creative.

## Let your imagination fly

'Dafengche' appeals to young audience by creating fun

By YU NAN  
China Daily staff

The new version of children's TV show, "Dafengche," which aims to inspire children's imagination and creativity, will be shown for the first time on CCTV-1 tonight.

"We want to make better programmes for children," said Yu Peixia, the general director of Programmes Centre for Adolescent of China Central Television Station (CCTV).

With "Dafengche," the director has tried to produce a

children's "paradise," by having children involved in many aspects of the programme. The station uses children's ideas about what they want to see and it also has children hosting the show.

There are 14 different sections each week which are designed to meet the tastes of 360 million children across the country.

Children from both kindergarten and primary schools will be invited to the programme.

Monday's "Toy 1-1", a section for children around the ages of 3-6, will also involve the participation of the children's parents.

"Children are the only ones who know what they really want," said Ju Ping, a popular hostess of children's programmes in China.

Ju will be one of the hosts of Tuesday's "Naughty Family," along with another cartoon called "Naughty" who will appear as a

green ghost with big eyes.

The programme will tell stories about wild animals and aims to arouse children's awareness to the importance of nature and environmental protection.

Thursday's "Childhood" is the only section that will focus on adults.

The programme will feature

celebrities, sports stars and well-known TV hosts, who will reveal their childhood experiences and will answer questions from children. Some famous scientists will also share their experiences.

"Children should know that if you work hard, you have a good chance of being successful later in life," said Zhou Xun, the host.

Saturday's "Creativity" is designed to cultivate the creativity and imagination of primary school students.

For instance, students will be asked to design and build a small

bridge using 100 chop sticks. Then the test will be to see how many bricks the bridge can hold before it collapses.

The bridges will be tested by three bridge engineers!

The team that have built the bridge that can support the most bricks will be the winner and will be given medals.

"If any child, sitting in front of the TV can't better than the winner, he or she should call us to challenge the winner," said Dong Hao, the host.

"We just want to encourage children to fully use their imagination and creativity—just like the programme slogan 'Let the imagination fly,'" Dong said.

Furthermore, the new version of "Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck" will give its debut in China every day in "Dafengche."

We hope that after watching the programme, the children will appreciate the hard work of the artists. They will have a good time and most of all, they will enjoy the programme and be happy. "Dafengche" will be broadcast from 6:00 to 6:49 pm on evening.

## WHAT'S ON

### STAGE

**Keep it in the air:** The Chaoyang Theatre is one of the Beijing theatres to present acrobatics all year round.

Top acrobatic artists invited from all over the country perform for Chinese and foreign tourists. The programme features trick cycling, leaping through hoops and Chinese magic tricks. Some of the artists have won prizes in international competitions.

**Time:** 7:15 pm, daily  
**Place:** 36, Dongsanhuan Beilu, Chaoyang District, Beijing  
**Tel:** 6502-2421, 6507-1818

**Joyful jugglers:** The China Acrobatic Troupe is staging a nightly variety show at the Tiandi Theatre, where the seemingly impossible is made real.

Spinning plates, juggling umbrellas, contortionists and acrobats fill the air. Integrating superlative juggling, unicycling, balancing and jumping through hoops with the finest ancient Chinese dancing, the star-studded cast will amaze.

**Time:** 7:15 pm, daily  
**Place:** 10 Dongzhimen Nandajie, Chaoyang District, Beijing  
**Tel:** 6502-3984

**Zhang's ballet:** "Raise the Red Lantern," a Chinese ballet based on Zhang Yimou's prize-winning movie of the same name, will be restaged in Beijing before its global tour next year.

With the joint efforts of such outstanding artists as director Zhang Yimou, composer Chen Qigang, choreographer Wang Xipeng and stage designer Zeng Li, the ballet is set to create another sensation among Beijing's theatre-goers. The ballet is presented by the Beijing New Music Entertainment Co Ltd and performed by the National Ballet of China.

**Time:** 7:30 pm, December 21-25  
**Place:** Poly Theatre, on northeast corner of the Dongsi Shitiao Viaduct  
**Tel:** 6561-0651/52/53/54/55/57

**Small scale:** A group of Chinese artists are experimenting with moving opera performances into small theatres.

The result is a new opera called

### "Goodbye Again, Cambridge!"

Sharing the same name of a famous poem by late poet Xu Zhimo (1895-1931), the opera is about Xu's life experience and love affairs with different women.

The opera was created by artists from various ensembles. The script was penned by Shui Er. The music is created by Zhou Xueshi, a professor from the Wuhan Conservatory of Music. The opera is directed by Chen Wei from the Central Conservatory of Music. The performers are also from a number of different troupes.

**Time:** 7:30 pm until December 25  
**Place:** Beijing People's Art Theatre  
**Tel:** 6513-5801

**Learning lessons:** The Puppet Art Troupe of China has created a

puppet show especially for pre-school children.

The play called "The Lion's Trick" is a fable about animals in the forest, dreamed up by the artists to teach children some of life's morals.

**Time:** 9:30 am, 10:30 am, until December 30  
**Place:** China Puppet Show Theatre  
**Tel:** 6425-4798

### CONCERT

**Korean pop stars:** A concert called "Kings of Korean Pop Music," will be held in Beijing on December 15. Korean pop stars An Chil-hyun (Kang Ta), Moon Hee-jun, (two members of the disbanded H.O.T.), "Fly to the Sky" and "Legend" will perform at the event.

**Time:** 7:30 pm, December 15

**Place:** Beijing Workers' Stadium  
**Tel:** 6554-8888

### EXHIBITION

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**Time:** 9 a

**Place:** 13

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**Tel:** 6523

## CROSSWORD (No 6462)

### ACROSS

1 Gave food

4 Stocking

8 It may be

11 "Vive le —!"

12 Country

13 Coronado's

14 Credit

16 Treat badly

18 Use a

19 Busby as —

20 Whack

22 Gave money

26 In a while

28 Political

29 Roman

30 Prospector's

31 Missouri

33 Balance-

34 Sitcom

35 No

warranties

(2 wds.)

36 Deride

38 Came to

pass

41 Merely

42 Mil. branch

43 Kind of

squad

45 Italian

seaport

47 Serious

50 Ht.

51 Ladder parts

53 Funny

Charlotte

54 Insult,

slangily

55 Designer St.

Laurent

56 White or Red



### DOWN

1 Monastic title

2 Aurora, to

Socrates

3 Give a

command

4 Rome's river

5 Bullring shout

6 Loop train

7 Ten-dollar

bills

8 Lowed

9 Coffee server

10 Half-star

movie

12 Vigor's

partner

32 B

15 Not green

17 Actress

Russo

19 Nowhere

near

20 Laziness

37 N

21 Insect stage

39 F

23 Delete

24 F

25 J

27 K

32 B

33 S

34 S

35 L

37 N

39 F

40 T

## Yuanmingyuan history relived in dance drama

By MU QIAN  
China Daily staff

The ruins of the Yuanmingyuan Garden in Northwestern Beijing have always been a symbol of recent Chinese history.

The dance drama "Love and Hate in the Yuanmingyuan Garden," which is to be staged at the Tianqiao Theatre of Beijing by the Beijing Song and Dance Ensemble from December 15 to 19, will be performed by a group of outstanding artists who aim to portray history in a new and uplifting way.

Playwright Zhao Daming, director Chen Weiya, composer Zhao Jiping and set designer Gao Guangjian make up part of the framework of the cast of the dance drama group.

According to the script writer Zhao, the dance drama depicts common people's emotions through a historical event, which is a little similar to the film "Pearl Harbour."

"Using the form of dance drama to portray a historical incident is difficult in terms of narration," said Zhao, "we hope to view history through the eyes of individuals."

Last year a stele was unearthed in the Haidian district of Beijing. In the stele was engraved the history of the artisans' building of the Yuanmingyuan.

When the dance drama is staged in the Tianqiao Theatre, the stele will also be exhibited.

Zhao Daming, who grew up near the Yuanmingyuan, was inspired by the stele and wrote the story. An old stoneman devoted all of his life to the building of Yuanmingyuan, yet he faced death when he broke a

stone granted by the emperor. His daughter Jade and his apprentice called Stone were in love. However, in the fire that burnt Yuanmingyuan, everything was destroyed.

"The composition of the music of this work is the most difficult of my career," said Zhao Jiping, a famous composer best known for his film music in "Raise the Red Lantern" and "Farewell, My Concubine." "I hope my music is qualified to match the beauty of Yuanmingyuan, and our work will be passed on as a piece of art work to depict the Yuanmingyuan."

Zhao spent one year composing. He has also adopted some traditional folk music from Beijing.

Chen Weiya has been the co-director of Zhang Yimou's opera work "Turandot" and was also the general director of the opening ceremony of the 21st Universiade.

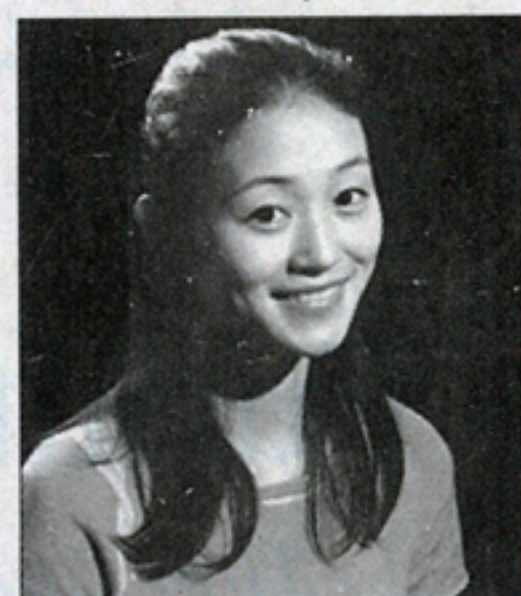
Chen is going to adopt various artistic meanings in "Love and Hate in the Yuanmingyuan Garden." For example, a film will be used to display scenes of war and fire in Yuanmingyuan.

"With great dances and with great costumes and a great set, we are trying to make every minute of the work enjoyable for the audience," said Chen, "at the same time this dance work will introduce the audience to a group of young dancers."

The hero Stone and heroine Jade will be played by 19-year-old Wang Zihan and 21-year-old Sun Xiaojuan. Altogether 111 dancers with an average age of 18, will take part in the performance.



Director Chen Weiya



Sun Xiaojuan plays Jade.



Playwright Zhao Daming

## TODAY'S TELEVISION

### CCTV-1 Channel 2

08:00 News  
08:35 Focus Interview  
12:40 Law Today  
16:05 Tell It What It Is  
17:00 World Express  
19:00 News; Weather  
20:06 Serial: Dr Sun Yat-sen (6)  
21:25 Man and Nature

### CCTV-2 Channel 8

08:50 Golden Land  
09:15 Stock Watch  
12:00 Happy Family  
14:30 News 30  
15:05 Programmes for the elderly  
19:35 China Market Update  
20:00 CCTV Fashion Model Contest

### CCTV-3 Channel 15

13:40 Friend  
15:15 China Stage  
17:40 Behind the Scenes  
21:35 Art Scope  
22:40 Late news

### CCTV-4 Channel 32

07:05 Sports World  
08:00 News 60 Minutes  
10:35 Glimpse of China  
12:30 China Report  
18:30 China Today  
19:30 Chinese Arts  
21:00 China News  
22:10 16-part serial: Paper Kite (16)

### CCTV-6 Channel 18

11:42 Documentary  
14:47 Movie  
19:40 Chinese movie  
21:30 Memorial Moments  
21:52 European Theatre

### CCTV-8 Channel 29

17:35 Movie & TV Club  
19:00 World Culture Square  
19:35 Serial: Express  
21:48 Jiayi drama

### BTU-1 Channel 6

11:30 Beijing Express  
15:50 Common Ground  
18:10 Sports news  
19:53 Serial: Maids in Foreign Families (10)  
21:45 Focus Today

### BTU-2 Channel 21

09:00 Across the Country  
11:40 Culture Watch  
18:00 Beijing Time  
19:40 Serial: Never Give Up (17, 18)  
21:40 BTV Sports News  
22:05 Business Weekly  
22:30 Dabao International Cinema

### BTU-3 Channel 27

11:25 Golden Times  
15:20 Household Gardening  
19:30 Hi-tech Observer  
20:05 Urban Field  
20:40 Science Education Express

### BTU-4 Channel 17

12:00 Serial: The New Happiness Street (216)  
18:03 630 Theatre: Sister Ma (85)  
18:33 Movies and Movie Stars  
19:40 Serial: The Divorce (7, 8)



LU ZHONGQIU/China Daily

### A star is born

Long Lei (centre), a 17-year-old student at Beijing No.61 Middle School, won the golden crown last Thursday at the First CCTV (China Central Television) Model Contest.

## BRIDGE (By Phillip Alder)

There are two independently published bridge magazines in the antipodes. First, the monthly Australian Bridge, which contains 36 large pages. Despite Australia's being part of the British Commonwealth, Acbl isn't the ruling system. Five-card majors and strong no-trumps are in the majority. The content, though, is aimed at tournament players, probably because this is what the editor, Stephen Lester, understands. (If fitting into this category, would you buy a magazine purely for social players?)

Here is an excellent defensive deal from Paul Marston, the publisher. Against three no-trump, partner leads the club queen. Sitting East, after winning with the ace, how would you continue?

When defending, first count the high-card points. You have 12, there are nine in the dummy, and declarer has shown 15-17 (or 16-18). That leaves 2-4 (or 1-3) for partner, and you already know from his lead that he has the queen-jack of clubs. So, forget about help in hearts. Also, returning a club is useless. Declarer will win with the king and establish dummy's diamonds. Instead, you must shift to a spade, removing one of dummy's entries to the diamonds.

Declarer crosses to hand with a heart

and runs the diamond jack (partner signaling with the seven, high from a doubleton). Now you have two choices: Duck, win the next diamond cheaply, and lead a second spade; or win immediately and play a spade. In the latter case, you must duck the second diamond. Declarer is left with only eight tricks: three spades, three hearts, one diamond and one club.

Full details are available at [www.australianbridge.com](http://www.australianbridge.com).

North			
♠ A Q	♥ 7 6 3	♦ K 10 9 8 5	♣ 7 6 2
South			
♠ 10 7 4 3	♥ 5 4 2	♦ 7 3	♣ Q J 10 8
East			
♠ J 8 6 5	♥ J 10 9 8	♦ J 4 2	♣ A 4
West			
♠ 10 7 4 3	♥ 5 4 2	♦ 7 3	♣ Q J 10 8
Dealer: South			
Vulnerable: Both			
Opening lead: ♣ Q			