

Tibet Culture Weeks to kick off in Melbourne

Australians can enjoy Tibetan traditional paintings and performing arts as the first of three China Tibet Culture Weeks opens in Melbourne tomorrow.

The event will also feature a photo exhibition and five documentary and two feature films about Tibetans and Southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region.

The photo exhibition, with more than 600 photos and Tangkha art, recounts the history of the region and documents changes there in the 50 years since the peaceful liberation of Tibet.

The photos also demonstrate the evolution of Tibetan Buddhism, Tibetan medicine and special Tibetan customs.

The two feature films are

"Red River Valley" and "Yishi Droma." "Red River Valley" tells of the local Tibetans' heroic battles against British invaders in the early 20th century, while "Yishi Droma" narrates the lives of one woman and three men over the past half-century.

Twenty Tibetan performing artists from Lhasa Ethnic Art Troupe of China's Tibet will present a rich repertoire of traditional and modern Tibetan songs and dances.

Two other China's Tibet Culture Weeks will be staged Down Under after the one in Melbourne. The same programmes are scheduled for Sydney from November 27 to December 1 and then in Auckland, New Zealand, from December 2 to 8.

China Daily news



An epic of love: Scenes from "Yishi Droma," a film directed by Xie Fei and produced by Shandong Film Studio. The film recounts the changes in the lives of Tibetans through the tale of one woman's romance with three men.



File photos

'Roof' sounds descend to Down Under

Creative Tibetans to bring the diversified folk art to Oceania

Editor's note: Twenty Tibetan performers are expected to give 17 shows in Australia and New Zealand over the next three weeks. China Daily staff reporters Mu Qian and Yu Nan interviewed four of them before their departure. Here they explain how they became the recognized Tibetan artists they are.

"In the past, most Tibetan folk artists were beggars."

Tupden, 67, is the eldest member of the Lhasa Ethnic Art Troupe of the Tibet Autonomous Region. He has composed more than 400 instrumental, vocal and dance music works.

An expert in Tibetan Opera, he is also vice-president of the China Folk Performing Artists' Association.

"In the 56 years of my studying and working in the performing arts, I have witnessed amazing changes in Tibetan folk arts," he said.

Way back when he was 12, Tupden was a young lama who began to study Tibetan Opera in the monastery.

Since 1955, Tupden has worked with a number of local art troupes and, since the 1960s, he has been director of the Lhasa Ethnic Art Troupe.

He never stopped learning. "In the past, most Tibetan folk artists were beggars, but now they enjoy a much better life," he said.

In the upcoming performances in Australia and New Zealand, Tupden will take part in several works including an excerpt of classic Tibetan Opera, a song-and-dance work called "Visiting the New City," a dance called "Happy Herders" and a ballad called "King Gesar."

King Gesar is the incarnation of justice and bravery in Tibet, where this longest regional epic remains wildly popular, he said.

The Lhasa Ethnic Art Troupe is the first professional group to formally stage the epic, Tupden said with pride. In the past, the epic was performed mostly in herders' tents.

"We are going to present some of the best folk and newly created works in Tibetan arts," Tupden said excitedly.

"The duoding is a very expressive instrument."

Of the members of the Lhasa Ethnic Art Troupe going on the tour, Tsering is the only instrumentalist. He's also one of the most accomplished ones Tibet has ever produced.

The instrument he will play is called the *duoding*, a kind of chime that the Tibetans invented a millennium ago. It is made of a special, indigenous stone used first by monasteries for summoning lamas to meetings in other religious activities.

"Happy Caravan," a solo work on the *duoding*, will be one of Tsering's performances. It shows how the members of a caravan overcome hardships encountered during travels.

"The *duoding* can produce only six notes, yet it is a very expressive instrument," Tsering said.

Born in 1960 to a Lhasa peasant family, Tsering taught himself to play the instrument mainly through self-teaching as a boy.

Over the years, he also studied the *yangqin*, a Chinese dulcimer, at University of Tibet.

Besides touring with Lhasa Ethnic Art Troupe, Tsering often goes to rural areas to perform for herders and farmers.

On the international trip, he will not only play a solo work but also the accompaniment for the Tibetan Opera, a religious dance and another dance work, "Drum Dance of Eastern Tibet."

"Different areas of Tibet have different characters in music," he said. "We hope to present all of



File photos

A star-studded cast: Members of the Lhasa Ethnic Art Troupe from Southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region.

them to our audience."

"My parents gave me a wonderful voice."

Kelsang Choedren, 34, is a notable young Tibetan singer from the Gongbo area of the autonomous region.

"Thanks to my dad and mom," said Kelsang of her farmer parents. "They gave me a wonderful voice."

Primary school teachers discovered this talent and recom-



File photos

mended her to attend a school. Later, she studied at Beijing's Conservatory of Music for five years during the 1980s.

"I love my hometown so deep in my heart that I can't represent it of all Tibet. I wish my foreign friends what a happy life we have in Tibet."

Kelsang's upcoming repertoires "Visiting the New City" and "Lhasa in My Heart" will be performed while she is in Australia.

She is also a dancer while in the troupe. Her role in the portrayal of a girl's visit to her father in the opera "The Palace Square" is a wonderful performance.

It is her first time travelling and singing outside China. She admits she is a little nervous but excited as well.

"I hope I will be my best on stage," she said. "And I will try."

Pelma Kyi will present two songs, "Daughters of the Same Mother" and "Auspicious New Year."

Other performers

Thundrup Wanggyal, born in 1968 in Lhasa, is a noted young Tibetan dancer.

Lhakar, a singer was born in 1968 in Lhasa.

Yangdren, 29 and born in Lhasa, is now a lead dancer with the troupe.

Losang Samden, 54, is the troupe's resident composer. He has created more than 400 instrumental and vocal works and won awards in and outside China.

Phuntsok Tsering, 46 and born in Lhasa, is a dance choreographer.

Denzin Drolkar, 54, an award-winning performer with the Lhasa Ethnic Art Troupe.

CROSSWORD (No 6444)

- ACROSS**
- 1 Speed (centurion's route)
 - 6 Italian Anagram of "name" currency units
 - 11 Mists
 - 12 Removed wrinkles
 - 14 Was in debt
 - 15 — boom
 - 17 That is (Lat. abbr.)
 - 18 Permissive
 - 19 Rx givers
 - 20 Miscellany
 - 21 Enlisted person
 - 22 Via —
 - 25 Anagram of "name"
 - 26 Modern depot
 - 28 Type of cheese
 - 29 Whim
 - 30 Actress
 - 31 Harlow
 - 31 Souvenir
 - 33 Rainy season
 - 36 Translucent gem
 - 37 Fangs
 - 38 Baseball's

DOWN

- 1 Aloha State
- 2 Highest point
- 3 Install a lawn
- 4 Bull Moose initials
- 5 Curve
- 6 Singer
- 7 Rainstad
- 8 Rainbow goddess
- 8 "Arabian Nights" bird
- 9 Article
- 10 Nets
- 11 Europe's longest river
- 13 College administrators
- 16 Skip
- 20 Organic acid
- 22 One of twelve
- 23 Comic-strip possum
- 24 Opposite of "post-"
- 25 Flooded
- 27 In the country
- 28 Transmitted
- 30 Baseball's DiMaggio
- 31 Shore
- 32 Kind of mobility
- 3 — Verde National Park
- 34 Woodwind player
- 35 Highborn
- 37 Oklahoma oil town
- 40 Liniment
- 41 Cozy places to sit
- 43 Choke
- 44 Make a dress
- 45 Spoil
- 47 Jupiter's moon
- 49 "— and behold!"

Solution to No 6443

MOM	ALMA	RUST
ELI	SAIL	OCTO
RID	PORTFOLIO	
VOICE	OMAR	
ONO	GEE	
NEAP	TOY	ROME
AVG	TIP	RIG
TEES	ELS	LANG
EAR	YOU	
NEED	AGORA	
PERMANENT	LEI	
EINE	TYPE	LAD
PLED	HERR	APE

BRIDE (By Phillip Alder)

William Blake, as a poet, painter and engraver, "When I tell any truth it is not for the sake of convincing those who do not wish it, but for the sake of defending who do." How would that workout for law?

At the bridge we make plays that seem good time. And they will be successful thought processes have beurate. (All right, not always. Sorry you will have insufficient info and be forced to guess. Or ycb be unlucky because the cardnot lying as the probability tablect.)

In this deal, re sitting East. Against four spaur partner starts with the heart under which you signal encourag with your eight. West continues e heart king and another heart to even, everyone following thru. Needing one more trick, what you lead at trick four?

South showed card suit by re-bidding it. North three-card support and 13 high points, had an automatic jumpne.

At the table, Effited to the diamond queen. Ter, South won with his ace, cthe spade ace, and claimed 10 when everyone followed: six sp two diamonds and two clubs.

East made a thoughtless play. At trick four, there were only 12 high-card points unaccounted for, so South had to have them all. As another side-suit trick was impossible, East should have led his last heart. West would have ruffed with the spade eight to effect an uppercut, giving East a trump trick.

When you have taken every possible side-suit trick, furnish a ruff-and-discard.

North
 ♠ Q 7 4
 ♥ J 10 5
 ♦ K 6
 ♣ A K 10 9 7

West
 ♠ 8
 ♥ A K 2
 ♦ 9 7 5 4 3 2
 ♣ 8 4 3

East
 ♠ J 10 9
 ♥ Q 8 7 3
 ♦ Q J 10 8
 ♣ Q 5

South
 ♠ A K 6 5 3 2
 ♥ 9 6 4
 ♦ A
 ♣ J 6 2

Dealer: South
 Vulnerable: East-West

1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
 2 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ All pass

Opening lead: ♠ A

TODAY'S RADIO

FM 87.6 MHz (all stereo)	AM 828 kHz
09:00 Travelling World	05:30 Good Morning, Beijing
10:30 Music Zone	06:30 News
13:30 Concert Hall	07:50 Sports World
16:30 Classic Music Story	08:30 Times Magazine
23:30 BBC Pop Music	14:30 Health Club
FM 97.4 MHz (all stereo)	22:05 Life Hotlines
08:30 Around the World	AM 603 kHz
09:00 Hello, Taxi	06:57 Weather report
12:30 Chinese Top 10	07:00 News
15:00 Russian Scope	08:30 Reading Time
18:00 New Sound of Modern City	10:00 Community & Life
19:00 World Chart Show	18:00 Travelling Guide
21:30 World Movie Soundtrack	20:10 English pop songs

TODAY'S TELEVISION

CCTV-1 Channel 2	CCTV-8 Channel 29
08:00 News	08:30 Jiayi movie
08:35 Focus Interview	17:35 Movie & TV Club
12:40 Law Today	19:00 World Culture Square
16:05 Tell It What It Is	19:35 Studio Express
17:00 World Express	21:47 Jiayi drama
19:00 News; Weather	BTV-1 Channel 6
20:06 Serial: The Judge (26)	09:38 Serial: The Faith (17, 18)
CCTV-2 Channel 8	11:30 Beijing Express
08:50 Golden Land	15:50 Common Ground
09:15 Stock Watch	18:10 Sports news
12:00 Happy Family	19:53 Serial: Pearl Tower (14)
14:30 News 30	21:50 Focus Today
15:05 China Market Update	BTV-2 Channel 21
19:25 Live broadcast of the ninth National Games	19:40 Serial: Scorpion (25, 26)
23:55 Stock Market Update	21:40 BTV Sports News
CCTV-3 Channel 15	22:35 Business Weekly
07:00 Studio Express	23:00 Dabao International Cinema
13:40 Friend	BTV-3 Channel 27
15:15 China Stage	11:25 Golden Times
17:40 Behind the Scene	15:20 Household Gardening
21:35 Art Scope	19:30 Hi-tech Observer
22:40 Late news	20:05 Urban Field
CCTV-4 Channel 32	20:40 Science Education Express
07:05 Chinese Medicine	BTV-4 Channel 17
08:00 News 60 Minutes	12:00 Serial: The New Happiness Street (206)
10:35 Glimpse of China	18:03 630 Theatre: Sister Ma (73)
12:30 China Report	18:33 Movies and Movie Stars
18:30 China Today	19:03 World Archives
19:25 Special reports of the ninth National Games	23:12 Hong Kong drama: A Place of One's Own (9, 10)
21:00 China News	BTV-7 Channel 24
22:10 16-part serial: Paper Kite (1)	07:30 Digital Life
CCTV-6 Channel 18	12:30 Specialist Clinic
08:25 Movie	18:00 National Geographic Channel
11:51 Documentary	20:30 Finance Today
14:24 Italian movie	21:20 Today's Life
19:40 Chinese movie	
21:41 British movie	

WHAT'S ON

STAGE
Romeo and Juliet: German's largest and most profitable opera house, Deutsche Oper am Rhein will perform the innovative ballet "Romeo and Juliet" in Beijing. In an original production, the troupe have taken the context of this tale from the Italian renaissance to the period between 1920 and 1930. The intense, moving love scenes and exciting choreography make this work a triumph.
Time: 7:30 pm, December 1, 2
Place: Beijing Exhibition Centre Theatre
Tel: 6532-0168, 6532-5805

Zhang's ballet: "Raise the Red Lantern," a Chinese ballet based on Zhang Yimou's prize-winning movie of the same name, will be staged again in Beijing before its global tour next year. The ballet focuses on the tragic love between a Peking Opera actor and a concubine. In this stunning portrayal, Peking Opera has been transformed into a motif that permeates the whole story in the ballet.
Time: 7:30 pm, December 21-25
Place: Poly Theatre
Tel: 6561-0651/52/53/54/55/57

Puppet show: The Puppet Art Troupe of China is staging a large puppet show, "Real and Fake Monkey King."
The play is based on an excerpt from the Chinese classic "Journey to the West."
Different types of puppets are used in the play.
Time: 10:30 am, until November 25
Place: China Puppet Show Theatre, A1 Zone 1, Anhua Xili, Chaoyang District
Tel: 6425-4798

Authentic Viennese operetta: "The Merry Widow" in a production of the Operettenbuehne Wien, one of the best reputed operetta stages in Europe, will come to China again. You will enjoy the well-known and original Viennese operetta in Beijing — two acts, staged by 45 accomplished artists including the famous artistic conductor, Heinz Heilberg and the major soloists from Vienna Opera Houses. Elisabeth Flech will incarnate the young, pretty and rich Hanna Glawari.
Time: 7:30 pm, December 1, 2
Place: Beijing 21st Century Theatre
Tel: 6463-6572, 6463-6628

Opera excerpts: The Liyuan Theatre presents traditional Peking Opera excerpts specially packaged in short programmes for foreign audiences and in the original style. The theatre revives the ambience of Old Beijing by setting up Ming-style tables which enable guests to sample snacks during performances. With an explanation in English,
Time: 9 am-4 pm, November 21-27
Place: China Numismatic Museum, south-west side of Tian'anmen Square
Tel: 6505-3037

Oil and inks: The Wantung Art Gallery features two exhibitions. The first one is oil paintings by five artists, involving Yin kun, Xiao Se, Lao Dao, Xin Yi and Li Chunyao. The other is Chinese traditional works by a number of famed artists such as Huang Youwei and Zhang Zhenhua.
Time: 9 am-5 pm, daily until December 5
Place: 136, Nanchizi Dajie, Dongcheng District
Tel: 6523-3320

唐人百戏 Marvellous Acrobatics

"Chinese Soul," a grand variety show performed by the famous China Acrobatic Troupe and specially packaged for foreign visitors in China, features marvellous programs which won gold medals at well-known domestic and international acrobatic contests. Integrating superlative acrobatics with the finest ancient Chinese dancing, kungfu, opera, national music and ethnic costumes, the star-studded cast will amaze you at every turn.

Poly Plaza International Theatre, No 14 Dongzhimen Nanlujiao, Dongcheng District
Time/Dates: 7:30 pm, Nov. 15-19, 2001. **Price:** RMB500, 380, 200, 100, 60 yuan
Tel: 65023984, 65022649, 65065343, 65065345