UCI Claire Trevor School of the Arts

PRESENTS

EAST MEETS WEST

International Dance and Music Festival

Lisa Naugle and Tong Wang
Artistic Directors











UCI Claire Trevor Dance
School of the Arts

ARTISTIC DIRECTORS' NOTE

We welcome you to our **East Meets West International Dance and Music Festival.** This 2019 event is our first event with esteemed artists in music; award-winning soprano, Luwa Ke and the renowned Jing Hu player, Shunxiang Zhang. Our community of talented artists has expanded to include international performers from Japan, India, Malaysia, China and the United States. It is our great pleasure to have collaborators from around the world at UCI and know you will be inspired by their exceptional talent and creativity.

Our Founding Chair, Ruth Ding, has given tirelessly of her time, energy, and wisdom to support this project. As she told us recently, "we need more beauty and love in this world, less conflict and war," and so her efforts have resulted in many new arts lovers joining us today. We thank you all for providing support for this cultural event. In particular, we give our heartful thank you to Charlie Zhang, who has generously supported this project since 2016, our first annual East Meets West International Dance Festival. We are grateful for Charlie Zhang's ongoing support as we would not be able to do this event without his gifts.

On behalf of everyone in the Department of Dance, the Claire Trevor School of the Arts, the Irvine Barclay Theatre, and all the performers – thank you for coming and sharing this wonderful Festival with us and...

Enjoy the show!

Sincerely,

Tong Wang and Lisa Naugle Artistic Directors



PROGRAM

Chopiniana (excerpt)

Presented by Southland Ballet Academy

Choreographer: Mikhail Fokine Restaged by Salwa Rizkalla Composer: Frédéric Chopin

Costume Designer: Southland Ballet Academy

Dancers: Emma Chen, Aimee Cho, Elise Cho, Kaili Corsten, Bella Do, Callista Do, Sophia Johncox, Alexia Jones, Anjoulie Kempton, Anna-Marie Leach, Rachel Lee, Riley Louis, Amanda Luyks, Adiya Marcus, Gianna Pritchard, Cierra Roberts, Haruna Shirai, Brando Speech, Bailey Stenstrom, Lauren Van, Audrey Weber, Tracy Xing, Lana Zylstra

the end of.

Presented by UCI Department of Dance

Choreographer: Piper Bockstahler
Composer: the Bengsons and Florence & the Machine
Costume designer: Piper Bockstahler
Dancers: Natalia Chambers, Ebett Cruz, Kiera Dorman, Lindsey George,
Stephanie Goodenberger, Isabella Harris, Wren Kelman, Liana Kulchin, Amanda McCarthy,
Alice Myung, Ashley Onks, Corea Park, Taylor Payne, Freya Starks

Ceremony of Qin's Army

Presented by Beijing Dance Academy

This dance is showcasing the elements from the restoration of the original grand performances in China's Qin Dynasty's (620 AD) imperial ceremonies where army's victory is being celebrated.

Choreographer: Ying Sun Restaged by Siwei Ou Dancers: Qi Gao, Yuanli Wang, Zhe Xu

Fujimusume (Wisteria Maiden)

Presented by Wakahisakai Japanese Dance Group

This dance was composed and choreographed in the early 1800s in Japan as a dance sequence within the Kabuki drama. This piece carries meanings as an ode to the nature and suggestive of two lovers much like the wisteria branch entwined around the wisteria tree.

Choreographer: Kichisanji Wakayagi Restaged by Wakayagi school Composer: anonymous Performing Artist: Rinsen Wakayagi

SEA...The Other Side

Presented by UCI Department of Dance

Choreographer and dancer: Sukanya Kumar Composer: A R Rahman Costume designer: Sukanya Kumar

Special Appearance: Ms. Luwa Ke, soprano

Vieni! t'affretta!

Lady Macbeth's aria from Macbeth by Giuseppe Verdi

Meine Lippen, sie küssen so heiss

from Giuditta by Franz Lehár

Accompanied by Dr. Cheryl Lin Fielding

INTERMISSION

Frescoes (excerpt)

Presented by Southland Ballet Academy

Choreographer: Marius Petipa Restaged by Salwa Rizkalla Composer: Cesare Pugni

Costume Designer: Southland Ballet Academy

Dancers: Bella Do, Sophia Johncox, Anjoulie Kempton, Sami Santos

Ցավդ Տանեմ (Let Me Take Your Pain)

Presented by UCI Department of Dance

Choreographer: Claire Goldes

Composer: A collaboration with Pasha Eftekharian, featuring an interview with Claire's grandparents, Vrej and Setta Grigorian. Curated by Claire Goldes.

Costume designer: Claire Goldes

Dancers: Albany Adele, Kiera Dorman, João Ducci, Isabella Harris, Aja Loo, Rebekah Lund, Amanda McCarthy, Michael Menzer, Lily Morache, Taylor Payne, Janelah Villanueva

Lone Crane

Presented by Beijing Dance Academy

Choreographers: Weijia Xia, Shengfeng Wang Restaged by Siwei Ou Composer: Xing Liu Costume Designer: Zhikuan Zheng Dancer: Teng Huang

Special Appearance:
Mr. Shunxiang Zhang, Jing Hu musician
Heavenly Bliss*

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Gate to the Grand Mansion*

*Original works by Mr. Shunxiang Zhang

Grandma's Happy Life

Presented by Yaya Dance Academy

Choreographer: Ge Wang
Restaged by Yaya Zhang, Yu Cao
Composer: Yuan He
Costume designer: Yaya Zhang
Dancers: Bella Chen, Annabella Chou, Joann Lee, Xinlei Zeng, Amber Zheng

Blossom

Presented by UCI Department of Dance

Choreographers:Anthony Meh and Aman Yap
Copyright held by Malaysian Dua Space Dance Theatre
Restaged by Radhanath Thialan
Composer:Vanessa-Mae
Costume designer:Anthony Meh

Dancers: Aoi Aihara, Rogelio Cervantes, João Ducci, Katie Huang, Sydney Leong, Katie Lynch, Lenard Glenn Malunes, Leo Nishimura



ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHIES

Tong Wang, UCI Department of Dance

Tong Wang graduated with honors from the prestigious Beijing Dance Academy in 1986, after which he performed as a principal dancer with companies such as Shanghai Ballet, Tulsa Ballet Theatre, Dayton Ballet, Colorado Ballet, and, most recently, Ballet West, where he performed leading roles in both classical and contemporary repertoire. As a dance professor, he taught at University of Utah, Wright State University, and Butler University. In 2011, Tong joined the distinguished Dance Department of University of California, Irvine, where he organized and created a successful first annual "East Meets West" International Dance Festival in 2016, and brought UCI faculty and students to Shanghai, China in 2017. As a master teacher and choreographer, Tong Wang works with Beijing Dance Academy, National Ballet of China, Hong Kong Ballet, National Choreography Initiative, Ballet West, Colorado Ballet, Ballet Arkansas, and he is a regular faculty member at Maple Conservatory of Dance in Irvine.

Lisa Naugle, UCI Department of Dance

Lisa Naugle is an Artistic Director, Professor, and Director of International Initiatives for CTSA. She earned her MFA from NYU Tisch School of Arts and her Ph.D. from the Department of Music and Performing Arts Professions. As a choreographer, Lisa has worked with musicians, dancers, and video artists in Eastern and Western Europe, Asia, and both South and North America. She is recognized for her improvisation and choreography integrating interactive video. In 2009 she founded DTM2 Ensemble and presented choreography in prominent venues such as the Conservatory of Santa Cecilia, Brazilian Embassy, MAXXI Museum, and MARCO in Rome. Lisa is the first American choreographer to receive the World Famous Masters Award from Shanghai, China and present at Shanghai International Dance Center. She has taught in the Department of Music and Performing Arts Professions at New York University. At UCI, Lisa was the Department of Dance Chair (2008-2018), and she collaborates with Tong Wang on the development of "East Meets West" (2016-present). She teaches choreography, teaching, improvisation, and interdisciplinary projects



ARTIST'S BIOGRAPHIES

Piper Bockstahler

Movement artist and choreographer Piper Bockstahler is currently a junior at the University of California, Irvine completing a B.F.A. in Choreography & Performance, and a double minor in Accounting & Entrepreneurship. Growing up in Sacramento, California, she began dancing at the age of 3, and has been training under Kelli Leighton, owner of Leighton Dance Project, for nine years. At Leighton Dance Project, she trained in all styles including contemporary, jazz, hip-hop, tap, ballet, pointe, and modern. She has assisted Kelli all over California and has apprenticed in her professional company, CORE Contemporary Dance, in productions such as The Doorway and Scorched Wings. Over the past few years she has had the opportunity to have mentorships under Will Johnston, Marissa Osato, Amy Berokoff, Adam Peterson, Mike Esperanza & Stacey Tookey. After graduating college, she aspires to join a professional contemporary-based company in Los Angeles or New York, explore work in the commercial world, and present her own choreographic works.

Claire Goldes

Claire Goldes is a third-year undergraduate student pursuing BFAs in both Choreography and Performance, as well as a major in Psychological Sciences. She was born in New York City and grew up in Oak Park, California. Claire is grateful to have traveled and performed in Austria with the Young Tanzsommer's Stars of Tomorrow, as well as Israel with UCl's Summer Dance Jerusalem, and Italy with DTM2. She has recently spent her summers training at Hubbard Street, LINES Ballet, and Joffrey summer intensives. Claire is a proud executive board member of Barebones Dance Theater and serves on the UCl Dance Department's Community Student Advising Committee. She is thrilled to reprise this piece, exploring and celebrating her Armenian roots, thanks to the help of her grandparents Vrej and Setta Grigorian, as well as pianist and dear friend Pasha Eftekharian.

Luwa Ke, Soprano

Named one of Chinese top ten sopranos by CCTV, is a famous young soprano singer, the second Japanese Nagasaki Butterfly Lady International Vocal Competition and the first winner of the 4th Chinese International Vocal Competition once premiered the famous symphony Qigang Chen's large-scale symphony "Love of Butterfly" at the Shanghai International Music Festival and the Beijing International Music Festival, whose live recording was recorded and published by EMI. She was invited to cooperate with the China Philharmonic Orchestra in Beijing to premiere the famous Chinese composer Xiaogang Ye's Chinese version of "The Song of the Earth", followed by a global tour to the United States, Italy, Britain, Germany and other places. Ke Lvwa once representing China, participated in the performances of US Secretary of State Clifton Hillary and Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev's China visit in the Great Hall of the People, and she also held solo concerts in Taiwan and Hong Kong successfully. In 2015, she participated in the performances on the 70th Anniversary of the Anti-Fascist War in the Great Hall of the People, who was the only opera actress performed solo performances at the reception luncheon hosted for the leaders from 30 countries.

Sukanya Kumar, Indian Classical Dance

Sukanya Kumar is an Indian Classical Dance practitioner of Bharatanatyam and Kathak genres trained under illustrious Gurus of India. She is a graded artiste for 'Doordarshan', the Indian National television with several international performances and laurels to her credit. She is a Creative Culturist, competent writer and choreographer skilled in implementing electronic media technology in her productions that propagate social messages. Her credentials include 'Best Dancer' awards from The Music Academy Madras, Spirit of youth (2013) and Indian Fine Arts Society (2014), 'Artistic Excellence' from Sri Krishna Gana Sabha (2015), and titles like 'Natya Chudar' from Kartik Fine Arts (2015), 'Yuva Kala Bharati' from Bharat Kalachar (2016), 'Natya Ratna' (2017), 'Nalanda Nritya Nipuna' (2019), Junior and Senior National scholarships from Ministry of Culture, India to name a few. Sukanya is academically qualified with a BSc in electronic media, MFA in Bharatanatyam, MBA in Educational management and MFA in Dance and technology, most recently from UCI in 2018. She has been teaching main stream dance students and children with special needs for over a decade.

Cheryl Lin Fielding

"Warm, grand, and rich", Cheryl Lin Fielding's pianism has been praised by the New York Sun, and throughout the world. Fielding has been honored with the Grace B. Jackson Prize in Excellence by the Tanglewood Music Festival, and three times received the distinguished Gwendolyn Koldofsky Award in Keyboard Collaborative Arts. She has dual master's degrees from the Juilliard School (Piano Performance and Collaborative Piano) and the Doctor of Musical Arts in Keyboard Collaborative Arts from the University of Southern California, with extended emphasis in Vocal performance. Cheryl has served as music director and vocal coach for universities and opera houses from the United States to Italy. She currently serves a vocal coach and pianist for Dolora Zajick's Institute of Young Dramatic Voices, music director at Parnassus Society, and teaches at UCLA at the Herb Alpert School of Music.

Salwa Rizkalla, Festival Ballet Theatre

Festival Ballet Theatre, a non-profit arts organization founded in 1988 by Artistic Director Salwa Rizkalla, is Orange County's premier, accomplished professional ballet company. Our mission is to enrich Orange County's artistic and economic vitality, to inspire love and appreciation for dance, and to invigorate ballet by:

- Presenting a season of exhilarating classical and contemporary performances,
- Providing a nurturing environment for dancers and choreographers,
- Offering stimulating educational outreach programs.

With reverence for classic masterpieces and a focus on developing future tours de force, Festival Ballet Theatre is committed to presenting the best of dance, enriching lives, and developing a new generation of audiences and artists.

Radhanath Thialan

Originally from Malaysia, Radhanath Thialan (Rad) had been dancing all around the world since he was 10. He studied dance at Dua Space Dance Theatre Academy and studied with Anthony Meh, Aman Yap, Gan Yee Fen, and Yap Pui Mun. Currently, he is pursuing his MFA in Choreography at University of California, Irvine. Rad is currently doing his internship with Yaya Dance Academy and is also the Founder/Artistic Director for Rad-icalDance Company, which not only hold stage performances but also dance films; which was awarded and premiered in Arizona, Malaysia, and Canada while some stage performances were premiered in California, Malaysia, and even Shanghai. During his school years, Rad graduated with honors and outstanding choreographer award at University of California, Irvine, earning a BFA in Choreography, he also earned the highest honors award at Scottsdale Community College with three associates degrees in two years where he danced and toured with Instinct Dance Corps. He was lucky to have worked with Lar Lubovitch, Amir Kolben, Noa Wertheim, SiZheng Wang, Betsy Fisher just to name a few. While in UCI, he was also offered several scholarships and was chosen as the only student choreographer to premier a work in 2017 in Shanghai. He was also fortunate to be selected to spend a month in Israel learning methodology and reps from artistic directors of Kolben Dance Company, Vertigo Dance Company and Gaga technique at Batsheva. He's main choreographic style is modern concert dance, often inspired by the life concepts and movements while finding his Malaysian Identity.

Rinsen Wakayagi, Japanese Classical Dance

Rinsen Wakayagi has been studying under Head Instructor Madame Hisame Wakayagi, founder of the Wakahisakai, a nonprofit organization established in 2005 to introduce Japanese classical dance to local communities by performing at various locations and offering workshops. Rinsen was awarded her "natori," or professional stage name of Rinsen Wakayagi in 2007. After intensive training, she achieved the next level or teacher certification called "shihan" in 2019.

Shunxiang Zhang, Er Hu Musician

Mr. Shunxiang Zhang is a China National Class-A Performer in the China National Peking Opera Company; Visiting professor in China Conservatory of Music, Composer of the jinghu piece Pu Tian Le, Jinghu Performer in TV-drama Da Zhaimen (Gate to the Grand Mansion). He is an outstanding jinghu performer as well as a famous Peking- opera composer, with extensive knowledge in Peking opera, comprehensive cultural accomplishments, and great artistic spirit. In terms of composition, Zhang Shunxiang composed musical pieces for large-scale evening galas convened by CCTV, BTV, and various provinces and cities numerous times and won many awards. He has cooperated with China National Symphony Orchestra, China Philharmonic Orchestra, Beijing Symphony Orchestra, and China Broadcasting Symphony Orchestra multiple times and performed his own works. Zhang Shunxiang was invited by China National Peking Opera Company to write music for the Peking Opera play Hua Mulan, which was staged in the USA in 1998. Zhang Shunxiang has also been invited to give performances in the USA, Britain, Canada, Australia, France, Italy and South Africa numerous times. His music has brought pleasure to audiences from different countries. Some of his musical pieces have been selected included in music textbooks, which have been used among primary and middle schools in Beijing.

Yaya Zhang, Yaya Dance Academy

Yaya Zhang is an accomplished multidisciplinary artist with twenty years of experience in stage performance, choreography, and the creation of modern art. In 2014, she established Yaya Dance Academy, which is focused on bringing Chinese dance arts to the United States. During the few years, her students have participated and won many awards in several national and international dance competitions. In 2014,"New Drum Rhythms," the dance produced in her academy won the "All Star" honor at CCTV Dance World. In 2015, as an independent artist, she created and performed her modern dance work "Gravid" at the LATC Dance Festival. In 2016, she directed "Love Feast," a spring festival gala for the Chinese community. In 2017, she directed "Love Feast II" in cooperation with Pacific Symphony Orchestra at Segerstrom Center, and was hailed by critics from media including the Los Angeles Times.

Dua Space Dance Company, Malaysia

The founders, Anthony Meh and Aman Yap established this first non-government support full-time professional contemporary dance company in Malaysia in 1998. 'Dua Space' brings the meaning of sharing and interaction. Dua Space has performed in Beijing, Guangzhou, Harbin and Tianjin in China, Seoul and Changmu in Korea, Tokyo, Kyoto and Nagoya in Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan, Pakistan, Jakarta in Indonesia, London in Britain, Philippines, India, Spain, Chile, Peru, Argentina and Paraguay, bringing Malaysian performing arts to the international performing arts scene. Dua Space has received the 2013 HWT 21st Century Prestigious Brand - The Prestigious Cultural Achievement Award, the 2014 HWT 21st Century Prestigious Brand - The Prestigious Company Award respectively and 2017 14th BOH Cameronian Arts Awards - Best of 2016 & the Best Choreographer of a Feature Length Production. Malaysia. https://www.facebook.com/duaspace/

ARTISTIC STAFF BIOGRAPHIES

Szu-Yun Wang, Lighting Designer

Szu is originally from Kaohsiung City, Taiwan. She achieved her BFA in Theatre Arts from National Sun Yat-sen University in 2016, and has recently received her MFA degree in Theatrical Lighting Design at California University, Long Beach. She is experienced in operatic design, and has expertise in telling the stories with music and movement by using dynamic and expressionistic lighting. She has worked as the lighting designer at Central City Opera for the past three seasons, and is currently working at The Ruzika Company as an architectural lighting intern. For more information please visit: szuyunwang.com

Benjamin Hall Elliott, Sound Designer

Benjamin Hall Elliott is a Composer and Sound Designer for stage, film, and various media, located in the Orange County and Los Angeles areas. Some of his most recent projects include: Annie Loui's Mad Madge, and SHE, for CounterBalance Productions; the Romantic Drama feature, Pink Lemonade, directed by Gioya Tuma-Waku; the Comedy-Drama, Am I High Yet?, by director Gus Eid, as well as his previous work, the horror film, The Final Girl; Josh Feder's adaptation of Paula Vogel's How I Learned To Drive; and Eli Simon's adaptation of Anton Chekhov's Three Sisters. Mr. Elliott has also been involved with the New Swan Summer Shakespeare Festival, as well as handling various audio-mixing related duties for theater, dance, and music, across UC Irvine. More info: www.benhelliott.com

Kelly Musgrove, Production Stage Manager

Kelly Musgrove holds her bachelor's degree from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo and Masters in Stage Management from University of California, Irvine. She has worked on many exciting productions including, Living in the Tempest, Suor Angelica, Bittersweet Farewell a Memorial to Donald McKayle, Ovation Awards, I Dream of Chang and Eng, Telematic Project, and The Iliad. Kelly has collaborated with companies nationwide including The Lost Colony the proud recipient of the TONY Honor for Excellence in the Theatre, Ojai Playwrights Conference, Teatro Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico International Theater Festival.

Jessica Kearberry-Vnuk, Assistant Stage Manager

This is Jessica's second year ASMing UCI's East Meets West. She currently works as the production stage manager for the Laguna Playhouse Youth Theatre program. She has worked as an assistant stage manager, production assistant, and scenic painter for theatres such as Laguna Playhouse, International City Theatre, and Shakespeare Orange County. This summer she completed a production management internship with Williamstown Theatre Festival, whose season starred personalities such as Uma Thurman, Amanda Seyfried, Jesse Tyler Feurguson, and many more. This winter, Jessica will receive her B.A. in Drama with Honors in Stage Management.

Yicun Sun, Project Manager

Yicun Sun is a seasoned project manager, production manager for live shows and events. He graduated from UC, Irvine with a Master of Fine Arts in Dance in 2007 and Master of Science in Electrical Engineering in 2002. He has worked in corporate companies including Intersil, Broadcom and Qualcomm in the semiconductor industry; as well as working in the positions of artistic director, choreographer, production manager, stage manager, lighting designer in shows and events. Yicun has done touring shows including shows produced by the China Ministry of Culture and China national performing arts groups; concerts of iconic Chinese singers and entertainers touring in North America, in venues including the Dolby Theater, Shrine Auditorium, San Jose City National Civic, and the Lincoln Center in New York City.



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DANCE STAFF

Yvette Adame Cruz, Daniel Manoiu, Laura Swendson

Special Thanks to Bob Warner who worked with us for the many years on the development of "East Meets West" projects.

EAST MEETS WEST ARTISTIC STAFF

Project Manager Yicun Sun Photography Jerry Li

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SPECIAL THANKS

Ruth Ding and Charlie Zhang









Thank you for supporting our students and faculty by attending today's production. "East Meets West" is a unique program that combines a professional-level performance opportunity with a weeklong intensive educational exchange program. Programs like this are critical to our students' education and our standing as a leading dance program in the nation.

Please consider making a gift today to help grow this program and ensure we continue to provide professional opportunities in global dance to our students. Your gift, of any amount, will directly support production, practicum learning experiences, student engagement with global and local communities, and student scholarships.

Thank you for your support of "East Meets West." To learn more about how you can create a lasting impact in global dance, please contact Sarah Strozza at sstrozza@uci.edu or visit dance.arts.uci.edu/giving.







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The mission of Orange County Music and Dance is to nurture, inspire, and empower the children of Orange County and beyond to achieve their dreams and provide a path for them to follow their passions.

Learn More at ocmusicdance.org



We would like to thank our sponsors and donors for their generous support and commitment to making today's performance possible. All proceeds from "East Meets West" support our professional educational opportunities, community outreach, and the production of global art and culture activities.

The UCI Claire Trevor School of the Arts, Department of Dance is a leader in dance education in Orange County. As a prominent research university, UCI provides students and the community with diverse and inclusive access to all of the arts. Thank you for your partnership and support of international dance and music in Orange County.

OC Music & Dance

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