

East Art Troupe Introduction

East Art Troupe consists of members who enjoy and participate in martial arts and performing arts. Led by Mr. CHU, JUI-HSIANG, a state-level martial arts coach, East Art troupe has been promoting Chinese and Taiwanese performance culture for over ten years. They are dedicated to popularizing traditional folk performance art such as martial arts, dancing lions, and folk dance. Through continuous efforts, it has become a widely acclaimed and distinguished establishment.

East Art Troupe puts multiple colorful patterns in its performance, which always becomes one of the most impressive factors in the performance. However, the most reputable form is the drum dancing, which preserves the essence of oriental tradition while embracing new western skills and techniques.

In the past ten years they have been dedicated to introducing professional dance performance into folk temple celebrations and promoting folk culture in the Fu Cheng area. In doing this, East Art Troupe has become one of the most distinctive and creative art groups throughout Taiwan.

In 2009, the East Art Troupe participated in the Goddess Matsu Memorial Ceremony in YOKOHAMA Japan and was widely acclaimed for its outstanding performance.

In 2008, the East Art Troupe participated in the Xiamen Golden Bridge Cross-strait Folk Art Festival and presented four programs: “CHENG, CHENG-KUNG” , “Tribal Custom” , “Drum Dance Array” , and “Colorful Butterflies Flying” .

In 2007, East Art Troupe's opening show in International Nan-Ying *International Folk Arts Festival* received high praise.

Over the past ten years, East Art Troupe has presented more than a thousand various performances. People may appreciate their dances in cultural centers, department stores, festival activity fields, and even temple fairs.

Through the lead of Mr. CHU, JUI-HSIANG, and the hard work and cooperation of all teachers and group members, this gradually disappearing cultural treasure has been preserved for our civilized society. It is important for East Art Troupe that this traditional performing culture can be passed down for generation after generation to enjoy.



東方藝術團

East Art Troupe

Evergreen Plaza Hotel

~~~~~Performance Program ~~~~~

1. Overawing Eight Directions

This tune uses a bass drum as the main shaft, accompanied by a wave of long sticks, which no longer limits appreciation to hearing, as visual enjoyment is included. Based on martial arts, the performers' precise stick movements make the whole tune appear concise and uniform. Hearing the uplifting drumbeat, one would feel as if they were bravely fighting against enemies in a battlefield. As the eight drums are beat at the same time, the tune is called "Overawing Eight Directions"

2. Fairy Dance

The graceful and beautiful postures of the dancers show a Dunhuang Grottoes' scene of fairies flying to the heavens. Accompanied by fair-sounding music, dancers are standing, sitting, kneeling, lying on their side, and lying on their back, which fully show the charming postures and dignified faces of bodhisattvas. In addition, the colorful ribbons that often appear in Chinese traditional folk dances add a special kind of charm to this dance.

### 3. God of Joy Teases Lions

“Lion dance” is one of the performances that are often seen in Chinese festivals. Leading by God of Joy, two lions are jumping up and down, tumbling and rotating. Peoples’ eyes are attracted by the lovely lions. The lions’ jumping movements need smooth cooperation of the front and rear lion dancers. Undoubtedly, God of Joy Teases Lions would be a wonderful performance.

### 4. Indian dancers

This is a dance with strong Middle Eastern influence. Graceful dance gestures, loud and clear singing, splendid costumes, twinkling jewelry, and dancers’ teasing eyes make the audience feel as if a group of coquettish Indian dancers were arriving on the scene. In the dance, audience can not only see girlish feelings, shy but bold at heart, but also bright enthusiasm and lustful desire. Definitely, it will be an impressive and wonderful performance.

### 5. Duke Kai Tai-CHENG, CHENG-KUNG

During the period of late Ming and early Qing Dynasty, affected by the new plot of the Qing Dynasty, Cheng, Cheng-Kung and his army had to give up his military strategy of using islands that are near main land as a base to attack the southeast coastal area, but turned to attack the Dutch in the Ta-yuan region (presently south of Taiwan). The performance mainly shows the course of Cheng, Cheng-Kung’ s troops training in Small Jin Men Island and Xiamen for the aim of marching to Taiwan. The neat and uniform movements of soldiers and overwhelming five-element flag teams show the strong determination of capturing Taiwan. The concentrated eyes of performers and overwhelming musical rhythm makes the audience feel that they were present at the scene.

### 6. Festival (Old Man Carrying Old Woman on His Back, Che-Gu Dance, Clam Shell, and Dance Drum)

This is a dance combined with performing arts, which can often be seen in Taiwan’ s temples. In the dance there are four representative folk art forms: Old Man Carrying Old Woman on His Back, Che-Gu Dance, Clam Shell, and Dance Drum. It is a funny dance that includes drama, singing and dancing. The performers’ vivid and expressive faces fully show the lively, passionate, and vigorous phenomenon of Taiwan. The audience can witness the boisterous celebration of temple “Festivals” . Now, let’ s watch it together to see what wonderful and funny scenes they will present