

# 太阳不是我们的

*The  
Sun  
is  
Not  
for  
Us*

stage@leedstouring

**March 2011:**  
Leeds

**August 2012:**  
Edinburgh Festival Fringe

**November 2012:**  
Shanghai International  
Contemporary Theatre Festival

Qianjiang, Hubei province  
(Cao Yu's ancestral town)

Chengdu, Sichuan province

A young people's presentation  
in the programme of *UK Now*.



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

# Purpose of the project 目的

- Using theatre as a cultural bridge to foster genuine dialogue and mutual understanding between Britain and China.  
以戏剧作为文化桥梁，增进英中之间真正的对话与相互理解。
- Bringing together students from three disciplines to provide the opportunity to encounter Chinese culture in an immersive way, and to identify the elements of Cao Yu's work which transcend time and place.  
曹禺的作品使不同学科的学生走到一起，相遇中国文化，并充分理解大师作品中永恒的主题。
- Supporting performance with workshops for young people and seminars for academic and theatre professionals to inspire others and to develop international networks.  
在演出同时提供为青年人举行的工作坊；也为研究者与戏剧实践者组织讨论会，发展更多的国际性的合作。
- Enhancing the reputation of Leeds in China and as a University with a deep commitment to intercultural knowledge and exchange.  
扩展利兹大学与中国的联系，实现利兹大学致力于跨文化知识与交流的宗旨。

# Synopsis of *The Sun is Not for Us*

## 《太阳不是我们的》梗概

- The performance is not a presentation of one text. The students from Chinese Studies, English & Theatre, Theatre & Performance, Performance Design and Managing Performance came together with director David Jiang created a brand new work, drawing on characters and plots from Cao Yu's four most famous plays.

演出并不是只表演曹禺某一部剧本。来自中国学、英国文学与戏剧、戏剧与演出、演出设计以及演出管理的学生与导演蒋维国一起，重新架构曹禺四个著名剧本里的人物与情节，创造了这部新作品。

- The company was particularly drawn to the female characters and the fate of Chinese women in the 1920s and 1930s: their hopes, loves, frustrations, and struggles.

聚焦于1920—30年代中国女性的命运：她们的爱、仇、希望、挫折与抗争。

- In a series of reading original plays and devising new pieces, the company created their own production *The Sun Is Not for Us*. This title is taken from a line by Chen Bailu, the heroine of *Sunrise*.

不断阅读原剧，不断发展出新的内容，由此创造了《太阳不是我们的》，剧名来自《日出》陈白露的台词。

# Words from the team members



**David Jiang, 蒋维国 Director**  
(Honorary Research Fellow School of Performance and Cultural Industries, University of Leeds since 2009. PhD, School of English and East Asian Studies)

As a Leeds alumnus, I'm glad that I have the opportunity to share my professional theatre experience with the brilliant young team of *The Sun*. Together we are reimagining Cao Yu's masterpieces with a Leeds view.

作为利兹的校友，我很高兴能够与一个朝气蓬勃的年轻团队分享我的专业戏剧经验。我们以利兹的视角再度想象了曹禺的大师级作品。



# Words from the team members



## Jack Harrison

*(Theatre & Performance, Level 2 student)*

Throughout the rehearsals it was apparent that we were all more than simply Actors. The rehearsals have improved not only our acting skills but also our research and collaborative skills too. I believe *The Sun Is Not for Us* has been productive in the long term for us as individuals.

在排练中，我们感到自己不是简单的演员而已。排练不仅提高了我们的表演技巧，更加增强了作研究以及团队合作的能力。我相信，《太阳》对于我们个人发展有着长久的积极意义。

# Words from the team members



## Eleanor Bredin

*(Theatre & Performance, Level 2 student)*

I love how intricate the storylines are, and even though all the plays concern characters and eras that are long gone, I find that the messages portrayed within them still resonate in today's society.

我喜欢这些动人心弦的故事。尽管描写的是很久以前的时代与人物，我仍然感到这些剧本所传达的信息回响着当今社会的声音。

# Words from the team members



## **Victoria Burgess**

*(Theatre and Performance level 2 student)*

In order to make the most out of all of Cao Yu's plays the whole ensemble including the design and management team needed to read and study all of the plays. By doing this it meant that all the team were on the same page, literally, as we read all of the plays and discussed them.

为了最大程度地体现曹禺的剧本，我们整个团队包括演员、设计与管理部门进行了认真的阅读和讨论。这意味着我们全队在一起，就在一个页面上，因为我们都一直在读、在讨论。

# Words from the team members



## **Rose Collard**

*(English Literature and Theatre Studies,  
Level 2 student)*

One of the strengths of the project has been the balance between the director, actors and creative team. Although it is primarily David's vision for the piece which has been executed, it is refreshing to be able to freely offer opinions and ideas on what us actors feel the piece needs.

这个项目的强项之一就是导演、主创团队与演员一起同心协力。尽管这起始于导演蒋维国对于全剧的构思，但是我们演员都可以根据自己对于作品的理解，自由地提供我们的想法与观点。



# Words from the team members



## **Alanna Flynn**

*(Theatre & Performance, Level 2 student)*

I have learnt much about Chinese literature and culture since starting this project, and I believe that every time we discuss our experiences, our friends and acquaintances also understand a little more.

自从参加排练以后，我学习到了很多中国文学和中国文化的知识，同时，我们每次谈论自己的体验时，朋友和熟人也会多了解一点中国文化。

# Words from the team members



## **Toto Guo**

*(Theatre & Performance Studies, Level 2 student)*

It was the style of Cao Yu's writing that interested me the most. The structure, tone and, specifically, language is distinctly Chinese and felt unfamiliar and refreshing. At the same time, I could see links between his themes and structure with Western playwrights (such as Ibsen) which was also intriguing and something new I've learnt.

曹禺写作的风格吸引了我。剧本的结构、味道，尤其是他的语言都是绝对的中国，既让我感到陌生、新鲜，又让我看见它们与西方剧作家（如易卜生）作品中主题与结构之间的联系，这非常令人神往，也让我学习到了很多。

# Words from the team members



## **Guo Xin 郭辛**

*(MA student: Culture, Creativity and Entrepreneurship)*

To represent Chinese texts with a foreign cast and in the form of a new play is not only a fresh experience for me, but for all those who will see it. So it can support cross-cultural communication between two countries.

以崭新的戏剧样式、用外国的演员来体现中国剧本，这不仅对我，而且对于所有看戏的人都会是一次全新的经验。这一定可以帮助两国之间跨文化的交流。

# Words from the team members



## **Jessica Hilton**

*(English Literature and Theatre Studies,  
Level 2 student)*

The first stage of *The Sun is Not for Us* project has been an intensive yet incredibly rewarding experience. To have managed to read and discuss the content of five plays, and then identify themes and issues from them to create an hour long piece of theatre is quite an achievement.

《太阳》一剧的创作过程非常艰苦，但也让我获得了难以想象的丰富经验。在阅读了五部剧本以后，我们从中寻找到事件与主题并用此创造出一个崭新的戏剧作品，这真是很大的成就。



# Words from the team members



## **Oliver Jacques**

*(Managing Performance, Level 3 student)*

This is the greatest opportunity I have ever been offered. This project has not only given me the chance to develop special skills in management and in acting, but also to become a more rounded and committed person.

这是我历来所获得的最好的一次机会。曹禺的演出不仅给我提供机会让我发展在戏剧管理与戏剧表演方面的技巧，更加让我成为一个全面的，具有责任心的人。

# Words from the team members

## Lara Owen

*(Chinese and English Studies, Level 3 student)*

This is the first time I have been able to collaborate with students from other departments and from different year groups. We have really taken ownership of the project and it is unique as it showcases the work of six months of collaborative thinking with our director David Jiang. That my University is promoting these connections with China is really exciting.

这是我第一次与其他院系、其他年级的同学一起工作。我们真正感觉到这是我们自己的作品，这是我们与导演蒋维国共同思考、工作了六个月的成果。利兹大学如此重视与中国的联系，这些都让我兴奋。



# Words from the team members

## Becci Quinn

*(Theatre & Performance, Level 2 student)*

An interesting part of this project was being able to relate to some of Cao Yu's characters and their situations. This, I find, makes a play truly great, because an actor can truthfully play a character through their own experiences. Furthermore, this truthful portrayal usually comes across to an audience, helping them feel emotionally touched and equally helping them in turn relate to the characters. Increasingly, I have found the collaboration between English actors and Chinese plays an interesting factor on its own.

这个项目最有趣的部分是我可以理解曹禺的人物和他们的处境。我感到这使一部作品真正伟大，因为演员可以通过自己的感觉来表演。此外，这些真实的描绘也让观众容易理解，使他们与人物相联。我越来越感到英国演员表演中国剧本，这本身就是令人难忘的经验。





# Words from the team members



## Phoebe Rutherford

*(Performance Design, Level 3 student)*

As a designer, *The Sun Is Not for Us* has been a really exciting opportunity, bringing together a diverse range of cultural references and using design as a tool for reflection. Skills from my degree course at the University of Leeds have been stretched and enhanced by the fresh insight into Chinese culture.

作为设计，参与到《太阳不是我们的》确实是一个激动人心的机会，这个制作汇集了各种文化资料，我将设计作为思考的工具。对于中国文化新鲜的认识加强并拓宽了我在利兹大学设计课程中学到的内容。



# Words from the team members



## **Frederick Simmonds**

*(Chinese Studies, Level 3 student)*

Having spent my entire life away from my home country, first In Hong Kong and then Geneva for ten years each, I definitely consider myself to be a 'third culture kid'. This has given me an appreciation and respect for other cultures that I didn't even realise I had before arriving at the University of Leeds. Given the fusion of English and Chinese cultures in this project, how could it not be considered a 'cultural bridge' that will benefit us and the University?

由于我一直生活在远离祖国的地方，先是在香港，然后在日内瓦分别住了十年，我绝对认为自己是“第三种文化的孩子”。这给了我欣赏和尊重其他文化的能力，不过，这一点直到我在利兹大学读书以后才真正意识到。我们的戏融合了中英文化，称它为有益于我们和利兹大学的“文化桥梁”，不是最恰当的吗？

# Words from the team members



## **Kate Swarbrick**

*(Managing Performance, Level 2 student)*

My cultural knowledge of China before this project was limited but through the project, I have learnt a lot. I believe that our production demonstrates a new approach to the study of Cao Yu's work and Leeds University's interest in intercultural interaction.

在进入剧组之前，我对于中国文化实在知之甚少，而现在学到了很多。我相信我们的制作证明了一种学习曹禺作品的方式，也体现了利兹大学对于文化交流的支持。

# Words from the team members



## **Gaby Swinbank**

*(Performance Design, Level 3 student)*

*The Sun Is Not for Us* project has given me the chance to build creative partnerships across the university. I have the opportunity to learn about Chinese culture and performance, and to channel this invaluable learning into my field of practice.

《太阳不是我们的》给了我一个机会在大学里建立创造性的合作伙伴关系，使得我有机会学习中国文化和戏剧，并将这次宝贵的学习经验运用到我的实践领域中去。

# Words from the team members



## **Susan Daniels, Associate Producer**

*(University Fellow in Arts & Cultural Education, MA Education 1983-4)*

I am fascinated by the ways in which the arts are used to shape the perceptions of nations both internally and externally. This culturally bridging project allows students and staff a unique opportunity to be practice-led researchers in the construction, deconstruction , and evaluation of such perceptions.

我着迷于这样的方式：以艺术来架构不同国家之间内部与外部的理解。这一文化桥梁型的项目给予大学的教师与学生一次千载难逢的机会，以实践带领研究，重新架构、解构并重新评估这一理解。



# Words from the team members



## Steve Ansell, Theatre & Production Manager stage@leeds

*(Popular Music Studies BA Hons, 1995-98)*

*The Sun Is Not for Us* is the first production to carry the **stage@leeds** touring name and as such provides a fantastic opportunity for us to support dynamic, culturally diverse work of international significance. *The Sun is Not for Us* is culturally and creatively at the heart of what drives stage@leeds as a centre for excellence for new work and new ideas.

《太阳不是我们的》是利兹舞台巡演团的第一部制作，这给予我们极好的机会来支持生动多元、具有国际水平的文化，它成为利兹舞台在文化与创意方面努力推动新作品、新理念的实例。

# Words from the team members



## **Li Ruru 李如茹, Producer**

*(Senior Lecturer Chinese Studies. PhD, School of English and East Asian Studies, 1988-93, )*

Leeds is the first place I had ever been abroad and I have never left. Since then over 1000 Students studied Chinese with me and a lot of them are still in touch. I love working with students and truly believe that this Cao Yu project will act as a bridge to bring the British and Chinese young people together.

利兹是我来到海外的第一个城市，从未再离开。自从那时候起，我教授了一千多名学生，很多人至今与我有联系。我喜欢和学生们在一起工作，也坚信曹禺这个项目扮演着一个“桥梁”的角色，把英国与中国的年轻人联系在一起。