

stage@leedstouring

# 太阳不是我们的

The  
Sun  
is  
Not  
for  
Us



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

## 戏剧的生命 万方

戏剧的生命在于时间，我爸爸的剧本已经在舞台上演出了八十年。走进二十一世纪，一群英国的青年又一次被他的剧本吸引，他们通过剧本了解中国，并且来到中国，把他们对我爸爸剧本的理解和演绎带到中国的舞台上，带给中国的观众和青年学生。戏剧生命在继续延伸，这是多么值得欣慰的事。在此我祝贺他们。



### 导演的话 蒋维国

挑战 — 我从一开始就感觉到了。

说挑战，因为一方面是中国最杰出的曹禺剧作，另一方面是英国利兹对于中国及其文化原本知之甚少的学生，而我们的目标是要在舞台上展现出年轻的英国人对中国名作的感觉，因为说到头演出者是他们！观众应该看到非中国人演绎的中国故事，无论能否接受，对他们来说是新的。

可以给这台戏冠上“跨文化”制作或是其他名字，有一点却是肯定的：它的本质是学习过程。作为参与者，学生/演出者们学到了他们原先不熟悉的人群的生活、情感和思想；而作为导演，我学到了如何将这样一棵参天大树栽种到万里之外并让它结果。我们都在学习。读曹禺剧本是起点。艰苦，但必须，且有效。我与演员和设计认真地讨论并分析了原作，然后在此基础上发展，重新创造并架构场景。我绝不要英国人去装扮中国人，但鼓励他们从人性出发，表达出如果他们处在曹禺人物的境地他们会如何感觉、反应、和行动。这是最有趣的工作，而我得到的最大奖励就是眼看着这群能干的年轻人一步步用他们真挚的感情创造出了生动的舞台形象！

在爱丁堡演出时观众反映说他们感到自己很能够懂得这些台上的人物，可以和他们“一起叹息、畅怀、痛哭与微笑”。我们的剧组成员说，他们非常高兴进入了一个对他们来说是全新的世界，而现在他们感到自己是其中一份子。我认为，这就是我们努力在做穿越国界这件事的意义所在。



我非常幸运，能得到这样全新的经验，能和这一班充满热力和活力的青年共享了如此有意义的创作过程。我们共同建造了一座联通两大文化的桥，现在我们从英国来到中国，在曹禺的故土继续这项任务。



## The life of drama by Wan Fang

The life of drama depends on time. My father's plays have already been staged for eighty years. We are now in the twenty-first century, and a group of British young people have been attracted to his plays. Through my father's works, they began to understand China. Now they are coming to China, presenting their understanding and interpretation of his plays to Chinese audiences and young students. The life of drama has thus continued to extend. How wonderful it is! I wish them great success.

## Director's Notes by David Jiang

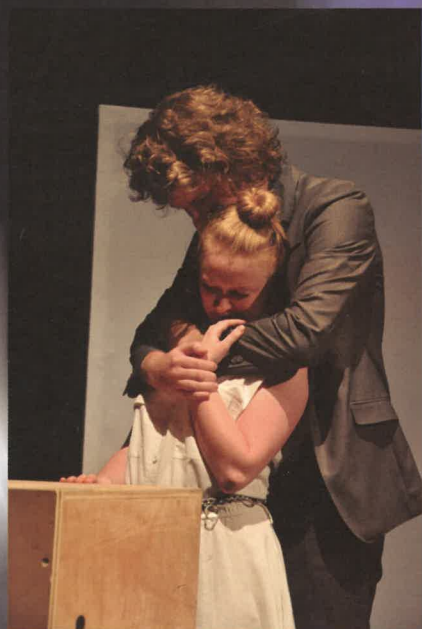
It is challenging – I knew this from the very beginning.

Challenging, because on one hand it is Cao Yu's masterpieces, which represent the most sophisticated modern theatre work in China; and on the other there are British students from the University of Leeds who previously had very little knowledge about China and its culture. Our aim is to show our young people's understanding of Chinese classics on stage – it must be their view because, after all, they are the performers. Audiences will see these non-Chinese interpretations: they may or may not accept them, but these ideas will be new.

Call it 'intercultural theatre work' or something else, but one thing is sure: the nature of this production is a learning process. Indeed, this learning flows two ways. Student-performers/crew members have been learning the lives, emotions and thoughts of Chinese people whom they never encountered before. As the director, I have been learning how to transplant this cherished tree over thousands of miles into British soil and see it fruit afresh. The starting point was the reading of Cao Yu's plays, which was not an easy job but necessary and effective. We together discussed and analysed five original scripts thoroughly, and then developed them, devising and re-structuring the scenes. I do not want our performers pretending to be Chinese, but encourage them to express fully, as human beings, what they would feel, think and do under the circumstances that Cao Yu's characters experience. It is most fascinating, and my great reward is to see our talented young people create such vivid images through their insight and sincerity.

Our audiences in Edinburgh said they felt so close to the people on stage and they could 'sigh, laugh, cry and smile' with these [Cao Yu's] characters. Our team members said they were happy to have entered a world totally new to them which they now take as part of themselves. This is why we have made the effort to cross borders.

I think I am lucky to have spent a great length of time with this group of enthusiastic and energetic young people. Together we have built a bridge between two great cultures. We respectfully present our work to Cao Yu's homeland and his countrymen.



### **Eleanor Bredin (Theatre & Performance, Level 2 student)**

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.

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。

### **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.

为了最大程度地体现曹禺的精神，我们演员、设计与管理部门整个团队都认真地阅读、讨论了这些剧本。

### **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.

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。

### **Alanna Flynn (Theatre & Performance, Level 2 student)**

I have learnt much about Chinese literature and culture, and every time we discuss our experiences, our friends and acquaintances understand a little more too.

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，朋友和熟人也会了解一点更多的中国文化。

### **Toto Guo (Theatre & Performance, Level 2 student)**

The style of Cao Yu's writing felt unfamiliar and refreshing but at the same time, I could see links between his themes and structure with Western playwrights (such as Ibsen) which was intriguing.

曹禺剧作的风格既让我感到陌生、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。

### **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.

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。

### **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.

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与大家一起合作的能力。

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

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.

我很自豪我们在阅读了五部剧本以后，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。

### **Oliver Jacques (Managing Performance, Level 3 student)**

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.

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。



**Lara Owen (Chinese and English, Level 3 student)**

This is the first time I have been able to collaborate with students from other departments and from different year groups and 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；利兹大学如此重视与中国的联系，这些都让我兴奋。

**Becci Quinn (Theatre & Performance, Level 2 student)**

Increasingly, I have found the collaboration between English actors and Chinese plays an interesting factor on its own.

我越来越感到英国演员和中国剧本结合在一起是极有趣的。

**Phoebe Rutherford (Performance Design, Level 3 student)**

As a designer, skills from my degree course at the University of Leeds have been stretched and enhanced by the fresh insight into Chinese Culture.

作为一个设计，我感到对于中国文化的感悟使我进一步发展、深化了自己在大学学到的技巧。

**Frederick Simmonds (Chinese Studies, Level 3 student)**

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?

曹禺项目中的中英文化深度相互渗透，使它自然成为一座“文化桥梁”，怎么能不令我们所有的参加者与大学都大大受益？

**Kate Swarbrick (Managing Performance, Level 2 student)**

I believe that our production demonstrates a new approach to the study of Cao Yu's work and The University of Leeds' interest in intercultural interaction.

我相信我们的演出展现了对于曹禺作品的新闻释、新方法，也让大家看到利兹大学对于文化互动方面的支持。

**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 and to channel invaluable learning about China into my field of practice.

《太阳不是我们的》为我提供了一个极好的机会，使我可以和大学其他部门的同学成为创作伙伴，并且在实践领域为我提供了一次非常难得的学习中国的经验。

**Steve Ansell (Theatre Manager, stage@leeds)**

*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”在文化与创意方面努力推动新作品、新理念的实例。

**Susan Daniels (Fellow in arts and Cultural Education)**

I am fascinated by the ways in which the arts are used to shape the perceptions of nations both internally and externally.

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。

**Li Ruru李如茹 (Senior Lecturer in Chinese Studies)**

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.

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。

