

## **Topic: Traitional Chinese Theatre Workshop**

### **FANTASTIC FREE OPPORTUNITY**

### **TRADITIONAL CHINESE THEATRE WORKSHOP**

Time: Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May 13:00-19:00

Place: Alec Clegg Studio, Stage@Leeds, University of Leeds

Afternoon workshop and informative talk on Chinese traditional theatre from 13:00 pm to 19:00 pm on Friday May 13th at the University of Leeds. Theatre makers, writers and scholars welcome. The afternoon will be a workshop with distinguished Chinese performers, Joanna Zenghui Qiu and Hong-ye Deng and a talk by the Professor in Chinese Theatre at the university, Ruru Li. The event will be free, an early evening buffet will be provided and we can pay expenses up to £60 a person. If you would like to attend email Adam at [a.j.strickson@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:a.j.strickson@leeds.ac.uk) or Andrew at [mc15ast@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:mc15ast@leeds.ac.uk) with a couple of sentences about yourself.

The traditional theatre forms we will be using are Kunju (崑曲) and Jingju (京劇).

This is part of the activities of the Staging China International Research Network, based at the University of Leeds.

<http://www.stagingchina.leeds.ac.uk>

Facebook Event Page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/813810338755850/>

The following artists will be demonstrating and instructing the workshop:



### **Zenghui Qiu (Joanna)**

Joanna Zenghui Qiu (邱增慧) is director of the UK Chinese Opera Association. She is a versatile Chinese musician, with over 20 years of experience, including Beijing Opera, Chinese classical music and folk music. A graduate of the Tianjin Opera School and the China National Opera College, she performed in the National Beijing Opera Company and Mei Lanfang Opera Troupe for nearly ten years.

Since moving to Britain in 1999, Joanna has performed on many occasions, at venues including the Queen Elizabeth Hall, Birmingham Symphony Hall and Royal Albert Hall, the Barcelona Conservatory, and at world music festivals WOMEX 2006 (Spain) and WOMAD 2007 (UK). She has taught courses at SOAS, University of London, and led numerous educational workshops throughout the country. She has collaborated with Western

musicians (including Damon Albarn on his Journey to the West project), and has made several recordings.

Joanna has been involved with several theatre productions, including music director for the highly acclaimed production of Wild Swans at the Young Vic and ART Theatre, Boston, in 2012, and Yeh Shen (Yellow Earth), in 2015. Other theatre productions include Why the Lion Danced (Yellow Earth, 2011/13 – music director/performer), The Golden Dragon (Actors Touring Company, 2011 – music director), Slippery Mountain (Not So Loud Theatre, 2008 – music director/performer), and several Playback Theatre shows with True Heart Theatre and London Playback Theatre.

Joanna plays a very wide range of Chinese instruments, including jinghu (bamboo fiddle), erhu (two-stringed fiddle), yueqin (moon lute), hulusi (gourd pipe), guzheng (zither), zhongruan (medium lute), xun (clay flute), dizi (bamboo flute), suona (Chinese oboe), and percussion.



### **Hongye Deng**

Hong-Ye Deng (邓宏烨), currently studying Contemporary Performance Making at Brunel University in London. She started learning Beijing Opera at the age of nine with Wei-Wei Deng. Later on, she got into the Middle School Affiliated to The National Academy of Chinese Theatre Arts, majored in Huadan and learned from Yijuan Zhang and Qin Yan as well as studied a series of renowned Beijing Opera repertoire. In 2004, she competed in two national Beijing Opera competitions, and both got outstanding prizes. Then, she got accepted into Shanghai Theatre Academy in 2005, majored in Huadan. There, she

learned from Zhenghong Lu, Yanling Song and Baisui Zhou, who all are significant successors from different factions of Beijing Opera, and studied a series of renowned Beijing Opera repertoire

as well. During her time at Shanghai Theatre Academy, she also participated in a lot of class productions and performances. In 2009, she was awarded Excellent Graduate by Shanghai City Ministry of Education. In July and August of the same year, she was invited by the Hong Kong Youth of Chinese Opera College, to perform Beijing Operas in Hong Kong. Then in September, she got admitted into the Beijing Operas Theatre of Fujian Province, and worked there until 2013.