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Stanford Live Hosts Prominent Artists from China

Upcoming performances examining the complexity of China include theater, dance, and more

Stanford, CA, October 29, 2019—Stanford Live’s 2019-20 season explores the intersection of art and politics, highlighting artists from countries that share distinct geo-political relations with the US such as Cuba, Iran, China, Russia, North Korea, and more. The range of performances by some of China’s most prestigious artists reveal some of the complexities behind the global superpower.

This week, Stanford Live will present Yang Zhen’s theater work Minorities for the tour’s only US performance. In Minorities, Zhen pays attention to the social situation of a new generation of ethnic minorities in China through an exploration of identity and awareness. The all-female cast includes dancers and performers from the Tibetan region, Inner Mongolia, the Uyghur Autonomous Region Xinjiang, Hunan Province, and Macao. Minorities is the final installment of Zhen’s trilogy of works that examine society roles and class divisions in China. Performances run from November 1 through November 3 in the Bing Studio.

Star accordionist Hanzhi Wang, the first accordionist to appear on the Young Concert Artists roster, will perform in the Bing Studio on February 16 (to be announced on November 8, with tickets on sale November 15).

On February 21 and 22, Chinese dance legend and choreographer Yang Liping will bring her reimagining of Stravinsky’s Rite of Spring—co-commissioned by Stanford Live—to Stanford’s Memorial Auditorium. Liping’s master choreography adds new depth to the iconic story, engaging with her native Chinese culture while incorporating Tibetan influences. Through intricate set design and stunning costumes, the production creates a distinctive universe where time, space, and life coexist in endless reincarnation.

Spring performances include pop star Gong Linna backed by American contemporary group Bang on a Can on April 4 and piano prodigy Lang Lang returning to the Bing on May 3. Gong Linna, who became a household name in China after her performance of “Tan Te” on Chinese national television, melds her contemporary lyrics with centuries old Chinese melodies.

Previously in the Stanford Live season, rock band Hanggai took the stage with a set that combined Mongolian folk music and instruments with contemporary rock. In early October, Jindong Cai conducted the Orchestra Now in From the Middle Kingdom to the Wild West, a performance that honored the legacy of the thousands of Chinese laborers who built the Transcontinental Railroad across the United States.

For more information on the Stanford Live season visit live.stanford.edu.
Minorities
Yang Zhen – Red Virgo
Friday, Nov. 1 & Saturday Nov. 2, 7:30 pm
Sunday, Nov. 3, 2:30 pm
Bing Studio, 327 Lasuen St., Stanford, CA 94305
$45

Rite of Spring
Yang Liping
Friday February 21 & Saturday, Feb. 22, 7:30 pm
Memorial Auditorium, 551 Serra Mall, Stanford, CA 94305
$35-$96

Gong Linna: Cloud River Mountain
Bang On A Can All-Stars
Saturday, Apr. 4, 7:30 pm
Bing Concert Hall, 327 Lasuen St., Stanford, CA 94305
$32-$72

Lang Lang
Sunday, May 3, 2:30 pm
Bing Concert Hall, 327 Lasuen St., Stanford, CA 94305
$60-$180

Tickets and More Information
Tickets are now on sale and can be purchased at live.stanford.edu or by phone at 650.724.2464.

About Stanford Live
Stanford Live presents a wide range of the finest performances from around the world, fostering a vibrant learning community and providing distinctive experiences through the performing arts. With its home at Bing Concert Hall, Stanford Live is simultaneously a public square, a sanctuary, and a lab, drawing from the breadth and depth of Stanford University to connect performance to the significant issues, ideas, and discoveries of our time.