Choreographers and composers from Asia and Europe meet Miao Minority in Guizhou

On 24 November 2007, 18 European and Asian choreographers and composers from 13 countries present a dance and music collaboration at the Theatre of the China Arts Academy in Beijing. This public performance encapsulates the artists’ individual experiences and observations through their 12-days exploration of the ancient traditions of dance and music of the Miao Minority in Guizhou. Jan Goossens (Belgium), Seong Hee Kim (Korea) and Wang Yuan Yuan (China), having closely followed the artistic process, present their thoughts and comments at this event.

From 13 November 2007 onwards, two pairs of famous choreographers and composers, Susan Buirge (USA/France) and Wen Hui (China) as well as Fabrizio Cassol (Italy/Belgium) and Joyce Koh (Singapore) will led the group of Asian and European artists in a process to question the relationship between traditional and contemporary, between dance in urban and rural contexts, and also the juxtaposition between dance and music.

The project series “Pointe to Point – Asia Europe Dance Forum” is an initiative by the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) and is committed to offer young people with a process-oriented platform for artistic exchange and dialogue through the arts. It aims to empower aspiring young artists from Asia and Europe to reflect upon their views of contemporary society through their individual artistic expressions. The 5th edition is realised by the Asia-Europe Foundation in partnership with the China Dancers Association and is closely related to the local context. Departing from the busy capital Beijing, the artists will travel to the remote rural areas of the province of Guizhou. The way of life of the Miao Minority and their ancient traditions of dance and music is a particular focus in this project.

Press Conference
Date: 14 November 2007
Time: 0930 hr
Venue : Multifunctional room of the Chao Yang Bing guan
(next to the Chao Yang Wen Hua Guan)
R.S.V.P.: Du Xiaoqing (杜晓青), xiaoqjngdu123@hotmail.com
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Public Presentation and Discussion
Date: 24 November 2007
Time: 1500 hrs
Venue : Theatre of China Arts Academy
(No.1, Hui Xin Bei Li Jia, Chao Yang District, Beijing)
R.S.V.P.: Katelijn Verstraete, katelijn.verstraete@asef.org
The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) seeks to promote better mutual understanding and closer cooperation between the people of Asia and Europe through greater intellectual, cultural, and people-to-people exchanges. These exchanges include conferences, lecture tours, workshops, seminars and the use of web-based platforms. The major achievement of ASEF is the establishment of permanent bi-regional networks focused on areas and issues that help to strengthen Asia-Europe relations. [http://www.asef.org](http://www.asef.org)

* The Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) is an informal process of dialogue and cooperation. It brings together Austria, Belgium, Brunei, Cambodia, China, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Laos, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Myanmar, The Netherlands, The Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, United Kingdom, Vietnam, and the European Commission. From 2007, ASEM includes Bulgaria, Romania, India, Pakistan, Mongolia, and ASEAN Secretariat.

The China Dancers Association is a membership organization formed by dance professionals from China who are active in the field of dance performance, choreography, theoretical research, dance education, choreography, and dance criticism. Its principal aim is to promote dance creation, to encourage theoretical and academic research and criticism on dance, to discover and cultivate dance talents through professional dance competitions (e.g. Lotus Prize), festivals and conferences and to organize international exchanges in dance. As member of the China Federation of Literary and Art Circles, CDA plays an important role in bridging the government with dance professionals nationwide.