

Acrobatic drama "Loulan Dream" to unveil mysteries of ancient Loulan kingdom

The Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps Acrobatic Troupe will perform the acrobatic drama "Loulan Dream" in December. The performance is presented by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department as part of its "Cheers!" Series.

"Loulan Dream" tells the story of the ancient kingdom of Loulan during the reign of Emperor Wu of the Han Dynasty. Loulan, located adjacent to Han and Xiongnu, was an important gateway to the eastern part of the Silk Road. In order to keep the peace on the border, the king of Loulan sent his princes Angui and Weituqi to Xiongnu and Han respectively as hostages. When Xiongnu sent Angui back to Loulan for coronation as the new king after his father had passed away, Weituqi was also on the way back home.

The drama follows the history of a small ancient kingdom, focusing on aspects such as the bond between the king and his people, love and brotherhood. Along with stunning acrobatics including vat juggling, hat tricks, contortions, unicycling, aerial hoops, pas de deux acrobatics, bowl-kicking, Icarian games, plate-spinning, acrobatic duos, a water meteor and group flag dancing combined with drama, songs and more, the mystery of Loulan, an ancient kingdom on the Silk Road, is unveiled.

The Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps Acrobatic Troupe was established in 1951 and includes performers from the Han, Uygur, Hui, Mongolian and other ethnic groups. Over the years, the troupe has won several national awards including the Northwest Regional Awards, Corps Awards and Autonomous Region Tianshan Literary Awards after taking part in acrobatic competitions throughout the country, as well as winning four international awards. The troupe has created a number of acrobatic productions which have toured provinces and cities in China including Shanghai, Guangzhou and Wuhan. They have also performed in Russia, Japan, Portugal, Switzerland, Germany and other countries to promote the traditional ethnic cultures of China.

"Loulan Dream" will be staged at the Auditorium, Yuen Long Theatre at 7.30pm on December 23; and at the Auditorium, Sha Tin Town Hall at 2.30pm and 7.30pm on December 25 and at 2.30pm on December 26. Tickets priced from \$150 to \$280 are now available at URBTIX (www.urbtix.hk).

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