

Cantonese opera stars to perform "Tempestuous Love" in September and October

Cantonese opera artists Loong Koon-tin, Nam Fung and Tse Hue-ying will perform in a new production entitled "Tempestuous Love" in September and October.

The concept of "Tempestuous Love" is initiated by Nam and Tse writes the story, while Loong is the artistic instructor. Local Cantonese opera artists including Yuen Siu-fai, Liu Kwok-sum, Lai Yiu-wai (only on September 23 and 24) and Wan Yuk-yu (only on October 6) will also perform. Details are as follows:

7.30pm, September 23 and 24 (Monday and Tuesday)
Theatre, Ko Shan Theatre
Tickets: \$120, \$200, \$280 and \$380

7.30pm, October 6 (Sunday)
Auditorium, Yuen Long Theatre
Tickets: \$120, \$220 and \$340

The story centres on Yu Xuanji, a gifted young poet who admires her teacher Wen Tingyun for his scholastic talent. Due to their age disparity, however, they cannot love each other. Later Yu marries Li Yi as his concubine, and lives in a Taoist nunnery, where she adopts a girl called Luqiao.

Ten years pass. Yu wallows in sensual pleasures and meets a well-known young musician named Chen Wei at a party. Chen comes to visit Yu one day when she falls ill. He discerns her illness as one of lovesickness, and when Chen stays for the night, Luqiao accidentally witnesses the adultery.

The 15-year-old Luqiao performs a dance to many guests' applause in a ceremony. Yu sadly feels that she has passed her prime. Wen returns and proposes to marry Yu, but she declines. After revealing love affairs between her beloved Chen and Luqiao, tragedy ensues.

"Tempestuous Love" is presented by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department. Tickets are now available at URBTIX (www.urbtix.hk). For telephone credit card bookings, please call 2111 5999. For programme enquiries and concessionary schemes, please call 2268 7325 or visit www.lcsd.gov.hk/CE/CulturalService/Programme/en/chinese_opera/programs_853.html.

Two performance-related talks will be held at 7.30pm on August 26 (Monday) and at 7.30pm on September 25 (Wednesday) at AC2, 4/F,

Administration Building, Hong Kong Cultural Centre. Speakers include Loong Koon-tin, Nam Fung, Tse Hue-ying and Ko Yun-hung. The talks will be held in Cantonese. Admission is free. Limited seats are available on a first-come, first-served basis.