

International Arts Carnival to offer summer fun for all (with photos)

This summer, the International Arts Carnival (IAC) will offer a splendid array of inspirational and enjoyable programmes for all. Organised by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, the annual summer arts festival will run from July 5 to August 18 and will feature a series of arts programmes for families.

In this year's carnival, performing groups from Canada, Iceland, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and Vietnam, along with local groups, will present a variety of programmes including theatre, acrobatics, music, dance, multimedia theatre, black light puppet theatre, opera for babies and a puppet musical. Films from around the world will also be screened.

The Vesturport theatre group from Iceland will start the festival with "The Heart of Robin Hood", an action-packed adaptation of the classic tale of Robin Hood. Acrobatics, live music and elements of romantic comedy add to the enthralling mix. The performers fly and dive with the help of a huge sloping wall, ropes and an onstage pool to engage in stunning fights.

Vietnam's Lune Production will perform "À á» Làng Phá»'", a work that immaculately merges acrobatics, contortionism, martial arts, dance, comic elements and modern stage design to showcase a dazzling feast with Vietnamese flair. Its director Tuan Le was the first solo artist member of Vietnamese descent in the world-famous Cirque du Soleil.

Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia from Canada will use black light puppets and cheery music to stimulate curious young minds in "The Very Hungry Caterpillar & Other Eric Carle Favourites". The Royal Swedish Opera will aim to inspire babies and toddlers with the original opera "Myriads of Worlds" with realms of colours, shapes, sound and motion. Theater Terra from the Netherlands will showcase engaging puppets and actors, a whimsical set and original songs in "The Little Mermaid", based on Hans Christian Andersen's classic fairy tale.

La Companyia del Príncep Totilau from Spain will bring together actors and puppets, large-scale video images and movement in the entertaining multimedia music theatre work "Monsieur Croche: The Dreams of Composer Claude Debussy", while Orquestra de Cambra de l'Empordà from Spain, with its 12 versatile string musicians, will put a delightfully different spin on the world of classical music in "Concerto a Tempo d'Umore".

The Only Stage will captivate the audience with pleasing Cantonese songs in "The Nightingale". Contemporary dance group Unlock Dancing Plaza and Namstrops' dancers from Japan, together with Sunfool, a pop-up paper art artist, will present a fun and energetic production in "KU-SO- OLYMPICS". Fong Fong Projet d'Art will take kids and parents on an adventurous journey

in "Chickens' Eggsecutive Order".

Other attractive programmes will include:

- * "STEAM – The Four Great Inventions" by Zuni Icosahedron;
- * "A Musical Treasure Hunt 3" by the Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra;
- * "A Sea of Smiling LT Ducks" by Hong Kong Dance Company;
- * "The Odyssey of Little Dragon" by City Contemporary Dance Company;
- * 2019 Hong Kong Youth Music Camp Concerts by the Music Office; and
- * International Children's and Youth Film Carnival 2019 by the Film Programmes Office.

There will also be the "Summer Fun Party" presented by the Community Programmes Office and outreach and school touring programmes. Workshops, backstage tours and exhibitions will also be part of the extension activities of the IAC.

Tickets will be available at URB TIX (www.urbtix.hk) from tomorrow (May 10) onwards. For credit card telephone bookings, please call 2111 5999.

For programme enquiries and concessionary schemes, please call 2370 1044 or visit www.hkiac.gov.hk.



