

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 6 to August 12 and will feature a series of arts programmes for families.

In this year's carnival, performing groups from the Mainland, Australia, Belgium, Korea, the United Kingdom (UK) and the United States (US), along with local groups, will present a variety of programmes including ballet, electroluminescent puppetry, music theatre, multimedia circus theatre, multimedia shadow puppet theatre and magic. Films from around the world will also be screened.

Renowned for its pioneering productions and technical excellence, the Scottish Ballet from the UK will start the festival with a delightful balletic feast in "Hansel & Gretel", bringing the Brothers Grimm story to the world of classical ballet with exquisite choreography and ingenious sets and costumes.

Lightwire Theater from the US, an "America's Got Talent" semi-finalist troupe, will bring the uplifting show "Moon Mouse" with creative dance performers clad in black and wired with electroluminescent technology. Equally visually attractive is "Air Play" by Acrobuffos from the US, featuring filmy fabrics that float on high, glitzy confetti dance and balloons. "SNAP" by Korea's Gruejarm Production fuses the skills of illusionists in a stunning surrealistic mystery. It received a rapturous reception at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in two consecutive years.

"Ukulele Ohana Jam" by IMY Creations will share the wide-ranging ukulele repertoire of three generations of players to showcase the spellbinding sounds of Hawaii. Drop Bear Theatre & the SEAM from Australia will offer a stimulating encounter in "Rain" for babies in arms and crawlers to hear, see and touch the arts. "Carrousel des Moutons" by d'irque & fien from Belgium will deliver an unconventional theatre work with live piano music and acrobatics. Upswing from the UK will bring "Bedtime Stories", turning the stage into bedroom sets for a dreamy adventure featuring 3D animation and aerial silk acrobatics.

Other attractive programmes will include:

- * "The Book of Magic" by Class 7A Drama Group;
- * "Mulan" by Shanghai Puppet Theatre;
- * "I Wish I Could Make a Wish – A Theatre Concert of Jimmy" by Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra;
- * "Fun Ride with Big Beard – Dancing Poems" by Hong Kong Dance Company;
- * "BAUHAUS Magic Flute Playground" by Zuni Icosahedron;

- * "B Free" by CCDC Dance Centre & Dance Theatre Auraco;
- * International Children's and Youth Film Carnival 2018 by the Film Programmes Office;
- * 2018 Hong Kong Youth Music Camp Concerts by the Music Office

There will also be the Summer Fun Party presented by the Entertainment Office and outreach and school touring programmes. Workshops, backstage tours and an exhibition will also be part of the extension activities of the IAC.

Tickets will be available at URB TIX (www.urbtix.hk) from tomorrow (May 11) 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.

