

Puppetry and vocal theatre “Book of Mountains and Seas” to be staged at Kwai Tsing Theatre from this Friday (with photos)

Highly acclaimed American-Chinese composer Huang Ruo and puppetry master Basil Twist from the United States recast the ancient Chinese mythology "Book of Mountains and Seas" as a daring yet poetic new puppetry and vocal theatre. The performance will be staged at the Kwai Tsing Theatre on November 3 and 4 (Friday and Saturday).

This puppetry and vocal theatre features singers from Ars Nova Copenhagen alongside two Hong Kong percussionists, massive puppets and striking lanterns to tell four Chinese mythological tales of the Legend of Pangu, the Legend of Ten Suns, the Spirit Bird, and Kua Fu Chasing the Sun. Production designer and director Twist injects art and life into objects large and small, such as monsters, giants, birds and animals, and the 10 suns through raw and simple materials.

The "Book of Mountains and Seas" rolls geography, travelogue, shamanism, mythology and fiction all into one. These creative stories and characters seem occult yet timeless in particular when human beings are facing the stringent challenge of the nature nowadays.

The "Book of Mountains and Seas", one of the programmes of the New Vision Arts Festival (NVAF), will be held at 8pm on November 3 and 4, at the Kwai Tsing Theatre Auditorium. Tickets priced at \$200, \$280, \$380 and \$460 are now available at URBTIX (www.urbtix.hk). For telephone bookings, please call 3166 1288, or use the mobile ticketing app "URBTIX". Various discount schemes, including the newly introduced weekend package booking discount, are being offered.

The "Book of Mountains and Seas" is performed in Putonghua with Chinese and English surtitles. A meet-the-artist session will be held after the performance at the Auditorium on November 3.

Organised by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, the NVAF is running from October 20 to November 19, showcasing an array of interdisciplinary programmes by overseas and local performing groups and artists. For programme enquiries, please call 2370 1044 or visit www.nvaf.gov.hk.

