

YU WEI CHINESE DANCE COLLECTION

PROGRAM 90 – 100 minutes

Choreographer & dancer - Yu Wei

Film producer - Jared Martin

Lighting designer - Nanette Hudson Joyce

(No cameras no recording during the performance)

Music **Prologue** by Wan Li

Film of Lotus

Dance of **Lotus** -- Burst of pure dream

Music by Zhang Yi

Costume by Yu Wei

The Lotus is the national flower of China. A flower of great purity that originates in deep mud and darkness, the Lotus blossom is the model of spirited life that has been admired by the Chinese people throughout history.

Film of Mountain

Dance of **Mountain** -- A pilgrim

Music by He Xun-tian

Costume by Hong Jun

In the Buddhist and ancient Bon religions, Mt. Kailas in extreme western Tibet is thought to be the cosmic pillar that upholds the vault of Heaven. A pilgrimage to this most inaccessible site is a sign of true faith.

Film of Water

Dance of **Water** -- Cradle of life

Music by Wan Li

Costume by Yu Wei

A water spirit contemplates her reflection and revels in sheer joy at the beauty of her surroundings.

Film of Happiness

Dance of **Happiness** -- Smiling heart

Music by Guo Feng

Costume by Yang xiao-hua

In China, many folk dances are performed with implements used in daily life, Happiness is a dance, in the De Yang-Ge style, which is a beloved folk style from Hebei province - created in the Yuan Dynasty over 700 years ago and still very popular today. In Happiness the fans can be seen as two small birds hovering above a field of flowers, their happy movements reflecting a young girl's - pure joy.

~~~ INTERMISSION ~~~

[Film of Smoke](#)

Dance of **Smoke** -- Mei Niang misses the Earth

Music by Guo Feng

Costume by Xia Ya-yi

The dance of Smoke takes place in a Temple. As a nun sits in prayer, coils of burning incense trail lazily upward. Her mind begins to wander, and she imagines herself floating above the monastery walls to freedom.

[Film of Tears](#)

Dance of **Tears** -- Ying Tai cries for her lost love

Music by Chen Gang & He Zhan-hao

Costume by Yu Wei

The dance of Tears comes from the legendary story of the Butterfly Lovers, Ying-Tai and San-Bo... Forbidden to marry his sweetheart the young scholar San-Bo dies of a broken heart. The dance occurs in the moment when Ying-Tai sees the tomb... The long sleeves are symbolic of the river of tears that result from the suffering and injustice borne by Chinese women throughout the centuries.

[Film of Rainbow](#)

Dance of **Rainbow** -- Daughter of the Sky

Music by Lei Zhen-bang

Costume by Yu Wei

Rainbow is a dance in the style of the Dai people, one of the major ethnic groups in Yunnan. The Dai are noted for their brilliantly colorful costumes, personal beauty, and the soft flutelike quality of their music.

[Film of Home](#)

Music **Epilogue** by Wan Li

Curtain Call

**Q & A**