

Annex 1: Unique Artistic Performances from China

1. Fuzhou Song and Dance Theatre

The Fuzhou Song and Dance Theatre is a professional performing group directed by the Fuzhou City Bureau of Cultural Affairs. The group has performed at various large scale events such as the China Central Television Lantern Festival Cultural Show. Tasked with promoting China's folk culture and the fine arts of Fuzhou, the group has travelled to Japan, Philippines, Macau, Korea and Australia, where their performances were warmly welcomed. Fuzhou Song and Dance Theatre sincerely invites arts enthusiasts to join them in a cultural exchange!

2. Hubei Tongshan Arts Troupe

The Hubei Tongshan Arts Troupe is a young artists association especially commissioned by the Tongshan county party committee to perform "Amidst the White Clouds", a large-scale folk songs and dance drama proclaiming the beauty of Tongshan county. Within the drama, song after songs depicting the scenery and lifestyle of natives promise to make one feel as if he is right at the rolling hills of Tongshan.

3. Jiangxi Acrobatics Troupe

The Jiangxi Acrobatics Troupe was founded in 1961. After more than 40 years of performances and hardwork, the troupe has developed a unique performing style and distinct local flavour. The troupe's performances are an entertaining mix of acrobatics, magic and comedy. The troupe is also widely acclaimed, having won awards in China, Monaco and Italy. The troupe has paid performing visits to more than 40 countries such as the United States, Canada, France, Belgium, Germany, Norway, Holland, Austria, India, Japan, Thailand and Korea.

4. Hunan Repertory Theatre

The 150-member strong Hunan Repertory Theatre is currently the only professional drama group in Hunan Province. The group was set up by a group of anti-Japanese youths in 1937 in response to the call of Shanghai's Cultural Salvation Association. Hunan Repertory Theatre's predecessor, "Anti-Japanese Drama Team 8" was one of the twelve drama groups credited for carrying out the national mission during the anti-Japanese war by staging plays that galvanised the Chinese people. The troupe was led by historic figures such as Zhou Enlai and Ye Jianying during that period. The group has cultivated a large number of artistic talents over the years and now boast of eight National First Grade and 40 National Second Grade artists among its ranks.