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 한국문화원 Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles		Press Release			
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ARI PROJECT: Performing Arts
'The Spirit of Asia'



아시안 아메리칸 문화예술 축하공연

The Spirit of Asia

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2,
2019 AT 7:30 PM

THAILAND
WAT THAI
LOS ANGELES

KOREA
JUNG IM LEE
KOREAN DANCE
ACADEMY

PHILIPPINE
KAYAMANAN NG LAHI
PHIL FOLK DANCE
ACADEMY

- ▶ Title : The Spirit of Asia
- ▶ Date: Thursday, August 2, 2019 at 7:30pm
- ▶ Place: Korean Cultural Center, Los Angeles 3rd Fl. Ari Hall
- ▶ Presenters : Korean Cultural Center, LA (KCCLA) & Jung Im Lee Korean Dance Academy, Wat Thai Los Angeles, Kayamanan Ng Lahi Phil Folk Arts
- ▶ Online Reservation : www.kccla.org
- ▶ For more Info: hannah@kccla.org or 323-936-3015 Hannah Cho

The Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles (KCCLA) with Jung Im Lee Korean Dance Academy, Wat Thai Los Angeles, and Kayamanan Ng Lahi Phil Folk Arts will present a special Asian cultural performance "**The Spirit of Asia**" on Friday, August 2nd, 2019 at

7:30P.M. on the 3rd floor of the Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles, Ari Hall.

Three beautiful countries, Korea, Thailand and Philippines, are joining hands on one stage to celebrate the diversity of our community and inspire new friendships by building bridges across cultures.

Traditional concerts portray each country's current culture in a fair and just way. "The Spirit of Asia" will show the traditional cultural arts and will present the audience with a sense of refreshment on this warm August night.

To show Korea's elegant and beautiful emotions, Jung Im Lee Korean Dance Academy will perform to dances like the "Crane Dance," "Hwa Kwan Mu" and "Fan Dance." Wat Thai Los Angeles will show Thailand's mystical beauty through "Manora Dance," "Seangala," and "Li-gaa Hulu." And finally, Kayamanan Ng Lahi Phil Folk Arts will portray Philippines' unique and folksy performance through "Pandango Sa Ilaw-Oasiwas," "Jota Paragua," and "Tinikling."

The unique features of Asian dances include traditional costumes, music, history, and all these elements blend together to reflect the beauty of cultural arts. All three groups wish that the audience will get a sense of relief from the hot summer days through this exciting concert.

Director of KCCLA Wijin Park says, "I am very delighted that Korea, Philippines and Thailand are collaborating for this special cultural dance concert. With Los Angeles being the center of diversity, I believe this concert will encourage cultural exchange between fellow Asian countries as well as promote Korean culture."

Admission is free, and reservations can be made online or over the phone.

www.kccla.org 323-936-3015

** This performance is presented as a part of the Korean Cultural Center's 2019 ARI PROJECT Season 6: Performing arts series, which features a rich program of various performing arts programs including Korean traditional music and dance, modern fusion world music, jazz, musical as well as theater.*

-PROGRAM -

1. Hwa Kwan Mu / Korea

Hwa Kwan Mu, also known as flower crown dance, is a conservative dance performed in the royal courts before the king. The dancers are dressed in brightly colored elegant costumes and scarves that fully cover their hands and feet. The fluid yet strong motions expressed through the scarves and steps of the dancers are vital movements that have been preserved and learned for over 5000 years within Korean culture and history.

2. Crane Dance / Korea

Dong-Rae Hak-Chum is an animal folk dance from Dong-Rae area of Korea. "Hak" is the Korean word for "Crane" and "Chum" is the Korean word for "Dance"-The Crane dance. This dance is a prayer for longevity and peace for the people. In ancient times, it was a favorite performance watched by the upper class and royalty. The dance itself is made of several distinct movements that can be arranged in different way to create a whole new performance. The black hat represents the crane's head and beak and the white scholar robes represent the crane's wing.

3. Pandango Sa Ilaw-Oasiwas / Philippine

A Philippine lowland, Western-influenced medley of 2 dances that incorporate a lighted oil lamp. Either skillfully balanced on their heads and hands or swung like fireflies in the night, the use of light in these celebratory dances reveals the ties of the Philippines to the greater Southeast Asian and South Asian diaspora.

4. Jota Paragua / Philippine

From the island of Palawan hails this Spanish influenced dance that has retained much of the movement and style from its origins in Northern Spain. The Filipino version also features the use of castanets, made from the locally abundant bamboo versus the original wooden castanets. The female expertly dances with the embroidered silk shawl known as *Manton de Manila*, which has its origins in China.

5. Manora Dance / Thailand

Nora is an individual traditional dance that is very delicate and graceful. The performance comes from Southern Thailand. Manora originated from Ayutthaya and has been passed down from generation to generation.

6. Seangala / Thailand

This performance is from the Issan province where coconut shells are used as a rhythmical musical instrument to create a beat we can perform too.

7. Tinikling / Philippine

The most well-known of all Philippine dances, this iconic dance again unifies the Philippines to the broader Asian cultural diaspora that feature skill-based bamboo dances. In the case of the Philippines' Tinikling, it is the only bamboo dance based on a Spanish-derived Jota music, which is played increasingly faster in triple time. The mimetic dance tells the story of the elusive "tikling" bird whom rice farmers try to capture with the bamboo poles.

8. Li-gaa Hulu / Thailand

Li-gaa Hulu originated by the Muslims living in Southern Thailand. The main theme of the song is to dance to a musical rhythm created by clapping our hands together.

9. Fan Dance / Korea

The most world renown and original art of Korean dance, the fan dance shows a variety of manifestations using beautiful feathered fans. Through the creative choreography and teamwork of dancers, one can find characteristics of nature (such as mountains, butterflies, and, flowers) harmoniously achieved throughout the dance.

* The program is subject to change without notice.

Jung Im Lee Korean Dance Academy (Korea)

Acting as Korean cultural ambassadors, The Korean Dance Academy provides an opportunity for students to not only learn dance, but also to learn more about Korean heritage. The group participates in various events in its neighboring communities and schools within Los Angeles County. The Academy actively participates in community events and functions. With this participation, it hopes to share more about Korean culture and the art of dancing with the public.

Kayamanan Ng Lahi Philippine Folk Arts (Philippine)

Kayamanan Ng Lahi Philippine Folk Arts is a critically acclaimed non-profit organization based in Los Angeles, California. Under the leadership of Joel Jacinto, Barbara Ele and Ave Jacinto, Kayamanan is committed to presenting, promoting and preserving the richness and diversity of Philippine culture through dance and music, to educate, entertain and enrich. Kayamanan's artistic approach is based on anthropological research, resulting in a strong and appropriate translation between traditional folk and folkloric Philippine dance and music forms and styles - from the village to the stage. Noted for its extensive dance repertoire, costumes and music ensembles, Kayamanan has received numerous accolades including L.A. Times' description of one of the group's concert as "consistently exciting and a triumph of enlightened cultural preservation."

Wat Thai Los Angeles (Thailand)

Wat Thai Los Angeles was established in May 19,1972. The Temple operates as a non-profit organization serving as a Buddhist temple and a community center. The purpose of the temple is to teach Buddhism and Thai Classical music, and also to act like a hub between the people of United States and Thailand. The temple has a strong art and music curriculum that is taught at Wat Thai Buddhist school. Their hope is to educate the younger generation about Thai culture and how to practice Buddhism so that the teaching can be passed down to the next generation. In addition, there are Thai Languages classes that are taught regularly each year.

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