Title: ARI PROJECT: Performing Arts
“The Fire of the East, Korean Dance Heritage”
Date: Performance–Friday, June 15, 2018 at 7:30pm
Seungmu Workshop–Thursday, June 14, 2018 2:00pm
Place: Korean Cultural Center, Los Angeles 3rd Fl. Ari Hall
Presenters: Korean Cultural Center, LA (KCCLA) & Yeon Nak Jae & Korean Dance Heritage Commemoration
Online Reservation: www.kccla.org
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The Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles (KCCLA) and Yeon Nak Jae & Korean Dance Heritage Commemoration will present a special performance "The Fire of the East, Korean Dance Heritage" on Friday, June 15th, 2018 at 7:30P.M. on the 3rd floor of the Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles, Ari Hall.

Born in Hongseong, Chungcheongnam-do, Han Seong Jun collected national dances and tunes scattered around the country during the Japanese colonial era, embraced more than 100 sorts of traditional dance and staged them as well. In addition to his granddaughter Han Young Suk, a galaxy of traditional dancers such as Kang Seon Yeong, Lee Dong An, Kim Cheon Hong has been produced under his instruction and he also affected and nourished new dancers of Choi Seung Hee and Jo Taek Won to perform around the globe.

This stage attracts attention as it has a star-studded Korean major dancers who haven’t ever been introduced to LA yet. It first presents Taepyungmu, a dance duo devised by Han Seong Jun for king and queen whose theme is reign of peace in modern era. Young Duck Kyung, a professor at Seowon University and an Initiate of state-designated intangible cultural property No. 92 Taepyungmu and Hong Ji Young, a dancer at Daejeon Yeonjeong Korean Traditional Music Center perform Kang Seon Yeong-typed Taepyungmu and Han Young Suk-typed Taepyungmu respectively.

Korean dance masterworks performed for the first time in LA stage are also attractive. Lee Dong An’s Jinsoe dance transmitted around Hwaseongjaeincheong is performed by Yoon Mi Ri, a professor at Kyunghee University. Choi Hyun’s ‘Sinmyeong,’ recognized as one of the superlative male dances with taste and romance is danced by Bae Sang Bok, the former art director of Jeju Special Self-Governing Dance Company. Kim Young Chul, the art director of Busan Municipal Dance Company, makes an exotic stage with ‘Barachum’ danced at Buddhist ceremony.

Jo Taek Won, the master of new dance influenced by Han Seong Jun, premiered ‘Sogochum’ accompanied by Korean traditional music’s Junggoje master Sim Sang Geon at Natural History Museum, New York in 1949 and it is performed yet again by Kim Chung Han, the art director of Jeonbuk Culture-Tourism Foundation. Highly praised throughout its US tour in 1940s to 50s, ‘Sogochum’ has more significance with LA performance this time. Dance by Lee Ae Ri is also absorbing, the initiate of Seungmu, intangible cultural property No. 27 in Chungcheongnam-do, who continues the artistic legacy of Junggoje passed down by Sim Sang Geon, Sim Jae Deok, Sim Hwa Young centering around Sim Jeong Sun, the master of Korean traditional music of modern days.
This event especially features a workshop for Korean dancers residing in LA to experience Junggoje Seungmu, the intangible cultural property No. 27 in Chungcheongnam-do, at 2 pm, June 14th. Deeply instilled with local features of Naepo area, Chungcheong-do, this dance is a precious heritage through which we can see the original form of staged Seungmu with simple and elegant form.

In addition to the exquisite performances, this stage is differentiated from other performances with lecture program of elevated academic discourses. The performances are to be explained by professor Sung Ki Sung at Korea National University of Arts, a dance critic and Han Seong Jun expert. This event has great significance as it stages major dancers who continue the artistic tradition of Han Seong Jun, the very root of Korean traditional dance. It certainly is a perfect chance to rediscover profound grace of Korean traditional dance.

Nak Jung Kim, the director KCCLA said, “This particular event has a great significance and quality from the light that the invited dancers inherited the traditional legacy of Han Seong Jun, the very root of Korean traditional dance. I hope many people would be able to join the event and thoroughly enjoy the beauty of Korean traditional dance.”

*This performance is presented as a part of the Korean Cultural Center’s ARI PROJECT Season: Performing arts series, which features a rich program of various performing arts programs including Korean traditional music and dance, modern fusion world music, Jazz, royal court tea ceremonies, puppet shows as well as theater.

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* Performance commentary : Sung Ki Sook(Dance critic / Professor at Korea National University of Arts)

1. Youn Duck Kyung _ Taepyungmu(Kang Seon Yeong-typed)
   Professor at Seowon University
   Initiate of state-designated intangible cultural property No. 92 Taepyungmu
   <Taepyungmu>, state-designated intangible cultural property No. 92, is a dance form staged by Han Seong Jun based on shamanist rhythm. It is a hope for rich harvest and reign of peace and features mature and lilting display of dance and rushing foot work with discipline. It is danced by Young Duck Kyung, the initiate of Taepyungmu.
2. Lee Ae Ri _ Seungmu
Initiate of Seungmu, intangible cultural property No. 27 in Chungcheongnam-do
President of Sim Hwa Young Seungmu Preservation Association
As a representative traditional dance with Junggoje artistic legacy, it is a designated intangible cultural property No. 27 in Chungcheongnam-do. Deeply instilled with local features, Sim Hwa Young-typed Seungmu is of a simple and elegant form through which we can see the original form of staged Seungmu. This stage is performed by Lee Ae Ri, a granddaughter of Sim Hwa Young who continues the artistic legacy of Junggoje dance.

3. Kim Yong Chul _ Barachum
Art director of Busan Municipal Dance Company
President of Seop Dance Company
<Barachum>, one of Buddhist dances, is restructured and performed by Kwon Myeong Hwa, a Daegu-based master dancer. Barachum at Buddhist temple is of deep ritual and playerful aspects while this dance is remarkable for spatial aesthetics and liveliness of male dance. It is performed by Kim Yonung Chul from Daegu who studied under the master dancer Kwon Myeong Hwa.

4. Hong Ji Young _ Taepyungmu(Han Young Suk-typed)
Dancer at Daejeon Yeonjeong Korean Traditional Music Center
Former President of Byeokpa Dance Research Association
Taepyungmu is a representative traditional dance hoping for rich harvest and reign of peace. Devised by Han Seong Jun, the father of Korean traditional dance, it was originally a dance duo for king and queen. Han Young Suk-typed Taepyungmu is for king with uncluttered and graceful magnificence and features various rhythms and unique foot work. Hong Ji Young dances Taepyungmu transmitted through Han Seong Jun-Han Young Suk-Park Jae Hee.

5. Bae Sang Bok _ Sinmyeong
President of Choi Hyun Dance Preservation Association
Initiate of state-designated intangible cultural property No. 92 Taepyungmu
It is a work to express the energy of spring with all living things coming to life and inner mentality of bleak fall with dancing steps of transcendental realm from the perspective of vanity in life. It is performed by Bae Sang Bok, the last romanticist known in our time and the best student of master dancer Choi Hyun.

6. Yoon Mi Ra _ Jinsoe dance
Professor at Kyunghee University
President of Lee Dong An Jinsoe Dance Preservation Association
Transmitted around Hwaseongjaeincheong, <Jinsoe dance> is a traditional dance based on a theory that magistrates throughout the country used to dance holding Jinsoe. Yoon Mi Ri who studied under Lee Dong An, a talented dancer at Hwaseongjaeincheong, restructured this dance into five-person format and she performs solo at this event.

7. Kim Chung Han _ Sogochum
Art director of Jeonbuk Culture-Tourism Foundation
President of Korean Dance Hana Culture Promotion Association

It is a new dance masterpiece premiered by Jo Taek Won, the pioneer of Korean modern dance, with accompaniment of Korean traditional music’s Junggoje master Sim Sang Geon at Natural History Museum, New York in 1949. Based on <Sogochum> photos and video materials housed in Yeonnakjae, Kim Chung Han reinterprets and performs who continues the dance legacy of Han Seong Jun-Han Young Suk-Jeong Jae Man.

※ The program is subject to change without notice.