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WHAT'SON

BEIJING

STAGE

Happy work: Figuren Theatre Vlinders & Co from Belgium will bring their chamber comedy "Washing and Magic Changing" to

Beijing audiences. The imaginative play is full of humour and wit. Two office cleaners, both bored with routine work, want to find a way to break out of

monotony. Time: 7:30 pm, August 4-6 Place: China Puppet Art Theatre, A1 Anhuali, Chaoyang District Tel: 6425-4798, 6424-7085

Summertime 'Nutcracker': Children on summer vacation in Beijing have the opportunity to enjoy the puppet-art version of Nutcracker," based on the ballet by Tchaikovsky and performed by China Puppet Art Troupe. Time: 7:30 pm, until July 16 Place: China Puppet Theatre, A1 Anhuali, Chaoyang District Tel: 6425-4798, 6424-7085



The Wan Fung Art Gallery is presenting artists. Some highlights are oil, landscape and watercolour paintings, which portray glorious landscapes, the mysterious micro-ecological world and traditional folk architecture. Time: 12 am-6 pm, Monday; Nanchizi Dajie, Dongcheng District. Tel: 6523-3320. 10 am-6 pm, Tuesday to Sunday. Place: 136

Family dynamics: The Beijing People's Art Theatre will stage their repertoire "Beijing People." Adapted to the famous Chinese playwright Cao Yu's work written in 1941, the play focuses on a declining aristocratic family in Beijing during the federal times before the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression (1937-45). The family members struggle to live with each other amidst various conflicts.

Compared with Cao's other well-known work "Thunder Storm," which stress ethics and morals in relationships, this three-act play pointedly critiques federal culture Time: 7:30 pm, until July 23 Place: Capital Theatre, 22 Wangfu-

jing Dajie Tel: 6524-9847

Jungle story: The Bulgarian Sofia Puppet Theatre will present the story of "Mowgli." Mowgli, a 10-year-old boy raised by a wolf in the jungle, struggles with shortcomings like every child and tries to find himself when he faces contradictory choices. Time: 7:30 pm, July 21-23 Place: China Puppet Theatre, A1

Tel: 6425-4798, 6424-7085

Issue of the heart: Director Meng Jinghui will stage the musical drama "Amber."

Gao Yuan, a cynical young man with a strong superiority complex, cannot help falling in love with Xiao You at first sight. But Xiao, a museum commentator, has a se-

cret. After the death of her fiancé, Gao receives her lover's heart in a transplant. Time: 7:30 pm, July 20-30 Place: Poly Theatre, Dongsi Shitiao Tel: 6506-5345, 6506-5343

Peacock flies again: For Peking Opera lovers, the upcoming show "Peacock Flying Southeastward" will be a precious chance to appreciate the classic performance by the Cheng School of Peking Opera. The Cheng School of Peking Opera was created by Cheng Yanqiu, one of the four great dan (female role) actors, together with Mei Lanfang, Shang Xiaoyun and Xun Huisheng. The Cheng School is distinct for its strong but gentle singing, and their graceful water sleeve dancing skills. Adapted from an ancient poem, the play tells the tragic love story of a couple who are forced to divorce by a strict mother-in-law.

Time: 7:30 pm, July 29 Place: Chang'an Grand Theatre, 7 Jianguomennei Dajie Tel: 6510-1309

Joyful jugglers: The China Acrobatic Troupe is staging a night variety show at the Tiandi Theatre, where the seemingly impossible becomes reality, where performers spin plates and juggle umbrellas. Contortionists show incredible feats of flexibility as acrobats leap through the air.

Integrating superlative juggling, unicycling, balancing and jumping through hoops with the finest ancient Chinese dancing, the starstudded cast aims to impress. Time: 7:15 pm, daily Place: 10 Dongzhimen Nandajie, Chaoyang District Tel: 6502-3984

All-vear acrobatics: Chaovang Theatre is one of the few Beijing theatres to present acrobatics all

Top acrobats invited from all over the country perform for Chinese and foreign audiences.
The programme features trick cycling, leaping through hoops and Chinese magic tricks. Some of the artists have won prizes in international competi-

tions. Time: 7:15 pm, daily Place: 36 Dongsanhuan Bei Lu, Chaoyang District Tel: 6507-2421, 6507-1818

CONCERTS

Children's voices: The British Colombia Children's Choir will bring their talent to Beijing. Founded in 1968, the troupe enjoys a high reputation worldwide. The choir has prepared 30 songs in nearly 10 languages. Time: 7:30 pm, July 15,16 Place: Poly Theatre, Dongsi Shitiao, Chaoyang District Time: 6506-5345, 6506-5343

Chamber music: A concert will be staged at Peking University by the Swiss Piano Trio. Established in 1998, the trio of pianist Martin Lucas Staub, violinist Angela Golubeva and cellist Sébastien Singer, have toured 25 countries.

They have also taken part in numerous festivals worldwide and cooperated with famous composers. Time: 7 pm, July 19 Place: Peking University Concert Hall, Peking University Tel: 6275-2279, 6275-9637

Chinese music teaching: Guzheng performer Wang Zhongshan will host a lecture/concert. Wang will play classical works together with his students, while explaining the music to the audi-

Time: 7:30 pm, July 23 Place: Forbidden City Concert Hall Tel: 6559-8285

22 Sturgis visitors

29 Harmless lie

"Shogun" setting

Family affair: He Wenguang, a com-poser of the Naxi ethnic minority, will bring five members of his family to the stage.

The three generations, his grandmother, parents, daughter and son. will sing old folk songs of their home land in Yunnan Province. The 73year-old grandma, Xiao Rulian, was born to be a singer and can sing different songs for days. With musical talent in his blood, He has a repertoire of around 100 folk songs.

Time: 7:30 pm, August 2 Place: Forbidden City Concert Hall in Zhongshan Park Tel: 6559-8285

Hip-hop hit-maker: Top-selling band Black Eyed Peas brings its mixture of hip-hop, soul, funk, jazz, pop and folk to Beijing

audiences. Its members, Will.I.Am, Fergie, Apl.de.Ap and Taboo, are skilled in mixing various elements into their performances, making the band a hit-maker in the cross-genre, pop

music scene. Time: 7:30 pm, July 18 Place: Beizhan Theatre, Xizhimen-wai Dajie, Haidian District Tel: 6835-4455

Energetic band: The Painful Belief Band is set to rock & roll. Lead singer Gao Hu, is accompanied by his bassist, two drummers and three guitar players. Time: 8 pm, July 20 Place: Star Live Concert Hall, 3/F Tango, 79 Heping Xijie Tel: 6425-5166

Pure sound: Famed as the "Prince of Love Songs," Jeff Zhang moves his fans with pure emotion. He has released many albums, most of which have sold well Time: 7:30 pm, August 13 Place: Great Hall of the People, west of Tian'anmen Square Tel: 6417-7845, 6608-1188

EXHIBITIONS

Geography of art: Jing Shijian, an art professor from the Hangzhoubased China Academy of Art in East China's Zhejiang Province, staging his one-man show entitled "Geography of Art" at the National Art Museum of China. On display are at least 20 of his latest works of oil paintings, sculptures and installations.

A large portion of the works are rendered in a surrealistic fashion, reflecting the artist's thoughts on such issues as the social role of intellectuals and the situation of traditional Chinese culture in a

globalizing world. Time: 9 am-6 pm, until July 29 Place: 1 Wusi Dajie Tel: 8403-3500

Debut celebration: To welcome the official launch of the central digital TV paintings and calligraphy channel on July 18, a grand show is set, displaying 100 carefully selected works of calligraphy, ink paintings, oil on canvas, and prints. Time: 9 am-5 pm, until July 20 Place: National Art Museum of China, 1 Wusi Dajie Tel: 8403-3500

Hardship in focus: Jiang Jian's new photography series named

"Archives on Orphans" zooms in on the fate of 1,000 abandoned children. In 2004, the Fed-

eration of Philanthropic Organizations in Henan Province and the Shaolin Temple jointly launched a campaign to provide aid to 1,036 orphans in the province. Jiang plans to take pictures of the orphans every five years to keep a record. Time: 10 am-6 pm, until July 27 Place: 798 Photo Gallery, 4 Jiuxiangiao Lu, Chaoyang

Designer's show: Renowned Chinese artist/ designer Lin Jing is set to hold her solo art show at the Contrasts Gallery.

District Tel: 6438-1784

On show will be a dozen of her latest works of furniture, industrial designs, sculptures and installa-

Veteran artist Yang Shanshen's

animals, flowers and birds, to a total of 150 exhibits from

ink painting exhibition is ongoing. Landscapes, figure paintings,

full-length scrolls to small-scale

drawings, transmit verve and a

mature technique. Time: 9 am-5

pm, until July 20. Place: National

Tel: 8403-3500.

Art Museum of China, 1 Wusi Dajie.

With an art education background in both China and Belgium, Lin always tries to weld Chinese elements and concepts with Western techniques in various art genres. Her previous work ranges from oil paintings, clothes, tableware, pottery and ceramics, installation and andscape art.

Time: 9 am-6 pm, July 28-August Place: Contrasts Gallery, 798

Dashanzi Art Zone, 4 Jiuxianqiao Road, Chaoyang District Tel: 6432-1369 Creatures great and small: Artist

Wang Luhuan moves viewers with his vivid stone sculptures of tiny creatures. Calligraphy and poems are also added to provide a literary

Exhibits include 50 sculptures, 12 ink paintings and eight calligraphy

Wang has studied Chinese painting since his childhood. He graduated from the Central Academy of Fine Arts, and has worked in the Palace Museum since 1973.

Time: 9 am-5 pm, until August 8 Place: World Art Museum inside China Millennium Monument, A 9 Fuxing Lu Tel: 6851-3322

Smoking faces: Artist Yan Yu is displaying his "Smoker" series this month. Focusing on the facial expressions

of male and female smokers, Yan attempts to transmit a kind of living status beyond reality. Yan has lived in Songzhuang Artist Village for nearly eight years and enjoys the simple, quiet country

Time: 9 am till midnight, until July

Place: Artist Village Gallery, 1 North of Rencun, Songzhuang Tel: 6959-8343

Industrial wasteland: Zhao Xiaoiia's industrial landscape series conveys

extreme anxiety. Living for many years in Shenyang, capital of Liaoning Province, a big industrial city in northern China, Zhao highlights the decline of the factories and the communities that depended on them.

Using brown, black and red. he records the ruins of Chinese modernization and his fears and worries. Time: 10 am-6:30 pm, until July 30 Place: Highland Gallery, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu Tel: 6437-7177

Dreamy land: On a brightly coloured tableau, the image of butterflies dominate, as painter Wu Dewu creates a dreamy scene called "An Inaccessible World." Time: 10 am-5 pm, until July 30 Place: Red T Space, 4 Jiuxianqiao Tel: 8911-5762

Clay sculptures: Nicknamed a "Clay Sculpture King in Yan'an," Wang Wenhai has created a series of 100 works depicting Chairman Mao Zedong, in sizes ranging from several centimetres to that of a real person Time: 11 am-6:30 pm, until July 31 Place: Margin Art, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang District Tel: 8709-3557

Interlocking images: Abstract oil paintings by Gao Runxi impress visitors with smooth lines and dense

Through the images that interlock with each other, viewers can feel the rhythm of life and its vitality. Time: 10 am-5 pm, until July 25 Place: Melodic Gallery, 14 Jianwai Dajie, Chaoyang District Tel: 6515-8123

In the mix: The Songzhuang Art Co-operative is holding its Third Visual Art Exhibition, with 28 contemporary artists joining to display oil paintings, digital video works, photographs, installations and performing arts, with no definition or restriction on themes. Time: 11 am-5 pm, until July 24 Place: Songzhuang Art Co-opera-tive, Tongzhou District Tel: 8957-2984

EVENT

Chorus concert: "Sound of Sports" chorus team of the State Sport General Administration will give an open air concert on Sunday. The programme includes solo performances as well as male and female choruses, but most importantly, all of their songs pertain to sports.

The choir, founded in 2000, is composed of senior athletes, senior coaches and senior sports workers. Time: 9:00 am-10:00 am, July 16, Place: Beijing Shijingshan Interna tional Sculpture Park, Yuquan Lu, Haidian District



China Broadcast Symphony Orchestra will give a concert, one in the summer series 'Open the door to music" presented at the Forbidden City Concert Hall. Chinese violinist Chai Liang, who lives in the United States, will play at the concert. The 38-yearold musician was born to a musician's family in Shenyang, capital of Liaoning Province, and began to learn the piano at the age of 5, turning to the violin when he was 9. After graduating from Beijing's Central Conservatory of Music in 1990, he gain the scholarship to further his studies at the prestigious Juilliard School in the United States. Time: 7: 30 pm, July 16. Place: Forbidden City Concert Hall in Zhongshan Park. Tel: 6559-8315.

SHANGHAI

'Lion King': The award-winning musical "Lion King" will appear in Shanghai with a run of 100 performances lasting more than three months.

The stage version made a spectacular debut on Broadway in 1997. Expanded from the blockbuster Disney film, the stage version has amazed critics and audiences alike with its artistic achievements in both costume and music Time: 7: 15 pm, 2 pm, July 18-October 8

Place: Shanghai Grand Theatre 300 Renmin Dadao Tel: 021-6372-8701

CONCERTS

Pop quartet: The "Hip-Pop" group, Black Eyed Peas will swing into Shanghai with all their latest hits. The group has transcended their hip-hop roots to become a global pop phenomenon, wowing audiences worldwide with their musical fusion and high fashion. Time: 8 pm, July 20 Place: Shanghai Grand Stage, 1111 Caoxi Beilu

Tel: 021-6218-6021

Pianist's premier: Roland Proll from Germany will hold his first piano

During his stay, Proll will also be present at several charity events, where he will give lectures free of charge to teen learners. Time: 7:30 pm, July 25 Place: Shanghai Concert Hall, 523 Yan'an Donglu Tel: 021-6386-2836, 021-6120-4560

Swiss trio: The Swiss Piano Trio has accumulated a host of awards

over its career. It was the first prize-winner of the International Johannes Brahms Competition held in Austria in 2005. In 2003, the ensemble won another first prize at the distinguished International Chamber Music Competition in Caltanissetta. They were also winners of the Migros Chamber Music Competition in Zurich 2001. Their extraordinary success in in-ternational competitions, together with concerts worldwide, have made the trio with pianist Martin Lucas Staub, violinist Angela Golubeva and cellist Sebastien Singer one of the leading chamber music ensembles of its generation. Time: 7:30 pm, July 28 Place: The Drama Theatre of Shanghai Grand Theatre, 300 Renmin Dadao Tel: 021-6372-8701

EVENT

German film screening: The film "Unter den Bruecken" ("Under the Bridges"), will be screened at the German Consulate, with English subtitles.

Directed by Helmut Kaeutner, the film centres on Hendrik and Willy two friends who own a boat called "Liese-Lotte." Travelling freely from river to river in their boat, visiting the occasional girl on shore. they enjoy a carefree life until they

meet Anna. They invite the beautiful girl on board, take her to Berlin, and both fall in love with her. To solve the problem, they make a pact that if one of them gets Anna, the other keeps the boat. Time: 7 pm, July 21 Place: 1F, 318 Fuzhou Lu

Tel: 021-6391-2068, ext 60

GUANGZHOU

STAGE

Ballet show: Young Chinese ballet performer Tong Shusheng will present a solo performance coupled with a stunning show, marking the 10th anniversary of the Guangzhou Ballet Troupe. Time: 7:30 pm, July 22-23

Place: Friendship Theatre, Jiefang bei Lu, Yuexiu District Tel: 020-8384-6330

EXHIBITIONS

'Trueness': Chen Wang, a veteran print artist born in Jiexi of South China's Guangdong Province, has donated many works to the Guangdong Museum of Art, among which 105 are currently being displayed. Entitled "Trueness," the exhibition reflects the progressing countryside over the last few decades. Time: 9 am-5 pm, daily except Monday, until July 20 Place: Exhibition Hall No 9. Guangdong Museum of Art, Ersha Tel: 020-8735-1468

Playing with lines: Chinese artist Xia Yang, born in Xiangxiang of Central China's Hunan Province. toured Europe and the United States in the 1960s to study paint-

He is widely known for combining lines and colours in a unique way. A total of 76 such works will be on display. Time: 9 am-5 pm, Monday except

Monday, until August 6 Place: Exhibition Hall No 10 and 11, Guangdong Museum of Art Tel: 020-8735-1468

Swedish arrivals: A special exhibition of Swedish contemporary art will be held in conjunction with the arrival of a replica of the Swedish merchant ship "Gotheborg" in

Guangzhou in mid-July. The exhibition will display more than 70 oil paintings by eight Swedish artists. Time: 9 am-5 pm, daily except Monday, until August 20 Place: Exhibition Hall No 8, Guangzhou Museum of Art, Luhu

New generation: Nine young Guangzhou-based artists are jointly displaying their paintings, photographs and short films, which sketch the image of the city in their

Tel: 020-8365-9337, 020-8365-9202

Time: 9 am-5 pm, daily except Monday, until August 7 Place: Time Museum, Guangdong Museum of Art, Huangbianbei Lu, Baiyun District Tel: 020-8735-1468

Swedish art: Swedish artist Per Huttner, born in 1967, has taken lots of photos of cities in Europe, America and Asia during his trips. He will hold a solo exhibition to display some of the photos he shot in 2004 and 2006. Time: 9 am-5 pm, daily except Monday, July 18-August 6 Place: Exhibition Hall No 12 Guangdong Museum of Art, Ersha Island Tel: 020-8735-1468

EVENT

Pop award: The sixth Chinese-language Music Awards will be held on Monday. A series of awards will be given to

singers, including those from Hong Kong and Taiwan at the pop gala ceremony. Time: 7:30 pm, July 17

Place: Xinghai Concert Hall, Ersha Tel: 020-8384-6330, 020-8735-3869

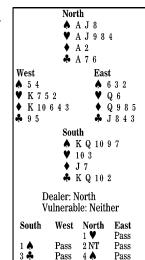
BRIDGE BY PHILLIP ALDER

Michel de Montaigne, a French essayist who died in 1592, wrote, 'Nature should have been pleased to have made this age miserable, without making it also ridiculous. He was referring to the "11th luster" his own age then. In bridge, you should try to find the best line of play to make your contract. If that is 100 percent, perfect; if less, it is miserable if it fails, pleasing In this deal, you plunge into six

spades — a six-level contract on 06-06-06. What is the best line of play after West leads a low trumps North's second-round jump-rebid of two no-trump showed a balanced hand with 18, 19 or a poor 20 points: too much for a one-no-trump opening but insufficient for a twono-trump opening. His third-round jump to four spades announced a particularly good hand for the auction so far.

Since you might lose a trick in each side suit, vou must use dummy's heart suit to provide discards. Pull trumps, then run the heart 10. It will lose to East's queen. Let's suppose East shifts to a diamond. You take the trick with the board's ace, play a club to your king, then lead a heart to dummy's eight. When it holds, you discard your remaining diamond on the heart ace, ruff a heart in hand, play a club to the board's ace, and cash the established

heart jack, throwing away your club 10. You collect these 12 tricks: five spades, three hearts, one diamond and three clubs One of two finesses (should) work some three-quarters of the time.



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Opening lead: A 4

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Pass

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15 Arapaho foe

16 Stamp backing



34 Self-importance

35 Oater prop

Solution to No 8119

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36 Preference

37 Voodoo slave

39 Word of inquiry

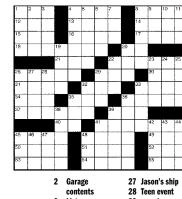
40 On good terms

41 Bedroom pieces

Time for acrobatics: 5:15-6:15 pm, 7:15-8:30 pm, nightly Small Hall of Chaoyang Theatre Magic Shows: 6:00-7:00 pm, 8:40-9:40 pm Peking Opera: 7:20-8:20 pm 5环北路36号(京广中心东北100米 , 65060838, 65068116, 6506083







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29 — and games

32 Vt. neighbour

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35 Tonic go-with

38 Waits awhile

39 Berlin sausage

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42 "Famous"

43 No dice!

45 - relief

44 Achy

(hyph.)

36 Triplets

41 Soup

33 Writer

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