

23 to 26 November 2018 / Haikou, Hainan, China

Celebration of the 70th Anniversary of the International Theatre Institute ITI & Haikou Theatre Festival

Event Report



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Under the patronage of **UNESCO**

Organized by International Theatre Institute ITI

China Theatre Association Department of Tourism, Culture, Radio, Television and Sports of Hainan Province People's Government of Haikou Municipality

Co-organized by

Shanghai Theatre Academy Hainan University Hainan Theatre Association

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Supported by

Hainan Opera House Hainan Xiqu Theatre Central Academy of Drama Foreign Affairs Office of Hainan Province

Celebration of the 70th Anniversary of the International Theatre Institute ITI & Haikou Theatre Festival

2018 marked the 70th Anniversary since the founding of the International Theatre Institute. In order to celebrate this special moment, highlight the charm of performing arts, and promote the international exchange of ideas, the celebration of the 70th Anniversary of ITI was held during the first Haikou Theatre Week in Haikou, Hainan, China, from 23 to 26 November 2018.

More than 290 guests and performing artists from all over the world and China were invited, including 150 international guests from 51 countries and regions. The activity was supported by the International Theatre Institute, Chinese Theatre Association, the Hainan Provincial Department of Tourism, Culture, Radio, Film and Sports and the Haikou Municipality as well as the Shanghai Theatre Academy, Hainan University and the Hainan Theatre Association. The four-day activities included the Gala event on the first night, Emerging Artists performance on the second, Chinese Opera on the third and Chinese drama on the last night. On the second day a Conference was organized and on the third day seminars and workshops. On the last day the guests were celebrating the Anniversary with a colourful party. The entire event attracted around 4000 people to watch and participate – especially during the evening performances local people enjoyed the performances.







Vive ITI

Gala Night

In the evening of 23 November, the International Theatre Institute's 70th Anniversary Gala Night took place with a series of to-class performances from all over the world and China were staged at Hainan Opera House. In between the performances, distinguished speakers took the floor. Furthermore, ITI was awarding some of its outstanding members of the organization.

FU Caixiang, Vice-Governor of Hainan province, Mohamed Saif AL-AFKHAM, President of the International Theatre Institute, and Himachuli GURUNG, head of the Culture Department at the UNESCO Office Beijing addressed the audience, each underlining the importance of the role of ITI, of the performing arts and international exchange. FU Caixiang expressed a warm welcome to Hainan and affirmed the positive influence of the activity on the local cultural atmosphere, the enrichment of its cultural life for residents and the promotion of Hainan's rich artistic traditions at an international level. Mohamed Saif AL-AFKHAM expressed his gratitude to Hainan province, where this event was held, and to the members, partners and friends who have made great contributions to the International Theatre Institute over the past 70 years. Himachuli GURUNG praised ITI as the world's largest performing arts organization, for beginners and professionals alike, which provides an international exchange platform, contributes to performing arts education promotes mutual understanding and peace, wishing it success in the years ahead!

Mr. QU Xing, Deputy Director-General of UNESCO was present with a videoed speech. He highly appreciated the contribution made by ITI to the development of world performing arts in the past 70 years and praised the support of Hainan Province. ITI's 70th Anniversary, he went onto say, drawing in many key personalities from all over the world and China, such as Mr. LOU Wei, chairman of the Shanghai Theatre Academy, Mr. XU Xiang, chairman of Central Academy of Drama in Beijing, Mr. ZHOU Hanmin, Vice President of Shanghai Municipal Consultative Board, and YU Rongjun, Vice President of Shanghai Acting Group. Mr. QU Xing wished the event and the participants a great success.



FU Caixiang, Vice-Governor of Hainan province



Mohamed Saif AL-AFKHAM, President of the International Theatre Institute



Himachuli GURUNG, head of the Culture Department at the UNESCO Office Beijing



Qu Xing, Deputy Director-General of UNESCO

Gala Night

Seventy years ago, the founders of ITI hoped that the envisioned organization could become a platform for education and development of the performing arts and promote mutual understanding between people through performing arts to achieve peace. This vision has been consistent since the founding of ITI. With the joint efforts of every member of the ITI family, 70 years later, the International Theatre Institute has established the world's largest performing arts organization.

The Gala was hosted by three emerging artists from Switzerland, France and China. The programme was made up of international and domestic performances to fully demonstrate the rich diversity of the performing arts. The performances included a Czech mime artist, modern dance from Cuba, an ethnic Korean play, traditional dance from Burkina Faso, and Chinese the pieces *The Dragon Flies and the Phoenix Dances* by the Dance School of the Shanghai Theatre Academy, a Guqin performance by QIAO Shan, as well as PEI Yanling, famous Chinese Xiqu performers, works from ZHANG Jun, a UNESCO Artist for Peace and a Kunqu actor. Hainan locals were able to enjoy the performances from all over the world.

The ITI celebration night is a feast for all kinds of performing arts in the world and a gathering time for members, partners and friends of ITI who have made important contributions over the past 70 years. It is the hard work of these members that has enabled the International Theatre Institute to achieve outstanding development. No matter how the current world situation changes, ITI always sticks to its original intentions and principles in its endeavours to contribute to world peace. The Gala was conceptualized as a look back over the past achievements of ITI through recognizing the work of its members and as a brand-new start. A desire to push on relentlessly and continue its work with renewed vigour.

The Gala Night also included a Ceremony in which the Director-General Tobias BIANCONE and President Mohamed Saif Al-AFKHAM, accompanied by the Executive Council Members of the organization, recognized people who had made outstanding contributions to the International Theatre Institute over its 70 years of existence. The medal and certificate were presented to the Honorary Presidents, Honorary Members, World Theatre Day and International Dance Day Message Authors.

The recipients were as follows:

Honorary Presidents

- Manfred BEILHARZ, Germany
- Ramendu MAJUMDAR, Bangladesh
- KIM Jeong-ok, South Korea

Honorary Members

- Yoko ODAGIRI, Japan
- Jennifer WALPOLE, Australia
- Henrik NEUBAUER, Slovenia
- Christoph HAERING, Switzerland
- Ann Mari ENGEL, Sweden
- Abhi SUBEDI, Nepal
- DONG Wei, China
- Cecile GUIDOTE ALVAREZ, Philippines
- Riitta SEPPÄLÄ. Finland
- Raija-Sinikka RANTALA, Finland

Message Authors

- Anatoli VASSILIEV, Russia, World Theatre Day Message Author
- Jessica A. KAAHWA, Uganda, World Theatre Day Message Author
- Lemi PONIFASIO, Samoa and New Zealand, International Dance Day Message Author

Artists

- Radim VIZVÀRY, Czech Republic, Mime Artist
- ZHANG Jun, China, Kunqu Opera Artist and Educator
- PEI Yanling, China, Jingju Opera Performing Artist and Educator
- Carlos CELDRAN. Cuba, Theatre Stage Director and Educator

At the end Tobias BIANCONE, Director General of ITI, was acknowledged by the President Mohamed Saif AL-AFKHAM and the Executive Council of ITI for his long-term achievements.



Award moderate: Tobias BIANCONE, Director General of ITI



Manfred BEILHARZ, Honorary President



Ramendu MAJUMDAR, Honorary President



KIM Jeong-ok, Honorary President



Gala Night

This vision was reflected in the programme and setting of ITI Celebration Gala. The varied performances representing different countries around the world helped to show the joy of Chinese and world theatre to the international guests but also brought an exotic flavour to the people of Hainan. The Award Ceremony in the middle part of the performance commended those members and artists who have made important contributions to the development of ITI and thanked them for their hard work.



Opening: Dragons Flying and Phoenixes Dancing, Shanghai Theatre Academy Dancing College, China



Mime: SOLO, Radim VIZVÁRY, Czech Republic



Kunqu & Jingju Opera: Lin Chong's Getaway at Nightfall & Cuiping Mountain, PEI Yanling, China



Contemporary Dance: Eden, Mi Compañía, Cuba



Guqin Recital: Flowing Water & Plum Blossom, QIAO Shan, China



Kunqu Opera: Jiang Er Shui, from The Peony Pavilion-Dreamland Revisited, ZHANG Jun, Violin by ZHU Yue, China



Traditional Dance: YAM-KA-NI, Burkina Faso



Comedy Show: Faustino BLANCHUT, Kevin BLASER, GU Tianyu, France/Switzerland/China



Ethnic Performance: The River Flowing into Eternity, Directed by KIM Jeong-ok, Korea Republic



Emerging Artists Performance Evening



The Emerging Artists Performance Evening was staged in the evening of 24 November at Hainan Opera House. The evening featured works by teachers and students from four performing arts universities from China, Switzerland and South Africa. The show received strong support from the ITI/UNESCO Network for Higher Education in the Performing Arts, of which all bar one of the performing troupes were a member. The ITI/UNESCO Network is a joint venture of ITI and UNESCO with universities and research institutions. It aims to promote exchange and cooperation between institutions of higher learning around the world and promote the development of higher education in the performing arts. At present, the alliance has 46 members from performing arts universities and research institutions all over the world. The four participating schools were the Central Academy of Drama (China), Zurich University of the Arts (Switzerland), Accademia Teatro Dimitri (Switzerland) and the university of Cape Town (South Africa). Teachers and students from the four universities presented four dramas and stage performances of different styles to the audience, showing the skills and talents of the world's emerging artists to the citizens of Haikou.

Enlightenment brought by the students of Zurich University of the Arts used multifaceted technologies and dance to present a drama, giving a flavour of the more avant-garde traditions of European theatre. It depicted a contemporary style and trend commensurate with young people which was a novelty to the local audience.

The Dimitri Accademia di Teatro of Switzerland performed a piece entitled *La Mouvaise Herbe*, which presented a dramatic work through the combination of their rich body movement and dance with the traditional Chinese instrument guzheng. Traditional props from middle-eastern cultures were also used in the performance.

African Story by the university of Cape Town was a vignette full of rich music and individual movements. It shows the emotions of young people in Africa from new perspectives to the audience, by dramatizing and reciting the words of great African poets, to deeply touching effect. It was received rapturously by the audience.

Emerging Artists Performance Evening

Finally, the Central Academy of Drama presented some dance drama's; one expressly modern, focussed on a young man losing his mobile phone, and others more traditionally orientated such as *Every Corner of the World*. This latter piece endeavoured to show that although people may live in different regions and in different contexts, they still yearn for the same sky.



Enlightenment, Zurich University of the Arts, Switzerland

Through various theatrical art forms, these performances enabled the Hainan audience to understand the dramatic language and presentation methods of different regions around the world. It brought a grand feast to the audience from the visual and auditory aspects. Although some forms of drama may be abstract and obscure to local Chinese audiences, it is of great significance to cultivate and expand the audience group of performing arts in Hainan by letting the audience know the development status of the art in the world and the relationship between cultural background and artistic creation. At the same time, the performance of emerging artists shows the appearance of young people in the contemporary world. The support for emerging artists has far-reaching significance for the sustainable development of performing arts, which is the original intention of the education projects of ITI. Using a more novel and modern dramatic language to attract the participation of emerging practitioners can also improve the enthusiasm of young audiences, so that they can in turn be inspired to participate. It is also an effective means to promote Hainan's educational scene and benefit the public.



La Mouvaise Herbe, Accademia Teatro Dimitri, Switzerland



An African Story, University of Cape Town, South Africa



Every Corner of the World, Central Academy of Drama, China

Chinese Xiqu Night

The Chinese Xigu performance at Hainan Opera House in the evening of 25 November was planned and produced by the event's co-organizer, the Chinese Theatre Association. The programme saw several Plum Blossom Award winning performances staged, presenting a feast of Chinese opera the audience. The forms of opera covered included Huai Opera, Qingiang Opera, Qiong Opera, Peking Opera, Kungu Opera, and Yue Opera. The gathering hoped to show the breadth, depth and unique charm of Chinese opera. The performances started with the selected sections of Qiong Opera Chuncao Chuang Tang, the selected sections of many famous Xigu artists, such as Beijing Xiqu Yang Silang Visiting his Mother, Qingiang Xigu Accusation in the Temple, Yue Xiqu The Butterfly Lovers, Huai Xiqu Mistress Xiang Lin, Kunqu Xiqu Lv Bu Taming the Horse, Sichuan Xiqu Li Yaxian, and Beijing Xiqu Chisang Town were presented to the audience one by one.

After participating in the workshop on Chinese Xiqu by LIN Weilin, QI Aiyun and XU Xiaoyin in the daytime, many international guests had their interest in Chinese Xiqu piqued, ensuring an engaged and appreciative audience for the shows. In the interviews conducted on that day, many guests expressed their expectations for the performance of the Xiqu Night. That night, more than 1,000 people came to watch the Chinese Xiqu Night.

Chinese Xiqu is extensive and profound and has strong attraction for both international and local audiences. Through the performances of the *Chinese Xiqu Night*, foreign audiences can understand the categories of Chinese Xiqu, feel and touch Xiqu up close, promote cultural exchanges, and help expand the global reach of Chinese culture.

The show opened with Hainan Qiongju Xigu, which enabled international guests to understand the essence of Hainan local culture and Chinese Xigu culture. KAKUMOTO Atsushi, a member of the Japanese Centre of ITI, said after watching, that although Japan and China are so close together, there are still not many opportunities to have access to traditional Chinese culture and it was a great honor to enjoy such exquisite Xigu art. Beate Kronsbein, theatre worker from Germany, said it was very exciting to share and watch the wonderful traditional Chinese art through these high-quality performances. Thomas Engel, Director of the German Centre praised the Chinese traditional opera's unique charm and shared his awareness how for most western people these art forms are an alien performance type. Nevertheless, he expressed his hope that performances such as these may whet the appetite understanding of Chinese opera.







The Wilderness

In the evening of 26 November, at the Hainan Qiong Opera Theatre in Hainan, the Shanghai Theatre Academy presented, The Wilderness' – perhaps the most mysterious of Cao Yu's early drama works. The Shanghai Theatre Academy version of the piece created a unique viewing experience. The drama is considered as an "imported product" for China, its development in China has a history of nearly 100 years. This local gem presents the drama performance to domestic and foreign audiences. It is of great value for international guests to understand the development and status of China's contemporary drama and key as well for the Hainan audiences to appreciate the domestic cutting-edge. The Celebration of the 70th Anniversary and the first Haikou Theatre Week presented a gathering of Chinese and foreign celebrities with various performances, which brought a rich and colourful cultural experience to Hainan. When China's economic development achievements are constantly admired by the world, Chinese culture needs to actively "go global". Through active and effective external communication, countries around the world can have more understanding of China and thus generate greater trust in its cultural exchange.







The development of communities through the performing arts is worth paying attention to in Hainan province. Hainan has developed a tourism economy and hopes to increase the cultivation and investment in its cultural industries to give full play to the important role of performing arts in urban construction and economic development. After listening to and understanding the needs of Hainan province, ITI planned this Conference and invited many experts in this field, each of whom would share their rich professional knowledge and experience with participants on this topic and discuss important issues related to it. The Conference on *Performing Arts and Community Development* was held in the lecture hall of the social science building of Hainan University on 24 November. About local and international 30 experts were invited to discuss the topic of performing arts and community development, which attracted a turn-out of guests.

The Deputy Director-General of ITI, CHEN Zhongwen moderated the conference. Haikou's Deputy Mayor REN Qinghua, Shanghai Theatre Academy Chairman LOU Wei, Director General of ITI Tobias BIANCONE, Executive Director of the Chinese Theatre Association, JI Guoping, and Vice President of Hainan University HU Xinwen gave introductory speeches.



Conference moderate: CHEN Zhongwen, The Deputy Director-General of ITI

Conference

The conference discussed the importance of performing arts in creating a structure and identity for a given community and focussed on the functional considerations for theatre within community planning and development. The benefits which can be brought by the performing arts to a community development manifold: firstly, through the participation of the local people, a sense of community identity can be forged, and the historic identity of a city can be increased through the protection and celebration of local art forms. From the perspective of education, colleges and institutions at all levels of performing arts can provide solid education for students and job opportunities for relevant practitioners. Even in the field of justice, performing arts can play a key role in the reintegration of criminals into society. In general, theatre of course plays a physical role in a community, as a building and meeting place within a creative art district in a town. This will attract innovators and tourists and bolster the town's economy. Here, performing arts and other art forms will not only be ancillary products, but also become important factors supporting the development of the community.

DONG Wei, Vice-Chairman of the Chinese federation of literary and cultural associations, former Vice-Minister of the Ministry of Culture of China and consultant to the Chinese Theatre Association, expressed his views on the theme of the conference. He introduced the guests to how the Chinese government supports the development of culture and performing arts through its policies. For example, it should adhere to policy guidance and promotion, constantly increase funding, implement the project of revitalizing traditional Chinese opera, carry out the census to log the different types of traditional Chinese opera, cultivate talents of traditional Chinese opera, inherit the classics of traditional Chinese opera, support the creation of traditional Chinese opera, support the performance of traditional Chinese opera, and promote the integration of performing arts and community culture. He took PEI Yanling and many other performing arts masters as examples and vividly explained to the audience the important position of performing arts in China.



REN Qinghua, Haikou Deputy Mayor



LOU Wei, Chairman of Shanghai Theatre Academy



JI Guoping, Executive Director of the Chinese Theatre Association



HU Xinwen, Vice President of Hainan University

Conference

The second keynote speaker was Anatoli VASSILIEV from Russia. He wrote the a World Theatre Day message for 2015, is one of ITI's World Theatre Ambasadors, he is an internationally renowned theatre director and educator. He is the founder of the Moscow Academy of Dramatic Arts. He has taught at the Russian Academy of Dramatic Arts (GITIS), the Moscow State Film Academy (VGIK) and ENSATT in Lyon, France. Furthermore, he is considered amongst the greatest Russian directors of his generation. His keynote speech focused on how theatre and the performing arts appear to him, based upon his many years of experience. He underlined how theatre is the art of the stubborn and the modest, and how these two characteristics can drive theatre onward to achieve a great many things. Giving examples from his own career, theatre's humanism was successfully underlined, and the overcoming of barriers and difficulties was detailed as an important part, and the end goal, of the creative process.

The final keynote speaker was Lemi PONIFASIO, a famous choreographer, stage director, designer and artist from Samoa and New Zealand. His works have extremely distinct artistic characteristics, which seem difficult to be measured by contemporary western drama and dance theories. In his world, ceremony, performance, dance, contemporary drama and other elements are integrated, showing strong social connotations. Lemi PONIFASIO'S works are frequent visitors to many art and theatre festivals around the world, including the Avignon Festival, BAM theatre in New York, Ruhr Triennale and Theater der Welt in Germany, the Edinburgh Festival and many others. In his keynote speech, he explained his views on the theme to the audience through his own experience using video examples.



DONG Wei, China Vice President of China Federation of Literary and Art Circles, Former Vice <mark>Minister for Culture, Consultant</mark> of China Theatre Association



Anatoli VASSILIEV, Russia Stage Director and Educator



Lemi PONIFASIO, Samoa and New Zealand, Choreographer, Stage Director, 2016 ITI International Dance Day Message Author

The theme of the seminar, as noted above with the Conference, was based on the needs of the hosts in Haikou City, Hainan province, who were hungry for suggestions as to how best to develop of the city with culture at its heart. Hainan island, the southernmost province in China, is a tourist destination with a pleasant climate and is currently undergoing rapid urban development. The seminar therefore provided an opportunity for local governments to put the performing arts at the forefront of the city's future development and to actively promote the city as a world cultural hub. To discuss this specific issue more closely, a cast of Chinese experts and scholars, including HUA Jusuo, SONG Baozhen, HU Zhiyi, GONG Baorong, DENG Han and SHEN Peiyi were invited to give their views and share their knowledge.

Through this seminar, Haikou city can begin to understand how countries and regions combine performing arts with urban community development and construction from a macro and micro perspective, and combine it with Hainan's actual situation to better promote the development of Hainan's urban cultural undertakings. ITI also hopes to use the seminar to provide a platform for performing arts guests from all over the world to gather and communicate, create a rich atmosphere to promote communication and discussion, and inspire and motivate participants to make continuous efforts for the development of the performing arts.

Conference



Round Tables 1: Performing Arts in Conflict Zones



Round Tables 2: The Relationship among the Performing Arts, the City and Community Development



Round Tables 3: Emerging Artists — General Reflection

Workshops

The whole day of 25 November, workshops were held at the Hainan College of the Arts. Ten different types of workshops were organized for students and international guests. The International Theatre Institute and Hainan University intended to inspire and widen the knowledge of different theatre forms and different cultural expressions with workshops and presentations.

The ten different workshops and presentations where delivered by international and Chinese experts. The workshops and presentations held by the Chinese experts covered Xiqu, painting, calligraphy, Tai Chi, Tea Ceremony and dance were of great interest for the guests from abroad and showed the charm of the traditional Chinese culture.

The Chinese Xiqu workshop which covered scene interpretation, body and eye movements, and dancing sleeve techniques, aroused great interest from both the Chinese and foreign guests. Everyone was eager to learn and feel the artistic charm of traditional Chinese Xiqu. International workshops combined theory with practice and showed the Hainan University students and international guests the theory and know-how in the subjects of "Mime", "Dialogue through Performance" and "Conflict Prevention".

Performing arts education has a long tradition in ITI and is essential for the success of ITI as a whole. Holding workshops and lectures during its various activities is the practical embodiment of this principle. Through such interesting workshop activities, the participation of guests can be improved, so that they can better understand the cultural through experience. Furthermore, the students of Hainan University were able to further communicate with international experts, understand the forms and connotations of foreign drama performing arts, conduct academic discussions on performing arts majors, and improve their international vision. The workshops were a success due to the support of the College of the Arts of Hainan University. Their exquisite venue layout ensured a wonderful experience for all the participants.



Method of Mime and Physical Mime Workshop led by Radim VIZVÀRY, Czech Republic



Valorisation of Dialogue and Conflict Prevention Through Acting Workshop led by Hamadou MANDE, Burkina Faso



Theatre as Call and Response: Performing One Another Workshop led by Derek GOLDMAN, USA



Chinese Xiqu: Qinqiang Opera Workshop led by QI Aiyun, China



Chinese Calligraphy and Painting Workshop led by YIN Shuangzeng, China



Guqin Instrument Workshop led by YANG Jian, China



Hainan Bamboo Pole Dance Workshop led by ZHOU Linlin, China



Chinese Xiqu: Kunqu Opera Workshop led by LIN Weilin, China





Tai-chi Workshop led by LI Xiu, China



Chinese Tea Ceremony Workshop led by SUN Xiaoyuan, China

Farewell Party

In the afternoon of 26 November, the Celebration of the 70th Anniversary ITI and the first Haikou Theatre Week came to an end, with a closing party held in a colourful location in the old town of Haikou. During this farewell party, ITI expressed thanks to the staff and partners who made great contributions to Celebrations and the first Haikou Theatre Week. For this issue it gave a medal and certificates to its partners:

To stage and technical managers Nicolas BOUFFIN and Laurent CHAPOT, to Shanghai Theatre Academy, to Hainan University, to Hainan Theatre Association, to Hainan Opera House, to Hainan Theatre, to Central Academy of Drama, to Hainan Foreign Affairs and Overseas Chinese Affairs Office, to China Theatre Association, to Hainan Tourism, Culture, Radio, Film and Sports Department, and to the Haikou Municipal People's Government.

During the party the guests sang birthday songs in many languages to celebrate the 70th Birthday of ITI. Three dancers from Burkina Faso brought their traditional dances for all to see once more. At the farewell meeting, guests from all over the world raised their glasses and talked happily. In a relaxed and pleasant atmosphere, they further deepened their understanding of their respective countries and established contacts, laying a foundation for future cooperation.



Left: Lighting Engineer of the Gala Night: Laurent CHAPOT Right:Techical Director of the Gala Night: Nicolas BOUFFIN



Shanghai Theatre Academy



Hainan University

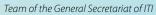


f the 70th Anniversary of the Vive ITI!



China Theatre Association







Left: Department of Tourism, Culture, Radio, Television and Sports of Hainan Province Right: People's Government of Haikou Municipality









So far, there have been more than 60 online, print, and TV media coverages of the ITI 70th Anniversary Celebration and first Haikou Theatre Week. The statistics include the mainstream media such as Haikou Daily, People's Daily of Beijing and Hainan, Oriental Headlines, as well as Hainan local news channels, the Travel Channel, comprehensive satellite TV channels, and many more detailed accounts of the event.



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Conclusion and Thanks

Protect Cultural Heritage, Pursue Artistic Innovation, Unite in Diversity is the motto for the 70th Anniversary event. Through this celebration, the organizers intended to build a bridge of between different countries with the help of performing arts, promote international cooperation, achieve artistic innovation and promote the development of the performing arts. Furthermore, it sought to highlight the charm of performing arts, the diversity of global culture, create unity through diversity. It furthermore intends to build a platform for making the performing arts an excellent carrier for telling stories from all over the world, and to promote the world's and China's rich culture to the world whilst elevating the local atmosphere of Hainan.

Hainan province is vigorously developing tourism and cultural industries, aiming to build a world-class island tourism destination as an important platform for international economic cooperation and cultural exchange. Hainan actively opens to the outside world and attaches great importance to culture, which has contributed to the cooperation between the international performing arts associations and Hainan. The Celebration activity has played an excellent role in promoting the creation of Hainan's performing arts atmosphere and helping Hainan become an excellent destination for both tourists and art lovers. By holding this event, it promotes the development of different types of performing arts, promotes the exchange of people from the international performing arts community, and enriches the cultural life of local people in Hainan. Due to the successful celebration of the ITI 70th Anniversary and the first Haikou Theatre Week, the project organizing committee has been invited again. The International Theatre Institute shares the cultural intention of Haikou and Hainan and hopes to continue to carry out a notable event in Haikou every year. With such a future event, it assists the location to bring performing arts feasts to the Haikou people in the name of international cultural exchange.

The success of the event cannot be separated from the host units, organizers and support teams. That is why ITI expresses its special gratitude to:

- the Hainan Tourism and Cultural Radio and TV Sports Bureau, and the Foreign Affairs and Overseas Chinese Affairs office of Hainan Province who, in spite of initial barriers, proved to be a great help;
- the Haikou Municipal People's Government and the Haikou Municipal Party Committee publicity department for their high attention and full support in media publicity. The journalists' timely reports created a good atmosphere of public opinion for the whole event and allowed more Hainanese citizens to participate. The recording team of Haikou TV station did their best to record and broadcast the content of the activity for the whole four days, which made an important contribution to the preservation of the data of the activity;

• the cooperation of the Chinese Theatre Association, the performances of Chinese Xiqu Night was able to happen, with the Plum Blossom award-winning actors who also provided great workshops to all participants;

- to Hainan University for its great support in seminars, workshops, logistics, volunteer services and other aspects, so that all the activities could be carried out smoothly;
- the help and cooperation of Hainan Opera House and Hainan Theater in performance venues and logistics support, enabling the four Chinese and foreign performances to have been presented smoothly.

ITI wishes to express its great gratitude to:

- the Central Academy of Drama for its active cooperation, which ensured the success of young artists' exhibitions and seminars;
- the Shanghai Theatre Academy for its intense cooperation. As the close partner of ITI, the Shanghai Theatre Academy has supported most of the activities organized by the International Theatre Institute in China. The Shanghai Theatre Academy assisted the event through finances, administration, performances, seminars and other aspects, making a great contribution to the success of the event.

Conclusion and Thanks

Special thanks to the event organizing committee, the executive team and all staff for their contribution to this event.

Organizing Committee

Directors

Tobias BIANCONE, Director General of International Theatre Institute ITI JI Guoping, Chairman of China Theatre Association, Vice-president of ITI LIN Guangqiang, Chairman of the Department of Tourism, Culture, Radio, Television and Sports of Hainan Province DING Hui, Mayor of Haikou City LOU Wei, Chairman of Shanghai Theatre Academy WU Yaoting, Chairman of Hainan University

Deputy Directors

CHEN Zhongwen, Deputy Director General of ITI CUI Wei, General Secretary of China Theatre Association NING Hongwen, Deputy Director of Department of Tourism, Culture, Radio, Television and Sports of Hainan Province REN Qinghua, Vice-Mayor of Hainan City GONG Baorong, Professor, Dean of International College, STA

Executive Team

Producers: CHEN Zhongwen, GE Yunfeng

Artistic Director of the Gala Night: Daniel BAUSCH

Techical Director of the Gala Night: Nicolas BOUFFIN

Lighting Engineer of the Gala Night: Laurent CHAPOT

Artistic Activities Team: ZHU Baoyu, WANG Chunmei, SUN Yuchen, ZHANG Kunrong, HUANG Yuanfang, XU Zhencheng, Tatjana AZMAN

Academic Activities Team: GONG Baorong, WANG Qiang, TANG Yiming, Tom JOHNSON, SHEN Peiyi, WANG Ke, XIE Yang, Geoffrey HYLAND, Mbongeni MITSHALI, Gerhard BERGER, Konstantin RAYKIN, Elena BUTENKO-RAYKINA Technical Support Team: Bruce TANG Yifei, LU Juncai

Publicity Team: Malory DOMECYN, CHEN Simin, LI Yang, JIANG Lierong, DU Xiumei, ZHANG Yan, LIU Jin

Foreign Affairs Administrators: HUANG Xin, LIN Haiying, ZHANG Yunlei

Security Supervisor: LONG Zhen

Coordinators: LU Yankun, LIU Xiaotian

The 70th Anniversary Celebration in Haikou ends with the hope that the International Theatre Institute ITI, which Headquarters are based in Shanghai, China, will uphold its original intentions to enhance mutual understanding among people of all countries, and to promote world prosperity, for another 70 years.

> Author: General Secretariat of ITI 15 December 2018