

Kunqu Masters on Chinese Theatrical Performance

Created by Yip Siu Hung, Edited by Josh Stenberg

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Translated performer narrations of *Kunqu*, illuminating how one of the major Chinese theatrical art forms has been taught and transmitted over the past century

Kunqu is among the oldest and most refined traditions of the family of genres known as *xiqu* (music-drama or "Chinese opera"). This book consists of translated performer narrations that illuminate how one of the major Chinese theatrical forms has been taught and transmitted over the past century.

Readership

The book will interest scholars and students of Asian performance, theatre, dance, and aesthetics' of recent and contemporary Chinese cultural policy and politics; and of the narratives and texts which provide the material of performance. It will also interest theatre practitioners and teachers seeking to learn about Chinese performance.

Key selling points

- Performer-oriented accounts of Chinese musical theatre
- Unique insight into contemporary Chinese theatre transmission processes
- Elucidates relationship between page and stage in Chinese theatre
- Allows drama teachers and practitioners to understand the socioeconomic context of xiqu

Contents

Introduction; Lecture 1 "Enquiry of the Rat" ("Fangshu") from Fifteen Strings of Cash; Lecture 2 "The Stirring Zither" ("Qintiao") from The Jade Hairpin; Lecture 3 "The Mad Dream" ("Chimeng") from Lanke Mountain; Lecture 4 "Descending the Mountain ("Xiashan") from Ocean of Sin; Lecture 5 "The Tavern" ("Jiulou") from The Palace of Lasting Life; Lecture 6 "Instating the Statue, Lamenting the Statue" ("Yingxiang Kuxiang") from The Palace of Lasting Life; Lecture 7 "Playing the Ballad" ("Tanci") from The Palace of Lasting Life; Lecture 8 "The Stroll in the Garden" ("Youyuan") and "The Dream Interrupted" ("Jingmeng") from The Peony Pavilion; Lecture 9 "Sword Meeting" ("Daohui") from Single Sword Meeting; Lecture 10 "Writing the Accusation" ("Xie Zhuang") from Tale of the Mermaid Silk Handkerchief; Lecture 11 "The Tryst" ("Jiaqi") from The Western Chamber; Lecture 12 "The Inn on the Lake" ("Hu Lou") from To Win a Peerless Beauty; Postface; Appendices; Index

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Josh Stenberg is Lecturer in Chinese Studies at the University of Sydney. From 2005–2007, he worked for the Jiangsu Kunju Company.

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