

CONTACT:  
Christina Kellogg 510.643.6714  
ckellogg@calperfs.berkeley.edu  
Joe Yang 510.642.9121  
jyang@calperfs.berkeley.edu

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**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS THE  
NATIONAL CIRCUS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA  
SATURDAY- SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15-16**

**BERKELEY, August, 2012**—The world-renowned **National Circus of the People's Republic of China** comes to **Zellerbach Hall** for two performances on **Saturday-Sunday, September 15-16** at **8:00 p.m.** and **3:00 p.m.** respectively. Their newest production *Cirque Chinois* features a 45-member ensemble, exploring traditional Chinese culture including Buddhism and martial arts. Founded in 1953, the National Circus is one of the longest-running and most distinguished circus troupes in China with many international award-winners among them. Under the direction of Mei Yuezhou and Ai Bing, the circus brings sumptuous costumes, beautiful lighting and a variety of circus arts including trapeze, gymnastics, contortion, juggling and dance, the circus gives a performance that simultaneously hearkens back to China's ancient circus heritage and brings the art form into a modern setting.

Since the 1970s, the National Circus has travelled to 80 countries worldwide, including France, Germany, Switzerland, Spain, Belgium, the Netherlands, Canada and the United States. During the 1980s, the company began pioneering the concept of animal-free circuses, advising the famed Cirque du Soleil on non-animal acts. In 1997, the company's trapeze troupe was invited to perform with Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus. The company has received more than twenty gold and silver medals at international circus festivals, including the Monte Carlo International Circus Festival, Cirque de Demain, Wuqiao International Circus Festival, Wuhan International Circus Festival and China National Acrobatic Competition.

**TICKET INFORMATION**

Tickets for the **National Circus of the People's Republic of China** on **Saturday, September 15** at **8:00 p.m.** and **Sunday, September 16** at **3:00 p.m.** in **Zellerbach Hall** range from **\$22.00** to **\$52.00**, and are subject to change. They are available through the Cal Performances' Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988; at [www.calperformances.org](http://www.calperformances.org); and at the door. Half-price tickets are available for purchase by UC

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Berkeley students. UC faculty and staff, senior citizens, other students and UC Alumni Association members receive a \$5.00 discount (Special Events excluded). For select performances, Cal Performances offers UCB student, faculty and staff, senior, and community rush tickets. Rush tickets are announced three hours prior to a performance on Cal Performances' Facebook page and at 510-642-9988 and are available in person only at the Ticket Office beginning one hour before the performance; one ticket per person; all sales are cash only. For more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988, or visit [www.calperformances.org](http://www.calperformances.org).

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Cal Performances thanks Wells Fargo and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for their major support of the Season.

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**CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS**

**Saturday, September 15 at 8:00 p.m.**

**Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus**

**Sunday, September 16 at 3:00 p.m. [FF]**

**Bancroft Way at Telegraph Ave., Berkeley**

*World Stage*

*Cirque Chinois*

**National Circus of the People's Republic of China**

**Program:** The elite Peking Acrobats mesmerize audiences with their ancient Chinese folk acrobatics that blend gymnastics, juggling, cycling and tumbling.

**Tickets:** Range from \$22.00–\$52.00, subject to change, available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at [www.calperformances.org](http://www.calperformances.org); and at the door.

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