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**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS
THE BERKELEY DEBUT OF SHANGHAI BALLET
ON FRIDAY & SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1 & 2,
AT 8:00 P.M. IN ZELLERBAH HALL**

A symposium on *The Butterfly Lovers*, the Cultural Revolution and the Arts in China will be held on Friday, November 1.

BERKELEY, September 25, 2013—The [Shanghai Ballet](#) will make its Berkeley debut with two performances of [The Butterfly Lovers](#), on Friday and Saturday, November 1 and 2 at 8:00 p.m. in Zellerbach Hall. Created and choreographed by artistic director **Xin Lili**, *The Butterfly Lovers* is a Chinese folk-infused ballet set to classical Western music. With elegant costumes and evocative stage sets, the story—which dates to the Tang Dynasty—follows the ill-fated romance of a young man and woman whose love transcends class and family disapproval; it has been called the Chinese *Romeo & Juliet*. The music is composed by Chinese composer **Xu Jianqiang** and incorporates both Chinese and Western instruments.

Cal Performances, in association with the Center for Chinese Studies, East Asian Languages and Culture, and the Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive will present a symposium in conjunction with the performances. The event will be held from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Friday, November 1, at the Berkeley Art Museum Theatre. Speakers will address the merging of Chinese and Western cultural elements presented in *The Butterfly Lovers*, which in this case are being used to depict traditional Chinese folk melodies, dance and fairytale. Further details will be announced soon.

Since its founding in 1979, Shanghai Ballet has expanded its classical repertoire to include modern works. When Xin became Artistic Director, she made a point of introducing Western versions of *Swan Lake*, *Romeo & Juliet*, *Coppelia* and *La Sylphide* as well as George Balanchine's *Serenade* and *La Valse*. The company recently finished touring its interpretation of *Jane Eyre*, of which *The Daily Express* (UK) says, "to see a

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good example of cross-cultural fertilisation look no further.” This holds true for *The Butterfly Lovers*, which will feature **Fan Xiaofeng** and **Wu Husheng**, two highly praised cast members from *Jane Eyre*; Berkeley casting to be announced. Shanghai Ballet is active in cultural exchange with artists and companies both abroad and in China. The company not only tours nationwide but has also performed in several countries, including Japan, Korea, France, Canada, Indonesia, New Zealand, Australia, Taiwan, Spain, Singapore, and the United States.

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TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Shanghai Ballet on Friday and Saturday, November 1 and 2**, at **8:00 p.m.** in **Zellerbach Hall** range from **\$30.00** to **\$92.00** and are subject to change. Tickets are available through the Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988; at www.calperformances.org; and at the door. Half-price tickets are available for UC Berkeley students. For more information about tickets and discounts, go to <http://calperformances.org/buy/discounts.php> or call (510) 642-9988.

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Cal Performances thanks Wells Fargo and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for their major support of the 2013–2014 Season.

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CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Friday, November 1 at 4:00 p.m.
Symposium

Berkeley Art Museum Theatre
Durant Ave. at Bowditch St., Berkeley

Program: A symposium on *The Butterfly Lovers*, *the Cultural Revolution and the Arts in China* will be held with further details to be announced.

Friday, November 1 at 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, November 2 at 8:00 p.m.

Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus
Bancroft Way at Telegraph Ave., Berkeley

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Dance

Shanghai Ballet, *The Butterfly Lovers*

Xin Lili, Artistic Director and choreographer

Xu Jianqiang, composer

Program:

The Butterfly Lovers (2001): music by Xu Jianqiang; choreography by Xin Lili.

Tickets: Range from \$30.00 to \$92.00, and are subject to change. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperformances.org; and at the door.

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