

SYDNEY FESTIVAL 2013

CHINESE OPERAS AT THE SYDNEY FESTIVAL 2013

The 2013 Sydney Festival features two Chinese Operas – The Peony Pavilion and The Jade Hairpin – from the Northern Kunqu Opera Theatre of China, performed in the Drama Theatre, Sydney Opera House, in Mandarin with English surtitles.

Kunqu is one of the oldest and most refined styles of Chinese Opera. It is regarded as the 'mother' of Chinese theatre, having spawned many other forms, and is listed as one of UNESCO's Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity.

Both operas combine ornate costumes and elaborate make-up with live music and exquisitely choreographed movement. They star award-winning singer/actress Wei Chunrong, widely recognised throughout China and Europe as one of Kunqu's most distinguished artists.



THE PEONY PAVILION

Created during the Ming Dynasty, this masterpiece has endured as a classic of Kunqu. The Liu Mengmei and the Nanan Governor's privileged daughter Du Liniang comes vibrantly into play through love, death and dreams and a visit from the Lord of the Underworld.

January 24 – 7.15pm

January 26 – 7.15pm

Duration – 2 hours 30 minutes, no interval



THE JADE HAIRPIN

In this love story, the main character, Pan Bizheng, after failing his exams, runs shame-faced to his aunt's nunnery where he meets Chen Miachang, a Taoist nun, who has her own reasons for hiding in a convent. The two fall hopelessly in love, but must overcome obstacles of resitting exams and true identity before they can be together.

January 25 – 7.15pm

January 26 – 2pm

Duration – 2 hours 25 minutes, no interval

TICKETS (NOW AVAILABLE)

Premium \$95

A Reserve \$75/\$65

Double Pack \$60/\$52

(cost per opera if tickets to both operas are purchased)

Sydney Opera House 02 9250 7777

Sydney Festival 1300 668 812