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Chinese Troupe Brings New Era Acrobatics to Cal Poly Oct. 25

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- The revolutionary theatrical spectacular, “CHI – A New Era In Acrobatics,” features the 40-member Shanghai Acrobatic Troupe performing at the Christopher Cohan Center on Tuesday, October 25, at a special early curtain time of 6:30 p.m.

Audiences of all ages will marvel at the eye-popping display of gymnastics, dance, and circus artistry. Cal Poly Arts presents the Shanghai Acrobats and is offering a 50 percent discount on all student and child tickets.

From the producers of the successful 2003/04 Cal Poly Arts engagement of “Shaolin Warriors,” “CHI” brings a breathtaking fusion of acrobatics and martial arts from Shanghai to audiences across North America, combining intense strength and impeccable balance with a profound spirituality.

“CHI” draws its name from principles of Taoist philosophy. Literally translated, “chi” means “energy’ or “breath.” These versatile gymnasts, dancers, tumblers, and jugglers use their own “chi” to focus their bodies and minds to work in perfect harmony.

The result is magical, “intense and colorful.” (Honolulu Sun)

CHI builds on a tradition that is centuries-old. The origin of modern day acrobatics can be traced back to ancient China, where the art form began as elaborations on folk games, sports, and trades.

Astounding acrobatic feats of today were derived from seemingly simple acts of labor, craftsmanship, and religious ceremonies of the past. Today, many years of rigorous training allow the acrobat to hone his/her skill and achieve the excellence demanded by this ancient art form.

With the addition of the show’s dazzling stage design, spectacular lighting, and cutting-edge production values, “CHI” can truly be called “a new era in acrobatics.”

Tickets for the performance range from $22 - $34, with student/child tickets sold at half-price. All tickets may be purchased at the Performing Arts Ticket Office, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays. To order by phone, call 805/756-2787; to order by fax: 805/756-6088. Order on-line at www.pacslo.org.

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