May 5, 2009
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Cal Poly Hosts Event Exploring 1930s and '40s China May 30

SAN LUIS OBISPO – A new interdisciplinary event exploring the music, art, politics and culture of China in the 1930s and '40s will be held at Cal Poly on Saturday, May 30.

Titled “The World Across the University,” the event will include presentations by faculty from various colleges and performances by the China-based Shenyang Early Music Ensemble and piano virtuoso Tianshu Wang with the Cal Poly Symphony.

The film and lectures are free and open to the public and take place in the Chumash Auditorium in the University Union.

The closing concert is a ticketed event in the Performing Arts Center’s Christopher Cohan Center.

Showcase events include:
• 10:30 a.m. Film: "China: A Century of Revolution, Part I"
  This documentary begins in 1911 with the fall of the last emperor and continues through 1949, highlighting four decades of civil war, foreign invasion and the ascension of rival leaders Mao Zedong and Chiang Kai-shek. Rarely seen photos and film footage, among the earliest ever recorded in China, reveal fascinating details of a long-censored history.
• 1:30 p.m. Demonstration of Chinese musical instruments by Shenyang Early Music Ensemble
• 2 p.m. India D’Avignon (Music Department) presents “Politics and the ‘Yellow River Cantata’”
• 2:30 p.m. Chris Yip (Architecture Department) presents “Colonial Port Cities on the China Coast”
• 3 p.m. Andrew Morris (History Department) presents “China, the Olympics and National Anxiety in the 1930s”
• 3:30 p.m. Kurt Lo (Civil and Environmental Engineering Department) presents “China and the Sino-Japanese War 1931-1945”
• 4 p.m. Alice Loh (Architecture Department, emeritus) presents “China to the Central Coast: the Cultural Crossing”
• 8 p.m. The festival culminates with the Cal Poly Symphony and guest artist Tianshu Wang in a concert that showcases “The Yellow River Concerto,” orchestral works by Ravel and Puccini, and selections performed by the Shenyang Early Music Ensemble. Music Department Professor David Arrivée will conduct.

Tickets for the concert are $10 and $12 for the public, $8 and $10 for seniors and $6 for students. They are on sale at the Performing Arts Ticket Office from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays. To order by phone, call SLO-ARTS (756-2787).
“The World Across the University: China in the 1930s and ’40s” is sponsored by the Cal Poly Music Department, College of Liberal Arts and Instructionally Related Activities.

For more information, go to: http://symphony.calpoly.edu/ChinaFestival

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