

Guangzhou Ballet comes to Richmond



By Matthew Hoekstra, Richmond Review October 18, 2011

Dancers from the Guangzhou Ballet of China will join with local performers from Goh Ballet in a Sunday show marking Vancouver's 125th anniversary.

The Richmond performance, East Meets West: Ballet Fusion Show, will showcase dancers from one of the top four ballet troupes in China.

A relative newcomer to the ballet world, the Guangzhou Ballet formed in 1994 and bills itself as China's youngest and most passionate ballet troupe.

The troupe is known for combining Chinese and Western arts, having performed classics like Swan Lake and The Nutcracker to Chinese ballets such as The Celestial Phoenix and Return on a Snowy Night.

Sunday's program begins with the Chinese ballet Human Sentiment, a work adapted from a violin concerto by Chinese composer Du Mingxin that illustrates the culture of China and the love of its people for their homeland.

Guangzhou Ballet dancers will then perform "Pas De Deux" from Le Corsaire, one of the most popular and performed excerpts in all of classical ballet. Also featured are performances from contemporary Chinese ballets and excerpts from other classics, including Swan Lake and Don Quixote.

The Goh Ballet Youth Company will also perform.

The show starts at 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 23 at River Rock Show Theatre. Tickets, \$38 to \$108, available at ticketmaster.ca or 1-855-985-5000.

The Association of Chinese Cultural Promotion Canada is organizing the show, along with a Chinese painting and calligraphy exhibition and photo exhibition for Vancouver's 125th anniversary.

Guangzhou and Vancouver are sister cities.