



MEDIA RELEASE

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY, BEIJING

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Australian performance making its mark in China

Chinese audiences will be wowed by Australian dance, circus, theatre and music from August to December, with Circus Oz this week kicking off a season of Australian performance across China.

Australia's Ambassador to China HE Ms Jan Adams AO says performing arts is one of Australia's strongest cultural exports.

"As we get ready to celebrate the 45th anniversary of Australia China diplomatic relations in December, I am delighted that audiences across China have so many opportunities to experience the dynamism of Australian performance.

"Australian performance is known around the world for its innovation, humour and diversity," she said.

Australian companies touring China this year include Circus Oz, Chamber Made Opera, ELISION, Polyglot, Sydney Dance Company and the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, with more to be announced.

Beyond touring schedules, Chinese and Australian artists and arts managers are embracing opportunities for ongoing professional and artistic collaboration, and share a proud history of exchanges.

Circus Oz trained with the Nanjing Acrobatic Troupe in the mid-1980s, with many of the skills learnt, such as pole-climbing, hoop diving and group bike, continuing to flavour the company's shows.

The Sydney Symphony Orchestra began working with the Shanghai Orchestra Academy in 2015 and this year will support Shanghai students to travel to Sydney for a residency at the Sydney Opera House.

For more details on Australian performance in China in 2017, including dates and venues, visit the *Australia Performs* program: china.embassy.gov.au/bjng/australia-performs

Australia Performs is a promotional program profiling Australian performance in China in the 45th year of Australia-China diplomatic relations, an initiative of the Australian Government through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Australia Council for the Arts.

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