

## Central Ballet of China to perform at Ham Hall

The Charles Vanda Master Series will open its 20th season with one of the most popular attractions of China, the Central Ballet of China, a national ballet company based in Beijing. The company will perform at 8 p.m. Oct. 2, in Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall.

The ballet company performs concerts not only in Beijing, but throughout more than 20 provinces of China. The ballet also has performed in Burma, Romania, Albania, Germany, Austria, Japan, the Philippines, Hong Kong and Macao. Their first tour of the United States was in 1986, featuring concerts in 11 cities.

Principal dancers include Cheng Lie, Feng Ying, Liang Mei, Wang Shan, Li Yan, Zhang Dan-Dan Liang Jing, Sun Jie, Wang Caijun, Wang Quanxing, Xu Gang and Zhou Gang.

Cheng Lie, principal dancer, was born in Guangzhou in 1958. She was graduated from the Beijing Dance Academy in

1978, and was invited to perform in Japan in 1987.

Feng Ying, one of several principal dancers, graduated from the Beijing Dance Academy in 1979. In 1983, she was chosen to study in the ballet school associated with the Paris Opera Ballet and in 1986 invited to perform at the gala concert of the prize winner of the Second International Dance Competition in Paris.

The youngest principal dancer, Li Yan, won the special award at the Third International Dance Competition in Paris, and third prize at the Sixth Ballet Competition in Moscow.

Lianj Jing, once a member of the Ballet Company of Shanghai, won an award at the World Ballet Competition in Japan in 1991.

Wang Caijun, also won an award at the International Dance Competition in Paris.

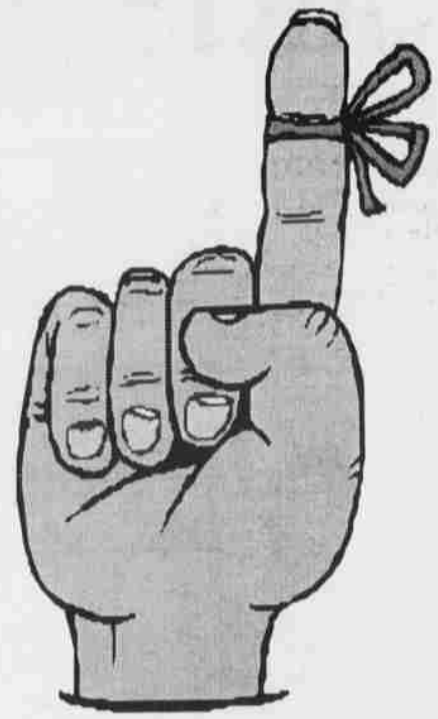
The company's classical and contemporary western repertoire includes "Swan Lake," "Giselle," "Le Corsaire," "La

Fille Mal Gardee," "Les Sylphides," "Don Quixote," "In The Mountain Forest" and "Romeo and Juliet." The Chinese works include "The Red Detachment of Women," "The Maid of the Sea," "Son and Daughter of the Grassland," "Ode to the Mountainous Yimeng," "The Imperial Concubine" and "The New Year Sacrifice."

Formed in 1959, the ballet company is considered a national treasure in China. In 1962, the Chinese government built six studios, an auditorium with a music recording studio, costume and set workshops, and an administration building for the ballet. By 1980, it was the largest ballet company of China, with dozens of classically trained dancers.

Ticket prices are \$27.50, \$37.50, \$75 and \$150. Students may purchase the \$27.50 ticket for \$26.

For more information, please call the Performing Arts Center box office, 895-3801.



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