

# Taiwan

Splendid for One Hundred

臺灣-燦爛100

Program Guide

San Antonio, TX

March-November, 2011

聖安東尼市文化事務辦公室

City of San Antonio

Office of Cultural Affairs

臺北文化中心

駐紐約臺北經濟文化辦事處

Taipei Cultural Center

Taipei Economic and Cultural

Office in New York

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# PREFACE

The Taipei Cultural Center of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in New York is the sole representative office in North America for the Council for Cultural Affairs, R.O.C. (Taiwan). Established in 1991, the Center seeks to promote greater understanding between Taiwan and North America by means of cultural exchange. The Center cooperates with major North American arts organizations to bring Taiwanese visual artists and performing arts groups to the United States and Canada for exhibitions and performances. Its events and programs simultaneously encourage foreign appreciation of Taiwanese art and strengthen ties of friendship between Taiwan and the countries of North America.

The Center is honored to collaborate with the City of San Antonio Office of Cultural Affairs on the arts festival “Taiwan: Splendid for One Hundred” bringing Taiwanese artists to San Antonio for exhibitions and performances in 2011 to celebrate the hundred-year anniversary of the founding of the Republic of China (Taiwan).

“Taiwan: Splendid for One Hundred” began in March 2011. On March 12th Luminaria invited three Taiwanese lantern masters—Lu Ping-cheng, Lin Chung-yao and Wang Yao-teng—to showcase the beauty of Taiwanese lantern art with an exhibit entitled “Seeing Life’s Inner Glow.” On September 7th FotoSeptiembre will host three Taiwanese photographers, Wu Cheng-chang, Isa Ho and Chang Chao-tang. On October 1 the San Antonio Museum of Art will host “5000 Years of Chinese Jade,” featuring selections from the National Museum of History in Taiwan and the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution, one of the largest exhibitions of Chinese jade ever presented outside of Taiwan. The Taipei Folk Dance Theatre is scheduled to perform “Dances over Taiwan” on September 30th and October 1st, and to conclude the festival Taiwan’s renowned Cloud Gate Dance Theatre will perform its newest piece “Water Stains on the Wall” on November 1st.

The Center hopes the events and programs of “Taiwan: Splendid for One Hundred” will further foster appreciation of Taiwanese art and strengthen the friendship between Taiwan and the city of San Antonio. For details about the events, please consult the Center’s website at [www.tpecc.org](http://www.tpecc.org).

# TAIWANESE LANTERN MASTERS & 2011 LUMINARIA

**March 12, 2011**

Hemis Fair Park, San Antonio, TX

[www.luminarias.org](http://www.luminarias.org)

Luminaria is San Antonio's annual celebration of art and artists. Held in March and overseen by San Antonio's creative leaders, it is free of charge and showcases all art forms in an outdoor setting and inside various venues downtown. Luminaria spotlights San Antonio's cultural assets for local citizens and visitors alike and is made possible through the generosity of artists, arts organizations, volunteers, and public and private donations.

This year, for the first time, the San Antonio Office of Cultural Affairs invited three Taiwanese lantern masters to participate in Luminaria. These three Taiwanese craftsmen, Lu Ping-cheng, Wang Yao-teng, and Lin Chung-yao, created a monumental work of lantern art entitled *Seeing Life's Inner Glow*, combining contemporary and traditional Eastern touches. This unique work showcases Taiwan's art of lantern making, a craft rooted in traditional folk arts but enriched by modern technology; the result was a stunning piece of contemporary art. In addition, attendees at the festival released hundreds of flying "sky lanterns," a fitting prelude to Taiwan's centennial celebration series "Taiwan-Splendid for One Hundred."



▲ *Seeing Life's Inner Glow* | Photo by Liu Jong-geng



Photo by Liu Jong-geng | *Seeing Life's Inner Glow* ▲

# 5000 YEARS OF CHINESE JADES

Featuring Selections from the National Museum of History, Taiwan  
and the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Smithsonian Institution

**October 1, 2011-February 19, 2012**

San Antonio Museum of Art  
200 West Jones Avenue San Antonio, Texas 78215

Tel: (210) 9788100 Web: [www.samuseum.org](http://www.samuseum.org)

Curator: John Johnston

This major international exhibition organized by the San Antonio Museum of Art examines the art historical importance of jade in Chinese culture. Ninety jade objects spanning the Neolithic period to the 19th century will be included in the exhibition. Most of the jade objects included in the exhibition will be on loan from the National Museum of History in Taipei, Taiwan. The exhibition, titled 5,000 Years of Chinese Jade Featuring Selections from the National Museum of History, Taiwan and the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, is organized by John Johnston, SAMA's Coates-Cowden-Brown Curator of Asian Art. Mr. Johnston has worked closely with colleagues at the prestigious National Museum of History in Taipei in developing this important survey of Chinese jade.

5,000 Years of Chinese Jade offers a stunning visual journey through themes and time periods important in the history of jade in China. The exhibition will be chronologically in five main periods: Neolithic, Shang to Zhou dynasty, Han to Tang dynasty, Liao to Ming dynasties, and the Qing dynasty. Primary subjects and themes in the exhibition are weapons, objects, adornments and jewellery, and vessels. Most of the jade items borrowed from Taiwan for this exhibition will be on view for the first time in America.

An important partner in 5,000 Years of Chinese Jade is the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery at the Smithsonian Institution. The Sackler Gallery forms part of America's National Museum of Asian Art. Twenty-five important jade works of art from the Sackler Galleries will complement the material on loan from the National Museum of History, Taiwan.



▲ Dragon-shaped Pendant | Courtesy of the National Museum of History, Taiwan



▲ **Arc-shaped Pendant with Dragon Design, huang** | Courtesy of the National Museum of History, Taiwan



▲ **Archer's Thumbring** | Courtesy of the National Museum of History, Taiwan

5,000 Years of Chinese Jade will have a strong educational component that will complement Taiwan-focused programming presented by the Office of Cultural Affairs and other local organizations throughout the year. Public programs such as traditional Chinese music performances, lectures, and films will present diverse aspects of Chinese culture. SAMA's trained guides will lead tours through the exhibition for audiences of various ages, including school groups.

5,000 Years of Chinese Jade represents a major moment in the study and presentation of Chinese jade in the United States. Though jade is a subject of strong interest to scholars and collectors, there have been very few exhibitions on jade in recent years. The exhibition also coincides with Taiwan's centennial celebration, "Taiwan: Splendid for One Hundred" in San Antonio. In addition to 5,000 Years of Chinese Jade, a wide variety of visual and performing arts from Taiwan will be showcased in San Antonio throughout the year. This exhibition will help familiarize the American public with the sophistication and grandeur of traditional Chinese culture.

In conjunction with the exhibition, SAMA will produce a full-color catalogue featuring scholarly essays. The exhibition catalogue will be an important new resource for the study of Chinese jade and will include an essay by Mr. John Johnston, Dr. Lai-Pik Chan, and Ms. Shwu-Shin Lin, Curator Emeritus for Jade at the National Museum of History, Taipei.

#### Photo info

**Archer's Thumbring** | Warring States period, 480-221 BC

Height 2.6 x Width 2.2 x Depth 0.1 in. / Courtesy of the National Museum of History, Taiwan

**Arc-shaped Pendant with Dragon Design, huang** | Spring and Autumn period, 770-476 BC

Length 3.9 x Width 1.0 x Depth 0.1 in. / Courtesy of the National Museum of History, Taiwan

**Archer's Thumbring** | Neolithic period, 5200-4200 BC

Dia. 5.3 x Depth 0.1 in. / Courtesy of the National Museum of History, Taiwan

# ANIMAL INSTINCT

The Photographs of Daniel Lee

**September 3, 2011 - February 19, 2012**

San Antonio Museum of Art  
200 West Jones Avenue San Antonio, Texas 78215  
Tel: (210) 9788100 Web: [www.samuseum.org](http://www.samuseum.org)  
Curator: David S. Rubin

“Origin” is a series of manipulated photo images and animation created in 1999, depicting an imaginary version of human evolution. The artist envisions ten stages of human evolution, beginning with fish (coelacanth) and progressing through reptile, monkey, and other life forms.

The coming of the new millennium—the year 2000, a grand new beginning—provided Lee with the inspiration for this work. The project began when The New York Times Magazine invited Lee to create a self-portrait for a special technology issue in 1997. Lee made a sequence of four portraits showing a human evolving from an ape-like form, then pushed it further, imagining that all mammals, as well as reptiles and fishes, were originally related to us.

Lee photographed his models with strobe lighting in front of seamless paper, using a Lite Phase digital camera back on a Hasselblad camera. Thanks to digital technology, he was able to photograph each model separately in his studio. He then digitally arranged the furniture and set it against the background of a SoHo restaurant.

Daniel Lee's latest work, "Nightlife," is a portrayal of the basic, animal interactions that occur between people in today's urban environment. Its centerpiece is a mural depicting the ecological diversity found within an ordinary street cafe. There are ten additional portraits segregating the scene into smaller habitats.



2001, ink jet on vinyl | **Nightlife** ▲

# FOTOSEPTIEMBRE USA-SAFOTO

International Photography Festival

The FOTOSEPTIEMBRE USA-SAFOTO International Photography Festival is a unique and eclectic forum for the exhibition and celebration of photography and photography-based art forms.

For fifteen years, the FOTOSEPTIEMBRE USA-SAFOTO Festival has fostered a growing interest in the photographic arts in South Texas, with established and mid-career artists showcasing their talents alongside a burgeoning pool of avid photographic artists and enthusiasts. This growth reflects a deep interest in photography both as an art form and as a means of personal and cultural expression, and is indicative of the enthusiasm with which San Antonians have embraced the Festival.

This year, for the first time, Taiwanese photographers have been invited to participate in FOTOSEPTIEMBRE USA-SAFOTO. Their inclusion in the event coincides with Taiwan's centennial celebration, "Taiwan: Splendid for One Hundred." The Taiwanese photographers to be featured in this festival are Wu Cheng-chang, recent winner of The Power of Self, "an international search for the world's most compelling self-portraits" ; Isa Ho (Ho Meng-chuan); and Chang Chao-tang, winner of Taiwan's 30th National Cultural Award.

Images of the photographers' works can be seen on the SAFOTO WEB GALLERIES. Framed photographs will be on display at the Instituto Cultural de México and International Center, San Antonio.



▲ Riverbed | Inkjet Print, 2009

# FOTOSEPTIEMBRE USA-SAFOTO

International Photography Festival / WU Cheng-chang

**September 3, 2011 - October 24, 2011**

Instituto Cultural de México, San Antonio

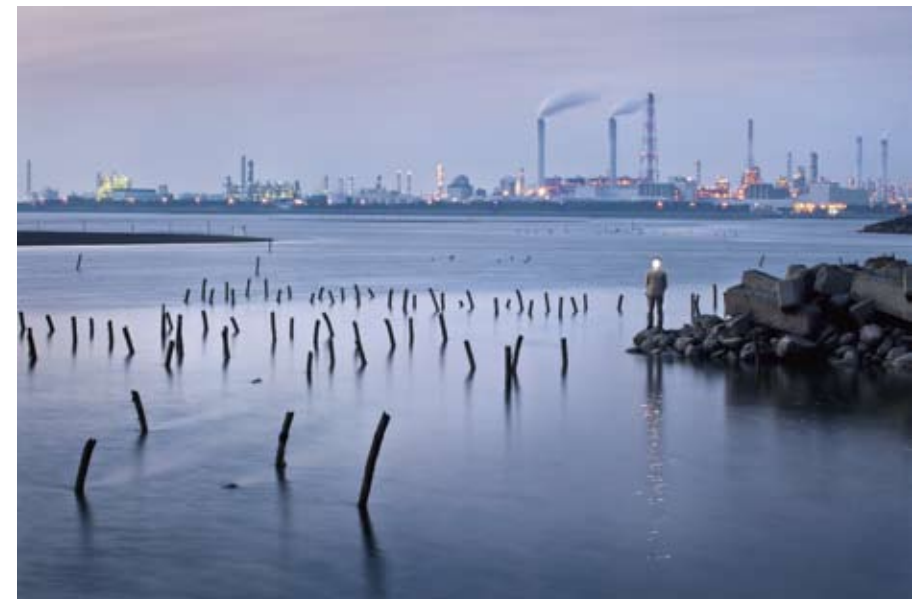
600 Hemisfair Park, San Antonio, TX 78205

Tel: (210) 2270123 Web: : [www.saculturamexico.org](http://www.saculturamexico.org)

Curator: Michael Mehl

The Vision of Taiwan series is made up of documentary photography, which places special emphasis upon the relationship between humans and their surroundings. In this case, this relationship is embodied in a kind of surrealistic atmosphere created by the observer's calm, critical stance in the face of large unavoidable realities. Though these images manifest disappointment and pessimism vis-a-vis the current state of Taiwan's environment, they still express idealism and hope for positive reform.

For Cheng-Chang Wu, photography is a means of finding emotional relief. To produce these images he stood in a space and photographed himself with long exposures, subjecting himself to constant flashes of light. The intensity of the flashes created an unexpected emotional release, temporarily blinding him to his surroundings. In these images, external reality has disappeared: the artist is looking without seeing.



2010, Inkjet Print | Taihsi ▲



# FOTOSEPTIEMBRE USA-SAFOTO

International Photography Festival / Isa Ho (Ho Meng-chuan)

**September 3, 2011 - October 24, 2011**

Instituto Cultural de México, San Antonio

600 Hemisfair Park, San Antonio, TX 78205

Tel: (210) 2270123 Web: : [www.saculturamexico.org](http://www.saculturamexico.org)

Curator: Michael Mehl



▲ Fairy tales- princess Ariel | Inkjet on Alucobond, 2009

Fairy tales are called fairy tales because they provide a clear, simple vision of reality and always end happily. As children, we were all told that prince and the princess lived happily ever after, and we were made to understand that marriage was synonymous with happiness. In Taiwan, the "compromise" inherent in marriage gives free rein to the values of the older generation. Society necessitates that women get married, and looking forward to an idealized dream provides a spiritual pillar for them.

Isa Ho dares to suggest that disillusionment with fairy tales is a common experience for modern women in Taiwan. As an artist, she is interested in the ways in which disillusionment with myths is an experience shared by all people. Both for women and men, there numerous ways in which contemporary Taiwanese society forces one to compromise. In her work, Ho takes a positive angle on this negative experience: "When people have to compromise, it is important that they adjust well psychologically, that their psyches keep pace with reality." It is all too common that people sacrifice well-being in the moment for dreams of long-term happiness. If people approach compromise in this manner, it could give rise to social problems.

# FOTOSEPTIEMBRE USA-SAFOTO

International Photography Festival / Chang Chao-tang

**September 3, 2011 - October 24, 2011**

Instituto Cultural de México, San Antonio  
600 Hemisfair Park, San Antonio, TX 78205 Tel: (210) 2270123

Web: : [www.saculturamexico.org](http://www.saculturamexico.org) Curator: Michael Mehl

**September 7, 2011- November 20, 2011**

City of San Antonio International Center  
203 South Saint Mary's San Antonio, TX 78205

Tel: (210)2273335 Curator: Michael Mehl



▲ Panchiao | Inkjet Print, 1962

Chang Chao-tang is arguably the greatest Taiwanese photographer of his age. As an artist, Chang remains ever intriguing and unpredictable. Though his work is grounded in solid realities, his soul sails high above worldly concerns.

Chang grew up in the repressive society of 1950s-60s Taiwan, and as this environment lingered well into the 80s it dominated most of his creative life. During this period of political repression, Taiwanese photographic culture was impoverished. Chang's photography, born of this political and cultural stagnation, became a lone, soaring melody in counterpoint to the strictures of the era.

In retrospect, it is clear why expressions of surrealism, the Theatre of the Absurd, and alienated viewpoints saturate Chang's work. For him, these visual languages are first and foremost a form of resistance against, and salvation from, cruel realities. His early work in the 1960s is filled with a visceral tension reflecting his own repressed, anxious feelings as a young photographer—the stamp of a society that allows no outlets for the liberation of the soul.

The years from 1970 to 1985 are considered Chang's peak period. Some of his works from this time are consistent with his older style of cold, eccentric visual devices, but many of his representative works from this period reveal a new kind of warmth, a simple affirmation of humanity. Changes in subject matter and visual devices make his works from this period vastly different from those produced before the 1970s. Chang's photography since 1986, however, juxtaposes the ambiguous, ghostly style of his early works with this sense of freedom and generosity toward human life.

All the images in Chang's work are based on real people or locations, but few of them appeal to everyday, superficial emotions. Rather, his images are encoded with subtle metaphors that vault them above the everyday. Hiding modestly behind his work, Chang is a giant of modern Taiwanese photography. His art is an invaluable asset both to Taiwanese photography and to the art of all Asian societies.

Figurelessness of a Mighty Figure: The Photographic Art of Chang Chao-tang

By Kuo Li-hsin

# TAIPEI FOLK DANCE THEATRE

## Sep 24, 2011 at 8:00 PM

LeFrak Concert Hall, Queens College, New York  
Flushing, NY 11365

Tel: (718) 7938080 Web: [www.KupferbergCenterArts.org](http://www.KupferbergCenterArts.org)

## Sep 25, 2011 at 6:30 PM

Parsippany Hills High School, New Jersey  
20 Rita Dr. Morris Plains, NJ 07950

Tel: (973)6591350 Ext. 110

## Sep 30& Oct 1, 2011 at 8:00 PM

Magik Theatre, San Antonio  
420 South Alamo, San Antonio, TX78205

Tel: (210)2272751 Web: [www.magiktheatre.org](http://www.magiktheatre.org)

## Oct 2, 2011 at 8:00 PM

Intercontinental Hotel & Resorts DALLAS  
15201 Dallas Parkway, TX 75001

Tel: (214) 7284425 (214) 5363968

## Taipei Folk Dance Theatre

Taipei Folk Dance Theatre was founded in September 1988 by Professor Tsai Li-hua. As the first professional ethnic dance company in Taiwan, its mission is to promote and preserve Taiwan's rich and diverse dance heritage, especially the dance traditions of the island's colorful aboriginal tribes, which show the clear influence of Chinese traditional dance.

The company is renowned for its unique style of traditional Taiwanese folk dance, based on Professor Tsai's years of field research and her painstaking documentation of music and movement. In preserving Taiwan's heritage, Tsai has imbued it with present day theater techniques without sacrificing its ethnic origins. The company has presented over 700 performances in more than 40 countries around the world.

## Dances Over Taiwan

Dances Over Taiwan consists of highlights from Taipei Folk Dance Theatre's performances over the past two decades, choreographed by the company's founder and artistic director Tsai Li-hua. The program includes the new work "Joy of Zen," the acclaimed martial arts piece "Images of Kung-Fu," the ethnic-flavored "Hakka Love Songs," and "Song of Kavalan," which draws on folk themes to evoke a rustic, local atmosphere. Pieces such as "If the Heart as a Window of Life Opens..." and the iconic "Homage to the Gods" showcase Taipei Folk Dance Theatre's unique dance style, which blends folk traditions with modern artistry, breathing new life into an ancient culture.



Photo by Huang Hao-liang | Meditation Through the Flower ▲

# CLOUD GATE DANCE THEATRE OF TAIWAN

**Oct 6, 2011 at 7:30 PM & Oct 7, 2011 at 8:00 PM**

Memorial Hall, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Raleigh & Cameron Streets, Chapel Hill, NC 27599

Tel: (919)8433333 Web: [www.carolinaperformingarts.org](http://www.carolinaperformingarts.org)

**Oct 12 – 15, 2011 at 7:30 PM**

Howard Gilman Opera House, Next Wave Festival, Brooklyn Academy of Music, New York

30 Lafayette Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11217-1486 Tel: (718)6364100 Web: [www.bam.org](http://www.bam.org)

**Oct 21 & 22, 2011 at 8:00 PM**

Power Center for the Performing Arts, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

121 Fletcher Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 Tel: (734)7633333 Web: [www.ums.org](http://www.ums.org)

**Oct 28 - 29, 2011 at 8:00 PM**

Harris Theater for Music and Dance, Dance Center of Columbia College, Chicago

205 E. Randolph Drive, Chicago, IL, 60601 Tel: (312)3347777 Web: [www.harristheaterchicago.org](http://www.harristheaterchicago.org)

**Nov 1, 2011 at 7:30 PM**

Lila Cockrell Theatre, San Antonio

200 E Market St, San Antonio, TX 78201 Tel: (210) 2078500 Web: [www.sahearts.com](http://www.sahearts.com)

## Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan

With dancers trained in *chi kung*, meditation and internal martial arts, Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan transforms ancient aesthetics into thrilling modern celebrations of motion. The company has received high acclaims throughout the world. Among them, *Cursive: A Trilogy* was elected as the "best dance choreography" of 2006 by Ballet-Tanz and Theaterheute, Germany, while *Moon Water* topped the list of best dance events of 2003 chosen by the *New York Times*.

"No company in the world dances like Cloud Gate. It presents a distinct and mature Chinese choreographic language. The importance of this evolution in Asian dance is no less profound than the impact of Forsythe's Ballett Frankfurt on European classical ballet."

---- *Dance Europe*



Photo by Liu Chen-hsiang | **Water Stains on the Wall** ▲

## Lin Hwai-min

Artistic Director of Cloud Gate, Lin Hwai-min is heralded as “the most important choreographer in Asia” by *Berliner Morgenpost*. He is a recipient of John D. Rockefeller 3rd Award, New York; “Chevalier of the Order of Arts and Letters” from France Ministry of Culture; and Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Movimentos Dance Prize, Germany. He was celebrated by *Time* magazine as one of the “Asia’s Heroes” in 2005.

### Water Stains on the Wall (2010)

In this new creation, Lin Hwai-min challenges the Cloud Gate dancers who “possess a control and articulation that verge on the superhuman” (*Chicago Sun Times*), with the daunting task of dancing on the tilted stage with an eight-degree inclination.

Covered with white Marley, the entire set looks like a blank rice paper, onto which negative images of drifting clouds in different shades of black are projected, bringing Chinese landscape ink painting to life on stage. Accompanied by the renowned contemporary Japanese composer Toshio Hosokawa’s Zen-like music using traditional Asian instruments, the dancers whirl and leap on the top of the ramp with deceiving ease...

A stunning work of spellbinding beauty that is both sublime and mesmerizing.



Photo by Liu Chen-hsiang | **Water Stains on the Wall** ▲



▲ **Water Stains on the Wall** | Photo by Liu Chen-hsiang



Photo by Liu Chen-hsiang | **Water Stains on the Wall** ▲



REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) CENTENNIAL

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