

**HAMMER THEATRE CENTER PRESENTS
CHINESE FABLES & FAIRYTALES BY
GUGU DRUM GROUP
7:30pm, Friday, January 31, 2020**

SAN JOSE, CA (17 December 2019) – Chinese fables and fairytales will come to life onstage in a thrilling performance when **Hammer Theatre Center** presents **GuGu Drum Group**, the high energy drumming ensemble from Shanghai. The group, which captured international attention for its appearance in the 2008 Beijing Olympic opening ceremonies, uses percussion to weave together ancient Chinese stories. In this performance, old proverbs and fables such as “King Quin & His Troops,” “Bull & Tiger,” and “Women Generals of Yang Family” are presented through colorful costumes and epic drum performances. Dancers and drummers unite to recreate these timeless pieces, throwbacks to ancient Chinese Dynasties with a modern twist, offering a lively performance that illustrates China’s extensive history through rhythm. **GuGu Drum Group** will perform **7:30pm, Friday, January 31** at the **Hammer Theatre Center**, 101 Paseo De San Antonio, San Jose. For more information and tickets (\$25-\$35), the public may visit www.hammertheatre.com or call **(408) 924-8501**.

Director **Yang Xiaodong** recreates authentic ancient drum movements representing a powerful lineage dating back to the times of the Emperors of Chinese Dynasties. In one segment “The Bull and Tiger” meet, play, and fight; in the “Dragon Drum,” performers present a thrilling display of pure force and athleticism; and the “Boatmen on the Yellow River” offers an homage to Huáng Hé, the sixth longest river in the world. Through the magic of drum and dance, these ancient fables and fairytales are brought to life in a captivating production that can be enjoyed by all ages.

The **Hammer Theatre Center** is a distinctive, state-of-the-art performance venue in the heart of downtown San José. Owned by the City of San Jose and operated by San Jose

State University (SJSU), the Hammer Theatre’s mission is to serve the community through artistically and educationally excellent programming that is expressive of the unique characteristics and diverse cultures that comprise Silicon Valley. The broader vision of the Hammer includes arts, innovation, and technology programming on the Paseo de San Antonio, creating a vibrant pathway between SJSU and the Tech Museum and bridging the urban spaces from Saint James Park down to the South of First Avenue cultural district. The Hammer also aims to connect SJSU’s more than 37,000 faculty, students, and staff with the downtown cultural and economic corridors.

For Calendar Editors

WHAT: Chinese fables and fairytales will come to life onstage in a thrilling performance when **Hammer Theatre Center** presents **GuGu Drum Group**, the high energy drumming ensemble from Shanghai. The group, which captured international attention for its appearance in the 2008 Beijing Olympic opening ceremonies, uses percussion to weave together ancient Chinese stories. In this performance, old proverbs and fables such as “King Quin & His Troops,” “Bull & Tiger,” and “Women Generals of Yang Family” are presented through colorful costumes and epic drum performances. Dancers and drummers unite to recreate these timeless pieces, throwbacks to ancient Chinese Dynasties with a modern twist, offering a lively performance that illustrates China’s extensive history through rhythm.

WHERE: **Hammer Theatre Center**
101 Paseo De San Antonio, San José
(Between 2nd and 3rd Streets)

WHEN: **7:30pm, Friday, January 31, 2020**

INFO: For tickets (\$25-\$35; senior and student discounts available) the public may visit www.hammertheatre.com or call **(408) 924-8501**.

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PRESS: Contact Steph Keay, Carla Befera & Co.
(650) 327-1200 | steph@cb-pr.com

PHOTOS: Media may download high-res photos at:
<http://cbpr.co/press/hammerwinter20>