



APASA  
ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN  
STUDENT ASSEMBLY

**Traditional Chinese  
Dance at USC  
Presents**

# Ephemeral

**Bovard Auditorium  
Sunday, March 2nd, 2025  
7:30-9:30PM  
Doors open at 7PM**

# *A Letter from our Co-Captains*

Dear friends and family,

Welcome to *Ephemeral* – USC Traditional Chinese Dance Company's 20th annual showcase!

It has been an honor and joy to lead such a talented group of dancers and choreographers, watching their passion and skills flourish. Since last September, we have worked with dedication and passion to prepare for today's performance, and we are excited to share the results with you. Tonight, we invite you to experience the beauty and richness of traditional Chinese dance with us.

Every performance you see tonight has been brought to life by our student choreographers, showcasing a diverse array of dance styles from various ethnic groups across China. The first act features a collection of performances from our dancers, TCD alumni, and special guests from USC Kung Fu. In the second half, we reimagine the legendary tale of Chang'e and Hou Yi, the story behind China's Mid-Autumn Festival.

Sit back, relax, and enjoy the show – and don't forget to applaud!

Sincerely,  
Jenny Guo and Anna Liu



**Jenny Guo**  
Senior  
Computer Science  
&  
Business Admin

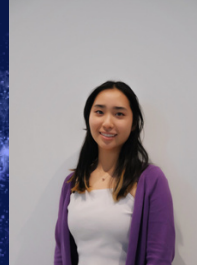
I loved going to Wingstop with E-Board after a rainy photoshoot day



**Anna Liu**  
Junior  
Biochemistry

My favorite memory was learning new dance moves like bunny jumps and the worm from team members

# Executive Board



**Natalie Hsia**  
Sophomore  
Computer Science

Random food runs

Director of Arts &  
Creativity



**Kylie Meng-Lin**  
Senior  
Neuroscience

Playing card games  
on Catalina Island!

Director of Internal  
Relations



**Karissa Yan**  
Junior  
Biological Sciences,  
Anthropology

Sweating, laughing,  
dancing with  
everyone

Director of Public  
Relations



# Special Thanks to our *Choreographers*



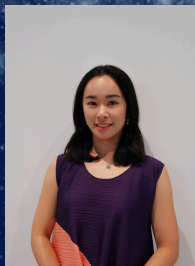
**Leya Li**  
Alumnus  
Pharmaceutical  
Sciences

Sore legs and back  
after spring previews



**Yiqi Xiong**  
Alumnus  
Applied Data Science

Happy 4th anniversary  
with TCD!



**Anna Tung**  
Graduate Student  
PhD Biomedical  
Engineering

Laughing, jumping,  
and galloping on  
Lyon grassland!



**Benjamin Xie**  
Senior  
Neuroscience

Doing egg rolls

## *Dancer Bios*

*and our favorite memories...*



**Anna Katherine Zhao**  
Senior  
Computer Science

Bowling social with  
my TCD  
choreography group  
<3



**Camryn Chun**  
Junior  
Theatre

Our picnic social after  
the first practice of the  
season!





**Catherine Chen**

Sophomore  
Architecture

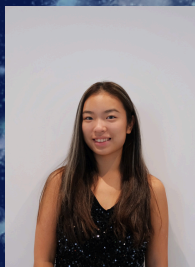
The sense of community on show day, and everyone changing and cheering together backstage



**Christina Zhang**

Senior  
Economics,  
Accounting

Kylie's dance members went bowling together :)



**Cindy Yang**

Senior  
Economics, Religion,  
Finance

Practicing with Anna's team - everyone is so nice :)



**Doris Li**

Freshman  
Physics, Business  
Administration

Practicing Dai dance with TCD members



**Elaina Xi**

Senior  
Communication  
Management

Finished 2024 showcase and had a barbecue with my lovely dance-mates!!!



**Emily Pan**

Graduate Student  
M.S. Computer  
Science

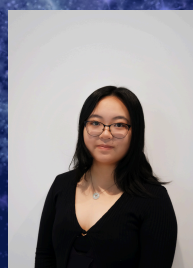
Practices in PED



**George Yang**

Senior  
Computer Science

Seeing everything come together at the showcase!



**Ivy Tan**

Sophomore  
Public Policy

Weekly practices at Kaufman!



**Jacqueline Choi**

Sophomore  
Psychology &  
Business  
Administration

Spring preview when everyone's vision & dances come to life!



**Jessica Wang**

Junior  
Computer Science

Getting to meet so many people from different grades and majors who share the same passion as me!



**Jia Yang**  
Guest

Trying out for TCD  
and slowly gaining  
the confidence to join  
different pieces!



**Kathy Yang**  
Senior  
Finance &  
Accounting

Picnic social after the  
first practice of the  
season



**Lingyi Dong**  
Freshman  
Neuroscience

Fall preview of the  
show pieces during  
practice



**Melodie Cai**  
Graduate Student  
M.M. Piano  
Performance

bowling :)



**Mengjia Xu**  
Graduate Student  
M.M.S.

We're all dancing  
together. We're all  
getting better.



**Nanxi Wang**  
Graduate Student  
Financial  
Engineering

Dancing with y'all!!!!



**Rebecca Wang**  
Sophomore  
Economics & Data  
Science

Practicing with  
everyone!



**Vivian Pang**  
Sophomore  
Computer Science

Meeting new people!!



**Vivian Tan**  
Freshman  
Business  
Administration

The supportive cheers  
for each other during  
Fall previews!



**Xinrui Li**  
Graduate Student  
M.S. Analytics

Joining this great  
community





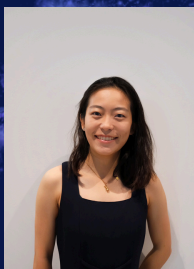
**Yanlin Zhu**  
Graduate Student  
Public Relations &  
Advertising

Seeing everyone's  
completed pieces  
during spring  
preview



**Yiran Tang**  
Graduate Student  
Physical Therapy

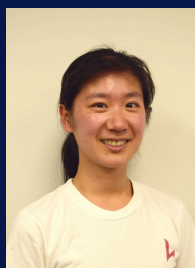
Rehearsing at Kaufman  
was always a joy.  
The arched window let  
in soft, warm sunlight,  
giving the studio an  
elegant atmosphere.



**Yumeng Zhang**  
Graduate Student  
M.S. Spatial Data  
Science

Dance with everyone  
and chat on the road

Special Thanks to our  
**Alumni**



**Annie Yu**



**Carolyn Song**



**Jessica Koe**



**Crystal Guo**



**Sharon Zhang**



**Thinh Nguyen**



# TCD Family



## SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Bovard Production Staff & Crew

USC Kung Fu

Annie Yu & the TCD Alumni

Jake Berg (Photographer)

Arpit Sutariya (Videographer)

Professor Yu-Chi Kuo (Faculty Advisor)

USC APASA

USC Program Board

USC Scheduling Office

USG Discretionary Board

SC Dance Community

# Act One

## TECHNIQUE PIECE 《技术展示》

Our dancers showcase their classical Chinese dance technique in this dynamic piece.

**Choreographed by:** Jenny Guo, Benjamin Xie

**Dancers:** All

## EVOLUTION - DANCING THROUGH TIME, WOVEN IN MEMORIES

With 20 annual showcases, TCD's rich dance history celebrates growth and change through time. TCD alumni present a look into the past two decades, sharing dances that reflect years of TCD memories and the journey ahead. No matter where life takes us, we will always have the joy of dance.

**Arranged by:** Annie Yu

**Adapted and Choreographed by:** Emily Shum, Lily Yin, Jessica Koe, Thinh Nguyen, Jade Gao, Sharon Zhang

**Dancers:** Annie Yu, Carolyn Song, Crystal Guo, Jessica Koe, Sharon Zhang, Thinh Nguyen

## THE IMPRESSION OF TANG DYNASTY 《唐印》

In a quiet night, the Tang San Cai lady figurines silently awaken. Transforming from sculptures to living beings, they gently stretch their bodies, transcending time and space to return to the glorious Tang Dynasty.

**Adapted by:** Yiqi Xiong

**Dancers:** Yiqi Xiong, Karissa Yan, Natalie Hsia, Anna Tung, Nanxi Wang, Christina Zhang, Elaina Xi, Xinrui Li, Lingyi Dong, Leya Li

## MIDNIGHT SONG 《子夜歌》

The thrill of waking up at midnight, sneaking out to meet a lover, only to find the lover was never there.

**Adapted by:** Anna Liu

**Dancer:** Anna Liu

## ODE TO THE CORALS 《珊瑚颂》

The dance symbolizes coral standing firm in the ocean, thriving against the waves. It reflects the Dai people's longing for a beautiful life and their reverence for nature.

**Adapted by:** Leya Li

**Dancers:** Leya Li, Karissa Yan, Emily Pan, Yumeng Zhang, Anna Katherine Zhao, Mengjia Xu, Rebecca Wang, Yiran Tang, Camryn Chun

## SPIRIT OF WATER 《水之灵》

The Dai people, known for their sharp and stylish peacock dances, celebrate their new year with the Water-Splashing Festival, a joyous event that represents cleansing and good fortune.

**Adapted by:** Anna Liu

**Dancers:** Anna Liu, Doris Li, Anna Tung, Nanxi Wang, Vivian Tan, Lingyi Dong, Jessica Wang, Cindy Yang

## ETERNAL YEARNING 《长相思》

The dance conveys the relentless pursuit of love and the sorrow of eternal separation.

**Adapted by:** Leya Li

**Dancer:** Leya Li

## USC KUNG FU 《武术表演》

Demonstrating the power, grace, and versatility of 武术, a Chinese martial art, through hand and weapon routines.

**Choreographed by:** Eric Yeh

## ECHOES OF FORGOTTEN SPRING 《遗春之音》

A soul wanders through the remnants of spring, caught between the warmth of love once held and the chill of its inevitable passing. This dance navigates the delicate space between longing and release, where unspoken emotions are left to float away, like petals in a forgotten breeze.

**Adapted by:** Natalie Hsia

**Dancers:** Natalie Hsia, Karissa Yan, Jenny Guo, Anna Liu, Kylie Meng-Lin, Anna Tung, Melodie Cai, Yanlin Zhu, Christina Zhang



## SCHOLARLY ASPIRATIONS 《儒生抒懷》

A full moon illuminates the grounds of a Han Dynasty palace. Young Confucian scholars, garbed in rich, elegant robes, gather to seek inspiration from the heavens. In the quiet evening, they conjure masterful works of prose, their noble bearing evident through their movements.

**Adapted by:** Benjamin Xie

**Dancers:** Benjamin Xie, George Yang, Catherine Chen, Emily Pan

## REDISCOVERING HOPE 《重燃希望》

Amid a tumultuous world, nine young individuals grapple with emotions of loneliness and uncertainty as they struggle against the currents of a world filled with fleeting chaos and unfulfilled dreams. This traditional-lyrical fusion piece explores the power of renewal and resilience, reminding us that even in our darkest moments, hope and strength can be reclaimed.

**Choreographed and Adapted by:** Kylie Meng-Lin

**Dancers:** Kylie Meng-Lin, Jenny Guo, Anna Liu, Natalie Hsia, Yiran Tang, Vivian Pang, Melodie Cai, Anna Katherine Zhao, Christina Zhang

## A BRANCH OF WILLOW 《折柳》

In ancient China, it was tradition to break a branch of willow to offer as a parting gift to a loved one who was leaving, symbolizing the reluctance to let them go and serving as a reminder that someone is missing them. This piece expresses the hopeful anticipation and soft yearning one feels awaiting a loved one's return, as well as the exuberant joy of reunion.

**Choreographed and Adapted by:** Karissa Yan

**Dancers:** Karissa Yan, Leya Li, Nanxi Wang, Catherine Chen, Ivy Tan, Kathy Yang, Vivian Tan, Mengjia Xu, Jacqueline Choi

## FLYING TIMES 《流光》

流光 represents both the shimmering light and the passing of time, like flowing water. It captures the innocence and joy of childhood, reflecting life's most beautiful moments. This dance tells the story of two sisters happily playing by a gently flowing creek. As they laugh and play, light and shadows dance around them, and time quietly slips away—like water, fleeting yet beautiful.

**Adapted by:** Yiran Tang, Yiqi Xiong

**Dancers:** Yiran Tang, Yiqi Xiong

## GALLOPING ACROSS THE ENDLESS PRAIRIE

### 《天涯馳騁》

This spirited Mongolian dance depicts the journey of growth, soaring to new heights and galloping freely across the vast grasslands, celebrating strength, freedom, and triumph.

**Adapted by:** Anna Tung

**Dancers:** Anna Tung, Anna Liu, Natalie Hsia, Emily Pan, Xinrui Li, Yumeng Zhang, Jia Yang, Rebecca Wang

## THREE INCHES OF HEAVEN 《三寸天堂》

This dance is about embracing the bittersweet beauty of a fleeting love, savoring every moment — the three inches of heaven — before it slips away.

**Adapted by:** Jenny Guo

**Dancer:** Jenny Guo

## ODE TO THE BAIYIN JULIHE MOUNTAIN

### 《白音居日和山頌》

This is a Mongolian folk song that was originally performed during mountain god worship ceremonies. It celebrates the majesty and abundance of Baiyin Julihe Mountain while also expressing a plea for the blessings of the mountain god.

**Adapted by:** Leya Li

**Dancers:** Jia Yang, Yiqi Xiong, Anna Tung, Leya Li

## GRAIN IN EAR 《芒种》

芒种 is a day in June that represents one of the busiest days in the Chinese agricultural calendar, where the crops from the first planting season are harvested and the seeds for the second planting season are sowed. Grain in Ear represents the celebration of hearing the crops ready to harvest sway in the wind as well as the preparation for the hard work that will ensue.

**Adapted by:** Anna Liu

**Dancers:** Jenny Guo, Anna Liu, Karissa Yan, Kylie Meng-Lin, Natalie Hsia

# Act Two

## TO THE MOON AND BACK 《嫦娥奔月》

### CAST

Chang E: Anna Tung

Hou Yi: Rebecca Wang

Bunny: Anna Liu

Xiwangmu Queen Goddess: Vivian Pang

Goddess Handmaidens: Karissa Yan,

Jenny Guo

Villain: Eric Yeh

Parent: Jia Yang

Child: Melodie Cai





## LOVE UNDER THE SKY

Hou Yi, the mighty archer, meets Chang E, a beautiful and graceful woman, and they fall deeply in love.

**Adapted by:** Natalie Hsia

**Dancers:** Anna Tung, Rebecca Wang

## A HERO'S SHOT

To save the world from scorching heat, Hou Yi bravely shoots down nine of the ten suns that once burned the Earth. His heroic act earns him the admiration of the people and the gods.

**Adapted by:** Natalie Hsia

**Dancer:** Rebecca Wang

## ELIXIR OF IMMORTALITY

A magical rabbit brews the elixir of immortality for the queen goddess.

**Adapted by:** Anna Liu

**Dancer:** Anna Liu

## A DIVINE GIFT

The Celestial goddesses present Hou Yi with the elixir of immortality as a reward for his bravery.

**Adapted by:** Jenny Guo

**Dancers:** Vivian Pang, Karissa Yan, Jenny Guo

## DUEL OF FATE

While Hou Yi is out hunting, a treacherous villain, driven by greed and envy, tries to steal the elixir from Chang E, seeking to gain immortality for himself.

**Choreographed by:** Anna Liu, Natalie Hsia, Eric Yeh

**Dancers:** Anna Tung, Eric Yeh



## MOONLIT LAMENT

Now alone on the moon, Chang E mourns her lost love, forever separated from Hou Yi.

**Adapted by:** Anna Tung

**Dancer:** Anna Tung

## A LOVE REMEMBERED

Reunited in the afterlife, Chang E and Hou Yi mourn their lost dreams and the separation forced upon them. Their connection endures even in sorrow, as they recall happier times.

**Adapted by:** Jenny Guo

**Dancers:** Anna Tung, Rebecca Wang

## CELEBRATION

Every year during the Mid-Autumn Festival, people gather to celebrate the eternal love of Hou Yi and Chang E. As the moon shines brightly, families reunite, share mooncakes, and honor the celestial bond that transcends time.

**Adapted by:** Jenny Guo, Anna Liu, Kylie Meng-Lin

**Dancers:** Melodie Cai, Jia Yang





Contact Us:

[usctcdance@gmail.com](mailto:usctcdance@gmail.com)

Instagram: [@tcdatusc](https://www.instagram.com/tcdatusc)

Youtube: [TCDance at USC](https://www.youtube.com/TCDance)