

GLOSSARY

Bold terms are defined elsewhere in the glossary.

Antonioni, Michelangelo (1912–2007)

Italian filmmaker invited to China in 1972 to make a documentary about the country; the film *Chung Kuo (China)* was rejected as a failure by the Chinese government for many years until it was finally accepted in 2004 and shown at the Beijing Film Academy festival in honor of Antonioni's work.

Bai Juyi 白居易 (772–846)

Famous poet of the **Tang dynasty** who wrote *Song of Eternal Sorrow*, chronicling the dissolution of **Emperor Tang Xuanzong's** rule as he turned all his attention to music and his beloved dancer **Yang Guifei**.

Baixi 百戏 hundred entertainments

Major performing art of the **Han dynasty**; a variety show including music, dance, acrobatics, horsemanship and more; developed from the competitive displays of **judexi** during the Western Han dynasty (206 BCE–23 CE).

Bayiwu 八佾舞 Confucius dance

Ceremonial dance performed annually in honor of Confucius's birthday.

Beijing Dance Academy 北京舞蹈学院 *Beijingwudaoxueyuan*

Established in 1954 as the Beijing Dance School, Beijing, China; first official dance education institute in China.

Beijing opera or Peking opera 平剧 or 京剧 *Pingju* or *Jingju*

Form of Chinese opera most familiar in the West.

Book of Calligraphy 书谱 *Shupu*

Treatise on calligraphy written by master Sun Guoting 孫過庭 during the **Tang dynasty**.

Cai (Tsai), Li-Hua 蔡麗華

Dancer, choreographer; founded **Taipei Folk Dance Theater** in 1988.

Cai, Lily 蔡福丽

Dancer, choreographer; born in Shanghai; founder of Lily Cai Chinese Dance Company in San Francisco, 1988.

Cai qiao 踩跷

Use of special wooden shoes to imitate the walking movement of women with bound feet.

Central Academy of Drama 中央戏剧学院 *Zhongyangsijuxueyuan*

Established in 1950, Beijing, China.

Ceremonial or religious dance 祭祀舞蹈 *jisiwudao*

Dance used in the practice of religious or secular rituals.

- Chen, Hsueh-Tung 陈学同 (b. 1947)
Dancer, choreographer; born in Shanghai and raised in Taiwan; founder of H.T. Chen and Dancers 陈学同现代舞蹈团 in New York, 1978.
- Chen, Nai-Ni 陳乃霓
Dancer, choreographer; born in Taiwan; founder of Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company 陳乃霓舞團 in New York, 1988.
- China Song and Dance Ensemble of the People's Liberation Army 中国人民解放军总政歌舞团 Zhongguorenminjiefangjunzongzhenggewutuan
Established in 1953, Beijing, China; also known as China Dance Theater.
- Chinese classical court (palace) dance 中国古典宫廷舞 Zhongguogudiangongtingwu
Mainly derived from the Han people's dances; performed in royal palaces throughout the dynasties.
- Chinese Culture University 私立中國文化大學 Silizhongguowenhudaxue
Established the first university-level dance department in Taiwan, 1964.
- Chinese Dancers' Association 中国舞蹈家协会 Zhongguowudaojiaxiehui
Government organization established in July 1949; subgroups are the National Folk Dance Research institute, Ethnic Minority Dance Society, Ballet Society, China Dance History Research institute, Dance Aesthetics Research Society, and Dance Teaching Society; publishes bimonthly magazine *Dance* and book series *Theories on Dances*.
- Chinese National Academy of Arts 中国艺术研究院 Zhongguoyuishuyanjiuyuan
Established in 1951, Beijing, China.
- Chinese State Circus
Established by British circus director Philip Gadney in the 1990s; an independent production employing Chinese acrobats, the Chinese State Circus is not associated with the Chinese government.
- Choe, Sung-hui 崔承喜 (1911–1967) (also Cui Shengxi, Choe Seung-hui, Choi Shunghui, or Choe Sung-Hee; or, in Japanese, Sai Shoki)
Dancer, choreographer; born in Korea; studied with **Ishii Baku** in Japan; created a fusion of traditional Korean dance and modern; led Dance Research Workshop under **Ouyang Yuqiang** at the **Central Academy for Dramatic Arts**.
- City Contemporary Dance Company 城市当代舞蹈团 Chengshidangdaiwudaotuan
Prominent contemporary dance company in Hong Kong; founded by **Willy Tsao** in 1979.
- Cloud Gate Dance Theater 雲門舞集 Yunmenwuji
Prominent contemporary dance company in Taiwan; founded by **Lin Hwaimin** in 1973.
- Confucius dance 八佾舞 bayiwu
Ceremonial dance performed annually in honor of Confucius's birthday.
- Cultural Revolution 文化大革命 Wenhudageming
Decade-long (1966–1976) attempt to reignite the spirit of the Communist

revolution through ideological cleansing of perceived bourgeois influences and mass mobilization of Chinese youth.

Dai, Ailian 戴爱莲 Madame Dai (1916–2006)

Dancer, choreographer; born in Trinidad; trained in ballet in London; brought recognition to Minority dances in China.

Dan 旦

Female roles in Chinese opera.

Denishawn 圣丹妮丝和肖恩

Ruth St. Denis and Ted Shawn School of Dancing; American dance company established in 1915 in Los Angeles, California.

Doves of Peace 和平鸽 Hepingge

First full-length Chinese ballet; conceived and directed by **Ouyang Yuqiang**, 1950.

Dragon dance 龙舞 longwu

Well-known Han folk dance; performed especially during Chinese New Year and other national celebrations.

Du Fu 杜甫 (712–770)

Famous **Tang dynasty** poet.

Duncan, Isadora 伊莎多拉·邓肯 (1877–1927)

Dancer, choreographer, modern dance pioneer; born in the United States; taught and performed with her company in Europe and Russia.

Dunhuang caves or grottoes 敦煌石窟 Dunhuangshiku

Series of caves in the oasis city of Dunhuang, along the Silk Road; paintings, frescoes, and manuscripts in the caves preserve records of Buddhist rituals and other festive events; the events and their documentation took place over the course of 1,000 years, from the fourth to fourteenth centuries; see also **Mogao Caves**.

Dunhuang dance 敦煌舞 Dunhuangwu

Inspired by relics in Dunhuang caves.

Farewell My Concubine 霸王别姬 Bawangbieji

One of the signature Peking opera works performed by **Mei Lanfang** during his 1930 tour in the United States.

Flying Apsaras 飞天舞 Feitianwu

Celestial beings dancing to worship the Buddha; images of these were found in the **Dunhuang caves**, and inspired **Madame Dai's** choreography of one of her signature works.

Folk dance 民族民间舞蹈 minzuminjianwudao

Dances from Han and fifty-five Minority ethnic groups.

Foot binding 缠足 or 裹小脚 chanzu or quosiaojiao

Practice of tightly binding women's feet to keep them unnaturally small—three inches long; began in the **Song dynasty** and reached its peak in the early **Qing dynasty**; the practice was gradually eradicated through the early to mid-twentieth century.

- Formosa Aboriginal Song and Dance Troupe 原舞者 Yuanwuzhe
 Founded in 1991 to produce staged performances of traditional song-and-dance rituals from various indigenous communities in Taiwan.
- Four Great Anhui Companies 四大徽班 Sidahuiban
 Famous theater troupes from the Anhui province who performed forms of regional opera, or *difanxi*, and dominated the Chinese opera field from the beginnings of Peking opera in the late eighteenth century.
- Goulan 勾栏 theater
 Covered or sheltered performing stages, or early theaters; essential part of entertainment centers (*wazi/washe* 瓦舍) that developed in major cities during the Northern Song dynasty; food stalls, street operas, and other street performances were centered around the *goulan*.
- Guangdong Modern Dance Company (GMDC) 广东现代舞团 Guangdongxiandaiwutuan
 Established by **Yang Meiqi** in 1992 as the first contemporary modern dance company in mainland China.
- Guangxi Provincial Arts Center 广西艺术学院 Guangxiyishuxueyuan
 Founded in 1938; one of the six arts institutions of higher learning in mainland China.
- Gudianwu 古典舞 or ancient standards dance
 Generally translated as “classical dance” but literally meaning “ancient standards dance.”
- Guomindangzhengfu (GMD) or Kuomintangzhengfu (KMT) or Nationalist government 國民黨政府
 Founded by Sun Yat-Sen in 1911 after the end of the last dynasty; governed mainland China from 1929–1949; relocated to Taiwan in 1949.
- Han dynasty 汉朝 (206 BCE–220 CE) Hanchao
 Great era of Chinese dance, second only to the Tang dynasty.
- Han folk dance 汉族民间舞蹈 Hanzuminjianwudao
 Includes many different styles such **yangge** 秧歌; **lion dance** 狮舞 **shiwu**; **dragon dance** 龙舞 **longwu**; waist-drum dance 腰鼓舞; and lantern dance 灯舞.
- Han-Tang Dynasty Classical Dance 汉唐古典舞蹈 Hantanggudianwudao
 Established by **Sun Ying** as a program at **Beijing Dance Academy** in 2001.
- Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts 香港演艺学院 Xianggangyanyixueyuan
 Established in 1984.
- Hu 胡
 Foreign, as in Hu dance, literally translated as “whiskers” (dance), for foreigners with facial hair.
- I Ching 易经 Book of Changes
 Divination system dating back to 1000 BCE or earlier.
- Iron rice bowl 铁饭碗 tiefanwan
 Stable income guaranteed to workers in Mao era China.

Ishii, Baku 石井漢 Shijing Mo (1886–1962)

Dancer, choreographer; influential teacher of modern dance in Japan.

Jia, Zuoguang 贾作光 (b. 1923)

Pioneering dancer, choreographer; born in Liaoning, China; studied modern dance in Japan with **Ishii Baku**; major contributor to Chinese national dance art through his focus on Inner Mongolian dance; honorary chairman of the prestigious **Chinese Dancers' Association**.

Jianwu 健舞

Energetic dance, characterized by strong, vigorous movements influenced by martial arts.

Jin, Xing 金星 (b. 1967)

Dancer, choreographer; born in northern China; established mainland China's first private modern dance company, **Jin Xing Dance Theatre of Shanghai**, in 1999.

Jin Xing Dance Theatre of Shanghai 上海金星舞蹈团 Shanghaijinxingwudaotuan

Established in 1999 by **Jin Xing** as mainland China's first private modern dance company.

Jingju 京剧 or Pingju 平剧 Beijing opera or Peking opera

Arose in late eighteenth century to become the dominant theatrical form through the Qing dynasty; similar in structure and roles to its predecessor, **Kunqu opera**, but with more emphasis on singing.

Juedixi 角底戏

Competitive performance form of the Western **Han dynasty** (206 BCE–23 CE); used to show the power of the court; gave rise to the **baixi** (hundred entertainments).

Knife dance 刀舞 daowu

Well-known Chinese opera dance; also performed independently.

Ku, Ming-Shen 古名伸

Dancer, choreographer; born in Taiwan.

Ku Ming-Shen Dance Company or Ku & Dance 古名伸舞蹈團 Kumingshenwudaotuan

Founded by **Ku Ming-Shen** in Taiwan in 1993; specializes in Contact Improvisation.

Kuni, Masami 邦正美 or 江原正美 (1908–2007) Korean name: Park Yeong-in

Dancer, choreographer; born in Korea; influential modern dancer who performed and taught in Japan; well-known aesthete and writer.

Kunqu 昆曲

Oldest extant form of Chinese opera, arising in the early fourteenth-century Ming dynasty; an amalgamation of drama, storytelling, poetry, music, dance, acrobatics, masking, magic, pantomime, and martial arts; major characters are **Sheng** 生 (male), **Dan** 旦 (female), **Jing** 净 (painted-face male), and **Chou** 丑 (clown); major emphasis in performance is given to dance.

Lan Yang Dancers 蘭陽舞蹈團 Lanyangwudaotuan

Children's folk dance troupe established in 1966 in Taiwan; the troupe's name

comes from the Lan Yang Plain 蘭陽平原, where Italian Catholic missionary Gian Carlo Michelini established the Lan Yang Youth Catholic Center 蘭陽青年會.
Legend Lin Dance Theatre 無垢舞蹈劇場 Wugouwudaojuchang

Established in 1995 in Taiwan by **Lin Li-Chen**.

Leung, Lorita 梁淑华

Dancer, choreographer, educator; born in Shanghai; certified teacher of Beijing Dance Academy Chinese Dance Syllabus; chairman and Chinese dance examiner of the National Dance Division of the Canadian Dance Teachers Association (BC); founder of the Lorita Leung Dance Company (1970) and Lorita Leung Dance Association in Vancouver, Canada.

Li Bai 李白 (701–762)

Famous poet of the late **Tang dynasty** who composed many poems about **Yang Guifei**, **Emperor Tang Xuanzong's** favorite concubine; his works are still highly acclaimed in Chinese culture.

Li, Tian-Min 李天民 (1925–2007)

Dancer, choreographer, and scholar in Taiwan; founder (1970), professor, and chair of the dance department at the National Academy of Arts (now known as **National Taiwan University of Arts**).

Lin, Hwai-Min 林懷民 (b.1947)

Dancer, choreographer; founder of **Cloud Gate Dance Theater** in Taiwan in 1973; founder of dance program at **Taipei National University of Arts** in 1983.

Lin, Li-Chen 林麗珍

Dancer, choreographer; born in Taiwan; founder of **Legend Lin Dance Theatre**.

Lin, Ming-De 林明德 (b. 1914)

Dancer, choreographer; born in Taiwan; first Taiwanese man to study modern dance and ballet in Japan.

Lion dance 獅舞 shiwu

Popular Han folk dance; widely performed at festivals, special events, and martial arts competitions; two styles are Northern Lion Dance from the Northern Wei dynasty (386–534 CE), and Southern Lion Dance from the **Qing dynasty** (1644–1911 CE).

Liu, Feng-Shueh 劉鳳學 (b. 1925)

Dancer, choreographer; founder of **Neo-Classic Dance Company** in Taiwan in 1976.

Long Live the Chinese Women's Liberation 中国妇女解放万岁 Zhongguofunujiefangwansui

Dance choreographed by Irma Duncan to commemorate the one-year anniversary of Nationalist leader Sun Yat-Sen's 孫中山 (孙中山, 孫逸仙) death.

Magic Lotus Lantern, The 宝莲灯 Baoliandeng

One of the influential **wuju** performances; choreographed in 1957.

Mei in the North, Ou in the South 北梅南欧 Beimeinanou

Saying that encapsulates the notoriety of Chinese opera performers **Mei Langfang** and **Ouyang Yuqiang**.

Mei, Lanfang 梅兰芳 (1894–1961)

Chinese opera artist; most well-known male performer of female roles; introduced **Peking opera** to the West in 1930.

Mermaid, The 鱼美人 Yumeiren

Dance-drama created by **Beijing Dance Academy** in 1959, with assistance from Russian ballet artists; one of the first full-length **wujus**; story concerns a mermaid who falls in love with a hunter.

Minority folk dances 少数民族民间舞蹈 Shaoshuminzuminjianwudao

Several of the many dances from China's fifty-five minority groups are included in the curriculum at **Beijing Dance Academy**: Tibetan 藏, Uyghur 维, Korean 朝, Mongolian 蒙, Dai 傣, Miao 苗, and Yi 彝 dances.

Mogao Caves 莫高窟 Mogaoku in Dunhuang 敦煌 Dunhuang

Most famous of the **Dunhuang caves** (Caves of the Thousand Buddhas or *Qianfodo*); paintings, frescoes, and manuscripts in the caves preserved records of Buddhist rituals and other festive events over the course of 1,000 years, from the fourth to fourteenth centuries; situated at Mogao, about 25 kilometers southeast of the oasis town of Dunhuang in Gansu province, western China, in the middle of the desert.

Mute Carrying a Mad Woman 哑子背疯 Yazibeifeng

Choreography by **Madame Dai Ailian**.

National Taiwan University of Arts (NTUA) 國立台灣藝術大學 Guolitaiwanyishudaxue

Established as the National School of Arts in 1955, National Academy of Arts in 1960, National College of Arts in 1994, and NTUA in 2001.

Neo-Classic Dance Company 新古典舞團 Xingudianwutuan

Founded by **Liu Feng-Shueh** in Taiwan in 1976.

New Yangge 新秧歌 Xinyangge

Also known as Struggle Yangge; developed out of the Han folk dance (**yangge**) as a propaganda tool in the early to mid-twentieth century.

Northern Song dynasty 北宋 Beisong (960–1125 CE)

Opera dance 戏曲舞蹈 Xiquwudao

Stylized movement integrating ancient palace dance, acrobatics, and martial arts in service of the opera form; in Taiwan, opera dance was extracted from the opera context and preserved as a classical dance.

Ouyang, Yuqiang 欧阳予倩 (1889–1962)

Chinese opera artist and scholar; well-known performer of **Kunqu** style; famed for his performance of female roles.

Peking opera or Beijing opera Pingju 平剧 or Jingju 京剧

Form of Chinese opera most familiar in the West.

Ping, Heng 平珩

Dancer, choreographer; born in Taiwan; founder of **Taipei Dance Forum** in Taiwan in 1989.

- Qianlong 乾隆皇帝 Qianlonghuangdi (1711–1799)
Fourth Qing emperor; officially ruled from 1735 to 1796.
- Qiao 跷
Special shoes worn by **dan** (female-role) performers in Chinese opera to imitate the look and swaying gait of women with bound feet.
- Qigong 气功
Ancient Chinese healthcare and martial art system that integrates physical postures, breathing techniques, and focused intention.
- Qing Dynasty 清朝 Qingchao (1644–1911)
The last dynasty; Chinese opera rose to great prominence during this time to become the primary face of Chinese performing arts.
- Rainbow-Colored and Feathered Costumes Dance 霓裳羽衣舞 Nishangyuyiwu
Famous work from the Tang dynasty, recreated in the twentieth century.
- Red Detachment of Women 红色娘子军 Hongseniangzijun
One of the **Yangbanxi** 样板戏 **8 Model Works**; choreographed in 1964.
- Ribbon dance 彩绸舞 caichouwu
Widely recognized Chinese dance with both classical and folk styles; ribbons usually made of silk in different lengths.
- Ruanwu 软舞
“soft” dance, characterized by refined, elegant movements.
- Shaking of One Sleeve 单抖袖 dandouxiu
Traditional Chinese opera dance.
- Shen, Wei 沈伟 (b. 1968)
Dancer, choreographer; born in Hunan Province, China; founding member of **Guangdong Modern Dance Company**; founded **Shen Wei Dance Arts** in New York in 2000; lead choreographer for 2008 Beijing Olympics.
- Shen Wei Dance Arts (SWDA)
Founded by **Shen Wei** in New York in 2000; fuses contemporary modern dance, calligraphic gesture, painting, and ancient drama.
- Silk Road 丝路 Silu
Series of ancient trade routes linking China, Central Asia, and the West.
- Silk Road Flower and Rain 丝路花雨 Siluhuayu
One of the influential **wujus** created after the **Cultural Revolution**; choreographed in 1979.
- Sing-song girls
Courtesans in nineteenth- and early twentieth-century China; many were located in Shanghai, and were displaced when **taxi dancing** became the rage.
- Social dance 社交舞 shejiaowu or 交际舞 jiaojiwu
Ballroom and other such dances; originally performed in nightclubs, dance halls, private parties, and so on; now frequently part of regional, national, and

international competitions; also part of popular morning exercises in parks on the mainland.

Song dynasty 宋朝 Songchao (Northern Song 北宋 Beisong 960–1125 CE and Southern Song 南宋 Nansong 1127–1279 CE)

Chinese opera arose during this time, as did **foot binding**.

Sun, Ying 孙颖 (1929–2009)

Dance historian, associate research fellow, and choreographer; born in Heilongjiang, China; developed **Han-Tang dynasty classical dance** training program at **Beijing Dance Academy** in 2001.

Sword dance 剑舞 jianwu

Well-known Chinese opera dance; also performed independently.

Ta Ge 踏歌

Tang era folk dance, popular outside and inside the palace; recreated by Beijing Dance Academy professor Sun Ying, who founded the **Han-Tang dynasty classical dance** training program in 2001.

Tai Chi Chuan or Taiji Quan or Tai Ji Quan 太极拳

Internal Chinese martial art form; focuses on self-defense, meditation, and release of negative stress; Tai Chi Chuan theory and practice evolved in agreement with many Chinese philosophical principles, including those of Taoism and Confucianism.

Taipei Dance Forum 舞蹈空間 Wudaokongjian

Founded by **Ping Heng** in Taiwan, 1989; open forum for artists to collaborate on contemporary dance.

Taipei Folk Dance Theater 台北民族舞團 Taibeiminzuwutuan

Founded in 1988 by **Cai (Tsai) Li-Hua**; first professional folk dance company on Taiwan.

Taipei National University of the Arts (TNUA) 國立臺北藝術大學

Guolitaipeiijishudaxue

Established in 1979 as National Institute of the Arts; dance program established in 1983 by **Lin Hwai-Min**; name changed to TNUA in 2001.

Tang dynasty 唐朝 Tangchao (618–907 CE)

Known as the golden era of Chinese dance; a stable government that welcomed cross-cultural exchange allowed dance to flourish as never before.

Tang Taizong Li Shimin 唐太宗李世民 (599–649)

Famous emperor who brought the **Tang dynasty** to its economic, cultural, and artistic peak.

Tang Xuanzong Li Longji 唐玄宗李隆基 (685–762)

Famous emperor who was also a musician; his excessive involvement with his favorite concubine, **Yang Guifei**, led to his downfall and heralded the end of the **Tang dynasty**.

Taxi dancers

Dance hostesses in Shanghai nightclubs during the 1920s and 1930s.

Tea Picking Lantern 采茶灯 Caichadeng or Tea Picking Dance 採茶舞 Caichawu

Movements from this dance were woven with Wuxi storytelling to create **Wuxi opera**.

Thousand-Hand Guan Yin 千手观音 Qianshouguanyin

Inspired by Buddhist imagery of the Goddess of Mercy, **Zhang Jigang** created this dance for a group of twenty-one hearing-impaired dancers in 2000, bringing the performance to national and worldwide recognition.

Tianma Dance Art Studio 天马舞蹈工作室 Tianmawudaogongzuoshi

Established in the late 1950s in Beijing to promote founder **Wu Xiaobang's** teaching system.

Tiefanwan 铁饭碗 iron rice bowl

Stable income guaranteed to workers in Mao era China.

Tsai (Cai), Li-Hua 蔡麗華

Dancer, choreographer; founded **Taipei Folk Dance Theater** in 1988.

Tsao, Willy 曹誠淵 (b. 1959)

Dancer, choreographer; born in Hong Kong; founded **City Contemporary Dance Company** in Hong Kong in 1979.

Wang, Kefen 王克芬 (b. 1927)

Most prominent dance historian in China today; dancer, choreographer, research fellow, and advisor in the Dance Institute of the Chinese National Academy of Arts in Beijing; born in Sichuan, China; a student of **Madame Dai** and among the first dance historians mentored by **Ouyang Yuqiang**; her book, *History of Ancient Chinese Dances*, has been translated into English, Japanese, French, and Korean.

Wang, Peiying 王佩英 (1939–2012)

Dancer, choreographer, educator, scholar; born in Shandong, China; retired **Beijing Dance Academy** professor.

Wang, Yunyu 王雲幼

Dancer, choreographer, scholar, certified Labanotation reconstructor and teacher; born in Taiwan; associate professor of dance at Colorado College since 1991; founding dancer of **Cloud Gate Dance Theater**, 1973.

Wang, Yuxi 王玉玺 (b. 1956)

Dragon dance (*longwu*) master who choreographed the world record-breaking performance of a 10,000 foot-long dragon's dance along the Great Wall in 2000; Wang and his wife, **Yang Hua**, have dedicated their lives to preserving and promoting Chinese folk dance in China and abroad.

Watersleeve dance 水袖舞 shuixiuwu

Well-known Chinese opera dance; also performed independently.

Wazi/Washe 瓦舍

Entertainment centers that developed in major cities during the Northern **Song dynasty**.

Wei Changsheng 魏长生 (1744–1802)

Great Qinquiang (folk opera from the Shannxi province) performer who was famous for his bawdy **dan** (female-role) performances.

Wenwu 文舞

Civil dance.

White-Haired Girl 白毛女 Baimaonu

One of the **Yangbanxi** 样板戏 **8 Model Works**.

Wu, Xiaobang 吴晓邦 (1906–1995)

Dancer, choreographer; born in Jiangsu, China; pioneer of contemporary dance in China; studied ballet and modern dance in Tokyo from 1929 to 1935; strongly influenced by Duncan dance and by the German Expressionist forms taught by **Masami Kuni** in Japan; established the influential Tianma Dance Art Studio.

Wudaoyouxi 舞蹈游戏

Book on dance games, translated into Chinese in 1907; initiated the use of dance as physical education in Chinese schools.

Wuju 舞剧 Chinese dance-drama or Chinese ballet or Chinese theatrical dance

Dance-drama using Chinese costumes and themes, though the movement vocabulary might derive from Western ballet, Chinese opera, Chinese folk dance, or another dance form.

Wuwu 武舞

Martial dance.

Wuxi opera 无锡剧 Wuxiju

From Jiangsu province; commonly known as Wuxi rhymed storytelling.

Xiqu 戏曲

Overall term for Chinese opera.

Yang Guifei (Yang Yuhuan) 杨贵妃 (杨玉环) (719–756)

Emperor Tang Xuanzong's favorite concubine; renowned for her beauty and dancing, Yang is famous also in Japan, where her life inspired Noh plays and the eleventh-century novel *The Tale of Genji* 源氏物語; Yang's death and Xuanzong's resultant decline is the subject of **Bai Juyi's** well-known poem, *Song of Eternal Sorrow* 长恨歌.

Yang, Hua 杨华 (b. 1959)

Choreographer, dancer, and performer; she, her husband **Wang Yuxi**, and their son produced the 2000 world record-breaking performance of a giant dragon dance (*longwu*) on the Great Wall; Yang and Wang have dedicated their lives to preserving and promoting Chinese folk dance in China and abroad.

Yang, Li Ping 杨丽萍 (b. 1959)

Dancer, choreographer; born in Yunnan Province, China; member of the Dai minority ethnic group; choreographed and performed her signature piece, the renowned *Peacock Dance* 雀之灵, in 1986.

Yang, Meiqi 杨美琦

Dancer, choreographer, teacher; founding director of **Guangdong Modern Dance Company** in 1992.

Yangbanxi 样板戏 8 Model Works

Performances created to promote communist policies during the **Cultural Revolution**.

Yangge 秧歌 rice-sprout song and dance

Popular Han folk entertainment from North China; sometimes inaccurately used as a general term for folk dance; differentiated by North/South Regions and specific prop usage.

Ye, Ning 叶宁 (b. 1919)

Dance theorist, educator, and state rank senior editor; born in Zhejiang, China; studied ballet with **Madam Dai**; became a teacher at China Music and Dance Academy in Shanghai in 1947; directed research section of Beijing Dance School (which later became **Beijing Dance Academy**).

Yijuweimei yizhongweiguan 以钜为美，以众为观

“Bigger the better, more the merrier.”

Yin, Mei 殷梅

Dancer, choreographer, educator; born in Henan Province, China; founder of Yin Mei Dance in New York City, 1995; professor of dance and director of the dance program at Queens College, City University of New York.

Yu, Jin-Wen 余金文

Dancer, choreographer, educator; born in Taiwan; founder of Jin-Wen Yu Dance in Madison, Wisconsin, 1999; former president of World Dance Alliance-Americas; associate professor and chair of the dance department at University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Yu, Ping 于平 (b. 1954)

Dancer, choreographer, educator, scholar; born in Jiangxi, China; secretary of the National Ministry of Culture; adjunct professor and former executive vice president of **Beijing Dance Academy**.

Yu, Rongling 裕容龄 (1882-1973)

First dancer to bring Western dance to China.

Yu, Wei 瑜玮

Dancer, choreographer; born in Wuhan, China; founder of Yu Wei Chinese Dance Collection in Beijing, 1992; moved to the United States in 2000; directs her company, now the Yu Wei Dance Collection, in Philadelphia.

Yuanzaju 元杂剧 Yuan opera

Dramatic form popularized during Yuan dynasty; further development of the early dramatic and opera forms from the **Song dynasty**; emphasis on comedy rather than tragedy.

Zhang, Jigang 张继钢 (b. 1958)

Premier choreographer of national events in mainland China; born in Shanxi, China; former director of the **China Song and Dance Ensemble of the People's Liberation Army**; vice president of Beijing city's dancers' association.

Zhang, Ke 张苛 (b. 1930)

Choreographer, dance scholar, master teacher; taught **Yang Li Ping** and **Yu Wei**.

Zhongguogudianwu (Z. gudianwu) 中国古典舞

Chinese ancient standards dance. Form of Chinese classical dance, developed at **Beijing Dance Academy** in the mid-twentieth century.