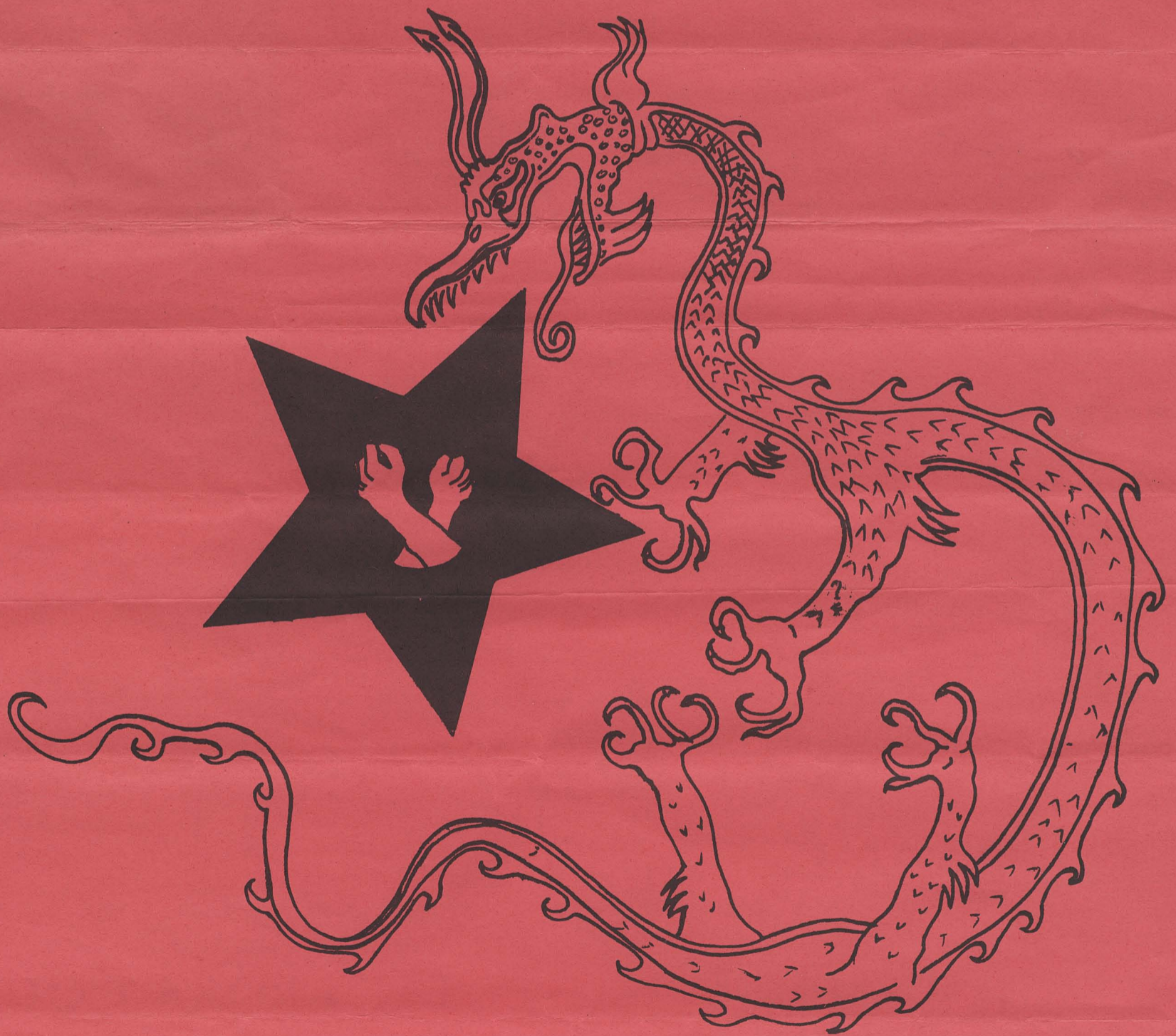


1980's?

CHINA CONTRASTS

two plays by adelaide university drama
students,

**THE INJUSTICE DONE TO TOU NGO
DRAGON BEARD DITCH**



8pm LITTLE THEATRE, enter from VICTORIA DRIVE
JUNE 13-16, 20-23.

BOOKINGS: DRAMA OFFICE, 22 34 333

(\$3.00 adults, \$1.00 students, unemployed, pensioners)

CHINA CONTRASTS

Drama students have produced two plays which show an interpretation of the contrasting traditional and contemporary social - political - cultural life in China. The theme of repression runs through each play. In the Yuan Dynasty play, *The Injustice Done To Tou Ngo*, the rigid social code of ethics restricts the individual; whereas, in the contemporary play, *Dragon Beard Ditch*, it is the poverty and misery of the environment which suppresses the individual.

Drama is essentially a practical art and productions of this nature give students an introduction to that art as part of their formal coursework. Four weeks of intensive preparation during the University holidays have gone into rehearsing, building sets, making costumes and props, composing and arranging an original percussion score, setting lights, preparing sound tapes and organizing publicity - overall, giving students of Drama a chance to discover the essence of theatre in an act of theatre.

THE INJUSTICE DONE TO TOU NGO

Yuan dramas, written under the Yuan Dynasty (1280 - 1368), represent the earliest form of Chinese play. This play was written by Kuan Han-ch'ing who is often regarded as the "Father of Chinese Drama". The play focuses on one of the central themes of Yuan drama - justice versus corruption. It explores this theme with a mixture of comedy, seriousness and superstition that reflects the original popular origins of Yuan drama - growing, as it did, out of adaptations of well-known stories and legends.

While this production doesn't attempt to reconstruct a traditional staging of the play (in fact, very little is known about how Yuan dramas were presented) it does attempt to take into account certain traditional features of Chinese drama and the Yuan style - a disregard for realism, a simplified setting encompassing a flexible scale of distance and time, live musical accompaniment, straightforward exposition of characters and events, a presentational style allowing for direct address to the audience and so on. But, whatever the style, the play's theme of social injustice survives the test of time and remains as valid today as when it was written - for both East and West.

CAST

Mother Ts'ai	Marilyn Newman
Tou T'ien-Chang	John Crouch
Dr. Lu	David Rechter
Donkey Chang	Stephen Summers
Old Chang	George Galloway
Tou Ngo	Maria Fantasia
Prefect Evilbrute	Paul Streefkerk
Prison Governor	Simon Robb
Executioner	Dan Burt
Chang Ch'ien	Julianne English
Magistrate	John Gallagher

STAGE MANAGEMENT Stage Manager - Colin Mann
Asst. Stage Manager - Lucy Marchant

DRAGON BEARD DITCH

The collective responsible for the performance of this play, at first, found great difficulty in relating to the poverty and degradation of the inhabitants of Dragon Beard Ditch - the most vile slum in pre-liberation China. A vividly graphic description of the Ditch at the beginning of the play gave us, however, our major crutch to understanding the realities of life in the Ditch - realities which are so alien to us in the modern bourgeois Australian state.

In their various struggles to escape the reality of their condition in the first part of the play; and their later involvement in the remaking of the Ditch after the liberation, the characters depict for us the eternal struggle of the human spirit against the erosion of dignity.

CAST

Sze-Sao	Tania Klein
Little Niu	Xenia Hanvsak
Mad Cheng	Christopher Bath
Niang-Tse	Meredith Robbins
Mother Wang	Frances Hutton
Erh Chun	Anne Clampett
Old Chao	Dan Burt
Police Sergeant Liu	George Galloway
Ting Sze	Paul Streefkerk
Ka-Tse	Peter Bevan
Dog Feng	Jim Vilé

ATTENDANTS FOR BOTH PRODUCTIONS

Judy Kriewaldt, Digby Gifford
Rick Pullman, Jenny Small.

STAGE MANAGEMENT Stage Manager - Greg Anderson
Asst. Stage Manager - Julie Gardner

<u>PUBLICITY</u>	<u>COSTUMES</u>	<u>SET DESIGN</u>	<u>MUSIC</u>	<u>FRONT OF HOUSE</u>
Amanda Heitmann	Christine Schuler	Alan Ladagnous	Lynette Curnow	Bus. Manager - Eric Mostowj
Julie Litzheim	Louise Wakefield	Eric Mostowj	Tania Hubmayer	Secretarial - Kate Wilson
Margie Madsen	Margie Madsen Co-ord.	Peta-Anne Field Co-ord.	Annabel Lloyd	Jenny Sims
Claire Pallant	Claire Pallant	Gay Jones	Helen Williams	Louise Wakefield
Cherie DeMain- Co-ord.	Sarah Laurence -	Bozena Vicary	Atholie Harden	Christine Schuler
Jenny Sims	Design Co-ord.	Sarah Laurence	Michael Hall Co-ord.	
Jenny Samll	Andrea Ridge	Josie Betts	John Gallagher	
Kate Wilson	Linda Edwards	Helen Abbot	Xenia Hanvsak	
Josie Betts		Louise Wakefield		
<u>PROPS</u>	<u>PHOTOGRAPHY</u>	<u>LIGHTING</u>	<u>SOUND</u>	<u>MAKE UP</u>
Julie Gardner	Eila Harris	Sarah Laurence	Eila Harria	Louise Wakefield
Lucy Marchant Co-ord.	Bozena Vicary	Rick Pullman	Helen Abbot	Richard Barrett
Richard Barrett		Alan Ladagnous		Digby Gifford
Helen Abbott		George Galloway		

Lighting Supervisor: Jon Cameron-Hill - Set Design Supervisor: Jim Cowley.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Lisa Colley, Bonnie Swain, Theatre Guild, Reg Bennett, John Blain, Sylvia Chan, Peter Brideoak
Rita Mason

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