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## KCCLA hosts 'various Korean Performing Arts Screenings'



- ► Event Title: Celebrating the 80th Korean National Liberation

  [2025 Performing Arts Screenings National Theater of Korea Series]
- ▶ Date :

Thursday, March 20th at 7:00 pm 'Rabbit's Eight Sufferings' (Changgeuk)

Thursday, April 24th at 7:00 pm 'Seven Beats' (Dance)

Thursday, May 29th at 7:00 pm Youth Concert (Music)

Thursday, July 10th at 7:00 pm 'Mongyudowonmu' (Dance)

- ► Location: Korean Cultural Center, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Ari Hall
- ▶ Presented by KCCLA & National Theater of Korea
- ▶ Inquiries: call (323) 936-3015 or email to kelly@kccla.org

The Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles (Director Sangwon Jung) announced that it will hold the "Performing Arts Content Screening Series – National Theater Series" on the 3rd floor of Ari Hall over four sessions from March 20 to July 10 in collaboration with the Seoul Arts Center (SAC).

Following the enthusiastic reception of last year's classical music and ballet/opera series screenings, this year's screenings will showcase outstanding productions from Korea's National Theater on a large screen. The screenings will take place on **March 20**, **April 24**, **May 29**, **and July 10**, offering an opportunity to enjoy world-class performances by the National Theater. Details are as follows:







March 20 (Thu) 7:00 PM - "The Tale of Rabbit and Turtle" (142 minutes)

The first screening features "Rabbit's Eight Sufferings" by the National Changgeuk Company. This Changgeuk (Korean traditional opera) adapts the pansori *Sugungga* into a theatrical production. The title symbolizes both the characters Turtle and Rabbit and the idea of "returning to the land."

Focusing on the Rabbit's trials and tribulations on land, the story parallels modern life's challenges, delivering a hopeful message of finding strength where we stand today. Featuring imaginative staging, this performance showcases renowned K-Gugak stars Kim Jun-su and Yoo Tae-pyeongyang in the lead roles. Enhanced by creative choreography inspired by master dancer Gong Ok-jin, a stunning traditional-modern mise-en-scène, and a vibrant 15-member live orchestra, the production promises humor, depth, and

entertainment.







April 24 (Thu) 7:00 PM - "Seven Beats" (70 minutes)

**Seven Beats (Gamooakchilchae)** by the **National Dance Company** highlights the rhythmic Seven(*chilchae*) beats, traditionally used in Korean farmers' music. This piece explores the dynamic interplay of rhythm and body, offering fresh perspectives on traditional movements. Originally a short creation in 2018, it was later expanded into a full-fledged repertoire.

Critically acclaimed for its energetic choreography and dynamic reinterpretation of traditional rhythms, this performance transforms traditional drum patterns into a modern and engaging experience, receiving praise akin to a "rock concert" for its energy and creativity.







May 29 (Thu) 7:00 PM - "Youth Concert" (46 minutes)

The "Youth Concert" by the National Orchestra of Korea caters to a younger audience, blending traditional Korean music (*gugak*) with contemporary pop trends. Featuring a 60-member orchestra with Korean traditional instruments, immersive visuals, and lighting

effects, the concert provides an experience comparable to a modern pop concert.

The repertoire includes *gugak* arrangements of music from popular culture, including *Cookie Run: Kingdom* game soundtracks and BTS's "Mikrokosmos," alongside original works by composers Ji-Hye Choi and Ho-Jun Hwang. With interactive visuals, creative props, and a stellar performance, it's an innovative introduction to *gugak* for all ages.







July 10 (Thu) 7:00 PM - "Double Bill: Dance of Dreams" (48 minutes)

Inspired by the 15th-century painting *Dream Journey to the Peach Blossom Land* by Ahn Gyeon, **Dance of Dreams** explores the journey through hardships in the real world to an ideal utopia (*do-won*). Created by choreographer Cha Jin-yeob, the performance intertwines dance with multimedia art, music, and costumes, creating a surreal blend of tradition and modernity.

Performed by nine dancers from the National Dance Company, the piece transforms the imagery of Korean landscapes into a vivid choreographic journey, embodying the spirit of resilience and artistry.

Director Jeong Sang-won of the Korean Cultural Center LA shared, "Following the positive response to last year's screening series featuring SAC productions, we are delighted to present this year's series showcasing the excellence and creativity of the National Theater's performing arts groups. This is a valuable opportunity to enjoy the artistic depth and expressions of Korea's national troupes, from their live performances to their artistic details."

The screenings are **free of charge**, but advance reservations are required. Reservations can

be made on the KCCLA website (<u>www.kccla.org</u>). For inquiries, contact **kelly@kccla.org** or call **(323) 936-7141**.