

Wu Opera of Yiwu City, Zhejiang



School of Music Recital Hall 7:30 Monday September 9, 2019 FREE

Wu Opera is an art form of traditional Chinese theater that combines music, vocal performance, dance, and martial arts. It originated in China's Zhejiang Province. With a history spanning more than four centuries, Wu Opera had a profound influence on the evolution and development of Peking Opera. While artists from Anhui Province traveled north to perform in Beijing in the late eighteenth century and laid the foundation for Peking Opera, Wu Opera represented another branch of the same root, which had traveled eastward two centuries earlier. These dramas are vivacious, colorful, intense and rustic, and the subject matter is very diverse. Performers are particularly good at dancing and martial arts scenes, highlighting the power of movement and demonstrating strong emotions. The troupe's performances represent a synthesis of music, dance, and acrobatics. In addition to winning many awards in China, the troupe has performed in Taiwan and Hong Kong and also in the countries of South Korea, Turkey, France, Sweden, and Italy.