

中美文化艺术论坛

US-CHINA FORUM ON THE ARTS AND CULTURE

Press Release

October 19th, 2011, Beijing, China

A U.S.-Chinese Cultural Dialogue -- An unprecedented delegation of American painters, musicians, actors, dancers, film directors, curators, photographers, chefs and novelists to visit China

November 16th, 2011 will mark the official opening of the first U.S.-China Forum on The Arts and Culture in Beijing. This four-day event is jointly organized by The Asia Society's Center on U.S.-China Relations and The Aspen Institute's Arts Program and aims to advance cultural understanding between the United States and China. The event will take place at some of Beijing's most breathtaking architectural venues including the National Centre for the Performing Arts and will involve the participation of an extraordinary line-up of American cultural icons, including actress Meryl Streep, film director Joel Coen, musician Yo-Yo Ma, writer Michael Pollan, painter Eric Fischl, best-selling author Amy Tan, former dancer turned director Damian Woetzel, and others, who will engage in dialogue and perform with their Chinese counterparts.

In May, 2010, the governments of the PRC and the United States, represented by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and State Councilor Liu Yandong, signed a bilateral agreement to promote greater "people-to-people" exchanges. The U.S.-China Forum on the Arts and Culture is intended to further that effort and be part of a long-term cooperative, creative partnership between the U.S. and China. A reciprocal delegation of Chinese cultural figures is expected to visit the U.S. in 2012.

The Forum will kick off on November 16th with a banquet at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing hosted by U.S. Ambassador Gary Locke with a dinner prepared by renowned California (Chez Panisse) restaurateur, Alice Waters, working in collaboration with local Chinese organic farmers.

The Forum's agenda will include performances and panel discussions on the arts, culture and the humanities as well as screenings of Joel and Ethan Coen's Academy Award-nominated feature film, "True Grit," and a special screening of Meryl Streep's upcoming film on Margaret Thatcher, "The Iron Lady." There will be a musical performance by cellist Yo-Yo Ma along with Chinese musicians Chen Leiji and Wu Tong, as well as Ms. Streep and Charles "Lil Buck" Riley. Daytime events will include two days of dialogue and panel discussion between the Chinese and American artists, all aimed at deepening understanding and appreciation of each other's work.

The U.S.-China Forum on the Arts and Literature is a partnership with the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries and the Embassy of the United States in Beijing.

For further information please visit: www.asiasociety.org/uschinaforum

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