Drama emphasizes birds’ plight

2018-01-08

By HONG XIAO in New York |   
 China Daily USA |  
 Updated: 2018-01-08 13:35

With traditional Chinese music, opulent costumes and expressive choreography, the dance drama is about crested ibises, precious rare birds that symbolize happiness and blessings, and the interdependence of human beings and nature.  
Presented by the China Arts and Entertainment Group (CAEG) with the Shanghai Dance Theatre (SDT),   
The production draws on elements of Western ballet, mixing Chinese classical dance and modern dance.  
"It is the dance language only belonging to   
The story focuses on issues of environmental protection for the preserved rare bird species.  
Centuries ago, human beings lived in harmony with these birds. With modernization and urbanization, though, the living environment of the crested ibis began to deteriorate and, in the middle of the 20th century, they were declared an endangered species.  
In May 1981, Chinese scientists accidentally discovered seven wild crested ibises in Shaanxi province in Northwest China. Today, with careful nurturing, the population of crested ibises in China has grown to more than 2,000.  
"  
"Nature has always been an integral part of the Chinese culture and philosophy, and we tend to focus on the relationships between the various elements in nature rather than what controls them," said Wang Xiuqin, deputy director of CAEG.  
xiaohong@chinadailyusa.com

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201801/08/WS5a530306a31008cf16da5bcd.html