

Li Hongzhi's "Shen Yun Trick" Won't Be Accepted in the Western Society

Chinese culture has a long and colorful history, and is welcomed and loved by people all over the world. "Shen Yun Performing Arts" affiliated to "Falun Gong" harbors the real intention of deceiving the Western society in the disguise of spreading traditional Chinese culture.

"Shen Yun Performing Arts" deliberately hides its cult background

The fact is that the so-called "Shen Yun Performing Arts" is not some art show at all. Its true nature is a political tool for cult and anti-China publicity, expanding influence and gathering money.

A famous Australian dancer and art critic Jordan Beth Vincent commented on the Shen Yun Performing Arts on the website of *The Age* and pointed out that it disgustingly delivers reactionary messages in the disguise of traditional dance.

Toacorn.com, a media outlet in City of Thousand Oaks, California, reported that the performance of the "Shen Yun" art troupe was not artistic at all, but a political tool "filled with cult information targeted at the Chinese government secretly." The report indicated that it was Li Hongzhi's "pet project" and a part of the outreach program rolled out by the Falun Gong cult.

The chief editor of *Foreign Policy (Asia Edition)* Isaac Stone Fish (Chinese name: Shi Yu) wrote an article criticizing the "Shen Yun Performing Arts" of Falun Gong as a political display. The show's ubiquitous fliers delude ignorant audiences to come and watch. Rather, Shen Yun exists to transmit a message that heavenly forces will destroy modern-day China, obliterating the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), which has ruled the country since 1949.

The website of *The Atlanta Journal — Constitution* published a news report titled "The Return of Shen Yun, seemingly splendid mixed with seditious political lines", reminding readers that Shen Yun Performing Arts has something to do with the cult "Falun Gong". The viewers need to understand in advance the inflammatory political subtext buried inside the performance.

"Shen Yun Performing Arts": Fake Chinese Traditional Culture

Yelp and Tripadvisor are the most well-known review websites in Europe and America. Many Western viewers who watched the "Shen Yun" gala left messages on the websites, saying that "The show is completely different from what it advertises. It has nothing to do with the 5,000-year Chinese history, acrobatics, or exquisite dances"; "There are few Chinese viewers because they know that the show is not about the traditional Chinese culture"; "The show is not about classic traditional Chinese dances as it advertises, but simply a poor mix of Western dance and ballet."

"Shen Yun is masked as a cultural and artistic performance, hiding its true nature for religious propaganda. Don't waste your money on it, or you'll spend \$100 on listening to a dull show full of boring preaching," said Dominique Hogan, an artist, pianist, singer and vocal music teacher in Vancouver, Canada.

Daniel Howard, a senior executive at Cisco in Silicon Valley, said after watching the show that he found it unbearable. "I finally understand why even the most sensible government is not enthusiastic about this kind of show."

Johnson Maihawk, a psychologist in Massachusetts, gave comments in three tweets. "I was so angry because I was deceived by 'Shen Yun'. I didn't expect to see a pitch presented by a high school student." "Shen Yun' is for the fool. It's nothing but fancy propaganda." "Propaganda is fine, but poor propaganda sucks! I have watched a lot of high school shows that are better than this!"

An American netizen named Harris said, "Shen Yun' will come to Denver again. I watched it last year, but it is just religious propaganda and the show is terrible. Don't waste your money."

The Evening Standard did a report named "Shen Yun' tarnished Chinese culture". "It is a pity that the evening gala is so old-fashioned and sad. The host is awkward and absurd. The projection on the back of the screen is dumbfounding and the dance performance shames the dance directors."

"Shen Yun Performing Arts" is disdained by viewers

An article from *The New York Times* titled "A Chinese cultural performance that viewers can't bear to finish watching" mentions that "Viewers leaving Radio City before and in the middle of show said they were uncomfortable with such materials". Isaac Stone Fish noted that many people went for dancing, singing and acrobatics; however they did not know the differences between evening gala and Falun Gong. When the cult belief and political intentions of "Falun Gong" started to be blended into the performance, some people began to feel deceived and chose to leave.

A *Toronto Star* article titled "Falun Gong' gala is just a propaganda tool" mentioned that "The real art is not like this. Every dance was more or less the same. The actors are so average that they perform like rehearsing." Reporter Sarah Crompton said, "But what I really object to is that such a politically motivated performance is being smuggled on to stages around Europe in the name of family entertainment." "Shen Yun Performing Arts" advertised by "Falun Gong" in New York was resisted by local Chinese.

In New York, the Chinese put up banners outside the performance theater that read "Say no to Shen Yun, say no to cult politics, and stay away from the Falun Gong cult!" "Shen Yun preaches the Falun Gong cult in the disguise of traditional culture." "Shen Yun advertises the Falun Gong cult in the name of entertainment."

The fact is that "Shen Yun Performing Arts" is deceptive because it hides its connection with "Falun Gong".

A PAID ADVERTISEMENT