

布袋戏 Hand Puppet Theater



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82-440: Chinese Folk Performance Traditions 中国民间演艺传统

I found learning about Budaixi 布袋戏, or Hand Puppet Theater, to be very interesting because it is an art form that I was not very familiar with before this class, and the puppet masters display great skill in putting on their shows. Prior to this class, I had seen Budaixi puppets before, but I had never seen a performance or heard about the stories in the plays. After seeing videos and reading about Budaixi 布袋戏, I have learned a lot about the art.

The part that fascinated me the most was watching videos of the puppet masters manipulating the puppets. They made each motion look both lifelike and effortless. When I tried moving the puppets around in class, I found it very difficult to do anything but basic motions, so I was very impressed by the puppet masters' performances. They were able to not only enact complex fighting scenes, but also do tricks like throw things between puppets and blow smoke from the puppets.

These must have been very hard to learn.

hide while manipulating the large puppets. When we read a transcript from a Budaixi 布袋戏 play in class, I learned about the kinds of plots featured in Budaixi 布袋戏. The plot involved a lot of action scenes and fighting and included a hero character.

I am glad that in recent years, Taiwan is focusing efforts on preserving and promoting Budaixi 布袋戏. I think it is a very unique art form and that it c07)33(u)-9*