

# 2011 Taipei Folk Dance Theatre U.S. Tour

**Sunday, September 25, 7:00pm**

Ridgedale Middle School  
71 Ridgedale Ave.  
Florham Park, NJ 07932  
(973) 659-1350 Ext.110

Taipei Folk Dance Theatre was founded in September 1988 by Professor Tsai Li-hua. As the first professional ethnic dance company in Taiwan, its mission is to promote and preserve Taiwan's rich and diverse dance heritage, especially the dance traditions of the island's colorful aboriginal tribes, which show the clear influence of Chinese traditional dance.

The company is renowned for its unique style of traditional Taiwanese folk dance, based on Professor Tsai's years of field research and her painstaking documentation of music and movement. In preserving Taiwan's heritage, Tsai has imbued it with present day theater techniques without sacrificing its ethnic origins. The company has presented over 700 performances in more than 40 countries around the world.







***Dances Over Taiwan*** consists of highlights from Taipei Folk Dance Theatre's performances over the past two decades, choreographed by the company's founder and artistic director Tsai Li-hua. The program includes the new work "Joy of Zen," the acclaimed martial arts piece "Images of Kung-Fu," the ethnic-flavored "Hakka Love Songs," and "Song of Kavalan," which draws on folk themes to evoke a rustic, local atmosphere. Pieces such as "If the Heart as a Window of Life Opens..." and the iconic "Homage to the Gods" showcase Taipei Folk Dance Theatre's unique dance style, which blends folk traditions with modern artistry, breathing new life into an ancient culture.



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