

# My Dream



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Designated  
UNESCO Artists for Peace



**“Inconceivable”**

CNN TV

**“The most formidable,  
ambitious and impressive  
artistic expression”**

New York Times

**“A Stunning Performance”**

UNESCO - United Nations Educational,  
Scientific and Cultural Organisation

**London** 倫敦

25/05/2008

Her Majesty's Theatre

0844 412 4657

**Manchester** 曼城

30 & 31/05/2008

Opera House

0870 401 6000

**Cardiff** 卡迪夫

02/06/2008

St. David's Hall

(029) 2087 8444

**Glasgow** 格拉斯哥

06/06/2008

Royal Concert Hall

(0141) 353 8000

**Gateshead** 蓋特謝德

04/06/2008

The Sage

(0191) 443 4661

**Birmingham** 伯明翰

08/06/2008

The Hippodrome

0870 730 1234



Watch a vide clip

[www.cibf.co.uk](http://www.cibf.co.uk)





# My Dream

## INCOMPARABLE BRILLIANCE

40 performers from China are about to tour the UK having triumphed on stages across the world - but not all is as it seems.



### Introduction

Performed by the China Disabled Performing Arts Troupe, My Dream has received critical acclaim from around the world. That the performers are all severely disabled in some way may catch attention, but as the founder of the Troupe says, “despite disabilities we pursue perfection” and as a performance the show is world class, with several masterpieces of dance and virtuous musical performances, joined through stunning scenery, costumes and creativity. Each part is impressive, but the sum of the parts is even greater - nothing short of breathtaking. The New York Times called the show “unbelievable”, while CNN said it was “inconceivable”.



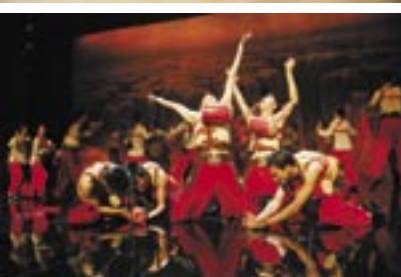
### Reflection of a Changing China

But there is more to what UNESCO calls “a stunning performance”. The very ideas represented in My Dream are almost a mirror to the aspirations of China as she emerges from over a century of turmoil. Shunning state funding, the China Disabled People’s Performing Arts Troupe not only push the boundaries of artistic expression, but make a political statement about disabilities – that disability does not mean inability. Beyond all the odds the Troupe has risen over the past twenty years to become China’s most successful performing arts troupe, and the “My Dream Fund for Harmony” has raised over US\$1m for world peace activities (see notes).



### China’s real transformation

My Dream is emblematic of China’s recent transformation. It reflects what is truly impressive about 30 years of economic reform in China; not futuristic skylines of cities like Shanghai, the thousands of miles of new motorways, nor the hundreds of new state-of-the-art airports. The real marvel of China’s economic growth has been the transformation of people’s minds. For centuries, even millennia, China’s disabled people were hidden from view by families too embarrassed to allow them to be seen. Forty years ago China was gripped by the Cultural Revolution. Buddhists statues were destroyed. But today a new cultural revolution is taking place: today, the most famous dance in China’s is the “One Thousand Hands Buddha” by 21 disabled performers, screened on national television during the Chinese New Year gala show, and winning national awards for artistic creativity.



### A new voice for people with disabilities

But the changes are not limited to China itself. The limited notion of what can be achieved by disabled people is being challenged across the world by My Dream, which has toured over 40 countries on six continents. As an export, this is surely one of China’s most important.

