



Shanghai Poly Grand Theater also launches its Public Welfare Culture Week in the new season, which features a series of programs priced at no more than 80 yuan. — Yang Yujie

Curtains rise on Poly Grand Theater's spring season

Ma Yue

A TOTAL of 24 stage productions in 35 performances will be presented during the Shanghai Poly Grand Theater's spring performance season from March to June, covering dance, drama, musical, traditional opera and concerts.

The dance program list is led by dancer and choreographer Wang Yabin's "Journey to the West," a dance drama inspired by the Chinese literature classic of the same name. The performance on April 3 will also be part of the 40th Shanghai

Spring Music Festival.

China National Opera and Dance Drama Theater's "24 Solar Terms" on June 14 and 15 will give full play to the intangible cultural heritage of the Miao ethnic minority. The Cuba National Ballet's "Swan Lake" will be staged on June 20.

The time-honored Broadway musical "Chicago" is making a return to Shanghai stage at the Poly Grand Theater from April 24 to 27. As for drama, Shanghai Dramatic Arts Center's "The Code of The Dynasty" will be performed on May 31 and

June 1. "Matched for marriage," a play adapted from a popular novel discussing the role of social class difference in a marriage, will be staged on May 24 and 25.

The Poly Grand Theater will continue with its Public Welfare Series in the new season. Performances of the series will be made accessible to audiences at a low price between 30 yuan (US\$4.1) and 80 yuan. Those interested can follow the theater's official WeChat account "SHPGT2014" for more information and ticket purchase.

Art Flow expected to bridge gap between industry and creativity

Staff Reporters

A SPRAWLING 20,000-square-meter art district, Art Flow, along Cao'an Highway features Tai Art Museum for academic research and exhibitions and Tai Art Center for artistic exchange and trade.

It also houses more than 40 artist studios, each ranging from 150 to 300 square meters.

The district has attracted nearly 50 artists and institutions specializing in painting, photography, installations, and sculpture since 2019.

"This place is full of growth possibilities," says Zhao Bing, one of the first



Zhao Bing at work in his studio at Art Flow — Yang Yujie

artists at Art Flow.

The well-equipped studios offer creative space and private bedrooms, while there is a cafe, gym, badminton and basketball courts.

Shanghai Donghua

Global Enterprise, a major stone-purchasing base operator in China, is the promoter of the Art Flow district.

To foster the growth of the art sector and support up-and-coming artists,

the company transformed a portion of its stone industrial park into an art district in 2019.

Yin Xiwen, art director of Art Flow, expects the district will serve as a catalyst for the Yangtze River Delta's art economy and a hub for bridging the gap between industry and creativity.

By 2030, Art Flow intends to construct a 200,000sqm art complex that will house auction houses, commercial galleries, and other establishments.

The 8,000sqm Tai Art Museum is already open. The Tai Art • Lakeside Gallery will open next to Yuanxiang Lake.

Outdoor studio for period dramas ready for shoots

Peng Xiaoyan and Ye Fengting

AN outdoor shooting area for period dramas has been completed at the Shanghai International Short Video Center in Anting Town, Jiading District.

It features city walls, a drum tower, a zigzag bridge, and the Top Scholar's Mansion, including both its exterior and interior sets. With the outdoor set taking up over 2,000 square meters, the overall period drama filming base is expected to cover roughly 4,600 square meters.

"The period drama set follows the architectural style of the Sui (AD 581-618) and Tang (AD 618-907) dynasties, known for its understated elegance," said Hou Nannan, business manager of the Shanghai International Short Video Center.

"This design provides production teams with greater creative flexibility to meet diverse filming needs."

An indoor filming area adjacent to the outdoor section is also under construction.

"The indoor sets will include the imperial study, imperial kitchen, and the chambers of the empress and empress dowager, with completion expected by this summer," said Hou.

The Shanghai International Short Video Center, which spans 250 mu (16.67 hectares), houses several professional studios and specialized filming spaces. It provides a wide variety of environments, including modern office spaces, hospitals and student housing.

In recent years, online short dramas have gained a huge following and revitalized the industry. The center has attracted 185 film and television firms and generated a number of viral short dramas. To keep pace with the evolving short drama industry, it plans to expand its studios and on-site filming locations.



The outdoor set features an architectural style reminiscent of 6th to 10th century China. — Peng Xiaoyan