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(Posted by Martin in 4 stars, *The Sun is Not for us*, the Space, Tony Challis on August 7, 2012)

THEATRE

(评论者马丁认为是一部四颗星的演出。《太阳不是我们的》，演出场地“空间”，托尼·查理斯于 2012 年 8 月 7 日写作)

★★★★

***The Sun is Not for us* 《太阳不是我们的》**
The Space on the North Bridge 北桥上“空间”演出场地
4:10pm (run ends 11th August) 下午 4:10 (于 8 月 11 日结束)

This show opens with a scene of foot-binding, the cruel practice which was very common in pre-modern China. There is a graphic x-ray illustration of the deformities thus caused on the back-screen at this time. The scene is the more striking as the victims are young British women.

这部舞台剧开始于一幕在近代中国普遍存在的残酷的裹脚场景。舞台上，用 X 光投射在屏幕上的影像生动地表现出了由于裹脚导致的畸形的肢体。由于受害者们是由年轻的英国女性来演绎，这个场景更加震撼人心。

Director David Jiang has brought this production from Leeds. The cast are Leeds University students who very effectively and evocatively present a complicated show. Four plays by the modern classic Chinese playwright Cao Yu (writing mainly between 1930 and the late 1940s) are presented in shortened form and intertwined with each other. All involve difficult and oppressive situations for the women involved – whether a woman seduced by her stepson, a woman marrying a man in an arranged marriage when he is devoted to another, a woman who comes to overvalue wealth via her rich lover and who has no way out when he crashes, a woman whose love is not returned and who is compelled to become a courtesan.

导演蒋维国从利兹带来了这部演出。演员都是利兹大学的学生，他们非常有效地演绎出了这部复杂的舞台剧，令人浮想联翩。四部由中国现代戏剧大师曹禺编写的舞台剧（主要在二十世纪三、四十年代著成）以压缩和串编的形式表演出来。这些女人都面临着各种各样困难和沉重的境遇——其中一名女子被继子引诱；另一名女子因为包办婚姻嫁给爱着其他女子的男人；一名女子因为过于重视从情人手中得到的金钱，当情人破产后陷入困境；另一名女子因为爱情得不到回应而被迫成为交际花。

We begin one story, move into another, weaving through all four, a ribbon being passed between the women...but have no fear, it is all very clear, and the performers make it all clear by very good diction and firm characterisation. We become involved in this group of stories with a common thread.

我们从一个故事开始，进入另一个故事，在四个故事中穿梭，一条缎带在女人们中传递着..... 但是不用担心，此剧的一切都很明了，因为表演者吐词清晰，表演的角色个性鲜明。让我们能够投入到这组主线相同的故事中。

Similar stories occur in many cultures, and I was led to think of the plays of Lorca concerning women in early modern rural Spain. This is a very engaging and attractive production, where the music adds depth and resonance, and which makes us aware of how oppressive things were so recently, while now, even if far from perfect, women's experiences are mostly better.

在很多文化中都有相同的故事，这部戏让我联想起洛尔卡的那些关注近现代西班牙乡村女性的作品。《太阳》是一部非常动人和引人瞩目的作品。音乐的使用让此作品更加深刻，使得观众容易产生共鸣，并且让我们意识到这么压抑的事实竟然发生在离我们并不久远的过去。现在，虽然仍然谈不上完美，但是女性的境遇毕竟得到了很大改善。

The company plan to take this show to Shanghai in the autumn and it is to be hoped that they are successful there.

剧团计划在秋季将这部舞台剧带到上海，希望他们在上海演出取得成功。