

舞獅



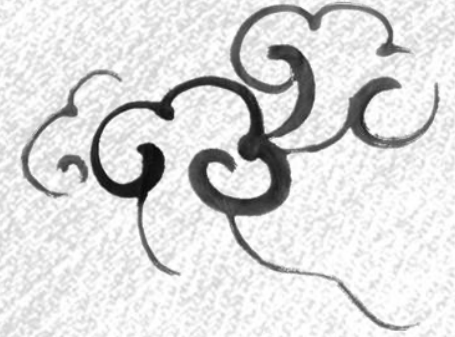
# Lion Dance

周莉

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01



**The origin and development  
of lion dance**



# Three theories of lion dance's origin

The first theory:

The lion dance originated from Han Dynasty, and the lion was imported from foreign countries only after Zhang Qian's mission to the West during the reign of Emperor Wu.

The second theory:

The lion dance originated in the Three Kingdoms period and was popular in the North and South Dynasty.

The third theory:

The Book of Ning-Zong Yi Zhuan (宁宗易传) recorded the real "lion dance". Linyi (临沂), the leader of Nanning Army (南宁军) made a model like shape of lion to scare away the elephant.





## The origin of lion

- ◆ Firstly, the lion in the early Middle kingdom came from the West.  
the people' s attitudes: not accepting and regarding it as a useless thing
- ◆ It' s thought that the lion was introduced from the west as a tribute in  
the Han Dynasty.  
the people' s attitudes: accepting and making it as a mythical beast



# The development of lion dance

- Wei ,Jin and Northern Dynasties: different performance styles and program focuses
- Sui Dynasty: performance with ceremonial music(the begining of music)
- Tang Dynasty: “ten music parts ”
- Song Dynasty: profound changes in the performance forms, performance teams and program creation
- Yuan Dynasty: “high Cui lion dance” (高毳舞狮)
- Qing dynasty: forming different images and techniques of performance style

ancient times





# The development of lion dance



- In the 1920s and 1930s: the form of competitive performance
- In 1934: becoming a traditional national sport
- In 1978: becoming an official event at the Fourth Agricultural Games
- In 2006: included in the first batch of national intangible cultural heritage list

modern times



02



## The categories of lion dance

Two categories of lion dance: **cultural** lion and **martial** lion



➔ Cultural lion:  
Appearance: naive and cute  
Performance styles: mainly performing the lion's life and attitude

➔ Martial lion:  
Appearance: vigorous and fierce  
Performance styles: more difficult acrobatic performance  
mainly showing the inner charm (神韵) of the lion



According to the different customs in the north and south, the lion dance can be divided into the southern lion and the northern lion.

	Northern lion	VS	Southern lion
Original areas	Hebei		Guangdong
Popular areas	Hebei, Anhui and Hunan		Guangdong, Guangxi...
Performance styles	light movements, mainly jumping and trumbling		powerful and imposing movements
Music	with small gongs, drums and cymbals...		with big gongs, drums and cymbals...







Large lion:

The lion dance is usually performed by two people.



Small lion:

The lion dance is usually played by one person.



03



**The values and functions of  
lion dance**



## **Connecting with emotions:**

Healthy folklore activities express the soul of the nation and also convey the message code of mutual feeling and knowledge between the brothers of the nation.



## **Strengthening the body:**

The operation of lion dance requires good coordination among all the components, combining multiple factors.





➤ **The educational significance:**

Lion dance is the inheritance of the culture to carry forward the lion dance.

➤ **The commercial function:**

The performance nature of lion dance brings a lot of commercial benefits.





**Enriching the spirit of the nation—the mutual cooperation and solidarity:**

The performance of lion dance requires more than one person to complete the whole set of movements, mutual cooperation and solidarity is particularly important.



04



**The solutions to problems in  
developing of lion dance**

# Problems in developing of lion dance



The props used to make the lion dance are expensive.

The process of cultivating the talents to inherit the lion dance is much harder and longer.

Less people are willing to inherit lion dance .

## Solutions



1. Strengthen cooperation with colleges and universities to carry out the courses about the lion dance.
2. Promote the culture and spirit of lion dance through the Internet and mass media.

## Solutions



3. Accelerate the innovation to push the development of the lion dance culture.
4. Cultivate lion dance culture talents and pay attention to intergration of local culture.
5. Define the cultural positioning, actively implement the “going out” strategy, and promote the lion dance culture to the world.



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Thanks!