

Propagating the Dharma Through Music in Taiwan

實法師在台灣的两場音樂會

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法界佛教大學訪問團在宣化文教基金會主辦下，每年都有機會到台灣參訪。2019年的活動主要是參加由法鼓山聖嚴教育基金會主辦的「第五屆近現代漢傳佛教論壇」，以及和天主教輔仁大學締結姊妹校。更由於因緣際會，成就了二場「以音樂弘揚佛法」的音樂盛會。

Under the sponsorship of the Hsuan Hua Foundation in Taiwan, every year Dharma Realm Buddhist University (DRBU) has the opportunity to organize a delegation to visit Taiwan. The delegation's main activities in 2019 were to attend the Fifth Buddhist Forum on Contemporary Chinese Buddhism hosted by the Sheng Yen Education Foundation of Dharma Drum Mountain, and to become sister schools with Fu Jen Catholic University. Circumstances and conditions also made it possible to host two large concerts, in which the Dharma was propagated through music.

12月17日晚，第一場音樂會「打開心靈的一扇窗」，是在國立台北大學音律電機資訊大樓萬榮講堂舉行。恒實法師結合音樂和大家一起分享佛教的小故事，讓聽眾洗滌心靈、啟發智慧，將光明和溫暖布施人間。這場音樂會曲目眾多，雖然多數是英文歌詞，但配合歌詞本子，大家齊聲同唱，場面溫馨熱烈。這場音樂會中，恒實法師和台北大學前校長薛富井、郭宗銘二位居士合唱台語歌「阮若打開心內的門」，更是成為音樂會的亮點，同時引起大眾的共鳴，法師也用佛教的觀點闡釋這首歌的意義。

12月19日晚，第二場音樂會「偶戲、童話與音樂會」，由上人早期弟子（著名鋼琴家）陳毓襄擔任藝術總監的新北市新光音樂廳舉行，陳毓襄親自主持開場。恒實法師結合民謠音樂家和講故事這二項專長，將佛法精深的內容，以音樂和小故事的方式呈現，加上吉他和班鳩琴伴奏，配合活潑的布偶，輕鬆愉悅，原本一小時的節目，竟然進行了二個小時，才結束這讓大家低迴不已、法喜充滿的音樂會。✻

The first concert, “Open the Window of Your Mind,” was held at the Wanrong Auditorium in the Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Building of National Taipei University on the evening of December 17. In addition to playing music, Reverend Heng Sure shared short Buddhist stories with everyone, purifying the audience’s mind and re-kindling their wisdom, bringing light and warmth to everyone. There were many musical performances at this concert; and although most of the lyrics were in English, audience members were able to sing together by following the music book, which created a warm and joyful atmosphere. The concert reached its climax when Reverend Heng Sure invited the university’s former president, President Xue Fujing, and Upasaka Guo Zongming to join him in singing “If We Open the Door of Our Hearts” in Taiwanese — such a familiar tune resonated deeply with the souls of the audience and became the highlight of this concert. Thereafter, Reverend Heng Sure interpreted the meaning of the song from a Buddhist perspective.

The second concert, “Puppet Show, Fairy Tales, and a Concert,” took place on the night of December 19. It was hosted by Ms. Gwhyneth Chen, a renowned pianist and senior disciple of the Venerable Master, and took place in the Shin Kong Concert Hall, where she serves as the artistic director. Ms. Chen gave the opening remarks for the concert.

Reverend Heng Sure combined his talents for folk music and storytelling to convey the profound meaning of Dharma — through songs and stories, which were accompanied by guitar and banjo, as well as a lively puppet enactment. It was so relaxing and enjoyable that the performance, which was originally to last one hour, ended up lasting two. When it finally ended, everyone was filled with Dharma joy; the audience could still feel the music reverberating deeply in their souls. ✻



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