

School Matinees for Grades 5-12 in Jan & Feb 2016
All performances at 11:00am, only \$15 for students!



By **Jeremy Tiang**
Adapted from the novel by **Cao Xueqin**
Directed by **Tisa Chang** and **Lu Yu**
January 23 – February 14, 2016

School Matinees Jan 26; Feb 2 or 4; and Feb 9 or 11 at 11:00am

A DREAM OF RED PAVILIONS (world premiere) is one of the most beloved classics in Chinese literature and tells the tender love story of the Stone and the Flower – two spirit beings who came to earth – as Baoyu (Precious Jade) and Daiyu (Dark Jade). Set against the backdrop of the rise and fall of the aristocratic Jia family, this play portrays the one percent of Qing Dynasty China, a world of wealth, power and intrigue.

Pan Asian's School Matinees help students to **develop audience skills** and engage with issues of **cultural, global, and historical significance**. Teachers will receive a **study guide (sample attached)** developed in accordance with the NYC Arts Learning blueprints that will help students think critically about the themes explored during the show, and a post-show talk-back with the artists!

At the Clurman Theatre at Theatre Row, 410 W 42nd Street, btw 9th and 10th Avenue

Call Juni Li at 212-868-4030 or email info@panasianrep.org to reserve tickets, or for more information!

Praise for PART School Matinees: "Awesome...Our students really enjoyed it... Keep up the good work!" -Ms. White, Principal MS226

School Matinee
Tickets \$15

Includes:

- 1 free chaperone per 10 students
- Study Guide – designed to help students meet NYC Arts Learning Blue Prints
- Post-show discussion or workshop with cast

**** All School Matinees subject to availability, min. of 50 students required (max 99 w/ chaperons)**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
Jan & Feb 2016						1/23 7:30
1/24 2:30	1/25	1/26 School Matinee 11:00am 7:30	1/27 2:30 & 7:30	1/28 7:30	1/29 7:30	1/30 7:30
1/31 2:30	2/1	2/2 School Matinee 11:00am 7:30	2/3 2:30 & 7:30	2/4 School Matinee 11:00am 7:30	2/5 7:30	2/6 7:30
2/7 2:30	2/8	2/9 School Matinee 11:00am 7:30	2/10 2:30 & 7:30	2/11 School Matinee 11:00am 7:30	2/12 7:30	2/13 7:30

STUDY GUIDE EXCERPTS FROM FILM CHINOIS (2015)

Film Chinois takes place during a chaotic time in Chinese history. Set between the end of World War II and the Chinese Communist takeover, the play's plot deals with a country in complete political turmoil.

Chinese Civil War

Beginning in 1927, two opposing political parties fought for power in China: the Chinese Nationalist Party (Kuomintang) and the Chinese Communist Party. The Nationalist Party, led by Chiang Kai-shek, was the ruling government during the Civil War and wished to establish a republic with democratic ideals and a capitalist economic system. The Communist Party, led by Mao Zedong, wanted to create a communist society based on the ideals of Karl Marx. The two groups fought until 1937, when the 2 parties temporarily joined forces defend China against the Japanese invasion. In 1945, China's conflict with Japan and World War II ended, but the Chinese Civil War recommenced and once again began to split the country apart. The Communist Party led wide-spread protests against the Nationalist government and strengthened its army, nicknamed the Red Army. Communist rule was strongest in northern cities such as Beijing, where *Film Chinois* takes place. After almost 4 years of political conflict, the Communist Party took control of China, and Mao Zedong announced the foundation of the People's Republic of China (PRC) on October 1st, 1949. At this time, about 2 million Nationalists fled to Taiwan. This marked the end of the Chinese Civil War and the official start of China's communist government.

Second Sino-Japanese War and World War II

The Second Sino-Japanese War was a war between China and Japan between 1937 and 1941. The Chinese government was fed up with the Japanese Empire's attempts to control China's government, military, natural resources, and economic resources. After Japan bombed Pearl Harbor in 1941, the Sino-Japanese War became a part of World War II's Pacific War, which lasted until 1945.

US-China Relations

The United States became very involved in Chinese affairs during World War II. In 1943, U.S. troops were stationed in China to help the common war effort against Japan. During and after the war, the United States attempted to suppress the conflict between China's Nationalist and Communist parties by giving both military and economic aid to the Nationalist Party. However, the U.S. withdrew its military troops from China in 1947, when it became clear that the Chinese Communist Party was rapidly gaining control. Once the Communist Party founded the People's Republic of China and the Nationalists fled to Taiwan in 1949, the United States suspended its diplomatic relations with mainland China for almost 30 years.

Essay / Discussion Questions:

1. What is a theme? Name one theme the playwright explores in the play. How is this theme expressed and why do you think it is important?
2. If you were to create a sequel for this play where do you see each character in the backdrop of post WWII Peking after 1947?
3. Which character do you most relate to and why?
4. What role does film noir play in the public psyche both in the East and West during the Cold War era?