PRESS RELEASE / IIWM IN MONGOLIA / DECEMBER 2023

IIMM SEALS NEW PARTNERSHIPS WITH MONGOLIA

From 18 to 21 December, **Dr Hyung Suk MOON** made an official visit to Mongolia, where he represented the International Institute of World Music. This was an opportunity for the Honorary President of the IIMM to forge fruitful partnerships with the Mongolian Arts and Culture world.

Meetings with **Ms. Chinbat NOMIN**, Minister of Culture in Mongolia and **Mr. Nyamaa ENKHBOLD**, Congressman at the Parliament of Mongolia have enabled the IIMM to establish interesting and promising relations.

At the University of Ulan Bator, the Honorary President of the IIMM met the Rector of the Mongolian National Conservatory, **Dr Tserenjigmed SHARAVTSEREN**, **Professor Erdenetsogt SONINTOGOS**, Rector of the University of Arts and Culture, as well as **Ms. Khulan RAGCHAA**, Director of the Mongolian dance company « Goolingoo Dance Club » and **Mr. Temuujin AYURZANA**, Consultant for Mongolian Culture. The signing of a cooperation protocol will enable future joint operations to be developed with teachers from our two countries in the fields of education and culture: exchanges, teaching, master classes, artistic events, etc.



TEACHING NOMADIC TRADITIONS IN AUBAGNE



The musical traditions perpetuated in Mongolia are among the richest and most original in Asia. These nomadic traditions, handed down orally from master to disciple over the generations, have found a unique place to flourish in Aubagne. Since 2020, throat or **diphonic singing**, **long singing** and **morin kuur** or horse-headed fiddle have been taught at the IIMM.

Around ten students are enrolled in **Mr. Johanni CURTET**'s teaching programme, as part of certification and diploma courses, masterclasses and meetings with exceptional Mongolian singers and musicians invited to Provence. In this perspective, the Institute will welcome masters such as **Ms. Erdenetsetseg KHENMEDEKH**, specialized in **Urtyn duu** as well as **Mr. Batsükh DORJ** and **Mr. Baldandorj AVIRMED**, well-known for **Tuvan khöömii**, epics of the Altaï and tsuur flute.

New : FROM AUGUST 10TH TO 18TH 2024, THE IIMM WILL BE HOLDING ITS 1ST MASTERCLASS IN MONGOLIA



To celebrate its 4th year of existence, the khöömii course initiated by IIMM and **Mr. Johanni CURTET** will take place in Mongolia. A unique opportunity to develop the practice in the land of diphonic singing! The course begins with two days in the Mongolian National University of Arts and Culture in the capital, Ulan Bator, with a master who is emblematic of academic teaching, and continues for a week in the Altaï, in one of the regions where khöömii originated, with a holder of the rural tradition. Accompanied by **Mr. Johanni CURTET**, who has been learning and researching khöömii for 20 years, this masterclass explores a number of dimensions, from the connection to nature and the nomadic lifestyle to urban and contemporary realities.

2023, A YEAR RICH IN ENCOUNTERS

The number of meetings between IIMM and Mongolian officials increased this year :



• October 11th :

Ms. Margaret DECHENAUX, Director and Founder of the IIMM was invited to the Royal Opera House in Versailles by Ms Battsetseg BATMUNKH, Mongolian Minister of Foreign Affairs, to attend a concert by the MORIN KHUUR Ensemble as part of the State visit to France by Mr. Khurelsukh UKHNAA, President of Mongolia, and Ms Bolortsetseg LUVSANDORJ, First Lady.



October 31st :

The Comoedia theatre in Aubagne vibrated to the spellbinding sound of Mongolian diphonic music, allowing the Provence audience to discover an astonishing variety of songs and instruments (throat singing, lute, morin khuur horse fiddle, doshpuluur lute...).



• Mai 21st :

Mr. Johanni CURTET, composer and performer of the original music for the Mongolian film « *Si seulement je pouvais hiberner* », was invited to the Cannes Film Festival as part of the official selection for **Ms. Zoljargal PUREVDASH**'s film, in competition in the «Un certain regard» category. The film won two international rewards. Release on January 10th, 2024.

NEXT PARTNERSHIPS :

Rector of the University of Arts and Culture, represented by its Rector, Professor Erdenetsogt SONINTOGOS

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