

GOOD FORTUNE

Dinner, performances, movie will highlight Chinese culture

Tasha Eichenseher
Oregon Daily Emerald

According to the Chinese calendar, Jan. 31, 1995 will usher in the year of the pig. The upcoming Chinese New Year will be featured at the Chinese Cultural Night tonight in the EMU Ballroom.

"The whole night is for celebrating the Chinese New Year, which is also called the Spring Festival," said Danni Lu, director of the Chinese Student and Scholar Association.

The program, which begins at 7 p.m., includes dinner, a movie and an extensive stage performance revolving around issues of the New Year and the ethnic diversity of mainland China.

"We want to open a window for American students and students from other countries to let them have a glance at Chinese culture," Lu said.

Pot stickers are one of the four main dishes that will be served at the cultural night. Chinese chicken, vegetables with tofu, egg rolls and sweet cake made with red beans for dessert are also on the menu. During dinner, a film highlighting popular Chinese cities and historical sites will be shown.

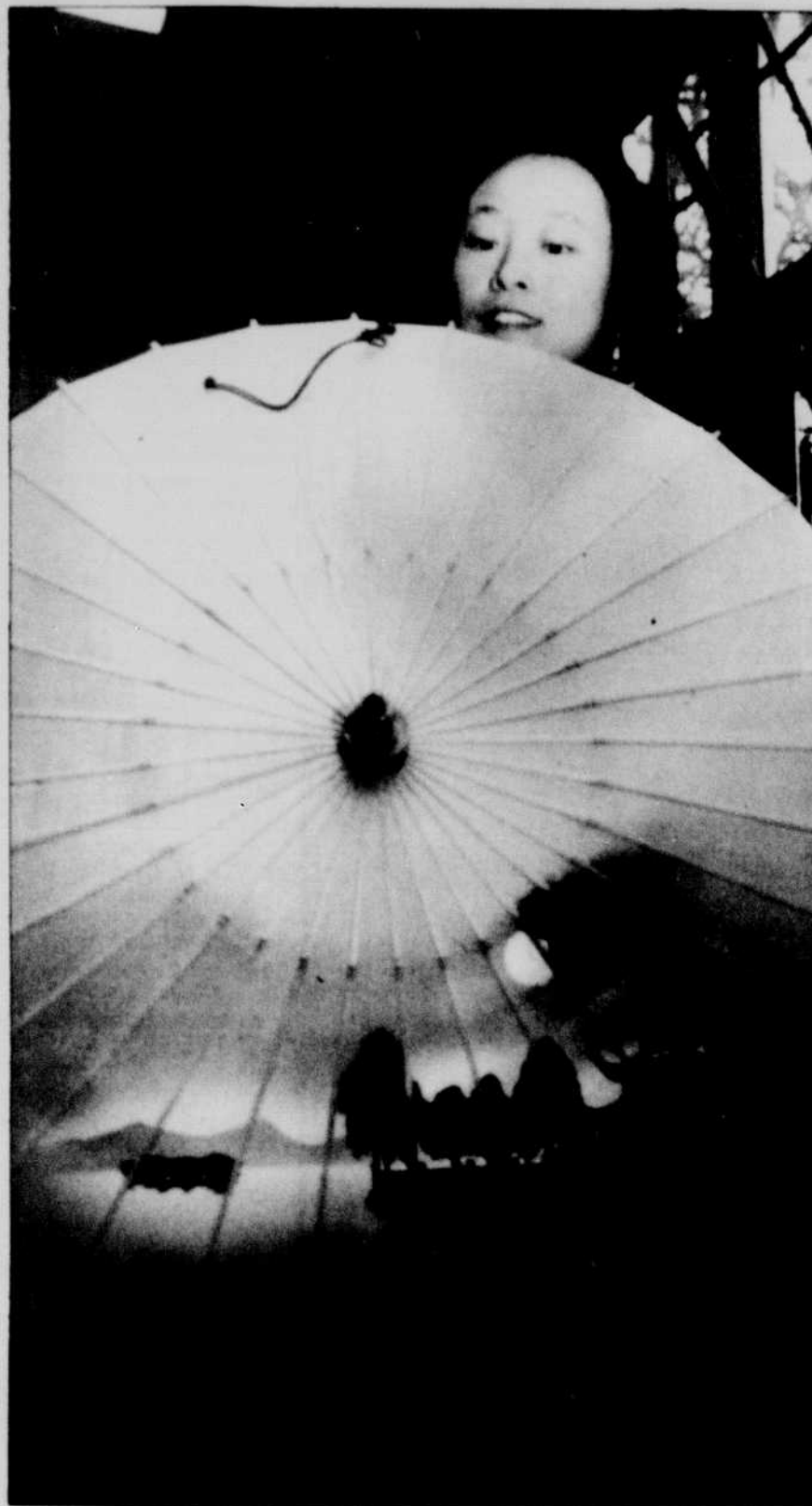
After the meal, a stage performance revolving around the New Year celebration will explore the diversity of ethnic groups in mainland China. The show starts with a traditional New Year's lion dance. Tai Chi and Chinese martial arts are next, followed by a



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The evening's program includes a lion dance, a Tai Chi demonstration and other New Year festivities.

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A fashion show of both contemporary and traditional outfits will be part of Chinese Culture Night.

It's time to learn from shopping mistakes

Sometimes it's hard to go grocery shopping. Recipes can make it even harder. I clipped a recipe last year that called for light corn syrup. I don't even remember what the recipe was for; I never made it.

But I now have a jar of corn syrup making itself a home in my cupboard because I don't know how to use it. I considered making a pecan pie, but that takes dark corn syrup. Not light.

My light corn syrup has a lot of friends in the cupboard. It's best friend is a can of soup. I had a coupon once for 40 cents off a can of Campbell's Chunky Soup. So I bought a can, one I thought I would eat someday. But everytime I look at that can of soup I see the word "Chunky" and the picture on the label, and decide to eat something else.

Besides repeatedly making bad shopping decisions, I am also in the process of creating a mental list of items I will never buy again. I hate



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the less salt version of Rice-A-Roni. I don't care if it is better for my health; I'll never buy it again.

I am always tricked by coupons, and I often end up buying things I don't like. One mistake was buying a can

of Nestle's European Style hot chocolate. It has very little taste, and what little it has certainly isn't chocolate.

Most recently, though, I have decided not to buy any more pre-made, refrigerated cookie dough.

There's something that just isn't right about it. It's good straight from the refrigerator. But it never looks good once it has been cooked. Sunday I found a coupon for \$1 off a roll of cookie dough. The add suggested spreading it out in a 13-by-9-

inch pan. It looked really good.

But I tried it the other night, and it turned out really bad. I took it out of the oven, and it looked OK. But five minutes later it was a sunken, gooey mess. So I popped it back in the oven. When I took it out again, it was deep brown. Not like the ad. I like my cookies a little raw and a little brown. From now on, I'll do it all myself.

As for the food in my cupboard that I'll probably never eat, I've decided to donate it to Food for Lane County. I know there are people who would eat it who haven't as particular as I am. If you aren't in your cupboards that you'll never eat, I suggest you do the same. The offices for Food for Lane County are at 255 Madison St. Or call 343-2822.

Donating that food will get it out of your cupboards and get it to someone who will use it.

Trista Noel is the entertainment editor of the Emerald.

Rondalla to play traditional Mexican guitar songs today

Rondalla, a folkloric, Mexican band from Baja California, will play a quick concert on campus this morning.



The Office of Multicultural Affairs is sponsoring the free performance by Rondalla Mexicana de Baja California. The band consists of 15 acoustic guitars, one acoustic bass, and male and female vocalists.

The Mexican group will play from 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. in the EMU Fir Room. The band performs traditional Mexican songs that were written for a group of this size.

This will be Rondalla's only Northwest appearance.