

Asian Arts & Culture Program



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

What: Yungchen Lhamo in concert

When: November 16 at 8PM

Where: Bowker Auditorium at UMass

Call 1-800-999-UMAS or 545-2511 for tickets

Press release text and press-quality images are also available on our website at www.fineartscenter.com/press

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World-renowned Tibetan singer performs a concert that touches the heart and soul!

Yungchen Lhamo, Tibet's internationally acclaimed diva and award winning singer and songwriter at the age of 25, walked over the Himalayas from Tibet to India, on a perilous journey to meet and receive blessings from His Holiness the Dalai Lama. The power and purity of Yungchen's voice gives heart to her spiritual devotion and performance.

The Asian Arts & Culture Program at the Fine Arts Center brings this extraordinary evening concert for all lovers of spiritual peace on **November 16 at 8 PM in Bowker Auditorium at UMass in Amherst. Call for your tickets now!**

Yungchen Lhamo has toured to great acclaim in Britain, Belgium, Italy, France and Japan, and sang at the Day For Tibet celebrations held for the Dalai Lama, just before His Holiness led interfaith prayers in London's Alexandra Palace. Performing at Carnegie Hall, alongside musical luminaries such as Philip Glass, Michael Stipe and Natalie Merchant, The New York Times reported that "A deep unwavering OM filled Carnegie

Hall when the audience sang to accompany Yungchen Lhamo's pristine, gliding vocal lines". Yungchen's career sped forward with the giant Tibet Freedom Concert and then Lilith Fair, which featured some of the biggest names in American women's music, including Sarah McLachlan, Sheryl Crow and Jewel. She contributed tracks to the Lilith Fair live album, the Tibet Freedom Concert live album, and the Brad Pitt movie *Seven Years In Tibet*. She released *Coming Home* on Real World, sang on Natalie Merchant's hit album *Ophelia*, and also collaborated with choreographer Bill T. Jones at Brooklyn Academy of Music.

In infancy she received her name, meaning Goddess of Melody and Song, from a monk. As a young woman she fled her native Tibet, and crossed the Himalayas to join the exiled Dalai Lama in Dharmasala, India. Yungchen Lhamo received his blessings and, with a group of former Tibetan political prisoners, began to perform material about the fear, poverty and repression back in Tibet. In 1993, she traveled for the first time to the West and toured Australia. At the request of the Dharma center that she attended there, Yungchen began to sing prayers for the meditation sessions. These formed the tracks of her first CD, *Tibetan Prayer*, a winner of the 1995 Australian Recording Industry Award for Best World Music Album.

Yungchen Lhamo concert is a spiritual as well as a musical experience. The repertoire is drawn from chants, with the singer's stunning yet warm voice soaring above a repeated foundation, often with the audience's participation. Not only her unique vocal talent and profoundly moving performances of Buddhist devotional songs, but also her dignity in raising awareness of the Tibetan diaspora and its longing for a free homeland, have won her the respect of critics and fans worldwide.

Yungchen Lhamo in Concert

November 16 at 8 PM in Bowker Auditorium, UMass

General Admission: \$15, Students: \$7

For tickets call FAC Box Office 413-545-2511 or 1-800-999-UMAS

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