The Mao Era in Objects

Dance Props: Dance In Propaganda Posters



TITLE

Tea picking and catching butterflies dance (caicha pudiewu 采茶扑蝶舞)

DATE

1954-12

CREATOR

Wu Zhefu

PUBLISHER

Shanghai huapian chubanshe

RIGHTS

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DESCRIPTION

This poster depicts dancers performing one of the most popular modern Han folk dance works created in China during the early 1950s, 'Picking Tea and Catching Butterflies' (*Caicha pudie* 采茶扑蝶). Like many dances, it depicted rural people doing manual labor, in this case picking tea. The props used in this dance include painted folding fans and wires with paper butterflies attached to the ends.



TITLE

The victory of unity sings everywhere (tuanjie shenglige wanli 団结胜利歌万里)

DATE

ca. 1975

CREATOR

Unknown

PUBLISHER Tianjin renmin meishu chubanshe

RIGHTS

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DESCRIPTION

This poster depicts people representing members of different social groups dancing in front of the portrait of Mao Zedong on Tian'anmen Gate in Beijing. The groups represented include ethnic minorities, men and women, workers, farmers, and soldiers. They are meant to symbolize 'the people' who together make up China as a revolutionary nation and society.