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Spring 2012

## Dream the butterfly dream

Jiaxi Li  
*University of Iowa*

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DREAM THE BUTTERFLY DREAM

by

Jiaxi Li

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master of Fine Arts degree in  
Dance in the Graduate College of The University of Iowa

May 2012

Thesis Supervisor: Assistant Professor Jennifer Kayle

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Graduate College  
The University of Iowa  
Iowa City, Iowa

CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL

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MASTER'S THESIS

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This is to certify that the Master's thesis of

Jiaxi Li

has been approved by the Examining Committee for the thesis requirement  
for the Master of Fine Arts degree in Dance at the May 2012 graduation.

Thesis Committee: \_\_\_\_\_

Jennifer Kayle, Thesis Supervisor

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Rebekah Kowal

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George de la Peña

## Thesis Program Information

Title: Dream the Butterfly Dream

Choreographer: Jiaxi Li in collaboration with Dancers

Dancers: Alaine Hippee; Zachary Bird; Ethan Rome; Topeka Ellis; Zoe Bennett; Hannah Anderson; Jiaxi Li

Music: Composed by Jason Gregory, edited by Chris Shortway ,

“While Thinking About Her Again” by Ennio Morricone , “Liu Shui” composed by Bo Ya Yu (4<sup>th</sup> Century BCE), played by Guang Pinghu (1897–1967)

Film: Sinclair Lin, Zhao Hui Liu, Jiaxi Li

## Acknowledgements

I want to thank my dancers for their dedication, artistry, creativity, boundary pushing for making this dance possible, my family and love ones who helped my filming and rehearsal process, and all my teachers who challenged me and showed me the direction along the way. I own thanks to all my friends in the dance department, who have cared and nurtured me for three years. Two amazing artists, Magnetic Shockra, Ellwood Chen, thank you for willing to “make brain babies” with me. I own my appreciation to two extraordinary women, my mom and my aunt, one taught me power of love; another taught me power of courage. Lastly, I want to thank Zhuang Zi, for teaching me the importance of dream through dream.