

## About Yeong San Jae Ceremony

The Yeong San Jae Ceremony is a symbolic reenactment of Buddha's Lotus Sutra address on Mount Grdhrakuta. It prays for both the living and the departed in hopes of leading them to unity, peace and the joy of enlightenment. Led by Reverend Il Un Ma, the ritual consists of cleansing, paying homage to Buddha and Bohisattva, prayer, the telling of the Lotus Sutra, rejoice, transference of merit and sending the deceased to Paradise. "Butterfly Dance," "Cymbal Dance" and the "Buddhist Drum Dance" are used to deliver prayers and sermons to the living and the deceased. The monks also dance to glorify Buddha. The ritual dance in this ceremony is unique in the world and one of a few examples of Buddhist dance still survive today. The ceremony is designated as Republic of Korea Important intangible Cultural Property No. 50. And the Bongwon Temple is the preserver and transmitter of The Yeong San Jae Ceremony, through teaching at the Okcheon Buddhist Music College and through many performances in Korea and abroad.

## About KDSSC

The Korean Dance Studies Society of Canada is a creative dance organization that honours Korean tradition while collaborating across cultures and generations. Founded by Mi Young Kim in 1987, it has since then grown to the largest Korean dance organization in Canada, supported by the Toronto Arts Council, Ontario Arts Council, Canada Council for the Arts and the Department of Canadian Heritage. The KDSSC has 3 major components: the Soo Ryu School of Dance and Drum (providing recreational and professional dance and drum training), Mi Young Kim Dance Company and the organizer for the Soo Ryu Dance Festival. In addition to many public performances and workshops throughout the year, KDSSC has 3 major performance events: the Spring Dance Recital, the Mi Young Kim Dance Company Performance and the Soo Ryu Dance Festival.

KDSSC's artistic director, Mi Young Kim, is honor to receive the Bongwon Temple monk again in Toronto. To pay respect to our veterans and those who have died protecting us, this November 11 performance is very special. The Bongwon Temple

Monks will perform their Yeon San Jae Ceremony, as they would do in Korea every June 6. The Mi Young Kim Dance Company will offer a shaman dance to complement the ceremony. In the evening, the monks will lead a workshop in cymbal dance, the first of its kind in Canada. Participants will have a rare chance to learn about Buddhist ritual and authentic Buddhist Dance.