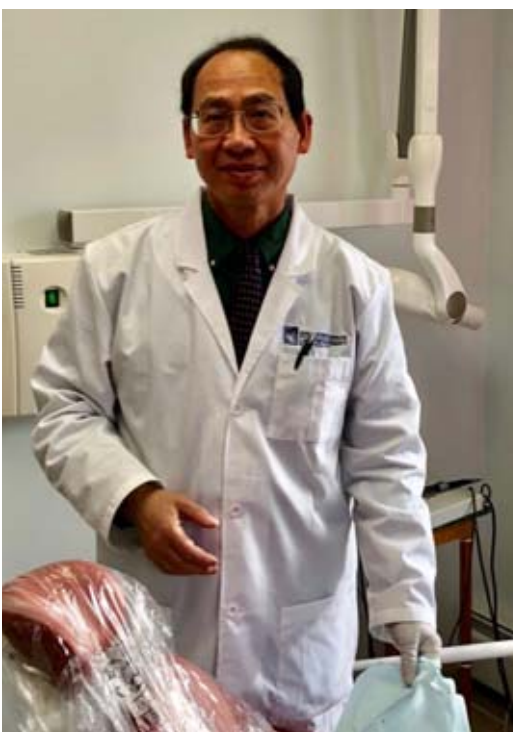
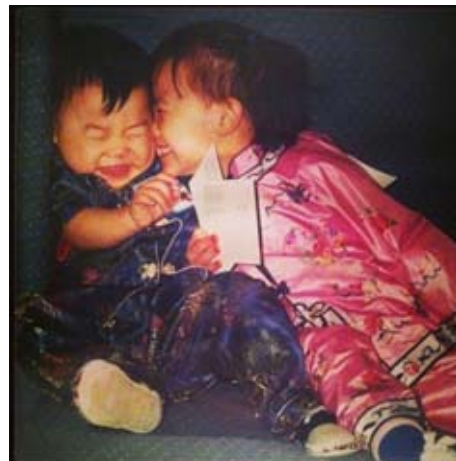


悠悠往事

12月9日，我在 Twinsburg Russell WANG 牙醫診所，坐在椅子上等候拔牙，突然看到窗外那一排公寓，那是我20多年前住的家。那家還是我打工的餐廳老闆借錢給我購買的房子。記得那個時候我住公寓，已經有了一對兒女，老闆對我說：住公寓不來先購買一個小房子，他們把錢借給我先付訂金。看着曾經的家，那一瞬間思緒萬千，往事不由自主地涌上心頭。那時候，兒女幼小，我也是馬不停蹄天天為兒女奔波，記得我的一對兒女是在圖書館和博物館長大的，幸運的是我也與他們一起成長。他們每天回家我們就去圖書館，我每周去兒女教室學習幫助老師打印資料，和兒女很近，老師也十分重視他們，至今在 Twinsburg 圖書館還有我捐贈的中國風箏、花瓶等禮物，我還幫助圖書館舉辦中華文化節活動，傳承中華文化，社區也十分重



視我，讓我做社區董事會成員等等。這是讓兒女從小自信，從小培養他們要付出的價值觀，父母給孩子的終身禮物就是教他們擁有一雙會飛的翅膀。
我91年以陪讀的身份來到美國尋夢，來美國不到一個星期就在餐廳打工，整整20多年，做過許多不同的事情，但我走到哪里都能得到人們的關愛和呵護，好像一切都是安排好的，而這15年的辦報就像我走進社會大學堂，學習知識磨練意志，讓自己把握時機，明白做人的道理。有了勉勵自己的語言：這個世界上只有一個人最可怕，就是你自己。得知一位曾經支持過伊利華報的企業家，他的企業也上了股市，在事業頂峰時一個法案毀掉了他的一切，現在他又從新開始。我佩服這樣的人，人生本身無常，一切皆空，唯有慈悲善良懺悔感恩是陪伴自己的良藥，因為一個人是活在情緒里的，如果我們身體出問題了我們有感覺，如果心出了問題，就要學會給心靈鬆綁，人生最大的成就，就是從失敗中站起來，做一個愛自己、愛別人、愛生活的人。



在情緒里的，如果我們身體出問題了我們有感覺，如果心出了問題，就要學會給心靈鬆綁，人生最大的成就，就是從失敗中站起來，做一個愛自己、愛別人、愛生活的人。



The Force of Destiny With a Happy Ending in our Times

The Remarkable Story of An Asian and American Artist Uniting to Spread the Wonder of the Artistry of Dance
—by Cynthia Marek Lundeen

Dear Readers,

I have the most remarkable story to tell you. It is the story of two people, separated by time, distance and culture, whose story has not only a happy ending, but who now work together, as this loving couple says, to “transform lives through culture and collaboration.”
Pla, the Lovely Thai Classical Dancer
When I first met Suwatana Rockland, the lovely Thai dancer, teacher, choreographer, and costume designer, I was fascinated by her story which reminded me of the title of the Italian opera La Forza del Destino, but with a happy ending. This opera, translated into English as The Force of Destiny or The

Power of Fate, tells the tale of two star crossed lovers which ends in tragedy, yet for the happily married Suwatana, known as “Pla” and her husband Jeffrey, it seemed that nothing short of the Force of Destiny could have brought together two people separated by oceans, culture, philosophy, religion and language.

Currently studying at Kent State University to earn her Master of Fine Arts Degree, Pla had shown me newspaper articles from her native Thailand honoring her talent as a dancer, actress, teacher and choreographer. Having achieved fame within her own country, what could have induced her to abandon a successful career and move to the United States? In the West we might say that it was Cupid, the ancient mythological god of love, but this love would wait a decade to fulfill its destiny.

A Dashing American Ballet Master Travels to Thailand
Visiting Thailand as a Ballet Master, for Les Ballets Jazz de Montreal, Jeffrey Marc Rockland first met Pla at Thai Cultural Center in Bangkok while giving a Master class for Patravadi Dance-Theatre. Soon after Jeffrey visited Patravadi-Dance Theatre as a guest choreographer and teacher. The artistry of his work touched Pla deeply, yet communication was difficult as neither spoke the other’s native language. Jeffrey, however, had a good command of the French language, and as Pla had some knowledge of French, they spoke in this language, also known as the language of love. When it was time to depart, Jeffrey gave Pla his mother’s phone number ... and the years of subtle longing began.

Separation and Flourishing Careers



25年前浦瑛漂洋過海尋找夢想

我回想着30歲到美國，一晃26年，想着人富裕是物質與精神，看來我在美國已經賺了一桶精神金，因為我感到我活在天堂裏，15年的創業，讓心靈有了皈依。



25年後陸穎海歸中華尋根創業

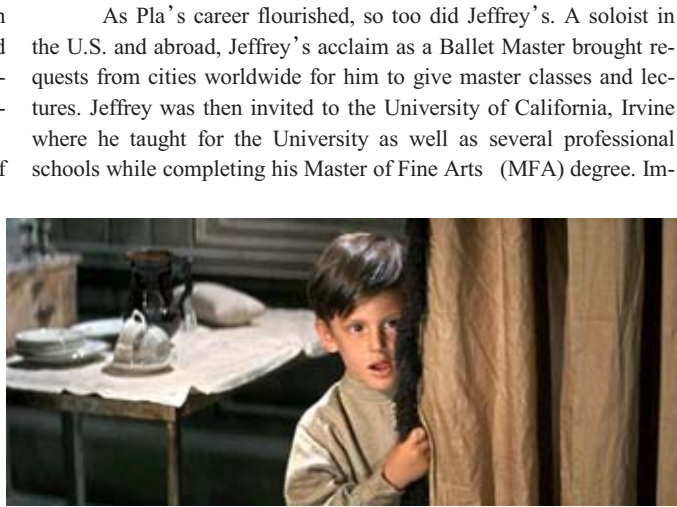
好朋友凱文分享她生命中最有智慧的故事
每天我們都在相遇新的人，新的事，在無聲處深藏，在孤獨里聚力，因為人最美好的事是讓孤獨靈魂得到溫暖和陪伴。盲人朋友凱文，我們相識10多年，她心總是亮着一盞燈，在我遇到困難的時候總是想着她，做她自己。
我常常想：也許人生走什麼樣的路，遇到什麼樣的人早有定數，但我還是希望能遇到激勵引導我的人。凱文就是激勵引導我的人。
凱文就讀史丹福大學，俄國文學專業畢業，她的丈夫是她的同班同學，凱文後來去哈佛就讀教育，碩士畢業後，她先生在俄國找到一份工作，他們剛剛生了女兒，所以他們三個人一起去俄國定居，在那里他們找到了一位19歲的年輕保姆。



生活智慧

到了一個新的國家，凱文一人出門熟悉一下環境，當凱文一回家覺得家里氣氛不對，她的先生也很誠實地告訴凱文，剛剛他和保姆發生了關係，凱文智慧地告訴我，我怎麼辦？我又看不見，帶着一個嬰兒，人生地不熟，沒有保姆困難最大的是我，我

問：難道您沒有要換一個保姆嗎？凱文說：和保姆睡覺的是我的先生，有問題的是我的先生，只要再換的保姆還是女人，就会有同樣的事。凱文接着告訴我，她的先生後來又找了幾個其他的女人，最後他們離婚了。凱文丈夫離婚後不久，又結婚了，離婚的先生和新太太常常去見凱文和女兒，最後她的先生自殺了，至今凱文與她先生的第二個太太經常來往。
我不是凱文，感受不到她的心情，但凱文自信自愛的精神鼓勵我，剛剛退休的她，在加州斯坦福大學同班同學的錄音棚錄了40首歌，她使用了十種不同的語言來演唱這些歌曲並製成了兩張CD。現在每天她把時間安排的井井有條：教華人餐廳服務員英文，教來自不同國家的人彈鋼琴，去教會唱詩班，還做協會主席等等，凱文就是喜歡充實的自己。



mediately upon completing his MFA, Jeffrey began a ten year period in Colorado where he was Associate Professor and the Founding Artistic Director of three dance organizations still in existence today.
Reuniting: Dreams and Destinies Fulfilled
And then came the phone call from Pla to Jeffrey as she had a student who she believed could be most helped by the expertise, skill and knowledge that only Jeffrey could offer. Pla explained to me that it is common for families to live together in Asia, but that when she phoned Jeffrey’s mother she found that he was not living there. His

mother provided Pla with the correct phone number and when she spoke with Jeffrey, she was surprised to learn that at that time he had taken a hiatus from his beloved career. But Fate was ready to take a hand and Jeffrey did travel to Thailand to instruct the student, yet Pla by this time was engaged to be married to another man.

Meeting Jeffrey again, Pla knew she must break her engagement, but her father was skeptical as might be expected of a father wishing to protect his daughter. After all, she is Buddhist, Jeffrey is Jewish, their native lands are separated by oceans and they could barely communicate with spoken words. Never-the-less, the unspoken words prevailed, and Jeffrey’s father advised him to follow his heart.

Today while Pla completes her master’s program at Kent State University, Jeffrey is not only an Associate Professor there as well, he is the Founding Artistic Director of East Meets West, a program including collaboration between Kent State University and Suan Sunanaha Rajabhat University, with instructional courses, cultural exchange field trips between students of Kent State and Thailand as well as live performances of international dance.

It was at a recent performance, Dance ’17 Mosaic, produced under the artistic direction of Jeffrey Marc Rockland that I had the opportunity to see visually stunning and thoroughly captivating classical dance from various regions of Thailand, including the Gingala bird dance, Peacock dance, Kinnaree bird dance and Nora dance. The images which you see accompanying this article, while still images, none-the-less display the movement and grace of these dances. The sumptuous costumes were a veritable feast for the eyes with the classi-



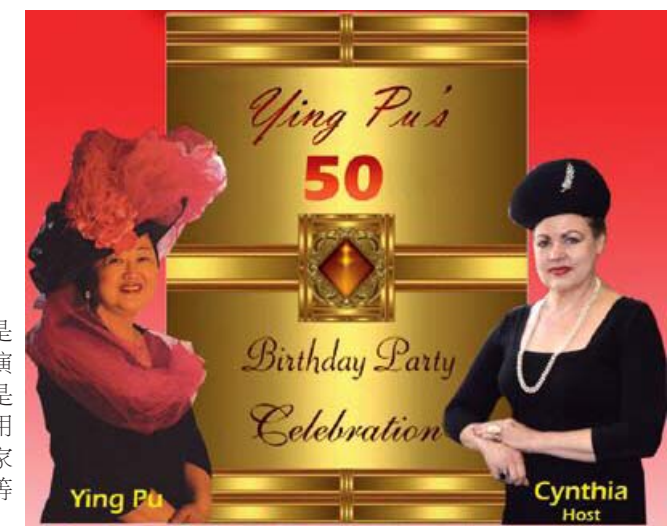
精彩人生

12月2日，好朋友 Cynthia 邀請我去 Kent 大學看演出，是因為她的泰國學生 Pla 和先生 Jeffrey 共同打造導演了這場演出：East meet West (東西合璧)。整個演出雖然不是那麼專業，但是整台舞蹈節目就猶如給我上了一堂歷史課，用舞蹈演了近代歷史：黑人奴隸反抗獲得自由，猶太人被逼無家可歸，Kent 大學的民運，來自泰國舞蹈家的鳥舞蹈的演出等等，整合節目能體會到導演的匠心設計和安排，讓我更幸運的是演出完後 Cynthia 和我一起採訪了這一對夫婦。

導演 Jeffrey 告訴我：3年前 Kent 大學有一個舞蹈教授的職位，當年他舞蹈碩士畢業，就開始做企業，他開公司，做過房地產，銀行家，造過房子，做不同的職業，但她自己的專業是舞蹈碩士畢業，還有 Jeffrey 曾經在他五歲的時候，拍過一部著名的猶太人電影。

而 Jeffrey 的太太 Pla 故事更是精彩，在 Pla 17 歲那年他倆相遇泰國，那一年她倆相遇是因為舞蹈，當 Jeffrey 離開泰國時給了 Pla 一個電話號碼，那是 Jeffrey 媽媽的電話號碼，在 Pla 31 歲那年，已經就要準備結婚的 Pla，突然改變了主意，按照她自己說的那個時候的她，已經在泰國從事電影、舞蹈時裝表演，她也走了不少國家，在她成為大眾明星時候，內心需求寧靜祥和的生活，她想起 Jeffrey，一個電話找到 Jeffrey

的母親，得知 Jeffrey 剛離婚，有二個小孩。
Pla 說不清楚那個時候是不是沖動，她的心已經奔到美國，17 歲遇到和她一樣的舞者 Jeffrey 這是他們靈魂相約，但到了美國完全不是她想象的那樣，沒有以往舞臺的燈光，再也沒有掌聲，和人們對她的仰視，好在有 Jeffrey 的愛情，和 Jeffrey 一家善良人的照顧，她的二個女兒來到這個世界，孤單的 Pla 來了二個天使相陪，無助時有愛人家人呵護，心靈有了溫暖。
生命是一種感動，Pla 的人生又開始新的啟航。
其實人生再精彩也只是瞬間，人活著就是一個過程，這是我做報紙 15 年後最深的體會：有跟你一起敬業的工作夥伴，不計較工作時間，不計較工作報酬，他們跟着你覺得有目標。還有在自己的生命中有幾位心與心真誠相待，不因為你的貧窮富貴，相遇時候無話不談的朋友相伴，還有懂你原諒你過錯的子女，人生沒有十全十美的事情，因為我明白主宰我的是我自己的情緒，我懂得自信是一種力量，更是一種動力，15 年來，我寫過許多平凡人的精彩人生故事，有的人已經去了天堂，報紙陪伴我成長。



幸福的一家人

