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International Festival of Art in Langkawi from Oct 26

LANGKAWI, Thurs. - A potpourri of classy artistes from world renowned Mexican sculptor Sebastian to the only barefoot flamenco dancer in the world, La Chunga of Spain will grace the Langkawi International Festival of Arts from Oct 26 to Nov 4.

There will also be internationally acknowledged flautist Andrea Reminali from Italy, French 3-D sculptor Thiery Vide, famed bamboo flautist John Kaizan and the famous musicians from Holland Thjis Van and Mike Del Ferro to give discerning lovers of the various disciplines of art an unforgettable experience.

The first LIFA which will be a biennial event is organised by the Ibrahim Hussein Museum and Cultural Foundation (IHMCF) in Datai here. It is supported by the Langkawi Development Authority (Lada), White Helmets Foundation in Rome, Italy which is responsible for bringing the foreign participants, the Kedah government, Malaysia Airlines, and several hotels and resorts on the island.

Festival organiser Datuk Ibrahim Hussein for whom LIFA will be a dream come true told a Press conference at the foundation premises today that other highlights include artists from Japan, Thailand, Taiwan, India, Macau, Indonesia and Malaysia.

He said there will also be performances by the Water Puppeteers from Vietnam, Balinese Mask Dancers and musicians from the Philippines.

Some of the renowned artistes have agreed to come because they are known to Ibrahim because of his international stature as a Malaysian artist.

Ibrahim said the venues will be spread over various resorts and places on the island including the IHMCF.

Some of the performers and artistes will only be at one venue while others will perform at several places.

For instance, he said the Vietnamese puppeteers will perform at a special stage only at Sheraton Perdana.

The Woodwind Quintet from the Philippines will be at Tanjung Rhu Resort and five other venues.

Urging the public and visitors not to miss the rare opportunities, Ibrahim said entry to the various events is free but for performances in the hotels free tickets can be obtained in advance to prevent over-crowding.

The tickets can be obtained from the hotels hosting the event, Lada, IHMCF and a special counter at the airport.

Ibrahim said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has agreed to grace the event on Nov 4.

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