

# Foot juggling, Drumming and Spring Rolls in Ipswich Town Centre

## Gallery 3 Ipswich Town Hall Galleries

**FREE**

### **Special launch Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2008**

This May a brand new exhibition opens at Gallery 3, in Ipswich's Town Hall Galleries, hosted by Colchester and Ipswich Museum Service. Exploring life in traditional China, '**Dragons, Silks and Stories**' will feature beautiful objects from the museum service's collection, many of which have not been seen in public before.

The launch of this enchanting exhibition on **Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May** will feature a programme of events that can be enjoyed absolutely free. From midday until 2.00pm special entertainment will be taking place to celebrate the opening of the exhibition with guests from the Chinese community.

The celebrations kick off with a short performance from a drumming ensemble, before a Chinese acrobat will perform a fun and interactive show. Throughout the afternoon visitors will also be able to enjoy a Chinese magic show, examples of Chinese paper folding and even the chance to sample a little bit of Chinese food! The launch of the exhibition is a free event and is open to all visitors who wish to visit this enchanting exhibition on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May.

The exhibition, '**Dragons, Silks and Stories**' will run until Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February and is an opportunity that you mustn't miss. Featuring a fine selection of costumes and ornaments the exhibition will showcase beautiful examples of everyday life in China. See a wedding robe, a dressing table, mirrors, shoes and more. Visitors can also discover more about Taoism and the beliefs of the time through immortals, gods and the work of a priest in popular religion.

A closer look at daily life will explore examples of tea pots, cups, tea chests and coolie hats, as well as umbrellas, eating vessels and baskets. An exploration of martial arts will include a wall hanging of Kuan Ti, the God of War, paintings of people exercising with different weapons and examples of actual weapons.

Gallery 3 is dedicated to the museums outreach and community led activities and this exhibition has been produced in consultation with the local Chinese community. Throughout the duration of the exhibition additional work with the community will enhance the exhibition and provide more events to support it.

Councillor Judy Terry, Ipswich Borough Council's Arts, Culture & Leisure portfolio-holder said "With so much focus on China and its history in this Olympic year, I am delighted at this opportunity to present so many beautiful and delicate items from Ipswich's extraordinarily varied collections for a first viewing by the public, to whom they belong.

I hope that as many people as possible will enjoy this special day out, and visit the exhibition."

**Colchester and Ipswich Museum Service**

Our vision is to create a museum service that is a source of pride, inspiration and fun.

For comment or opinion please contact Cllr Judy Terry, Ipswich Borough Council's Arts, Culture & Leisure portfolio-holder on 01473 210469

Sharon Carter  
Assistant Marketing Officer  
Colchester and Ipswich Museum Service  
Museum Resource Centre  
14, Ryegate Road  
Colchester  
Essex CO1 1YG  
Tel 01206 282938 Fax 01206 282925

E-mail [sharon.carter@colchester.gov.uk](mailto:sharon.carter@colchester.gov.uk)  
[www.colchestermuseums.org.uk](http://www.colchestermuseums.org.uk)  
[www.visitcolchester.com](http://www.visitcolchester.com)  
[www.colchester.gov.uk](http://www.colchester.gov.uk)