

Front

Invitation
The Norwich Branch of the
Royal Asiatic Society
Requests the pleasure of your company
at 6pm on Saturday 20 March 1912
to hear an account of the Siege of the Legations in Peking in 1900, and the
implications and lessons of that event for our relations with
The New Republic of China
presented by Sir Claude MacDonald, GCMG, GCVO, KCB, formerly
Her Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary to Peking
Please see the reverse

Reverse

Welcome back to 2021

The performance is approximately 50 minutes with no interval

Characters of various nationalities will be portrayed

This is a one-man show

Chinese Boxing

Written by Mark Kitto

Directed by Henry Maynard

Co-Director and Dramaturg: Marlie Haco

Sound Design: Mark Fawcett

Costume: Amanda Harrold and Henrietta Faire

Props: Niall McCallum

Performed by Mark Kitto

Voices: Lim Hui Sin, Isabel Kitto, Lucie, Connie and Alice Dutton, Carrie McCullough

The Siege of the International Legations occurred in 1900 in Peking, the capital of the Qing Empire, during the Boxer Rebellion. Menaced by the Boxers, an anti-Christian, anti-foreign peasant movement, 900 soldiers, marines, and civilians, largely from Europe, Japan, and the United States, and about 2,800 Chinese Christians took refuge in the Peking Legation Quarter. The Qing government took the side of the Boxers. The foreigners and Chinese Christians in the Legation Quarter survived a 55-day siege by the Qing Army and Boxers. The siege was broken by an international military force which marched from the coast of China, defeated the Qing army, and occupied Peking (now known as Beijing). The siege was called by the *New York Sun* "the most exciting episode ever known to civilization." (Wikipedia)

Mark Kitto has a degree in Chinese from SOAS and lived in China for 18 years. He performed with the Shanghai People's Arts Theatre and other companies in China. He returned to the UK in 2013. He is an actor and writer.

(This performance has been adapted for live streaming)