



## Artist for the 2008 Beijing Olympics debuts exhibit in Miami



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One of the most visited art events around the world has opened to the public in Miami, Florida. This year, attention is focused on Shen Wei, a Chinese choreographer and performer, who captured attention in 2008 with his cinematic montage of the Beijing Olympics. CCTV America's Nitza Soledad Perez reported the story from Miami, Florida. Shen Wei, artist, painter and choreographer of the 2008 Beijing Olympics debuted to a full house. Shen Wei was first a painter and then a choreographer who has performed in more than 30 countries. This is the first major exhibit of his paintings. The art exhibit, called *In Black, White and Gray*, is a series of 11 pictorial expressions on display. "This new series is about who I am, how I see myself between me and the universe," said Wei.

That discovery continued with a live performance. Accompanied by a pulsating beat, dancers dressed in black, white and gray costumes moved around the exhibition.

“Every single dancer has a dimension, a dot dot, much slower than our heart beat, and first of all they could take you to a place in time, and also calms people down and be more focused,” said Wei.

Artist and dancers at the dress rehearsal wondered how their performance would evolve once an audience was present.

“People would either be very interested and they are with us or I expect some people to go ‘What is this, this is really weird.’ ‘Why are they doing these poses?’ or we can take them to this delicate, intricate place,” said Chelsea Retzloff, a Shen Wei Company dancer.

On opening night, nearly 700 people watched quietly observing and absorbing. “I found the performance really hypnotic, it almost seemed like an organism, like a sponge that was moving, sort of an amorphous machine,” said Joan Levin, a dance critic for The Miami Herald.

“Clearly, this was not hip hop tonight. This was studied,” said art dealer Bernice Steinbaum. “This was very serious, it speaks to Asian culture.”

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