Dance and Tradition: 
Korean Mask Dance T’alch’um

What is Origin of Korean Mask Dance ‘T’alch’um’?

Korean Mask Dance “T’alch’um” is one of Korean traditional dances, and it is currently designated as an intangible cultural asset under the Korean Cultural Heritage Protection System. This dance was popular among village people in the nineteenth century so most dancers were people of the lower class. People performed the mask dance in order to comfort mental and physical exhaustion from hard agricultural labor. Movements of the mask dance are mostly based on agricultural working and everyday life motions. For Korean people, the mask dance was the useful exercise and the excited amusement in history.

How Does Korean Mask Dance ‘T’alch’um’ Look Like?

Educational Merits

Korean mask dance “t’alch’um” includes educational merits. Through learning Korean traditional mask dance, students are able to not only experience historical moment of Korean life, but also learn different uses of dancing body in Korean dance. Students can also accomplish harmonious unification and integrated energy while they dance together. Students are able to improve bodily reactions, learning the use of time, space, and direction. Korean mask dance class will encourage students to develop moving sense through their bodies.