

**10 November 2009**

**PRESS RELEASE**



**Tashi Lhunpo Monestary**  
**The Power of Compassion - Sacred Sounds from Tibet**  
**8pm Wednesday 9 December**

Tibetan Monks from the Tashi Lhunpo Monastery perform at Aberystwyth Arts Centre on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 8pm.

Eight Tibetan monks from Tashi Lhunpo Monastery in India, offer a dramatic presentation of their unique sacred dances, music and prayers, with colourful traditional costumes and ceremonial masks. This performance offers a fascinating insight into the authentic Buddhist traditions of Tibet.

"A magical universe of reincarnation and release" *The Independent*

"Mesmerising" \*\*\*\* *Songlines magazine*

Wearing traditional brocade costumes and masks the monks invoke the Buddhist divinities in the skeleton dance of Dur Dak, (the Lords of the Cemetery) and the Stag and the Buffalo - disciples of the Lord of Death. In a varied programme, instruments of the monastic orchestra, including the great Dungchen, or Long Horns, the Khangling (trumpets made from human thighbones) and percussion provide a dramatic accompaniment to the dance and Buddhist chants.

"A psychedelic whirl of chanting, dancing, drums, cymbals and processions" *The Times*

Tashi Lhunpo Monastery, founded by the first Dalai Lama in the 15th Century, and the seat of the Panchen Lama, is one of the most important monasteries in the Tibetan Buddhist tradition. Now re-established in exile in South India, the monastery is once again becoming one of the major centres of learning, best known for its artistic tradition of masked dances and sacred music. The performance offers a rare opportunity to witness a unique and endangered culture.

Tickets for this performance are £12 (£11) CC £11.50 (£10.50) and can be booked by contacting the Arts Centre ticket office on 01970 62 32 32 or online at [www.aber.ac.uk/artscentre](http://www.aber.ac.uk/artscentre)

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Notes to editors:

Further information is available from Rachel Taylor on 01970 622894 email [rst@aber.ac.uk](mailto:rst@aber.ac.uk)

Marketing Assistant *Cynorthwy-ydd Marchnata*

Aberystwyth Arts Centre *Canolfan y Celfyddydau Aberystwyth*

Tel Ffon 01970 622889 Email Epost [rst@aber.ac.uk](mailto:rst@aber.ac.uk)

Further Aberystwyth Arts Centre press releases can be found at [www.aberystwythartscentre.co.uk/press.shtml](http://www.aberystwythartscentre.co.uk/press.shtml).

