

# Kite flying not just for outdoors

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## Tonight's indoor kite flying show promises to amaze attendees: organizer

It's one thing to see kites fly in their natural habitat - outside in the open air. But to see kites glide beautifully indoors is a whole other matter.

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Wen Jeng of Aerial Experience practises inside Arthur-J.-LeBlanc Centre in Dieppe yesterday for the show taking place there tonight at 6:15 p.m. as part of Dieppe Kite International.

A special event at this year's Dieppe Kite International is an indoor flight show that is taking place tonight at 6:15 p.m. at the Arthur-J.-LeBlanc Centre on Melanson Road. Put on by Aerial Experience Productions, a company operating out of Las Vegas, the show is sure to wow the crowds, confirms executive director Lee Park.

"To see gravity-defying indoor kites is certainly going to be a unique experience for most," says a giddy Park, who was on site all afternoon yesterday with his team of nine, including his artistic director wife, practicing the final movements for tonight's spectacle.

He promises a show full of not only kites, but also acrobats and dancing, complete with some enchanting music.

"I think people will be very surprised. It's not just kites flying, but people as well," he says. "Outdoors, you've got the wind to help control the kite, but indoors, every nuance of our bodies affects the kite's movement, so it's like you're really one with the kite."

The director states that indoor kite flying is a rare art mostly due to the obvious fact that it's difficult to practice.

But despite this, Park says he's as amazed with indoor kite flying as was when he first laid eyes on this type of performance several years ago.

"My wife and I are gymnasts, and one day we went to this contemporary dance show where a guy was indeed flying a kite indoors, with no air. I was totally shocked and said we have to try this," he recounts.

"It's like when you're surfing and you need to find that perfect wave. With indoor kite flying, you need to find that special slice of air and hold on to it for as long as possible so you can dance and express yourself."

And although Park says the audience may believe the performance looks effortless, it takes in fact years of practice to master the art of indoor flying.

But he believes that with new types of kites being produced around the world every year, soon indoor flying will become more accessible to a greater number of people.

"But until then, people from three years to 80 years can come in here and experience the beauty of this rare art, it's really something," he says.

Having packed the arena during their first time at the Dieppe Kite International in 2005, Park and his team are expecting another large turnout this year.

"I think people are going to be pretty impressed this year with the tricks we've got up our sleeves," he says with a smirk.