Legend of the Moon Goddess

Graduate student Yang Geng rehearses for a March 5–6 production of “Moon Goddess” at Vanderbilt’s Martha Rivers Ingram Center for the Performing Arts. Presented by the Chinese Arts Alliance of Nashville, the production featured 25 performers in modern and traditional Chinese dance. In the legend of the moon goddess, a mortal woman named Chang-e takes three pills that make her a goddess and transport her to heaven, where she can be seen sitting under a laurel tree in the face of the full moon. Lonely and remorseful for having taken the pills, she makes a wish that people on earth live in harmony. Photo by Neil Brake.