

本期由中国竹产业协会提供支持。

This issue is sponsored by China Bamboo Industry Association.

## Contents

### 08 特别策划 | Special Focus

#### **China Bamboo Culture Festival: A Way to a Ecologically Civilized Beautiful China**

China Bamboo Culture Festival is the only international event in China that strives to promote bamboo culture and bamboo industry and achieve bamboo economic prosperity. Since 1997, 10 sessions of the festival have been successfully held. The history of the event can be divided into three stages: the pioneering period, the sustainable development period and the transitional development period. The festival has made significant contributions to the development and the use of bamboo resources by revitalizing bamboo industry, the socialist culture prosperity by upholding bamboo culture, the local economic growth and bamboo farmers' income increase by strengthening economic and trade cooperation, and the bamboo related technology exchanges and collaboration by expanding international exchange.

#### **Tide Rises in the Three Rivers Witness Flourishing Bamboo Forest**

Yibin, known as the "First City along the Yangtze River", "Chinese Liquor Capital" and "Chinese Bamboo Capital", is a city that glows with the glory of the reform and innovation. The 11th China Bamboo Culture Festival will be held in Yibin in June 2021. The event is aimed to promote industrial growth based on a big plan, boost ecological tourism by creating a grand brand, build Chinese bamboo capital in the framework of a great culture, and make a magnificent event with generous budget to open a window of culture for friends from the world to explore the charm of bamboos.

### 22 文明回眸 | Civilization Glimpse

#### **The Massive World of Bamboo Forest in Southern Sichuan: A Journey of Culture and History**

##### First Impressions of the Bamboo Sea

##### Rongzhou, the Ancient Strategic Pass on the Road to Sichuan

##### The Origin of Bamboo Culture

##### Traditions and Cultures in the Bamboo Village

##### Longyin Temple and Buildings of Ancestral Lineage

##### The Mark of Revolution in the Bamboo Towns

Yibin is the world's largest gene pool of bamboo species and the biggest habitat for symposium, monopodial and mixed bamboo in China, while the Zhuhai (bamboo sea) is known as the biggest natural bamboo forest park in the country. The six articles in this column are interconnected but can also be read separately. We have visited the villages of Nonglin, Jixian, Nanmu, Yongjiang (a model village of bamboo culture development in the new socialist countryside) and Gaoqiao, all located in the interior of the Zhuhai, to present you our first impression as well as in-depth insight on the area. With firsthand experience in how various intangible cultural heritages, such as bamboo paper, bamboo wine, bamboo carving and weaving, are preserved and what efforts are behind them, we are more than privileged to complete The Origin of Bamboo Culture. We also saw the historical splendor of Yibin as an important city along the South Silk Road. We walked into the Longyin Temple embraced by bamboos to feel the philosophical view of life formed by people who have lived in there for generations, which integrates heaven, earth, humans and bamboos, and feel the Zen in their bamboo culture infused with the conception of nature in religious culture. During our trip to Lizhuang, a national historical and cultural town, we listened to the stories of how culture was interwoven into the village history to bring hopes in the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression and to lay the foundation of the People's Republic of China, and we were deeply awed by the red mark left in the revolutionary base. In the Zhuhai, people have lived with bamboos for thousands of years, and the bamboos are now of irreplaceable value for Yibin's bamboo industrial development and the national strategies of building the Yangtze River Economic Belt as well as the Chengdu-Chongqing Economic Zone.

### 68 特别策划 | Special Focus

#### **How Folk Arts Improve Innovative Bamboo Design in Japan**

Bamboo products are the important parts to everyday life in Japan, such as bamboo brushes in tea ceremonies, bamboo swords for kendo, and bamboo bow in archery practice. They are interwoven with the flavors of life for ages and the fruit of the wisdom of previous generations. Research on the importance of bamboo products by Musashino Art University has led to an awareness of the value and potential of bamboo materials and the importance of learning about the history and culture of bamboo; bamboo products are not just containers, forgotten utensils, or records of an old way of life, but also the sources of inspiration for design prototypes, enabling people to re-examine the nature of design.

### 76 美丽乡村 | Beautiful Countryside

#### **Lizhuang, a Cultural Epitome of China with the Charm of a Revolutionary Cultural Base**

Lizhuang, originally a small town by the Yangtze River, became a revolutionary cultural base during the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression, when the people here sent out a telegram of 16 words to warmly invite various famous cultural and educational institutions to settle there, including the National Central Research Institution, making it "the second home of masters and scholars". Other than its brave history in the war, Lizhuang is also known as a famous ancient town with well preserved buildings of Ming and Qing dynasties now known as Nine Palaces and Eighteen Temples. It is even praised as "the refraction point of Chinese culture and the culmination place of national spirit".

### 82 文化采撷 | Cultural Highlights

#### **Nostalgia for the Bamboo Sea**

Zhuhai, or the Bamboo Sea, is a name of constant nostalgia, which doesn't only come from the stunning green landscape but the memories dating back to the beginning of life. Nostalgia is a sentiment and also an attachment to the days gone. In Zhuhai, there are neither shocking views nor flourishing flowers, but the refreshing scent of bamboos in a spring drizzle and the layers of green that decorate hills and mountains do provide a place to rest your heart and mind, as well as feeling the vibe of Zen.

#### **Culture Make Bamboo Carvings Alive**

He Huayi, a master bamboo carver, is a representative inheritor of national intangible cultural heritage, a master of bamboo crafts in the Asia-Pacific region and a master of Chinese arts and crafts industry. His bamboo sculpture masterpiece of "Ode to the Yangtze River" won the gold medal of the 2015 China Arts and Crafts "Hundred Flowers Award". In his eyes, only bamboo carvings imbued with great cultural and artistic values can be regarded as "good", and successful bamboo carvings is a display of the artist's original philosophical thoughts.

#### **Visiting the National Theatre Academy in Jiang'an — "Cradle of Chinese Drama"**

Due to the Japanese aggression, the National Theatre Academy was relocated from Nanjing to Jiang'an Town, Jiang'an County, Yibin City, in 1939. During the six years in there, the faculty and students of the academy enjoyed steady and peaceful life. With an excellent array of faculty members, a large number of plays were produced, which made the 6 years the golden age in the 14-year history of the academy. Today, the glory and hardships are stored in the archive of history for future generations to read, while the memories of this period lie dormant in the ground for people to ponder.

#### **Ode to the Chinese Bamboo**