



胡絮青百菊图

100 Paintings of Chrysanthemums by Hu Jieqing

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胡絮青 一九九七年摄于朴竹室

A Photo of Hu Jieqing, Taken in 1997

我爱花。爱看花，爱画花，也爱养花。

在花之中，我对菊花有特别的偏爱。

我是北京人，是满族人的后代。北京旗人有养菊的传统。北京气候适合养菊。菊的品种多，有悠久的培植历史，有无穷的变化潜力，能养出千奇百艳来，像一座挖不尽的宝藏。过去，在我儿童时代，秋日里，居不可无菊。菊伴我长大。

在我中年时，当我有一个安定的居住环境时，我也开始养菊。最多的时候，达一百多品种，有几百盆。秋季可以开办家庭菊展，全是独朵的大花，很壮观。我们常常邀请朋友来赏菊和聚餐。那是我们最得意的日子，是家庭的节日。菊给我们带来了莫大的愉快。

种菊要有一定的知识，要付出巨大的劳动，由小芽到大花，经历四季，很辛苦。夏季遇暴雨，全家总动员，连夜抢救。有一年雨大墙塌，砸死上百盆新大单瓣菊棵，一家人悲伤了一礼拜。养菊是有喜有悲的。养菊是有失有得的。养菊是付出和有收获的。

菊是我的写生对象。我用重彩双勾工笔技法把我一生养过的菊花品种一一记录下来，共得一百幅。

菊是我的爱。

这套菊花谱便是爱的化身。

胡絮青记

一九九五年七月十八日

I love flowers. I love appreciating and painting flowers, and I love growing flowers. I have partiality for chrysanthemums.

I am a native of Beijing from a family of the Man nationality. As a tradition, bannermen of Beijing have kept the custom of growing chrysanthemums. The climate of Beijing is favourable for such activity. Diversified varieties, a long planting history and the boundless latent capacity of changes can bring about the appearance of innumerable kinds of beautiful chrysanthemums like an inexhaustible treasure resource. In my childhood, chrysanthemums were always my companions in autumn.

When I grew up into a middle-aged woman and possessed a steady residing environment, I began to grow chrysanthemums. The activity came to a climax when several hundred pots of chrysanthemums which fell into over 100 varieties were kept. In autumns, household exhibitions of chrysanthemums, with single large flower each, could be held. They looked magnificent. We often invited our friends to appreciate the flowers and dined together. Those were days which we were most proud of. They were festivals of the family. Chrysanthemums brought us the greatest pleasure.

Certain knowledges and hard labour are necessary in planting chrysanthemums. It requires a whole year's laborious work to turn a petit bud into a large flower. I can still remember the experience that when a summer rainstorm came, the whole family were generally mobilized to the rescue before the night was out. Once, the wall collapsed in a heavy rain and over 100 pots of newly planted single-petaled chrysanthemums were completely destroyed. All members of the family felt sorrowful for a whole week. When committing in growing chrysanthemums, you may lose and gain, and you pay out but will be rewarded at last.

Chrysanthemums are objects of my sketches. Collected in this album are 100 paintings in heavily coloured and double-lined fine brushwork, which record the varieties of chrysanthemums I grew in past years.

Chrysanthemums are my favorite.

Paintings in this album embody my love for them.

Hu Jieqing
July 18, 1995

吟菊
(一)

墨池為友拜菊師
卅載韶華描影遲
百態千恣摩不盡
留取觀賞好賦詩

九十三歲 繫青



吟菊^(二)

半路改行新中華
三時之力一時花
一滴一奘尋詩意
崇拜花神霜鬢發

九十三歲繫青



菊花的繁养过程大致如下：秋末择菊根部健壮的嫩芽，插入小花盆中，五六枝一盆，放在室内窗台上，过冬，令其储根，稍浇水生少许叶片。

清明后，离盆，在院内花圃中培成小畦，一一分棵种好，令其逐渐成长，随时摘去旁枝，只留主枝。雨后，清晨用喷壶水洗叶背，淋去溅粘的泥土。

立秋后，由小畦中挖出，移植到七寸大花盆中，一盆一株，三天浇一次淡肥。用大缸装鸡鱼肠脏，不带咸味的刷家伙水，鸡毛鸭毛和一些韭菜放入缸中，能化成浓肥。要盖严盖，可不犯味。秋季用小铁筒取出缸内肥水，冲兑多些凉水，一小筒兑水可浇三盆菊棵中。

夏日遇暴雨，需将盆放倒，以防盆中积水烂根。

菊长高，用细竹杆将菊茎绑住，以防歪倒不挺拔。

菊瓣长大的得用细铁丝盘成一个环形圆圈托住，绑在花萼下边，使硕大的花头平展美观。以上是我的亲身体会。也算是一种经验之谈吧。

我和舍予的养菊师父是子祥大哥，是他多年养菊有丰富的体验，来我们家教会了我养菊技巧的。这里所谈的经验，实际上是把他的传授文字化了。我愿它永存。

胡絮青

一九九五年七月十八日

The process of chrysanthemum-growing can roughly be summed up as follows:

At the end of autumn, choose stronger tender buds from roots of chrysanthemums and insert them into the soil in small pots, 5 or 6 in one pot. Put pots indoor on windowsills to pass winter days so that roots will be formed gradually. Water them slightly to bring out a few young leaves.

After Qing Ming (the 5th Solar Term), take buds out from pots. Build narrow flower beds in the court and plant the buds one each into a pit and let them grow up gradually. Side branches should be plucked as soon as they come out, i.e., only major stems are kept. After a rainfall, drip backs of leaves with a watering can to removed spattered soil.

After Li Qiu (the 13th Solar Term), move them from the bed and plant them one each into 7-cun flowerpots. Pour light fertilizer on once at 3-day intervals. Put testines of chickens and fish into a large vat, pour in utensil-cleaning water (not salty), add feathers of chickens and ducks, plus some Chinese chives, so that strong fertilizer will be ready. Cover the vat tightly to keep the bad odour from leaking out. In autumn, scoop up fertilizing liquid with a little can and mix plenty of cold water, so that a can of mixed liquid can be divided to 3 pots of chrysanthemums.

When a rainstorm comes in summer, the pots should be in an erect position and the stems should stretch horizontally. This is to prevent the roots from being destroyed by stored up water.

When the stems grow taller and taller, support them separately with a thin bamboo strip, otherwise they won't stand straight.

If any of the petals grow long and will form up big flowers, support them separately with an iron wire ring which is fixed under the calyx, thus the flowers will look open, flat and beautiful.

All the above are my own experiences.

She Yu and I learned to grow chysanthemums from Elder Brother Zi Xiang who passed on a great deal of skills on that art. I am only the recorder of his experiences. May they exist long and be spread widely.

Hu Jieqing
July 18, 1995

责任编辑:张肇基 董维东

装帧设计:董维东

画稿整理:舒 立

英文翻译:麦仰曾

责任印制:赵 恒

千叶莲









龍爪菊



