

[以色列] 耶路撒冷希伯来大学

阿尔伯特·爱因斯坦档案馆

[以色列] 芭芭拉·沃尔夫 泽夫·罗森克兰茨 编

"当一个人把自己当成判定真理和知识的法官时, 他将在上帝的嘲笑声中毁灭。"

阿尔伯特·爱因斯坦, 1952年



永远的瞬间幻觉 阿尔伯特 爱因斯坦

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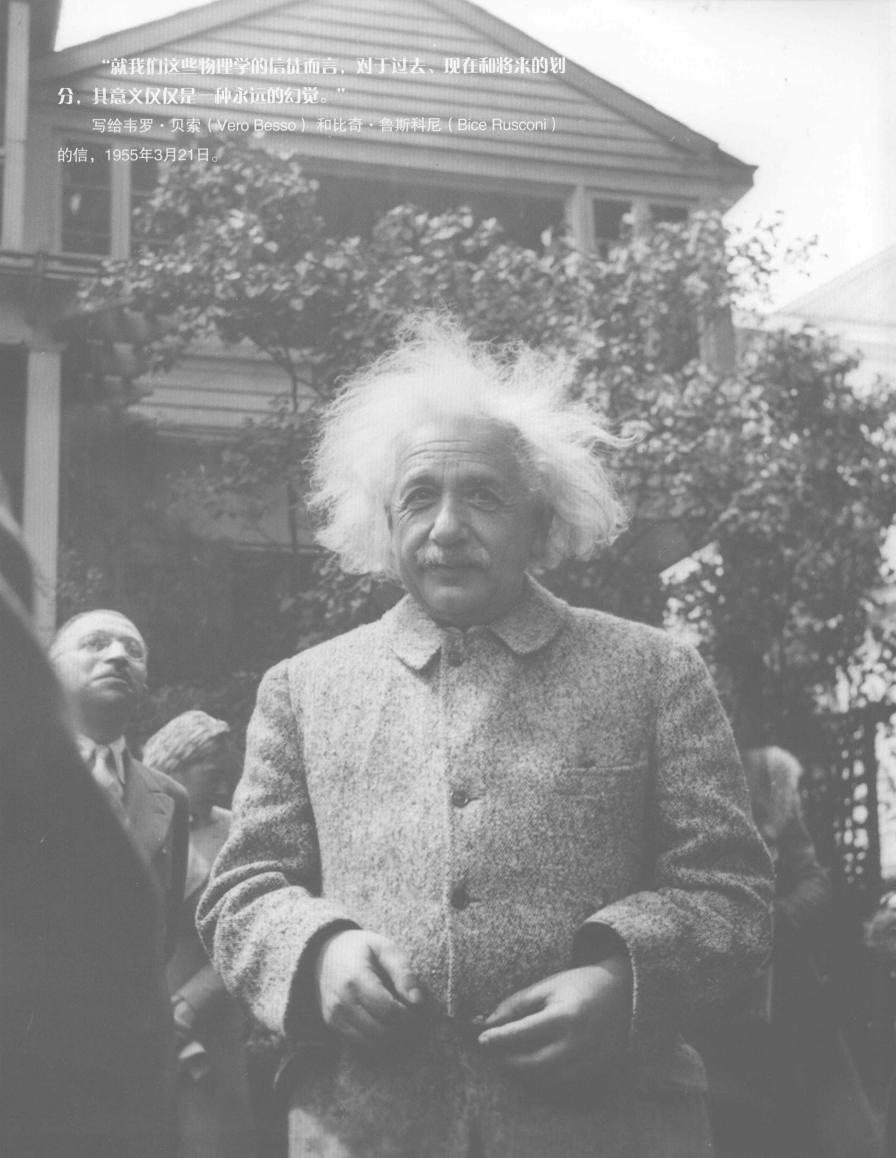
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"在经典物理学中,对在任何坐标系中的观察者而言,我们只有一个时钟,时间的流逝是一样的。因此,时间同那些'同时'、'早些'、'迟些'等词一样,都具有独立于任何坐标系的绝对意义。相对论摒弃了绝对时间和惯性坐标系。所有事件的背景不再是一维时间和三维的空间连续统一体了,而是具有新的变化特性的四维时空连续统一体,这又是另一个自由的发明。"





ST. CYPRIAN'S SCHOOL

CAPE TOWN.
Sowh Offica,
Ion July, 1946.

Dear Sis,

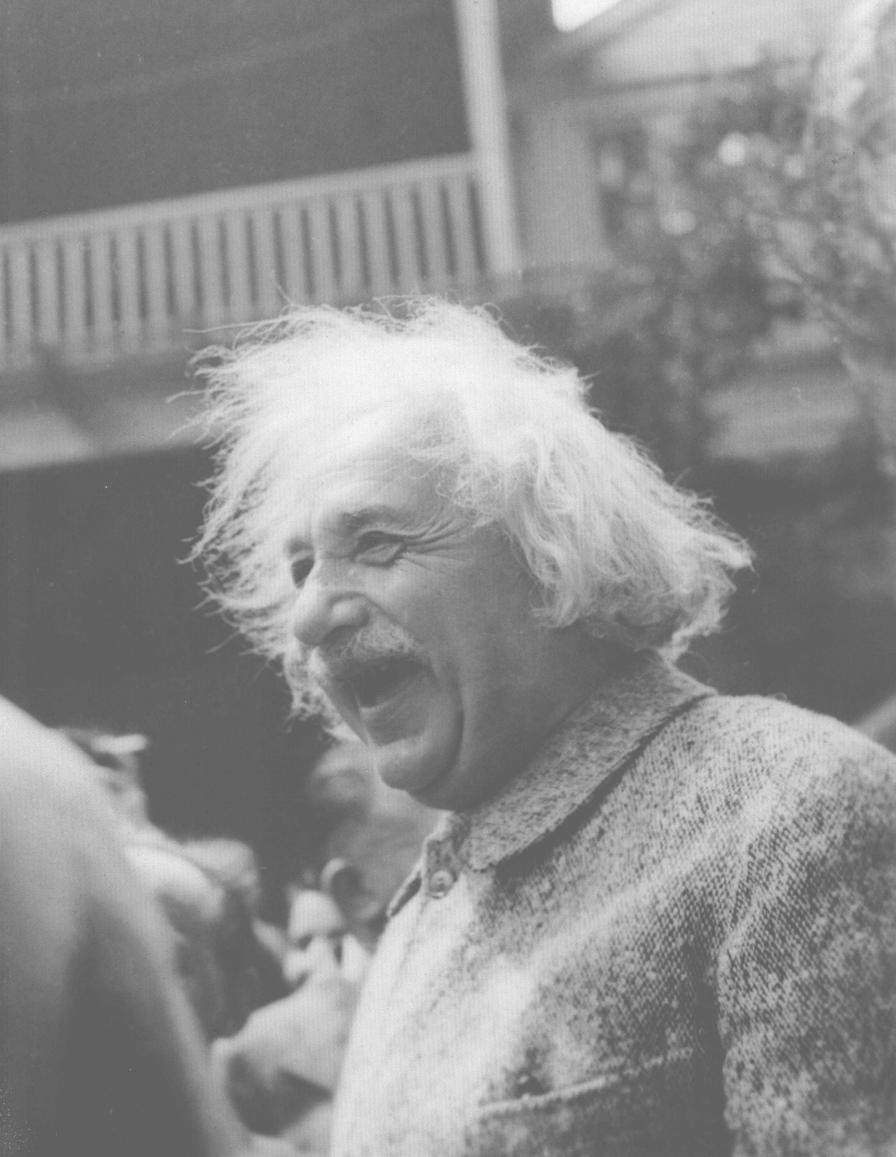
I thust you will not consider it impertinence, but as you are the queatest scientist that even lived, I would like your entoquaph. Please do not think that I collect famous people's entoquaphs—I do not But I would like yours; if you are too busy, it does not matter.

graphably would how witten ages ago, only 3 was not aware that you were still alive. I am not interested in history, and I thought that you had lived in the life, or somewhere round that time. I must have been miscing you my with him I saac Mewton or someone. Anyway, I discovered during Maths one day that the mistress (who we can always sidetrack) was talking about the most builtiant scientests. She mentioned that you were in America, and when I asked whether you were in America, and when I asked whether you were builted there, and not in England, she said, Well, you were not dead yet. I got so excited when I heard that, that I all but got a Maths detention!

I am awfully interested in Science, so one quite a Jor of people in my form at school. My best briends are the Woodnow twins. Every night after

↑ 米范威・威廉斯(Myfanwy Williams)的来信,米范威・威廉斯"笃信科学"并且常常与她的朋友讨论天文学方面的问题。米范威臆断爱因斯坦或许在一个世纪前已经过世,1946年8月25日爱因斯坦作出了回复:

"我不得不遗憾地告诉你,我仍然活在人世间。尽管如此,还是有补救办法。"



编者的话

首先,我很高兴阿尔伯特·爱因斯坦档案馆的书有了新的中文版本。本书的历史由来已久,原书名为《爱因斯坦漫游奇境记》,第一版由阿尔伯特·爱因斯坦档案馆前任馆长编写。可以这样说,《爱因斯坦漫游奇境记》发端于1995年泽夫·罗森克兰茨(Ze'ev Rosenkranz)馆长于在耶路撒冷的犹太国家与大学图书馆举办的一次展览,展览的目的是让来宾了解隐藏在神话和公众背后的具有多面性的爱因斯坦。同样,本书从阿尔伯特·爱因斯坦档案馆精选了许多文件资料和图片,也正是为了向读者展现爱因斯坦生活和工作的另一面。泽夫·罗森克兰茨强调过:"在为本书原版选取档案馆材料时,指引我工作的是我对爱因斯坦个人文件的深刻了解。需要承认的是,材料的选取带有个人因素——所选的材料是我已经产生了特殊感情的文化物品。"

随着2005年国际物理年的临近,策划本书的德语版也就提上了议事日程。此时泽夫·罗森克兰茨已经离开了阿尔伯特·爱因斯坦档案馆,我便担当起了出版此书德语版的任务。就像我们在进行的巡回展览时,一直在充实和各个国家、语言、历史相关的资料,当时为了吸引德国和瑞士的德语读者的兴趣,我挑选了一些相关的内容来充实这本书。

机缘巧合,伯尔尼历史博物馆馆长彼得·叶茨勒(Peter Jezler)和他的团队正在策划举行大规模爱因斯坦展览。他们看上了此出书项目,并承担了相应的风险和责任。我们进行了全新设计于2004年3月出版了经过增补的德语版;2005年,我们又出版了更为精致的法语版。

这些装帧精美的书获得了很大的成功,也鼓励我们继续以同样引人注目的设计和理念出版更多不同语言的版本。每种版本都会增加与各自语言读者相关的资料和文章。此后,2006年出版了西班牙语版,2007年又出版了修订的英文版。不久前,为了充实这些版本,阿尔伯特·爱因斯坦档案馆又公开了一批从未公开的资料。

正如泽夫·罗森克兰茨提到他对原始资料的挑选是带有个人偏好的,我在为新的英文版汇编资料时也没有摒除我的个人偏好。自由地发挥创意让我在编写此书时感到无比快乐。我非常希望,这样的快乐也能激励中文版的读者。

芭芭拉・沃尔夫 (Barbara Wolff) 爱因斯坦相关资料联系人 阿尔伯特・爱因斯坦档案馆

来自瑞士驻华大使馆的序言

In this year when Switzerland and the People's Republic of China celebrate 60 years of diplomatic relations, the Embassy of Switzerland is bringing to China the widely acclaimed "Albert Einstein (1879–1955)" exhibition of the Historical Museum Bern. This wonderful book, originally published by the Albert Einstein Archives of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and translated into Chinese for the first time, wonderfully accompanies the exhibition.

The fact that Albert Einstein became a Swiss citizen at the age of 22 and remained one till his death is little known. I believe that this did not happen by pure coincidence but rather that his choice is a testimony to the openness, tolerance and excellence of Swiss educational and research tradition. He also chose to settle in Switzerland because of its direct democracy and tradition of neutrality. With this exhibition, we do not want to claim Albert Einstein for ourselves, quite to the contrary, we would like to show that science and innovation can only thrive in open and multicultural societies. The fact that Albert Einstein, characterized by so many different identities, proposed his most ground—breaking theories while living in Switzerland, only reinforces my belief.

Blaise Godet
Ambassador of Switzerland to the
People's Republic of China

值此瑞士与中华人民共和国共庆建交60周年之际,瑞士驻华大使馆将广受好评的展览《阿尔伯特·爱因斯坦(1879—1955)》从瑞士伯尔尼历史博物馆带到了中国。大家看到的这本精彩的图书最初是耶路撒冷希伯来大学阿尔伯特·爱因斯坦档案馆出版,并首次翻译成中文。该著作极好地辅助了展览的举办。

鲜为人知的是,爱因斯坦22岁就成为瑞士公民,而且直到他去世仍然保留这一身份。我相信这并非纯属偶然,他的选择是对瑞士开放、宽容和卓越的教育与研究传统的肯定。他选择居住在瑞士也是因为瑞士的直接民主和中立的传统。在此,我们并不想把爱因斯坦占为己有,恰恰相反,我们想表明,科学和创新只有在开放和多元化的社会中才能兴旺发展。阿尔伯特・爱因斯坦被冠以如此多的不同身份,却是在瑞士生活期间发表了其最具突破性的理论,该事实更加强了我的这一信念。

顾博礼瑞士驻中华人民共和国大使

来自以色列驻华大使馆的序言

Few of us are able today to think of Albert Einstein without immediately conjuring up an image of a wild–haired, eccentric genius. Einstein, the icon, is emblazoned on the cultural memories of generations spanning every race, color and creed. The picture UPI photographer Arthur Sasse took of Einstein on his 72nd birthday, on March 14, 1951, in which the physicist, flanked by stern heads of reputable academic institutes, let down his hair (not only figuratively), sticking out his tongue at the press, is a perfect example of the way Einstein is remembered by most: irreverent, playful and widely beloved.

But it is important to scrape past the image of the icon to pay homage to the man himself, a man who did more to change the world in his 76 years than most societies have managed to accomplish in a millennium.

This is precisely what Albert Einstein The Persistent Illusion of Transience does. This vast collection of pictures and letters offers an exclusive and informed glimpse into the private thoughts and aspirations of one of the greatest men who ever lived. It fully explores the most striking paradox in Einstein's life: his accessibility, humility and popularity with the public in the face of his formidable, abstruse scientific achievements.

Several studies have been written about Einstein's mind, but no concrete conclusions were ever drawn that the physicist's genius could be determined by the anatomy of his brain. The reason for Einstein's genius was then and remains inscrutable.

His popularity with people around the world, however, is a fact. One could even say that Einstein's advanced people skills were en par with the wonder of his genius, which grew to mythic proportions.

The Persistent Illusion of Transience offers insight into the mystery behind the paradox of Einstein the unconventional genius who had an infectious sense of humor about his own failings, not to mention society's ills. In reading the letters and transcripts published in the collection, one is impressed more by Einstein's singularity as a person than even his prize—winning discoveries.

In a letter to his biographer, Einstein wrote in 1940: "I prefer not to make my diaries available to you, as they contain things too personal. They don't contain anything adventurous, anyway. Adventures, though, I experienced plenty, as I was inclined to respect individuals but not conventional status or standards, and formalities; nor did I appreciate what, in general, is mindlessly called 'morals.' That is why ordinary people and children were more fond of me than socialites; and, mostly, I preferred them, too."

Amos Nadai Ambassador of Israel to the People's Republic of China 今天,人们想到阿尔伯特·爱因斯坦,脑海里马上就浮现出一个头发蓬乱的古怪天才。爱因斯坦是一个标志,深深印在几代人的文化记忆中,不论种族、肤色或宗教。合众国际社摄影记者阿瑟·萨斯在1951年3月4日为爱因斯坦72岁生日拍摄的照片中,这位物理学家披散着头发,对镜头吐着舌头,而身边来自著名学术机构的头脑们却表情严肃。这就是大多数人对爱因斯坦的印象:不羁、顽皮、广受爱戴。

然而重要的是,爱因斯坦受到人们的尊重并不仅仅因为他 头上的光环:在其76年的岁月里,这个人对世界的改变比大多 数研究机构1000年所取得成就的还要多。

这就是《阿尔伯特·爱因斯坦——永远的瞬间幻觉》一书的用意所在。本书收集了大量的照片和信件,让读者一览最伟大科学家的内心世界与宏图大志,了解与他那些深奥而不可思议的科学成就格格不入的公众印象——平易近人、谦逊、深得人心。

关于爱因斯坦的大脑的研究有很多,但没有令人信服的结论表明他的才智归因于大脑的结构。

爱因斯坦在世界各地都广受欢迎,这是不争的事实。你甚至可以说他高超的人际交往能力也归因于他奇迹般的、带有一 丝神话色彩的才智。

《阿尔伯特·爱因斯坦——永远的瞬间幻觉》带我们深入了解真实的爱因斯坦和他的神秘世界——这个不同寻常的天才对自己的缺点都会用极具感染力的幽默调侃,更不用说对社会弊病了。本书中收录的信件和抄本中,有一份带给我们的感觉更多的是关于他个人而不是他那些获奖的发现。

在1940年一封他写给他的传记作者的信中,爱因斯坦写道:"我不想把日记给你,因为里边有我的隐私。而且里面也没有什么新鲜的。虽然我经历过很多,但我更愿意尊重每个人,而不是传统的地位、标准或繁文缛节。我也不喜欢那些通常被无知地称作'道德'的东西。这也是为什么普通人和孩子比社会名流更喜欢我的原因,而且我也更喜欢他们。"

安泰毅以色列驻中华人民共和国大使

来自美国驻华大使馆的序言

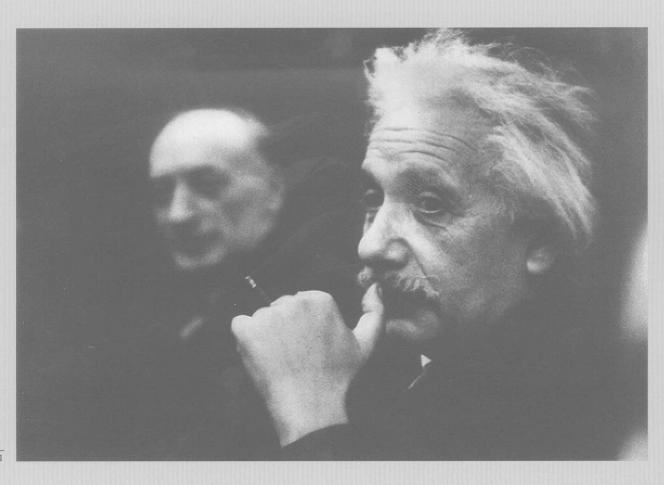
Albert Einstein was a true "cosmopolitan" – perhaps his portrait alone in a dictionary would define that ancient Greek word. He was a "citizen of the world" less because of his identification with so many nationalities (German, Swiss, American, Israeli) but more because of his intellectual curiosity, creative critical insights, and mathematical genius. The work he left for all of us is our shared common heritage. I served for several years on the board of the Institute for Advanced Studies at Princeton University, Mr. Einstein's final place of work and research. His office there remains untouched as a tribute to his scholarship. He devoted his life to the cause of international peace and I am proud that, at the end of his life, he chose to be a citizen of the United States.

Jon M. Huntsman, Jr.
U.S. Ambassador to the
People's Republic of China

阿尔伯特·爱因斯坦是一个真正的"国际人(cosmopolitan)"——也许单是他在字典中的肖像就能定义这个古希腊词。他是一个"世界公民",不仅因为他的多重身份(德国人、瑞士人、以色列裔美国人),而更多是因为他的求知欲、创造性的关键见解和数学天才。他留给我们的工作成果是我们共享的共同遗产。我曾在普林斯顿大学高等研究院的董事会任职过几年,这是爱因斯坦先生最后工作和从事研究的地方。他的办公室至今保持原封未动,以此表达对他才学的敬意。他毕生致力于国际和平事业,而我感到自豪的是,在他的晚年,他选择成为一名美国公民。

洪博培美国驻中华人民共和国大使





1940年左右

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