

沈从文中国书画选集





沈秉堅中國畫選集

SELECTED CHINESE INK-PAINTINGS OF SHEN ROU JIAN 上海書店出版

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## 沈柔堅中國畫選集

上海書店出版

(上海福州路401號)

新华书店上海发行所发行

上海浦江印刷厂印刷

开本 787×1092 毫米 1/12 印张 4.7

1991年10月第一版 1991年10月第一次印刷

印数 00001—1800

ISBN 7-80569-435-4/J·195

定价：46.80 元



沈从文



## 柔堅之畫

柔堅，余至友也。三十餘年來余與柔堅相交於繪事，切磋於翰墨，因為有共同的愛好，故情誼亦厚、所知亦深耳。

書畫之藝，皆須意氣而成，亦非儒夫所能作也。作為畫家，柔堅正是一個藝術上的大勇者；唯其勇且韌，故於藝術才取得了非凡的成就。他的版畫、水彩水粉畫、中國畫不但國人矚目，亦為我中華在國際博得很高的讚譽。

藝術之路一如攀登，凡得大成就者，所歷必艱辛勞苦。柔堅小時即天資聰慧，酷愛丹青，然以國事之艱，弱冠即挾藝投奔抗戰。戎馬背上，舉木刻以為投槍，軍旅之中，調紅土而作壁畫；江山舒其眼界，風雪煉其精神，所得尤甚投於畫苑矣。以至和平，大地重光，主要作版畫並作水彩水粉畫，以其慧見卓識，融匯中西畫藝之長，勇猛精進，創制新意，境界凝煉遒勁，渾穆韻協，將沸騰之新生活、新建設反映無遺。所作曾多次參加國際美術展覽，並為英、法、意等國美術博物館收藏。近年柔堅更致力中國畫創作，吸取優秀傳統加以發展，並以其版畫之雄渾古拙融貫其中，無論骨法用筆、結體賦采，具能獨創一格，絕不於前人之繩墨中討生活。

柔堅嘗云：當於畫外求畫。斯誠至論耳。放翁曰：“汝果欲學詩，功夫在詩外。”詩畫相類，兩論亦可齊觀。歲月匆匆，柔堅已過花甲，然柔堅之畫藝正灼灼若夏花，潑翠凝紅，氣骨並茂。吾當欣然拭目以待，冀柔堅於藝術攀登之道上求得更新更美之畫！

劉海粟



## Shen Rou Jian's Art

Mr. Shen Rou Jian is a close friend of mine. I have enjoyed my relations with him for more than thirty years. Our common zeal for art accounts for the profound friendship and deep understanding between us. With strong will and high-spiritedness, Shen hopes to obtain real achievements in painting and calligraphy. Cowardliness is a fatal hindrance to any real attainments. As a painter, Shen Rou Jian has been a daring explorer. Owing to his courage and perseverance, Shen Rou Jian has achieved unusual attainments. His woodcuts, gouaches, water-colours and Chinese ink-paintings have not only been the focus of attention domestically but also internationally. The approach to the perfection of art is like mountain-climbing. Only by making arduous efforts and overcoming hardships, can one hope to make real achievements in arts.

When very young, Shen Rou Jian showed great gifts and loved painting. But as our motherland was then trapped in the War Against Japanese Aggression, he resolutely joined the army in his late teens, carrying with him his painting brushes and chisels. During this period of busy military life, he created many woodcuts to expose sharply the cruelty and brutality of the enemy. As colours were hardly available under those circumstances, he often made do with the mixed red soil to paint on the walls in order to enhance the morale of the servicemen and masses. The mountains and rivers he passed by greatly widened his vision, and the trials and harshness he experienced in his military life tempered him. So he learned a lot that no one could have taught him in any fine arts academy. He continued to struggle hard until victory was finally gained and spring returned to China. Since then, stable circumstances have enabled him to focus on woodcuts and start to create water-colours and gouaches. His profound knowledge and insight contribute to his successful blending of the techniques of traditional Chinese painting with Western ones.



## Shen Rou Jian's Art

With an intent to develop a style of freshness and originality, he has committed himself to courageous experiment and practice. As a result, his paintings have reached a new height. He has produced works in a compact and refined way with free and vigorous strokes and rhythmic harmony. Various aspects of new economic construction and life, all seething with excitement, are favourite subjects of his creations. He has also taken part in many international shows of fine arts, and some of them have been collected by museums of Great Britain, France, Italy and other countries. In recent years, Shen Rou Jian has devoted himself to the creation of Chinese ink paintings. He has successfully fused into his ink paintings freedom, vigour and austerity that his woodcuts have embodied. He has kept departing from the predecessors and formed a unique style in terms of subject, technique, composition and colouring. Shen Rou Jian remarks that the approach to the creation of a good painting is not limited to mere techniques, and the painter should look beyond scrolls and canvases. Mr. Shen's comment is true. Lu Fang Weng, the well-known poet of Song Dynasty, also says: "If you really want to acquire a good mastery of poetry, you should look beyond poetry". As there is much similarity between poetry and painting, both artists actually refer to the same notion.

Time elapses fast. Mr. Shen is now already over seventy years. Yet his art is still in its prime, like the radiant summer flowers. When we look at those elegant red strokes and green splashing ones in his recent pictures, we can perceive that the mood and spirit correspond with the vigorous personality of the painter. I hope that Shen Rou Jian would continue his climbing of the "mountain". I also expect to see greater originality and stronger aesthetic appeal in his new works.

Liu Hai Su



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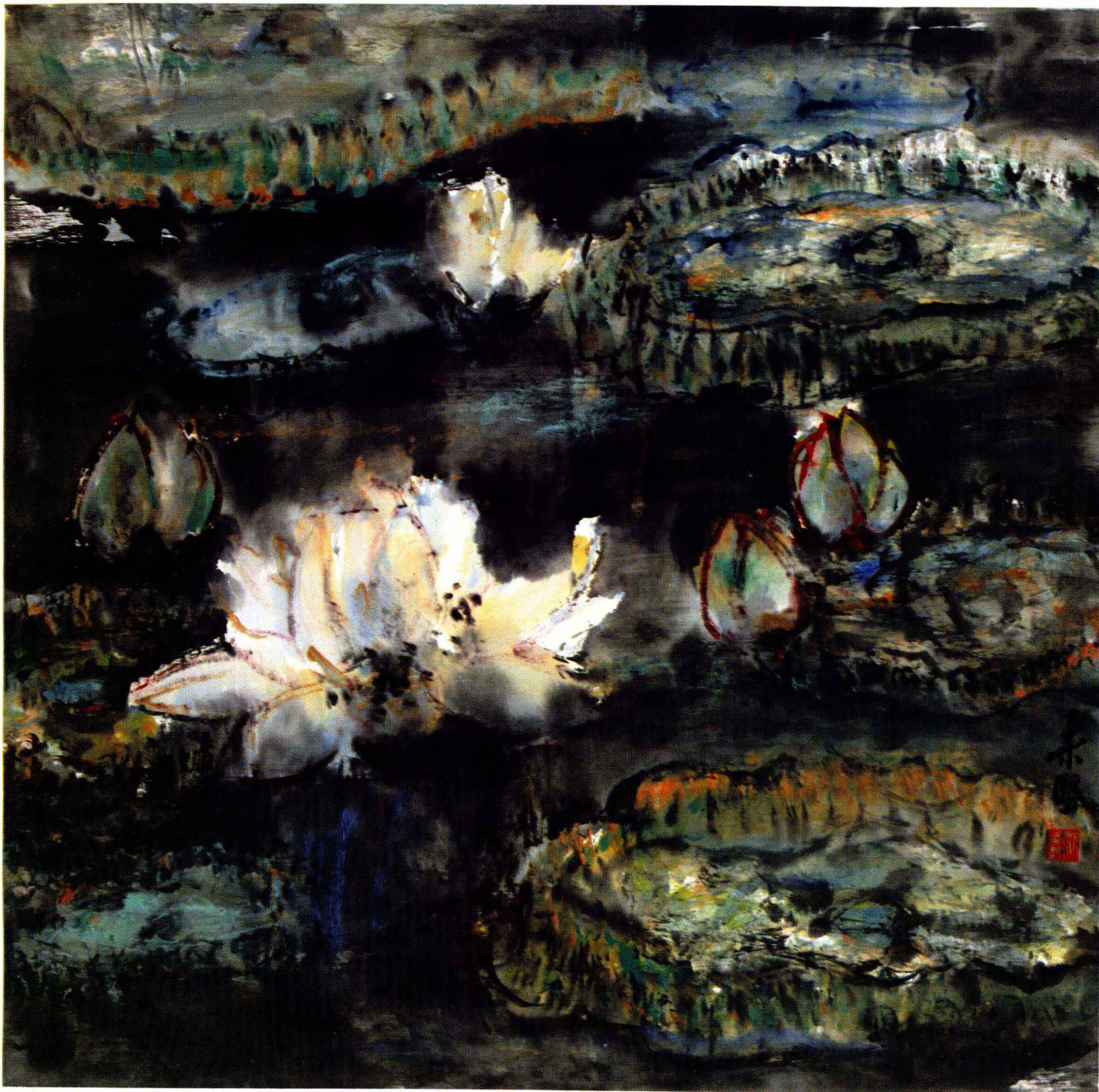


礁浪  
Reefs and Waves









王蓮晚翠  
Water Lilies in the Twilight





千島湖畔  
On Qian-Dao Lake





叠翠

Green Mountains









滂沱  
Heavy Rain





南國佳果  
Southern Fruits