Poyang Take of China

by Well-known Photographer You Yun Gu Photographed

著名攝影 家游雲谷攝影 THE KINGDOM OF GRANES



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中國鄱陽湖珍禽王國

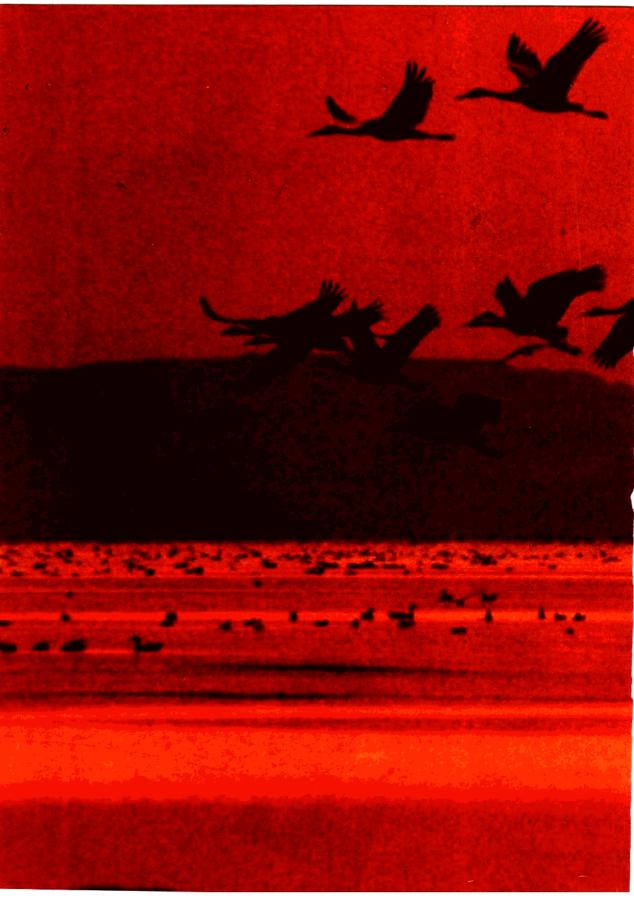
著名攝影家游雲谷攝影

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Po-yang Lake, China

THE KINGDOM OF CRANES

Photogrphed by Well-known Photographer You Yun Gu Published by Publishing House of Hai Chao Photographic Art





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在中國江西省九江市南部,有一個舉世矚目的 "珍禽王國"——鄱陽湖國家級自然保護區。它以 永修縣吳城鎮為中心,縱橫永修、星子、新建等縣管 轄鄱陽湖內的九個湖泊,總面積為224平方公里。

鄱陽湖是中國最大的淡水湖,屬吞吐性湖泊。每年4至9月份汛期,湖水上漲,最大面積達4,600平方公里。這時鄱陽湖一片汪洋,水生生物魚、蝦、螺、蚌及水草大量繁殖。10月至翌年3月爲枯水期,水位大降,湖水面積減至500平方公里左右,形成大面積的湖灘、草洲、沼澤濕地、淺水湖泊。水退之後,水草、螺、蚌等便成爲候鳥豐盛的食物。

由於這裏的地理和氣候條件均適合候鳥越冬,因此,在每年秋末冬初(11月),從蘇聯西伯利亞、蒙古、日本、朝鮮以及中國東北、西北等地,飛來成千上萬隻候鳥,和原來定居在這裏的野鴨、罵、鴛鴦等一起度過冬天,直到翌年暮春(3月)逐漸離去。如今,保護區內鳥類已達200多種,上百萬隻,其中珍禽達20多種,已是世界上最大的鳥類保護區。尤其可喜的是在這裏發現了當代世界上最大的白鶴擊以及白枕鶴、白頭鶴、灰鶴等,總數達4,000隻以上,1989年發現白鶴競達2,600餘隻,佔全世界白鶴總數的百分之九十五。因此,鄱陽湖被

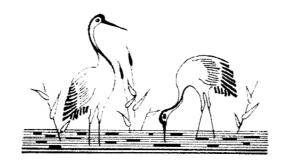
稱為"白鶴世界","珍禽王國"。

白鶴是珍禽中的珍禽,屬於世界性稀少鳥類。她是一種大型涉禽,體長達135厘米,通身羽毛潔白,只有翅的前端是黑色,故又稱"黑袖鶴"。它有棕黃色長刀狀的嘴,粉紅色的長腿,是"一夫一妻",長壽七十多歲,故被中國人神化為"仙鶴",成了幸福吉祥的象征。

白鶴以三隻為一家族,這是因為一對成年白鶴 每年產卵兩枚。由於出生後的兩隻幼雛互相問不斷 地鬥毆,直至強者消滅弱者方休,傳說這是白鶴自 身的一種淘汰方式,習慣過"獨生子女"生活。這 樣,白鶴的父田便帶着一隻幼鶴飛越五千餘公里, 來到鄱陽湖越冬。每當晴空日麗,數以百計的白鶴 從湖面騰空而起,一對對隔鳴追逐着起舞,有時, 她們排成一字長蛇陣,長達1.2百米,其狀如白衣仙 女般優美動人。

這裏的其它珍禽還有白鸛、黑鸛、大鴇、小天 鶯、白琵鷺、鴛鴦、鵜鵝、白類雁等珍稀鳥。

由於保護區內鳥類密集,時常可見"飛時遮盡雲和月,落時不見湖邊草"的壯觀美景。因此,這裏成了中外遊客冬季觀鳥旅遊的最佳天地。



«The Kingdom of Rare Fowls at Po-yang Lake»

The Kingdom of Rare Fowls in the south of Jiu-jiang City of Jiangxi Province—the National Po-yang Lake Natural Preserve of Migratory Birds—has attracted worldwide attention. With Wucheng Township of Yongxiu County at its centre, cutting across vertically and horizontally Yongxiu, Xingzi Counties, etc., the Kingdom has jurisdiction over 9 lakes at Po-yang Lake. Its total area is 224 spare km.

Po-yang Lake is the largest fresh water lake in China and is a freight handling lake. During the high water season from April to September every year, the water rises and sometimes the area of lake water will come to about as large as 4,600 square km. The lake appears to be a vast expanse of water thereby and the acquatic animals such as shrimps, snails, clams and also water weeds have their mass reproduction in that period. During the dry season from October that year to March the following year the water level of the lake becomes much more lower. When the area of the lake has been reduced to about 500 square km., large areas of lake beaches, grassy marshes, swamps and shallow lakes will then take shape. After the water has subsided, water weeds, snails and clams will be the rich food for migratory birds.

As the geographical and climatic conditions there are suitable for migratory birds to live through the winter, in November each year - that's late autumn and early winter-thousands upon thousands of migratory birds will fly from Siberia of the Soviet Union, Mongolia, Japan, Korea and the northeast, northwest of China to Po-yang Lake to live through the winter there with the wild ducks, egrets and mandarin ducks which originally live there. By late spring in April the following year, these migratory birds will gradually leave Po-yang Lake. Today within this natural preserve, there are more than 200 species of birds and the number of birds there amounts to over one million. Among all these birds, over 20 species are rare fowls so today this is the largest natural preserve of birds in the whole world. It is particularly gratifying to learn that the largest colony of white cranes, and also white naped cranes, white head cranes and grey cranes were discovered there. The total number of cranes there amounts to over 4,000. The number of white cranes discovered there merely in 1989 amounts to over 2,600 which is 95% of the total number of white cranes in the whole world. That's why Po-yang Lake is called the World of White Cranes and the Kingdom of Rare Fowls.

White cranes are the rarest among all rare fowls. They are very scarce in the world. A white crane is a large wading fowl. The length of its body is 135 cm. The feathers of its whole body are pure white. Only the front parts of its wings are black, so the white cranes are also called the black-sleeved cranes. The bird's bill is in the shape of a long knife with the colour of yellowish brown. Its legs are pink. The white cranes are monogamous birds and can live to as long as over 70 years of age. That's why we Chinese people call them Fairy Cranes and they are regarded as the symbol of happiness and good luck.

3 white cranes form a family. That's because a couple of adult white cranes only lay 2 eggs a year. The 2 baby cranes hatched from the 2 eggs will fight fiercely against one another until the weaker one dies of defeat. It is said that's one of their ways of self-elimination and that they are used to the one-child family life. In due time, the parents of the baby crane will fly more than 6,000 km, with their child to Po-yang Lake and the 3 of them will live there through the winter together. Whenever there is bright sunshine, more than a hundred white cranes will soar from the surface of the lake high up to the sky. The screaming birds will dance in the air in couples. Sometimes they form a single-line battle array which is as long as one or two hundred metres. The white cranes look as beautiful and elegant as fairies.

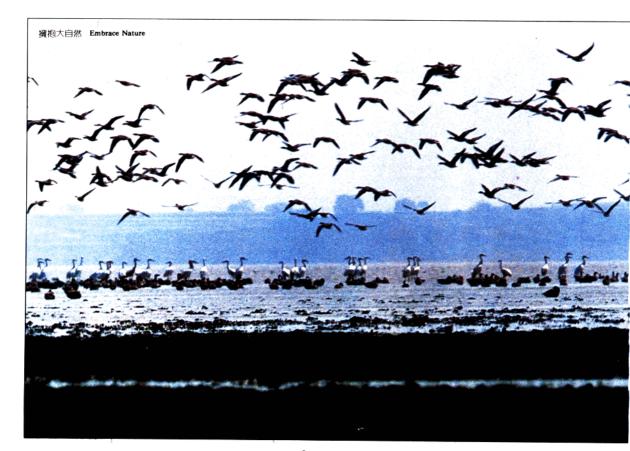
There are other rare fowls there, such as; white storks, black storks, lesser swans, spoonbills, mandarin ducks, pelicans, white-fronted wild geese and great bustards, etc.

As the different species of birds are concentrated within the natural preserve that when the birds are flying you can see the grand sight of "the moon and clouds being overshadowed" and when the birds are descending you can see the beautiful scenery of "the grass along the lake being completely covered". Therefore, this is the best place for tourists to tour about.

珍禽王國大觀 The Grand Sight of the Kingdom of Rare Fowls

鄱陽湖、敞開寬闊的胸懷,迎來近百萬隻珍禽 益鳥越冬。這個被世人稱之為"珍禽王國"、"白 鶴世界"的勝地,如今已被海內外專家、學者、觀 鳥者視為中國的"第二長城"。那生動、優美、壯 觀的益鳥世界,能把你帶進一個十分誘人的旅遊天 地。

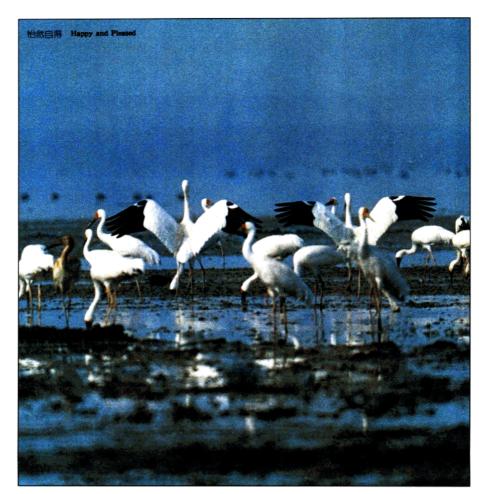
Po-yang Lake warmly greets nearly one million rare fowls and beneficial birds coming to its broad bosom to live through the winter there. The famous scenic spot—the so called the Kingdom of Rare Fowls and the World of White Cranes—is regarded by experts, scholars and spectators from home and abroad as the No. 2 Great Wall of China. The magnificient spectacle of the lively and beautiful world of beneficial birds can guide you to a vast bewitching world for people to tour about.





白鶴與天鷙齊飛 white Crane (s) and Swan s Flying Side by Side







霓裳羽衣神揚揚(白枕鶴) Graceful and Charming (White naped Crane)



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白鶴世界 The World of White Cranes

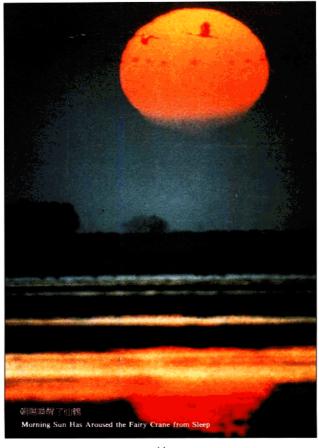
白鶴,最珍貴的水禽之一,被列為世界第一類保護野生動物。據統計,在江西鄱陽湖越冬的白鶴,最多時有二千六百多隻,佔全球白鶴總數的95%,於是,鄱陽湖被稱之為"白鶴世界"。

白鶴是一種大型遷徙涉禽,每年夏季,在西伯 利亞繁殖,從初冬季節開始,飛行約五千公里,來 到鄱陽湖越冬,次年三月又飛回西北方。

白鶴周身潔白,唯有在飛翔時兩翅呈黑色,故 又稱"黑袖鶴"。成年白鶴身姿優美,長一米多,體 重八、九公斤,一般壽命可達70多歲,故被人稱為 吉祥長壽鳥。 White cranes are one of the most valuable species of waterfowls and are listed as the First Class World Protected wildlives. According to statistics, the number of white cranes that live through the winter at Po-yang Lake in Jiangxi Province sometimes even exceeds 2,600 which is 95% of the white cranes in the whole world. That's why Po-yang Lake is called the World of White Cranes.

White cranes are large migratory wading fowls. They have their reproduction in Siberia every summer. Beginning from early winter, they will fly for about 6,000 km, to Po-yang Lake and will live through the winter there. They will again fly back to the northwest the following year in March.

The whole body of a white crane is pure white. Only when it is flying its wings appear to be black, so the bird is also called Black-sleeved Crane. An adult white crane has very graceful carriage. The length of its body is more than one metre. Its weight is about 8 or 9 kg. Its life-span is over 70 years. So it is also called the bird of good luck and long life.





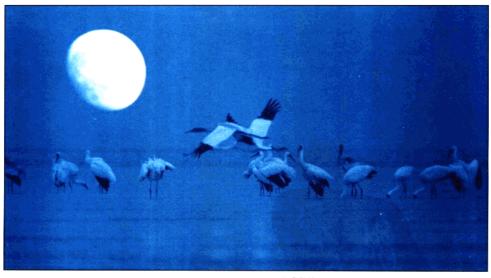
白鶴雄麥 White Crane. Spirited and Valiant



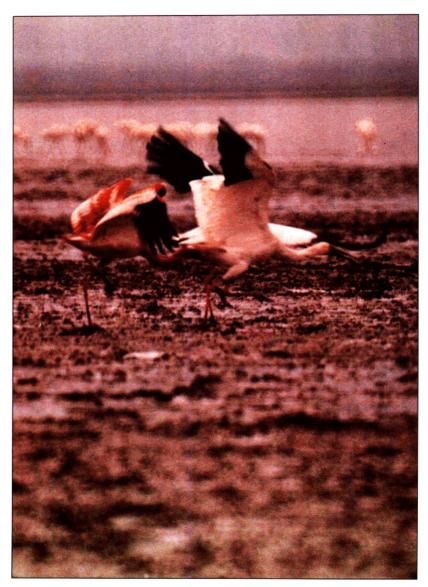
騰躍瞬間 Soaring and Skipping in a Twinkling



鶴鳴於天 Granes and Birds Flying in the Sky



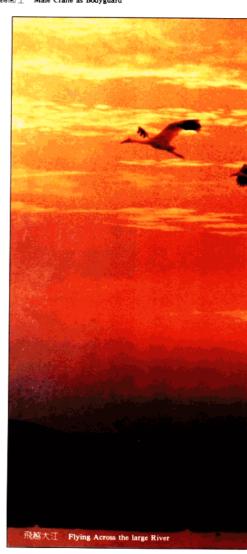
月夜**歡鶴** Watching the sight of Cranes in the Moonlight



冊子同樂 Mother and Son Enjoying Family Happiness



雄鶴衞士 Male Crane as Bodyguard



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