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A Marvelous Cultural Spectacle

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Brahma Palace

A Marvelous Cultural Spectacle



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妙不可言的文化奇观

——《灵山梵宫》序

灵

山梵宫自从2009年年年初建成开放以来，博得了国内外人士广泛赞誉。

灵山梵宫创造了一种独有的文化建筑，没有人能够按照世界上已有的建筑样式给它归类，没有人能够一言以蔽之说它是什么建筑、属于什么风格、模仿了哪个时代。

的确，灵山梵宫正如一位文化泰斗所感慨的那样——“无中生有，妙不可言”！这也许是对灵山梵宫最恰当的评价，这也是无数参观者在灵山梵宫面前共同的感慨。

说灵山梵宫“无中生有”，并非是说它完全来自于虚空，而是说它前无古人；说灵山梵宫“妙不可言”，并非是说它不可言传，而是说它一言难尽。

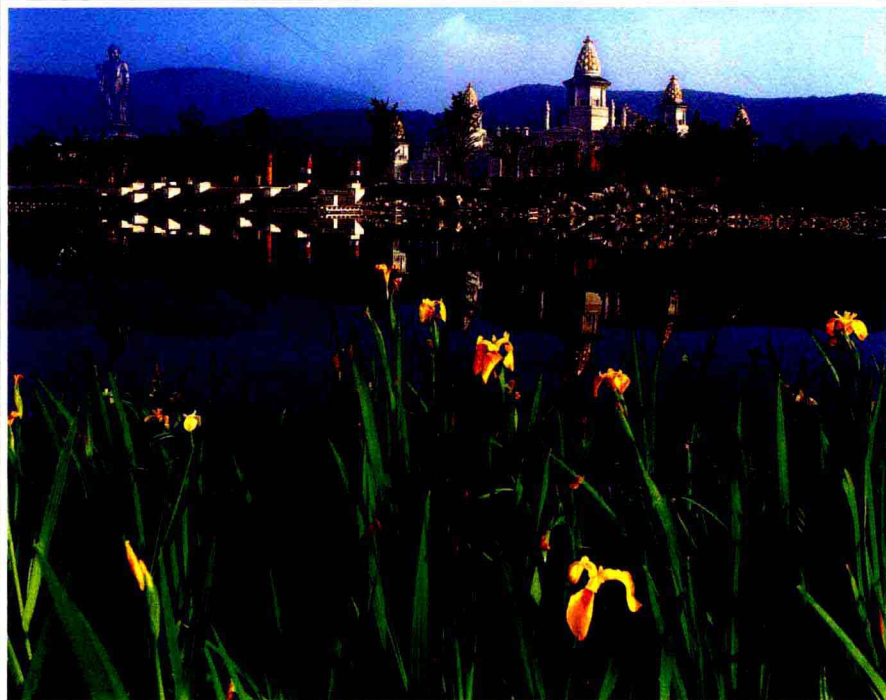
灵山梵宫，是一座具有历史纪念意义的世界佛教论坛会址，也是一座展示传统文化魅力的艺术殿堂，因其神圣庄严而成为净化众生的心灵归所，因其超越想象而成为令人震撼的旅游奇观。

灵山梵宫，不可思议地创新了佛教建筑形态，创新了文化建筑功能，创新了佛教文化艺术，创新了传统文化的传播手段，创新了旅游的体验方式。灵山梵宫带给这个时代和这个世界的，远不止这五个方面的创新，它代表了一个鼓励创新、崇尚创新的创新时代。

灵山梵宫建成开放以来，以它无与伦比的美轮美奂，聚焦了世界的镜头，无数游客和观众都以自己独特的视角拍摄了对灵山梵宫的美的发现，每一幅照片都是一幅独一无二的作品，每一幅作品都是作者自己心目中的独一无二的灵山梵宫。

这本画册中的内容，只是无数灵山梵宫照片中的一小部分，它们从不同的角度、不同的细节尽可能全面地介绍了灵山梵宫，但即便如此，也难以将灵山梵宫的恢弘、灵山梵宫的神圣、灵山梵宫的魅力、灵山梵宫的震撼准确地、完美地表现出来，因为，正如无数中外瞻礼者共同的感慨一样——灵山梵宫是妙不可言的。

就让这本画册，带你做一次灵山梵宫的视觉神游，陪你做一次灵山梵宫的心灵追忆，真正的灵山梵宫，永远在你自己的心中，陪伴着你……



灵山梵宫以论坛会址、心灵归所、艺术殿堂、旅游奇观为功能定位，与宝相庄严的灵山大佛毗邻而立，总建筑面积达7万余平方米。主体建筑选用坚固永久的石材，建筑形制彻底颠覆了中国佛教建筑的传统格局。继承传统与时代特色相融，成为佛教文化与古今建筑艺术的完美结合。

The Brahma Palace, a forum site, a place for the soul, a place of art, and a tourist attraction, stands alongside the Lingshan Great Buddha. With a total area of 70,000 square meters, the main building is made of durable stone, completely breaking the traditional pattern of Chinese Buddhist architecture. It combines traditional and modern characteristics, becoming a perfect fusion of Buddhist culture and ancient and modern architectural art.

LINGSHAN Brahma Palace

A Marvelous Cultural Spectacle

— Preface to *Lingshan Brahma Palace*

Although it opened only a short time ago in early 2009, Lingshan Fangong (Brahma Palace) has already become a celebrated landmark for domestic and foreign visitors alike.

The Brahma Palace has received wide acclaim for its extraordinary fusion of architectural styles that leaves visitors speechless when attempting to put it into words. Not only is the design impossible to categorize, but linking it to a specific historical period is difficult as well.

A noted Chinese cultural expert once praised the Palace as “a marvelous wonder created out of nothing”, which became an accepted and appropriate evaluation of Fangong reinforced by thousands of visitors to the sublime structure.

Translation of the phrase can be rocky, but “created out of nothing” can be interpreted as “unprecedented”, and “marvelous” suggests the indescribable wonder of the Palace.

Lingshan Brahma Palace is not only a venue for the historically significant World Buddhist Forum, but also a forum for exhibition of traditional art and culture. It purifies the mind with the solemnity of its hallowed walls, and attracts countless tourists with unmatched breathtaking beauty.

Fangong brings innovation in five aspects: Buddhist architectural forms, cultural architectural forms, Buddhist culture and art, cultural communications, and tourism. It is a cornerstone of the new age in which innovation is more encouraged and respected than ever before.

Since its construction, the Brahma Palace has lured lenses of photographers and tourists from all over the world who have tirelessly collected images from every possible angle. Every single photograph is a unique piece of art, reflecting Fangong in the eyes of the author.

The photos shown in this album make up only a tiny proportion of the pictures shot at the Palace to document each sublime nook and detail, but they precisely exhibit the majesty, holiness, charm, and magnificence of the building, collectively illustrating the stunning face of the Buddhist cultural shrine.

This album will guide you through a visual tour of the Lingshan Brahma Palace, after which the unmatched site will undoubtedly linger deep in your heart and mind forever.



灵山梵宫外观糅合了中国石窟艺术与历代佛教建筑的特色，壁立千仞，大气磅礴。主要建筑空间，布局庄严和谐，立意深刻。各建筑空间相对独立又彼此贯通，大量运用了高大的廊柱、大跨度的梁柱、高僧的穹顶、超大面积的厅堂等建筑元素，展现出佛法浩淼无边、重重无际的博大境界。

With the integration of Chinese cave art and the characteristics of Buddhist architecture of various dynasties, the Lingshan Brahma Palace stands tall and majestic. The main building spaces are arranged in a solemn and harmonious layout with profound intentions. The building spaces are relatively independent yet interconnected, featuring a large number of tall corridors, large-span beams, high僧 domes, and super-large halls, etc., showcasing the boundless and boundless vastness of the Buddhist Dharma.

LINGSHAN Brahma Palace

2006年5月，无锡灵山确定为第二届世界佛教论坛举办地。由于这一殊胜因缘的推动，灵山梵宫在历经文化、建筑、艺术界众多专家学者与佛教界大德高僧多年论证之后，于2006年12月正式破土动工。两年多后，一座美轮美奂的佛教建筑群在中国东方拔地而起。2009年元旦，正式向世人揭开了神秘的面纱。

灵山梵宫以“未来世界文化遗产”为建设理念，以论坛会址、心灵归所、艺术殿堂、旅游奇观为功能定位，与宝相庄严的灵山大佛毗邻而立，总建筑面积达7万余平方米。梵宫主体建筑选用坚固永久的石材为主，在形式上彻底颠覆了中国佛教建筑的传统格局，造型与装饰则海纳百川，兼收并蓄，在继承传统的基础上，融入了鲜明的时代特色，堪称博大精深的佛教文化与古今建筑艺术的完美结合。

梵宫外观糅合了中国石窟艺术与历代佛教建筑的特色，壁立千仞，大气磅礴。内部由门厅、廊厅、塔厅、圣坛、会议区、宴会区等主要建筑空间构成，布局庄严和谐，功能完备，立意深刻。各建筑空间相对独立又彼此贯通，大量运用了高大的廊柱、大跨度的梁柱、高耸的穹顶、超大面积的厅堂等建筑元素，展现出佛法浩瀚无边、重重无碍的广大境界。置身其间，令人自然生发出对佛教文化的崇敬与景仰。上百位国家级工艺美术大师和数以千计的艺人工匠在佛教文化与艺术的感召下从四面八方会聚灵山，呕心沥血，各擅胜场，将中华民族历史悠久的传统技艺发挥到了全新的高度；细腻精湛的东阳木雕、绚丽夺目的敦煌壁画、流光溢彩的琉璃巨制、清新典雅的温州瓯塑、浓艳华贵的扬州漆器、雄浑大气的油画史卷、古雅精丽的景泰蓝须弥灯、巧夺天工的景德镇青花粉彩莲花缸……这些为灵山梵宫量身打造的艺术珍品，精美绝伦，举世无双，与梵宫建筑融为一体，令人目不暇接、回味无穷。

现代科技的支撑更使灵山梵宫拥有了另一种超越古今的旷世之美。LED先进照明技术的广泛应用，幻化出千变万化、绚丽流动的色彩光影，真实诠释了让建筑物自身发光的设计理念，缔造出中国室内照明史上前所未有的经典之作。大量高新技术的集中运用造就了国内一流的圆型剧场——梵宫圣坛，成为现代人聆听圣贤启迪，领受生命光华的精神家园。

12 秦阿房宫、汉未央宫、唐大明宫、明清故宫……灵山梵宫延续了中国古代伟大建筑的血脉；印度菩提迦耶塔、柬埔寨吴哥窟、梵蒂冈圣彼得大教堂、俄罗斯索菲亚大教堂……灵山梵宫汲取了东西方著名建筑的人文精华。

震撼人心的佛教之美在这里叩响了世界的心扉。

In May 2006, the Lingshan Scenic Resort was chosen as the venue for the opening ceremony of the Second World Buddhist Forum. Fueled by momentum from this honor, the construction of Lingshan Fangong (Brahma Palace) commenced in December of that year, after years of investigation, research, and discussion by numerous eminent Buddhist monks and scholars in cultural, architectural, and artistic circles. Two years later, the marvelous Buddhist architectural complex on China's east coast was completed, and it was officially unveiled to the world on New Year's Day 2009.

Fangong's designers likened the project to building a "World Cultural Heritage Site of the Future", giving the structure functionality not only as a Forum venue, but also creating an abode for the soul, a palace of art, and a tourist mecca. Complementing the nearby Lingshan Grand Buddha, and covering a total floor space of 70,000 square meters, the Brahma Palace features solid stone materials arranged in a distinctive design juxtaposing traditional Chinese Buddhist architecture with diverse decorations incorporating modern elements fitted with traditional aesthetics.

With its elements of Chinese grotto art and Buddhist architecture, Fangong emits majesty and magnificence. Inside, visitors find a solemn, harmonious floor equipped with a variety of facilities including the Entrance Hall, the Gallery Hall, the Pagoda Hall, the Shrine, the Conference Area, and the Banquet Area. Each of the sections is relatively independent, yet connected to each other. The use of such architectural elements as giant portico columns, large-span beams, towering domes, and astonishingly spacious halls highlights the infinity of the Dharma and the boundless nature of Buddhism. Visitors to the site are usually inspired to respect the Buddhist cultural elements without words.

Thanks to the wisdom and sweat of more than a hundred state-class artists and thousands of able artisans from across the country who share an admiration for Buddhist culture and art, traditional Chinese art has evolved to a new level at Fangong. Visitors will be dazzled by the stunning artistic appeal of exquisite Dongyang woodcarvings, gorgeous Dunhuang frescos, fluorescent masterpieces of glazed glass, elegant Wenzhou stereoscopic paintings, resplendent Yangzhou lacquer ware, epic canvas paintings, cloisonné lanterns, and blue-and-white famille-rose porcelain jars from Jingdezhen, all of which were custom-designed for Fangong.

Modern science and technology enable Fangong to present a special beauty unrivalled by its predecessors. State-of-the-art LED illuminated images produce a flowery flow of colors and shadow, creating an effect as if the building itself emits light, an unprecedented feat in China's rich history of interior illumination. The concentrated utilization of a great deal of cutting-edge technology cements Fangong's Shrine as one of the best circular theatres in China. Despite its modernity, it serves as a spiritual home for those who come to seek Buddhist enlightenment and absorb the essence of life.

Lingshan Fangong extends the bloodline of Chinese ancient architecture, paying homage to its forefathers such as the Epang Palace of the Qin Dynasty (221-206 BC), Weiyang Palace of the Han (206 BC-AD 220), Daming Palace of the Tang (618-907), and the Forbidden City of the Ming (1368-1644) and Qing (1644-1911), while absorbing influence from some foreign architectural treasures, such as the Great Stupa of Bodhgaya in India, Angkor Wat in Cambodia, Basilica di San Pietro in Vaticano, and church of Hagia Sophia in Russia.

From here in Fangong, the breathtaking beauty of Buddhism can touch the hearts of people around the globe.

