

罗伯特·弗兰克在中国

# ROBERT FRANK IN CHINA

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CHIEF EDITOR : GAO JIANMIN

山西出版集团 山西人民出版社

## 图书在版编目(CIP)数据

罗伯特·弗兰克在中国：汉、英/高建民，王悦主编.  
太原：山西人民出版社，2008.9  
ISBN 978-7-203-06214-1

I. 罗… II. ①高… ②王… III. 弗兰克，R.-生平事迹-  
汉、英 IV. K837.125.72

中国版本图书馆CIP数据核字(2008)第140540号

## 罗伯特·弗兰克在中国

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主 编：高建民 王 悦

责任编辑：王亚中 武 卫

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出 版 者：山西出版集团·山西人民出版社

地 址：太原市建设南路21号

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经 销 者：山西出版集团·山西人民出版社

承 印 者：山西臣功印刷包装有限公司

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开 本：787mm×1092mm 1/16

印 张：16

字 数：150千字

印 数：1-1000 册

版 次：2008年9月 第1版

印 次：2008年9月 第1次印刷

书 号：ISBN 978-7-203-06214-1

定 价：97.00 元

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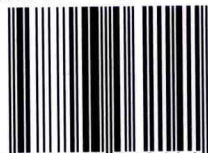


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9 787203 062141 >

定价：97.00元





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Chief Editor: Gao Jianmin

执行主编：王悦  
Executive Editor: Wang Yue

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谨以此书献给在世界摄影史上做出卓越贡献的可爱的摄影大师  
罗伯特·弗兰克先生和他的夫人琼·利夫！

Sincerely for Robert Frank and his wife June Leaf

The lovable master photographer who has made remarkable contribution to the world photography history



TONIGHT .... MIRACLE NIGHT 2007

June Leaf

# International



2007年9月19日上午，中共山西省委常委、宣传部长、平遥国际摄影大展组委会主任高建民与美国著名摄影家罗伯特·弗兰克先生同时按下了快门，宣布：“2007中国平遥国际摄影大展开幕！”

On morning, Sep. 19, 2007, the Member of the Standing Committee of Shanxi Provincial Committee of the CPC, Minister of Propaganda Department, Director of Pingyao International Photography Festival Committee, Gao Jianmin and the American famous photographer Robert Frank press the shutter together at the same time, declaring: "2007 PIP Festival ceremony is herewith inaugurated."





PIP Festival is part of world photography,

PIP is a home for world-wide photographers,

May PIP Festival getting better and better.

Robert Frank

Pingyao. Sep. 2007

A handwritten signature of Robert Frank in black ink.

PINGYAO IS A GREAT PLACE

高建民与罗伯特·弗兰克先生在2007中国平遥国际摄影大展开幕式上  
Gao Jianmin and Robert Frank attend the opening ceremony of 2007 PIP













2007年9月23日晚，中共山西省委常委、宣传部长、平遥国际摄影大展组委会主任高建民为美国著名摄影家罗伯特·弗兰克先生（左一）颁发“2007中国平遥国际摄影大展国际摄影成就奖”。左三为罗伯特·弗兰克先生的夫人。

At night of Sep.23, 2007, the Member of the Standing Committee of Shanxi Provincial Committee of the CPC, Minister of Propaganda Department, Director of Pingyao International Photography Festival Committee, GaoJianmin awards Robert Frank (Left one) the "2007 PIP International Photography Achievement Award." (Left three is June Leaf, the wife of Robert Frank)







# 序 | PREFACE

国际级摄影大师罗伯特·弗兰克出现在“2007年中国平遥国际摄影大展”的开幕式上，这无疑是世界摄影人向往的和出乎意料的一件事，也是“中国平遥国际摄影大展”跻身国际摄影界的又一个显著标志。

罗伯特·弗兰克先生是一个低调友善却极具坚定信念的人，他在拍摄《美国人》的时候并没有奢望“出名”。然而，敏锐的观察、独特的视角、辛勤的劳作和执着的追求使得这位侨居美国的瑞士人一跃成为独领纪实摄影风骚的现代摄影的奠基人。

时光荏苒，岁月匆匆，时间也无情地将这位曾经横跨美国的摄影“超人”蹂躏成白发苍苍步履蹒跚的老人。83岁的罗伯特·弗兰克先生能够来中国吗？我们得到的是肯定的答案：能！他来了，他真的来了！带着对中国大地的迷茫、带着对中国人民的好奇、带着对中国文化的探究，他在耄耋之年又横跨了太平洋，来到了中国，来到了北京，来到了太原，来到了平遥，来到了中国摄影人和世界摄影人的中间！

在短短不到二十天时间里，鲜花的簇拥、记者的“围攻”、摄影人的崇敬、接待方无微不至的关怀，让弗兰克老人了解了友好的中国人民，品尝了精致的中华美食，领略了幅员辽阔的神州大地，感知了博大精深的华夏文明。他忘记了疲惫环绕，忘记了病痛缠身，忘记了自己已经是一个年过八旬的老人！他以极大的热情和好奇，不停地参观着、寻觅着、体味着、享受着这里的一切。他深深地爱上了这里，甚至自言自语地说：我的后半生就在这里啦！

而永远不老的，则是摄影大师在五十年前拍摄的经典摄影作品——《美国人》。伴着特色展区——柴油机厂——那浓浓的机油味，展示在中国平遥国际摄影大展上的那83张经典之作，依然是那般的引人注目。没有讲究的曝光，没有讲究的构图，没有讲究的对焦，却诚实地记录着“痛苦和迟钝的脸”，“空无表情地在公车上”的人“无望地呆立在闭塞的空间中”。83张看似平常却潜藏着伟大的黑白照片，把摄影这门技术从艺术的范畴提升到纪实社会、鞭答社会、推动社会的更广泛的社会含义中去。

大师，来到了我们身边。没有骄人的傲气，没有奢华的言行，来到我们身边的大师有的只是朴实、平易和些许幽默。他让所有靠近他的人都看到了他的谦和，学到了他的真诚，读到了他的深邃。他让我们，都由衷地爱上了他！



2007中国平遥国际摄影大展展出作品

2007 CHINA PINGYAO INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY FESTIVAL EXHIBITION WORKS

罗伯特·弗兰克 《美国人》 ROBERT FRANK The Americans

展出场地：柴油机厂

VENUE: DIESEL ENGINE FACTORY



# PREFACE

The presence of Robert Frank, a master photographer of international renown, at the opening ceremony of the 2007 Pingyao International Photography Festival was no doubt a thing much desired but unexpected by photographers across the world. And it was also a watershed marking the entrance of the Pingyao International Photography Festival into the international photography scene.

Mr. Frank is a low-key and friendly man with strong belief. He wasn't desirous of fame and popularity when he took pictures of "The Americans." It is, however, with a sharp observation, a unique angle, hard work, and relentless pursuit that this Swiss-born American has emerged as a founder of modern photography and one who is always at the forefront of documentary photography.

The inexorable wear and tear of time has taken a toll on this great photographer, who once crisscrossed the USA, but is now a white-haired old man who walks with unsteady steps. Could the 83-year-old Frank possibly come to China? We got a definite answer: He would come. With a fuzzy feeling of the vast land of China, a curiosity about the Chinese people, and a desire to explore Chinese culture, though advanced in age, he had again crossed the Pacific Ocean and arrived in China, in Beijing, in Taiyuan, in Pingyao - in the midst of Chinese and overseas photographers.

In a short space of no more than 20 days, Mr. Frank was surrounded by bouquets of flowers, mobbed by journalists, admired by photography lovers and attended to with meticulous care by the hosts. The octogenarian experienced the hospitality of the Chinese people, sampled the delicacies of Chinese cuisine, got a feel for the vastness of the country, and enjoyed a dip into the depth of Chinese civilization - with so much to do that he forgot his fatigue, his illness and that he's an 80-ish old man. With passion and curiousness, he took trips, looked around, impressed while enjoying all this experience. He's so enamored with this place that he said to himself that he'd like to spend the rest of his life here.

But, refusing to get old is "The Americans," a seminal photographic work by the master photographer half a century ago. Suffused with the strong smell of a diesel factory, a special exhibition zone, the 83 classic images made their Pingyao debut - still commanding the viewer's full attention. Without sophisticated exposures, compositions and focuses, these photographs candidly captured the dull faces and expressionless people. While seemingly run of the mill, the 83 black-and-white masterpieces have raised the photographic technique to a higher level - from the artistic category to the realm of a wide society - documenting, lampooning and boosting society.

Instead of showing arrogance and sounding rhetorical, the master came to us with modesty and humility plus a little bit of humor. All those who came close to him could see his self-effacement and learn from his sincerity and read his erudition. All of us have fallen, from the bottom of our hearts, in love with him.