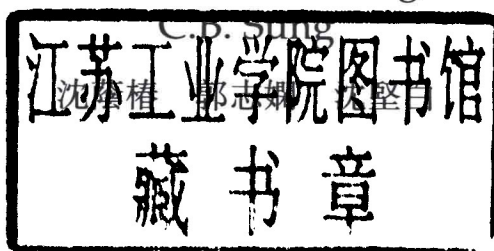




T H E C H I N E S E A R T O F
BONSAI & POTTED LANDSCAPES
中國盆栽和盆景藝術

Y.C. Shen
Beulah Kwok Sung



Unison Group, Inc.
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The Chinese Art of Bonsai and Potted Landscapes

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Foreword by Mr. John Y. Naka*

仲嘉雄先生*序

Because “bonsai” is a Japanese word, many people have erroneously assumed that bonsai originated in Japan. But in fact bonsai was brought to Japan in the eleventh century from China, where the art was known as *penzai*.

When Y. C. Shen and his co-authors first contacted me to read their manuscript on bonsai, I was not convinced that another bonsai book was needed. After reading it, however, I must congratulate them on a valuable contribution to bonsai research.

This unique book should be on the reading list of all bonsai connoisseurs. For the first time, the historical origins of bonsai are traced through quotations in Chinese poems dating back as early as the eighth century. This could only be accomplished by a scholar like Mr. Y. C. Shen, who is very familiar with the Chinese classics.

Besides the detailed historical background, the authors also describe advanced techniques that Y. C. Shen has developed during his life-long research with bonsai. They illustrate their narrative with an abundance of color plates that further enhance a noteworthy addition to bonsai literature.

No bonsai enthusiast should overlook this important and accurate account of bonsai history.

John Y. Naka
Whittier, California
Summer 1991

**The John Y. Naka Pavilion of North American Bonsai, at the U.S. National Arboretum in Washington D. C. was dedicated in his honor.*

因為“盆栽”（bonsai）是一個日本字，許多人就錯誤地認為盆栽起源於日本。但是，事實上盆栽於十一世紀時才由中國傳去，其時，在中國早就稱謂盆栽（penzai）了。

當我剛接到沈蔭椿和他的合作撰寫者之邀請，要我看一下他們的書稿，這時，不能令我確信，何必還需要一本盆栽書籍呢？可是，一待閱讀完畢，我必須祝賀他們，這竟是一本有貢獻價值的盆栽研究書籍。

這本不尋常的書是盆栽家和鑑賞家必讀的書，書中首創盆栽歷史上起源，引證了許多中國的有關古詩，追溯到八世紀，這非要像沈先生那般熟悉中國的許多可靠出典，方能寫出。

此書除詳述盆栽歷史背景外，作者們亦敘述了技術上進化，他們亦在書中附有許多彩色照片，內容豐富，顯著地增加了盆栽文選。

凡盆栽熱中者，不可以忽略這本重要與正確的盆栽歷史記載。

仲嘉雄序於美國南加州
一九九一年夏

**美國首都華盛頓國家植物園中的北美盆栽館舉行落成儀式時，將此館命名為仲嘉雄館，以此給予榮譽。*

Foreword by Dr. Wu Yee-sun*

伍宜孫博士*序

Though Mr. Y. C. Shen and I have never met, we have communicated for over ten years and I consider him to be an old friend. His past publications and books are, without exception, well written and informative. I was delighted and honored by his request to write a foreword to his current book on bonsai, which will be published this autumn. I consider it a great pleasure to be among the first to read the manuscript.

The Chinese Art of Bonsai and Potted Landscapes is a collaborative effort of Mr. Y. C. Shen, Mrs. Beulah Kwok Sung and Mr. C. B. Sung. The book recounts the history of the art of *penzai* and *penjing*, its evolution into various styles, and techniques for cultivation and caring. It is written clearly and concisely, and the main points are systematically and methodically presented. Overall this book is a well-organized and faithfully researched treatise on bonsai.

This book is a gem for expanding the quintessence of Chinese culture; it is also the guide for promoting horticulture. It is a masterpiece of great importance in the art of bonsai, and will — without a doubt — be valued for generations to come.

Wu Yee-Sun
at Hong Kong
Summer 1991

**Dr. Wu Yee-Sun was awarded honorary doctor of letters by the University of New Brunswick for his outstanding study and contribution in the field of bonsai.*

余於沈蔭椿君慕藹有心，識韓未遂，雖芝玉仍違，而魚雁互通，蓋神交已逾十餘年矣。

沈君所著鴻篇多曾拜讀，學富識充，意真情摯，久已心儀，昨接惠書，因悉近與郭志嫻女士、沈堅白先生合編中國盆栽和盆景藝術一書，將於今秋面世，並以文稿見示，囑為之序，余也有幸得快先覩有關盆栽、盆景種種問題及其興替派別源流等，鉅細靡遺，分析清楚，提綱挈要，有條不紊，立論正確，繼往開來，其造詣之深，經驗之富，非學養有素，博通今古，曷克臻此，是誠弘揚國粹之瑰寶，提倡園藝之南針，堪稱巨著，行見名重藝林，且必傳而無疑也。

伍宜孫序於香江
一九九一年歲次辛未

**由於伍宜孫先生對盆栽界作了優越的研究和貢獻，加拿大紐賓士域大學特授予名譽博士學位。*

About Y.C. Shen and This Book

關於沈蔭椿和這本書

We were privileged and delighted to have been asked by our good friend, Y. C. Shen, to assist him in organizing and writing this book.

In spite of enduring many difficult years in China during the Cultural Revolution (1966-1976), Y. C. has steadfastly maintained his interest in bonsai and his dream to promote the Chinese art of bonsai on a global basis. Like his father and generations before him, Y. C. has studied and worked hard to master the Chinese art of bonsai. He has written three books in China, and, in fact, taught many of the leading young bonsai masters in China today.

Seven years ago, we sponsored and assisted Y. C. to relocate to the United States to realize his dream. Since his arrival in America, he has cultivated over six hundred pieces of bonsai and continued his research in both bonsai (known as *penzai* in Chinese) and potted landscapes (known as *penjing* in Chinese). His art enables us to appreciate nature, seasonal changes, and the mystery of the universe at home and in the office. His miniature bonsai is a three-dimensional living poem in one's palm.

There is a world-wide misconception that bonsai originated in Japan. We hope this book will set the record straight. However, we fully recognize and appreciate the fact that Japan has contributed a great deal towards developing and promoting the art of bonsai and has made it known worldwide.

The two written characters for bonsai and *penzai* are exactly the same in Japanese Kanji or Chinese.

盆栽 : Literally means a plant growing in a shallow pot.

Bon-sai : Japanese pronunciation.

Pen-zai : Chinese pronunciation.

Even though the two characters have different pronunciations in the two languages (actually and interestingly, the difference is well within the range of variations of dialects within China), they convey exactly the same meaning in both countries. They describe an art which captures and expresses in

miniature the beauty of natural trees and plant forms and their seasonal changes in a shallow pot.

We were both born and raised in China. About forty years ago, we adopted the United States of America as our country. We love both countries, the old and the young. It is our sincerest hope that the young might be able to learn a few things from the old. During the heydays of China, about one thousand years ago, China considered itself the Middle Kingdom, meaning the center of the universe. The steady decline of China since then is a matter of history. Today, the United States behaves very much like China used to and thinks that the world revolves around it. Instead of striving to achieve a balanced leadership and strengthening our competitiveness, we sometimes blindly impose our views on other countries and spend our energies accordingly without realizing that we are rapidly losing our economic leadership. If we do not wake up in time and take a critical look at ourselves, many generations from now, people might automatically assume that the automotive and electronics industries, like bonsai, were originated in Japan!

C. B. Sung and Beulah Kwok Sung
at Hillsborough, California
Summer 1991

我們很榮幸和高興地接受好友沈蔭椿的邀請，協助他組織和編寫這本書。

在既往文化大革命運動（1966—1976）中，沈蔭椿在中國遭受長期劫難。然而，他仍執著地堅持他的盆栽事業和致力於實現弘揚國粹，遍及世界的理想。沈蔭椿出身於園藝世家，在繼承祖傳技藝基礎上，潛心鑽研，鍥而不舍。他已在中國出版過三本專著。現今，中國盆栽界的年輕名家中，有好幾位曾師從他的門下。

七年之前，我們支持並協助沈蔭椿來到美國，以實現他的理想。在這七年歷程中，他已栽培了六百餘盆中國式的盆栽和盆景，繼續探索技藝。他的藝術能使居家或辦公室中欣賞四季更迭，以及大自然的奧妙。他的微型盆栽是一種富有生機的掌上立體詩。

在世界上有一種錯覺，誤認為盆栽是起源於日本。那末，我們希望這本書將提供準確的記載，把這錯誤的觀念改正過來。可是，我們應該完全承認和欣賞日本對盆栽藝術作了發揚光大和振興，並聞名於世。

盆栽二個字，在中國和日本，恰恰正是同文、同義。

盆栽：照逐個字字義作解釋，即一棵植物生長在一隻淺盆中。

Bon-sai：日文發音。

Pen-sai：中文發音。

可是，盆栽二個字的發音，在日文和中文之間是有些微差異的（事實上是非常有趣的，這差異的程度是在中國的方言差異度之內），然而，這二個字所傳達確切概念，在中日兩國之間却完全相同的，就是說，盆栽是一種藝術，它擷取大自然中優美的花草和樹木的形態，把它們精粹地凝縮在淺盆中，並表現出四季變化的景致。

我倆都出生和成長在中國，約四十年之前，我們歸化了美國，爾今，既眷戀古老中國，亦熱愛年青的美國。這種摯愛，誠望年青的美國可以從古老的中國學習到些許教益。約一千多年之前，時值中國強盛年代，自以為是宇宙中的王國中心。其後，中國持續衰退，這已成歷史。現今，美國處境很像既往中國那般，自以為我們是世界的中心，與其力爭達到有平衡的領導地位和鞏固競爭能力，我們却有時盲目地用自己的觀點來影響其他國家，為此消耗了許多能力，同時我們不知不覺中迅速地失去在經濟方面的領導地位。假如我們再不及時清醒，作出自我檢討而改進，那末，從今起幾代以後，世界上許多人會自然而然地認為汽車和電子工業像盆栽一樣都是起源於日本！

沈堅白和郭志嫻寫於美國北加州
一九九一年夏

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- 2.1.2.1-10 Hedge sageretia, by the late *penzai* artist Kong Taichu of Guangzhou
雀梅 廣州已故盆栽家孔泰初作品
- 2.1.2.1-11 Rock grown elm, by Dr. Wu Yee-sun of Hong Kong
榆樹坭石 香港盆栽家伍宜孫博士作品
- 2.1.2.1-12 Hedge sageretia, by Dr. Wu Yee-sun of Hong Kong
雀梅坭石 香港盆栽家伍宜孫博士作品
- 2.1.2.1-13 Fujian tea with sandstone, by Dr. Wu Yee-sun of Hong Kong
福建茶坭石 香港盆栽家伍宜孫博士作品
- 2.1.2.1-14 Chinese hackberry, by Dr. Wu Yee-sun of Hong Kong
朴樹 香港盆栽家伍宜孫博士作品
- 2.1.2.1-15 Fujian tea, by Jiang Ci of Guangzhou
福建茶 廣州江詞作品
- 2.1.2.2-1 Elm, by He Shichuang of Suzhou
榆樹 蘇州何適創作品
- 2.1.2.2-2 Trident maple, of the Wan Jing Mountain Lodge of Suzhou
三角楓 蘇州萬景山莊作品
- 2.1.2.2-3 Hedge sageretia, by Ye Shishu of Suzhou
雀梅 蘇州葉世樹作品
- 2.1.2.2-4 Hedge sageretia, by Ye Jing of Suzhou
雀梅 蘇州葉菁作品
- 2.1.2.2-5 Hedge sageretia, by Zhu Zian of Suzhou
雀梅 蘇州朱子安作品
- 2.1.2.2-6 Elm, of the Wan Jing Mountain Lodge of Suzhou
榆樹 蘇州萬景山莊作品
- 2.1.2.2-7 Chinese elm, of the Wan Jing Mountain Lodge of Suzhou
榔榆 蘇州萬景山莊作品
- 2.1.2.3-1 Chinese chaste-tree, by Zhu Zian of Suzhou
黃荊 蘇州朱子安作品
- 2.1.2.3-2 Pomegranate, by Zhu Zian of Suzhou
石榴 蘇州朱子安作品
- 2.1.2.3-3 Persimmon, of the Liu Garden of Suzhou
金彈子 蘇州留園作品
- 2.1.2.3-4 Thick-barked black pine, of the Wan Jing Mountain Lodge of Suzhou
錦松 蘇州萬景山莊作品
- 2.1.2.3-5 Yew podocarpus, of the Shanghai Botanical Garden
羅漢松 上海植物園作品
- 2.1.2.3-6 Pea tree, of the Shanghai Botanical Garden
錦雞兒 上海植物園作品
- 2.1.2.3-7 Red maple, of the Shanghai Botanical Garden
紅楓 上海植物園作品
- 2.1.2.3-8 Red plum, of the Shanghai Botanical Garden
紅梅 上海植物園作品
- 2.1.2.3-9 Hedge sageretia, of the Shanghai Botanical Garden
雀梅 上海植物園作品
- 2.1.2.3-10 Yew podocarpus, of the Shanghai Botanical Garden
羅漢松 上海植物園作品

- 2.1.2.3-11 Chinese wisteria, of the Shanghai Botanical Garden
紫藤 上海植物園作品
- 2.1.2.3-12 Five-leaf pine, of the Shanghai Botanical Garden
五針松 上海植物園作品
- 2.1.2.3-13 Thorn elaeagnus, of the Shanghai Botanical Garden
胡頹子 上海植物園作品
- 2.1.2.3-14 Mount Huangshan pine, of the People's Park of Hefei of Anhui province
黃山松 安徽省合肥市人民公園作品
- 2.1.2.3-15 Tamarisk, by Zhang Ruitang of Kaifeng, Henan province
檉柳 河南省開封市張瑞堂作品
- 2.1.2.3-16 Juniper, of the People's Park of Nantong, Jiangsu province
檜柏 江蘇省南通市人民公園作品
- 2.1.2.3-17 Hedge sageretia, of the Park Management Service of Yangzhou, Jiangsu province
雀梅 江蘇省揚州市園林處作品
- 2.1.2.3-18 Banyan, by Yang Qiuja of Beigang, Taiwan
榕樹 台灣北港楊秋駕作品
- 2.1.2.3-19 Elm, by Liu Zhenlu of Taoyuan, Taiwan
榆樹 台灣桃園縣劉貞錄作品
- 2.1.2.3-20 Camellia, by author Y. C. Shen
山茶 本書作者沈蔭椿作品
- 2.1.2.3-21 Daphne, by author Y. C. Shen
瑞香 本書作者沈蔭椿作品
- 2.1.2.3-22 Pomegranate, by author Y. C. Shen
石榴 本書作者沈蔭椿作品
- 2.1.2.3-23 Miniature water lily, by author Y. C. Shen
姬睡蓮 本書作者沈蔭椿作品
- 2.1.2.3-24 Rosemary, by author Y. C. Shen
迷迭香 本書作者沈蔭椿作品
- 2.1.2.3-25 Contonester, by author Y. C. Shen
紅紫檀 本書作者沈蔭椿作品
- 2.1.2.3-26 Yesso spruce, by author Y. C. Shen
蝦蟇松 本書作者沈蔭椿作品
- 2.1.2.3-27 Bamboo var. nana (roxb.) keng f., by author Y. C. Shen
鳳尾竹 本書作者沈蔭椿作品
- 2.1.2.3-28 Miniature lotus, by author Y. C. Shen
碗蓮 本書作者沈蔭椿作品
- 2.1.2.3-29 Bougainvillea, of the Park Management Service of Wuhan
九重葛 武漢市園林處作品
- 2.1.2.3-30 Cluster of hedge sageretia, by Mr. Hau Po-woon of the Ching Chung Taoist Association of Hong Kong
雀梅林 香港道教青松觀觀主侯寶垣作品
- 2.2.1-1 *The Eight Legendary Horses of King Mu of the Western Zhou Dynasty*, by Zhao Qingquan
八駿圖 趙慶泉作品
- 2.2.1-2 *In the Spirit of the Paintings of Ni Yunling of the Yuan Dynasty*, by Zhao Qingquan
雲林畫意 趙慶泉作品
- 2.2.1-3 *Herding Horses in the Countryside in Spring*, by Zhao Qingquan
春郊牧馬 趙慶泉作品
- 2.2.1-4 *Famous Calligrapher Watching Geese at Play*, by Ling Fengshu
鵝池留踪 林鳳書作品
- 2.2.1-5 *Visiting an Historical Site*, by Liu Yingtian
覽古 劉應天作品
- 2.2.1-6 *The Fascination of Spring*, by Zhang Yi
醉春 張夷作品
- 2.2.1-7 *Happy and Content*, by Zhang Yi
怡情 張夷作品

2.2.1-8	<i>Herons Resting Amidst the Reeds</i> , by author Y. C. Shen 蘆灘宿鷺 沈蔭椿作品	4.1.1-3	Sacrificial red porcelain container “祭紅”瓷盆
2.2.1-9	<i>Song of Love</i> , by author Y. C. Shen 戀歌 沈蔭椿作品	4.1.1-4	Flare-top blue-and-white porcelain container of Ming 明代敞口青花瓷盆
2.2.1-10	<i>Magnolia Herald Spring</i> , by author Y. C. Shen 玉蘭迎春 沈蔭椿作品	4.1.1-5	Flare-top smooth celadon glazed porcelain container of the Longquan kiln 龍泉窰青瓷敞口盆
2.2.2-1	Snow over icy river, by Liu Wenyong of Beijing 寒江雪 北京劉文友作品	4.1.1-6	<i>Dou</i> (vessel for measuring grains)-shaped color-painted porcelain container of Qing 清代斗方形彩繪瓷盆
2.2.2-2	Glancing mountain range at afar, by Wang Yiding of the Shanghai Botanical Garden 一覽羣山小 上海植物園汪彝鼎作品	4.1.1-7	Hexagonal color-painted porcelain container of Qing 清代六角形彩繪瓷盆
2.2.2-3	Sailing homeward, by Sheng Dingwu of Jingjiang 歸帆 靖江盛定武作品	4.1.1-8	<i>Qiantong</i> (vessel used in drawing lots)-shaped blue-and-white porcelain container of Qing 清代青花簍筒形瓷盆
3.5.1-1	Curly branches formed by twig breaking 使用折枝法後，形成虬枝格式	4.1.1-9	Deep <i>haitang</i> -flower (Chinese crab apple)-shaped blue-and-white porcelain container of Qing 清代青花深海棠形瓷盆
3.5.2-1	The natural beauty of branches enhanced after being trained 使用牽引法後，枝條造型更具自然美	4.1.1-10	Tall cylindrical-shaped blue-and-white porcelain container of Qing 清代青花深圓筒形瓷盆
3.5.3-1	Branches spreading out in a drooping mass after the specimen is hung upside down for a time 使用倒懸法後，形成垂枝紛披，婀娜多姿	4.1.1-11	Hexagonal blue-and-white porcelain container of Qing 清代青花六角形瓷盆
4.1.1-1	Oblong smooth celadon glaze porcelain water tray with peony flower design in relief on the interior, made during the reign of Emperor Xian Zong of Ming 明代成化年製青瓷浮牡丹長方水盤	4.1.1-12	Inverted bell-shaped smooth celadon glazed porcelain container with motifs of wavy lines as decoration, made in the Qing dynasty 清代青瓷金鐘形旋紋飾瓷盆
4.1.1-2	Oblong fine crackle container made during the reign of Emperor Shi Zong of Qing 清代雍正年製冰裂長方盆	4.1.1-13	Deep round-top color-painted porcelain container of Qing 清代深圓形彩繪瓷盆

- 4.1.1-14 Miniature porcelain flowerpot of Qing
清代微型瓷花盆
- 4.1.1-15 Oblong porcelain container made in the time of Emperor Tong Zhi of Qing
清代同治窯長方形瓷盆
- 4.1.2.1-1 *Qiantong* (vessel used in drawing lots)-shaped imitation Jun-glaze container of Qing (the color of Jun-glaze is a dark grayish blue, some times with undertones of a dark grayish brown)
清代仿鈞釉籤筒盆
- 4.1.2.1-2 Two-color imitation Jun-glaze container of Qing
清代仿鈞釉鑲色盆
- 4.1.2.1-3 Jun-glaze water tray made by Ge Dehe of Qing
清代葛德和製鈞釉水盆
- 4.1.2.1-4 Container made by Ge Mingxiang of the time of Emperor Qian Long of Qing
清代乾隆年葛明祥製
- 4.1.2.1-5 Deep soup plate-shaped container of Qing, with an inscription of the seal of Hua Ting on the outside of the bottom
清代深碟形盆，盆底外落款“華亭”鈐印
- 4.1.2.1-6 Deep kidney-shaped container coated with light blue glaze, made in the Qing dynasty
清代淡藍釉深腰圓形盆
- 4.1.2.1-7 Grass-colored glazed pottery container of Qing
清代淡綠色釉盆
- 4.1.2.1-8 *Dou*-shaped butter-yellow glazed pottery container with cloud-shaped feet
清代斗方雲足乳黃釉盆
- 4.1.2.1-9 Shallow round-shaped butter-yellow glazed pottery container with a girdle, made in the Qing dynasty
- 4.1.2.1-10 Deep square cerise-colored crackle glazed pottery container with artistically cut-away corners, made by Wang Zuogeng of the early days of the Republic of China
民國早期汪佐賡製鉛白色釉碎紋凹角深方盆
- 4.1.2.2-1 Color-painted porcelain container
清代彩繪瓷盆
- 4.1.2.2-2 Oval-shaped water tray coated with colored glaze, made in the Qing dynasty
清代琉璃釉橢圓形水盆
- 4.1.2.2-3 Oblong water tray coated with coral-colored glaze, made in the Qing dynasty
清代珊瑚釉長方水盆
- 4.1.2.3-1 Guangdong container (1), in the collection of Mr. Hau Po-woon of the Ching Chung Taoist Association of Hong Kong
廣東盆(1) 香港道教青松觀侯寶垣先生藏
- 4.1.2.3-2 Guangdong container (2), in the collection of Mr. Hau Po-woon of the Ching Chung Taoist Association of Hong Kong
廣東盆(2) 香港道教青松觀侯寶垣先生藏
- 4.1.2.3-3 Guangdong container (3), in the collection of Mr. Hau Po-woon of the Ching Chung Taoist Association of Hong Kong
廣東盆(3) 香港道教青松觀侯寶垣先生藏
- 4.1.2.3-4 Guangdong container (4), in the collection of Mr. Hau Po-woon of the Ching Chung Taoist Association of Hong Kong
廣東盆(4) 香港道教青松觀侯寶垣先生藏
- 4.1.2.4-1 Color-painted glazed pottery container from a Yixing kiln in the Qing dynasty
清代宜興窯彩繪釉盆
- 4.1.2.4-2 Shallow oblong water tray coated with white glaze from a Yixing kiln in the Qing dynasty