

Shanghai 上海 Meets the East
When the West 从记忆走向未来

Poujian Chen
陈剖建 著



上海文化出版社
Shanghai Cultural Publishing House

Shanghai

When the West
Meets the East

Poujian Chen

陈剖建 著

江苏工业学院图书馆
藏书章

上海文化出版社

Shanghai Cultural Publishing House

图书在版编目 (CIP) 数据

上海:从记忆走向未来/陈剖建著. - 上海:上海文化出版社,2006

ISBN 7 - 80740 - 060 - 9

I . 上… II . 陈… III . 艺术摄影 - 中国 - 现代 - 摄影集 IV . J421

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (2006) 第 100053 号

CIP information

Shanghai: when the West meets the East / Poujian Chen.

Shanghai: Shanghai Cultural Publishing House 2006

I . Shang… II . Chen… III . Artistic photography · China - Modern - Photography IV . J421

ISBN 7 - 80740 - 060 - 9 CIP (2006) No. 100053

作 者 陈剖建

责任编辑 唐宗良

Author: Poujian Chen

Executive editor: Zongliang Tang

书 名 上海:从记忆走向未来

出版发行 上海文化出版社

地 址 上海市绍兴路 74 号

邮 编 200020

电子信箱 csbcm@public1.sta.net.cn

网 址 www.shwenyi.com

印 刷 上海华业装璜印刷厂有限公司

开 本 787 × 1194 1/12

印 张 11

图 文 130 面

版 次 2006 年 9 月第 1 版 2006 年 9 月第 1 次印刷

国际书号 ISBN 7 - 80740 - 060 - 9/K · 156

定 价 280.00 元

Title: Shanghai: When the West Meets the East

Author: Poujian Chen

Published by: Shanghai Cultural Publishing House

Address: No. 74 Shaoxing Road, Shanghai, 200020

Email: csbcm@public1.sta.net.cn

Website: www.shwenyi.com

Printed by: Shanghai Huaye Decoration and Printing Co., Ltd

First edition & print: September 2006

ISBN: 7 - 80740 - 060 - 9K · 156

Price: RMB 280

About the Author



Dr. Poujian Chen started photography in his spare time since 1980s with his footprints left on many famous mountains, lakes, prairies, deserts, and Gobies. The magnificent natural landscapes, gorgeous social phenomenon, as well as immensely varied national features inspired him to explore into the world civilization by means of artistic expressions from multi-angles and aspects.

Dr. Poujian Chen is the Chairman & C. E. O. of Tianan Insurance Company Limited of China. He is also Executive Director of Chinese Insurance Association and Chinese Insurance Institute, Visiting professor of Boston University, Ph. D. Tutor of Tongji University, as well as Guest Professor in Xi'an Jiaotong University and Zhongnan University of Economics & Law.

Shang
When the V
Mee

Preface

Having been living in Shanghai for more than 12 years, I am amazed at the ever-changing phenomenon in the city and often get indulged in ponderation upon her history. The longer I live in Shanghai and the more I learn about her, the more fascinated I become.

Notwithstanding the fact that Shanghai as a city is only a little more than 100 years old, it is the epitome of the contemporary Chinese history. It was from Shanghai that modern western civilization rushed into China, it was in Shanghai that the earliest Chinese national industry emerged and the earliest modern commercial bank was established. The founding of the Chinese Communist Party is the most influential event in contemporary China, and it was from Shanghai that the Party expanded to the whole country and founded the People's Republic of China in 1949. Being the driving power for the Chinese and global economies, today Shanghai has grown into an energetic world famous metropolis.

Shanghai is very Chinese. Walking along the roads into Shikumen Buildings or across Nongtangs, we could see that the traditional Chinese civilization of more than 5000 years has been well preserved.

However, Shanghai is also very international. Judging the city to be integration of western and eastern cultures simply from the exotic buildings would appear to be too superficial. The crystallization based on assimilation of western and eastern civilizations presents to the world unique Shanghai features.

As a new Shanghainese, I have been thinking that Shanghai represents China's future direction, which intergrates different cultures through communications and then sublimates to a new height.

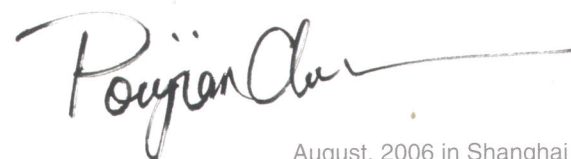
Mr. Dwight D. Eisenhower, the 34th President of the United States, once said to the gist that greater understanding among nations contribute to the peace and progress of all countries and all people. Mr. Jintao Hu, the Chinese President said in his congratulation letter to the Chinese Culture Festival that culture is a window exhibiting a nation's culture & spirits, and cultural communications function as a bridge to understanding and friendship between different nations. Shanghai with her history and development has completely proved these.

It was based on this thought that I wished to explore, seek, and record the changes and development of Shanghai through lenses in order to further understand Shanghai and probe into how eastern and western civilizations have deeply influenced the city, and how the development of a city could in return help the integration of eastern and western civilizations.

Except those photos with the names of photographers noted, I took the rest in my spare time. During this process, I have obtained great help and support from my colleagues including Mr. Zaixing Wu, Mr. Chengrong Zhang, Mr. Yongsheng Song, Ms. Jin Ma, Mr. Yanshuo Yang, Ms. Fang Guo, Mr. Shulai Wei, and Mr. Derong Yang. I gratefully acknowledge the contribution of them because frankly speaking, the book would never have been completed without their encouragement and assistance.

I am grateful to my wife Hong Xie and my son Jerry because they accompanied me throughout the process, my wife providing me inspiration with her fine artistic talent, and my son adding to this with a little child's interests.

My gratefulness also goes to all my colleagues and friends who care about the publication of this book.



August, 2006 in Shanghai

CONTENTS



Chapter I

By the Ocean and for the Ocean

1

If water is the origin of life on the earth, then rivers are the blood of a city, a country, and a nation. The Suzhou River and the Huangpu River are both arteries of the metropolis of Shanghai and the spiritual homeland for the Shanghainese ...



Chapter II

Roads, with Memory of Shanghai

21

The charm of a city diffuses from her memory of the past, and the memory of Shanghai undertaken by various roads endows the city rich implications ...



Chapter III

Western Houses and Chinese Life

43

In the early days of the 20th century when crowds of immigrants moved into the relatively safe and stable Concessions, to solve the scarcity of houses, based on the Chinese quadrangle houses, the British invented the Shikumen Buildings that looked like the townhouses in Europe ...



Chapter IV

When the West Came to the East

59

Shanghai in the 1930's was the asylum for domestic and overseas refugees, and almost all men of celebrities in the modern Chinese history had been connected with Shanghai in one way or another ...



Chapter V

When the East Goes to the West

79

There are more than 6 billion people, 200 countries, 2500 nations, 6000 languages, and a dozen religions on the planet of Earth. The mutual communication, assimilation, and interdependence bring up the colorful world today ...

Chapter I

By the Ocean and for the Ocean



If water is the origin of life on the earth, then rivers are the blood of a city, a country, and a nation. The Suzhou River and the Huangpu River are both arteries of the metropolis of Shanghai and the spiritual homeland for the Shanghainese.

The Suzhou River that has been running for more than 5000 years originates from Lake Tai, the largest lake in East China. It runs throughout Shanghai municipality, merges in the lower reaches with the Huangpu River, the longest river in Shanghai, and then jointly rush into the Yangtze River that surges eastward and converges into the Pacific Ocean.

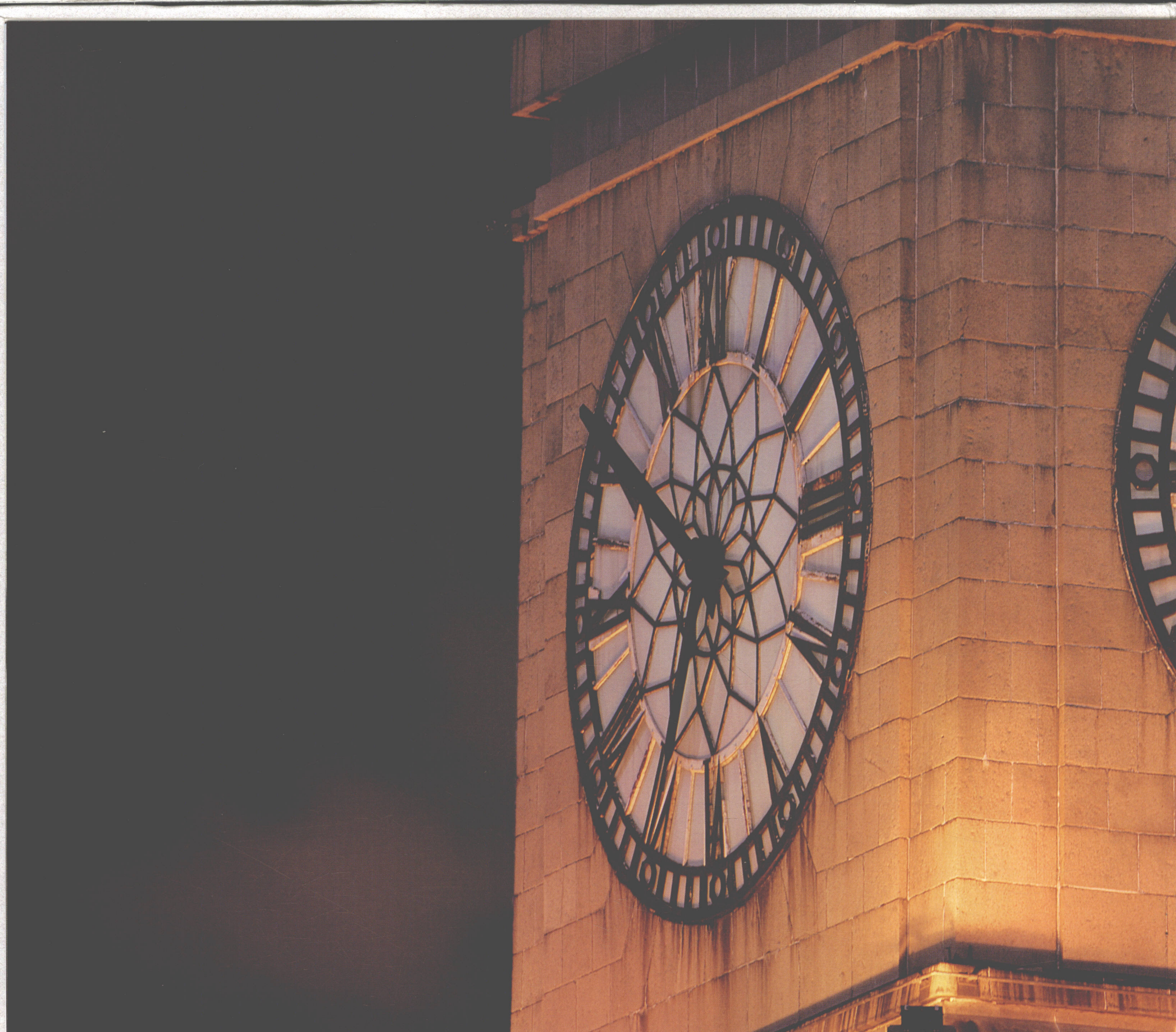
With the two rivers lying by and converging into the Pacific Ocean, the city of Shanghai has been destined to be international ever since her establishment. What is interesting is that the name of Shanghai, if translated directly into English, would be 'going up to the sea'. For the past more than 100 years, the western world approached China through Shanghai and from Shanghai the Chinese started exploring the western world, with western civilization introduced and eastern civilization transmitted via the two rivers.

Today, Shanghai has grown into a world famous international metropolis, wherein more than 5000 years of Chinese civilization is in harmonious relationship with modern western civilization.

Development of the Chinese national industry and domestic trade in the end of the 19th century brought prosperity to the Suzhou River area. It could still be figured out today from the old factories and warehouses on both sides.

The Shanghai Municipal Government started the Suzhou River ecological environment governance project in the end of the 20th century. Nowadays, it is the clean and clear Suzhou River that lies between the picturesque busy sides of modern commerce. ►







The Clock Tower on the Bund has witnessed the vicissitudes of Shanghai in more than 100 years and is marking every moment of the city's contemporary development.





A | Shanghai

When the West
Meets the East



When dusk falls and lights are lit, dozens of buildings on the Bund are indulged in the sea of light just like a crystal palace. Gazing at the scenery from distance, the whole Bund is dazzling and overwhelming like a grandiose symphonic epic.



The Bund, originally named Huangpu Bund, faces the Huangpu River and lies against architecture of widely different styles. Lingering on the Bund, we can see 52 such buildings lining up on the 1.5 kilometers arch constituting a 'Bund Architecture Expo'. The influence of almost 100 years of economic activities over Shanghai and even the whole China endows the Bund with rich cultural connotations.

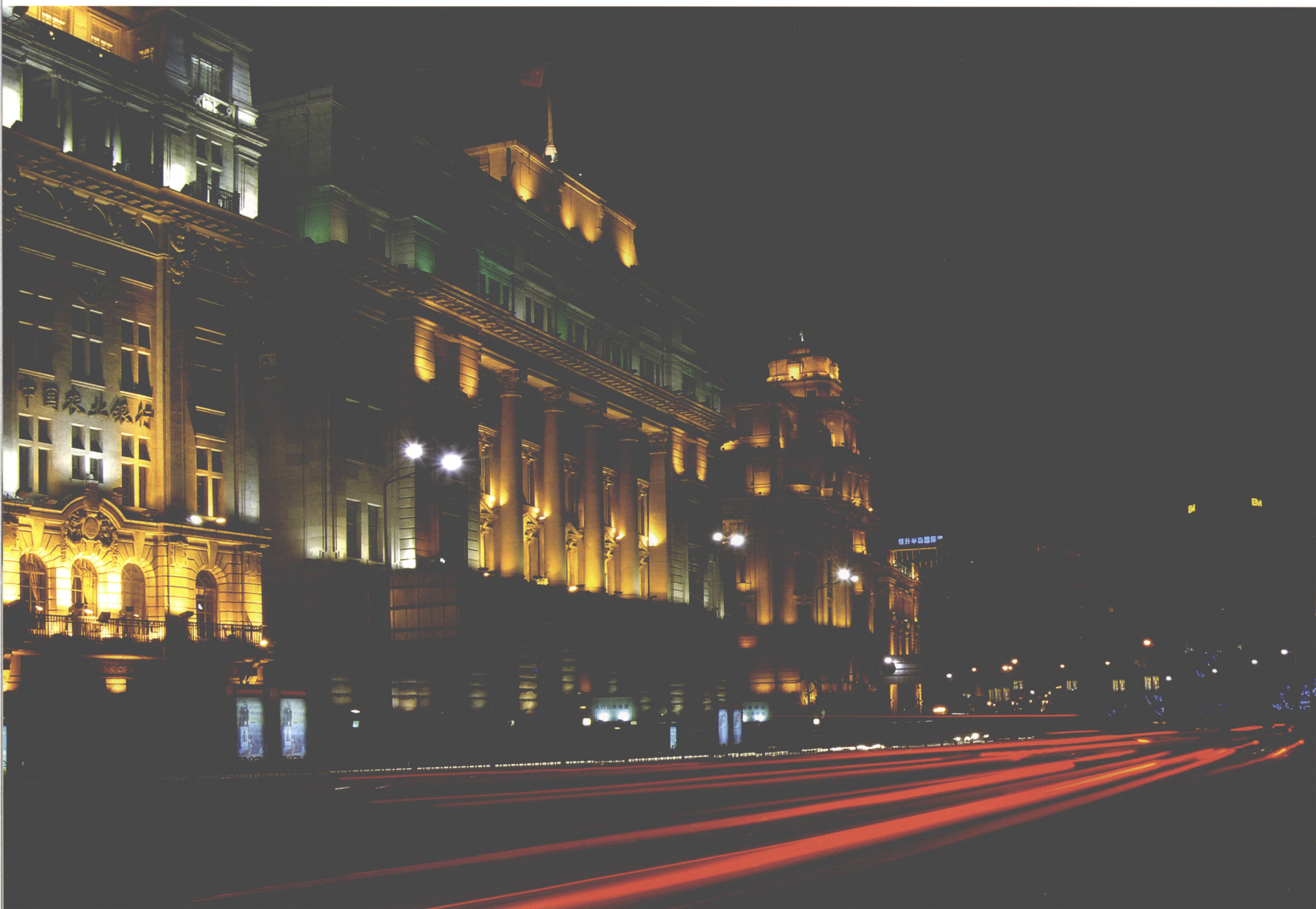




Photo by Zaixing Wu

