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分

写苏州的书不少,苏州人写的书也多。

一直期待有这样一本书——到苏州来旅游的宾客,或是在苏州定居的新苏州人,大家都需要的一本书,一本口袋书、工具书、向导书。来到苏州,去哪里游?看什么,吃什么,买什么?到了某一个点上,能否了解一点"大路货"之外的精粹?能否用简洁、优美的文字娓娓道来?

这本书,从前倒是有过,便是民国时期出过的一本《苏州手册》。不过,时过境迁,民国的生活指南书放到今天已完全没有用了。那么,今天的苏州能不能有这样一本书呢?一本既实用又文化的书。

总也期盼不到,还是自己写吧!

用自己的双脚漫步于苏州古城、古镇、古村落和小街小巷;用自己的眼睛去观赏苏州的园林之美、景区之美、风光之美;用自己的舌尖去品尝苏州的四季美食、民间小吃、土产特产;用自己的耳朵去倾听苏州人从前的风俗、习俗;用自己的双手去与苏州古人、先人、贤达握个手;用自己的心去体会苏州的古往与今来、传承与创新;用自己的笔,连着思绪,写出一篇篇小文,飞出一只只蝴蝶……

这是一篇篇你在"百度"、互联网上查不到的文章,这是一本与所有写苏州和苏州人已写的书不一样的书。好,不能说;美,不敢说;真情实感倒是真的。也许,这正是这本书的价值所在。译成英文,方便外国朋友们阅读。

作者 2016 年国庆节

There are many books talking about Suzhou, and many of them are authored by Suzhou people.

I have been expecting such a book; a pocket book, a book of reference and guide every guest to Suzhou or every one settled down in Suzhou needs. When people visit Suzhou, is there a book to guide them on where to go, what to see, what to eat and what to buy? At a special point, can it provide something succinct than kitsch staff, and in a concise, graceful language? We had such a book before—Suzhou Handbook which was published in the Republic of China era. However, as time has changed, the lifestyle guide book is totally inappropriate to modern China. So, is it possible to produce a book as practical and cultural?

I have been expecting so long and get nothing. So I decided to write one by myself!

I just stroll around the ancient cities, towns, villages and alleys of Suzhou on my own feet, capturing the beauty of Suzhou classic gardens and scenic spots, landscapes with my own eyes, tasting Suzhou delicacies throughout four seasons, folk snacks, and local specialties, listening to the old customs and traditions of Suzhou people with my own ears. And I have had a personal spiritual talk with ancestors and historically prominent personage among Suzhou people, feeling the past and present, heritage and innovation of Suzhou with my own heart. Based on these, I write down small articles fluttering like butterflies one by one from my own pen and original thinking ...

This is a book composed with articles you may never find in Baidu or any corner of Internet. It is quite different from whatever has been written on Suzhou or by Suzhou people. I do not dare to say it is perfect. But I do have injected true feelings in writing the book, which is perhaps the value of it. I have had it translated into English for foreign friends.

作者 The National Day, 2016

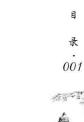
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苏州的水陆城门

境界盘门

"北有长城雄伟,南看盘门秀丽。"这是陈从周先生的一句名言。 苏州有盘门,盘门有三景:水陆城门、吴门桥、瑞光塔。

先说水陆城门。 古人建造一座城,先造城墙、城门,城在中央,四面是高高的城墙,过道处就设城门,所谓"固若金汤"。可苏州是水城,水上通道怎么办? 2500 年前,伍子胥为苏州设计了水陆城门,就是在水上通道



设计水城门,也能放下城门,闸断水道。到了晚上,陆上城门一关,水上城门一关,吊桥升起,水城照样可以固若金汤。

吴门桥有"吴中第一桥"之称,苏州古城最高的石桥。这里,水面宽阔,水流湍急,上游来水,通过吴门桥,流进苏州城。因为水急,从前这里的鱼虾最肥壮。20世纪四五十年代,苏州美食家周瘦鹃、范烟桥、程小青等每每小聚,周瘦鹃总要关照厨师,要用吴门桥下的活虾出虾仁。

瑞光塔是三国时期孙权为纪念母亲而造的塔。说起瑞光塔,不能不提到 苏州的两件镇市之宝,一件是虎丘塔里发现的秘色釉莲花碗,再一件便是在 瑞光塔发现的真珠舍利宝幢。

1978年,三个小孩进瑞光塔捉麻雀,在宝塔第三层发现了一道暗门,内藏的一批宝物中,就有真珠舍利宝幢,现存于贝聿铭设计的苏州博物馆中。

三景皆美,境界盘门。

