



The Album of
Oil-Paintings by Li Xiwu
李锡武油画集

天津人民美术出版社
Tianjin People's Fine Arts Publishing House

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李锡武 广东中山市人，中央美术学院华东分院油画系毕业，中国美术家协会会员。

Li Xiwu, born in Zhongshan City, graduated from the oil painting department of China Central Academy of Fine Arts, Huadong Branch. He is now a member of China Artists Association.

序 Preface

画家李锡武为他的画集写个序，对画一如半解的我惊讶为何被选中，我把此认作是一个奖赏。多年前我曾向他索要一张画，过了几年，他突然向我要回这幅画再换一张给我，我问为何，他说，以前那一张画是应付你的，看你这几年为中山做了些好事，值得我换一张好的给你。这样的奖赏太难得了。

我知道他是把我当作好朋友、当作一名艺术工作者。艺术是他的命，在他眼里是如此的纯净，如此的崇高，如此的神圣，就像他笔下高耸峻拔的雪山，对它必须要虔诚、要膜拜，来不得半点虚传和矫情。他对待朋友亦如此，把一切多余的去掉，就像他称呼我直呼名字而不加赘取那样，令人感到一种不必提防的真实、舒服和轻松。

光看他的画想象不出他的人，看了他的人就会更深刻地去认识他的画。他用油彩去讲述着自己的人生经历、生活体验、思想感情。他的思想情感比他的外表比他的作品画面热烈何止十倍百倍。他在新疆呆了半辈子，用“第二故乡”已不足以表述他对新疆的情感，每一谈及新疆他就着魔般的激动，口若悬河，他若要爱上了，便就爱得很深很深。那一次在朋友家里正谈着些和画有关的事，突然，他像弹弓上射出的石丸般飞越门外，过了一会儿，有点自嘲地折返回来，“我以为路过的那个女孩是我的女儿”，这就是他的爱。爱亲人、爱朋友、爱生活、爱艺术。人说相由心生，我说艺由心生也是同一个道理。

我非画家，画艺上的话说不好也说不准，更何况李锡武先生的作品在画界早有定评，用不着我像装模作样，我在这里写写他的人，好让读者更好地理解他的画。今日我们出版《李锡武油画集》是想为我市留下一批艺术精品，在挖掘、推广我市优秀艺术家方面做点工作，是为序。

郑集田

中山市文化广电新闻出版局局长

2006年12月

Knowing little about fine arts, I am much surprised at the invitation from Mr. Li Xiwu to write a preface for his new album. I would like to take this invitation as a bonus for me. I once asked him to give me a piece of his works years ago; however, years later, he asked me to give it back to him and gave me a new one in return! When I asked him why, he told me: "In consideration of the contributions you have made to Zhongshan these years, you deserve a better one." What an honor for me!

Art is his life, pure, noble and sacred in his eye. He worships art, just like Tibetan pilgrims worship the towering snow mountains he depicts in his pictures, in a manner that even a slight trace of deception or affection is intolerable. He treats his friends the same way. I know he has always regarded me as a friend and art worker. All unnecessary formalities are abandoned in the friendship between us. I always feel real and easy with him and have a sense of unguarded comfort when he calls me directly by my name instead of my official title as others do.

It is difficult to imagine what kind of a man he is by looking at his paintings only, while understanding what kind of a man he is enables us to understand his paintings in a keener sense. He presents with oil paints his life experience and passions, passions a hundred times more flaming than either his appearance or his works. He spent half of his life in Sinkiang. The term "the second hometown" is not strong enough to express his love for that place. Every time when he talks about Sinkiang he couldn't hold his tongue as if he were bewitched.

Once when he was at one of his friends' home discussing matters concerning his paintings, suddenly, he jumped out of the door like an arrow that just left the bow. A minute later, he came back and said in a tone of self-mockery: "I thought the girl passing by was my daughter." This is how he loves: once in love, he loves with his whole heart. This is the very way he loves his family, his friends, his life and art. People say that what one thinks decides what one looks, and I say that what one thinks decides how one does with arts.

I am not a painter; therefore I am not in the right position to make any comments on paintings. And since there have already been comments and evaluations on Mr. Li's works in the fine arts community, it is not necessary for me to write any possibly inappropriate judgements about his paintings. I am here to write about the artist himself in order for his audience to understand his paintings better. The purpose we publish The Album of Oil Paintings by Li Xiwu is to save a batch of quality works of art for our city as well as to contribute to the discovery and promotion of talented artists in our city.

Zheng Jisi, Director of Zhongshan Broadcasting, Press & Publishing Bureau

December, 2006

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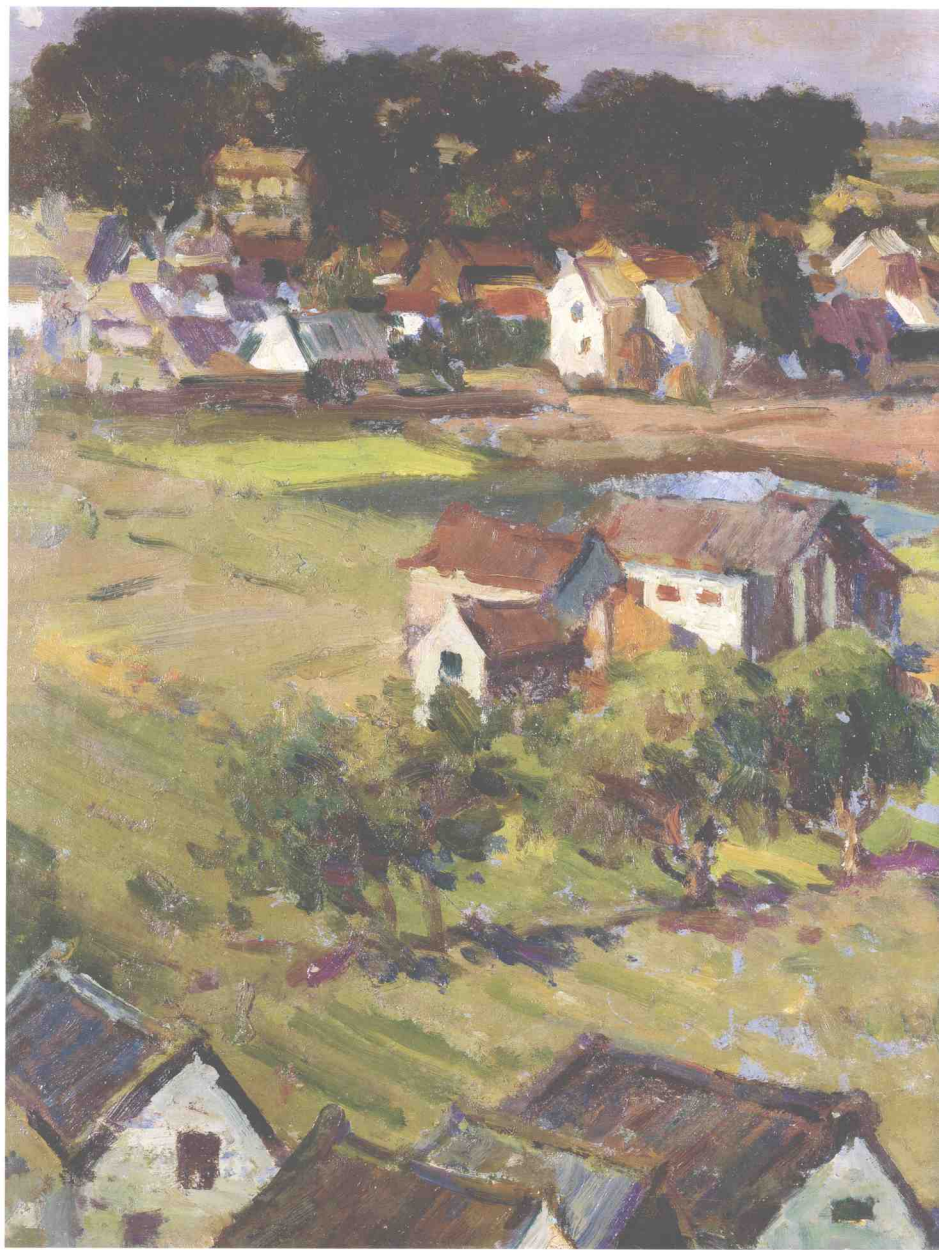
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村口 The Village Entrance 34.5 × 41cm 1962

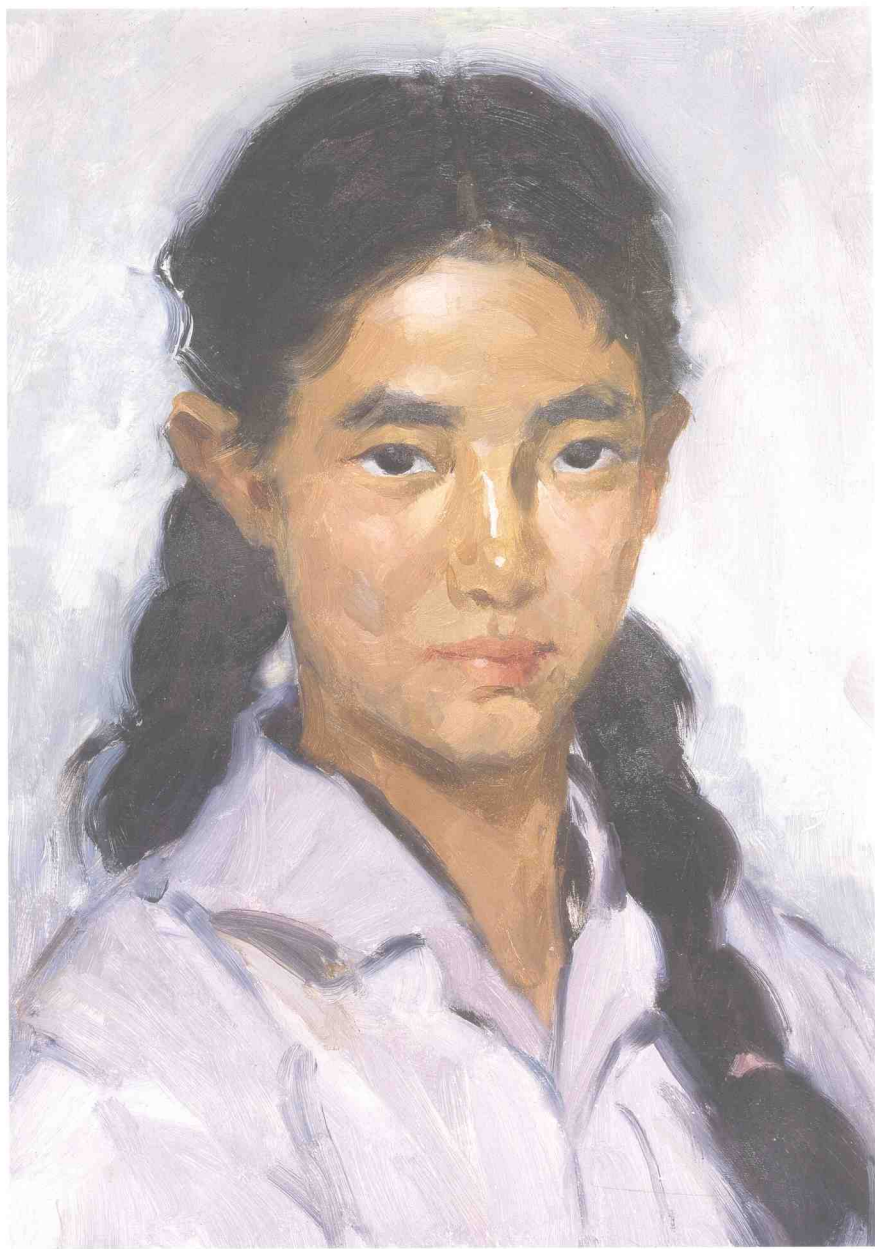


鱼塘 The Pond 38 x 47cm 1962





多彩沙田
Colorful Shatian Town
37 × 49cm
1962





水上人家 The Fishermen's home 20 × 31cm 1962





红色的网
The Red Net
23 x 33cm
1976



阿娜 A Di 24 × 30cm 1976