



2005-2012

我那16回合

Real Arctic and my 16 trips 王建男 著

 哈尔滨出版社

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王建男

1950年出生于哈尔滨。学过版画，当过搬运工、农民、中学教师。1976年进入哈尔滨日报社，任摄影记者、评论编辑，直至总编辑、社长。

——“冰城”哈尔滨的独特文化，为他后来的北极情结奠定了基础。

2001年辞官加入民企。先后任北京山松生物技术公司总裁、华夏时报社社长，加拿大华人电视台董事长。

——在加拿大的工作经历，为他进入北极创造了机会。

2005年开始，以纪录摄影的方式进行“环北极摄影考察”，目前已16次进入北极8国近百个人居点和生态区。

第一位登上联合国总部大厦讲坛的中国报人（1999年，演讲题目《中国报业改革与哈尔滨日报的集团化发展》）。

第一位在美国举办个人影展的中国新闻摄影家（1996年，纽约世贸大厦《王建男眼中的美国》摄影展）。

中国摄影家协会资深会员。曾任哈尔滨市摄影家协会主席、中国新闻摄影学会副会长。

JIANNAN WANG

Jiannan Wang (Seven Wang) was born in “Ice City”, Harbin, in 1950. He was once an engraving apprentice, a porter, a peasant, and a middle school teacher. He joined *Harbin Daily* in 1976. During his time at *Harbin Daily*, he held various positions, from photo journalist to political comment editor, eventually to editor in chief and president.

——The unique culture of “Ice City” laid the foundation for his later passion towards Arctic.

In 2001, Wang resigned from *Harbin Daily*, and started a new phase of his career in private enterprise. He was the president of the Beijing Shansong Agritech Ltd and *Chinese Times*, and the chairman of CTTV, first Chinese online TV network in Canada.

——Working in Canada provided him with the opportunities to go to the Arctic.

From 2005, he engages in the “Photographing and Researching the Circumpolar Arctic” in the way of chronophotography. He has visited about one hundred settlements or ecological zones in the eight countries of Arctic for 16 times.

He is the first Chinese newspaper man invited to give speech on the forum of United Nations Headquarter building (“The Reform of Newspaper in China and the Enterprise Development of Harbin Daily” , 1999).

He is also the first Chinese photo journalist to hold a personal photography exhibition in the United States (“America in Wang’s eyes” , World Trade Center, 1996).

Jiannan Wang was the former president of Harbin Photographers Society, and former vice president of the Photojournalist Society of China. He is currently a senior member of Chinese Photographers Association.

序

匍匐方能仰视的生命

◎吕晓琦

“真北极，我那16回合！”

当建男说出这本摄影集的名字时，我蓦然间被触动，一股热流漫过头顶。有力量，很温暖的名字。

遂即请缨：“我来写序吧。”

作为妻子，至今说不清是怎样被绑到这驾战车上，疾驰在地球之巅，不停歇，风雪潇潇……总之，“环北极摄影考察”，建男是始作俑者，我是同谋，坚定，始终，唯一。

一对都市人，一下子与荒僻、荒漠、荒村、荒野……结情缘；归去来兮，苦恋7年，将感动和心智一同打包，永久寄托在那北角天边，无怨无悔。

因为，那里有一种召唤！

16次……看着建男按时间顺序挑出的照片，很多模糊甚至混淆了的细节，瞬间清晰，“哦，我们经历了这么多呀！”恍惚间，好像建男正操着他那不大灵光的英文，“We are from China, my name is Seven ……”与北极土著“套”着近乎……；那熟悉悦耳的相机快门声仿佛又在耳畔不断地响起，被“咔嚓”、“咔嚓”定格的那些瞬间，都回来了。

——这是戴棒球帽的因纽特酋长，曾让建男大失所望的人。

因纽特人的传奇，是最初鼓舞我们北上的原动力。

约4000年前，一支迁徙大军从亚洲越过白令陆桥向美洲进发，途中遭遇印第安人围堵，被迫退进北极圈里。靠吃生肉、穿兽皮、住雪屋，他们在地球上最恶劣的环境中生存下来。如今，这个世界上最勇敢坚韧，最富传奇色彩的族群，已经成为北极地区最大的原住民部族。

他们一直被称为“爱斯基摩”，印第安语“吃生肉的人”。

现在，他们称自己为“因纽特”，“真正的人”。

一定去结识他们！好奇心夹着冲动。

2005年10月13日，第一次踏上北冰洋，在加拿大因纽特渔村的小机场里，一个戴着棒球帽、穿着格子衬衫的人，热情向我们招手时，我们傻了：“是酋长吗？”出发前联系说，接待我们的人曾是因纽特酋长。我们满怀憧憬！可眼前这位是哪国的酋长啊？

那天，酋长把午饭安排在他母亲家。我们坐在温暖舒适的房间里，环顾家什电器，几十个频道的卫星节目，“这与现代化家庭没什么两样啊？”

只有鲸鱼肉，让我们品味了别样的极地幽香。

建男终于在沮丧中缓过神来。老照片中的、我们儿时印象中的北极已经不复存在了。无论你有么的不情愿，“不管老和少都戴棒球帽”是我们亲眼看到的北极！

“我要告诉世界今天的真北极！”回忆他当时的表情，好像天已降大任于他了。

“环”北极8国的计划在这种背景下逐渐明晰。“我要用5到10年甚至更长的时间，以纪录摄影的方式，全面考察联合国划定的北极原住民居住区。在北极发生永久改变之前，用相机为21世纪初叶的北极撰写一部摄影版的《人文生态白皮书》。”

得，“吃螃蟹”的劲儿又来了！

那一年，建男55岁，我51岁。

7年过去了，建男的“北极影像库”里，100多个北极人居点及生态区的3万余幅照片陆续归档。弥足珍贵。

——“你看，你看，那是北极的天妖！”这是我给第一张北极光照片拟的标题。

北极光，世界上最壮观、最神秘的天文现象之一。从我们第一次仰望天际惊见北极光的那一刻起，就彻底地爱上了她。

然而，与北极光约会。

她总是神出鬼没在北极的寒夜。所以，我们总要在辛苦了一整天之后，人困马乏、疲惫不堪中，重整旗鼓，披挂上阵……180个极地之夜，11场美丽约会。

第一次等待极光时，完全不知极光怎样发生。零下20多度的深夜，两人傻傻地伸脖望着寒空，期待着。突然发现，漆黑的夜空中隐隐现出一束白色薄纱状的东西，似云非云。建男赶快拍一个，结果显示屏上呈现一缕淡淡的绿色。来了，原来极光是悄悄的，妖一般地来。

那怎么结束呢？零点之后，极光纵情施展了妖道媚术后，渐渐收敛，慢慢消失，夜空恢复了平静。我们以为极光就此“闭幕”了，速速打道回府，急看效果。可行至半路，极光再度喷发，翠绿横贯长空。我们站在锃亮的“城市光”下，那叫悔啊！

吃一堑长一智。现在你让建男自己说，对北极光了解得咋样？他的回答一定是：“半仙之体！”

北极大门豁然向我们敞开。这个人类最新最大最后的课堂，有太多新闻、新知、新学、新说……建男在孜孜以求中为“真北极”寻找着自己的方位，他几乎把前半生学到的知识都运用到对北极的记录与观察上，思考越来越深，越来越广，从自然到人文——

他从北极社会的变迁中，看到了遥隔5000年的两种文明的残酷冲突与无奈纠结；

他从“不可思议的热与难以承受的冷”并存的现象，把对气候变化的观察重点集中到周期与趋势的判断上；

他笑谈顽强生存的北极熊将会变成“岩熊”；

他肯定北极资源争夺引发的“新淘金时代”已经到来……

他的观察与思辨，已大大超出了一个纪实摄影家的范畴；

他说：“要倾我后半生的精力去读北极……”

——这些是须匍匐才能仰视的生命。

我给建男拍过一张照片，他匍匐在地，镜头紧贴地面。画面很给力，只是看不清他在拍摄什么。当他将所照之物在电脑前放大时，我被震撼了。

是花！

北极冻土苔原上的小花！

紧贴地表而生的微缩花朵，一团团，一簇簇。据科学家研究，冻土苔原上有900种显花植物，使北极短暂的夏天生机盎然。

如果没有若干次苔原之行，如果不是亲眼目睹了高纬度的精彩绽放，我们可能永远也无法读懂这些不可思议的生命。

建男曾以他的思辨方式解读了凝聚着北极生命法则的“苔原密码”。这里引用一段他关于苔原生物特质的独到概括：

“韬光养晦”，为了适应狂风和永冻层，它们不惧丑陋，以低矮与匍匐状求得生存；

“团结互助”，它们常常聚堆生长，以共同抵御寒冷；

“术有专攻”，它们可以在低温和低光照中完成光合作用，实现自己的新陈代谢；

“不图虚荣”，它们靠出芽和分株来完成传宗接代，决不指望华丽的花朵去传播花粉；

“慢中求进”，它们甘于忍受缺乏氧气和营养而导致的极慢生长速度，即使每年仅增长1—5毫米，也始终坚持下去，因为，进就比退好，生就比死强。

这些北极的生命，经过严酷洗礼，将生物在极端环境下的生存能力推向顶峰。

有人把建男的“环北极摄影考察”称为“极端行动”。我觉得，很贴切，北之极，地之端，乐于挑战自我，敢于开创自己的新生态。由此，不禁想起建男记录我们自驾车穿越北极圈的那段日记——

“推开几乎被雪霜封冻的车门，双脚踩在北极圈上，踏踏实实的感觉。向北望，白茫茫，向南望，空荡荡——此时此刻，偌大苍穹之下只有我们两个人的身影。没有喝彩，没有观众，相机上滴滴作响的自拍声就是我们的《D小调第九交响曲》。两个傻家伙像孩子一样振臂欢呼——我们自己为自己喝彩！”

我们还要为“人形堆石”喝彩！

“人形堆石”，是因纽特人在莽莽雪原上，用石头堆起的指路标志，酷似人形，被称为“指路石”。“指路石”用不同的姿态分别告诉人们家在哪边，物资藏在哪儿，驯鹿去向哪个方向……如今，北极人虽然已经有了手机、卫星导航仪，但“指路石”依旧矗立在远北大地，比比皆是。它早已成为北极精神的图腾，成为北极人心中的丰饷。

一位萨米族女诗人把自己的诗集送给建男，希望能翻译成中文。建男试着翻译了其中一首《活着》，其中有几句我特别喜欢，尤其喜欢传说中会讲一千种语言的“蓝喉”鸟。

“无疑，我与蓝喉飞翔/无疑，我与极光共舞/以最强壮的胸怀我们做一次深呼吸……”

读着，是不是有种渴望，渴望随那“蓝喉”飞翔；飞翔……随着风，随着雨，随着星辰，随着自己……

从此君心向远！

2012年11月29日

写于 中国哈尔滨

Preface

LIFE TO BE LOOKED UPON WITH HUMILITY

©Jade Lu

"Real Arctic, and my 16 trips!"

When Seven (Jiannan Wang' s English name) declared the title of this special photographic edition, I was touched instantly. A warm stream flowed through my heart...The title—forceful and affectionate—that' s it!

"Let me write the preface!" I volunteered.

As his wife, I still cannot tell how I was convinced to ride Seven' s chariot with him, galloping on top of the earth, dashing through the snow and wind, year after year, never stop... He is the mastermind who launched the idea for the project "Photographing and Researching the Circumpolar Arctic" , and I am the determined, insistent, as well as unique co-plotter. We, an urban couple, have been getting acquainted with those rural lands, rustic roads, deserted villages, strangers... back and forth with unrequited love for 7 years. Together, we invested all of our emotions, sensation, and awareness in the northern horizons. We never had regrets. Why? Because there was a higher calling!

Sixteen trips...Viewing the pictures taken by Seven chronologically, all those fuzzy details in the past now becoming clear in my mind. We indeed have experienced a lot!

"We are from China, my name is Seven..." in this moment, I recall hearing Seven is speaking his "broken English" , trying to communicate with the Arctic indigenous... The click of the camera shutter is another familiar sweet sound that frequently rings in my ears. Those sounds make all these moments last forever!

—The man wearing a baseball cap in a picture is an Inuit chief, who greatly disappointed Seven when we met him.

The legend of the Inuit was the impetus that inspired us to go to the Arctic.

About four thousand years ago, a migration group was crossing the Bering Strait from Asia to America. On the way, they encountered Indian' s containment, and were forced to retreat into the Arctic Circle. Eating raw meat, wearing animal skins, living in igloos, they survived in the harshest environments on earth. Today, the world' s most courageous and

most legendary ethnic group has become the largest aboriginal tribe in the Arctic.

Inuit was, for a long time, referred to as "Eskimo". In Indian, it means "eater of raw meat". Now they call themselves "Inuit", which means "people".

We should get to know them, shouldn't we?

On October 13, 2005, we landed at a small airport in an Inuit fishing village. That was our first trip to the Arctic Ocean area. A man waved to us and greeted us cordially. We were stunned: while preparing the trip, we were told that a former Inuit chief would pick us up at the airport. With that information, our minds were full of imagination, and we were so excited to meet an Inuit chief! But who is this man in front of us now? Wearing a baseball cap and plaid shirt, how could he be an Inuit chief?!

That day, the chief took us to his mother's house for lunch. We sat down in the cozy living room, and looked around: furniture, appliances, satellite TV with numerous channels...All of these amenities were not different than those found in a modern city home! Only the delicious whale steak reminded us that we were truly in the Arctic!

Seven's mood gradually tempered. All of the fantasies from old pictures and all of the imaginations from his childhood about the Arctic were gone forever. No matter how reluctant we were to admit it, the Inuit people, young or old, are now wearing baseball caps! The Arctic is civilized! That is the true Arctic we have seen!

"I am going to tell the world about today's real Arctic." Seven determined. It seems this has been his responsibility and mission since then. The plot of "studying the Circumpolar Arctic" has become clear and firm to him: "Within 5 to 10 years, or however long it takes, study the Arctic regions as designated by the UN with documentary photography; Before any permanent change of the Arctic, publish a *White Paper on Ecological Humanity*." Dare to be the first to do it!

Then, Seven was 55, and I was 51.

Seven years later, in Seven Wang's Arctic image library, about thirty thousand pictures including more than 100 inhabited areas and ecological regions, are all sorted and filed. These are the treasures.

— "Look! That's the fairy of the Arctic!" I was trying to make up a title for the first aurora borealis picture Seven took. Aurora borealis! It is one of the world's most spectacular and mysterious astronomical phenomena. We fell deeply in love with it on first glance in the sky.

However, one has to be sincerely patient when courting the aurora borealis. She appears unpredictably, in the shadows of the Arctic sky on chilly nights. We often have to collect ourselves after an exhausting day's work, put our energy

together and go into the dark night. Waiting, waiting, just waiting...

It was exactly 180 polar nights of waiting. It was exactly 11 beautiful courtships with the aurora borealis. All worth it!

On the first night of waiting for the aurora borealis, however, we had no idea when she would come. The temperature was about negative twenty degrees Celsius. Suddenly, there was a flash of light that appeared in the edge of the dark sky. Seven quickly snapped a shot. A slice of green light showed on the camera's screen. Here it was! The Arctic fairy light came, silently. Then, a question rose in our mind: how would the aurora borealis end? We waited continuously. After midnight, the aurora borealis gradually faded out following her beautiful and graceful performance. The sky returned to darkness. We thought the aurora borealis responded to the curtain call, and the show was over. It was time for us to wrap up, dashing home to see the captured images. On the way home, unexpectedly, the aurora borealis re-entered to perform again! The light erupted quickly, an emerald-green light across the entire sky. We were exposed under the "city-light". It was too late to capture it! It was too late to regret. But the lesson was learned and we finally got perfect pictures of the aurora borealis in our later trips. If you ask Seven how well he has learned the aurora borealis? He would answer you: I am already part of the Arctic fairy light!

The door has been opened to us now. The Arctic is like a huge classroom for humans. There are many new discoveries, new phenomena, new research outcomes, and new opinions about the Arctic. "Real Arctic" has occupied a position in the study of humanity. Seven has dedicated almost all of his energy and knowledge to the research and documentation on the Arctic. His thoughts run from nature to human society, getting deeper and wider:

He sees the crucial conflicts, along with the changes of Arctic, between two cultures 5000 years apart;

He focuses his observation of climate changes, from the phenomenon of the "coexisting of incredible hot and unbearable cold" to the predication of period and trend;

He jokes that the indomitable polar bear would eventually become the "stone bear" over time;

He is affirmative that the resource scramble in the Arctic has already triggered a new era of gold rush...

His observations and thoughts are far beyond the capacity and duty of a documentary photographer. Seven said: "I am going to spend the rest of my life trying to understand the Arctic..."

—These are the lives you need to look upon with humility.

I took a picture while Seven was working: he was lying on the ground, holding the camera as low to the ground as possible, focusing on something. The scenario was amazing, but I was not sure what he was shooting. When he enlarged his pictures on a computer screen, we were all astonished: It was a flower!

These are the mini flowers clustered on the tundra surface in the Arctic. According to scientists' research, there are around 900 types of plants that bloom abundantly in the very short Arctic summer. If we did not travel several times to the tundra, if it is not witnessed, it would be difficult for us to understand this incredible life form in the high latitudes.

Seven, with his own speculations, has interpreted the "tundra code" of the principle of Arctic life. Here, I have quoted some of his insights on biological substances of the tundra:

"Inconspicuous" — In order to survive in the permafrost and adapt to fierce wind, they remain low and creep across the ground, not afraid of being unsightly;

“Solidarity” — They grow together to overcome the severe cold;

“Specialization” — They can achieve photosynthesis in low temperatures with less sunlight, to keep normal metabolism;

“Modesty” — They carry on life with the simple format of budding and dividing, and do not have to rely on the magnificent flowers’ pollination;

“Slow, but progressive” — they grow extremely slow, about 1/10 to 1/2 centimeters per year, due to insufficient oxygen and nutrition. But they keep growing, no matter how slow it is, because being slow is better than stopping, and living is better than death.

After living in harsh conditions for a long time, these substances demonstrate strong viability in the extreme climate.

Some people described Seven’s “Photographing and Researching the Circumpolar Arctic” as “extreme”. I think it is actually very appropriate. The edge of the north, the end of the earth, these are the extreme places he has been several times; daring to challenge himself, excited to start new journeys one after another, willing to live in a new life-style... these are all the extreme actions Seven has taken for several years. While writing this, I could not help but thinking about the sentence in Seven’s diary, which recorded the scene we drove a car across the Arctic Circle:

“Pushing to open the car door stuck in the snow, standing in the Arctic Circle, I feel my true presence in the Arctic. Looking northward, there is nothing but snow; looking southward, it is empty except our own shadows. No audience cheering for us. The only sound is from the click of our timed camera shutter, which is like our own Ninth Symphony in D Minor. We are like two silly kids waving our arms and cheering for ourselves.”

Inukshuk used to be road signs for the Inuit in the vast snow field, telling them the direction of home, the location of the hidden possessions, and the position of reindeers...Now, although Inuit people use smart phones and GPS devices for directions, those “guiding rocks” are still standing on the land of the Arctic. They long ago became the totem of the Arctic and have been deeply engraved in the minds of Inuit.

A Sami poetess gave Seven her own poetry in hopes they could be translated into Chinese. Seven translated one of them, named “Elle”. I like the following lines and especially like the legend about a “bluethroat”, a bird who can sing with thousands of languages.

Surely I flew with the bluethroat

Surely I danced with the northern light

In the strongest of breaths we exhaled as one

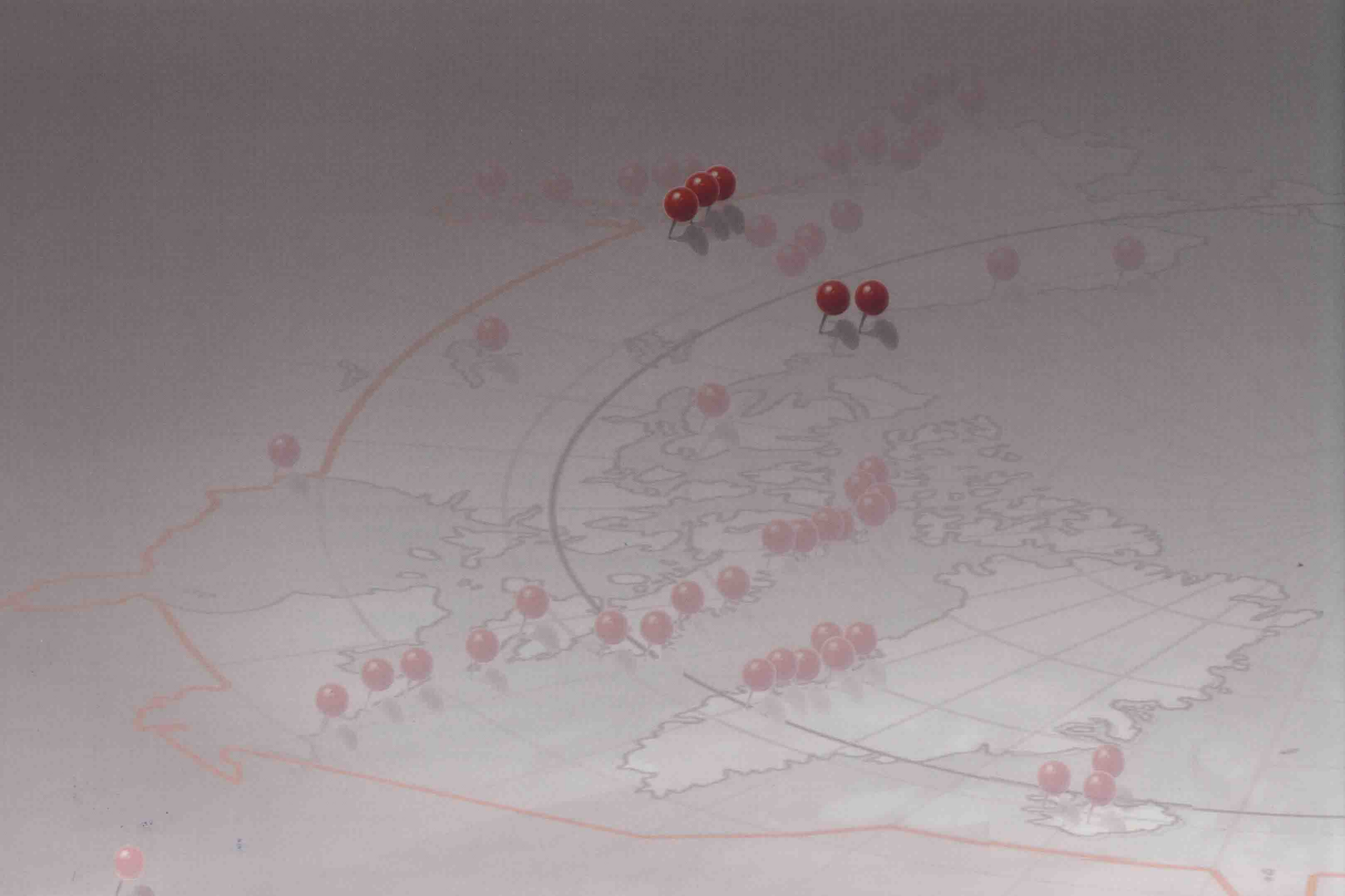
My dearest son of the wind.

Reading these lines, I feel as if I am flying with the bluethroat, flying in the sky, with wind, with rain, with stars, with Seven, towards the northern light...

And so, he is following his heart!

11/29/2012

Harbin, China



The 1st time (Oct. 12- Oct.19, 2005)

Northwest Canada: Inuvik / Tuktoyaktuk

Yukon Canada: Whitehorse / Alaska Highway / Kluane National Park

Key words: Inuit / Arctic Ocean

Transportation: Flight / Car rental

环北极摄影考察
16回合考察点示意图
(2005-2012)



第一回合（2005年10月12日至19日）

加拿大西北领地：伊努维克、图克托亚克图克

加拿大育空：怀特霍斯（白马）、阿拉斯加公路、克卢恩国家公园

关键词：因纽特、北冰洋

交通方式：民航班机、自驾车





远北的召唤

2005年夏天，网上一个帖子泄露了“天机”：从加拿大育空领地首府白马可以驾车直达北冰洋。

老婆和我异口同声：“去北极看看！”

于是，从温哥华辗转飞到北冰洋边的因纽特部落图克托亚克图克，返回白马城后，又租车自驾考察了克卢恩国家公园。

带着自己缝制的五星红旗，使用老百姓的交通工具，以每人1万元人民币的费用，我们成功地闯进了北极！

不可思议：图克托亚克图克的气温最高可达29°C、因纽特酋长竟头戴棒球帽！

现实与印象的落差，促成了立足“真北极”的“环北极生态摄影考察”计划，7天的图克托亚克图克之行成了此后7年“环北极”的破冰之旅。

一发而不可收。于是，前7年的16回合也就成了“环北极”整体计划N个回合的第一段落。

CALLING FROM THE NORTHERN

In the summer of 2005, I run across an article online about driving to the Arctic Circle from Whitehorse, Yukon. That was an eureka moment to me. Until then, I would never know it is that easy for an ordinary man to have an Arctic expedition.

“Arctic, here we come!”

A few connection flights later, we arrived at the Inuit native town of Tuktoyaktuk. After returning to Whitehorse, we visited Kluane National Park and Reserve.

Riding in a compact rental car, two ordinary Chinese successfully broke into Arctic Circle. The total cost right around CAD \$3625.65 per person.

Shocked by many facts we learned from our very first trip inside the Arctic Circle (e.g. Temperature in Tuktoyaktuk. could get a high as 29°C; Inuit's chief wears a baseball cap), an idea to find out the truth of the “Real Arctic” through an Arctic ecology photography expedition started to form. This 7-day visit to Tuktoyaktuk. was an “ice-breaking trip” which officially marked the beginning of a 7-year, 16-trip “Around the Arctic Circle” journey.

And the rest is history.



61°15'N 138°03'W

2005.10.

阿拉斯加公路加拿大育空西段

Alaska highway.Yukon Canada



因纽特老妇 图克托亚克图克 加拿大西北领地
An Inuit Lady. Tuktoyaktuk, Northwest Canada

69°26'N 133°01'W
2005.10.