

TALKS ABOUT WEST LAKE
IN DETAIL

西湖細語

汉英对照

徐应庚 编著



浙江大學出版社

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序 言

杭州西湖风光，名扬天下，它是人间一颗璀璨的明珠，虽是大自然的造化与恩赐。经过千年风雨沧桑，原以山麓为岸的湖面去山日远，屡受淤积和人为侵塞之后，若非历朝历代的浚治，西湖早已化为平地，可见今日美丽的西湖来之不易。处今物阜民康盛世，西湖得到更好的保护与治理，昔日“一湖、二塔、三堤、四岛”的西湖全景再现人间。

笔者有幸长住西子湖畔，常览西子之美，其间纵有外出远离，甚至万里海外，无不魂牵其山情水意。自从爱妻不幸病逝，人天永隔，梦里常伴湖中游，近年来寻求寄托，更常徜徉于湖山胜景之间，去了许多以前未曾涉足之处，始觉“十景传来总不同，西湖烟水本难穷”。西湖有赏之不尽的四季风光和数不清的名胜古迹，集天地之精华与灵秀，汇千年人文与历史，千姿百态，“远山近水皆有情”，浪迹其间，尘虑顿消，物我两忘，令人流连忘返。

现将笔者近年来用相机留下西湖四季的倩姿丽影和几年来在英语沙龙中漫谈西湖的发言，

汇集成册,使其集汉、英语言及彩照三者于一篇,以汉英对照,试叙包括许多新景点在内的新西湖风光及览物之情,附以精选彩照一百余幅,影文并重。回顾昔日携眷游湖,双双细语,互话风光感受,心旷神怡,而今湖山更美,旧情不再,感慨万千,爰将本书题名《西湖细语》,藉以纪念长眠湖畔的爱妻。

西湖之美,“古今难画也难诗”,拙作疏浅,公诸同好,如能为热爱西湖的海内外朋友了解西湖提供一点方便,那将是我意外的收获。本书篇幅短小,虽便浏览,难免挂一漏万,谬误之处,尚祈指正。

全书英语承浙江大学外语学院沈甫根教授校订,中文蒙浙江大学中文系洪湛侯教授审阅,减少谬误,增光生色,在此深表谢意。

徐应庚

2005年1月

Preface

The beautiful scenery of the West Lake of Hangzhou is well-known all over the world. The West Lake is a bright pearl on the earth, although it was endowed by nature. But great changes have taken place over the thousands of years. The original embankment of the lake was right under the foot of the hills, but now, the body of water is far away from them. The West Lake was formed through sediment and became silted up as a result of human activities many times. The lake would already have turned into land without the constant dredges from one dynasty to another. So it has been very difficult for the West Lake to look so beautiful today, and for its people to gain such material comfort and lead such a happy life. It's all because of the good protection and management, and everybody is delighted to see the recurrence of the past whole view of the West Lake "one lake, two pagodas, three causeways and four islands" once again.

I am very fortunate in living by the Xi Zi Lake, and have the pleasure of enjoying its picturesque scenery. When I was far away from home, or even in a foreign

country of ten thousand kilometers away, my heart was attached to the hills and waters of the West Lake. Since my wife died of illness and left me forever, I have often toured with her to the West Lake in my dreams. In recent years, I have traveled to every corner of the West Lake, and been to many places which I've never visited before. I began to feel: "the ten views of the West Lake come to us in different ways, and the hills and waters of the West Lake are endless." The West Lake has an abundance of scenery and historical sites to offer. When I was making a tour among the lovely mountains and waters of the West Lake, my worldly cares and worries disappeared all of a sudden. I was totally enthralled in them and even forgot to go home.

Here enclosed in this book are some of the pictures I have taken in recent years to show the beauty of the West Lake in four seasons and the talks I have given in English salons about the West Lake over the years. Each chapter of this book contains three parts which are the English version, Chinese version and photos. I want to describe the scenery of the new West Lake everywhere and my feelings of the places of interest, with more than 100 closed-up photos attached. The photos and writing are equally important. As I recollected when I was touring the West Lake together with my wife, we'd talk about the

West Lake in detail, tell each other the feelings of the sight, and how happy we were then. Now the West Lake looks even more beautiful. But I can no longer tour the West Lake together with my wife. I am deeply touched. Therefore I give this book the title “Talks About West Lake in Detail” in memory of my wife who rests peacefully by the side of the West Lake.

The beautiful view of the West Lake is difficult to capture in writing, and my writing is artless. It would be made known to the domestic and overseas friends who love the West Lake ardently. If it could help them understand the West Lake, it would be my unexpected harvest. Each piece in this book is short and trivial, and is unable to cover all aspects of the West Lake. I'd be most grateful if my readers will point out my mistakes in them.

The English version of this book was revised by Professor Shen Fugen of the College of Foreign Languages, Zhejiang University. The Chinese version of this book was corrected by Professor Hong Zhanhou of the Chinese Department of Zhejiang University. Both of them have helped a great deal in improving the quality of my writing. I'd like to express my heartfelt thanks to them.

Xu Yinggeng
Jan. 2005

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西 湖

西湖原是江海之一湾,三面环山,一面濒市。因位于杭州市的西面,故称西湖。

西湖在古代是与钱塘江相通的浅海湾,北面的宝石山和南面的吴山是环抱这个海湾湾口的两个岬角,后来由于潮汐冲击,泥沙在湾口两个岬角间逐渐淤积起来,形成钱塘江与西湖之间的一片冲积平原。海湾与钱塘江隔开,原来的海湾变成一个泻湖。此湖承受山泉活水冲洗,经历代人工疏浚治理,始演变成为举世闻名的西湖。

西湖的历史主要是一部淤塞和疏浚的历史。西湖乃天造地设,然沧海桑田,屡受淤塞,故西湖也是挖出来的。历朝历代疏浚和治理西湖,不仅为了观光游览,当时更为重要的在于为民提供饮用的淡水和农田灌溉用水,于民生计,息息相关。明代学者田汝成曾说:“西湖开浚之绩,古今尤著者,白乐天、苏子瞻、杨温甫三公而已。”清代又有阮元,他们为疏浚西湖,尽心竭力,作出了卓越的贡献。湖中的苏、白二堤与杨公堤,小瀛洲、湖心亭、阮公墩人工三岛,就是疏浚西湖的历史见证。

唐代诗人白居易,担任杭州刺史三年,致力于开拓西湖,政绩昭然,有德于民,在他任满离杭时,州民拥至湖滨含泪为他送行,他在题为《别州民》的诗中写道:

耆老遮归路， 壶浆满别筵。
甘棠无一树， 那得泪潸然！
税重多贫户， 农饥足旱田。
唯留一湖水， 与汝救凶年。

自 1999 年底至 2003 年 3 月止，西湖又经历了一次 20 世纪 50 年代以来最大规模的疏浚，共疏浚湖底淤泥 340 万立方米，使西湖平均水深由 1.65 米达到 2.27 米，西湖水面由 5.6 平方千米拓展到 6.5 平方千米。

西湖三面环山，西南和南面有龙井山、理安山、南高峰、烟霞岭、大慈山、灵石山、南屏山、凤凰山、吴山，总称南山。北面有灵隐山、北高峰、仙姑山、栖霞岭、宝石山等，总称北山。山的高度都未超过 400 米，峰奇石秀，林泉洞壑幽美；注入西湖的主要溪流有金沙港、龙泓涧、长桥溪。调节西湖水位的出水口有圣塘闸、涌金闸等处。现又由白塔岭泵站引入钱塘江水经净化处理后再流入西湖，增加出水口，使得西湖水由原来一年一换变成一月一换，能见度由原来的不足 60 厘米提升到 120 厘米。

西湖旧时称为钱塘湖，北宋诗人苏东坡在诗中别出心裁地把西湖比作古代佳人西施，所以又称西子湖。西湖四时之景，无不可爱，有赏之不尽的四季风光和无数的历史文化古迹。苏东坡说得好：

西湖天下景， 游者无愚贤。
深浅随所得， 谁能识其全！

到了南宋，宫廷画院画师在西湖山水画上题写画

名,出现了“西湖十景”名称。到了清朝,康熙皇帝巡游杭州,御笔书写西湖十景碑文,刻上石碑,竖在亭子里,“西湖十景”便成经典。

1985年,由杭州市园文局牵头,发起新景点新景名的评选活动,选出“宝石流霞”等“新西湖十景”。近几年来,加大西湖开发力度,复建了许多新的景点,如环湖南岸景区,雷峰塔、杨公堤、湖西新景区,湖滨二至六公园的改造,北山路的改造等。西湖如锦上添花,更加妩媚可爱,年年岁岁,无限诗情画意。

The West Lake

The West Lake was a lagoon converted from a small bay. Because it is located in the west of Hangzhou, it is called the West Lake. There are hills around the lake on three sides, and the city proper lies just by the lake on one side.

In the ancient time, the West Lake was a shallow bay opening into the Qiantang River, and the Precious Stone Hill in the north and the Wu Hill in the south encircled this bay by its mouth. Later the sediment accumulated gradually by the pounding of the ocean tides, the mouth of the bay was blocked and changed into land. Between the

Qiantang River and the West Lake, the bay left the river and formed a lagoon. This lake was washed by water flowing down from nearby mountains, dredged and managed by the local population from generation to generation. The West Lake has become a world-famous lake.

The history of the West Lake mainly is a history of the lake being silted and dredged. It was made by nature. But great changes took place in its long history. It was repeatedly dredged and silted up. Therefore the West Lake was also man-made. The aim of dredging and protecting the West Lake in all past dynasties was not only for sightseeing but, more importantly, for drinking water and the irrigation of farmland. The Ming Dynasty scholar Tian Rucheng said: "In terms of dredging the West Lake from ancient times to the present, the best achievements attribute to the three people: Bai Juyi, Su Dongpo and Yang Mengying." Together with Ruan Yuan in the Qing Dynasty, they did their best to dredge the West Lake and made outstanding contributions. The Bai Causeway, Su Causeway and Yang Gong Causeway, lesser Yingzhou Isle, Mid-Lake Pavilion, Ruan Gong Mound are all man-made and are historical evidence of the dredging of the West Lake.

In the Tang Dynasty, poet Bai Juyi had the West Lake dredged and made great contributions to the people of Hangzhou. When he completed his term of office as

governor and left Hangzhou, the local citizens saw him off to the lakeside with tears in their eyes. He wrote a poem entitled "Words Written at Parting with Citizens", two lines from which read:

"What I left behind is a body of water,
for you to tide over the year of famine."

From December 1999 to March 2003, the West Lake experienced the largest scale dredge ever since the 1950s, and 3400 thousand cubic meters of silt in all was dredged from the bottom of the lake. The average depth of the lake water reached from 1.65 meters to 2.27 meters. The lake area increased from 5.6 square kilometers to 6.5 square kilometers.

The lake is surrounded by hills on three sides. In the south and southwest are Dragon Well Hill, Lian Hill, Southern Peak, Yanxia Ridge, Daci Hill, Lingshi Hill, Nanping Hill, Phoenix Hill, and Wu Hill. They are generally known as the Southern Hills. In the north, there are Lingyin Hill, Northern Peak, Fairy Hill, Qixia Ridge, Precious Stone Hill etc., generally known as the Northern Hills, less than 400 meters in altitude. Woods, springs and rock-caves are beautiful. The main brooks which flow into the West Lake include the Gold Sand Harbor, Longhong Brook, and Long Bridge Brook. The floodgates which adjust the water level of the lake are Shengtang

floodgate, Yongjin floodgate etc.. Now the water of Qiantang River is drawn into the West Lake by pumps near the White Pagoda Ridge after it is purified, increasing water outlet. Instead of once every year, the West Lake water is replenished once every month. Visibility has also increased from originally less than 60 centimeters to 120 centimeters now.

The West Lake used to be called Qiantang Lake in the old times. The poet Su Dongpo of the Northern Song Dynasty in his poem said: The West Lake is as beautiful as the ancient beauty Xi Zi. Therefore it is also called Xi Zi Lake. The West Lake always looks beautiful in all the four seasons. It offers countless historical and cultural sites. Su Dongpo said:

“The West Lake offers the best sight in the world,
Whether the tourist is foolish or wise,
He enjoys himself in a greater or lesser degree,
Nobody can pretend to be a know-all.”

In the Southern Song Dynasty, the painters of the court wrote down on their landscape paintings the poetic names around the West Lake, and as a result, the Ten Views of the West Lake came into being. In the Qing Dynasty emperor Kangxi made a tour of Hangzhou. His inscriptions of the Ten Views of the West Lake were engraved on stone tablets standing in pavilions. The “Ten