CELEBRATED GARDENS OF XICHENG

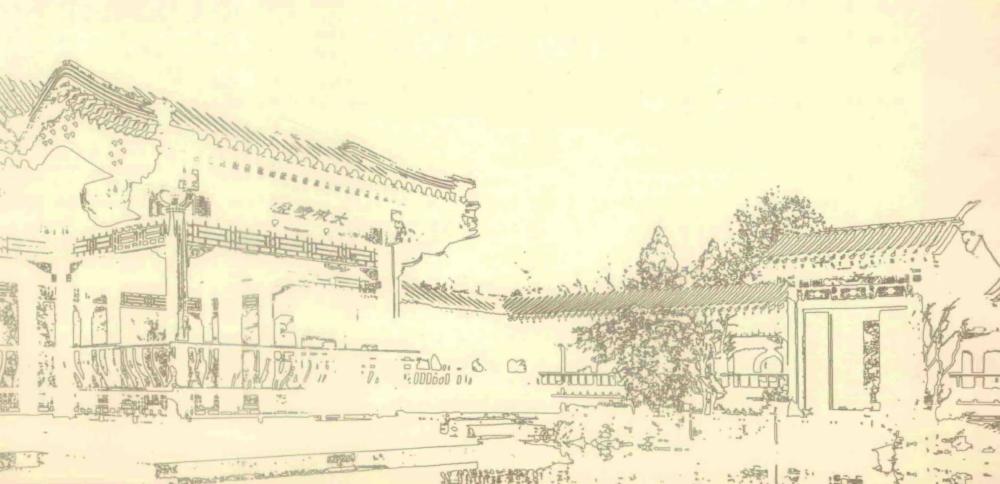




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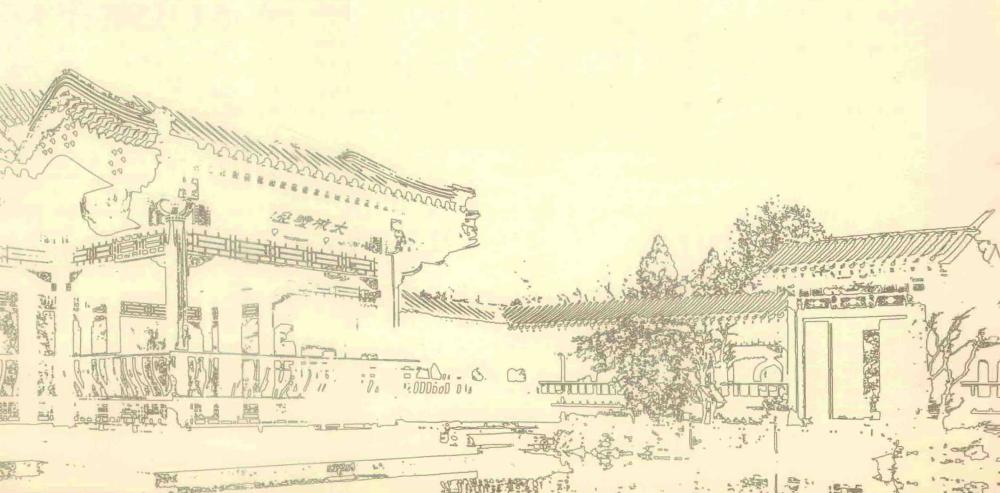


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如诗如画的西城园林

刘一达

西城园林是六朝古都给我们留下的宝贵遗产,也是镶嵌在首都北京大景观上的一颗璀璨明珠。它不仅是北京园林十分重要的组成部分,也是北京园林精华荟萃的缩影。从这个意义上说,漫步西城园林,您不但可以体会到北京园林的神韵,也能领略到北京园林的魅力,这种神韵和魅力可以用八个字来概括,即蕴藉多姿,如诗如画。

如诗如画,这恰恰是西城园林景观给我们的印象。西城园林景观是立体的画、凝固的诗、流动的音乐。这立体的画、凝固的诗、流动的音乐需要我们细细品味。您看,几片草坪,几株古柏,几座假山,几泓池水,几座亭榭,看似寻常,却把人文理念与天工造就和谐为一体,包含着深邃的文化内涵和美妙的奇思遐想。

北海岸边的垂柳,景山公园的古柏,什刹海中的荷花,人定湖公园的湿地,金融街的中心花坛,马路两侧的繁花与绿地……不论是老祖宗留下来的皇家苑林和王府花园,还是现代都市的广场景观和街头小品,园林的精巧与恢弘,花园的奇妙与幽雅,可谓是浓缩的仙境,再现的江南。

在西城园林中,这种天人合一,物景相融的园艺匠心,如今已延伸到 大型公共绿地、园林特色大街、花园式单位、花园式校园和街道、社区, 以至于胡同的庭院和居民楼的阳台。木映花承,水静石幽,滴翠匀碧,小院 兰香。园林管理部门和景观的设计者独具匠心,居然能在都市中心城区的方寸之地巧夺天工,容纳万千意象。一石一木,一景一物都有象征、寓意、比拟,让人在俯仰之间,从绿意中产生遐思和联想。西城景观的博大与小巧,的确令人寻味。

花香引蝶,景美诱人。西城园林之美,自然让人流连忘返,忍不住拿起手中的相机,将景观摄入镜头,把美景留住。这部《西城园林》影集便是多位摄影家的作品集萃。

在摄影家的镜头里, 西城园林变得灵动起来。这些作品不是一般的平铺 直叙, 浮光掠影, 而是运用了写实、写意、象征、寓意等不同的艺术手法, 摄取了西城园林景观的精髓和神意, 把西城园林的春夏秋冬, 阴晴雨雪的变 化展现在人们面前。作品捕捉的是艺术灵感, 把自然界那稍纵即逝的景色固 定在画面里, 透出园林景观的诗情画意, 使一景一物更为真切与生动, 让人 有身临其境之感。

我想看过这部摄影作品集的人,不但会对西城园林有了真切的了解,而且也会产生美妙的遐思,在享受艺术美感的同时,增添对西城的热爱。

2008年2月

The Idyllic Xicheng Gardens

Liu Yida

The Xicheng Gardens is an invaluable heritage left over to us by this ancient capital of six past dynasties, it is also a bright pearl mounted in the grand landscapes of Beijing, the Capital of China. Xicheng Gardens is not only a very important component, but also the epitome of assemble of the primes of Beijing gardens. In this sense, strolling in the Xicheng Gardens, you will be able to experience the verve of the Beijing gardens and appreciate its charm. This kind of verve and charm can be summarized by eight Chinese characters, that is, yun ji duo zi, ru shi ru hua, or accumulating multiples splendor, picturesque and idyllic.

Idyllic, this is exactly our impression of the landscapes of the Xicheng Gardens. The landscapes of Xicheng Gardens are manifested with solid pictures, frozen poems and flowing music. These solid pictures, frozen poems and flowing music invite us to taste with a caring and exquisite feel. Behold, just a few pieces of lawns, a few ancient cypresses, a few artificial rockworks, a few water ponds, and a few pavilions, seemingly ordinary and yet integrates perfectly and harmoniously the humanistic concepts and Nature's engineering that embodies the profound cultural implications and wonder imaginations.

The weeping willow at the bank of the Beihai Park, the ancient cypress in the Jinghan Park, the water lily inside the Shichahai Park, the wet land in the Rendinghu Lake, the central flower bed in the Jinrongjie (Financial District), the luxuriant flowers and greenbelt along both sides of the street.....whether the royal gardens or the Wangfu Garden left over by our ancestors, or the plaza landscapes and street essays of the modern metropolis, the refinement and grandeur of the parks, the wonder and elegance of the gardens, all can be branded condensation of the fairyland and reproduction of the Southern China.

Inside the Xicheng Gardens, this kind of gardening and craftsmanship, that resembles the harmony of man with nature and the integration of objects with scenery, has been extended to large public green spaces, featured park avenues, gardening work units, campus, sub-districts and communities, so much so that they have even crept into the courtyards and balconies of the residential buildings. The green trees echoing each other, flowers bearing their beauty,

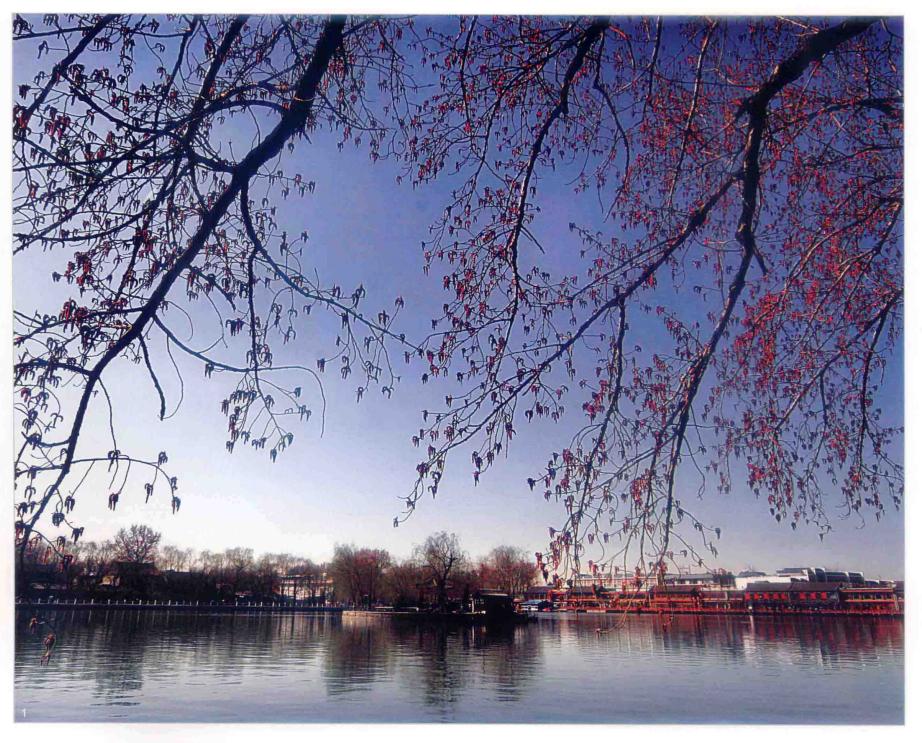
water flowing calmly and rocks standing in loneness, greenbelt evenly dotting its verdure, and small courtyard permeated with fragrance, with their show of originality, the Gardening administration and the landscape designers can actually excel nature with their wonderful workmanship in just a tiny piece of land in the downtown area and accommodate myriad of images. A stone, a tree, a scenery, and an object, each is endowed with symbolism, allegory and comparison, giving rise to people's imagination and association amidst viridescence or just a simple move of action. The loftiness and exquisiteness of the Xicheng landscape certainly leaves people with aftertastes.

As fragrant flowers invite butterflies, beautiful landscapes will attract people. The beauty and elegance of the Xicheng Gardens will naturally make people reluctant to leave and couldn't help taking photographs of the beautiful landscapes with camera in hand to retain the beautiful sceneries. This photograph album of Xicheng Gardens is precisely the collection of a number of photographers.

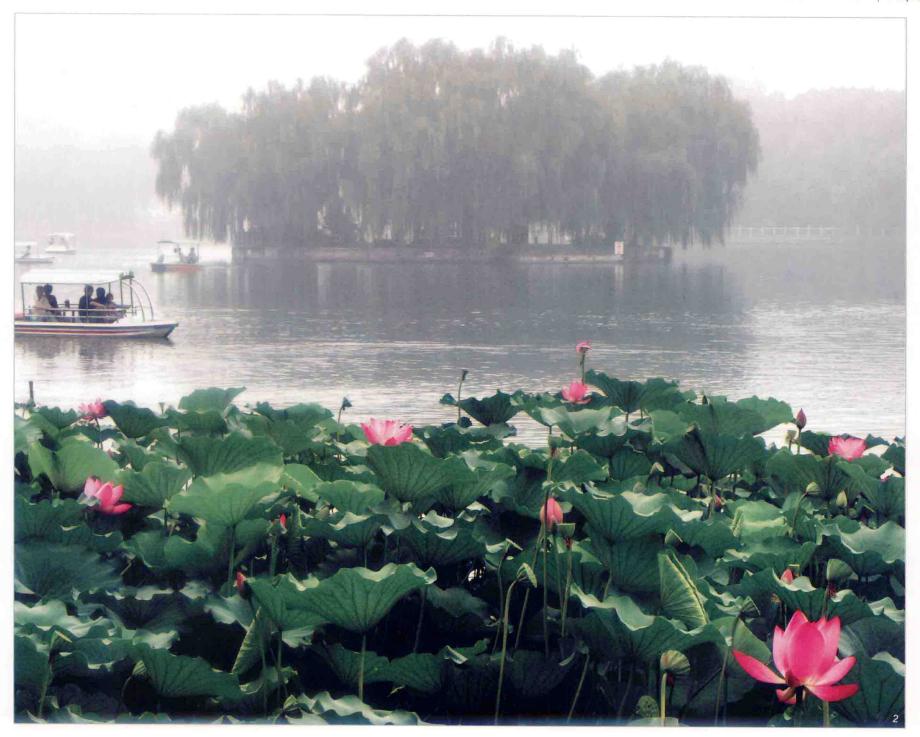
Through the camera lens of the photographer, the Xicheng Gardens have now become lively. These works are not ordinary and dull descriptions, nor do they just skim over the surface; rather, they employ different artistic methods, such as realistic writing, vivid freehand expressions, symbolism and allegories etc., and grasp the quintessence, the expression and manners of the landscapes of the Xicheng Gardens, exhibiting in front of the people changes of the four seasons and the climates of the Xicheng Gardens, for what these works catch are artistic inspirations, fixing the transient scenery of nature in the frame, revealing the idyllic appeal of the gardening landscape, making each scene and object more vivid and lively, as if the viewer is personally present on the scene.

I believe that those who have seen this photographic work collection will not only have a clear understanding of the Xicheng Gardens, but also give rise to wonderful imaginations that while enjoying the artistic esthetic feeling will also increase your love for the Xicheng District.

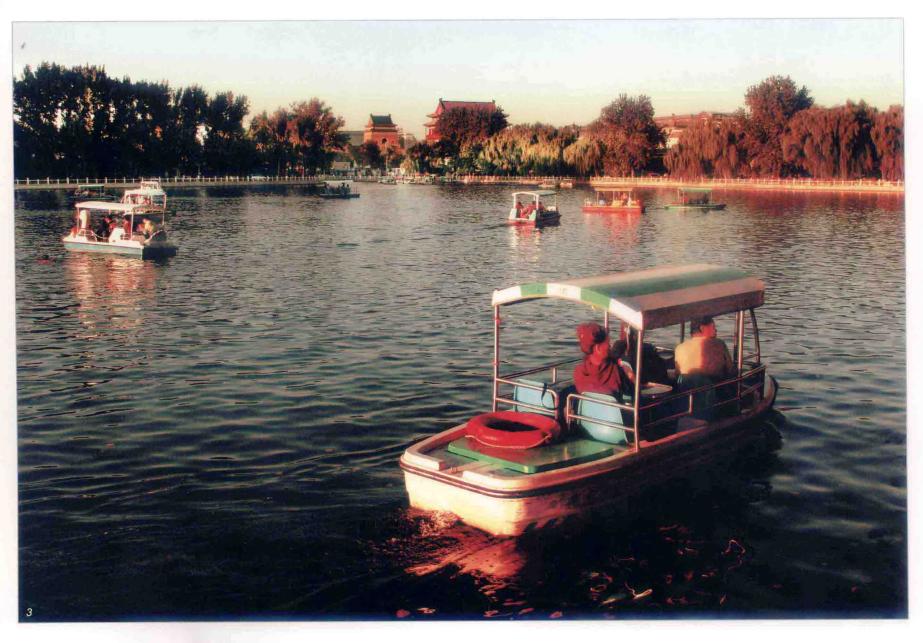
February 2008



Ol 什剎海之春 The Spring of Shichahai



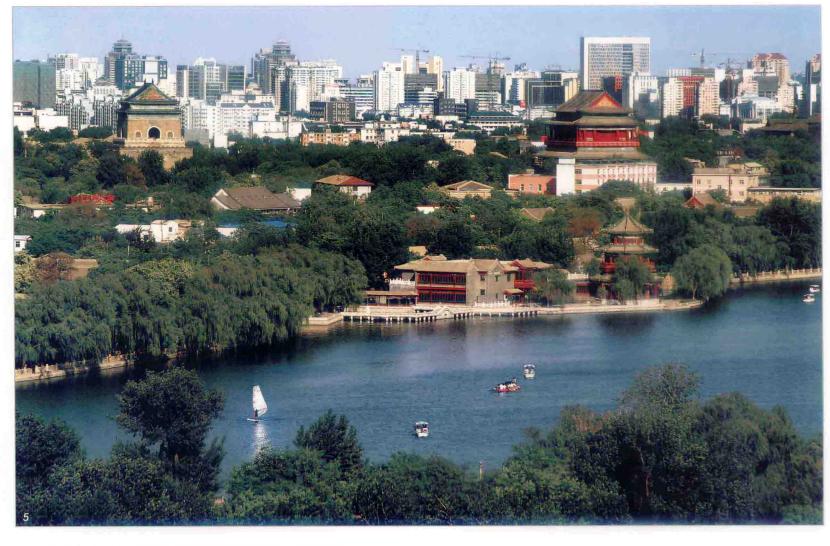
02 什剎海之夏 The Summer of Shichahai



03 什刹海之秋 The Autumn of Shichahai



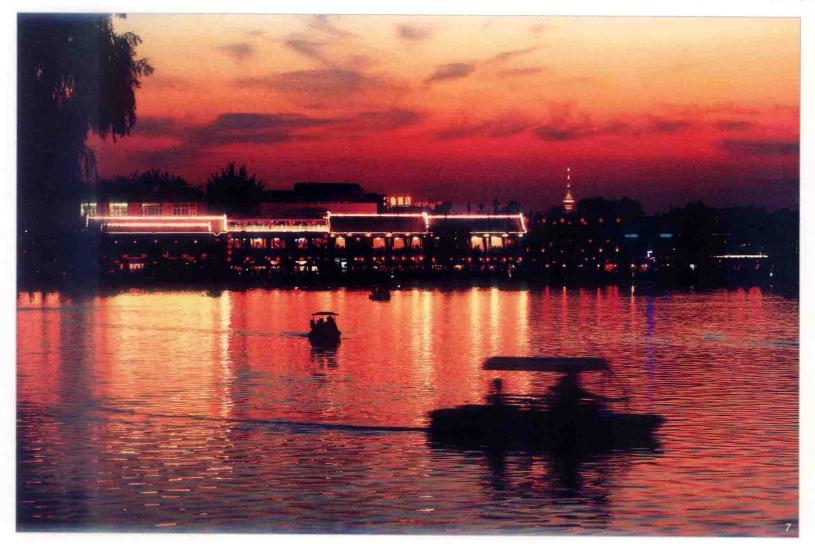
04 什剎海之冬 The Winter of Shichahai





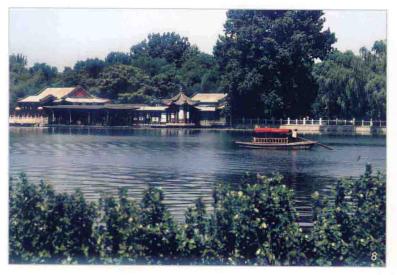
05 后海乌瞰 An Bird's Eye View of Houhai

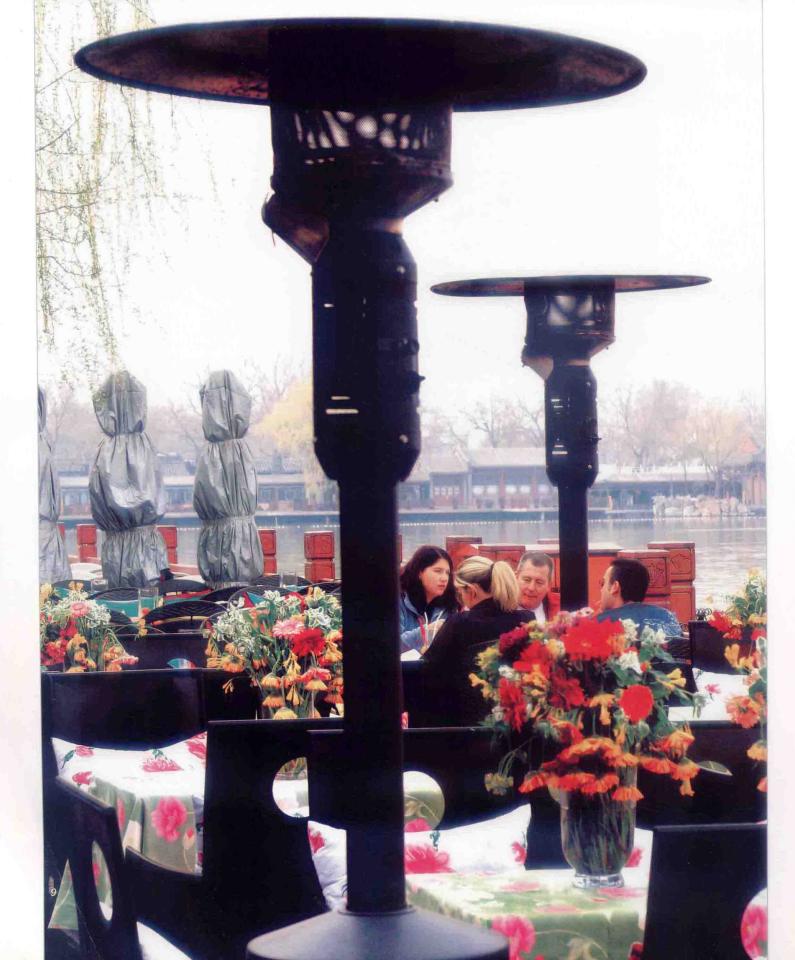
06 后海水暖时 Water Warming Up in Houhai



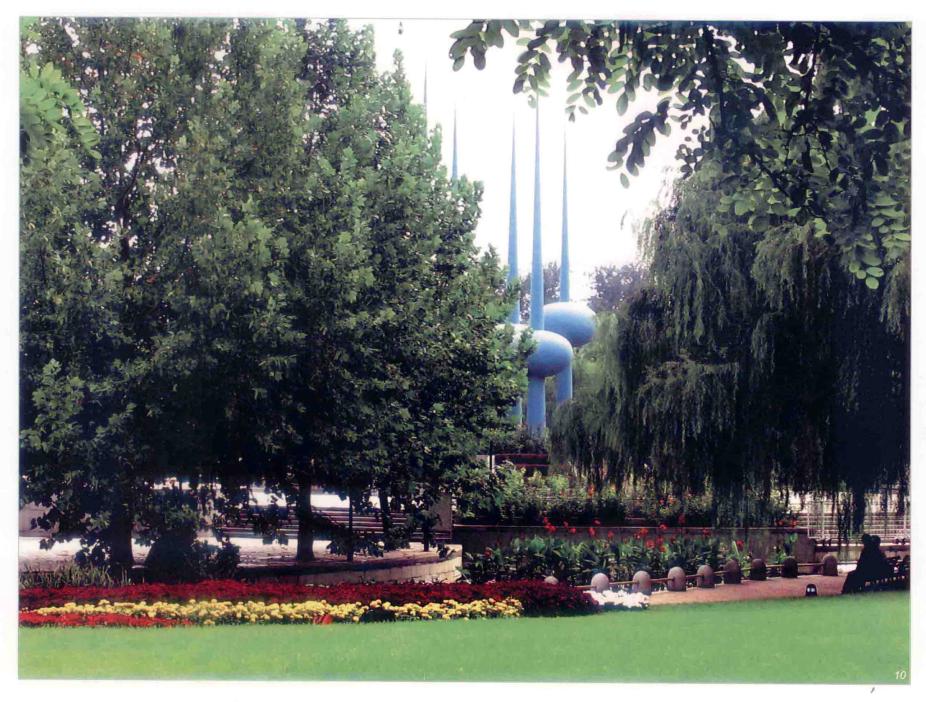
07 什剎海夜景 Evening View of Shichahai

08 前海风光 The Scenic View of Qianhai





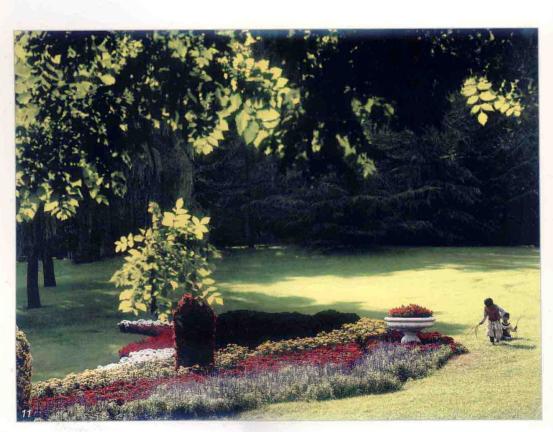
09 初春荷花市场 The Lotus Flower Market in the Early Spring



10 人定湖公园 Rendinghu Park

11 阳光草地(摄于人定湖公园) The Sunshine Meadow (photo taken in Rendinghu Park)

12 人定湖公园 Rendinghu Park









13 绿荫深处花正红(摄于人定湖公园) Red Flowers in Prime in the Deep of the Greeneries (photo taken in the Rendinghu Park)



14 万紫千红总是春(摄于人定湖公园) Spring in a Variety of Colors (photo taken in the Rendinghu Park)