

JOURNEYS OF PEACE AND BEAUTY

*Art of Falun Dafa (Falun Gong)
Practitioners*



Preface

This booklet introduces the paintings and sculptures of three acclaimed Chinese artists: Canadians Zhang Kunlun and Li Jinyu, and Australian Zhang Cuiying.

Like other artists, they are introspective thinkers for whom art serves as an expression of their inner world. Zhang Kunlun's sculptures depict his curiosity and understanding about life and the universe. His art motto is, "Only by creating with a pure heart can the work radiate a sacred light." Li Jinyu describes painting as "a quest and a retrospection of the process of life;" every step is a process of self-discovery. Zhang Cuiying's paintings reflect her belief in honesty, kindness, and patience, and her emphasis on the inner beauty of all things. Her teachers taught that patience and peace are the true treasures of art.

For Zhang Cuiying, severe arthritis at age 34 led her to the exercises of Falun Gong, which promptly cured her illness. All three artists share in common the benefits to their body, mind and spirit obtained through Falun Gong, a spiritual practice rooted in ancient Chinese tradition and based on the principle of "Truth-Compassion-Forbearance." They also share in common firsthand experience of China's persecution against Falun Gong.

Since the brutal crackdown began in July 1999, the lives of these artists have been filled with extraordinary hardships and tribulations. Li Jinyu holds firm in her belief while appealing for the release of her husband, Lin Shenli, a Chinese citizen who was sentenced to 18 months in a labour camp for practising Falun Gong. Zhang Kunlun's and Zhang Cuiying's deep understanding of the principles of Falun Gong gave them the courage to maintain steadfastness in their belief, even in the midst of intimidation and torture.

We hope you will enjoy the art works contained in this booklet. Through the experiences of the artists, we also hope to raise compassionate awareness of the persecution of Falun Gong and gain your support to help end the suffering of the practitioners in China.

May the inner tranquility, beauty and wisdom in the hearts of all kindhearted human beings shine more and more brightly.

ZHANG KUNLUN



"A sly tongue is detestable to all and perplexes the superficial. Only the profound philosophy and expression of emotional understanding that stem from one's fundamental purity and from the righteous thoughts and truthful speech of one's innermost self can connect with the deepest part of the soul of the audience and stimulate their righteous and noble thoughts and emotions."

"As an artist, the creation of art should be synchronized with the cultivation of heart and moral nature. Only the works created with a pure heart can radiate a sacred artistic light."

"I practise Falun Gong because, from darkness, I have seen the true principles of the universe and the true meaning of life. I have also found the right path in my career of art."

- Zhang Kunlun

Biography

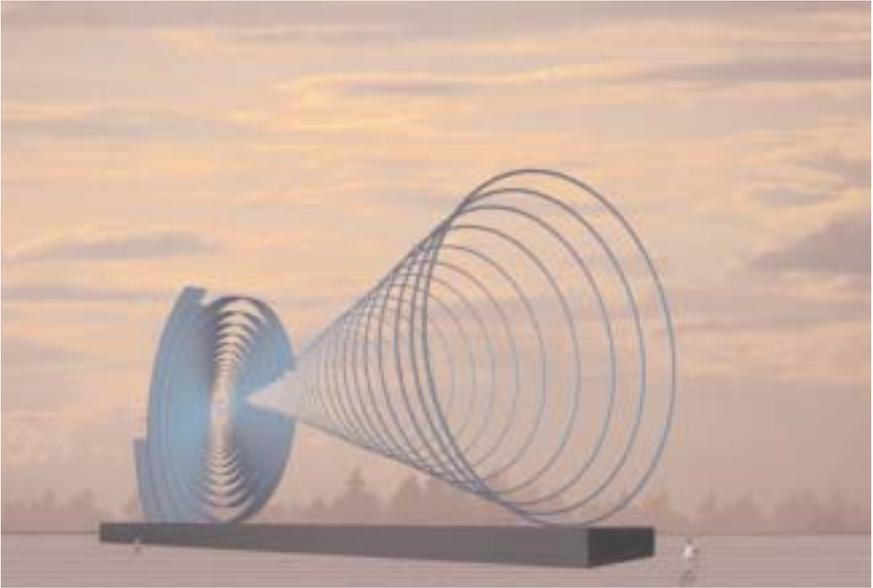
Zhang Kunlun was born in Shandong province, China in January 1941. Between 1981 and 1989, he was Director of the Sculpture Division at Shandong Art University. From 1989 to 1996, he worked in Montreal, Canada as a Visiting Professor at McGill University and then as a practising artist. In 1995 he became a Canadian citizen. He returned to China in 1996 and worked as the Director at the Sculpture Research Institute of Shandong Art University.

Professor Zhang has received numerous awards for his sculptures and participated in many art exhibitions in China and abroad. Some of the certificates he has received include the certificate of World Famous Chinese Artist and certificate of World VIP. His name and achievements has been listed in more than ten respected publications, including *Who's Who in the World*, *The Dictionary of Outstanding Chinese in the World*, *The Collected Works of Sculptures in the World*, and *Repertoire des sculptures du Québec*.

MILK



MONUMENT OF
TANG SAIER
Bronze 31.5m



TRAVERSING THE UNIVERSE (Design)

Detained, Tortured, Arrested Three Times

Canadian citizen Zhang Kunlun was arrested three times in China for practising Falun Gong. He was first detained on July 1, 2000 and held for one month in a detention center in Shandong province. He was beaten and severely tortured with high voltage electric shocks. On October 27 he and other practitioners were arrested and forced to attend "transformation classes." They were fined 10,000 Chinese Yuan each to pay for the cost of the "classes". To protest the illegal detention, they staged a group hunger strike. He was admitted to hospital, then allowed to return home on November 5 while he recovered his health. On November 15, he was sent to a labour camp for three years, without charge or trial, for refusing to renounce his belief in Falun Gong. On January 2, 2001, he was transferred to the brutal Wangcun labour camp which human rights groups cite as a "hell on Earth" where prisoners are routinely tortured and occasionally killed. He endured severe brainwashing and mental torture there until he was released by the Chinese government on January 10, 2001 due to international pressure. Through the help of the Canadian government and kind-hearted Canadian people, he returned to Canada on January 15, 2001.

ZHANG CUIYING



"To me, art is an expression of the artist's inner world. My inner world has completely changed since learning Falun Gong. It has taught me, in everything we do, three of its highest principles: Truth, Compassion and Forbearance. I realize that there is benevolence and positivism in everything around us, also including us. To me, an artist's job is to present just that."

"Mr. Li Hongzhi, the founder of Falun Gong, said, 'The fundamental reason for one's being unable to achieve tranquility is not an issue of techniques, but that your mind and heart are not clean.' As an artist, to paint well and to observe well, I need to have strong inner peace. To do that, Falun Gong has taught me to look within."

- Zhang Cuiying

Biography

Zhang Cuiying, pseudonym Zhang Caixing, was born on May 13, 1962 in Shanghai, China. Her love for drawing and painting began at a young age. Her natural talent has been nurtured and guided by well-known artists Shen Zichen, Qian Juntao, Xie Weiliu and Liu Haisu. In China, she was a member of the Ocean Ink Painting Society within the Shanghai branch of the China Artists Association.

Cuiying has participated in many art exhibitions, received numerous awards, and held solo painting exhibits in Shanghai and Jiangsu (China), Fugang (Japan) and Sydney (Australia.) She was awarded second prize in the National Poetry-Based Painting Competition organized by the *Calligraphy and Paintings* magazine. Her works have been published in newspapers and magazines both within China and overseas. They are also contained in the volume: *Collection of Works by Talented Middle-Age and Youth Painters and Calligraphers in Shanghai.*

MOUNTAIN-BRIDGE-HUT
Chinese painting



SLEEPING BEAUTY
Chinese painting





DEEP AUTUMN, Chinese painting

Detained, Tortured for 8 Months

Australian citizens Zhang Cuiying and her husband made several trips to China to appeal for Falun Gong. On February 4, 1999, the couple was arrested while having dinner at a Beijing restaurant. Her husband was deported to Australia after seven days in detention. Zhang Cuiying was detained for eight months in jail. During her detention, she protested by staging a hunger strike which lasted over 50 days. She was forced to sleep on the cement floor, beaten repeatedly and shackled. She was indecently searched to take away letters from her husband. Other prisoners were encouraged to beat her. They were told by the police that whoever could prevent her from practising Falun Gong exercises would have their sentence reduced. She was sometimes locked in a cell among the male prison cells. For writing appeals for Falun Gong, she was stripped of her clothes in front of a closed-circuit television camera. She was also forced to labour seven days a week for over ten hours each day. Cuiying was sent to court and sentenced to eight months in jail only after nearly five months in detention. She was released and returned to Australia on November 4, 2000.

LI JINYU

"All my life I toiled, queried and suffered, through my brush pen, through the darkness, searching for meaning and truth that would transcend all egos and manifestations of this world.

Only now am I awaking.

Limited by our flesh eyes, living in a world of superficial images and shallow views, crawling within the boundary of stubborn theories and notions, how can humankind discover the truth of our existence?



Li Jinyu and her husband Lin Shenli

How fortunate I am to have discovered the path of Falun Dafa. The truth of the cosmos gradually and marvelously appears before my eyes. I see the glorious true world, and everything is clear and clean. Like the morning sun, my life manifests and unfolds itself with splendour and glory."

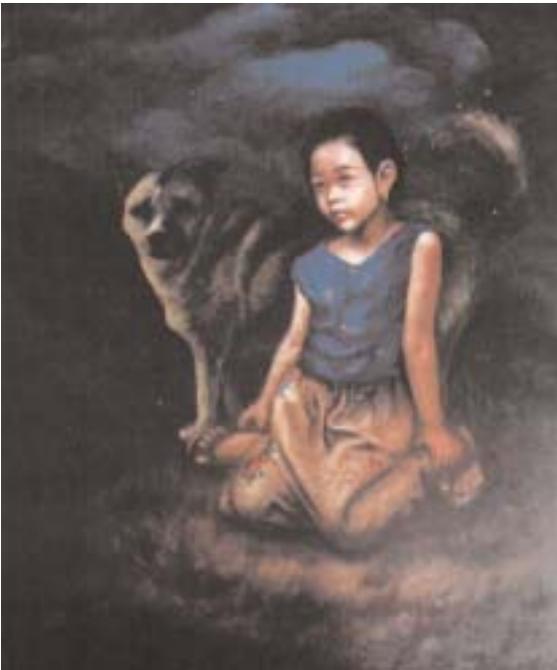
- Li Jinyu

Biography

Li Jinyu was born on March 23, 1958 in Shanghai, China. After graduating from the Shanghai School of Art and Painting in 1982, she held her first exhibition, entitled *Land of Aspiration*, in Shanghai. She worked many years as a professional artist and designer. In 1989, she came to Canada to continue her studies and art exploration. In 1995, Jinyu returned to China and traveled for four months in the most remote regions of China, including Tibet, to experience the real ways of life and hardships in these areas. After her trip, she spent three months painting a suite of paintings to record her thoughts and feelings during her travels. This suite of paintings culminated in a solo exhibition, entitled *Trip to China*, in Zhuhai, Guangdong province. From 1996 to 1997, Jinyu studied Art History at Concordia University in Montreal, Canada.



CHINESE LADIES
Oil on canvas 105X90cm



MOONLESS
NIGHT
Oil on canvas
105X90cm



IMPRINTS OF
LIFE
Oil on canvas
105X90cm

Detained, Husband still in Jail

Canadian citizen Li Jinyu returned to China in October 1999. She was worried about her husband, Lin Shenli, a Chinese citizen and Falun Gong practitioner, for whom she was arranging for immigration to Canada. Shortly after China's ban on Falun Gong in July 1999, Lin Shenli lodged an appeal with the Shanghai municipal authorities. From then on, he was taken almost daily to a police station where he was interrogated to force him to denounce Falun Gong. His phone was tapped and his home put under 24-hour surveillance. On December 21, the couple traveled to Beijing to appeal for Falun Gong. They were detained, interrogated separately for two days and then escorted back to Shanghai. Li Jinyu was given 48 hours to leave for Canada. On December 25, Li Jinyu was allowed to see her husband for five minutes before he was taken to a detention centre for one month. Lin Shenli was reportedly at liberty for only a few days before being re-detained on or about January 23, 2000 and sent to Dafeng labour camp in Jiangsu province. No member of his family has been allowed to visit him and no information has been received about his treatment in the labour camp.



Life is like a game of chess. Are the people playing the game, or is the game playing the people?

CHESS

By Zhang Kunlun

This collection of art works, together with the artists' experiences, present to you not only the creative achievements of the artists, but also their journeys of inner peace and beauty, even in the face of persecution and terror. A fair-minded person might find it difficult to link the tranquil, beautiful works of art with the tortures that have been inflicted on the artists. It is appalling that in this 21st century, such atrocities against humanity continue to exist. Today, there are tens of thousands of Falun Gong practitioners still imprisoned and being tortured and abused in China, voiceless and suffering, simply for following their belief in a higher principle, the principle of "Truth-Compassion-Forbearance."

YOUR HELP WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

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