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● Chapter 12 Culture and the Arts

The 2010 Year of Taiwan Design kicked into gear with the Taiwan Design Expo at the Songshan Tobacco Plant Cultural Park. The formation of a cultural creative base, cultivation of a rich cultural environment, and dynamic cultural and artistic happenings all around town concentrate uncontainable cultural energy, making Taipei the cultural focal point of the greater Chinese community.



Culture and the Arts

The 2010 Taipei International Flora Expo is the spark that set a cornucopia of arts and culture groups alight, with over 6000 exhibitions and performances, 40 million visitors, and 11 dedicated creative enclaves to display their talent and imagination. The people of Taipei can be proud of the city's cultural and humanistic depth and its standing as a cultural showcase.

Part 1 Emerging Cultural Creative Base

1. Songshan Tobacco Plant

Positioned as the flagship base for the cultural creative industries in Taipei, the Songshan Tobacco Plant occupies 7.8 hectares. From December 11 through 19, the Taipei City Government and the Ministry of Economic Affairs presented the 2010 Taiwan Design Expo following the recent completion of select renovations to the property's historical structures, permitting public viewing for the first time. The Taiwan Design Center, a national-level creative center, is also making the storied site its home base for planning the 2011 IDA Congress Taipei.

The 1.2-hectare non-historical area, developed via a BOT arrangement with the Taipei New Horizons Co., Ltd, features the design work of internationally-celebrated architectural master, Toyo Ito. Features include the Cultural Creative Office, theme guesthouse, Cultural Creative Market, Art Film Cinema, and audio-visual theater, serving as a cultural creative industries resource base and cultural recreational area for Taipei residents and visitors. A ground-breaking ceremony on November 12, 2010, marked the beginning of construction, with completion scheduled for 2013. With revenue projected at NT\$2.8 billion over the next five decades of operation, proceeds will contribute toward preservation of the historical Songshan Tobacco Plant and other Taipei city cultural facilities.

Under the cooperative planning efforts of the Taiwan Design Center and Taipei New Horizons Co., Ltd together with the Taipei City Government, the richly historic Songshan Tobacco Plant will be the site of world-class green architecture and historical landmark that will attract and coalesce the cultural and creative industries and become a prominent Taipei icon.



The 2010 Taiwan Design Expo.



Songshan Tobacco Plant Culture Garden groundbreaking.

2. Taipei Pop Music Center

The Taipei City Government was commissioned by the Council for Cultural Affairs to administer the Taipei Pop Music Center project, to be conducted through 2014. The winning entries were announced on January 29, 2010, with RUR Architecture, Architects of New York and Fei & Cheng Associates of Taiwan sharing top honors.

The winning proposal is an amalgamation of park, theater, and public space, with emphasis on a “Hall of Fame” showcasing the evolution of popular music in Taiwan and the finest aspects of popular culture. The 4,500 to 6,000-capacity professional main auditorium will accommodate a broad spectrum of performances across genres. The facility’s most striking feature is the “machine theater” with a retractable outdoor stage and a distinctive appearance. Conceived out of a folding umbrella design, the main architectural structure can be folded into various shapes like an umbrella skeleton, the outer shell transforming freely with the inner structure’s movements. Its placement on rails enables flexible modulation to accommodate between 1,000 and 6,000 people.

To ensure other features go into place with the facilities, the Department of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government is overseeing the Taipei Pop Music Digital Archive Registry Index Project, including approximately 90,000 songs from the National Central Library and collecting data on over 7,000 songs from the private sector, while simultaneously completing oral audio-visual histories with 18 veterans from the music field. The Original Orchestra Support Program establishes an environment conducive to developing talent. The DoCA produced a related Taipei Original Music Guide Map. Between August 13 and November 20, 40 original music group street performances at various venues, including Huashan1914. Creative Park, Taipei Cinema Park, and The Red House, drew an attendance of 2,712. Battles of the Bands among original musical groups helped promote original music in Taipei.

3. The New Kishu An

Kishu An, a Japanese-style building at the foot of TongAn Street in southern Taipei, was once the home base for such notable authors as Lin Hai-yin, Yu Kuang-chung, and Wang Wen-hsing, as well as major literary publications, magazines, and publishing houses. The Taipei City Government has designated the site as a historical landmark and positioned it as the Taipei Literature Forest. Prior to the landmark’s restoration, the Department

of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government constructed a new three-story building on the north side of the site as Taipei’s center for literature promotion. The inaugural event at the New Kishu An, “Listening to the Sea Across the Forest – Lin Hai-yin Literature Exhibition,” was held on April 28, 2010, in celebration of this highly respected literary pioneer. The event was attended by over 120 members of the literary community, including such luminaries as Lin Liang, Ya Xuan, Yin Di, Lin Wen-yue, and Zhang Xiao-feng. The exhibition



Taipei Pop Music Center schematic layout.



Opening of the Lin Hai-yin Literature Exhibition, the inaugural event at the New Kishu An.

featured displays of rare memorabilia as well as five lectures, eleven documentary showings on authors and poets, two showings of the 1983 movie adaptation of Old Stories of South Town, and five guided literary tours of the area. Attendance exceeded 4000 visits as of November 28, and a high school teacher from Hsinchu led students on two field trips.

4. Taipei Performing Arts Center

Following the announcement of the winning teams in the Taipei Performing Arts Center construction project on August 18, 2009, the project entered the formal planning and design phase. Once the initial design had been conceived in September, the design team began working on detailed plans, along with reviews of urban design and technical regulations. Upon completion of applications for related building permits in 2011, the project will proceed with solicitation for contracting bids and construction will commence, with completion projected for 2014. At present the site is occupied by temporary vendor stalls for the Shilin Market. Once the Shilin Market is completed during 2011, the site will be cleared for the construction of the Taipei Performing Arts Center.

In recognition of the prominence of the major Taipei Performing Arts Center, Taipei Pop Music Center, and Taipei City Museum projects for Taipei, in order to effectively pool resources and maximize administrative efficiency, on July 12 Taipei Mayor Hau Lung-bin appointed Chief Secretary Wang Yi-chun of the Department of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government to serve as executive director of the Taipei Arts and Culture Facilities Preparatory Office. As of the end of December 2010, the Working Group under Chief Secretary Wang had convened 14 times to monitor and control the progress of the development of the facilities.

5. Ximending-Cultural Creative Base and Platform for the Arts

Under the efforts of the Council for Cultural Affairs, the Cruciform Building Creative Boutique was established at The Red House, the cultural creative epicenter of Taipei's West Side. Opened on September 4, 2010, it houses five independent brands as a cultural creative platform for both display and sales. In addition, it acts as an incubator for new-generation boutique brands to become established.

Work on the Transformer Urban Showcase was completed on January 30, 2010 at the Taipei Cinema Park. A platform for showcasing the works of artists and local residents, it received a gold medal in the Public Spaces category of the 2010 Urban Spaces Transformation Project-Urban Update Competition. Events held at this venue in 2010 included "Aura of Flowing Ink-Interaction & Dialogue between the Techno e-Generation and Ancient Painters & Poets," "Temporary Home-Migrant Workers Photography Exhibit," "the Taipei Film Festival," and "Breast Cancer Prevention Photography Exhibit".

Part 2 Forging a Robust Cultural Environment

1. Art Reverberations Space Network – New Beitou Art Space 71

The vacant Yifang Elementary School at No. 71 Kaiming Road in Beitou is the largest component of the Art Reverberations Space Network. The Occupancy Review Committee resolved in 2008 that the Department of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government would undertake restoration efforts first, commissioning a management authority to handle management and maintenance. Positioned as the Dance Rehearsal and Training Center, it complements the neighboring Fuxing High School Experimental Dance Troupe and the Taipei National University of the Arts School of Dance. Following completion of restorations to the entire site in August 2010, it now features five 110 square-meter small rehearsal rooms, four 150-180 square-meter mid-sized rehearsal studios, and three 275 square-meter large rehearsal studios. Ten dance groups, including the Taipei Dance Circle, Ku & Dancers, Body Expression Dance

Theatre, and 8213 Physical Dance Theatre, were granted residency in the facility. The Taiwan Association of Theatre Technology was enlisted to serve resident groups and oversee management of short-term rehearsal space rental. Following extensive discussion, the resident groups decided on the name New Beitou Art Space 71.

2. Decade of Arts Subsidies Paying Off

As part of its efforts to guide, assist and foster a performance environment beneficial to arts and culture professionals, and to provide incentives to arts and culture enterprises to help raise the level of arts and culture in Taiwan, the Department of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government began offering arts subsidies in the year 2000 to maximize limited resources under fair and impartial mechanisms. Over the first decade of the program 5,657 subsidies worth over NT\$600 million were allocated, yielding outstanding results. With these achievements in mind, as the program marked its tenth anniversary the Department of Cultural Affairs prepared the Arts Subsidies 10-year Outcome Annual Report Registry. Statistical analysis on subsidies across various categories included in the report indicates the positive impact government subsidy policy has had on Taipei's arts and culture environment.



Group rehearsals.

3. Creative Communities Surveys, Singel Serrice Window

In order to better understand the development and market niches of Taipei's assorted creative communities, the Department of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government undertook a 2009 Survey of Creative Communities in Taipei, completed in 2010. According to the survey, the cultural and creative industries generated revenue of NT\$306.105 billion in 2009, down slightly from NT\$343.147 billion the previous year. However, the decline in business sponsorship eased somewhat, at 0.9% versus 1.37% in 2008. The top six cultural creative industries cities and administrative districts nationwide, ranked by revenue in 2009, were Taipei City, Taipei County, Taichung City, Taoyuan County, Kaohsiung City, and Hsinchu City. The top-ranking administrative district in Taipei by revenue was Songshan District at NT\$69.872 billion, followed in order by the Neihu, Zhongshan, Da An, Zhongzheng, and Xinyi districts.

In addition, the Department of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government published the 2010 Taipei City Cultural Creative Industries Policy Resource Guidebook in December 2010, providing an overview of the friendly one-stop shopping services furnished to creative industry workers by the dedicated support windows of the Taipei Cultural Industries Commission and the Taipei Film Commission. It also outlined such aspects of creative industries policy resources as talent cultivation, business start-ups, financing, innovative development cultivation, brand channel promotion, and tax incentives to enable easy grasp of government-provided resources. In addition to publication on the Department of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government' Website, the latest policy resource information will be made available on the Internet.

4. Cultural Venue Projects Office Established

In line with incorporation of the cultural assets application and exhibition and performance facility industry into the Law for the Development of the Cultural and Creative Industries, on November 2, 2010, the Department of Cultural Affairs established the Taipei Department of Cultural Affairs, Office of Commissioned Management of Cultural Venues Administrative Support Project Office. The office will

operate under a mandate to further the integration of local cultural bases and local resident resources to enhance overall cultural quality and bring out diverse regional (and community) color as the foundation for sustainable cultural development.

5. Recognition for Masters and Luminaries of Arts and Culture

The 14th annual Taipei Culture Awards, established to recognize the “promotion of incorporating cultural aesthetics into daily life, raising citizens’ quality of life, and outstanding contributions to shaping Taipei’s image,” were announced on November 3, 2010. Professors Xin Yi-yun and Anna Fujita took top honors and received their awards at a ceremony held in the Guangfu Room at Taipei Zhongshan Hall on December 11.

On the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the death of the great Chinese historian and philosopher, Ch’ien Mu, in 2010 the Department of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government, Soochow University, and the Su-Shu-Lou Cultural & Educational Foundation held a commemorative appreciation on August 30 in conjunction with a memorial art exhibition, and academic conference on Ch’ien Mu’s research and the contemporary humanities.

The Taipei City Government held the Taipei City Master of Traditional Arts Awards at The Red House in Ximending on April 10, 2010, at which honors were bestowed upon seven individuals and one group, including Chen Xi-huang, Chen Sheng, Xu Wang, Hsiao Hsi Yuan Puppet Theater, Zhong Ren-bi, Wu Zhao-nan, Liao De-liang, and Hong Lai-wang. The awards were accompanied by an exhibition of the masters’ works and six Meet the Masters sessions for the public.

Individuals officially registered as Taipei traditional arts preservationists in 2010 included Gong Le-xuan, Chen Jin-lai, Lin Jin-lian, Xie Jin-jian, and Liu Jia-zheng. In order to further the public’s appreciation of hand-puppet theater, the Puppetry Art Center of Taipei had a new theater made by artisans in Quanzhou, China according to traditional methods. The project was completed under the watchful eye of traditional arts Master Chen Xi-huang, who oversaw the proper use of materials, designs, and production. A ceremony was held in Taipei for its inaugural performance on July 16, 2010.



Mayor’s residence operators share their experiences.



Mr. Ch’ien Mu’s Learning Room is preserved in its original state.



Mr. Lin Jin-lian, preserver of the traditional spirit-warding Zhong Kui Dance.

6. 14th Taipei Literature Festival

Under the banner of “Taipei Literature, Leading the Chinese Language Community,” the 14th Taipei Literature Festival solicited entries from Chinese communities around the world. A total of 2,303 entries were received in 2010, an increase of 13% over the previous year. In addition to Taiwan, Mainland China, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore, and the United States, submissions were also received from Macao, the Philippines, Canada, the United Kingdom, Sweden, and Germany to cover Europe, North America, and other countries and regions of Asia. A total of 46 winners were honored, signifying the Taipei Literature Festival’s ascension to prominence among Chinese people around the world as a major international literary event.

7. Taipei’s Diverse Public Arts Spaces

Taipei is graced by more than 400 works of public art, infused in assorted public spaces while exhibiting a rich diversity of creative forms. In the effort to maintain these works of public art the Department of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government undertook the 2010 Survey of the State of Public Art and Maintenance Demonstration Plan. The program was launched to make a full assessment of public art works, collect information on the cleaning, restoration, relocation, or removal of public art works, and to select five works made from different materials to demonstrate professional cleaning, maintenance, and restoration. From October 6 through November 5, experts were engaged to draw up five different routes for viewing the over 400 works of public art according to theme, resulting in 25 public art tours, for people to enjoy the pleasures of strolling among Taipei’s public arts spaces.

To enrich the diversity of public art forms, the Department of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government has worked with private interests on related programs, including the 2010 Guandu International Outdoor Sculpture Festival, the Eastern Taipei Contemporary Art Exhibition, A Good Time Art Festival, the 2010 “Public Art, Mass Transit and City Image” Public Art Symposium, Wow! Giant Dinosaurs - Paper Windmill Dinosaur Art Expo, and the Art with Mountain – Land Art Installation Exhibition.



PA Tour introduces Israeli artist Yaacov Agam’s Heart of the Fountainhead, a work of public art in Taipei’s Gong Guan district.



Children delight at works of public art.



A slide designed into Giant Dinosaurs - Paper Windmill Dinosaur Art Expo adds an extra dimension of fun.

Part 3 International Exchange and Confluence

1. Paul Gauguin-Elsewhere Special Exhibition

The first autonomously produced major exhibition in Taiwan of post-Impressionist master Paul Gauguin, Paul Gauguin-Elsewhere, was held at the Taipei Fine Arts Museum from November 27, 2010 through February 20, 2011. Works were loaned to the exhibition from 19 museums as well as foundations and private collections in nine countries across Europe, America and Japan. Following a Herculean effort, a total of 86 works were included in the exhibition.

Spanning several periods of Gauguin's career, 58 works in various categories including oil painting, print making, bronze sculptures, wood carving, ceramics, and works on paper were collected along with 28 works by 16 diverse artists of the Pont Aven School and the Nabis inspired and influenced by Gauguin, including Paul Sérusier, Émile Bernard, Édouard Vuillard, and Maurice Denis. This in-depth look into the evolution of his posthumous followers reveals how Gauguin liberated artists from natural realism and provides a fuller perspective on his contribution to twentieth-century modern art.

2. Manet to Picasso- Masterpieces from the Philadelphia Museum of Art

The Philadelphia Museum of Art is renowned for its collection of nearly 225,000 works of art, most notably a rich body of Impressionist and post-Impressionist works by Picasso, Matisse and



Opening of the Manet to Picasso-Masterpieces from the Philadelphia Museum of Art exhibition.

others. The Taipei Fine Arts Museum scored a major breakthrough with this exhibition held from June 26 to September 26, 2010, marking the first cooperative event of its kind with an American museum of such stature.

The exhibition arranges the masterworks of the museum collection along the timeline of art history, displaying 58 oil paintings and sculptures by 33 artists including Édouard Manet, Edgar Degas, Claude Monet, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Camille Pissarro, Alfred Sisley, Paul Cézanne, Vincent Van Gogh, Paul Gauguin, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Auguste Rodin, Henri Matisse, Georges Henri Rouault, Maurice Utrillo, Pablo Picasso, Georges Braque, Fernand Leger, Robert Delaunay, Marc Chagall, Amedeo Modigliani, Joan Miró, Marcel Duchamp, and Georgia O'Keefe. Attendance reached 210,230 during the exhibition's three-month run.

3. Ultimate Photographer – David LaChapelle Asia Tour

The Museum of Contemporary Art Taipei held the Ultimate Photographer – David LaChapelle Asia Tour from April 9 to May 30, 2010. American photographer LaChapelle, active in fashion, modern art, music video direction, documentary films, and performance space design, has been called “the Fellini of photography.” Named Best New Photographer by both French Photo and American Photo magazines in 1995, he was recognized as one of the 25 Most Influential Living Photographers by PDN.

A frequent exhibitor and lecturer at museums around the world, LaChapelle invariably receives a strong response. In 2010 he selected the Museum of Contemporary Art Taipei as the first stop on his Asian touring exhibition, showing over 250 works. The exhibition attracted 82,188 visitors, establishing a new attendance record for the museum.

4. 5th Digital Art Festival Taipei

The fifth Digital Art Festival Taipei was held simultaneously across the multiple venues of the Bopiliao Historical District, the Taipei Digital Art Center, The Red House of Ximending, and the Goethe-Institut Taipei for 10 days from November 26, 2010. The largest edition yet, it drew over 120 digital art works from 150 artists from Taiwan and around the world. In addition to the premiere of the Record Again! -40jahrevideokunst.de-Teil2, the renowned 404 Festival brought 17 new digital works to Taipei on the first stop of its Asian tour.

In the realm of digital exhibitions, the International Digital Art Exhibition exhibited the works of newly-minted Prix Ars Electronica “Golden Nicas” winner Ryoichi Kuokawa, Cyrille Brissot, Cyril Hernandez, Jean-François Laporte, and Guillaume Paris under the title Absolute Sense of Illusion.

The grand-prize winner of the first Digital Art Performance Award presented a totally fresh performance combining dance with interactive musical instruments. Winners of the K.T. Creativity Award included five works of interactive technology, six digital games, and seven computer animations; AnimA 2010 solicited nearly 40 works from Europe, America, Australia, Japan and Taiwan; the International Artist in Residence Exhibition featured new works from four annual exchange artists in residence from Taiwan, Germany, and France. A total of 123,673 visitors attended, quadruple the number drawn by the previous year's show.

5. 2010 Taipei International Jazz Festival

The Department of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government and the Taipei International Jazz Education



K.T. Creativity Award interactive work, *Crazy About Color*.

& Promotion Association teamed up to co-present the 2010 Taipei International Jazz Season. Held from July 2 to 10, 2010, the two-week program kicked off with Jazz Promenade, and featured a stream of new international jazz talent from the U.K., Switzerland, Japan, and Taiwan. Performances at the Taipei Water Park drew an average of around 800 listeners. The International Jazz Masters Rendezvous Stages presented 11 notable jazz musicians from the USA, France, Belgium, Italy, Germany, Canada, South Africa, the Netherlands and Taiwan for power-packed performances on the weekend of July 23-24 under the stars at Taipei's 228 Memorial Peace Park, enthraling audiences.

6. Cross-strait Art Exchange

The Department of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government and People's Service Association across the Taiwan Strait jointly presented the "Moment of the Landscape – Oil Paintings by Contemporary Chinese Masters" at the Taipei Fine Arts Museum from April 10 to May 9, 2010. Featuring 56 works and augmented by 10 works produced during the exhibition, it was attended by 51,216 visitors.

The DoCA also co-organized the "210 Cross-strait Traditional Opera Cooperative Performance Project-Passion of the Butterfly" with the Tang Mei Yun Taiwanese Opera Company. From July 29 through August 1, Tang Mei Yun members joined opera performers from Xiamen to present five joint productions at the National Theater in Taipei, drawing attendance of 4,770.

The "2010 First Cross-strait Documentary Directors Exchange Film Festival" was held from October 31 to November 13 at the Huashan1914. Creative Park and Astoria Café in Taipei. Situ Zhaodun, known as the father of mainland Chinese documentary filmmaking, shared a host of creative ideas with cross-strait directors and audience members during his first visit to Taiwan. The meeting of film professionals from Mainland China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan in one place greatly furthered cross-strait documentary film exchange and drew attendance of 4,000 people.

In the effort to demonstrate the soft power of Taipei culture, the Taipei City Government journeyed to Shanghai to present the "2010 Cross-Strait City Arts Festival-Taipei Culture Celebration" from June 3 to 28. Events included "Taipei Journey-Special Exhibition from the Taipei Fine Arts Museum Collection," "Introduction to the 2010 Taipei International Flora Expo Outdoor Exhibition," "Taipei Impressions. Cultural Banquet Taipei Day performances," "Arts Innovation under Globalization" Cultural Forum, "Taipei-Shanghai Twin Cities Cultural Creative Industry Expo," and 12 performances of well-known classic works by seven performance groups, drawing attendance of 230,000.

Part 4 Revitalizing Historical Landmarks as Tourism Hotspots

1. Ming Hwa Yuan Residence at Cultural Zone Tangbu

"A Century of Sugar Warehouse – Arts in the Air" was held on November 20, 2010, as a pre-launch event for the operation of the Taiwan Sugar Company Taipei Warehouse, designated as Taipei's one hundred and sixth historical landmark, in new form as the Cultural Zone Tangbu. Three of the warehouses on the premises of the old sugar mill hosted sugar warehouse opening special exhibitions, presenting an overview of the development of the sugar industry in northern Taiwan and the



A permanent exhibition of Ming Hwa Yuan Art & Cultural Group costumes and props is in the works.

Taipei Sugar Mill, and focusing attention on the historical significance of the facility's preservation.

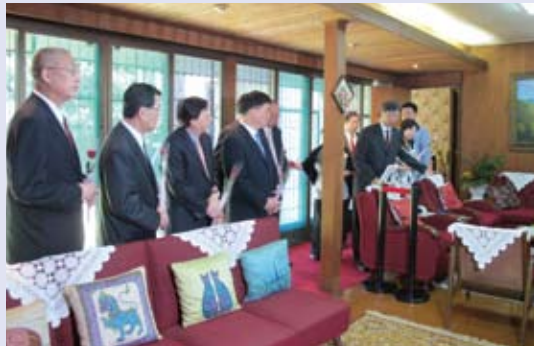
The Taipei City Government also invited the celebrated Ming Hwa Yuan Art & Cultural Group to take up residence at the historical site, arranging a Taiwanese opera cultural demonstration area, traditional opera instruction, Taiwanese opera rehearsal space, and a small performance area. Future plans include a permanent exhibition of opera costumes and related props, and use of the site as the base for cultivating new talents in traditional Taiwanese opera.

The opening ceremony was presided over by President Ma Ying-jeou, Mayor Hau Lung-bin, Commissioner of the Department of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government Hsieh Hsiao-yun, Deputy Mayor Ms. Lee Yong-ping, Taiwan Sugar President Mr. Wei Wei, Ming Hwa Yuan Director Ms. Sun Tsui-feng, and Wanhua District Chief Mr. Wang Hung-yu, and drew attendance of around 2,000. Over 5,000 people visited the venue during its trial operation through December 31.

2. Historical Kwoh-ting Lǐ Residence Opened to the Public

The former residence of Mr. Li Kwoh-ting, designated a Taipei Historical Landmark in 2002, is located at No. 3 Tai An Street, Lane 2. Under the Department of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government' plans for restoring and utilizing the property, the K.T. Li Foundation for the Development of Science and Technology was commissioned in February 2010 to manage and maintain the landmark. Opened to the public on May 31, it gives people an up-close look at the modest way in which Li, widely credited as the architect of Taiwan's economic miracle, lived.

The residence's living room, study and bedroom are presented essentially the way they were at the time of Mr. Li's death, showing his humble lifestyle. The newly built exhibition area next door, conceived by Li's alma mater, National Central University, contains such memorabilia as his notebooks, manuscripts, and photos.



The former residence of K.T. Li has been restored and opened for public viewing.

3. Qidong Street Japanese Housing Restored and Opened

Qidong Street is the last remaining historical road outside Taipei's East Gate. The buildings and gardens of this group of Japanese-style civil servant housing remain in good condition to date, and restoration efforts by Department of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government, Council for Cultural Affairs, and the local community preserve the outline of the street as it was built from the 1920s through '40s. One building has been designated as a Taipei historical landmark and 10 sites as historical buildings.

The restored historical landmark at No. 11 Qidong Street Lane 53 and historical building at No. 12 Jinshan South Road Section 1 Lane 30 were opened to the public on November 21,



Following a complete restoration, the Qidong Street Japanese Housing site is open to the public.

2010 with the Walking Hand in Hand-Exhibition of Veteran Taiwanese Authors' Wedding Photographs. Nearly 50 wedding photographs of Ho Fan and Lin Hai-yin, Luo Lan, Lin Liang, Lee Shi-chi and Ku Yueh, Chung Chao-cheng, Luo Fu, Ya Hsuan, Yeh Ming-hsun and Hua Yan offered members of the public sketches of life during the war years. In addition, the Huashan Community Development Association held the Forever Together-Exhibition of Huashan Community Residents' Family Photographs at the historical building, recounting the stories of neighborhood residents in pictures.

4. Historical Landmark Day Events

The Taipei City Government approved the designation of the Yanxishan Cemetery as an historical landmark in 2010, and historical sites, including Fujing Temple, Bopiliao Historical District, Railway Administration Yuanshan Station housing, the former residence of Pu Tien-sheng, and the Dihua Street shop roofs. All together Taipei leads the nation with 153 designated historical landmarks, 148 historical buildings, and six cultural sites.

Taipei celebrated Historical Landmark Day with a variety of events, mobilizing citizens to form a band of Taipei City Touring Cats and



Taipei Touring Cats Costume Party and certificate presentation.

presenting a rich array of classes on the city's cultural assets beginning from September 7. On September 18 and 19, within a week of World Historical Landmark Day, an historical landmark open house permitted public access to 69 historical landmarks and buildings, including the normally strictly secured Control Yuan, Executive Yuan, Taipei Guesthouse, the restricted Monopoly Bureau, Taiwan Governor General's former residence, Dadaocheng Congregation, Zhongshan Presbyterian Church, and Jinan Church. Certificates were presented to citizens for completing courses at a Taipei Touring Cats Costume Party on September 26.

5. Rehabilitation, Transfer and Expansion of the Mayor's Residence

The mayor's residence, completed in 1940 in a Japanese-Western fusion style, was first opened to the public in 1996. After coming under the auspices of the Department of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government in November 1999 it was re-designated as an arts center, hosting assorted forums on literature, history and philosophy.

The operational contract for the mayor's residence, designated as a platform for the literary arts and lifestyle aesthetics, expired in June 2010. In the effort to raise the quality of service at the residence, the Department of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government embarked upon the Mayor's Residence Expansion Operations Transfer Project in line with the Law for Promotion of Private Participation in Infrastructure Projects, signing a contract with the Bank of the Taipei Cultural Foundation on August 27. According to the terms of the agreement, expansion of the rear courtyard will be completed by the end of 2011, with the addition of a three-story building in the future to function as a venue for international arts exhibitions, cultural creative industry merchandise marketing, and international conferences.

6. Futai Street Mansion "Memories of Old Shanghai in Taipei"

To mark the centenary of the Futai Street Mansion historical landmark, the Department of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government and Futai Street Mansion jointly presented the Memories of Old Shanghai at the Taipei Special Exhibition. Held from April 17 to July 18, 2010, the exhibition presented handmade



Second floor gallery at the “Memories of Old Shanghai in Taipei Special Exhibition.”



President Ma takes the time to visit the exhibition.

qipao Chinese gowns from various periods, the last signboard for Shanghai-style bathrooms displayed in the city market, three movies from old Shanghai, and numerous artifacts and mementoes provided by the many old Shanghai shopkeepers in Taipei. Other featured events included a lecture on Old Shanghai in Old Taipei, Old Songs on 78 RPM Phonographs, Taipei. Shanghai WALK Taipei City Guided Tour, and Old House Cinema-Old Shanghai Movie: Viva My Wife, telling the stories of Old Taipei and Old Shanghai from various avenues.

7. 65th Anniversary of Taiwan Retrocession Special Exhibition at Zhongshan Hall

In celebration of 65 years since Taiwan’s retrocession, the Department of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government joined the Taiwan Provincial Government in presenting the 65th Anniversary of Victory in the War of Resistance and the Taiwan Retrocession Special Commemorative Exhibition. Zhongshan Hall (then known as the Taipei Public Hall), where the Japanese presented their official surrender, was especially chosen to host the event, held in the Retrocession Hall and second-floor corridor between October 22 and November 21. The special exhibition encompassed six themes, including “The Final Juncture Has Arrived, Popular Mobilization in the Resistance Effort, Ascension to World Power Status, the Japanese Resistance Movement in Taiwan, Taiwan Must Be Returned, and the Glorious Moment of Victory, together offering a rich overview of the Republic of China’s modern saga. The venue’s professional-level management, volunteer services, and stage, lighting and sound equipment received high marks.

Part 5 Rich Diversity of Arts Events

1. Arts Events Special Delivery

The Back Alley Culture series organized by the Department of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government entered its tenth year in 2010, bringing together the creative energies of the Taipei Symphony Orchestra, the Taipei Chinese Orchestra, the Taipei Cultural Center, and the Taipei Fine Arts Museum. The Taipei Cultural Center presented folk music, jazz music, dance, Taiwanese opera, aboriginal music, and Hakka drama; the Taipei Chinese Orchestra and the Taipei Symphony Orchestra specially selected programs of

upbeat music to match the cheerful atmosphere of the 2010 Taipei International Flora Expo; the Taipei Fine Arts Museum used digital technology to become a “mobile museum,” taking works from its collection into neighborhoods, schools, hospitals, assisted-living homes, and orphanages. A record 120 performances were featured between February 27 and December 25, drawing an audience of around 50,000.

The 2010 Taipei Culture Passport promotion series included

108 events under 10 themes, including “The Fourth Taiwanese Crepe Cultural Festival in Spring,” “Top Ten Expertise in Taipei,” “Spring, Summer and Autumn Food Festival,” “Taipei Independent Bookstore Festival,” “Spring and Autumn Tea Sets Festival in Ye Tang,” “Taipei Learning Festival,” “Taipei Coffee Cultural Festival,” “Taipei Music Cultural Festival,” “Salute to the Master—Drama and Literature by Huang Chun-ming,” and “Taipei Autumn Cultural Activities, drawing attendance of 11,592.



Poetry Recitation Night, a Taipei Culture Passport event

2. Taipei Lantern Festival Public Art—Leaping Into the Year of the Tiger

In the celebratory spirit of the 2010 Taipei International Flora Expo, the 2010 Taipei Lantern Festival presented public art at Taipei City Hall for 10 days starting on February 26, 2010, punctuated throughout by the year’s Chinese zodiac sign, the Happy Tiger. Combining music, a large light and sound arts spectacle in three parts including Youth Flowers, Taiwanese Flowers, and Universal Flowers, the virtual robot character LuLubo created by contemporary artist Lee Ming-tao based on the works of self-taught Taiwanese artist Hung Tung, and the avant garde cyberpunk paintings of new-generation artist Hsu Tang-wei, the presentation brought together traditional, contemporary, and surreal styles to lend the Taipei Lantern Festival a timeless feeling transcending different eras.



Taipei Lantern Festival Public Art, Flower of the Universe

“Over Here, Happy Tiger” turned the walls of City Hall into the Bopiliao Historical District via the magic of projection, and computer magic put the expressions of auspicious tigers adorning city porches on head and shoulders portraits of citizens, breaking new ground in interaction with the public for Taiwan. Throughout the event, two giant tiger mascots waved to the public and welcomed good fortune from above the City Hall entrance.

3. Taipei Film Festival

The Taipei Film Festival, positioned as an urban film festival, was held from June 25 to July 15, 2010 at multiple venues across town including Zhongshan Hall, Shin Kong Cineplex, Governor Cinema, The Red House, and the Taipei Cinema Park. The featured city for this edition of the festival was Brazil's Rio de Janeiro, drawing a total of over 30 entries and including works from many of the country's top directors to present an in-depth look at the modern and classical, unhindered style, and fantastical aspects of Brazilian cinema.



Taipei Film Festival opening reception

International curators and jury panelists invited to Taiwan during the festival also helped introduce fabulous works of Taiwanese cinema to the Nantes Film Festival, Hong Kong Asian Film Festival, Pusan International Film Festival (Korea), Puchon International Fantastic Film Festival (Korea), Tokyo Film Festival, Tokyo PIA Film Festival, Vancouver International Film Festival, and Tel Aviv Film Festival (Israel). The top Taiwan-produced films of the year were presented to the world through competitions, showings and accompanying events, drawing 48,447 viewers and a total of 985,090 participants.

4. Three Major Arts Festivals of the Year

The 11th Taipei Children's Arts Festival was held from July 8 to August 7, 2010. An adaptation of Buchettino, by the Societas Raffaello Sanzio of Italy, which let audience members listen to bedtime stories while lying in bed, was especially well received. The event featured 62 admission-only performances, four outdoor performances, 83 community arts performances, 430 lectures and workshops, and 132 animation showings, drawing attendance of 260,000.



Listening to stories while lying in bed = FUN!

The lineup of performances at the 12th Taipei Arts Festival featured three international and six domestic events, 47 paid admission performances admission, and numerous lectures and interpretive activities, drawing attendance of nearly 220,000 persons. Of particular note, the Taiwan New Cultural Movement Memorial Hall and All Music Theatre Company teamed up to present five performances of the melodrama "The Impossible Times" from September 10 to 12 at



Shakespeare's Wild Sisters perform Michael Jackson at the Taipei Arts Festival

the National Theater. Featuring over 30 original musical compositions performed by the Taipei Symphony Orchestra, the production wove together a rich, dramatic historical and sensory experience.

The third Taipei Fringe Festival, conceived to give young artists a platform to focus their creativity and energy, enlisted 69 groups for 249 performances from August 28 to September 12, 2010, drawing attendance of 36,937.

5. Diverse Ethnic Groups Display Their Energy

The 6th Chinese Character Festival, in addition to developing seven major motifs inspired by the concept “Chinese character tide, cultural roots,” promoted the petition drive for Chinese characters to be officially credited as World Heritage. The continued running of this event treats traditional (or complex) Chinese characters as an emblem of Taipei’s new culture, and develops the diversity of cultural creative merchandise featuring Chinese characters. Over 120,000 visitors participated in the festival between December 25, 2009 and January 11, 2010.

The 2010 Taiwanese Opera Collective Performances was held at Mengjia Park in Taipei’s Wanhua District from August 13 to 27. Featuring performances by 15 accomplished opera companies, it drew attendance of 24,100.

The 5th Taipei Military Dependent Village Cultural Festival was held from October 29 to 30 at 44 South Village and Youth Park. Performances of Village were presented in the authentic military dependant residential setting with no additional props or artifices, while the “My Military Dependant Village Special Exhibition” at the Youth Park Reading Room presented a collection of old photographs from military dependant villages in the Wanhua District.



The Chinese Character Festival starts off 2010 with a flourish.

The 2010 Taipei Hakka Cultural Festival presented two performances of Great Hakka Drama combining traditional subjects and modern theatrical concepts from September 23 through December 4. “An Evening of Hakka Mountain Songs” expressed the purest emotional Hakka energy; “A Feast of Hakka Music” featured all-new interpretations of traditional Hakka folk songs by the Taipei Chinese Orchestra; Hakka Arts & Culture invited professional performance groups to present their renditions of Hakka songs of different styles and eras, and the “Flowering of New Hakka Arts” design contest encouraged young people to apply their creative ideas and develop a Hakka brand arts industry.



The Taipei Chinese Orchestra presents A Feast of Hakka Music.

Showcasing the richness of aboriginal culture, the Indigenous People Commission sponsored the first Taipei Naruwan Culture Festival from July 31 to August 31, 2010. Featuring indigenous ritual culture, dance, and cultural creative industries, the event showed off Taiwan’s indigenous peoples’ celebrated physical aptitude and the explosive energy of traditional song and dance. “Flower Dance Sea of Mountains – Aboriginal Arts Events,” an ongoing series during the 2010 Taipei International Flora Expo, takes the music and dance of Taiwan’s indigenous peoples to the international stage in over 600 performances.

6. Local Arts and Culture in Focus

The Department of Cultural Affairs, Taipei City Government organized the “Dalongdong Festival of Confucianism, Daoism and Chinese Solar Terms” from September 23 to November 13, 2010, featuring 20 lectures on Confucianism at Taipei Confucius Temple along with guided neighborhood walks, shaping Da Long Dong into an international-level center for learning about Confucian and Daoist culture and drawing attendance of 1,639 persons.

Placing the spotlight on distinctive local color, the 2010 Ximending Backstreet Culture Festival took place at the Taipei Cinema Park on August 20 to 22, 2010, featuring special effects movie makeup, 3D graffiti sets, a street skateboarding contest, DJ music, and street dancing. The 2010 Taipei Street Arts Carnival synergized with the Ximen Cultural Festival on September 25 to 26 to elevate the mood in the Taipei Ximending area into the stratosphere. The festivities moved to the Taipei Water Park in Gongguan on October 9 to 10, giving people on the south side of Taipei two memorable weekend afternoons.

Performing Arts School 36 joined arts groups in the Wenshan District to present one of the community’s major events of the year with the 4th Wenshan Arts Festival. Featuring numerous events between October 2 and November 29, it was



A tour of the Confucius Temple offers insight into traditional architecture.



Performing Arts School 36 in action at the Yongan Arts Center.

enthusiastically embraced by Shih Hsin University, the National Chengchi University Arts Center, and Zhongshun community members.

Conclusion

The engine of Taipei's cultural energy exists among the people. The catalyzing effect of comprehensive government planning and arrangements and the injection of integrated resources results in synergy for limitless possibilities. Taipei's cultural creative industries are now strategically positioned and primed to blossom brilliantly on the international stage.