

F 老外在上

Falling in love with Fujian

波兰姑娘Anna前世是个中国人吗?她自己给出了肯定答案。自从1998年Anna的父亲因为做生意来到泉州,Anna全家开始爱上闽南。她学泡茶,装扮成惠安女,阖家一起探索“刺桐城”的前世今生,在厦门的老街巷和鼓浪屿的风琴博物馆流连忘返,对这片土地深厚的文化底蕴痴迷不已。而今Anna的父亲虽已离世,但Anna的哥哥定居晋江,Anna则在台湾攻读博士学位,潜心研究南音。他们全家与闽南这片土地的故事依然在继续。

Article and photos
by Anna Krysztofiak



My local friends tell me that I must have been Chinese in a previous life, and why not? Sometimes I think it's possible. I can imagine the streets of old Quanzhou and Xiamen filled with delicate Nanyin tunes (songs in Quanzhou's Minnan dialect) wafting out from the courtyards and teahouses. I can sense the fragrance of old wood, the aroma full of stories.

Gentle, distinguished melodies of Nanyin are the living heritage of Zajun (Quanzhou's old name) and Amoy, calling me to come back here, again and always.

>>First encounters

My father first visited Quanzhou in the late 1990s for his shoe business. As his local business flourished, he visited more frequently. In 2005 he moved to Quanzhou, returning to Poland a couple of

times per year.

When my brother and I visited our father in China one summer, the trip changed our lives. My brother discovered his love of the family business, while I became fascinated by Chinese music and culture.

I brought along a book about Jacob d'Ancona who described ancient Quanzhou. My family and I began to explore the city, enjoying the city both for work and for life. My father was fascinated by ships and maritime stories, so coastal Fujian enthralled him.

We loved going to the Hui'an seaside, watching the sea waves roll in endlessly from the far end of the world. The moon glittered on the sea like liquid silver. A fuzzy pink-grey smudge painted the horizon, a mellow aftertaste of sunset. The sea mirrored the colorful sky, earth and heaven in unity. A few Hui'an women were finishing their work on the beach, both fresh and timeless.

We loved exploring Qingyuan mountain. Every Sunday morning my father liked to climb there, passing by the Shaolin Temple.

>>Deepening passions

At the end of the summer, my father and brother kept working in China. I returned to Poland but continued to study Chinese culture: reading books, playing Chinese instruments, learning the language. I even became a PhD student at the East Asia Department of the University of Lodz.

I continued to return to Quanzhou for summer vacations, using the time to ex-

plore the country's culture. I focused on Minnan culture, enthralled by the erhu, by ink paintings, by all the things that make the culture unique.

I wanted to know the real Fujian, to learn Nanyin, to touch the spirit of Minnan culture. I spent my evenings listening to charming girls singing in old teahouses.

I'm currently pursuing my research at the Taipei National University of the Arts on a scholarship to learn Nanyin and complete my doctoral degree. I am utterly thankful to all the wonderful people I met in Quanzhou and Taipei.

>>New beginnings

I wish I could share my journey with my father, who passed away in 2010. He had delayed returning to Poland when he became sick, keeping secret from his Polish doctors his regular trips to traditional Chinese doctors in Jiangxi.

On his deathbed in Poland, he continued to plan his return to Quanzhou. I took him seriously even when others did not,

and I hope that in some way my return is a completion of his dreams.

When I played the organ at my father's funeral, I was comforted by the knowledge that his friends in Quanzhou were conducting a mourning ceremony in the Catholic Church of the Holy Family in Quanzhou at the same time. Separated by continents, we were nonetheless together at that moment, with similar feelings in our hearts.

Wreaths sent by my father's friends bedecked the Polish church, including 11 sent from mainland China and Taiwan. They seemed to surround my father's ashes, drying his tears of farewell.

His passing is not the end of our story in China. My brother works in Quanzhou and I'm completing my doctorate in Taiwan. I will go to Poland soon to introduce Chinese culture to my homeland by playing the region's music, conducting kung fu tea ceremonies, teaching students and organizing events. I will return to Quanzhou and Taipei next year and for many years to come.



Popular Phrase
天下潮词

总理记者会精彩翻译点评

3月17日上午,国务院总理李克强在人民大会堂金色大厅与中外记者见面并回答记者提问。李总理的记者会大白话多,但要用英语翻译出汉语原文的韵味来也不容易,因为李总理特别喜欢“打比方”。

比如说下面这几个句子的现场翻译,有直译也有意译:

——“腐败和我们政府的信誉应该说水火不容”= Corruption is incompatible with the reputation of the government, like fire to water.

——“至于食品安全,那可以说是天大的事”= Food safety is of utmost importance.

——(查处)“假冒伪劣和黑心食品”= Punish the heartless producers of substandard and contaminated food.

——“绿水青山贫穷落后不行,但殷实富裕环境恶化也不行”= It is no good to be poor in a beautiful environment, nor is it good to be well-off and live with environmental degradation.

这么多比喻中,最难翻译的应该是“(改革贵在行动)喊破嗓子不如甩开膀子”。翻译很巧妙地借用了英语 Talking the talk is not as good as walking the walk 的习惯说法,很自然,外国人一下子就能听懂,应该是本次记者招待会上最出彩的翻译之一。



以下为李克强总理精彩语录:

On comprehensive reforms

“再深的水我们也得趟,因为别无选择。”

“However deep the water may be, we will wade into it because we have no alternative.”

On urbanization

“要注意防止城市病,不能一边是高楼林立,一边是棚户连片。”

“We need to prevent urban malaise and avoid a situation in which high-rises coexist with shantytowns.”

On government reforms

“市场能办的,多放给市场。社会可以做好的,就交给社会。政府管住、管好它应该管的事。”

“We need to leave to the market and society what they can do well. The government needs to manage well the matters that fall under its supervision.”

On the environment

“一段时期以来,北京,实际上中国东部比较大范围出现雾霾天气,我和大家一样,心情都很沉重。对这一长期积累形成的问题,我们要下更大的决心,以更大的

作为去进行治理。”

“I am upset [about the smog that recently shrouded Beijing and large parts of the country's eastern areas]. To tackle these problems, we need an iron fist, firm resolution and tough measures.”

On clean governance

“自古有所谓‘为官发财,应当两道’。”

“Pursuing government office and making money have been ‘two separate paths’ since ancient times.”

On cross-Straits ties

“打断骨头连着筋,同胞之间,同族之情,没有打不开的结。”

“Bones may be broken but not the sinews, because we are fellow compatriots. Between us there is no knot that cannot be undone.”

On tackling pollution and food safety problems

“要打造中国经济的升级版,就包括在发展中要让人民呼吸洁净的空气,饮用安全的水,食用放心食品。”

“We will upgrade China's economic development model to enable people to enjoy clean air and safe drinking water and food.”

Source: China Daily

Xiamen Fun
玩转厦门

Helicopter sightseeing tour 直升机游厦门



Adam: Have you heard of a helicopter sightseeing tour that kicked off in Xiamen recently?

你知道厦门现在有直升机旅游项目吗?

Li Mei: I heard the program began around the Chinese New Year Holiday and costs 1,880 yuan per person, but I don't know the details.

听说是从春节开始的,票价要1880元。具体的就不清楚了。

Adam: Apparently the company has earned nearly two million yuan in the past month, taking almost 1,100 passengers for a spin.

听说项目才运营一个多月,营业额已逼近200万元,已经有1100多人去尝鲜了。

Li Mei: Fantastic. What's the route?

太牛了。什么样的路线啊?

Adam: It's a 15-minute round-trip circuit that starts at Xiajian bay in Guanyinshan, flies over the Island Ring Road and the Xiamen International Conference and Exhibition Center, then passes by Xiamen University and Gulangyu.

直升机空中游览项目走的是固定航线,15分钟的航程,从观音山厦金湾直升机场起飞,途经环岛路、国际会展中心、椰风寨、厦大、鼓浪屿等景点,然后沿原路返回。

Li Mei: Pretty amazing. It's a pity the journey is short.

挺有意思的。可惜航程太短了。

Adam: True, but the flight can be tailored to make sure passengers see what interests them and to capture a perfect view of the city from aloft.

确实,但是飞行高度和速度会根据乘客的需要作适当调整,保证大家能以最佳视野欣赏厦门的美景。

Li Mei: The price still is a bit high.

票价还是有点高啊。

Adam: No doubt that's why Xiamen locals only account for about 10 percent of passenger trips, with tourists making up the rest.

目前乘坐的人中厦门本地人仅占一成,以外地游客为主。 文少英

Xiamen News
鹭岛一周

● 闽治安满意率厦门三连冠

A recent survey conducted by the Fujian Police Bureau suggests that more than 95 percent of Xiamen residents are satisfied with the city's social order and public security last year. The percentage was the highest in Fujian for the third straight year.

● 周六静享“地球一小时”

This year's Earth Hour, in which environmentally-minded people around the world switch off their lights for one hour, will take place from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on March 23. At Xiamen University, students will stage an unplugged musical event during the hour, allowing the audience to enjoy the concert by candlelight.

● 鼓浪屿韩国音乐周将启动

Gulangyu Korean Music Week opens today. A concert will be staged every day at 7:30 p.m. during the four-day event. The Korean Music Week is the first of its kind on Gulangyu.

● 上月厦门房价涨幅全国第八

Local officials announced recently that Xiamen's new-home prices rose 1.7 percent in February or 4.2 percent year-on-year, with the growth rate being the eighth largest in the country. The price of second-hand homes increased 0.6 percent month-on-month or 4.5 percent year-on-year.

● 环岛路举行广场音乐会

The Music Xiamen program launches this Saturday with a concert at Musicians' Square on the Island Ring Road. Concerts will be held on every Saturday for a year. The program was launched by celebrated Taiwan musician Yang Mu with other Taiwan and mainland musicians.

● 清明集体海葬下月举行

Xiamen officials have announced that the city will host a sea burial ceremony on April 8, four days after this year's Qingming Festival. The cost of a burial is 1,600 yuan.

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