

An Artistic Yangpu Displayed Through Light Wonders

By Lu Junyan & Yang Liuqing

Great artworks are usually embedded with cultural and social meanings, and bridge people with the city they are living in, as a soft power to propel its development, and diversify the ways that people interact with their surroundings. Despite the pandemic and supported by the incessant preventive measures, the 6th "LUMIÈRES SHANGHAI" lights festival came as usual, but broke away from its traditional form to bring multi-dimensional lights experience to the public.

Precisely a year later, lights were again turned on at the Knowledge and Innovation Community stop of the LUMIÈRES SHANGHAI 2020 lights festival.

"There is a goat on the mountain in the east, a frog in the pond in the west, and a duck in the meadow by the river," this is how you can describe the light installation, LAILELAILE, at the center of the square of Jiangwan Stadium, designed by newly-minted artist, Zhu Jinle.

The inspiration for this light installation was drawn from Zhu's hometown Jinhua dialect, "Laile mie? Laile wa. Laile ya!" (Meaning "Are you here? Yes!" Mie, the sound of a goat; wa, the sound of a frog; and ya, the sound of a duck.) Through the conversation between three lovely animals, Zhu wanted to convey a positive life attitude, "no matter how fast the world is changing, no matter what kind of work you are doing, in what field, and what kind of life you have led, at least you are full of happiness and positiveness at the 'Yes' moment."

You can also see in the night a string of swimming "red carps" going forward along the trees on Daxue Road. It is a light installation, but also an encouragement poem written for entrepreneurs with innovative minds. Yuli was designed by a group of young artists who aspire to get closer to people's hearts through multi-media

art installations, exhibitions, and space construction. In their eyes, "carp is the symbol of life, fortune, and solidarity. In this unprecedented year of 2020, people coming together from everywhere to fight the pandemic and create miracles, just like carps helping each other riding the waves forward." A new year is around the corner again, "carps" are here on the street with people, giving out light and hope.

LAILELAILE and Yuli will be displayed at the Knowledge and Innovation Community for as long as two months.

There are two permanent artworks in the Knowledge and Innovation Community that have become the landmarks of this community. One of them, OBJECT#MS-15 is an interactive digital sculpture that uses advanced computer programming technique to interact with its surrounding environment through the change of lights.

The other one, Papillon, is a light installation that combines art with technology to raise people's awareness of protecting biodiversity. With the introduction of LAILELAILE and Yuli, the social gene of the Knowledge and Innovation Community has been brought out and further enhanced.

Since November 16, over 20 light installations from multiple countries and regions have been exhibited at Shanghai Xintiandi, the Hub, Ruihong Tiandi, and the Knowledge and Innovation Community. The LUMIÈRES SHANGHAI 2020 uses public art to inspire people's imagination of the city and give it an economic boost, redirecting people's attention and activities back to the night economy and bringing out the vitality and charm of the business life of urban nights. Since its inception in 2015, the LUMIÈRES SHANGHAI 2020 has exhibited nearly 100 art objects, attracting an annual audience of over 10,000,000, as it has become a widely-anticipated artistic feast at the end of each year.



Coffee Life: the story of a Gen-Z girl

By Lu Junyan & Sun peijie

"You have to be able to accept the loneliness and be patient if you want to be something like a craftsman. Craftsmanship is all about the drive to study and the passion for the techniques," this is what was engraved in the heart of Lu Xiaofei, a Gen-Z girl born after 2000, about professionalism when it was said by Teacher Yao, head of the Food Teaching and Research Office at Shanghai Trade School.

A student of Shanghai Trade School and the winner of the 2nd "Four Brands" Occupational Skills Competition "Blended Coffee Making," Lu Xiaofei once again won at the 3rd Shanghai Barista Championship.

Coffee has three flavors: bitter, sour, and sweet. To make a cup of coffee is a multi-procedure process that includes selecting coffee beans, baking, grinding, and extracting, the so-called "life of coffee" that mimics Lu's own experience as a coffee maker.

Lu's beginning major was bakery. She was selected by the World Skills Competition Baking project in 2019, but after two months of training, she was transferred to the western pastry major. "My head teacher told me that 'we sent you to do western pastry was because we believed that whichever field you are in, you can do very well!'" Lu told the reporter that two months of western pastry training shaped her temperament.

This summer, to prepare for the "Four Brands" Occupational Skills Competition, Lu once again walked into the practical training room, and

challenged herself in a new field coffee-making. The reason she chose coffee-making was because she wanted to "get a brand-new skill." However, what she did not expect after trying was that she "found in herself a passion for coffee-making".

For Lu, the "milk texturing" in coffee-making was one of the challenges she had encountered during the process.

There were both failures and successes during numerous attempts, and whichever it was, she always carried on. In the three months' preparation for the competition, she could not remember how many times she had practiced, and only knew that she had used at least half a kilogram of coffee beans every day, and one day she used one kilogram of coffee beans, equivalent of 120 cups of coffee.

The utmost support was from the school. Besides guidance from subject teachers, the school had also provided students with professional equipment like that of a real café. The practical training room has a collection of over 70 varieties of coffee beans from different production regions. From smelling, to production, appreciation and innovation, such a supporting environment had granted a know-nothing rookie like Lu Xiaofei the precious opportunity to develop rapidly.

For Shanghai Trade School, the award-winning Lu Xiaofei is only one of its outstanding students. The school is aimed at building an integrated talent development system that consists of four elements of "teaching, training, practicing and competing." The world skills competition has been taken as an op-

portunity to integrate its ethos and advanced skill standards into the school's daily teaching and educational practices, and furthermore, to build a curriculum and teaching methodology system that meets international standards.

He Xiacong, deputy head of the food teaching department of Shanghai Trade School, said that as people's lives are getting better and better, coffee culture has become an inevitable force that has propelled coffee sales at an unprecedented speed, and many stores have switched to a multi-product business model that sells not only coffee, but also pastries and meals. Such changes in consumers' behaviors have led to businesses' demands for alternative talents in food industry. Against such backdrop, Shanghai Trade School has done a thorough research on the coffee market and coffee curriculum, and introduced the City & Guilds' International Award in Barista Skills professional qualification system into the school's food major that was originally centered on bakery.

The school not only teaches how to make coffee, but also teach coffee appreciation, product development, customer services and other courses arising from the public's needs. In the meantime, students who passed the assessment can obtain an internationally-recognized professional qualification certificate.

Some said Lu Xiaofei was a "dark horse," but she preferred to describe herself as the "second wave" in the coffee industry, whose success was only made possible by riding on the strength of the "first wave."

Another Commercial Project Broke Ground in Wujiaochang

By Yang Xiaomei

On December 15, the construction of the 11 land of the 407 neighborhood of the New Jiangwan Town, another commercial project in Wujiaochang sub-district, officially began. The total construction area is estimated to be 47,603 square meters, and the building is expected to be put into operation in 2023. As of now, Yangpu District in 2020 has seen 24 major projects breaking ground, with a total construction area of 1.16 million square meters.

This project is developed by Shanghai Mingchang Land Investment, a company controlled by CapitaLand (China), and located at the south of Zhengheng Road, the east of Guoliang Road, the north of Zhenggao Road, and the west of Guotong Road, and at

the northwest of the sub-center of Wujiaochang, and the south end of the central business district of the New Jiangwan Town. The location of the land is right next to Line 10, the planned Line 20, and also near Line 3 and Line 8, with many buses directly connecting it with the city.

The concept for this project is "freshness, vitality and interaction, green and low carbon emission, and innovation-driven," with two main buildings planned one ten-floor office building plus two floors underground, and one two-floor supporting commercial building and a 40-meter-wide green belt that will go through the land and provide for the public a place for exhibitions, fitness, recreation and entertainment, and holding parties, and serve as a bright spot of this area.