

Mountains and Rivers of the Motherland – Yangtze River

The Yangtze River originates from “roof of the world” – the southwest of Geladaindong Peak among the Tanggula Mountain Range of the Tibetan Plateau. From west to east, the Yangtze River flows through eleven provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities including Qinghai, Tibet, Sichuan, Yunnan, Chongqing, Hubei, Hunan, Jiangxi, Anhui, Jiangsu and Shanghai, etc., and enters into East China Sea at the east of Chongming Island, with a total length of approximately 6,300 kilometres. Among the largest rivers in the world, it is only after Nile River in Africa and Amazon River in South America, ranking third in the world and first in Asia. Across the vast land of China, the Yangtze River comes from the snow mountains and rushes towards the East China Sea. She cuts across east and west; flows through thousands of miles, and has composed the resplendence and civilization of the Chinese nation over 5,000 years, forming the soul of the enormous nation. Therefore, the Yangtze River is also known as “mother river” with respect. Through the pure and holy clear water stream, it unfolds thousands of miles of horizons, washes away for all eternity and undergoes changes over a hundred generations, witnessing the transition of this big oriental country from lagging behind, rising up to progressing rapidly.

The stamps “Yangtze River” issued by Macao Post is inspired by the giant traditional Chinese painting “Ten Thousand Miles along the Yangtze River”. In 1972, the famous painter Yuan Yunfu, professor of Academy of Arts and Design of Tsinghua University, was invited by Wan Li, the leader of Beijing municipal government, and created the 30 metres long mural “Ten Thousand Miles along the Yangtze River” for the newly established Beijing Hotel. After suffering from misfortune and tribulation, it was consigned to limbo eventually. Ever since the reform and opening up, some sections of this lengthy painting have gradually become the main body of mural at Beijing Capital Airport, Beijing Jianguo Hotel and the “Golden Hall” in the Great Hall of the People.

In order to reflect the dramatic transformation of today’s Yangtze River, Yuan Yunfu, who is over 80 years old, had solemnly handed over the responsibility of continual composition of Yangtze River to his son Yuan Jia. Yuan Jia is a famous painter who graduated at Central Academy of Art and Design in 1987, as well as today’s remarkable mural painter and professional artist. Yuan Jia is not unfamiliar with the “Ten Thousand Miles along the Yangtze River”, being influenced by art since his childhood, he witnessed how his father completed this tremendous production with every single brush. In 2013, Yuan Jia also worked with his father to create a new version of 18 metres long and 3 metres high mural “Ten Thousand Miles along the Yangtze River” for the “Golden Hall” in the Great Hall of the People. After seriously taking over the relay baton from his father, Yuan Jia had looked up countless latest information regarding the transformation of Yangtze River’s scenery and history over the past decades, and deeply embedded the historical footprint of social progress after the reform and opening up into the “Ten Thousand Miles along the Yangtze River”. In 2014, the father and son, Yuan Yunfu and Yuan Jia finally co-completed the contemporary sketch of “Ten Thousand Miles along the Yangtze River”. At present, it has already been condensed into a set of 9 stamps “Yangtze River” of Macao Post, making its appearance to the public.

The other “Yangtze River” prestige stamp booklet with 9 stamps in se-tenant format, showcases the panorama of Yangtze River which originates from the snow mountains and flows towards east into the sea, revealing the majestic appearance and spirit of the thousands miles long Yangtze River.

The first stamp – Geladaindong Snow Mountain at Qinghai, Tiger Leaping Gorge, First Bay of the Yangtze River;

The second stamp – Yuzhong Peninsula, Chaotian Gate and Dongsui Gate Yangtze River Bridge, in the city of Chongqing;

The third stamp – Baidicheng Temple, Qutang Gorge, Wu Gorge, Fengdu County, Xiling Gorge;

The fourth stamp – Gezhouba Dam and Wuhan Yangtze River Bridge, in Hubei Province; Dongting Lake and Yueyang Tower, in Hunan Province;

The fifth stamp – Lushan Mountain, Lushan Conference Site, Fairy Cave of Lushan and Lushan Hydroelectric Power Station, in Jiangxi Province;

The sixth stamp – Huangshan Mountain, Lotus Peak, Guest Greeting Pine, Dreamed Pen of Fine Essays;

The seventh stamp – Nanjing Yangtze River Bridge, Second Nanjing Yangtze Bridge, Purple Mountain Observatory;

The eighth stamp – Plum Garden in Wuxi, Tiger Hill Pagoda, Humble Administrator’s Garden, Langshan Mountain in Nantong city, Jiangnan Water Towns and Jiangyin Bridge, in Jiangsu Province;

The ninth stamp – The Bund, Pudong, Pudong International Airport, China Pavilion at Expo 2010, Nanpu Bridge, Sutong Bridge and Chongming Island, in Shanghai.