

Sixty-two Chinese photographers have contributed to a visual history of the People's Republic of China, *Portrait of a Country* (Taschen, £29.99). Edited by Pulitzer Prize-winning photojournalist Liu Heung Shing, it portrays how Chinese society has developed and changed, culminating in its role as host nation for this summer's Olympics. The image pictured, by the editor, shows a Sichuanese peasant eating a bowl of rice on his lunch break. Above him, behind a row of tattered shoes, is a portrait of Mao; next to the portrait is a calligraphic inscription that reads 'Listen to Chairman Hua'. Hua, Mao's successor, was sidelined by Deng Xiaoping after 1978, and subsequently ousted from power in 1981.

