

DISCOVER
BOOKS 探索
書籍

Inside China 放眼中國

CHINA: PORTRAIT OF A COUNTRY

Edited by Liu Heung Shing, Taschen, 2008



Edited by the Pulitzer Prize-winning photojournalist Liu Heung Shing, this stunning hardback brings together the work of 88 Chinese photographers. It is a visual history of 60 years of the People's Republic, from 1949 to the present day.

What prompted the book?

Liu Heung-shing: When China won its bid to host the Olympic Games, I watched people celebrating and it occurred to me that many young people don't have a strong sense of history. This book is as much for those inside China as it is for those outside.

The book seems to tell the story that China's success has not been without hardship.

Liu: Yes. China has seen much turmoil – generations have been banished to the countryside or lost the chance for an education.

The book is right up-to-date with images of the torch relay.

Liu: Yes, there's even a photo of the torch bearers on Everest – it was taken with a cell phone that Nokia designed especially to withstand extreme cold.

How did you get access to the images?

Liu: I went directly to the photographers – many of them are old and for some it took time to earn their confidence to hand over their negatives. Art and photography have long been a tool of the Communist Party, but that is changing slowly.

