

WestPAC China installation proposal



Larry Silver, *Zither players*, 1996



Guo Ming, *Purple Fog*, 1998



Guo Rong, *Streams and Mountains – Clear Hills*, 2004



Guo Ming, *Purple Fog*, 1998

Chinese Painting

Zhongguohua 中国画

The art of Chinese painting stretches back thousands of years. Traditional Chinese artists use ink and colors to paint on paper or silk. These same materials are used in writing with a brush, called calligraphy.

The arts of calligraphy, painting, and poetry were called the “three perfections” in China. Artists worked hard to express themselves in all three. There are many similarities between calligraphy and painting in China.

Can you see the Chinese writing in these paintings?

What parts of the painted areas look similar to the writing?

Chinese paintings are categorized by their subjects (what they show). For example, *Streams and Mountains - Clear Hills* by Guo Rong 郭荣 (1946-2010) is a landscape, meaning it depicts natural scenery. Landscape painters try to take you, the viewer, on an imaginary journey through nature and usually include signs of human presence.

Purple Clouds by Guo Ming 郭明 (b. 1953) is a “bird and flower” painting. This type of painting shows close-up views of different flowers and birds together. Here, the artist depicts two birds sitting on the branches of the flowering plant wisteria.

These paintings were given to the Town of Westport in 2005 by its Sister City of Yangzhou, in southern China. The artists, Guo Ming and Guo Rong, are members of the Yangzhou Chinese Painting Academy. This installation will rotate through the Westport Public Schools to complement the Westport Youth Concert global initiative’s focus on China for 2019-20.



Yangzhou and Westport, Sister Cities

Westport and Yangzhou are sister cities, which means they promote cultural exchange between them. In 2005, Yangzhou presented Westport with the two ink paintings you see here. In 2015, Yangzhou celebrated its 2500th birthday, and the Town of Westport produced a video message to wish them a happy birthday. (QR code for video link?) A group of students and teachers from Yangzhou visited Westport’s schools in 2016.

Larry Silver - a renowned photographer who lives in Westport - visited Yangzhou in 1996 and 1999 and took many black and white photographs of the people and places he saw. Some of them are on display here.





Larry Silver, Landscape, 1996



Guo Rong, *Streams and Mountains – Clear Hills*, 2004

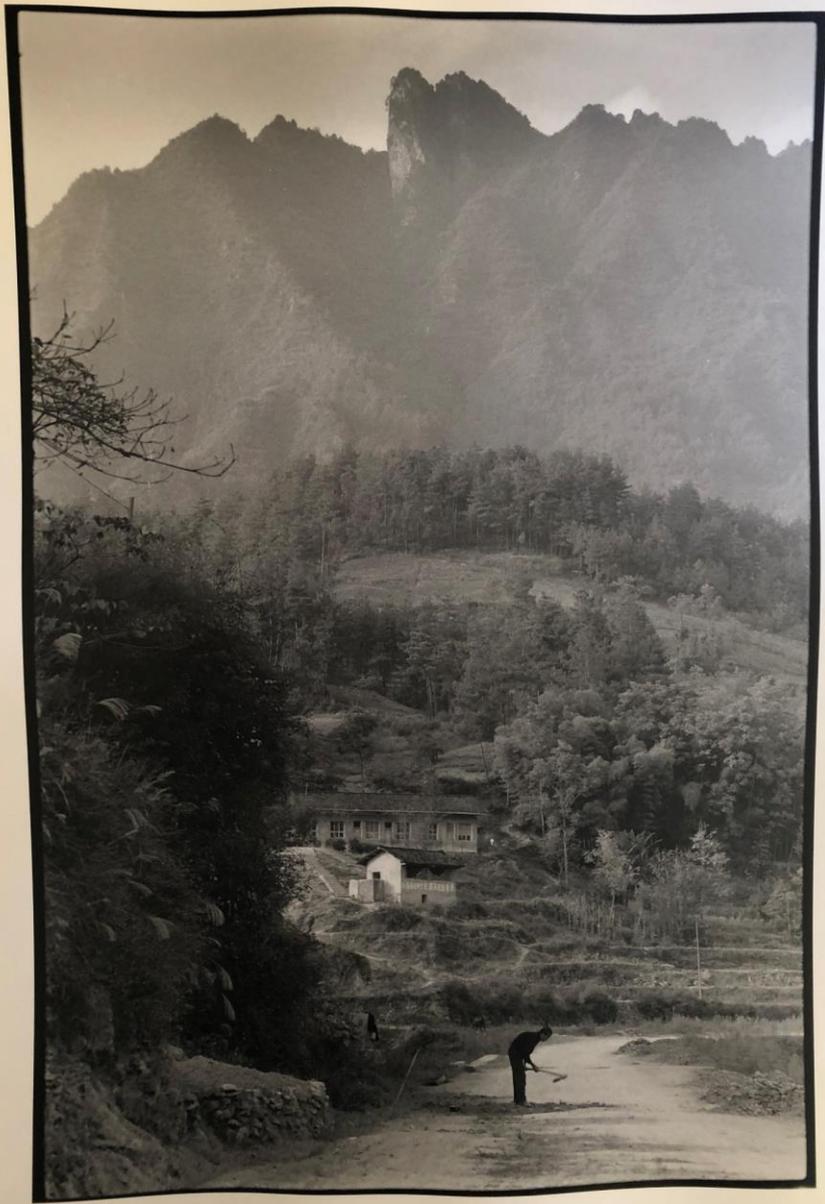


Guo Ming, *Purple Fog*, 1998

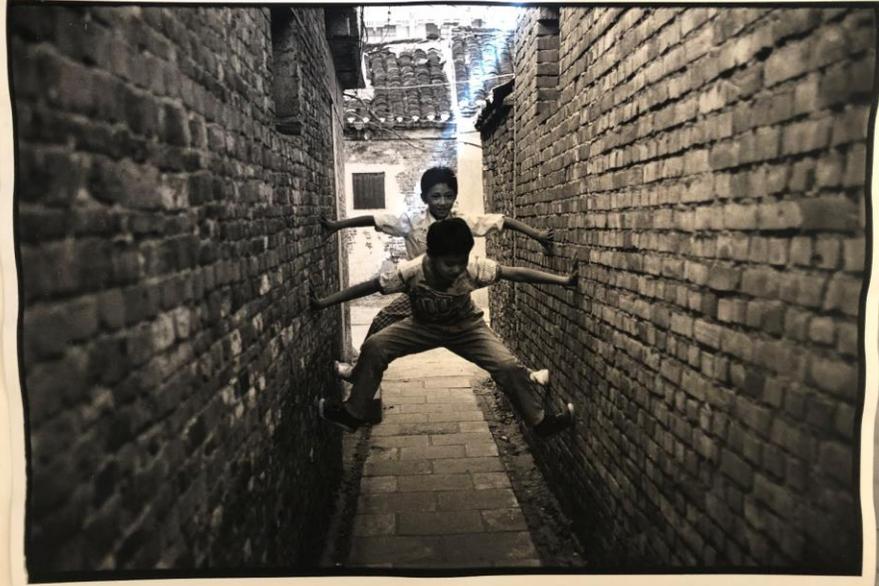


Larry Silver, Zither players, 1996

Core grouping of paintings and photographs (titles and dates of Silver photographs to be confirmed)







Additional photographs by Larry Silver
that can be included where space allows