

Svilna pot

The Silk Road

Svilna pot je bila mreža kopnih in pomorskih poti med Kitajsko in Evropo. Razen svile, rimskih steklenih izdelkov, dragih kamnov in drugih dobrin, ki so jih tovorili trgovci, je ta pot omogočala tudi prenos idej, znanj, verskih prepričanj, ljudskih navad in številnih drugih kulturnih vrednot. Ideje in znanja so posredovali predvsem znameniti popotniki, od katerih je Marco Polo prvi okreplil kulturne in trgovske vezi prek evrazijske celine.

Kdo bi si mislil, da je izdelavo najbolj izstopajočega astronomskega inštrumenta »Ekvatorialna obročasta krogla«, ki stoji na ploščadi na vrhu starega astronomskega observatorija, načrtoval in vodil Ferdinand Avguštín Hallerstein, predstojnik Cesarskega urada za astronomijo v času cesarja Qian Longa. Hallerstein je prispel na Kitajsko po skoraj triletnem izčrpujočem potovanju po ustaljenih smereh plovbe po morski svilni poti in od tedaj dalje posvetil svoje življenje Kitajski, podobno kot pred njim Mateo Ricci, Adam Schall, Ferdinand Verbiest, Giuseppe Castiglione in drugi znameniti popotniki, katerih dosežki so vtišnili neizbrisen pečat pomorski svilni poti.

Prav zato je umetniška predstavitev Hallersteinove življenjske zgodbe pomembna, da se zavemo njegovega pomena in ga znamo umestiti med najslavnnejše posrednike znanosti, kulture in umetnosti, ki so prišli na Kitajsko po pomorski svilni poti. Umetnost ne pozna meja. Umetnost je most, prek katerega se lahko ljudje različnih kultur sporazumevajo med seboj. Vizualna umetniška predstavitev Ferdinanda Avguština Hallersteina je zasnovana z namenom, da prekorači regionalne in jezikovne meje. Po več kot desetletju raziskav je kitajsko-slovenska umetnica Huiqin Wang zasnovala razstavo, ki nam odstira življenjsko zgodbo Ferdinanda Avguština Hallersteina.

Mitja Saje

The Silk Road was a network of the terrestrial and the maritime routes between China and Europe. Besides silk, Roman glassware, precious stones, and other commodities, transmitted alongside were also ideas, knowledge, religious beliefs, ethnic custom, and many other cultural products. Ideas and knowledge were transferred mainly by famous travellers, among whom Marco Polo strengthened the cultural and commercial ties across Eurasia.

Whereas, people can hardly imagine that the manufacturing of the most impressive astronomic instrument, "Ji Heng Fu Chen Yi", situated on top of the Beijing Ancient Observatory that has a history of almost 600 years, was designed and supervised by Ferdinand Augustin Hallerstein, the head of Imperial Board of Astronomy under the reign of Emperor Qian Long in Qing Dynasty. Hallerstein arrived in China after almost three years of exhausting voyage along the maritime Silk Route, and since then he dedicated his life to China, just like what Mateo Ricci, Adam Schall, Ferdinand Verbiest, Giuseppe Castiglione, and other famous travellers did, his and their achievements have inscribed an everlasting mark on the maritime Silk Route.

For this reason, the artistic interpretations of Hallerstein's life story are significant in placing him among those most famous messengers of science, culture, and arts, whom came to China making their ways through the maritime Silk Route. Art is unbounded. Art is a bridge for different people to communicate with each other. A visual artistic representation of Ferdinand Augustin Hallerstein is meant to cross the regional and linguistic boundaries. After more than ten years of research and excavation, Chinese Slovenian artist, Huiqin Wang, has created the exhibition on the life story of Hallerstein.

By Mitja Saje

