

TRAVEL WITH FRIENDS IN 2015

The Peace Hotel © James Cao

China: Art Deco to Art Now

BEIJING AND SHANGHAI



with Claudia Chan Shaw
03–14 October 2015 (12 days)



China: Art Deco to Art Now

BEIJING AND SHANGHAI



TOUR LEADER

Claudia Chan Shaw has many parts – fashion designer, television and radio presenter, author, public speaker, collector, and artist.

Claudia was co-host and presenter on ABC TV's popular program, *Collectors*.

A design graduate from Sydney College of the Arts, she contributes to design and collecting publications and has curated a number of fashion exhibitions. She held her first solo photography exhibition in 2012.

Her recent book *Collectomania, From objects of desire to magnificent obsession* navigates the world of collectors and celebrates collections both strange and beautiful.



Robots, Pearl Market, Beijing

Join Claudia Chan Shaw for a fresh look at China's 20th century architectural heritage, the contemporary art scene and the latest trends in Chinese design, fashion and culture.

Begin in Beijing, the historical, political and cultural capital of China. Delve into the city's extraordinary historical monuments and traditional arts, followed by an exploration of the booming contemporary art scene. In Shanghai, the focus of the tour turns to the city's rich heritage of Art Deco architecture and interior design. But you will also take a good look at the city's fast changing urban design, new museums, shopping and restaurants.

Enjoy performances in the fabulous new arts centres in Beijing and Shanghai and be sure to keep some space in your suitcase for those shopping excursions with Claudia!

At a glance...

- Enjoy extended stays in five-star hotels in Beijing and Shanghai
- Discover the latest trends in Chinese architecture, fashion and design
- Keep up with the fast-moving contemporary art scene in Beijing and Shanghai
- Explore the rich heritage of Art Deco architecture in Shanghai
- Enjoy opera, ballet and/or concerts at the new performing arts centres in Beijing and Shanghai

EARLY BOOKING REDUCTION

** Save AUD350 pp if you book and deposit by 30 June



Itinerary

Sat 03 October 2015

Depart Australia

Suggested departure from Australia on Qantas / Dragonair flights to Beijing (via Hong Kong). Late evening arrival, greeting and transfer to your hotel.

Sun 04 Oct

Beijing

After a morning at leisure, join Claudia and fellow travellers for a welcome briefing and lunch.

In the afternoon, your exploration of Beijing begins with a visit to the National Museum of China and a late afternoon walk on Tiananmen Square. The largest comprehensive history museum in China, the National Museum of China's collection ranges from replicas of bones of Peking man to scientific instruments introduced to China by missionaries in the 18th and 19th centuries and decorative objects and artefacts such as bronzes, pottery, lacquer ware, jade, textiles and painting.

Named after the Tiananmen Gate (Gate of Heavenly Peace) located to its north, and covering over 100 acres, Tiananmen Square is the largest city square in the world. Dominated by the Monument to the People's Heroes and the Chairman Mao Zedong Memorial Hall on the square itself, and surrounded by the Forbidden City, the Gate of Heavenly Peace, the National Museum of China and the Great Hall of the People, Tiananmen Square has huge historical, cultural and political importance.

This evening, begin your exploration of local Beijing cuisine with dinner at a local restaurant. **B L D**

Mon 05 Oct

Beijing

Continue your exploration of Beijing with a morning visit to the Forbidden City. Originally built (by more than 200,000 men) in 1420 for the Emperor Yongle, the former Imperial Palace is an architectural masterpiece with a breathtaking symmetry of palatial pavilions, courtyards, gates, treasure halls and gardens.

After lunch at a local restaurant, visit the Red Gate Gallery. Founded by Australian Brian Wallace in 1991 Red Gate is Beijing's first private contemporary art gallery and is located in the historic Southeast Corner Tower at Dongbianmen, one of the few Ming dynasty towers to survive the destruction of Beijing's ancient city wall.

This evening, attend a performance (concert, dance or opera) at the National Centre for the Performing Arts (opened 2007). Designed by French architect Paul Andreu, this extraordinary building, referred to as 'The Egg' houses numerous performing venues including an opera theatre, concert hall, multi-purpose theatre and a studio. Local Chinese and visiting international companies perform here (performances announced 3–4 months in advance). **B L**

Tue 06 Oct

Beijing

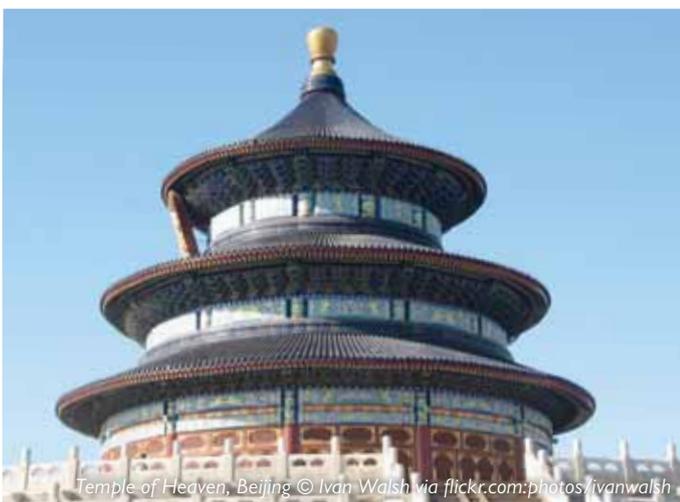
Today you will explore local Beijing's performing arts, history, local life and fashion.

Begin with a visit to the traditional courtyard house of Beijing opera actor Mei Lanfang (1894–1961). Mei specialised in playing *dàn* (female roles), helped introduce and popularise the art form in the West and is said to have influenced Charlie Chaplin.

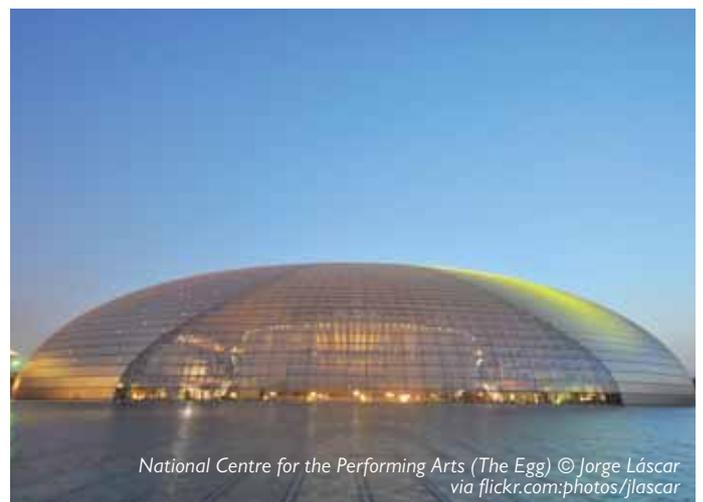
Continue to the hutong district surrounding the Drum Tower and Bell Tower. A narrow street or alley, formed by lines of traditional courtyard houses, hutongs are commonly associated with northern Chinese cities and are a much-loved but fast disappearing feature of Beijing. The Drum and Bell Towers of Beijing, situated at the northern end of the central axis of the Inner City, date back to the Ming Dynasty and offer panoramic views over central Beijing.

After lunch at a local restaurant, explore a selection of local fashion, craft and art workshops, markets and retail outlets.

This evening, enjoy a performance of Beijing Opera, a form of traditional Chinese theatre which combines music, vocal performance, mime, dance, and acrobatics. **B L**



Temple of Heaven, Beijing © Ivan Walsh via flickr.com:photos/ivanwalsh



National Centre for the Performing Arts (The Egg) © Jorge Láscar via flickr.com:photos/jlascar

Wed 07 Oct

Beijing

Following a talk, depart for a full day in the northeast of the city.

Begin with a visit to the Guanfu Museum, China's first private museum (founded 1996) of classical art and antique, displaying ceramics, furniture, architectural details and paintings dating back to the late Ming (1368–1644) and Qing (1644–1911) dynasties.

Continue to the Dashanzi 798 Art District, where you will spend the rest of the day. A sprawling neighbourhood of Communist-era factories and warehouses, in the 1990s '798' emerged as an alternative working place for contemporary artists and has since converted into a hip and trendy area of art galleries, boutiques, coffee shops, clubs and restaurants. **B**

Thu 08 Oct

Beijing

Morning visit to the Temple of Heaven. Built between 1406 and 1420 as the Hall of Prayer for Good Harvests, the Temple of Heaven covers 273 hectares and represents a Golden Age of Chinese architecture. Laid out according to the needs of sacred ceremony, it is believed to be the one place on earth with direct access to heaven, although only for Emperors who were regarded as celestial go-betweens.

After lunch, spend the afternoon at the Hongqiao Pearl Market. Despite the name, the vast Hongqiao Pearl Market offers much more than just pearls and jewellery, including electronics, watches, silk products, clothing and traditional Chinese art. An opportunity to test your bargaining skills! **B L**

Fri 09 Oct

Beijing – Shanghai

Transfer to Beijing airport for a late morning flight to Shanghai (2 hr). Started in the 11th century as a fishing village, Shanghai is now China's largest city and the new 'Gateway to the Orient'. **B D**

Sat 10 Oct

Shanghai

Today begins with a walk along the historic waterfront Bund, lined with grand European-style architecture from the 1920s and 1930s boom period. Finish with a tour of one of Shanghai's most famous examples of Art Deco, the Peace Hotel. Originally built 1926–1929 as the Cathay Hotel, the Peace Hotel has recently undergone complete restoration and is operated by Fairmont Hotels and Resorts of Canada.

After lunch at the Peace Hotel, cross the Huangpu River to Pudong – the 'new' Shanghai – for a visit to the Oriental Pearl TV Tower and the Shanghai History Museum. Enjoy spectacular views of Shanghai from the Observation Deck of the 468-metre high tower which has become a symbol of the new Shanghai. Hidden in the basement of the tower, the Shanghai Municipal History Museum tells an interesting tale about Shanghai during the colonial period between 1860 and 1949 with abundant vivid wax figures. **B L**

Sun 11 Oct

Shanghai

Following a talk, depart for a morning walking tour. The tour will begin at the origins of Art Deco in Shanghai at the former French Club – now part of the Okura Garden Hotel – followed by a walk through the streets of the former French Concession. Look at apartment houses, residences, cinemas, Art Deco lane neighbourhoods, the infamous Jai Alai building (previously thought to have been demolished) and visit Deke Erh's 'Old China Hand Style', the new reincarnation of the late, great Old China Hand Reading Room.

After lunch visit the Shanghai Propaganda Poster Art Centre which houses a private collection of posters which started as a hobby but has expanded into an exhibition of more than 5000 prints. The posters on display are all from the first 30 years of the People's Republic of China and range from pictures of fierce battles against the Communist Party's enemies to peaceful visions of life in a model socialist society. **B L**



Mon 12 Oct

Shanghai

Enjoy a morning visit to the extraordinary Shanghai Museum. Located on People's Square, the political and cultural centre of Shanghai, this extraordinary building is shaped like a giant bronze tripod and houses one of the world's top collections of ancient and modern Chinese art and artefacts.

After lunch at a local restaurant, the afternoon is at leisure. You may wish to visit the Urban Planning Exhibition Hall also located at People's Square. This fascinating museum documents the changing face of Shanghai including a perfect scale model of the entire city on the 6th floor model with recent and planned developments of Shanghai.

This evening, attend a concert, opera or ballet from the Shanghai International Arts Festival, China's annual premier performing arts festival (performance details announced mid-2015). **B L**

Tue 13 Oct

Shanghai

Spend the day exploring Shanghai's booming contemporary art scene.

Begin with a visit to the new China Art Museum. Housed in the former China Pavilion of Shanghai Expo 2010, this museum is the largest art museum in Asia and houses a collection of modern and contemporary Chinese art and visiting exhibitions.

Continue to the Power Station of Art, China's first state run contemporary art museum. This gallery has hosted some of the city's biggest art shows (including the 2012 and 2014 Shanghai Biennales and a massive retrospective of Andy Warhol's work) in spectacular surrounds.

Time permitting and depending on current exhibitions, visit a selection of smaller private galleries scattered around the city. **B**

Wed 14 Oct

Depart Shanghai – Australia

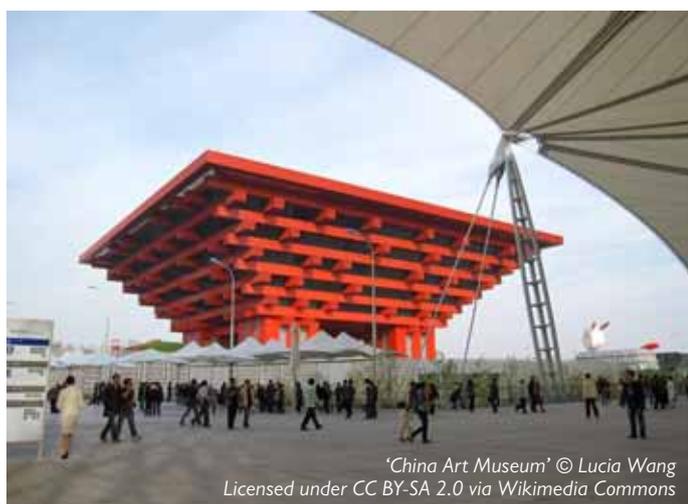
Morning at leisure (checkout from the hotel at 12.00).

Following a special farewell lunch at M on the Bund transfer to Shanghai Airport for evening departure on overnight Qantas flights to Australia. **B L**

Thu 15 Oct

Arrive Australia

Morning arrival in Australia.



'China Art Museum' © Lucia Wang
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Tour prices

Per person, twin share	AUD 8,950
Single supplement*	AUD 1,200
Early booking reduction (if booked and deposited by 30 June)	-AUD 350
Deposit per person	AUD 500

Upgrade to Business Class	estimated AUD 2,500 – 3,000
Reduction without international flights	- AUD 1,200

Final payment due 04 August 2015

*Single travellers may request to share. Please advise at time of booking.

Tour code

AG1517

Fitness level

Moderate^

^NB. Considerable walking involved.

Please see booking conditions for fitness level definitions.

Suggested airline

Qantas/Cathay

Please contact Renaissance Tours for current airfares and flight reservations.

Tour price includes

- Return international flights on Qantas / Cathay in economy class. Upgrade to Business Class available (additional cost applies)
- Accommodation in centrally located five-star hotels with breakfast daily (**B**)
- Meals as per itinerary (**L**=Lunch, **D**=Dinner, **R**=Reception) including local beer and soft drinks
- Cat 1 (or best available) tickets for three performances
- Transfers on arrival and departure (if travelling on suggested group flights)
- Economy class flight Beijing – Shanghai on China Eastern
- Comprehensive sightseeing with local guides including entrance fees as per itinerary
- Chinese visa
- Gratuities for local guides and drivers
- Hotel portorage (one piece per person)

Tour price does not include

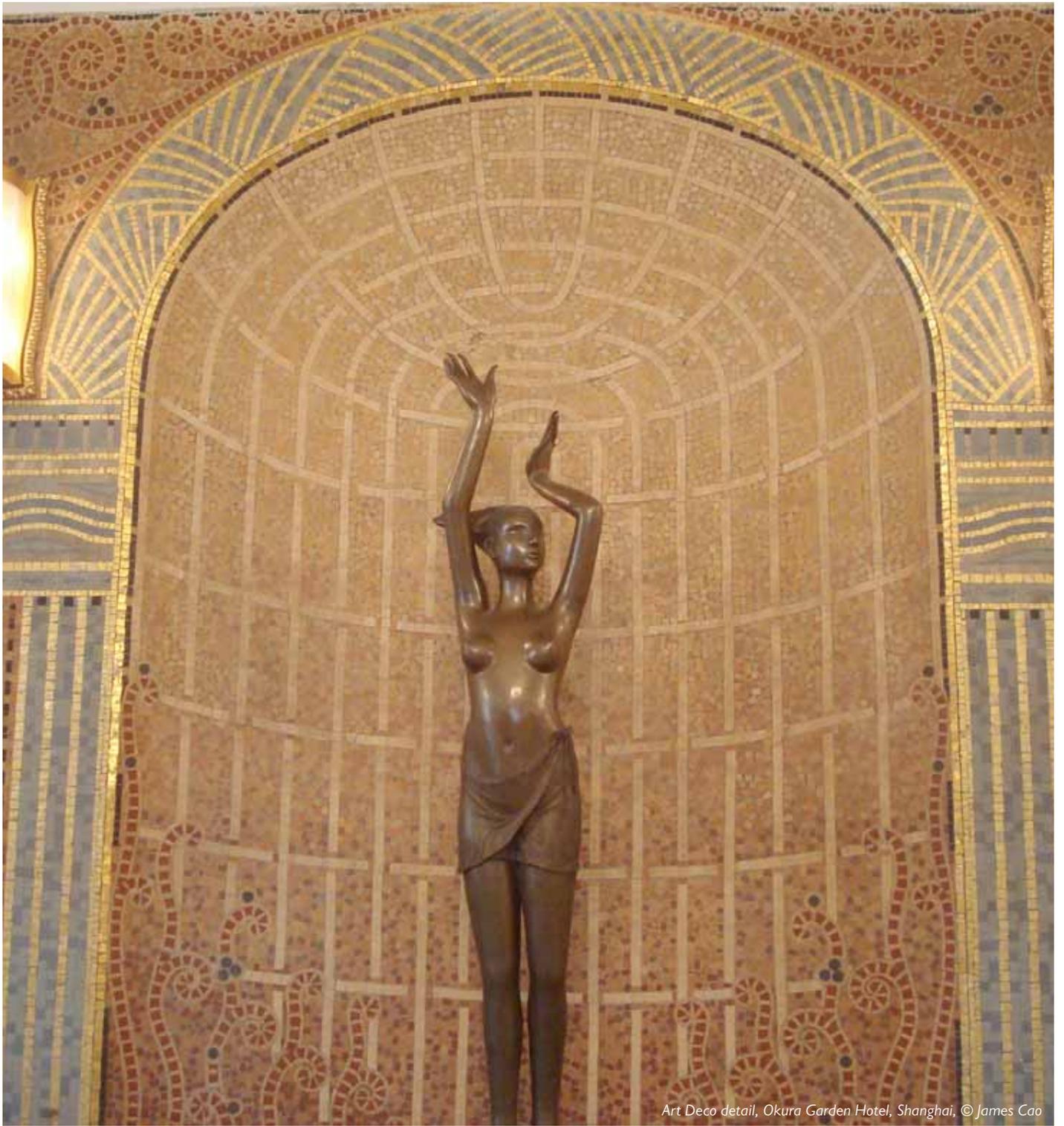
- Transfers on arrival and departure (if not travelling on suggested group flights)
- Items of a personal nature, including telephone, laundry, room service etc.
- Airport portorage
- Travel insurance

Your hotels★★★★★

Beijing – The Regent

Shanghai – Okura Garden Hotel

NB. Hotels of a similar standard may be substituted



Art Deco detail, Okura Garden Hotel, Shanghai, © James Cao



Mei Lanfang



Old Shanghai photos

Terms & Conditions

HOW TO BOOK

Complete, sign and return the Booking Form available from Renaissance Tours with your deposit and page one of your passport.

DEPOSIT / FINAL PAYMENTS

Your deposit is due at the time of booking and is used to pay hotel, airline, performance tickets and/or other deposits. It is non-refundable in the event of your cancellation.

Final payment is due 60 days before departure. Failure to make the final payment by the due date may result in cancellation of your booking and loss of deposit.

Payment by cash, cheque, direct deposit, American Express, MasterCard and Visa is accepted. 1.5% service charge applies to payment made by MasterCard and Visa. 3% service charge applies to payment made by American Express.

Payments for some international airfares can be made by credit card without a service fee. Please check for details.

CANCELLATION & REFUNDS

a) Cancellation by You – Cancellation charges will be applied as shown below, calculated from the day written notification is received by Renaissance Tours. In addition to cancellation fees for tours operated by Renaissance Tours as shown below, airlines, hotels and other third parties may impose up to 100% cancellation charges.

60 days or more	Forfeit of deposit
59 – 45 days	25% of tour cost
44 – 31 days	50% of tour cost
30 – 15 days	75% of tour cost
Less than 15 days	100% of tour cost

The above cancellation charges include applicable GST.

In addition to the above, cancellation charges may apply for additional arrangements booked by Renaissance Tours, such as air tickets, hotels and travel insurance premium. If the reason for cancellation is covered by the insurance policy, you may be able to reclaim these charges.

b) Cancellation by Us – We reserve the right to cancel a tour for any reason (such as failure to reach minimum tour participant numbers). Except for

force majeure, we will not cancel a tour less than 60 days before departure. No further compensation will be paid in the event of cancellation by Renaissance Tours. A full refund of monies paid for tour costs will be the full extent of our liability.

Cancellation and/or amendment fees may apply for additional travel arrangements booked by Renaissance Tours.

PASSPORTS, VISAS AND VACCINATIONS

All travellers must be in a possession of a valid passport – most countries require a 6-month validity from your date of entry or exit. For some countries (e.g. China, Vietnam, India, Russia), visas are included in the tour cost and will be arranged by Renaissance Tours prior to travel. For other countries, it is your responsibility to ensure you have the appropriate visa(s).

You are also responsible for obtaining all necessary inoculations and preventative medicines as may be required for the duration of the tour.

TOUR PRICES

Prices quoted in our tour information are based on exchange rates, cost of services and applicable taxes at the time of publication. Prices may be subject to change in the event of significant currency fluctuations or the introduction of new taxes, up until final payment is received.

In the event of a price increase, whether because of a currency fluctuation, increase in taxes or a correction in advertised prices, we will advise you and you have the option of accepting the amended prices, inclusions and booking conditions or withdrawing from the tour and receiving a full refund of all monies paid.

Once final payment is received, all prices will be guaranteed and no surcharges will apply.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

It is a condition of travel that you are covered by comprehensive travel insurance for international tours. Your travel insurance can be arranged by Renaissance Tours.

FITNESS AND PARTICIPATION

Most of our tours require a MODERATE level of fitness.

However, in certain destinations (e.g. Silk Road, Central Asia, Outback Australia, tropical destinations) or in certain seasons (e.g. mid-winter, mid-summer) or because of the nature of travel (e.g. remote rail), certain tours will require an ABOVE AVERAGE or CHALLENGING level of fitness.

If you (or we) have any doubts about your level of fitness, you may be required to have a doctor's appraisal. This would require your doctor to read the itinerary of your chosen tour, including the fitness level, and provide you (and us) with a written confirmation of your ability to participate.

MODERATE

For the overall benefit of the group, all tour members must possess a moderate level of mobility, including the ability to:

- negotiate airports and railway stations without wheelchair assistance
- use combined shower/bath facilities (it is impossible to guarantee walk-in shower facilities)
- undertake walking tour of 1–2 hours duration, including using stairs, walking over cobblestones and other uneven surfaces
- stand for long periods in museums and other sites
- embark / disembark coaches, trains and other methods of transportation without assistance
- handle your own luggage

ABOVE AVERAGE

In addition to the above, tour members must also be able to:

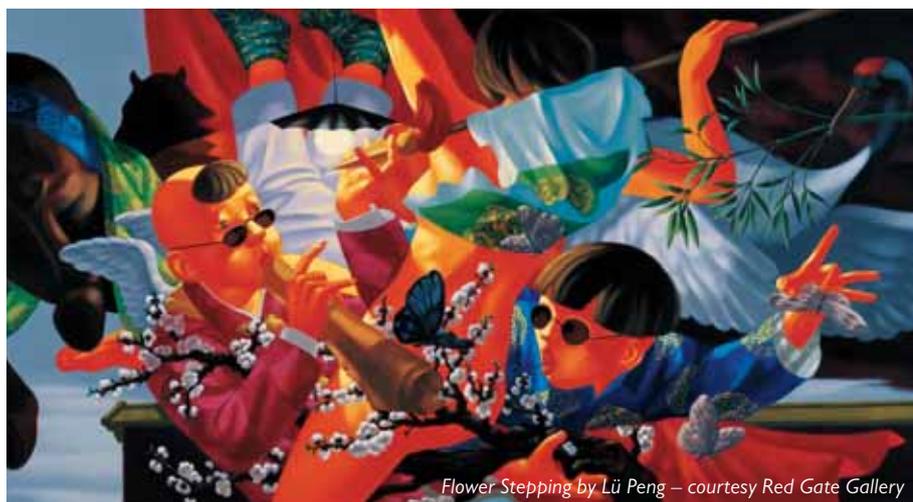
- undertake walking tours of 2–3 hours
- climb staircases of 100 or more steps

CHALLENGING

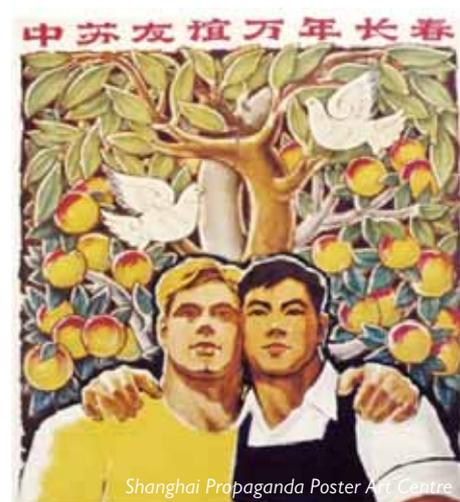
In addition to the above, tour members must also be able to:

- handle extremes of temperature (e.g. below 0 or above 35 degrees)
- handle extremes of altitudes (e.g. 4000 metres and above).

You can find the full terms & conditions at www.renaissance-tours.com.au/booking-conditions or we would be happy to post you a copy on request.



Flower Stepping by Lü Peng – courtesy Red Gate Gallery



Shanghai Propaganda Poster Art Centre



Shanghai at night

R
Renaissance
Tours

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call (+61 2) 9299 5801
fax (+61 2) 9299 5805
email info@renaissancetours.com.au
visit www.renaissancetours.com.au

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Your travel agent is