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Suzhou In Prosperous

Representative infrastructure-based-prosperous about Suzhou

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It would never be displayed in a whole. You just examine 3-4 feet a time on rolling it. This is not the case. The camera itself moving through the scroll because somebody else is selecting with the eye is going to be lived with. It’s nice to remember when we are looking at even details of the scroll…well even on the screen they’ve got edge around them and reality the way that she has chosen. This project is trying to evaluate and critic the contemporary Suzhou under the production-infrastructure-Consumption model by comparing with the economic system and consumption. Although Suzhou shows a strong sense of “Prosperous” both on economic growth data and images she is being kept sending out to the whole world, she also has to face the side effect from the mode of economic development first established in Suzhou in 1990s or called “foreign investment economy”. Local government offers a leniency environment to attract oversea capital and provides lands and workforce at a fair low price. In this way, Suzhou had a fast start up and impressive growth in last decades.
Our country has been thriving for over three generations, the expanded territory and growing population are much better than ever before. I feel so lucky living in this burgeoning time, and decided to record the peaceful and tranquilized scroll named "Burgeoning Life in a Resplendent Age" with my best efforts. The range of the scroll starts from Lingyan hill, moving east through town of Mudu, passes by Heng hill, lake Shi and Shangfang hill, from the north bank of Lake Tai, between Lion hill enters Suzhou City. Through Gate Feng, Pan and Xu, finally leaves the city from Gate Chang. Then turns into bridge Shantang and stop at Tiger hill. The invincibly fortress, the comprehensive dwellings, the beautiful landscape made it a metropolis in southeast of the country of its bustling fishermen and farmers, flourishing markets. It can never be fully recorded all the details of the city in terms of the birthday ceremony, wedding, imperial examination and private school teaching.
Drama playing: Kunqu, is one of the oldest extant forms of Chinese opera. It was developed during early Ming Dynasty (14th century) and widely spread and dominated the stage from 16th-18th century.

Federal official work: Becoming a federal official used to be (now still is) the dream among scholars. Being an honest and upright official benefit the civilian and the city was a standard "Chinese Dream".

Imperial examination: a civil service examination system designed to select the best potential candidates to serve as administrative officials for purpose of recruiting them for the state's bureaucracy. There are three levels: regional, provincial, and metropolitan levels. All levels were held every three years, therefore a candidate would take at least 9 years to win his chance start a career as an official. The image in the scroll is the scene of entry-level exam.

Wedding ceremony: In a traditional sense, the marriage was arranged by parents of both family so the benefits and demerits of marriage are important to the entire family and the wedding ceremony is only second to man's success in the imperial exam. In this case, the wedding is not only holding for both family but also a significant social event at that time as well.

Birthday celebration of elder people: In ancient China, people over 60 years old was considered longevity. The image that scroll describes here is showing a celebration in a wealthy family for elder member's birthday. The feast has already begun while people still coming and congratulating. Servants of those guests are carrying their gifts into host's house from street. Showing the city has a long life expectation.

Affordable private education: Free private school sponsored by retired official. Firstly set up by Fan Zhongyan, the former prime minister in Song Dynasty (1049 A.D). The school provided free education to children from low-income families so that they would have chance to attend the imperial examination to fight for their future.

The scroll presented an ideal city in scales. Urban landscape, infrastructure in terms of city walls, bridges over canals show how the context the city was building on. With massive residents fabric both inside and outside the city walls established how communities and commercial streets in between relying on the urban structure set by its landscape and infrastructure. Though the scroll is not following the real scale of the city but conceptually put every significant part of the city all together without having an "edge' shown on the scroll, precisely described events still can be spotted in the scroll showing important moments in life that can be understood as a list of life achievements.
a complicate but well functioning infrastructure in terms of canals, roads, bridges, the massive consumption can be held in


tired scholars from the court came back with fame and wealth. Only with this fundamental financial support, together with

fortune for peasants; fast and cheap transportation canal system brought more and more wealth to merchants; and those re

production on agriculture made a considerable

ago, there are three reasons that assure the city wealthy: High production on agriculture, fast and cheap local and regional

transportation system, largest group of scholars severing the government. Production on agriculture made a considerable

Back to the scroll, in this way, in a common sense, prosperous means having or characterizing by financial success or good

mon.

By setting up four scenes letting people to imagine and realize that happiness is the feature that four scenes have in com-

Gaining success and fame overnight.

Meeting an old friend far away from home;

"Raining after a prolonged drought,

金榜提名时。"

洞房花烛夜,

他乡遇故知;

"久旱逢甘霖,

Dynasty (960AD-1272AD) wrote a poem named "Happy" without mentioning "happy" in the poem:

a great skill if the artist can explain or represent an idea without literally saying or drawing it. There was a poet from Song

people that the drawing is talking about prosperous. It's actually typical Chinese way of representation. It was considered

ceremony like in the past, and how did people live there 260 years ago. But there is no direct clue or sign that is telling

on, down to the very detailed activities that people were celebrating at that time. People can easily tell how the city was

Form the comprehensive drawing we received abundance information in scales from the context that the city was sitting

"Prosperous 1759"
Old fabric has been replaced by a "modern" mega block as a commercial district including pedestrian commercial street and malls with hotels on the top. The newly built metro station sits right below this block brings people all around the city.

Surprisingly, the metro station (Shilu) has no direct connection to any commercial space at all. At same time the historical pedestrian street (Shantang) is right across the canal to the north, majorly for tourism, also no connection.

High speed regional/domestic rail system contributes huge to the economy of Yangtze Delta Region. It made Suzhou sitting right next to Shanghai (less than 30 mins).

Train track and high way cut the city into two pieces and nearest cross bridge is half mile away. Land selling is a huge chunk of income source of the city. Part of the revenue are used running the affordable housing projects for those who are under poverty line and cannot afford to pay for their home.

All affordable housing communities are built the same way as commercial housing do: protect and isolated itself from the context. In this way, streets are no longer watched by the neighbourhood and are no longer safe.

"Prosperous" Suzhou 14

What brought the current "prosperous"? For the past three decades Suzhou offered a series of privilege policies in order to attract foreign investments accelerating the pace of the economic growth. In recent years the investments range are extend from industrial plantings to commercial centers. Dometic high speed train system started five years ago and now is functioning pretty good.

At the same time, "real estate industry" booming in last decade produced many new well decorated and protected communities and also made those communities important part of consumption. In this way, land selling became one of the major income source for the government. On the other hand, renovation of historical commercial street and affordable housing project being put onto the table due to its increasing income.

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