



World Bonsai Friendship Federation, Inc

E-1 Hwa Hwe Danji 1262

Wondang Dong DeokYang Gu Goyang Si

Gyeong Gi Province

Republic of Korea

Webpage: www.wbffbonsai.org

Master Zhao Qingquan 赵庆泉盆景艺术家



Zhao Qingquan, born in 1949 in Yangzhou, Jiangsu Province, China, is widely recognized as one of the foremost masters of Chinese penjing—the ancient art of miniature landscape creation. His journey into penjing began under the influence of his father and was later shaped by the mentorship of Professor Xu Xiaobai, a distinguished figure in the field. Over the decades, Zhao has become a central figure in the global penjing community, serving as Chief Technician of the Yangzhou Penjing Garden, Vice President of the China Penjing Artists Association, and an International Bonsai Instructor with Bonsai Clubs International. He also acts as an International Consultant for the World Bonsai Friendship Federation, reflecting his deep commitment to the worldwide promotion of this traditional art form.

Zhao's artistic philosophy is rooted in the harmonious blend of traditional Chinese aesthetics with modern sensibilities. He is known for his poetic approach to penjing, often drawing inspiration from classical Chinese literati paintings. His work spans the three major categories of penjing: 树木盆景 (tree-based), 山水盆景 (mountain and water landscapes), and 水旱盆景 (water-and-land compositions). In the 1970s, Zhao pioneered the Shuihan style, integrating trees, rocks, and water to evoke serene natural scenes that resonate with cultural depth and emotional subtlety. He views penjing not merely as a decorative art but as a living, evolving expression of inner peace and philosophical reflection.



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Throughout his illustrious career, Zhao Qingquan has received numerous accolades. He was honored as a Master of Chinese Penjing Artists in both 1994 and 2001, and received the prestigious “Promoting Bonsai Throughout the World” award at the World Bonsai Convention in Puerto Rico in 2009. His creations have earned top prizes at national and international exhibitions, including the China Flower Expo, the China Bonsai Exhibition, and the World Horticultural Exposition. These awards underscore his technical mastery and his role in elevating penjing to a respected global art form.

Zhao’s influence extends far beyond China. He has conducted over 60 international presentations across continents, including in the United States, Canada, France, Italy, Australia, Japan, India, Malaysia, and Indonesia. His teachings have helped distinguish Chinese penjing from Japanese bonsai in the eyes of global audiences, emphasizing its unique cultural and philosophical roots. Through workshops, lectures, and exhibitions, Zhao has inspired a new generation of artists and enthusiasts to explore the depth and beauty of penjing.

In addition to his artistic and educational contributions, Zhao Qingquan is a prolific author. His books, such as *Penjing: Worlds of Wonderment*, *Penjing: The Chinese Art of Bonsai*, *Forest Penjing*, and *Literati Style Penjing*, are widely regarded as essential reading for both beginners and seasoned practitioners. These publications offer rich visual documentation and insightful commentary on the history, aesthetics, and techniques of penjing, making them invaluable resources for anyone seeking to understand or practice the art.