



Tongjiang Stone Carving

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通江石雕——千佛崖摩崖造像。图据通江县文物保护中心公众号

Tongjiang Stone Carving, a precious intangible cultural heritage of China, with a history spanning over 300 years. Originating from Tongjiang County of Sichuan Province, it has been refined and passed down through generations of local artisans.

Craftsmen primarily use local high-quality stones like bluestone and white marble, which are known for their hardness and fine texture — ideal for intricate carving. The themes of Tongjiang Stone Carving are rich and diverse, often depicting traditional Chinese culture such as mythical figures, folk tales, landscapes, and auspicious patterns. For example, famous works include carvings of the “Eight Immortals” from Chinese mythology and scenes of harvests, reflecting the local people’s life and beliefs.

What makes Tongjiang Stone Carving unique is its exquisite techniques. Artisans combine round carving, and line carving, paying great attention to details — even the folds of a figure’s clothing or the veins of a leaf are vividly portrayed. Today, Tongjiang Stone Carving not only preserves traditional techniques but also integrates modern aesthetic



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concepts, making it popular both domestically and internationally. It serves as a vivid carrier of Chinese traditional culture, embodying the wisdom and creativity of Tongjiang’s artisans. However, according to Zeng YuPing, the only direct disciple of the craft’s lineage, the art faces a severe shortage of successors. Since stone carving requires artisans to possess a wide range of skills, coupled with a long learning cycle and high labor intensity, many young people are unwilling to learn, resulting in a shortage of successors. Therefore, its preservation and transmission have become an urgent priority.

译文

通江石雕

通江石雕是中国珍贵的非物质文化遗产，其历史已逾300年。它发源于四川省通江县，历经当地数代工匠的手传承至今。

通江石雕的原料主要采用青石、汉白玉等本地优质石材，这类石材硬度高、质地细腻，是进行精细雕刻的理想材料。通江石雕的题材丰富多样，常以神话人物、民间故事、山水风景、吉祥纹样等中国传统文化元素为创作内容。例如，常见作品有中国神话中的“八仙”以及丰收的场景，这些作品反映了当地人民的生活风貌与精神信仰。

通江石雕的独特之处在于精湛的工艺。工匠们将浮雕、圆雕、线雕等技法相结合，极度注重细节刻画——即便人物衣物的褶皱、叶片的脉络，都能生动地呈现出来。如今，通江石雕不仅保留了传统工艺精髓，还融入了现代审美理念，深受国内外大众的喜爱。它是中国传统文化的鲜活载体，彰显着通江工匠的智慧与创造力。然而，据通江石雕传承人曾玉平说，由于石雕需要艺人具备广泛的技能，加上学习周期长、劳动强度大，技艺难以掌握，因此，通江石雕的保护与传承已成为当务之急。

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