

Professor Wang Qiqi, a professor at the Luxun Academy of Fine Arts, is exhibiting his large-scale oil painting "1994" in Tokyo from September 28 to October 5, which is causing a fervent reaction in various circles in Japan.

The giant oil painting "194" is 20 meters wide and 3 meters high, and took Professor Wang Qiqi, a professor at the Luxun Academy of Fine Arts, seven years to complete. The work depicts the repatriation of the Japanese left behind on the island of Huludao in 1946 in a unique artistic composition. The entire painting depicts the historical moment of the repatriation of the Japanese prisoners of war and survivors of that year to Japan by ship. The exhibition held at the Tokyo Bijutsu Club has been visited by many Japanese art professionals and citizens. Not a few of them have experienced the Great Repatriation and now have gray heads. Mr. Aoyagi Masaki, former Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs of Japan, was one of the repatriates that year. Four years ago, Mr. Aoyagi visited the production site in Shenyang, and when he stood in front of the finished painting, he was deeply moved.

Former Commissioner for Cultural Affairs, Mr. Masaki Aoyagi: I was two years and four months old when I was repatriated from China, so my memory of that time is not very clear. I was two years and four months old when I was repatriated from China, so I don't have a clear memory of that time, but my mother and grandmother often told me stories about that time, which may have helped me form a vague memory. Wang Qiqi's paintings vividly recreated this vague memory.

Maizuru City in Japan is the city where the repatriates landed upon their arrival in Japan that year, and is home to more than 600,000 people. The Maizuru City Repatriation Memorial Museum is currently the largest museum in Japan dedicated to World War II repatriates.

Mr. Miharu Yamashita, Director of the Maizuru City Repatriation Memorial Museum: The brilliance of life that comes to us one after another through the works of art moves my heart. We must recognize the truth of history, and we must strive for friendly exchanges between nations and realize peace together.

Wang Qiqi, professor at the Luxun Academy of Fine Arts: I hope that this exhibition will inspire people to truly love and care about peace. There are no winners in war. And the people who suffer the most are the citizens, children, and innocent children depicted here.

This exhibition was held in the year of the 45th anniversary of the normalization of diplomatic relations between Japan and China, and has attracted the attention of the media, including the Asahi Shimbun, Mainichi Shimbun, and NHK television.

Mr. Daisuke Akiyama, General Manager of NHK Exhibition & Expo Division: I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Chinese artist who created this huge oil painting expressing the history. I am sure that many Japanese will visit the exhibition, which will be held on the anniversary of the normalization of diplomatic relations between China and Japan.

During the exhibition period, an academic symposium on this painting was held at Josai University in Japan with experts from China, the US, and Japan. This meeting was held to discuss the artistic characteristics and creative achievements of the work.

Liu Yuefeng, a researcher at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences: This painting is one big work that transcends race, nation and culture. I feel that this exhibition was a very successful and important project in Japan.

Brian, University of Massachusetts, USA: This work brings history to life and accurately recreates it through visual language, allowing people to think again about war. I think this work will also serve as a bridge for artistic exchange between China and Japan.