

文房四寶 — 硯

磨墨寫字,必須用硯。中國的原硯,可追溯到五十年代在西安半坡遺址出土,用以研磨顏料 的石磨盤,已有約六七千年的歷史。

早期的墨多為天然石墨或松煤,並無定形,故需用研石研磨。東漢以後,隨 和膠所做的墨錠(音"訂",指成塊狀之墨)普遍使用,墨可以直接在硯上研磨,研石才逐漸棄用。

古代的硯,製造材料有石、陶、瓷、瓦、漆、銅、鐵等,造型多種多樣。由於優質的石硯堅實滋潤,具有發墨瑩澈、蓄墨不涸、不傷筆毫的特性,隋唐以後的文人特別鍾愛,石硯的製造為之大盛。著名的石硯有廣東的端硯、江西的歙(音"攝")硯、山東的魯硯等。洮河硯、紅絲硯和澄泥硯也是中國名硯,但歷來製造數量不多,且停產已久,不易得見。



万.硯

名硯之中,端硯的名氣最大。端硯產於肇慶府端州(今肇慶市),"始於唐武德之世"(《石隱硯談》),當時以實用為主,甚少裝飾,廣為人所用,故有"天下無貴賤通用"(《國史補》)之語。



金沙硯



唐開元年間,婺(音" 務 ")源縣(今江西省內)一名獵戶無意中發現一塊龍尾山石,粗琢成硯," 溫潤大過端溪 "; 其後經匠人精製," 龍尾硯 "遂揚名天下。由於當時安徽的歙縣等地原屬歙州管轄,所以它又稱" 婺源硯 "和" 歙 硯"。



南唐後主李煜雅好翰墨,宮中所用的澄心堂紙、李廷珪墨、龍尾硯三物, 合稱天下之冠。有人把諸葛氏筆凑在一起,就成了名垂千秋的"文房四寶"。

硯石皆有各式各樣的石品花紋,名目繁多,多以石紋形態命名。宋、明以後,文人不僅要求石質佳美,也注重形制雕琢,匠人按硯材的形態和石花紋理精心雕琢,各式雜形的硯應運而生,石硯遂兼具觀賞價值。歷代文人又好為硯銘,或詠石記事,或言志抒情,使硯在實用和藝術價值之外,再添一抹文學色彩,涵蘊深宏。

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編者的話 From the Editor

與我們同行

每次審閱稿件,總覺文字天地 既廣且闊,該容得下百花異彩,各 自燦爛綻放。同好一起來耕耘這片 園地,取諸懷抱也好,因寄所託也 好,樂趣想必更多。獨樂不如眾 樂,興感所至,何不拿起筆來,把 不成片段的思緒拓成不變的字符, 與知音分享?以文會友,絕對是一 大快事。

惠賜佳作,請把稿件傳真或電郵給我們(傳真號碼:25218772;電郵地址:olaenq@ola.gcn.gov.hk)、來稿請註明姓名、地址和電話,以便聯絡。

Please join us

Scanning through the manuscripts of this issue's *Word Power*, we thought: there must be many wonderful stories out there waiting to be told. A vast treasure trove to be tapped.

So come on you gifted storytellers, writers, shrewd observers of linguistic and cultural differences, pick up your pen (or, more likely, strike your PC keyboard), turn your ideas into much valued contributions to *Word Power*. Reaching out to thousands of readers in the civil service with original thoughts in your own words and in your own style is, we can assure you, very satisfying and rewarding. You may fax your contributions, preferably under 500 words, to us at 2521 8772 or send it by email to olaenq@ola.gcn.gov.hk. Please also include your name, address and phone number.

Acknowledgement

Mr Tony Miller, Director of Housing, has kindly offered editorial assistance in respect of the English texts of this issue. The editorial board would like to thank him for his time and advice. Moreover, we are honoured to have Mr Miller as our Honorary Adviser on Word Power in future issues.