

Kinmen shell artist steals the show at art exhibition

拼貝藝術 拼出風頭



Construction worker Chen Chih-wei **stole the show** at a recent Kinmen cultural exhibition with a unique creation — a rendering of a local **deity**, the Kinmen "Wind Lion," made entirely out of shells.

The self-taught 45-year-old started collecting shells over 20 years ago when Kinmen's beaches were still a no-go area for most people. To maintain the natural **aesthetic** of his sculptures he insists on using shell for every feature, including the eyes, mouth and nose.

Despite having **calloused** hands from years spent working on construction sites, Chen's creations are surprisingly delicate.

He says that loquat fruit-shaped shells are best for creating sculptures of the female form, with the hips and breasts being particularly well-suited to such shells, and you can see exactly what he means once you take a look at his troupe of

three shell pole dancers. It took him a week to create the first raunchy dancer, but he only needed two days to complete the other two.

Because it's just a hobby, Chen feels no pressure when making his sculptures, which means he can just follow the muse wherever it takes him and lovingly craft each one. Such is his passion, if he were to create a pig's head he would be able to give you a detailed account of the sculpture, and could even let you know its gender.

(LIBERTY TIMES, TRANSLATED BY TAIJING WU)

用貝殼打造「拼貝藝術」，是在工地上班的陳志緯「撿」來的興趣。金門守護神風獅爺被他拼成「貝」勒爺，獨一無二，讓他在金門文創特展中大出風頭。

二十幾年前，金門海邊還被視為禁地，四十五歲的陳志緯就開始收集貝類。他說，拼貝是無師自通的興趣，很自然的「拼」，且

拼出來的人或動物都堅持不剪修，連眼睛、嘴、鼻都用貝殼。

陳志緯在工地上班，粗獷的雙手有細膩的絕活。

他說，琵琶螺的弧形漂亮，與女性婀娜的線條十分相符，尤其是臀部、胸部的曲線，看著、看著就看出了味道：第一個鋼管女郎花了一星期，後來兩個只花兩天，都是前凸後翹的勁爆女郎。

因為是興趣，所以沒有壓力，也讓陳志緯製作過程投入。全憑感覺的作品，「神韻」成了特色，連顆豬頭，對公、母的分別也說得頭頭是道。

(自由時報記者吳正庭攝)

Construction worker Chen Chih-wei poses with his shell sculpture of the Kinmen Wind Lion, top right, and a close-up of his shell pole dancers, pictured on April 17.

PHOTOS: WU CHENG-TING, LIBERTY TIMES

四月十七日，在工地上班的陳志緯與用貝殼打造的金門「風獅爺」合影（上圖右），及其作品「鋼管女郎」特寫。

照片：自由時報記者吳正庭攝

TODAY'S WORDS 今日單字

1. deity /'di:əti/ n.

神 (shen2)

例: The villagers worship multiple deities, for all sorts of reasons.

(村民們因為種種原因膜拜多神。)

2. aesthetic /es'θetɪk/ n.

美學 (mei3 xue2)

例: I really enjoyed the aesthetic of the performance.

(我相當欣賞這次表演所呈現的美學。)

3. calloused /'kæləst/ adj.

粗糙的 (cu1 cao1 de5)

例: Leo has calloused hands after years working on a farm.

(李奧在農場工作多年，雙手都起了老繭。)

LANGUAGE POINT 重要片語

steal the show 大出風頭

Somebody **steals the show** if they are the most popular attraction at an exhibition or event. According to the article, Chen's shell sculptures **stole the show** at the recent cultural exhibition.

Example: "On her first performance, Dana **stole the show** from the senior singers."

「steal the show」意指在某展演或公開活動上吸引最多人注意。上文中提到，陳志緯的拼貝作品在最近的金門文創特展上大出風頭。

例如：「初次登台的戴娜搶走了歌壇前輩們的風采」。