

Folk Custom Performances

捏麵人 Dough Figurine

Dough figurines are also known as “Jiangmi” figurines or glutinous rice figurines. The kneading skills include mix-and-twist, stick-and-glue, as well as trim-and-mold. The range of figurine designs mainly covers legendary figures, characters from traditional Chinese opera and animals. The contemporary dough figurine artists also offer animated and comic characters, gaining popular acceptance among the public.

剪影 Paper-cut Silhouette

The paper-cut silhouette requires similar skills adopted in decoupage art, as fold-and-cut and sketch-and-cut are both fundamental techniques for decoupage. In addition, paper-cut silhouette artists need to have a strong background in sketching, and capabilities of being sensitive and observant. These qualities allow the artists to capture the facial outline and characteristics of the model within a blink before proceeding to cut a silhouette of the model's face in profile.

龍鬚糖 Dragon Beard Candy

During the Qing Dynasty, the imperial chefs traveled all around China to look for strange and exotic foods to bring back to the imperial court. One of the discoveries made during this time was a candy made from fine strands of sugar and rice flour. One day, after the emperor had enjoyed his sumptuous meal, the imperial chefs demonstrated the process of making the sugar candy before the emperor and asked him to try the newly-discovered dessert. The strange appearance of the candy, consisting of many very fine strands of sugar, looking like strands of beard, and its unique flavor pleased the emperor greatly. He then ordered to reward his concubines and subjects with numerous gifts and prizes. As the symbol of the dragon is often associated with the emperor, this special candy became known as Dragon Beard Candy, or Longxu Tang.

吸管編織 Straw Weaving

Straw weaving is a performance of turning a daily product into a piece of art work. It was originated from grass weaving, another type of folk art performance which was done by using Ling-Tou leaves as materials for weaving. As grass weaving performance ages, straw weaving became the replacement for the younger generation. People are often entertained by the hand-and-brain coordination of the straw weaving artist, and attracted by the vivid artistic production.