

## 大溪老街的彩妝

### Make-up of Dasi Old Streets

漫步在大溪老街，「牌樓面」無疑是最吸引人們目光聚集的所在。不僅造形多變，山牆面上的花草紋飾，更展現出古早時代老師傅的精緻手藝與藝術天分。

午后陽光灑在老街兩旁的亭仔腳，耆老們三兩坐著正閒話家常，他們回憶起那一年的店屋改築……。

時光回溯到1919(大正8)年，日本人在大溪進行市區改正，因道路的拓寬拆除了原有店屋臨街面的一部分，居民只好重新製作新的門面：牌樓面(類似古早時代廟會祭祀的牌樓而稱之)就這樣誕生了……。走在街路上常見有多組土水司在趕工施作，由夯土整地、疊砌磚牆、屋頂覆瓦等，到了牌樓面的外表裝修時，大部分會交由堆花司或剪黏司操刀，其中有位台北大稻埕師傅陳旺來(1893~1974)，人稱旺來司，時年26歲，帶領其弟郭三川等承接牌樓面的裝飾工程。

兩兄弟早期隨父親陳大廷(豆生司)學習「剪黏與堆花」技藝。後因大正初年參與總督府(今總統府)水泥及石膏等裝飾工事，學會開模印花與洗石子等技巧；時值日本政府推展市區改正計畫，需興建店屋及牌樓厝，所以有了大展身手的機會，兩兄弟的作品在大溪與台北迪化街處處可見。

日頭漸漸暗！牌樓厝頂的燈漸漸亮起，那一年的店屋改築……總有訴說不盡的回憶。

老街牌樓面整修時的情景。(1998攝)  
Façades of the arcades on the Old Streets  
under renovation in 1998



如今老街已整「妝」完畢，就等您造訪！  
The Old Streets after renovation expect your visit.  
Let's go!!



## — 牌樓面的故事

文稿 / 葉俊麟  
Text / Jiung-ling Yeh

### -The Story of the façades of the Arcades

Strolling along the old streets in Dasi, people are surely attracted to the eye-catching façades of the arcades which are not only of varied forms but also with floral decorations on the gable which shows aged masters' refined craftsmanship and artistic talents in the old days.

When the sun shines on the arcades on both sides of the old street in the afternoon, the respected old men sit and chat in small groups. They think back to the year when the store-houses were under renovation.

Time goes backwards to 1919 when the Colonial Government instituted a city-restructuring plan in Dasi. To broaden out the roads, part of the store-houses facing the roads was torn down; therefore, the residents were obliged to build new façades for their house. Thus the façades of the arcades (similar to the archways built in temple fairs in the old days) came into being.

Walking on the streets, you often saw a good many teams of builders busy with work including preparing soil for construction, building brick walls, and covering the roof with tiles among others. As far as exterior decoration was concerned, most of the job was handled by flower-sculpting craftsmen or cut-and-paste craftsmen. There was a 26 year-old craftsman whose name is Wang-lai Chen coming from Dadaocheng, Taipei and referred to by people as Master Wang-lai. He led his brother San-chuan Guo and others to undertake the decoration job of the façades.

The two brothers followed their father Da-ting Chen and learned the techniques of cut-and-paste and clay sculpture at early stages. They learned the techniques of floral-mold making and pebble wall making among others when they participated in the decoration work of the Governor's Office (the Presidential Office now) in the early Dajheng Period. It so happened that the Colonial Government pushed forward a city-restructuring plan which required the construction of store-houses and buildings with the façades of the arcades. Accordingly, they had the opportunity to demonstrate their full powers and achieved fame for extraordinary skills. You may see their work everywhere in Dasi and Taipei Dihua Street.

While it turns dark gradually as the sun sets, lights on top of the buildings with the façades of the arcades turn brighter and brighter. Regarding the year when the store-houses were under renovation, there are endless stories for one to recall and tell.