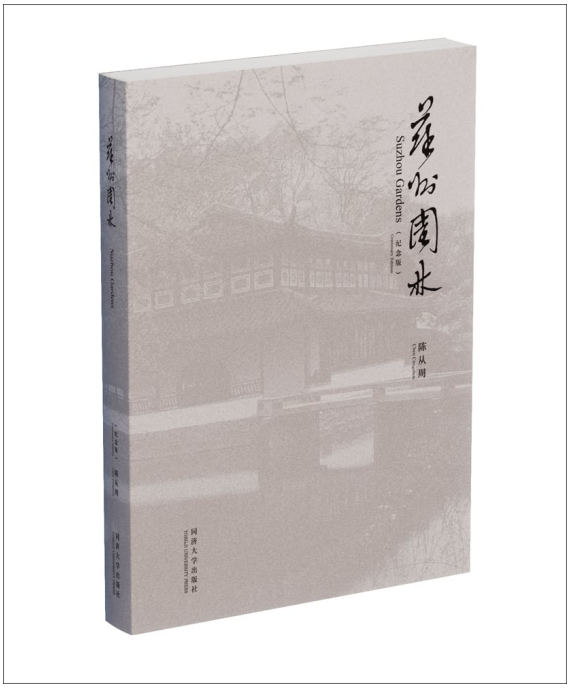
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Suzhou Gardens

Centenary Edition

Chen Congzhou

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- Written by Chen Congzhou, the leading Chinese garden historian of his generation. It established his reputation worldwide, and although it was his first book he considered it his favourite
- Furthers a deeper understanding what can be done to foster China's splendid inherited garden culture
- The finalised English version faithfully transmits the original meaning, making the whole book a wonderful reading experience

This book explores the illustrious gardens in Suzhou as both an important page in the history of Chinese gardens, and as a place of recreation and cultivation for the people. Based on architectural surveys of Suzhou gardens and an analysis of Zhuozheng Yuan (the Humble Administrator's Garden) and Liuyuan (the Lingering Garden), this abundantly illustrated book presents the overall gardening characteristics and gardening skills of Jiangnan Garden. Included here are 196 rare archival images of actual gardens, echoed by Song lyrics and calligraphic writing, which provide a comprehensive interpretation of the art of traditional Chinese gardens in both form and shape. The essays are characterised by an urbane and elegant narrative style and occasional passages of lyric expression, and touch on the fields of history, architecture, literature, and painting. The finalised English version faithfully transmits the original meaning, making the whole book a wonderful reading experience.

Text in English and Chinese.

Chen Congzhou (1918-2000), Professor of Architecture at Tongji University, Shanghai, was the leading Chinese garden historian of his generation, and also a practicing landscape architect involved in the restoration of historic gardens. He served as an advisor to I. M. Pei & Associates and was made an honorary member of the Japanese Garden Society. He is widely referenced and quoted by specialists on Chinese gardens, and is considered one of the most preeminent thinkers and scholars in this field.

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