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**Chinese culture in Britain 英国人看中国**

Jacqui: Hello and welcome to Ask About Britain, the programme where we answer your questions about British life and institutions. I'm Jacqui.

Yang Li: 大家好我是杨莉。英国问答节目已经解答了不少有关英国文化和习俗的问题。今天的问题换了一个角度。请听北京外国语大学刘宇的问题:

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*I want to know is China really influential in Britain, the Chinese culture-are they fascinating to British people?*

Jacqui: Is China influential in Britain? Are British people fascinated by Chinese culture?

Yang Li: 这倒是很有代表性的问题，英国人怎么看待中国的影响力和中国文化。

Jacqui: As usual, we talked to a few people about their views on Chinese culture:

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*The Chinese culture seems to me, like most of the people of my age somewhat mysterious, but within that it's the enormous breadth of it covering nearly all part of the arts: sculpture, painting and it is so ancient and we know relatively so little about it. On the more ordinary front I find most of the different foods whether Cantonese or Mandarin absolutely delicious. Overall, yes I find the whole Chinese culture fascinating.*

Jacqui: We have heard some good expressions here:  
mysterious; 神秘的  
enormous breadth 广阔的范围  
arts, sculpture and painting; 艺术; 雕塑和绘画  
ancient 古老的

Jacqui: In talking about Chinese food he used the words:  
absolutely delicious 绝顶的好吃. So the conclusion is he finds Chinese culture fascinating.

Yang Li: 总的说来，他认为中国文化很吸引人。

Jacqui: While a lot of people here like Chinese food they also have some doubts.

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*I love Chinese food but I suspect that the Chinese food we get served here is far inferior to the kind of Chinese food you would get in China. I'd like to know more a bit more about Chinese music, about Chinese culture and theatre, I think that those kind of areas interest me.*

- Yang Li: 我很同意这位女士的判断，这里的中餐和中国当地的中餐相比有很大不同。
- Jacqui: She suspects that the Chinese food here is far inferior to the kind of Chinese food in China: inferior to
- Yang Li: 低劣的 inferior. 它的反义词是 superior.
- Jacqui: Apart from Chinese food, which is always related to Chinese culture in this country, people are interested in other areas as well.

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*I have seen a few films and they definitely have a style all of their own, a very opulent look which I always enjoyed. I suppose if I am to pick one thing I think I have always been very interested in kind of health and medicine. There is obviously there's a big interest in Chinese herbalism and everything here. There is just something about the way these systems of health and exercise have been developed over so many years, they seem very interesting and therefore very powerful I think because they have obviously been really really thought about.*

- Jacqui: He mentioned Chinese films and said that they have a very opulent look which he always enjoyed.
- Yang Li: 他看过的中国电影都很华丽丰盛 opulent look
- Jacqui: But what he is most interested in is Chinese medicine
- Yang Li: 中医。Chinese medicine.
- Jacqui: He says there is a big interest in Chinese herbalism in the UK, He means Chinese herbal medicine.
- Yang Li: Chinese herbal medicine 中国草药医学。
- Jacqui: So far we have heard some British views on Chinese art, music, food and medicine.
- Yang Li: But there is more to it, as you will hear in the next clip from a student of international I relations:

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*Well, for me China is a really interesting country in international relations today which I am studying. Because of its economic power and its ability to control and manage such a huge population in such a massive economic power. I do believe that it raises tensions and certain constraints internationally because of its power. And it is quite scary for a lot of the western countries, but I do believe that these western countries have to- because of its power and because of its economic importance today-engage with it.*

- Jacqui: He says China is a really interesting country in international relations.
- Yang Li: International relations 国际关系。
- Jacqui: He thinks that because of China's economic power, it raises tensions and certain constraints internationally.
- Yang Li: 由于中国的经济强势地位，它给国际关系带来了某些紧张和约束 Tensions 关系紧张 constraints 束缚。
- Jacqui: It is quite scary for a lot of western countries, but because of its economic power the speaker thinks that western countries have to engage with China.
- Yang Li: 由于中国的经济实力，讲话者认为西方国家必须和中国接触和对话。To engage with China.
- Jacqui: Well, China is very much in the news every day and Chinese products are seen in all the shops.
- Yang Li: I can hear Chinese being spoken almost every time I travel on the train. 所有这些都从不同的侧面说明中国的影响力，对吗？
- Jacqui: Yes. But there are a lot more programmes on British culture on our website which is updated every day.
- Yang Li: Our website is [www.bbcchina.com.cn](http://www.bbcchina.com.cn)
- Jacqui: Thanks for listening and see you next time.
- Yang Li: Bye.

## Glossary

influential 具有影响力的	fascinating 吸引人的
mysterious 神秘的	delicious 好吃的
tensions (关系) 紧张	constraints 约束/束缚
to engage with China 与中国接触/对话	