

## The other side of 'dazzling' Shanghai

Director Jia Zhangke's new documentary exposes a hidden side of the city, **Shi Jing** and **Liu Wei** report.

**J**ia Zhangke, a leading figure of the Sixth Generation movement in Chinese cinema, has brought his talent to the Expo 2010 Shanghai.

The director won the coveted Gold Lion at the 2006 Venice Film Festival for the movie *Still Life*. On July 2, he released a documentary, *I Wish I Knew*, to celebrate the opening of the Expo and give an alternative interpretation of the city's past.

Jia attempts to expose the city during an age of turbulence through the experiences of eight people.

"People outside Shanghai only see a city that dazzles others with its fast-growing economy. Scenic films of Shanghai only depict the city as if it is brand new," said Jia. "Therefore, many people think they know the

city very well, but the truth is, they don't at all."

The director is not new to Shanghai. For him, the story of the city lies in the lives of the residents here. To make the film more convincing, Jia spent two years interviewing about 100 people all over China and found 18 people to tell the changing history of Shanghai through events in their own lives. Celebrities from all walks of life, such as Chen Danqing, a renowned oil painter; Hou Hsiao-Hsien, an award-winning film director and a leading figure of Taiwan's New Wave cinema movement; Du Meiru, daughter of the well-known Shanghai gangster Du Yuesheng; and Han Han, the controversial young writer, all contribute to this must-see movie.

"Although the heroes I shot in the film are all celebrities, they are put in daily settings. This helps to achieve the focus that I have long been seeking," said the director.

"People are the most important part to every city. What I am doing in the film is not preaching history, but rather showing the difficulties that one person will go through during the ups and downs of the society, be him an ordinary worker or an elite," said Jia. "Respect is shown for personal memories."

The director is brave enough to touch upon sensitive topics such as the relationship between the Chinese Communist Party and the Kuomintang; the parting of relatives during the turbulent year of 1949; and the Cultural Revolution. To



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**Jia Zhangke** is a leading figure of the Sixth Generation movement in Chinese cinema.

him, listening to the stories of the people was the only way to explore the past.

"We have broken through many restraints in the film by showing the

personal feelings of people. We have not evaded the sensitive topics such as the Cultural Revolution. So the film is much more than just a film to promote the Expo," Jia said.

## Huaqiao: a new financial Silicon Valley

By **SHI JING**

Huaqiao International Business Service Park is the only provincial development area in China characterized by a dominant modern service industry. It will provide services for businesses in Shanghai and establish an outsourcing service base and a national financial outsourcing demonstration zone.

Its four major industries include an outsourcing service, a background processing center for financial institutes, a regional headquarters for manufacturing enterprises, and a logistics and purchasing center.

In 2009, the park was awarded "The Best Financial Outsourcing Base in China" and "One of the 10 Best Outsourcing Parks in China".

Huaqiao International Business Service Park borders Shanghai municipality and Jiangsu province and is only 25 kilometers from downtown Shanghai.

It is conveniently located near the Shanghai-Nanjing Expressway, Tongjiang-Sanya Expressway, Suzhou-Shanghai Expressway and Shanghai Metro line 11. It also allows for easy access to Shanghai Hongqiao International Airport and Pudong International Airport.

Plans are continuing to establish Huaqiao as an "international, technological, ecological, people-oriented and livable" satellite business park that will be influential at home and abroad.

Huaqiao is becoming known as a thriving financial "Silicon Valley". It is attempting to form a high-standard financial outsourcing center

by taking advantage of Shanghai's status as an international financial center. Its slogan is: "Incorporating Shanghai, facing the world and serving Jiangsu."

A modern services demonstration zone will be set up at Huaqiao by introducing projects that involve advanced research designs, business processes and trade settlement.

It will establish a trade corporation zone with Taiwan by taking advantage of the huge number of Taiwanese companies in the Yangtze River Delta, importing and exporting Taiwanese products within this area and all around China.

Huaqiao will be a thriving place for entrepreneurship.

It aims to establish a place that will attract new industries and talent by constructing a "city of wisdom" driven by information technology.

Environmentally friendly and people oriented, Huaqiao will become a preferred place to live. The park is also undertaking a "talent multiplication plan" to

attract talented individuals with a best practices and clean environment policy.

The Huaqiao International Business Park aims at establishing a business-centered, well-facilitated and attractive international satellite city and business center that will boast a production volume of 100 billion yuan (\$14.6 billion). About 300,000 professionals and their families will live at the 10-million-square-meter park by the end of 2015.

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