



中文基本功

歌的原創者是作曲作詞人 歌者唱得再好也只屬演繹

十二月十七日香港電台《講東講西》講台灣歌星鄧麗君。聽內容，知是為一個演唱會呼聲。主持及嘉賓都以「空前絕後」一語加諸鄧小姐，顯得廣告味濃。這也難怪。香港傳媒有關流行曲的節目，大都如此。嘉賓可能說溜了嘴，有幾點說來失實，須予以辨正，免年輕的聽眾受到誤導。

會來中國，何「再」之有！《三星伴月》放映後，上海人人爭唱《何日君再來》，抗戰尚未爆發；這齣愛情片也毫無政治氣味，怎麼也扯不到日本，何況日皇？如果說，鄧麗君唱《何日君再來》，比過去五十年來每一位唱這首歌的都唱得「好」，也要明示有何標準。不論男女歌者，唱時都是把歌曲（包括旋律和歌詞）內容所營造的意境通過歌聲傳給聽眾，與之共享；就是誰唱《何日君再來》都是將歌曲的意境加以演繹。原創（作曲、作詞）和演繹（唱歌）所負的使命是不容混淆，更不容顛倒。換句話說，歌者唱得再好，也只是將原曲演繹，而作曲、作詞的人才原創者。這是欣賞音樂起碼的常識。鄧麗君唱《何日君再來》雖則動聽，但只唱出自己，沒有完整地將歌曲的意境傳給聽眾，缺點在多了幾分哀怨，未合原曲的格調。她誤會了原創意圖是男主角永遠不會回來；也許她沒有誤會，而要在人家的歌上「創」自己的「新」，這在演繹上就未盡善盡美了，因為表達不出應該表達的意境。

容若



A long way ahead to build Sino-US military mutual trust

US Secretary of Defense Robert Gates will conclude his current visit to China today amid worldwide attention. Opinions differ on what his visit may have actually achieved. Nevertheless, it is beyond doubt that his trip has created a good atmosphere for President Hu Jintao's state visit to the United States later this month, injected new dynamics into the Sino-US military ties at its low ebb and marked a good beginning for the development of Sino-US relations.

There is no need to hide that military exchange remains a shortcoming in Sino-US relations, a most fragile and sensitive link in the two countries' ties. After Washington decided to resume arms sales to Taiwan last year, military exchange between China and US has been suspended and their relations have entered a period of turbulence dominated by constant friction. Since last year, the United States has stepped up its strategic readjustment to speed up its "return to Asia". US military comeback leads its "return to Asia". The US navy, army and air force became the early birds to catch the worm. They made use of the incident of the (sinking of South Korean naval warship) Cheonan to upgrade US-South Korea alliance, to consolidate US-Japan alliance and to expand its military cooperation with Southeast and South Asia countries, speeding up the building of a ring of encirclement to contain China. In a short while, a large number of troops have borne down on East Asia. War games have been held with cannons roaring and clouds of smoke floating. Tensions in the region have kept escalating. At the same time, the "theory of Chinese military threat" has caused a great clamour. New weapons developed by the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA), such as the new-type anti-ship missile and J-20 stealth jet fighter, have drawn worldwide attention and frightened the US military. It is at such an important moment that Gates pays his visit to China. Naturally, the world cannot but keep a close watch on which direction Sino-US military ties will be heading for.

dispute over core interests between the two sides has still been going on. The Chinese side has explicitly expressed its hope for the US to stop its arms sales to Taiwan, while the US side expressed its concern with China's development of the new-type stealth jet fighter.

The current Sino-US military relations still face the fundamental obstacles such as US arms sales to Taiwan, the US's anti-China National Defense Authorization Act, US-led Western countries' arms embargo to China. Without the removal of such obstacle, there can hardly be any substantial breakthrough in Sino-US military relations, and their mutual trust if ever built remains weak. But these obstacles are absolutely not purely military issue. Rather they show strategic differences at the political level. Sino-US military mutual trust is restrained by their political mutual trust. There is still a long way to go for Sino-US military relations to move into a benign and healthy track.

The old saying is still valid: it is mutual beneficial for China and the US to live together in peace while confrontation between them hurts both. Gates' China visit may have broken the ice for Sino-US military exchange, but it takes time for their ties to warm up. Even though strategic goals of China and the US go against each other and there are conflicts of fundamental interests between them, there are still some conjunctions for possible cooperation. Only when China and the US see each other as cooperative partners in their strategic orientations, can their military mutual trust be based on a sound foundation and remain stable and long-lasting.

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WORDS AND USAGE :

- ① (At) a low ebb (idiom) - Below the usual condition or standard. (處於) 低谷, 低潮
Examples: 1. The tragedy comes at a time when Tom's career is at a low ebb. 2. Our family fortunes are at a bit of a low ebb.
② Bear down on sb/sth (phrasal verb) - To move toward someone or something in a determined and threatening way. (咄咄逼進, 衝向, 襲來)
Examples: 1. Financial pressures are bearing down on them. 2. A crowd of journalists bore down on the prime minister.
③ Head for/towards sth (phrasal verb) - To be going in a particular direction or to a particular place; to be likely to experience something, especially something bad. (朝...進發, 前往, 將會遇到...)
Examples: 1. They are all heading for Guangzhou. 2. The country is heading for economic recession.
④ Be well aware of sth, be well aware that... (idiom) - Know very well about something. (完全明白, 充分認識到)
Examples: 1. I'm well aware of the risks involved. 2. She's well aware that not everyone agrees with her.
⑤ Run into sth (phrasal verb) - To experience difficulties or problems. (遇到, 遭遇)
Examples: 1. The main reason that we run into conflict with others is because we have a different value system. 2. We ran into debt.

It should be said that China and the United States has a common will to resume military exchange between them. As head of the US Department of Defense, Gates certainly is well aware that building stable and healthy military relations with China today is much more significant than winning a war, given that it is extremely unlikely for China and US to run into any large-scale military conflict. Therefore, through direct contact, the US can more accurately ascertain the capability and intention of China's military modernization, so as to establish a basis for cutting its defense budget by US \$78 billion in next five years and for readjusting its strategies towards China and the whole Asia-Pacific region. On the other hand, China also needs to sell face to face its defensive policy of national defense and its ideal to unswervingly adhere to peaceful development, so as to dispel US suspicions.

The Chinese side has shown exceptional hospitality during Gates' visit. President Hu Jintao, Vice President and Vice Chairman of the Central Military Commission (CMC) Xi Jinping, Vice CMC Chairman Xu Caihou, Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi and Defense Minister Liang Guanglie have successively met Gates, giving him the hospitality more than required by protocol. In a very symbolic arrangement, he is also invited to visit the Second Artillery Corp - a most important pillar of China's defense forces. During his visit, both sides have reached consensus on expanding and enhancing military dialogue and exchange based on the principles of "respect, mutual trust, equality and reciprocity", on fostering and strengthening strategic mutual trust, on jointly developing healthy and stable military relations. Needless to say, behind all such nice diplomatic words, the

中美軍事戰略互信任重道遠

備

受矚目的美國國防部長蓋茨訪華即將在今天畫上句號。儘管各界對此訪成果的「虛」與「實」評價不一，但勿庸置疑的是，此訪為本月即將開啓的胡錦濤主席訪美營造了良好的氣氛，為處於低谷的中美軍事關係注入了新動力，也為今年中美關係的發展開了個好頭。勿須迴避，軍事交流一直是中美關係中的「短板」，是兩國關係中最脆弱、最敏感的環節。從去年美國決定對台售武後，中美軍事交流中斷，兩國關係從此摩擦不斷，步入動盪期；去年以來，美國加大對外戰略重心調整的力度，「重返亞洲」的步伐明顯加快。「重返亞洲」軍事先行，美海、陸、空三軍作為先鋒捷足先登，利用「天安艦」事件，全面提升美韓同盟，鞏固美日同盟，擴大與東南亞、南亞國家的軍事合作，加緊構築圍堵中國的「包圍圈」。一時間，東北亞地區大兵壓境，軍演炮聲隆隆煙霧瀰漫，緊張局勢不斷升級；與此同時，「中國軍事威脅論」甚囂塵上，中國人民解放軍研發的新型反艦彈道導彈、殲-20隱形戰鬥機等武器，引發國際熱議，也引起美國恐慌。蓋茨訪華恰恰發生在這一重要的時間節點，中美軍事關係的走向不能不引起世界的關注。

應該說，中美兩國恢復軍事交往是雙方共同意志。作為美國防部的最高長官，蓋茨當然明白，在中美極不可能發生大規模軍事衝突的今天，建立穩定、健康兩軍關係的意義遠大於贏得一場戰爭的勝利。而通過直接接觸，美國可更準確把握中國軍事現代化的能力和意圖，為美國在未來五年內削減七百八十億國防預算及對華乃至整個亞太



中國國務委員兼國防部長梁光烈在北京舉行儀式歡迎美國國防部長蓋茨訪華

戰略的調整尋找依據。而中國方面也需要面對面推介自己的防禦性國防政策及堅定不移地走和平發展之路的理念，以消除美國的疑慮。

中方對蓋茨訪華可謂給了面子，國家主席胡錦濤、國家副主席、中央軍委副主席習近平、中央軍委副司令徐才厚、外交部長楊潔篪、國防部長梁光烈等高官悉數會面，超高規格接待，並極具象徵意義地安排其參訪中國國防力量最重要的支柱——二炮部隊。訪問中，雙方達成兩國防務部門本着「尊重、互信、對等、互惠」的原則，擴大和加強對話交流，培育和增進戰略互信，為發展健康穩定的兩軍關係共同努力等一

系列共識。當然，在一派溫馨的外交辭令背後，雙方並未停止在核心利益上的較量。中方明確表示不希望看到美國再向台灣出售武器，而美方也對中國研發新型隱形戰機表達關切。當前的中美軍事關係仍然面臨對台售武、反華國防授權法、聯合所有西方國家對華實施武器禁運等根本障礙，這些障礙不排除，中美軍事關係就難有實質突破，建立的互信也是脆弱的。但這些障礙絕非純軍事問題，而是政治層面的戰略分歧，中美軍事互信受制於政治互信，兩軍關係步入良性健康軌道依然任重道遠。還是那句老話：中美兩國和則兩利，鬥則俱傷。蓋茨訪華雖然實現兩軍交流的「破冰」，但真正「回暖」、「升溫」尚需時日。即便中美戰略目標相左、根本利益衝突，但仍可在其中找到合作的契合點。中美兩國只有在戰略定位上互為合作夥伴，而不是對手，軍事互信才能有可靠的基礎，才能穩定持久。 2011/01/12 大公報社評

美國軍售佔全球總額近七成

第二次世界大戰後，美國雄霸世界，統率奉行資本主義的北大西洋公約陣營，抗衡蘇聯為首、推行社會主義的華沙公約集團，形成東西方冷戰。美國又在海外廣建軍事基地，高峰時超過5000個。冷戰結束後，美國成了世界軍事、經濟至尊（儘管外債逾萬億）；至20世紀末，海外軍事基地仍有400個左右，目前仍有120個。

為圍堵中國，美國在亞洲、太平洋和印度洋地區，組成由日本、韓國（還有台灣）直到迪格加西亞島構成的30多個基地的「島嶼線」，藉以控制戰略要道和峽海；同時由美國太平洋艦隊所在夏威夷島為中心的與中途島阿拉斯加阿留申島30多個基地構成的指揮和支援基地。

駐日美軍的核心在沖繩，沖繩面積僅為日本國土面積的0.6%，但75%的美軍專用設施集中於此。駐沖繩美軍約有2.7萬，由美

軍第三海軍陸戰司令部指揮。第三海軍陸戰隊遠征軍是美國海軍陸戰隊3個遠征軍中唯一常駐海外的部隊。

另一方面，美國《紐約時報》報道，美國國會下設的研究機構公布的報告顯示，2008年全球武器銷量是2005年後的最低水平，但美國對外軍售卻大幅增長五成，佔全球總銷量的2/3，繼續成爲世界頭號軍火供應國。

該份名爲《常規武器銷售情況》的報告稱，2008年，美國簽訂了378億美元的武器出售協議，佔全球軍火成交額的68.4%，而其在2007年的交易額只有254億。第二位是意大利，它在2008年的武器出售額爲37億美元。俄羅斯則由2007年的108億猛跌至2008年的35億美元，名列全球第三位。

觸景立畫. 香港人多地少，不少市民過着蝸居的生活。作者的家雖然只有100平方呎，但是麻雀雖小，五臟俱全。俗語說金窩銀窩不如自己的狗窩。在這個被稱爲「家」的城市裡，擁有一個屬於自己的小天地，就是一種幸福。 救世軍衛理夫人紀念學校 鄭天然

Soho Diary. A comic strip with four panels. Panel 1: A cat asks a rabbit 'A SECOND CUP OF COFFEE, SIR e-PATTO?'. Panel 2: The rabbit replies 'OKAY, JUST CAN'T GET BY WITHOUT COFFEE.' Panel 3: The cat says 'I'M NOT EXAGGERATING WITHOUT COFFEE, THERE'D BE NO PHILOSOPHER, NO WRITER, AND NO ARTIST.' Panel 4: The rabbit says 'SMARTBOT, MAKE ME A CUP OF COFFEE.'

Talking about Confucius (7)

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In Confucius's way of thinking, if a ruler just uses policies and the law to rule a place, then the people will not know what is good and bad, thus they will be shameless. But if the ruler manages to make the people know what is right and wrong, then they will have a sense of shame. That is the third line of his teachings in chapter two of The Analects (子曰：道之以政，齊之以刑，民免而無恥；道之以德，齊之以禮，有恥且格)。

How can the ruler manage to do that? The answer is by providing education to everyone, regardless of his or her personal background.

Hong Kong has been providing school education to the young people for years. Is Hong Kong free from all sorts of troubles? Of course not.

Does that mean that if Confucius could sit at the Legislative Council in Hong Kong, he would be frustrated? What he supports simply doesn't work. If Confucius wants to know why and goes to the

secondary schools himself to talk to the students, what will the students tell him?

Perhaps some of them will say that the world has changed. Now many students do not want to serve the ruler and carry out his order; they want to become someone that can help people all over the world, like doing research in medicine.

Obedying one's parents and teachers, like what Confucius advocated, might even have negative effects. In the education system in Hong Kong, students are not trained to ask questions and have their own independent thinking. Unless a student is lucky enough to have very open-minded teachers and parents, he/she cannot have the opportunity to go beyond the traditional way of thinking and to have breakthroughs (突破)。

So, many students have to leave Hong Kong and go to other places, like what Confucius had done, to look for a more favourable environment to develop their mind.

通識記憶體

