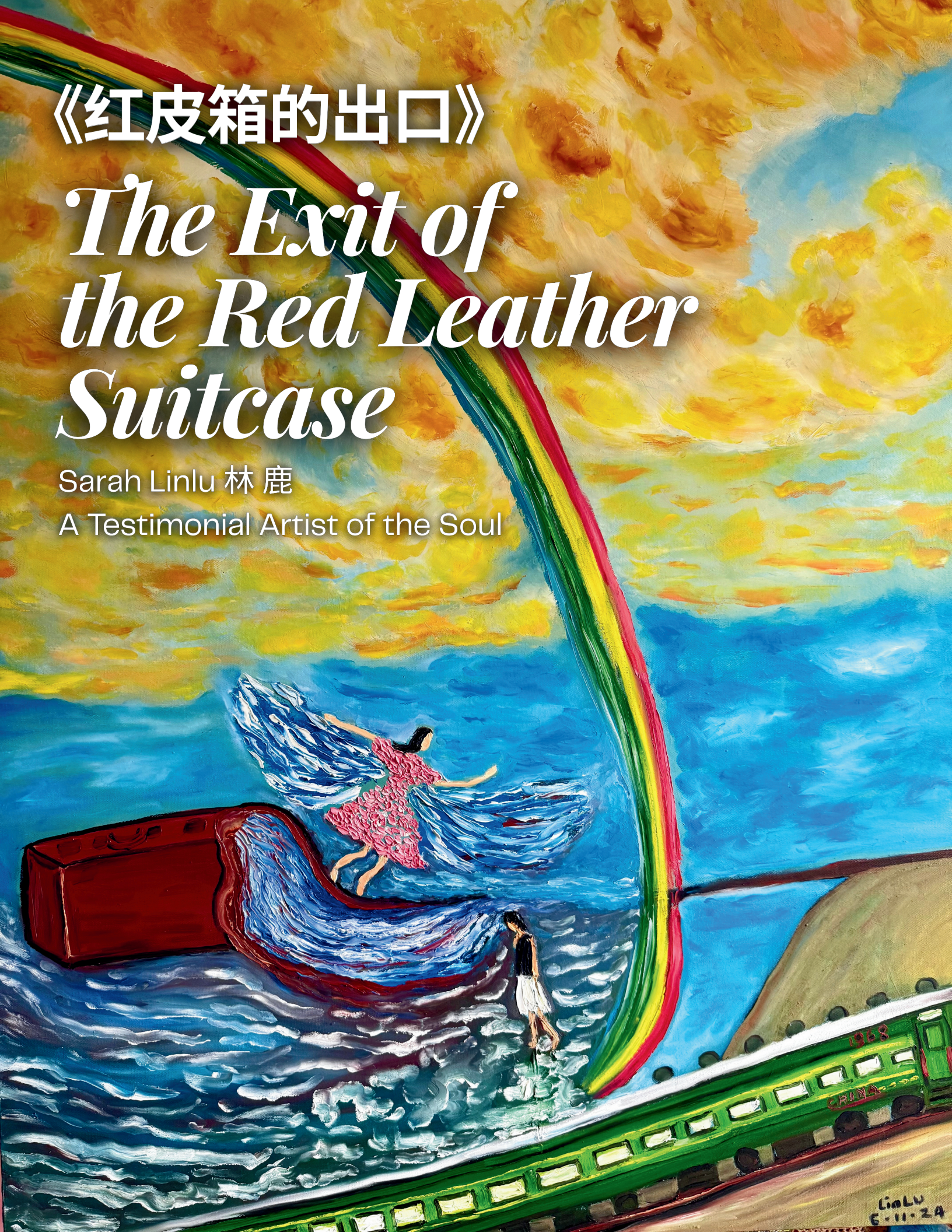


《红皮箱的出口》

*The Exit of
the Red Leather
Suitcase*

Sarah Linlu 林 鹿

A Testimonial Artist of the Soul



Sarah LinLu – The Exit of the Red Leather Suitcase



◆ *The Language of Color* 颜色的语言

“My colors follow no rules—they follow the heart.

“我的色彩没有规则，只跟随内心。”

林鹿 – 《红皮箱的出口》

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The Heavenly Camp: Baptism in the Flood
《天堂的夏令营：洪水中的洗礼》



红皮箱系列之一 | The Red Leather Suitcase Series 林鹿 Lin Lu | 2025 | 布面油画 Oil on Canvas

Sarah LinLu – The Exit of the Red Leather Suitcase

2025年7月4日晚上，德州突发洪灾，28名参加夏令营的女孩被洪水卷走。

当天晚上，林鹿完成了这幅画，作为灵魂的祷告。

十五位白衣女孩静静伫立在水中，她们代表所有过早离世的女儿。女孩面容未被描绘，却显现出安宁与庄严。

她们身处水中，却仿佛漂浮在光里。

洪水是吞噬，是毁灭，也是洗礼，是痛苦，也是灵魂升腾的时刻。

整幅画自下而上构成一条垂直的灵性之路——从痛苦的深渊升向永恒之光。

满月升起，三对羽翼是天使的羽翼，划破天际，引领灵魂飞翔。

悲伤被托举，失落被接纳进入永恒之光。这是一种静默的见证。

它温柔地承载哀伤，为逝者守灯，为生者留盼望。

这幅画是一封写给女孩的亲人们的信——关于痛、爱、失落与盼望。

“即使我无法拯救她们，我也不愿让她们被遗忘。”——林鹿

On the night of July 4, 2025, a sudden flash flood struck Texas, sweeping away 28 girls who were attending a summer camp.

That same evening, Lin Lu completed this painting as a prayer of the soul.

Fifteen girls in white stand silently in the water, representing all daughters who have left this world too soon. Their faces are not depicted, yet they emanate peace and dignity.

Though standing in water, they appear to float in light.

The flood is a force of destruction and engulfment, but also of baptism—of pain, and of the soul's ascent.

From bottom to top, the painting forms a vertical spiritual path: a journey from the depths of sorrow toward eternal light.

A full moon rises. Three pairs of wings—angel wings—cut through the sky, guiding the souls in light. Grief is lifted up; loss is received into the eternal light.

This is a silent testimony. It gently carries sorrow, keeps a lamp for the departed, and leaves a glimmer of hope for the living.

This painting is a letter to the loved ones of the girls—a letter about pain, love, loss, and hope.

“Even if I cannot save them, I do not want them to be forgotten.” — Lin Lu

Beverly's Angel Cards 《贝文莉的天使卡片》



红皮箱系列之一 | The Red Leather Suitcase Series 林鹿 Lin Lu | 2025 | 布面油画 Oil on Canvas

7月11日，原本是贝文莉 92 岁的生日。我怀着感恩画下这幅画：她在泳池中畅游，四周围绕着天使。7月12日，我们在她的农场举行生命庆典，正如她生前所喜爱的那样——游泳、共享美食、笑语温情地怀念她。

On July 11, what would have been Beverly G. Derr's 92nd birthday, I painted this image in gratitude—surrounding her with angels as she swims peacefully in her pool. On July 12, we gathered at her farm to celebrate her life the way she would have loved—through swimming, food, laughter, and warm remembrance. Beverly was—and always will be—our one and only SM spiritual mother.

Sarah LinLu – The Exit of the Red Leather Suitcase



Sarah LinLu – The Exit of the Red Leather Suitcase



艺术家 | 叙事者 | 疗愈者

生于成都，《红皮箱》系列创作者，用画笔把伤口化作美。

我的每一幅画，都是视觉的祷告；

见证哀伤、童年、信仰与疗愈。

画中的红皮箱是记忆与迁徙的器皿，

孩子般的色彩承载灵魂回归盼望。

我画画，为记住。

记住，是重新成为完整。

林鹿 - 《红皮箱的出口》

Sarah LinLu – The Exit of the Red Leather Suitcase

Red Leather Suitcase Lin Lu: A Testimonial Artist of the Soul



Lin Lu Artist • Storyteller • Creator of Red Leather Suitcase
Based in Pennsylvania | Born in Chengdu, China
Yage Prize Winner | Author of Early Rain and Dear Peter
Featured on CCTV and U.S. Television
Creator of Red Leather Suitcase, where brokenness meets beauty.

Sarah LinLu – The Exit of the Red Leather Suitcase



◆ *Fragments of Childhood* 童年的碎片

“The child in the jar is not just me. She is every child sealed by grief, waiting to be embraced.”

“瓶中的小女孩不只是我。
她代表每一个被伤痛封存、渴望被拥抱的孩子。”

She's Still Here — The Doll Father Gave Me
《她还在——爸爸为我买的洋娃娃》



红皮箱系列之一 | The Red Leather Suitcase Series 林鹿 Lin Lu | 2021 | 布面油画 Oil on Canvas

Sarah LinLu – The Exit of the Red Leather Suitcase

1966年，父亲为四岁的我买了一个洋娃娃。
她不是穿裙子的公主，而是身穿军装的“红色娃娃”。
在不能说爱的红色年代，这是父亲表达温柔的方式

1968年，他被带走，从此再未回来，洋娃娃也消失了。
五十多年后，当我画下她，才明白：她从未离开。
她承载着父亲未竟的爱，也藏着我心中最深的记忆。

这不是关于一只娃娃的故事，而是一幅关于失去、记得与爱的画

愿每一个在风暴中沉默付出的父亲，都被记住；
愿每一个失落的孩子，都能在记忆中找到爱。

In 1966, my father quietly gave me a doll—not a frilly princess, but a “red doll” in military clothes. In an age when love was unspeakable, it was his only silent act of tenderness.

In 1968, he was taken—never to return. The doll vanished too. Half a century later, I painted her— and realized she had never left. She carried the unfinished love of a father and the tender weight of memory.

This is not just a painting of a doll—it is a visual prayer for all the fathers who loved in silence, and all the children learning to remember. From grief to grace, from forgetting to becoming whole.



The Locked Memories of 1965 and 1968
《1965年与1968年关锁的记忆》



红皮箱系列之一 | The Red Leather Suitcase Series 林鹿 Lin Lu | 2025 | 布面油画 Oil on Canvas

Sarah LinLu – The Exit of the Red Leather Suitcase

五岁的小女孩(童年时的画家本人)蜷缩在标记为“1968”的玻璃瓶中，手中轻轻捧着一只梨子——她象征画家童年在父亲被害后突然切断的童年。另一只玻璃瓶写着“1965”，封存着父亲曾拥抱她的温暖瞬间，父亲曾送她花朵的记忆，爱与哀伤交织。她在2025年去华盛顿大屠杀纪念馆，看见了红、蓝、黄、黑色的旧皮箱，那是犹太人被屠杀后留下的灵魂碎片，与她自己家的红皮箱产生了连接，表达人类苦难的共感。

这幅画是一次深情的凝视，一段从封闭走向释放的旅程
从孤独到被爱，从伤口走向恩典。

从失去到记得 | From Loss to Remembering 被封锁的记忆，是疗愈的起点 | Memory as Healing Invitation

This is not just an image—it's a tender invitation.
A journey from isolation to release,
from loneliness to being loved,
from wounds to grace

In this deeply personal and symbolic painting, a five-year-old girl—representing the artist herself—is curled inside a glass jar labeled “1968,” gently holding a pear. The fruit evokes a childhood abruptly severed after her father’s tragic death.

Beside her, another jar marked “1965” preserves fleeting moments of warmth: her father’s embrace, the memory of flowers he once gave her—fragments of love intertwined with sorrow.

In 2025, the artist visited the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., where she encountered old leather suitcases in red, blue, yellow, and black—remnants of Jewish lives lost, soul fragments left behind. One red leather suitcase, in particular, stirred a profound resonance with her own family's red leather suitcase, bridging personal and collective memory, and expressing a shared human empathy for suffering across time and history

Good Friday: Black, White, Red, Purple, Yellow
《受难星期五是黑色，白色，红色，紫色，黄色的》



红皮箱系列之一 | The Red Leather Suitcase Series 林鹿 Lin Lu | 2009 | 布面油画 Oil on Canvas

Sarah LinLu – The Exit of the Red Leather Suitcase

五种颜色交织，如同五种见证，将我们带回那个喧嚣的星期五——群众的呼喊盖过真理的声音，宗教权力与政治势力短暂联手，定了耶稣的罪。

紫色：象征王权，是希律王为耶稣披上的袍子，形成一条紫色的河流。**白色：**三颗骰子散落在画面，是士兵在十字架下掷骰取衣的证据。

红色：画中央是一抹鲜红的嘴唇，是犹大的亲吻，是亲密者最深的背叛。**黄色：**象征人性的怯懦与背离——彼得三次不认主的鸡鸣从画面右上方传来。**黑色：**难以言说的黑暗，记录了人类集体羞辱神的那一刻。

“今天的我们，是否仍以自己的方式出卖、否认祂？”

Five colors intertwine like have witnesses, drawing us back to that tumultuous Friday—
A day when the crowd's cries drowned out truth, When religious authority and political
power briefly conspired to condemn Jesus.

Purple: Symbol of kingship, a river of purple flows through the canvas—Herod's robe
placed on Jesus in mockery.

White: Three scattered dice appear—silent witnesses to the soldiers casting lots for
His clothing at the foot of the cross.

Red: A smear of crimson lips marks the center—Judas' kiss, the betrayal of love by one
closest.

Yellow: The color of cowardice and desertion. From the upper right, a rooster crows—
Peter's three denials echoing through the scene.

Black: A deep, unspeakable darkness—bearing witness to humanity's collective
shaming of God.

This painting wrestles with a timeless question: “Do we still, in our own ways, betray or
deny Him today?”

《田间的祷告：路得等候波阿斯》
Prayer in the Fields: Ruth Waiting for Boaz



红皮箱系列之一 | The Red Leather Suitcase Series 林鹿 Lin Lu | 2009 | 布面油画 Oil on Canvas

Sarah LinLu – The Exit of the Red Leather Suitcase

我画路得，我在祷告：“主啊，我的波阿斯在哪里？”路得，也是我的自画像。
麦田满载着祷告与盼望，上帝为她安排了波阿斯，而我，也曾在麦田中等候。
大卫，就是我的波阿斯。他在2012年，来到了我的面前。

Ruth is the woman I paint, and also the prayer I speak: “Lord, where is my Boaz?”
Ruth is also my self- portrait. The wheat eld overflows with prayers and hope.
God prepared Boaz for Ruth—and I waited too, in my own field.
David Daku is my Boaz. He came to me in 2012.



林鹿 – 《红皮箱的出口》

Jesus Holding Me with His Nail-Scarred Hands
《祂用带着十字架钉痕的手抱着你》



红皮箱系列之一 | The Red Leather Suitcase Series 林鹿 Lin Lu | 2021|
布面丙烯颜料 Acrylic on Canvas

Sarah LinLu – The Exit of the Red Leather Suitcase

这幅画源于一个真实故事。

2011年，大卫的前妻病重，住进ICU。

一位病人家属看着他流泪，问他：“你难道不埋怨你的主吗？”

大卫含泪答道：“不，主是我的朋友啊。”

他在病床边挂了一张素描画，画的是耶稣用钉痕的手抱着一只小羊。

他轻声对妻子说：“耶稣正抱着你，也抱着我。你是祂的小羊，我也是。”

十年后，2021年，我听大卫讲述这个故事，便创作了这幅画。

耶稣温柔地将羊羔紧贴胸前，祂手掌带着十字架的钉痕，眼神慈爱，凝视着每一位观者。这幅画如今挂在大卫的咨询室里，在提醒着：你是祂所抱着的小羊。

In 2011, David's former wife was gravely ill and admitted to the ICU. One day, as David sat by her bedside, weeping, a fellow patient's family member asked him, "Don't you resent your Lord?" David gently replied, "No. The Lord is my friend."

He had placed a sketch on the wall near the hospital bed—it showed Jesus holding a little lamb with His nail-scarred hands. David whispered to his wife, "Jesus is holding you. And He's holding me too. You are His little lamb, and so am I."

After hearing David share this story, I painted this image. Jesus gently cradles a lamb close to His heart. His hands bear the wounds of the cross. His eyes are full of love, meeting the gaze of each viewer.

Today, this painting hangs in David's counseling office. This painting is a gentle reminder: You are the lamb He holds close



Wounds and Beauty
伤口与美

“Brokenness does not erase beauty—it reveals it.
“破碎并不抹去美，反而显出美。”

Glory Alone Shall Remain 《唯有荣耀长存》



红皮箱系列之一 | The Red Leather Suitcase Series 林鹿 Lin Lu | 2009 | 布面油画 Oil on Canvas

晨曦初照，天空绽放出金红之光，海面被染上温暖的辉映。海鸟成群飞翔，振翅高鸣，掠过海面，它们的歌声点燃我心中的敬拜。灯塔伫立在天与海之间，每一缕晨光、每一只飞鸟、每一道波浪与风的起伏，都在述说荣耀的临在。

灵感来自诗篇：“从日出之地到日落之处，耶和華的名是应当赞美的。”诗篇 113: 3

At dawn, the sky bursts open with golden-red light, and the sea reflects its warmth with a soft, glowing radiance. Seabirds rise in flocks, wings stretched wide, their cries echoing across the waters —igniting a spirit of worship within me. A lighthouse stands firm between sky and sea. Every ray of morning light, every bird in flight, every wave and shifting breeze speaks of the nearness of glory.

“From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the Lord is to be praised.” — Psalm 113:3

《红皮箱的出口：复活之舞》

The Exit of the Red Leather Suitcase: Dance of Resurrection



红皮箱系列之一 | The Red Leather Suitcase Series 林鹿 Lin Lu | 2024 | 布面油画 Oil on Canvas

Sarah LinLu – The Exit of the Red Leather Suitcase

2024年6月11日，佛州 Daytona Beach，一场暴雨过后，林鹿在海边看见一道绚丽彩虹横跨天地。这是她第一次看海上彩虹。彩虹象征神与挪亚的约，带来复活的盼望与恩典。

红皮箱代表童年的创伤，是她父亲在1968年文革中被迫害致死的记忆。

如今，皮箱的边缘开始熔化，象征自由的开启。一位穿樱花裙的女子从皮箱中飞出象征“复活”；而一位低头沉思的女子仍留在过去，形成“得释放”与“未得释放”的对比。

绿皮火车写着“1968 China”，象征着历史被看见。这幅画是一首关于记忆与疗愈的视觉诗。

On June 11, 2024, after a storm, Lin Lu saw a brilliant rainbow stretch across the sky and sea in Daytona Beach, Florida. It was her first time witnessing rainbow by the ocean. The rainbow— God’s promise to Noah—brought a message of resurrection and grace.

The red leather suitcase symbolizes childhood trauma, especially the death of her father during China’s Cultural Revolution in 1968.

Now, the suitcase edges begin to melt—signaling a path to freedom. From it, a woman in a pink cherry blossom dress rises—she represents resurrection. Another woman sits beside her, still lost in memory. Their contrast shows one released, one still bound.

A green train in the background reads “1968 China,” moving from trauma toward light. This painting is a visual poem of memory and transformation—a spiritual testimony of Lin Lu’s theology.

Sarah LinLu – The Exit of the Red Leather Suitcase



About Red Leather Suitcase

“The red leather suitcase is not just a memory. It’s the body of history, the skin of the soul, and the place where healing begins.”

关于《红皮箱》

“红皮箱不只是记忆的载体，它是历史的身体、灵魂的皮肤，也是疗愈之门开启的地方。”

《诸天述说上帝的荣耀》（灵感来自诗篇第19篇）
The Heavens Declare the Glory of God
(Inspired by Psalm 19)



红皮箱系列之一 | The Red Leather Suitcase Series 林鹿 Lin Lu | 2017 | 布面油画 Oil on Canvas

Sarah LinLu – The Exit of the Red Leather Suitcase

傍晚，大河边，落日的光辉灿烂得无法直视，水面上的倒影如梦似幻，光影斑斓。太阳如金色圆盘悬挂天际，天空燃烧着荣耀的色彩，而河水则温柔地映出这一切，宛如一首流动的诗。远处的山丘安静守护着地平线，仿佛双手合十般默祷。光与色的交织，在画布上舞动，形成一场神圣的赞美之舞。

《诗篇》第19篇：“诸天述说上帝的荣耀，穹苍传扬祂的手段。”

这是一幅视觉的祷告诗，引导观者去“聆听”那写在天空与水面上的荣耀之声。

At dusk, beside a great river, the brilliance of the setting sun is too radiant to behold. Its reflections shimmer dreamlike across the water, glimmering with dazzling hues. The sun, like a golden disc, hangs at the edge of the sky, setting the heavens ablaze with color—while the river gently mirrors this glory, like a owing poem.

Distant hills stand in silent reverence along the horizon, folded like praying hands. Light and color dance across the canvas in a sacred rhythm—a visual hymn of praise.

As Psalm 19 declares: “The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands.”

This painting is a prayer in visual form, inviting the viewer to listen to the voice of glory written upon sky and water.



◆ *Faith and Healing* 信仰与疗愈

“I paint to remember. To remember is to return—to the story, to God.”

“我画画是为了记住。记住，是归回——归回故事、归回上帝。”

联系画家 Contact the artist Sarah Linlu
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Artist's Notes

红皮箱：记忆与复活交汇之地

林鹿出生于成都，成长于文化大革命中的政治恐惧与情感压抑的沉默中。

父亲在 年迫害中不幸去世，母亲由曾经的欢欣变得沉默寡言。

那只红皮箱，是父亲的遗物，也装载着家庭的痛苦、

母亲的泪水以及难以言说的哀伤。

林鹿在 年经历离婚，是单身母亲。

年移居美国后，那只红皮箱不断在她画中出现。

在单身 年之后，遇到大卫，是她疗愈中的关键和亮点。

她的作品深植于诗篇、个人体验与与上帝的对话。

曾被压抑的童声、沉睡已久的故事、以及恩典重新绽放的生命，

与上帝同行的旅程，一笔一划，描绘着复原之路。

The Red Leather Suitcase:

Where Memory and Resurrection Meet

Lin Lu was born in Chengdu amid the aftershocks of the Cultural Revolution, growing up in a silence lfiled with political fear and emotional repression.

Her father tragically died during the persecutions of 1968, and her mother, once full of joy, became quiet and withdrawn.

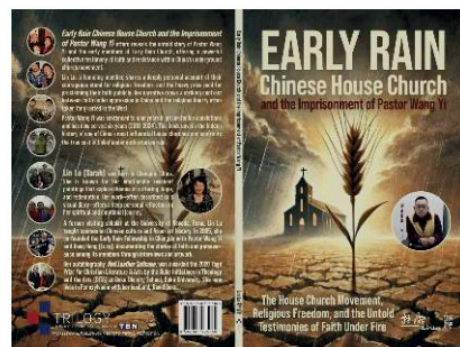
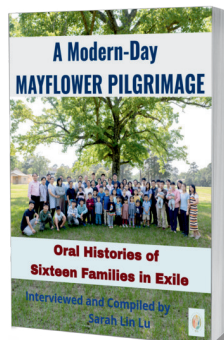
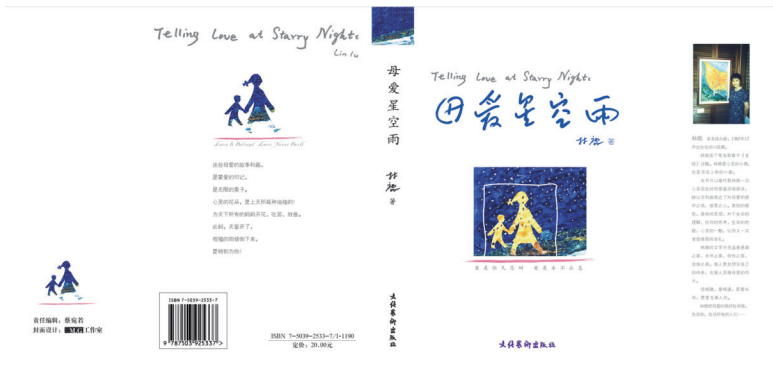
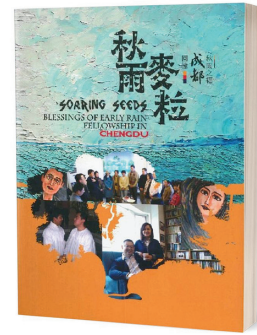
The red leather suitcase was her father's keepsake, carrying the family's pain, her mother's tears, and unspeakable grief. In 1995, Lin Lu experienced divorce and became a single mother. After moving to the United States in 2006, the red leather suitcase repeatedly appeared in her paintings.

After 18 years of single motherhood, meeting David became a crucial and bright turning point in her healing journey.

Her work is deeply rooted in the Psalms, personal experience, and dialogue with God. A silenced child's voice, long-buried stories, and grace reborn—her art is a journey walked with God, each brushstroke mapping a path of restoration.

Sarah LinLu – The Exit of the Red Leather Suitcase

Partial List of Books by Lin Lu 林鹿的部分著作



Sarah LinLu – The Exit of the Red Leather Suitcase



Acknowledgements

Thanks to David, whose lens captured all the photos of the artist's life featured in this book.
感谢大卫，他用镜头捕捉了本画册中所有关于画家生活的照片。

Through art, Lin Lu tells stories of wounding where God's light enters the cracks—turning brokenness into blossoms of grace.

林鹿透过艺术讲述受伤的故事，让上帝的光照进裂缝，使破碎之处开出温柔的花。

A narrative healing artist, Lin Lu transforms personal experience, family memory, and faith journey into visual language, exploring restoration and beauty after trauma.

疗愈叙事型艺术家，专注于将个人经验、家庭记忆与信仰旅程转化为视觉语言，探索创伤后的重建与美的可能。

A Narrative Healing Artist

Lin Lu's art becomes a kind of mirror—gentle yet powerful—that allows the viewer to see their own feelings more clearly, and perhaps, begin their own healing journey.

Shop the rest of my art at sarahlinlu.artstorefronts.com



Sarah Linlu: Summer 2025 Collection

Lin Lu transforms personal grief into breathtaking visual poetry, exploring the profound connections between memory, loss, and love. Through the lens of a red leather suitcase symbolizing her family's pain and resilience, she invites readers to witness the silent struggles of fathers and the remembrance of lost children. This collection is a heartfelt tribute to those who loved in silence—and a journey toward healing and grace.

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