



## **CHINA IN MAJESTY AT THE 36TH EDITION OF SUNNY SIDE OF THE DOC**

A LARGE **CHINA PAVILION** INCLUDING TWO EVENTS '**CHINA HOUR**' AND '**CHINA NIGHT**' ON TUESDAY 24 JUNE TO PRESENT AND CELEBRATE THE LATEST INTERNATIONAL CO-PRODUCTIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS

**La Rochelle, June 23, 2025** – For the eighth year running, the **China pavilion** will be supporting international co-productions at [Sunny Side of the Doc](#) and unveiling its new European and international co-production.

The China Pavilion is organized by China Intercontinental Communication Center. Participants in this year's China Pavilion include: **China Media Group (CMG), China Intercontinental Communication Center, Shandong Radio and Television Bureau, Jiangsu Broadcasting Corporation, Shandong Radio and Television Station, Chengdu Radio and Television Station, Shandong film distribution and projection Group Co., Ltd., Lanshan District Media Convergence Center, Rizhao City, the Documentary Production Center of Shanghai Media Group, Real Image Media, FreshPitch**, and several other organizations.

In addition to the Chinese pavilion, **two major events will take place on 24 June**, showcasing the country's new partnerships and co-productions with the global industry.

### **First Highlight: "China Hour" Themed Event**

The **"China Hour" Themed Event** will be held **on June 24 from 12 noon to 1 p.m., in the Grand Auditorium**, where participating organizations of the China Pavilion will present partnership proposals, introduce their works, and announce their latest cooperation plans.

The Event will invite the most promising international investors, distribution companies, and broadcasting platforms to participate in the event and interact with each other on-site, aiming to help more international organizations further understand the latest development trend of documentaries and the cooperation needs of China, and to promote more high-quality international co-productions and media cooperation in documentaries.

Pitch projects presented at the China Pavilion include ***Voy Boys*, *Deep in My Brain*, *The Moon Is Yours*, *Letter to Yangtze River*, *Seed on the Border***, and ***Diary of Biosphere Reserves***.



Featured program highlights include ***Wetlands, Our Land*, *Creatures' Wonderland*, *Walking with the Spoon-billed Sandpiper*, *Food Markets around the World*, *The Way of Tea: A Journey to Harmony***, and ***Photo Albums from a Century Ago***.

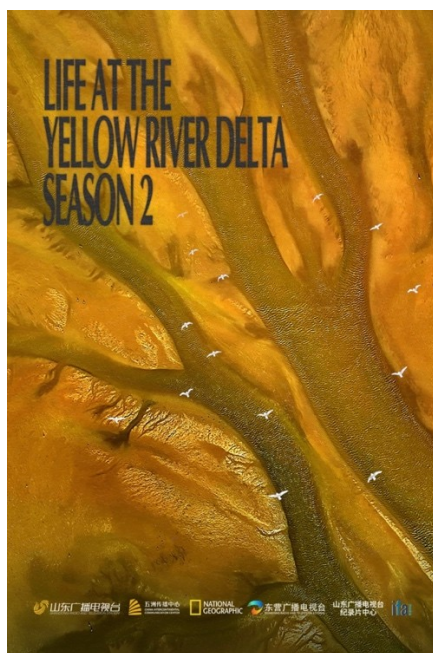
## **Second Highlight: China Night—Special Event on Cooperation with China**

'China Night' will take place **on the evening of June 24 at Maritime Museum of La Rochelle**, bringing together guests from leading international TV broadcasters, new media organizations, global distributors, and film and television production agencies.

During the event, Chinese and international organizations will announce and showcase the outcomes of their collaborations, highlighting achievements made possible through the China Pavilion platform.

The event will also provide a valuable opportunity to gain insights into the latest global market trends and further promote media cooperation between China and Europe, particularly between China and France.

A selection of major co-production projects will be jointly unveiled by Chinese and international partners, including ***Geographical Discovery: Exploring the Hanzhong Sinkhole Cluster, The Great Yellow River Delta II, Wing Chun, and Restless Farewell***, as well as the global promotion event “**Friendly Shandong, Hometown of Confucius.**”



## The Five Projects in the Spotlight

### 1. *Geographical discovery of the 21<sup>st</sup> century: The Hanzhong Sinkhole Group*

**Coproducers:** CCTV9 (China), Bellota Films (France)

**Duration :** 1x52'

**Director:** Laurent CHALET (France)



This is an ambitious production born out of a collaboration between CCTV9 and Bellota Films.

China has discovered 90% of the world's sinkholes. In 2016, a super sinkhole group was discovered in Hanzhong City, in central China. It has been hailed by both domestic and international cave researchers and explorers as "the geographical discovery of the 21st century".

It is a unique story that celebrates science, the beauty of nature, and the preservation of life. Shot in 4K and 8K in sometimes extreme conditions, this film takes us to one of the most spectacular and little-known regions of Shaanxi, to the heart of recently discovered giant sinkholes.

A true long-distance expedition, the filming mobilized international teams, while strictly respecting the ecosystems they encountered.

But this film is much more than a scientific or naturalist documentary. It offers a profound reflection on our relationship with nature and the planet. At a time when climate crises are accelerating, it reminds us that certain territories hold the keys to our past... but also the keys to our future.

The Hanzhong Sinkholes is a visual and sensory dive into a fascinating underground world, but also a call to responsibility, a story of potential harmony between humans and nature—and an invitation to see today's China in a new light.

## **2. *Diary of Biosphere Reserves***

**Coproducers:** China Intercontinental Communication Center (CICC), Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS)

**Duration:** 2x45'



*Diary of Biosphere Reserves* is a multi-season documentary series genred in nature history and wildlife. In each season, the program selects 8 Biosphere Reserves to film.

Dr. Marta Neskovic is an anthropologist from Serbia who served as a Youth Delegate at the 28th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28). In each episode, Marta will have in-depth conversations with residents, reserve staff, and scientists to present the most moving stories. Everywhere she goes, Marta will record what she sees and feels in the field in the form of a diary and share it with the audience.

The Man and the Biosphere (MAB) is an intergovernmental scientific program that aims to establish a scientific basis for enhancing the relationship between people and their environments. It combines the natural and social sciences with a view to improving human livelihoods and safeguarding natural and managed ecosystems, thus promoting innovative approaches to economic development that are socially and culturally appropriate and environmentally sustainable.

### **3. *Wetlands, our Land***

**Coproducers:** Jiangsu Broadcasting Corporation, Yancheng Municipal Publicity Department, Dongtai Municipal Publicity Department and Dongtai Coastal Economic Zone

**Duration:** 2x26'

*Wetlands, Our Land* is a nature documentary, guided by the route of migratory birds from East Asia -Australasia, in addition to showing Tiaozini wetlands, it also went to Russia, Singapore and New Zealand to track and shoot, presenting the wetland "ecological circle of friends", which not only brings visual wonders and soul shocks to the audience around the world, but also appeals to the 22 countries along the migration line to protect migratory birds, truly connecting the common expectations of different cultures for "harmonious coexistence of man and nature", that is, to build a community of life on earth.

This documentary was awarded the "Outstanding Domestic Documentary of 2024" by the National Radio and Television Administration of China. The accompanying short video "Tiaozini Wetland Connecting the World" also won an outstanding work award in the short video section of the 15th Beijing International Film Festival.



#### **4. *Life at the Yellow River Delta, Season 2***

**Co-producers:** China Intercontinental Communication Center (CICC), National Geographic Channel, Shandong Television and IFA Media

**Duration:** 2x44'

This series explores the four seasons of the Yellow River Delta—from winter's harshness to spring's renewal and nest-building, summer's growth, and autumn's migrations—revealing how life perseveres. Witness the struggles and triumphs of wildlife adapting to this ever-changing ecosystem, from mudflat skirmishes to aerial hunts, showcasing the resilience of all forms of life in this vital habitat.

In this series, we focus on the Yellow River Delta, the most intact, expansive, and youngest wetland ecosystem in the world's warm temperate zone. Through its three most representative habitats—reed meadows, coastal mudflats, and urban wetlands—we highlight the life stories of iconic species such as the revered Red-crowned Crane (*Grus japonensis*), Reed Parrotbill (*Sinosuthora webbiana*), egrets, and Long-eared Owls (*Asio otus*) across the four seasons. It is scheduled to premiere in the second half of this year on National Geographic Channel.

#### **5. *Wing Chun: the heritage of the world***

**Coproducers:** China Real Image Media, One & All Culture Dev. (China)

**In Collaboration with:** Realworks (France)

**Duration:** 1x52', 1x90'



*Wing Chun: the heritage of the world* is China's first themed animated documentary. Wing Chun, a southern martial art originating from Fujian's South Shaolin Temple and founded by Abbess Ng Mui in the late Ming-early Qing era, later spread via Hong Kong to the world. Now practiced in over 80 countries, it stands as one of the most influential global martial arts.

In 2024, to support the inaugural World South Shaolin Wing Chun Championship, the production team led a month-long European exchange tour. Fujian masters engaged in on-site visits and deep dialogues on lineage, cultural exchange, and competition—reaffirming Wing Chun as a vibrant cultural bridge across Eurasia.

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**For further information and interview requests during the event:**

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