French Artist Finds a Home on Easter Island

法国艺术家在复活节岛安家

Rapa Nui, widely known as Easter Island, is a Chilean territory in the Pacific Ocean. The island is home to a French-born artist who is offering beautiful gifts to the island's Roman Catholic Church.

拉帕努伊岛，广为人知的复活节岛，是太平洋上的智利领土。该岛是一位法国出生的艺术家的故乡，他正在向岛上的罗马天主教堂献上精美的礼物。

The artist, Delphine Poulain, was born in Paris 52 years ago and has been in love with Rapa Nui since she first visited in 1994. She smiled remembering her decision. "I was riding a horse through the beach when I first ... thought ‘I want to live here,'" she said.

艺术家 Delphine Poulain 52 年前出生于巴黎，自 1994 年首次访问拉帕努伊以来，她就爱上了这里。她微笑着回忆起自己的决定。“当我第一次……想‘我想住在这里’时，我正在骑马穿过海滩，”她说。

Poulain said she loves the freedom and the peace provided by the island, which is home to about 7,700 people.

普兰说，她喜欢岛上约有 7,700 人的家园所带来的自由与和平。

Last year, Poulain offered a gift: stained-glass windows representing important moments leading to and including the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. The windows show the 14 Stations of the Cross. They were a gift to Holy Cross Church in Hanga Roa, the island's main city.

去年，Poulain 赠送了一份礼物：彩色玻璃窗代表了导致并包括耶稣基督被钉十字架的重要时刻。窗户显示了十字架的 14 个站点。它们是送给岛上主要城市安加罗阿圣十字教堂的礼物。

The Rapanui community is mostly Catholic, but its religious activities are mixed with its ancestral beliefs.

拉帕努伊社区主要信奉天主教，但其宗教活动与其祖先的信仰混杂在一起。

The music that people sing during church events describe biblical stories translated to the Rapanui language. The wooden statues that show Christian figures such as the Virgin Mary and the Holy Spirit are unlike Western images. Instead, they were influenced by the art of the islanders' ancestors.

人们在教堂活动中唱的音乐描述了翻译成拉帕努伊语的圣经故事。显示基督教人物如圣母玛利亚和圣灵的木制雕像与西方图像不同。相反，他们受到了岛民祖先艺术的影响。

The statue of Mary, near the altar of the church, looks like ancient human figures known as moai. Close to the main entrance, the third symbol of the Holy Trinity is not a dove, but a manutara -- a bird that was considered holy more than 120 years ago.

圣母玛利亚的雕像，靠近教堂的祭坛，看起来像被称为摩艾的古代人类雕像。靠近正门，三位一体的第三个标志不是鸽子，而是曼努塔拉——一种在 120 多年前被认为是神圣的鸟。

The Rapanui people are protective of their identity. They sometimes welcome foreigners only if they work to learn about the islanders' culture. On a burial place, or tomb, where the remains of missionary Sebastián Englert are kept, the writing says: "He lived among us and spoke our language."

拉帕努伊人保护自己的身份。他们有时只有在努力了解岛民文化的情况下才会欢迎外国人。在保存传教士塞巴斯蒂安·恩格勒特 (Sebastián Englert) 遗体的墓地或坟墓上，文字写道：“他住在我们中间，说我们的语言。”

Poulain said that winning acceptance from the local people was not easy, but she has been patient. Her stained-glass windows were another step. Since she began placing them in the church on December 24, 2021, some Rapanui who did not communicate with her before now wave their hand when they see her pass.

普兰说，赢得当地人的认可并不容易，但她一直有耐心。她的彩色玻璃窗是另一个台阶。自从她于 2021 年 12 月 24 日开始将它们放在教堂里以来，一些以前没有与她交流的拉帕努伊现在看到她经过时都会挥手。

"I have so much respect for the island and the people," she said. "Before I was alone, but now people know my husband and my children."

“我非常尊重这个岛和人民，”她说。“以前我一个人，但现在人们认识我的丈夫和我的孩子。”

Poulain's desire to become part of the island is clear in her daily life. Her family lives near the beach on the coast. The color of their house is similar to the color of the area's rocks. The water used at their home is collected from rain. The family uses a solar energy collector for electricity.

Poulain 渴望成为岛上一部分的愿望在她的日常生活中很明显。她的家人住在海边的海滩附近。他们房子的颜色与该地区岩石的颜色相似。他们家使用的水是雨水收集的。家里用太阳能集热器发电。

When Poulain's family moved here, they only had a tent to protect themselves. Now their house stores many things the island has given them.

当普兰一家搬到这里时，他们只有一个帐篷来保护自己。现在他们的房子里存放着岛上给他们的许多东西。

The top of the house was built with metal and the rest with wood. The dishes are washed on what used to be the bottom of a bathtub; above the dining room is a light that was once a metal waste can.

房子的顶部是用金属建造的，其余部分是用木头建造的。盘子是在以前是浴缸底部的地方洗的；餐厅上方有一盏曾经是金属垃圾桶的灯。

"There has been a lot of difficulty, but also a lot of happiness. This was my dream and living your dream is incredible," Poulain said.

“有很多困难，但也有很多快乐。这是我的梦想，实现你的梦想真是不可思议，”普兰说。