

ART AND REVOLUTION II

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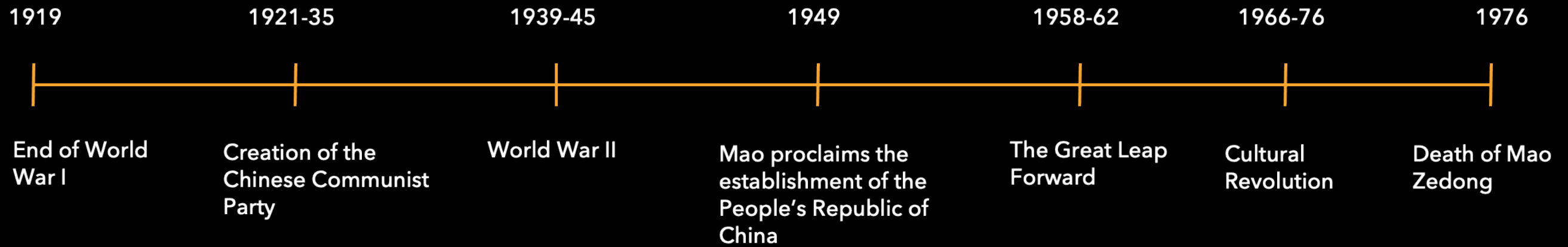
**CHINESE CULTURAL REVOLUTION**

# ART AND REVOLUTION



Chinese red guards during the cultural revolution in China 1966

# TIMELINE OF CHINA IN THE 20TH CENTURY





# Historical context



Collecting old pots, pans and scrap metal for 'backyard furnaces' during the Great Leap Forward (1958-60)



Farming during the Great Leap Forward



# What was the Chinese Cultural Revolution?



- ▶ Economic, social and cultural campaign led by Mao Zedong in an effort to reassert his authority over the government.
- ▶ Mao called upon youth and radical students to purge "impure" capitalist elements in the government, schools and arts.
- ▶ The students, who called themselves the Red Guards, attacked and harassed teachers, scholars and intellectual and destroyed the country's cultural heritage.
- ▶ They set out to destroy the four olds: ideas, customs, habits, and culture.



# Art of the Chinese Cultural Revolution



Zhang Wei, At the Happy Hearth of the Motherland , 1964, Lithograph



# Socialist Realism

A style of idealised realistic art that was developed in the Soviet Union and used in socialist countries after World War II.



Yan Yongsheng  
*Unite for Greater Victory!*  
1974



Jiasheng Ding  
*Characters from the revolutionary operas*  
1974  
The slogan reads: "Long live the triumph of Chairman Mao's revolutionary line of literature and art!"



# The Cult of Mao



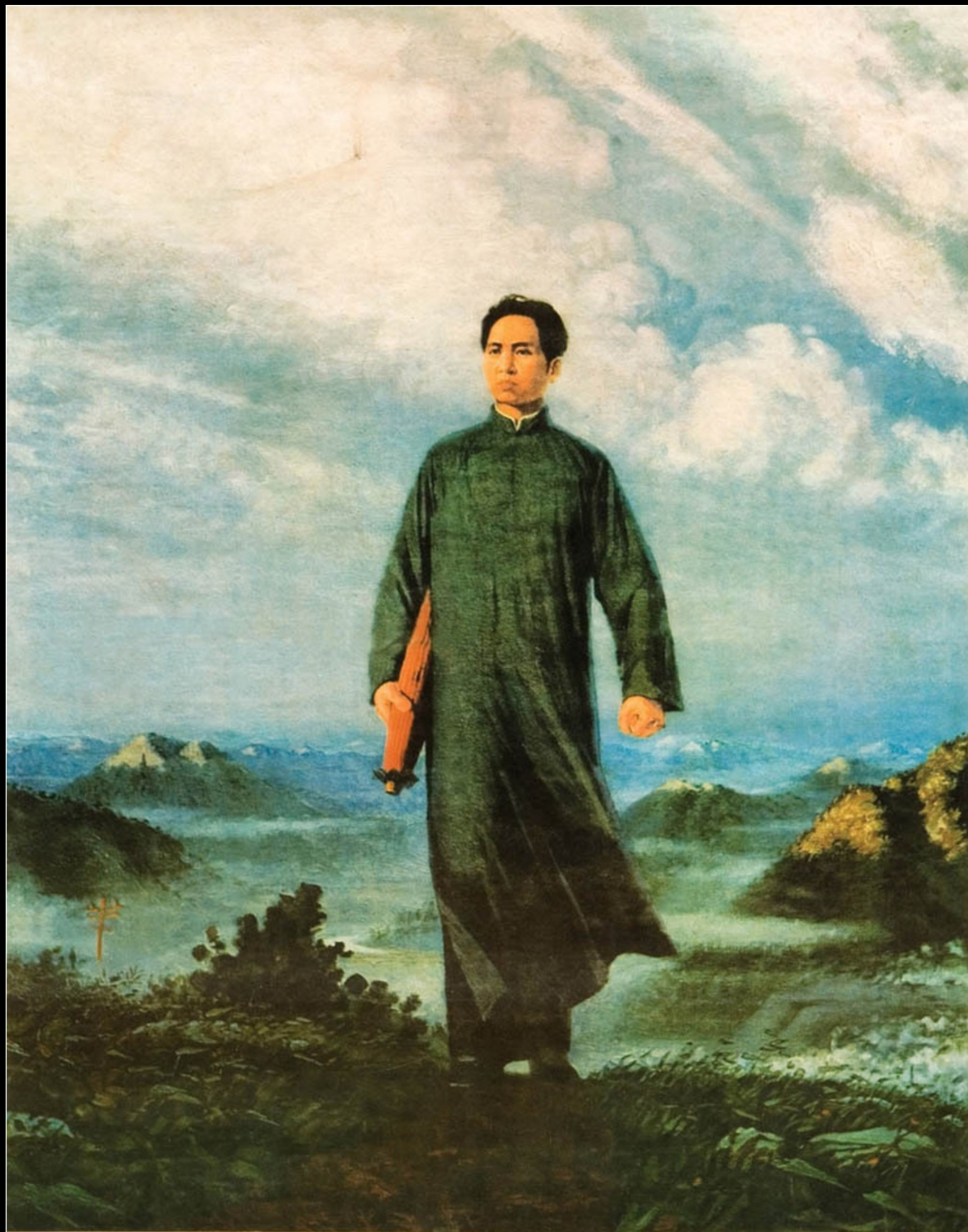
毛主席视察广东农村

Chen Yanning  
Chairman Mao Inspects the Guangdong Countryside  
1972



Tang Xiaohe  
Strive Forward in the Wind and Tides  
1971





毛主席去安源

一九二一年秋，我們偉大的導師毛主席去安源，當面点燃了安源的革命烈火。

Liu Chunhua  
Chairman Mao Goes to Anyuan  
1967  
Poster reproduction of an oil painting



"In the red army soldier's rifle shoulder strap was a little piece of red fabric, like a blossoming fresh flower... I felt it was so beautiful, and heroic, as well as romantic."  
-Chen Yifei



Chen Yifei  
Eulogy to the Yellow River. Oil on canvas  
1972





太湖新装

Song Wenzhi  
New Aspects of Lake Tai  
1973



# The ubiquity of images



Matchbox depicting new construction in Hebei



Matchbox depicting figures singing revolutionary songs



# The Aftermath of the Cultural Revolution



Luo Zhongli  
*Father*  
1980  
Oil on canvas