

莊明柔 EDCO 柳琴

This trip to Shenzhen was mind-altering and mainly educational. The environment in Shenzhen seems to be a bit busy but the air is clean and spacious. The trip to Shenzhen was smooth there wasn't any chaos or complications, however, it took me awhile to go through the immigration so I might have interrupted the schedule; I apologise for any inconvenience.

Once we arrived at Shenzhen Ming Fai Factory we had a warm welcome by the staff from Ming Fai Group they were very nice as they were caring and even offered us some refreshments.

They gave a tour around Ming Fai Factory. We first hand witnessed how a factory works there are many workers who mostly do assembly and packing for supplies quality products to internationally recognized hotel, airline, hospitality and personal care industries. I learnt that it takes a lot of effort for one to assembly a product, also patience is needed. The factory separates different floors for specific tasks for example, one floor is for assembly and the other is for packing while another it for producing.

During rehearsal I realise that performing outdoors has a certain difficulty. When performing outdoors because of the spacious environment, the integrity and sharpness of sounds doesn't get absorbed and some just slip away so it was difficult to produce music. But the help of partition added at the back sound is reflected and the problem is solved. I always thought that in a factory there were only canteens for workers but unexpectedly there is also a chinese restaurant available for staff and workers.

On the day of the performance I was overwhelmed by the numbers in the audience, the seats were full and we had positive feedback as everyone seemed to enjoyed our performance; they sang and cheered.

On our final day, we went sightseeing at Dafen Village and The China Print Art Museum. The Dafen Village not only sells paintings, you can even get your own portraits, basically you can buy anything related to art. In Dafen Village there are beautiful gardens planted with beautiful variety of flowers and there are strawberries which you can choose pick.

Then, we went to The China Print Art Museum. The museum is new and modern the facilities are also clean. There were many paintings both traditional and modern which were being displayed. I liked the book shop in the museum, it was small but there were many souvenirs you could buy such as books in simplified chinese, bookmarks, stationeries etc.

Before we left Shenzhen we had a fruitful BBQ buffet and tour around in a shopping mall. Luckily for the departure everything went smoothly and I reached home on time.

Throughout the whole trip the weather was nice and everything went smoothly. I learnt many things about running a factory and what goes on inside a factory.

Lastly I would like to thank the Music for Our Young Foundation for giving me the chance to join this trip with my fellow colleagues and enjoy performing to a large audience. Also I would thank all the teacher for taking care of us throughout the whole trip so that everything went smooth and everyone was safe. My last thanks to Mr and Mrs Siu for always teaching us to be ourselves and at the same time maintaining discipline.