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China in 2008: Cover Art

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One of the themes in our forthcoming book, China in 2008: A Year of Great Significance, is how the year 2008 came to symbolize more than just the hosting of the Olympics in China. “2008” came to mean China’s emergence on the world stage with the respect and admiration of people around the globe. When we saw this picture, taken by Shanghai-based photographer Iain Harral, it seemed to represent that fervent hope—so fervent that it was, in this case, literally written on the body. We’re grateful to Iain for allowing us to use this photo on the cover of our forthcoming book. Once we have a final cover mock-up, we’ll be sharing that here. In the meantime, we wanted to give you a peek at Iain’s fabulous image.