

Dragon Burn 2018

AfterBurn Report



IMAGE CREDIT: TUTU

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A Word from our Regional Contact

Dear Burners,

The last five years have been an incredible journey. I still remember the first day I joined the Dragon Burn project. It seems like yesterday when I first entered a Dragon Burn meeting. A seemingly normal group of people discussing something that sounded beautiful and encouraging but also so, so impossible.

I remember it all: every moment of happiness, or sadness; all the tears, anger, and frustration; the nervousness and the excitement. The time I lit the Dragon egg, our first ever effigy (perfect to represent the birth of a new Burn). And this year I lit a huge dragon effigy using my Dragon Staff. The flame, the heat, the sparks will be burned into my memory forever. Dragon Burn has shaped me into a completely new person.

I am grateful to every single person that I have encountered during this journey. Dragon Burn has become such an important part of my life. But we started Dragon Burn not for ourselves, but for everyone else who chooses to participate. You are all Burners. We have grown together over the last five years, and we will continue this growth into the future. I believe that each year the Dragon will only Burn brighter as we continue this journey together.

Thank you for joining us in creating Dragon Burn!

Love, light, and dust!

Elaine 'Panda' Kang 

Shanghai Regional Contact

Organization & Operation

This year we aimed for more well-defined roles and structure within the DBORG team. The goal was to have clear responsibilities, so we knew who to talk to about specific things and so potential volunteers knew where they could best spend their time.

Org Charts

Regional Contact

- Elaine 'Panda' Kang

Founders

- Jen Childs
- Nicholas Kothari
- Sven 'ShanghaiShin' Serrano

Site and Truck

- Elaine 'Panda' Kang
- Francesca 'Koi'

Finance

- Mark 'Doc Bok' McDonagh
- Elaine 'Panda' Kang

Art and Performance Coordinators

- Davide 'Most Lonely Boy'
- Mike 'Mikro' Pratt

Ticket System

- Mark 'Doc Bok' McDonagh
- Elaine 'Panda' Kang

Survival Guide

- Lu 'Yummy' Chen
- Patrick 'Tricky' Sheahan

Medical

- Manson

Effigy Team

- Magic Ma
- Elaine 'Panda' Kang

Ministry of Fire and Safety

- Francesca 'Koi'
- Mandy Embers

Website, Social Media and IT

- Mark 'Doc Bok' McDonagh
- Lu 'Yummy' Chen
- Suci

Graphic Design and Identity

- Lu 'Yummy' Chen
- Patrick 'Tricky' Sheahan

Placement

- Davide 'Most Lonely Boy'
- Francesca 'Koi'
- Mike 'Mikro' Pratt

Theme Camps and Placement

- Davide 'Most Lonely Boy'
- Richey 'Captain Buttwipe' Kinsey

Volunteer Leads

- Aaron Dodson

Open Meetings

We decided this year to try harder to push the open meetings angle. A lot of participants had expressed how they wanted to be more involved, so we really wanted to enable people to do that. We also decided to make the minutes from our meetings public. This helped both with transparency and getting people more involved.

Trademarks

Our trademarks for Dragon Burn and the official logo finally came through in January. Sven Arne Serrano now holds the trademarks we need in China.

Graphic Design and Identity

Patrick (a.k.a.) “Tricky Pa” came on board to help with the graphic design this year (he was responsible a lot of the graphic design of the map and stickers last year).

Legal Entity

Discussions have been going back and forth about Dragon Burn becoming a legal entity. Now the consensus is that we need to form a legal entity in China to protect the organisers and the community, however at present we don’t quite have the funds to pull this off.

The concept of a non-profit doesn’t exist in China, so a Dragon Burn Company would be the equivalent of a Limited Company that acts as a non-profit.

Recommendations and Improvements for the Future

- Become a legal entity in China by starting a ‘non-profit’ company

Communication and Technology

As in previous years Dragon Burn continued to use technology to organise logistics and communicate with the Dragon Burn community.

Baidu Pan and Zoho

Initially we started the year using Trello to keep structured information organised, and Zoho to store images and other documentation. Later we tried switching to Baidu Pan for storing images. Both Zoho and Baidu Pan have their own disadvantages. Zoho doesn't let you see previews of images, so it's hard to curate images from Zoho. However, it's much easier to bulk download image files from Zoho – Baidu Pan requires you to download third party software, and it's hit or miss as to whether that software works.

As it stands now we have all our files in Zoho, and all our images uploaded to both Zoho and Baidu Pan. Since Zoho will eventually have the feature to preview images, it may be more advantageous to drop Baidu Pan in the future. Failing that it may be necessary to find an alternative solution.

Bear in mind that common solutions you see in the West, such as Dropbox or Google Drive, are not accessible in China. Even though it's easy to get VPN, not everyone in China uses a VPN and there are occasional crackdowns during major events that can disrupt VPN. For this reason, we have made a conscious decision to avoid technologies that will require us to use VPN.

Email

This year we set up multiple emails for several ministries in DBORG. The website lets people choose a ministry to contact, which proved especially useful for curating photographs (and ensuring we had permission and credit the photographers properly) after the event.

Newsletter

Our newsletter has over 750 subscribers with an average open rate of 12.9% (industry standard is 14.9%). We continued with the newsletter this year, however engagement in the newsletter fell to less than 10% during the run up to the Burn. Looking at the location data most people reading the newsletter are usually California-based, however it is possible the data is wrong because a lot of people are using VPN when opening the email.

Social Media

We made use of multiple social media platforms to communicate with Dragon Burners both local and abroad.

Facebook and Twitter

Our Facebook account has over 800 followers and regularly posts about both Shanghai-based Burner events and other Burns around the world. Our Twitter account has less than 200 followers.

Unfortunately, Facebook and Twitter cannot be accessed without VPN in China, so these platforms aren't the best way to engage the community here.

Reddit

With the problems we're having with WeChat we considered switching to reddit as our primary platform for the community. Unfortunately, reddit cannot be accessed within China as of this year so this isn't a viable option for us anymore.

WeChat

WeChat is the most popular social media platform in China. We have an Official WeChat group which has 1715 followers to date. We use this to announce events and fundraisers in China, along with any other information about the actual Burn. The WeChat article announcing ticket sales was viewed 4185 times (although we are unsure of the conversion rate).

We also have a group chat that is used for general discussions but have run into a problem. The maximum size of these chats is 500 and we have more than 500 people wanting to participate (700 participants attended this year). We've attempted to cull the chat of inactive users, but every time we do it quickly fills up again. Relying on the group chat may not be sustainable so we are starting to think about different options to allow local Burners to communicate with each other.

Trello

Trello was once again vital to organising the logistics of the Burn. One issue, however, is that there is a lot of noise on Dragon Burn's Trello, leading to a lot of noise that makes it hard to find the information you need. At this point we often ask someone who knows where a card is to tag us if we want to find some information on the board. Another problem is that most people on the team have a different idea of how Trello should be used.

Website

The website was continually updated and maintained this year, with a few improvements to the browsing experience.

Survival Guide

This year we decided to keep the survival guide online for the most part, directing people to specific areas throughout the year to better prepare them for the Burn.

Recommendations and Improvements for the Future

- Decide on a long-term solution for storing documents and images.
- Find someone to focus on the newsletter only
- Find a suitable alternative to WeChat
- Keep the Survival Guide up-to-date
- Standardise the way we use Trello – and introduce better Trello training

Site Search

In 2018 we visited a new site in Anji that could better suit our needs. Despite the site lacking in infrastructure (namely toilet facilities and electricity), we decided we could make it work. The new site was much larger and would allow us to spread out more. It also had a collection of stranger Burner-esque art and abandoned vehicles that we figured participants would enjoy exploring. As this site was more remote, we hoped that it would allow for more privacy and less interference with the locals.

We did a second site visit before Chinese New Year to introduce Theme Camp Leaders to the new site, and to work out placement ideas and required infrastructure so we could make better use of the site.



THE NEW FOREST SITE

IMAGE CREDIT: UNKNOWN

As a backup we still had the original Anji site, however the lake was already full in January, so this was an elevated risk. The owner of Fengxia Farm also reached out to us again, leaving us the possibility of moving here if we needed to.

Permanent Site

In the end the new site has a lot of potential going forward. The site can probably support at least 2000-3000 people at capacity so gives us a lot of room for growth in the future. As such we have adopted this

site for future Burns and have set up permanent storage on-site to save on transport and storage costs next year.

The chapters on Site Setup, On Site, and Exodus will go into more details about the problems we encountered with the new site and how we overcame them, as well as improvements we hope to make next year.

Recommendations and Improvements for the Future

- We have the site so no need to delay announcing dates for 2019's Burn
 - Caveat: we still must wait until January when the government officially announces the holidays for 2019.
- Keep a list of backup sites just in case – we never know what might happen next year

Outreach

DBORG itself didn't fundraise this year, except for the Effigy fundraiser. DBORG for the most part focused on outreach for its own events.

Although Dragon Burn itself didn't fundraise at most events, many theme camps contributed to Official Events, bringing food, music, art, and workshops. They were allowed to fundraise for their respective camps at these events, and when Dragon Burn did make money from these events it was generally donated to the theme camps that were involved in organising it.

In addition to Official Dragon Burn events, many of this year's theme camps and artists ran their own fundraisers and outreach for Dragon Burn. Since DBORG was less directly involved in these events, they are not covered in this report.

Art Grants

We allocated 20,000 RMB for art grants this year (later increased to 30,000 RMB), double what we spent last year. Applications for art grants opened on the 31st January and closed on 4th March. The Ministry of Art gave out decisions on where Art Grants would be allocated on the 11th March. We wanted to start things earlier this year to give people more time to plan and prepare their art for the Burn. With this schedule, even if artists waited until 11th March, they would still have 6 weeks to prepare before the Burn.

Decompression

We had a Decompression in December 2017. Although the primary focus was a community gathering and education event, the venue shared the bar with us which were added to Dragon Burn's general funds.

Decompression was an extremely popular event, however it wasn't quite what a Decompression is supposed to be, so we hope to improve on this next year.



A LIVE PAINTING MADE AT SHANGHAI DECOMPRESSION 2017

IMAGE CREDIT: TUTU

Art Collective

On the 30th January we held an Art Collective event at Daliah. This event was designed to present art that was present at Dragon Burn in previous years, and to encourage and inspire participants to bring their own art to this year's Burn. Presentations included art at Burning Man, art at previous Dragon Burns, art projects already planned for 2018's Burn, and guidelines on planning and building a project for Dragon Burn.

The event was the most successful Art Collective yet, with over 100 participants, some coming from as far as Hangzhou just to see what it was about.



ARTISTS RENDITION OF THE ART COLLECTIVE IN 2018

IMAGE CREDIT: VIOLA

Spring Kickoff

On the 17th March we held the Spring Kickoff to get people excited about this year's Dragon Burn. Theme camps represented themselves and carried out fundraising activities, including DeeperJoy – the first Chinese-run theme camp based around S&M.

There were presentations on art projects coming up for Dragon Burn 2018, a Camp Jamboree-style jam session and music from Dragon Burn-regulars.



CUCUMBURNER'S VEGAN FOOD AT SPRING KICKOFF

IMAGE CREDIT: AARON DODSON

Ladyfest

Ladyfest as a non-profit created to promote a dialogue for gender equality and to voice the diverse experiences of being a woman. As in previous years, Dragon Burn was allowed a booth to reach out to potential participants.



SVEN REPRESENTING AT LADYFEST

IMAGE CREDIT: DOC BOK

Recommendations and Improvements for the Future

- Run Decompression as a one-day Burn event rather than as an education/fundraiser event.
- Continue focusing on outreach-style events
- Continue to support theme camps and artists that need fundraising.

Volunteers

A team of three people were formed to organize volunteers for Dragon Burn 2018. The general strategy employed was to use social media channels associated with the Burn to enroll a group of volunteers. The hope was to then break this group down into smaller teams that could micro-manage the different aspects of the Burn.

Unfortunately, there were a few flaws in the execution of volunteer recruitment/training. There was difficulty in communicating what was need from volunteers due to a lack of experience, and too much of a burden of responsibility put onto the volunteer team. The root of most problems was a lack of available information, which we hope to rectify next year.

Recommendations and Improvements for the Future

- Improve the delivery of information and training to potential volunteers
- Have on-site recruitment for volunteers at Center Camp
- Decentralise volunteer organization so individual teams have more control over recruitment and training
- Distribute more material via the website and Official Wechat Group about potential volunteer opportunities
- Consider potential benefits to volunteering – water, food, ‘private’ on-site party for volunteers

Ticket Sales

Ticket sales followed pretty much the same pattern as last year. Around 30% of tickets were sold as soon as we released tickets, with tickets selling out more than 2 weeks before the Burn. We capped the population at 700 participants this year.

Price Structure

To determine the price this year we performed some projections, including potential costs for next year and the profit we would need to keep Dragon Burn going. These projections were based on costs from 2017 and we considered what our up-front costs would be to determine a safe ticket price that would allow Dragon Burn to continue in future years. At 350 RMB we still maintain probably the cheapest Burn on the planet.

The bus tickets were priced separately at 150 RMB for a round trip ticket. The tickets were set slightly higher than needed to account for some seats being empty on buses.

In total we made over 230,000 RMB from entry ticket sales and 63,000 RMB from bus ticket sales.

The projections weren't as accurate as they could have been, partly due to unexpected costs, but also due to costs we didn't consider in the projection. Thankfully Dragon Burn still has enough money to continue, but we will attempt to better predict our finances next year.

Recommendations and Improvements for the Future

- Consider other costs when making projections, such as site visits, fuel costs, and cost of gifts.

Buses

This year 445 participants used the buses provided by DBORG. Aaron Dodson took the lead with a few volunteers on checking bus tickets on the way in.

We checked both bus tickets and entry tickets before participants boarded the bus. For people making their own way in we also checked entry tickets at Center Camp when they arrived. We provided wristbands for people with return bus tickets to be checked on their way back.

On the bus volunteers provided information on what was to come and handed out the waivers for participants to sign. Participants who made their own way to the site were given waivers to sign at Center Camp (which was placed at the entrance to the site).

Unfortunately, exodus didn't go so well. There weren't any volunteers to check bus tickets. Since buses were supposed to leave as they filled up, many bus drivers ended up getting tired of waiting for participants and leaving early, meaning the last bus was overfilled and delayed. This was exacerbated by strikedown taking too long for many theme camps and organisers (see the later chapter on Exodus for more details).

Recommendations and Improvements for the Future

- Schedule buses to leave at specific times every couple of hours on the last day, rather than first come first served.
- Ensure we have volunteers to check bus tickets, and that everyone who is supposed to be on a bus is already on board before it leaves (within a reasonable timeframe).
- Separate bus ticket sales the same way as Burning Man, so people pay for one ticket there, and one ticket back.
- Educate participants/theme camps on having a solid strikedown plan and being on time for buses.

Site Setup

For site setup this year we did it in two different stages. We had a weekend before to start setting up infrastructure, and an EA team to start setting up theme camps and art.

Pre-Weekend Setup

The pre-weekend setup was used primarily to set up infrastructure, finalise placement, and begin construction of the effigy. There was a moment when we were worried the effigy wouldn't work since the head was huge and had to be hoisted up to the top of the effigy frame. Thanks to Most Lonely Boy's rope skills we constructed a makeshift pulley to lift the head into position. We almost thought we'd lost it when one of the ropes snapped, but to our relief we managed to lift the head into position with the remaining ropes.

Early Arrival

During Early Arrival we finished off the effigy, and the theme camps also joined in order to set up their camps. We also set up Center Camp where we would greet newcomers and check entry tickets for those that arrived in their own vehicles.



LOADING THE EARLY ARRIVAL TRUCK

IMAGE CREDIT: ERIC

We provided comped meals for people who arrived early, however much of this food was left uneaten and needed to be disposed of after the Burn. We should reconsider whether to provide meals for EA crew as the number of people coming in early is set to increase and we need to think about preventing waste/MOOP as well.

Most of the theme camps and infrastructure was set up before the start of the event, however the effigy lacked manpower and took a little longer to complete. The problem was that many participants had committed to both the effigy and theme camps so were busy building theme camps instead of helping with the effigy. We should investigate recruiting dedicated Effigy volunteers that aren't overcommitted.

Recommendations and Improvements for the Future

- As Dragon Burn, Art and Theme Camps get more ambitious, EA teams are getting larger. Consider no longer supporting comped meals for EA and encouraging theme camps to have their own food plans.
- Run Effigy as its own theme camp to ensure people aren't over-committed.
- Have separate build weekends for infrastructure and theme camps – split the responsibility using the schedule rather than by theme camp.

On Site

The new site, while a great site, provided unique challenges we didn't expect. The size of the site was an issue. During site visits we didn't realise how much effort is needed to walk across the site, especially in extremely hot Mayday weather when there is a lot going on. Bottles of water weren't large enough so next year we should encourage things like Camelbacks and bicycles to help them explore the site.

Police on the Gate

This year the local police insisted on registering foreigners themselves so waited at the gate to collect passports from people coming in. This wasn't ideal, but we must comply with local authorities in order to keep Dragon Burn legal.

Returning the passports caused extra security concerns, so it was decided that only a select few with higher stakes in Dragon Burn would be responsible for returning passports. We decided to keep them under lock and key except for a few hours a day where participants could come and collect them. Unfortunately, some participants waited until the very last minute to collect passports, leading to organisers having to take extra care.

Despite this we managed to return everyone's passport to them before the end of the Burn.

Greeting

Greeting was a problem we really wanted to resolve this year. In 2017 the greeting was basically red tape – checking tickets and was often unmanned.

This year, thanks to Center Camp, we had people ready to welcome people as they arrived almost 24/7. We came up with a ritual that involved getting participants to perform a dragon dance together, hugs, and a chant. We also didn't check tickets until after the ritual was complete. This created a more welcoming experience for participants on arrival and was especially effective.

Center Camp

This year we set up a “Center Camp” near the entrance to the site. It acted as a point for information and as a welcoming place for participants. It was also the point where people would come to collect their passports.



SETTING UP CENTER CAMP

IMAGE CREDIT: SUSKITA

Medical

The same medical team we used last year return to Dragon Burn this year. Again, they were paid to be here since safety is too important to rely on volunteers. They were given a radio as was every single theme camp leader so that they could be called out in an emergency.

The nearest town was only a short drive away (less than 20 minutes) so we would have been able to get someone to a hospital quickly if we had needed.

Incidents

There were 2 incidents of note during the Burn.

First, a participant stepped onto a small branch that went through her foot. She was taken to hospital and treated for her injuries. However, it was apparent that people weren't aware that we had a medical team on site, nor did they know how to contact them. Next year we should make sure that information is given on arrival on how to contact the medical team in the case of an emergency like this.

Secondly, a local crashed into a participant's car. We helped the participant get in touch with the person responsible, and they resolved the incident between themselves.

Security

We hired local security again this year. Unfortunately, as the site was more open than we realized they weren't too effective, and we had a few locals enter the site and create the "human zoo" feeling we keep trying to avoid.

Fire

Mandy directed the fire show at the effigy and took charge of fire safety. For fire safety we had several volunteers form a perimeter around the effigy, and each had a fire extinguisher in hand. This year we had someone break the perimeter and run towards the fire. He was intercepted quickly and luckily it turned out he was just trying to get a good picture.

Recommendations and Improvements for the Future

- Encourage participants to use Camelbacks and bicycles to traverse the site.
- Work with local police to see if we can handle the passport registration more efficiently next year.
- Invest in a small safe for locking up passports.
- Move "Center Camp" to the center.
- Expand Center Camp so there is a bit more going on this year.
- The guidebook/leaflet should make it clear how people can get in touch with Rangers/a medical team in the case of an emergency.
- Figure out a way to have more effective security.
- Consider engaging the local community and getting them more involved in the event (to avoid the "human zoo").
- Think about how to prevent/discourage runners in future Burns.

Artist and Performance Participation

Art Installations

This year saw many new art installations. This year we allocated 30,000 RMB for Art Grants. As we have done in previous years, Art Grant applications were processed before the Burn, but the grants were paid post-Burn (this was due to our cash flow – at present we still don't have enough to pay all our up-front costs).

The art brought to Dragon Burn this year included the following:

- **Boxton** by Kellee Jones
- **Comfortress** by Ben Hengst
- **Compliment** Chair by Joanna Palmowska
- **The Drawing Room** by Michael Pratt
- **The Electric Menagerie** by Leven Smith
- **Fermenting Gifts / Open Kitchen #2** by Francesca Valsecchi
- **The Forbidden Fruit** by Mandy Woolfstead
- **Garden of Eden 3.0** by Mandy Embers
- **Get Naked** by Vanessa Zheng
- **Glass 的复数** by Pauan Soares
- **Glow Lamps** by Michael Pratt
- **Great Tetherball of Fire** by Michael Tokarz
- **Hammockville** by Joanna Palmowska
- **Hanging Pulley Garden** by Abbie Szabo
- **Heart Beat Harmony** by Laurent LLND
- **Inflatable Capital** by Jin Ma
- **Karma Mirror** by Francesca Valsecchi
- **The Kissing Booth** by Inga Vyugova
- **Lighten Sails** by Matthieu Radet Sancet
- **Litterbug Detective** by Aaron Dodson
- **M.E.N.A.C.E.** by Doc Bok
- **Moving Walls** by Lisa Kuhnen
- **Painting in the Forest** by Pierre Pailhas
- **Photon II** by Michael Pratt
- **Sauna** by Will Fraser
- **serendipitea** by Francesca Valsecchi
- **Shalanaya** by Francesca Valsecchi
- **Shower Power** by Davide Rossi
- **SpiritWay** by Alana Tashjian
- **Zoolandia** by Lalo Lopez



THE ELECTRIC SPIDER

IMAGE CREDIT: TUTU



HANGING OUT AT HAMMOCKVILLE

IMAGE CREDIT: TUTU



PARTICIPANTS ATTEMPT TO SYNC THEIR HEARTS

IMAGE CREDIT: TUTU



SAUNA DECORATED BURNER-STYLE

IMAGE CREDIT: TUTU



SERENDIPITEA SETUP ON A TRAIN

IMAGE CREDIT: RICARDO BALTAZAR



SHALANAYA CHILLOUT AREA

IMAGE CREDIT: TUTU



IN LINE FOR A SHOWER

IMAGE CREDIT: RICARDO BALTAZAR



DISCOVERING THE SPIRITWAY

IMAGE CREDIT: ERIC



ZOOLANDIA ANIMAL HEADS

IMAGE CREDIT: TUTU

Performances and Workshops

This year there were many workshops put on by the various theme camps as always, including the return of Stanky Yoga, an Ass Tattoo Workshop, dance workshops, yoga, and many more.

The number of workshops grew significantly this year and it is getting difficult to fit on a small flyer. We should consider doing an actual guide book next year.

Theme Camps

In 2018 we continued with theme camps. The Healing Spirits, Open Kitchen and Roller Disco Theme Camps didn't return for a second year; however, a few new theme camps were born out of the ashes. DeeperJoy, the Cucumburners, and Hammockville were newly formed theme camps for Dragon Burn 2018.

Other Theme Camps

Although they never applied for placement beforehand, there were several "unofficial" pop-up theme camps this year. This include Jizzfest, a camp gifting margheritas; and Camp Procrastination, a theme camp for people joining last minute and wanting to participate in group camping.

Recommendations and Improvements for the Future

- Try to ensure we have enough money next year to cover our up-front costs.
- Consider (based on income) paying art grants before the Burn.
- Consider doing a guide book next year, instead of just a simple flyer.

Adrenaland



ADRENALAND AT DRAGON BURN 2018

IMAGE CREDIT: TUTU

Adrenaland was created in 2017 for the 4th Dragon Burn (DB) by organizers from the Atomic Krew. The ideas behind the new theme camp was pretty simple: bringing more diversity into the music stages by creating our own and providing more activities and arts performances than previous Burns. We also paid a lot of attention to bringing more local people to the Burn and introducing them to the 10 Principles of Burning Man.

Our main goals are:

- Organizing Canoe Tour & Land Visit
- Having a nice Food Station
- Creating a New Music Stage to welcome any musician/artists
- Installation of a Purple Mountain Camp Area
- Giving space for workshops as live Music, magic show, live painting, juggling, etc
- Having onsite Stake Line & Mountain Bikes

Camp JAMboree



CAMP JAMBOREE FLYER

IMAGE CREDIT: UNKNOWN

Fancy yourself a bit of a musician? Looking for inspiration from fellow musicians? Love sitting down in a drum circle and jamming on your instrument of choice? Want to try new instruments that you've never seen before? Never played an instrument before but have always wanted to try? Camp JAMboree is the place for you! Musicians of all levels welcome.

Jam on!

Cucumburners



CUCUMBURNERS CAMP

IMAGE CREDIT: RICARDO BALTAZAR

Camp Cucumburner is a fully-vegan theme camp new at Dragon Burn this year. Camp Cucumburner aims to provide the Dragon Burn community with a space to simulate the six senses:

- **SEE** 24-hour Art Installations
- **HEAR** 24-hour Silent Disco
- **TASTE & SMELL** our 100% vegan kitchen
- **TOUCH** and play in our comfy cuddle puddle
- **OPEN YOUR MIND** with our meditation space

We are campers who truly love to Burn and who love the 10 Principles. At Camp Cucumburner, we work extra hard to **Leave No Trace** at the Burn this year, and we will be hosting workshops about living a more MOOP-free life, including DIY fermentation, composting, upcycling, and more.

These, along with learning and tasting delicious vegan food and recipes are many ways which you can bring these 10 Principles back to everyday life, and live with Burner Magic all year long.

DeeperJoy



ENTERING DEEPERJOY

IMAGE CREDIT: RICARDO BALTAZAR

DeeperJoy camp will provide a space with kinky decoration and skilled fetishists/BDSM players, where you can watch and experience bondage, whipping, spanking, animal play and leather work.

During the night, our camp will transform into a kinky pub where there will be music, kinky punch and waiters with fetish gear.

Come and have fun with us, but always remember that safe, sane and consensual are three principles for all BDSM play.

Enjoy the kinky camp and make more kinky friends!

Flying Baozi



THE DOME RETURNS

IMAGE CREDIT: ERIC

The sky is our play area and safety is the key to get crazy and explore as many things as our minds can imagine!

Flying Baozi Dome creates an environment where you can learn, practice, and play! From hammocking and aerial silks, to yoga, acro yoga, thai massage, slackline and body paint. You can play the entire day away with us!

In the morning, relax with breakfast and flow with contemporary dance; chill and daze in the hammocks; get creative with body paint to express your mood using your body as your canvas.

After lunch, we'll all be full of energy and ready to PLAY! Discover all the possibilities of strength, balance and silliness practicing slackline and monkey around with the smiles and trust of Acroyoga.

Hammockville



ENTERING HAMMOCKVILLE

IMAGE CREDIT: TUTU

Hammockville is the coziest spot at Dragon Burn, for it offers everything comfort, cuddly, and cushy. Walking around town, we welcome you to visit our different boroughs of relaxation, sensory stimulation, and creativity. Our little town features a number of small neighborhoods that provide something for everyone – you may sway the day away in a 10-person hammock or find yourself relaxing in The Comfortress (communal fort area for hosting DJ sets & workshops & more), or maybe you'll end up in Slack City or Boxtan.

Hammockville is a community that welcomes everyone. We will have communal meals twice a day and take turns preparing for events and workshops. By day, Hammockville is a dream garden with never ending chill spots, hidden caches of hammocks and good vibes while at night it becomes a glowing LED playground. With an extensive network of LED cables connecting all corners of the camp, we ensure that we will be glowing all night long. This year, Hammockville will feature The Electric Menagerie as a psychedelic sculpture installation for late night chill outs as well as a compliment/roast chair, 3D printed chaos, Wook's LED masterpiece "Illumination Type One" and many more surprises!

James Brown and the Temple of Boom



JAMES BROWN'S FUNKY TENT

IMAGE CREDIT: RICARDO BALTAZAR

Welcome James Brown enthusiasts to James Brown and the Temple of Boom: The hottest, funkier, nastier theme camp at Dragon Burn 2017!

We are a techno! and bongo-free haven for all lovers of Funk, Soul, Jazz, Hip-hop, Blues, etc. who don't take themselves too seriously.

Feel free to invite friends who like having a laugh and are up for making this camp super bad!

Effigy

The effigy this year was a large spiral dragon designed once again by Magic Ma. It consisted of a bamboo frame and was detailed using fallen branches gathered both from Shanghai and the forests in Anji.

Building



A PARTLY CONSTRUCTED EFFIGY

IMAGE CREDIT: SUSKITA

We had several volunteers help with the effigy build, both the weekend before the event and during early arrival. Building the effigy took longer than expected since many volunteers were also a part of theme camp's early arrival teams, however we still managed to complete the effigy on the first day of the event.



THE FINISHED EFFIGY

IMAGE CREDIT: TUTU

Burn Night

To mark the end of Dragon Burn 2019, participants were able to enjoy the effigy burn under a blood moon. Several artists had added to the fire by placing their pieces beneath the dragon to be consumed by the flames. Bamboo explodes when it burns, so the effigy could be heard popping as the flames consumed the dragon.



PRE-BURN FIRE SHOW

IMAGE CREDIT: TUTU

The Burn Night went according to plan. We had one person try to run towards the effigy, but he was intercepted. We had a group of volunteers armed with fire extinguishers in case of an emergency, but thankfully the effigy fire stayed under control. We also had volunteers walk the perimeter and entertain the crowd during the build up to the fire show and the burn.



THE DRAGON BURNS

IMAGE CREDIT: RICARDO BALTAZAR

Recommendations and Improvements for the Future

- Run the effigy team as its own theme camp with dedicated volunteer builders.
- Make an early callout for Temple designs in 2019.
- Add an extra ring of volunteers kneeling at the Burn perimeter to help discourage runners.

Exodus

The exodus from the event was the least smooth part of Dragon Burn in 2018. Several factors contributed to this, including the new site being much larger than what we were used to, and theme camps and artists becoming more ambitious with the projects they bring to the event. We will place a large focus on improving the exit from the event next year.

LNT and MOOP

LNT sweeps went well and most waste was collected by participants in trash bags during the event. However, at the end of the event participants seemed unsure what to do with their waste and ended up leaving it in a pile near the buses. A collection point for trash was organized so that each bus wouldn't have 45 participants trash on board smelling up a 4-hour bus ride. Organisers tried to get participants to move their trash to the collection point, but it quickly became impossible to stop as participants would see the pile and just assume that's where they were supposed to leave it.

Next year we hope to encourage participants to not only dispose of their trash appropriately, but to also encourage recycling wherever possible.

Strikedown

Strikedown seemed to be efficient. Most theme camps and artists had their structures dismantled and ready to put onto the art truck around the time buses started arriving.

Truck

We didn't realise until too late that the truck wasn't big enough to contain all the site's infrastructure this year. This caused huge delays in getting everything onto the truck, and delays in getting a lot of participants back to Shanghai.

We have now set up storage on-site to hold major parts of the infrastructure that we don't need in Shanghai. We also hope to encourage theme camps to use their own trucks if they can.

Recommendations and Improvements for the Future

- Set up a Ministry of Environment to focus on LNT and MOOP education
- Improve our LNT plan, including both managing waste disposal and education on what people should do with waste.
 - Taking all the trash back on buses isn't feasible – BxB has a collection at the buses – how should we do this?
- Theme camps are getting larger. Encourage them to think about bringing their own trucks to the event for their own camp infrastructure.

Financial Summary

Dragon Burn was funded almost entirely through ticket sales this year. We sold 700 entry tickets and 445 bus tickets. This year we started looking into solving our cash flow in order to make Dragon Burn financially stable. In order to cover its up-front costs (storage, site deposit, bus deposit, site infrastructure, gifts) Dragon Burn needs around 150,000 RMB each year. Dragon Burn is only making less than 80,000 so we should aim to fix this next year.

Dragon Burn 2018 Financial Summary	
Income	
Event Ticket Sales	
Entry Ticket Sales	¥ 233,082.50
Bus Ticket Sales	¥ 63,412.50
Fundraisers and Donations	
Decompression	¥ 6,630.00
Art Collective	¥ 500.00
Online Fundraiser	
Effigy	¥ 10,208.00
Total Fundraising	¥ 17,338.00
Last Year's Revenue	¥ 63,671.94
Subtotal of all income for 2017	¥ 377,504.94
Expenses	
Year Round	
Website Domain	¥ -
Storage	
Shelves/Trollies	¥ 2,425.00
Container	¥ 471.00
Cleaning Trip Expenses	¥ 453.00
Container Delivery Fee	¥ 240.00
Public Transport Costs	¥ 80.00
Storhub	¥ 10,955.60
Anji Site Container Storage Deposit	¥ 3,000.00
Anji Container	¥ 6,000.00
Anji Container Door	¥ 2,050.00
Storage Trip Tool Expenses	¥ 3,414.00
Site Visits	
Anji Alternative	¥ 2,143.00
Anji Alternative - Second Site Check	¥ 2,888.00
Anji Alternative - Third Site Check	¥ 2,200.00
Storage Cleaning Trip	¥ 4,332.89

Gifts		
Dragon Burn Stickers (500)	¥	475.00
Dragon Burn Wristbands (800)	¥	1,160.00
Bus Wristbands (500)	¥	100.00
New Dragon Burn Stickers (800)	¥	300.00
Dragon Burn Pendants (800)	¥	440.00
Brochures	¥	1,726.00
Poster	¥	140.00
Dragon Burn Logo and Stamps	¥	293.00
Landlord Gift	¥	566.00
Effigy Fundraiser Perks	¥	2,559.00
Events		
Decompression	¥	1,682.00
Wine and Sign	¥	300.00
Transport		
25th March Bus	¥	2,700.00
15th April Site Visit Bus	¥	2,700.00
21st April Site Visit Buses	¥	4,500.00
25th April Site Visit Buses	¥	6,000.00
Main Event Buses	¥	52,300.00
Last Standing Bus	¥	2,800.00
Infrastructure		
Site Rental (4 days)	¥	30,000.00
Medical Team	¥	8,500.00
Security Team	¥	7,600.00
Cables	¥	4,350.00
Walkie Talkies	¥	1,815.00
Dragon Decorations	¥	1,600.00
Center Camp Tables	¥	406.00
Sockets and distribution	¥	1,429.40
Cable for Art	¥	3,740.00
Miscellaneous Parts	¥	1,220.00
Center Camp Tent Rental	¥	3,400.00
Tapes/Rope	¥	109.00
Scaffolding	¥	1,000.00
Ranger Capes	¥	290.00
Work Helmets and Belts	¥	220.00
Dragon Burn Water	¥	2,140.00
Ice	¥	4,000.00
Portable Toilets	¥	20,000.00
Garbage Disposal	¥	3,000.00
Burn Barrel	¥	1,000.00
Lost Bike	¥	600.00

Early Arrival		
Comped Meals	¥	6,000.00
Effigy and Fire		
Bamboo Stands	¥	3,450.00
Dry Branches	¥	3,000.00
Tools	¥	1,566.00
Transport Costs	¥	100.00
Bamboo Cutting	¥	1,000.00
Bamboo Ladder	¥	250.00
Fire		
Fire Extinguisher	¥	556.80
Kerosene	¥	4,000.00
Art		
Art Grants	¥	29,511.00
Art Truck	¥	14,000.00
Other		
Landlord Thankyou Dinner	¥	1,725.70
Australia Leadership Summit	¥	10,966.81
Dragon Burn Post Meeting	¥	283.50
Subtotal of all expenses for 2017	¥	294,222.70
2017 Profit		
Net Profit	¥	83,282.24
Donation to BMORG	¥	4,000.00
Balance	¥	79,282.24

Recommendations and Improvements for the Future

- Aim to make Dragon Burn financially stable
- Consider raising ticket price if necessary
 - Try and make projections more accurate

Future Visions

Goals from Last Year's Report

In terms of our goals from last year we achieved most of our goals, with some that are still ongoing and could be improved further. We now have a permanent site in Anji that will allow us to slowly grow population for future years. We had an actual manned Center Camp for the first time ever. Everything was started much earlier last year, although now we have a permanent site, we can improve this further next year.

We improved discussion about food waste and being more environmentally friendly and there are now constant discussions about this in our social media groups. We do still need to improve our LNT so this is a goal we should continue to pursue next year.

Planning tasks were allocated more intelligently, however many organisers ended up with a lot of work this year. We have already begun implementing a new method of distributing responsibilities this year so is also something we hope to continue improving.

Communication with theme camps was also an improvement on the previous year, however there is still a lot of room for improvement, particularly when it comes down to strikedown/exodus.

- Emphasize the 10 Principles more
- Better secure site
- Educate people not only on Leave No Trace (corrective) but also Create No Trace (preventive)
- Have an Information Center on-site
- Start everything earlier
 - Site search
 - Art kickoff
 - Date announcements
 - Ticket Sales
 - Create a more welcoming greeter experience when Burners arrive on site
- Encourage less food waste and more communal effort between camps
- Allocate planning tasks more intelligently
 - Have planners more willing to accept responsibilities
- Communicate more with theme camp leaders so they know what responsibilities we expect them to have
 - Especially in terms of LNT/MOOP sweeps

Goals for Dragon Burn 2019

- Have a more solid exodus plan
- Continue to improve Dragon Burn's LNT efforts
- Improve Center Camp to make it the central hub for the event
- Improve Dragon Burn's cash flow/financial security
- Start things even earlier
- Continue to improve distribution of responsibilities for organisers
- Continue to improve our communication with and between theme camps
- Improve the way we organize, recruit, and train volunteers