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Founded in 1971, the Research Centre for Translation is the foremost publisher of Chinese literary works in English translation. Its flagship journal *Renditions* was launched in 1973, followed by *Renditions Books*, a hard-back series, in 1976, and *Renditions Paperbacks* in 1986. *Renditions* publications cover the whole range of Chinese classical and modern literature and boast the largest number of titles by Hong Kong writers.

Since 1973, *Renditions* has offered specialists and general readers alike a taste of the riches of China's vast literary tradition, from classical works of poetry, prose and fiction to their most modern counterparts.

'A new contribution to belles-lettres. ... A most attractive feature is its catering both to those who are highly proficient in literary Chinese, and to those who are only slightly so or know no Chinese at all. ... How pleasant to be reminded that Chinese can be fun.'

—The China Quarterly

'... the best of its kind ... attractively produced and substantial in content.'

—World Literature Today

'Fortunately, Renditions publishers ... is helping to fill the gap ... with a fine paperback series.'

—Choice
Towards a History of Translating
In Commemoration of the 40th Anniversary of
the Research Centre for Translation, CUHK

Edited by Lawrence Wang-chi Wong
with the assistance of Stephanie Cheuk Wong

The Research Centre for Translation (RCT), Institute of Chinese Studies, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, celebrated its fortieth anniversary in 2011. It is an important landmark, one that allows the Centre to re-examine its many achievements over these forty years and to envision its future role in Chinese literature translation and translation history research. To commemorate this event, the three-volume *Towards a History of Translating* is compiled. The first two volumes consist of articles on translation and Chinese literature selected from the past issues of *Renditions*. The articles are arranged in chronological order of their first appearance in *Renditions*, kept as close as possible to the previously published editions to give our readers a closer feel for the RCT’s development over the years. The third volume is a collection of articles invited from distinguished scholars in the field of translation studies. Written especially for the occasion, the articles explore major topics in translation history.

Volume I  On Translation

Volume II  On Chinese Literature

Volume III  On Translation History
Renditions
Unit Price  
single issue  HK$109.90 / US$21.90  
double issue  HK$179.90 / US$33.90

FORTHCOMING

➤ Nos. 81 & 82 (2014)  
*Renditions* nos. 81 & 82, to appear in November of 2014, will be a double-issue guest-edited by Steve West devoted to introducing the interlinear commentaries on traditional Chinese fiction drama from the Ming and Qing dynasties. Students of traditional fiction and drama have long delighted in the commentaries interspersed among the original texts by such brilliant critics as Jin Shengtan, and we will present for the first time in English substantial samples of such work in what we hope is a simulacrum of their original settings.

BACK ISSUES

➤ No. 80 (Autumn 2013)  
This issue is another collection of writings in various genres and from different periods of Chinese history. We are both delighted and honoured to begin it with the late Professor D. C. Lau’s translation of the ‘Advanced School of Learning’ (Daxue), that foundational Confucian text offering sage advice on self-cultivation that was a moral guide in China for many hundreds of years. Other highlights include a Song dynasty tale of elopement and the resulting court case, and seventeenth century critic Jin Shengtan’s insightful commentary on the *Shuihu zhuan*. Included also are ‘The History of Humanity’, an important 1907 essay by Lu Xun, a thought-provoking exploration on the differences between Chinese literature and civilization and the Western institutions by the controversial writer and critic Hu Lancheng, followed by ten contemporary poems by Chien Chengchen, and a short story from 1930s Shanghai by the ‘new sensationalist’ Mu Shiying.

➤ No. 79 (Spring 2013)  
The issue features a selection of work representing a variety of periods and genres of Chinese literature. Highlights include ‘Lament over My Poor Fate,’ an extraordinary long poem of female authorship from the Song dynasty translated by Wilt Idema, a selection of Huang Zunxian’s writings on Japan, translated by Jack Chen and Yunhuang Zhang, followed by a commentary essay by Cheng Yu-yu of National Taiwan University. We will also continue our serialization of David Hull’s translation of *Waverings*, Mao Dun’s epic of the 1927 revolution.
Nos. 77 & 78 (Spring & Autumn 2012)
Chinese Science Fiction: Late Qing and the Contemporary
Guest edited by Mingwei Song

This issue showcases representative work of Chinese science fiction from the late Qing and the contemporary. As a popular genre, science fiction has energized modern Chinese literature by evoking a whole array of sensations ranging from the grotesque to the sublime, from the Utopian to the apocalyptic, and from the human to the post-human. It mingles nationalism with fantasy, envelopes politics in scientific discourse, and delivers sharp social criticism with an acute awareness of probabilities and possibilities. Science fiction today both echoes and complicates the late Qing writers’ vision of China’s future and the transformation of our species and universe, and this special issue aims to contextualize a comparative reading of some important Sci fi writings from these two epochs and the similar expectations and anxieties they bring to Chinese readers.

No. 76 Yang Jiang (Autumn 2011)
Guest edited by Christopher G. Rea

In celebration of Yang Jiang’s centenary year, this special issue presents a sampling of works from Yang’s eight-decade-long career, including new translations of some of her best essays and short stories, as well as excerpts from her first play (Heart’s Desire, 1943), her memoirs, and her most recent book, Arriving at the Margins of Life: Answering My Own Questions (2007). Born during the year of the Republican Revolution, Yang Jiang (1911– ) went on to distinguish herself as one of modern China’s most accomplished and versatile scholar-writers. Best known for her understated yet often humorous prose style, Yang is also an accomplished playwright and novelist; a prodigious translator from French, Spanish, and English; and an influential memoirist and intellectual who has come to be regarded by many as a paragon of modern Chinese humanism.

No. 75 Special Section: The Seventies (Spring 2011)

This issue focuses on a set of translations from the collection of reminiscences edited by Bei Dao and Li Tuo, The Seventies. A compendium of writings on their experiences of the decade that has proved so pivotal to contemporary China by a large group of writers who lived through it, the work has attracted great attention in the Chinese-speaking world. Also included is a prizewinning translation of the first three chapters of Mao Dun’s Waverings.

No. 74 (Autumn 2010)

This issue begins with a Scots translation of Du Fu’s ‘Autumn Meditations’, and an essay that reflects on the translating of poetry. A eulogy to the late Taiwan poet, Shang Qin, is written by fellow writer Wai-lim Yip. Lu Xun’s ‘Lessons from the Histroy of Science’ sheds light on the events faced by the Chinese at the turn of the 20th century. Other features comprise contemporary poems by Han Dong, Genzi, and Wann Ai-jen, a short story by Xue Yiwei, and an essay by Bei Dao.
This is the 35th anniversary issue of Renditions with an article dedicated to our founding editor, George Kao, who passed away on 1 March 2008. This issue features several translations related to performance and theatre: a late Ming or early Qing dynasty drum ballad, which is a rare example of a fully-developed animal fable, a nineteenth century ‘flower guide’ appraising the qualities of boy-actors, a one-act play by Ding Xilin involving cross-dressing, and poems by Wen Yiduo about a drummer and a balladeer. For the first time Renditions presents translations into Scots, which is used for two Wen Yiduo poems originally written in vernacular Pekinese. Other items include prose sketches by Wang Anyi, a short story by Xi Xi and poetry by P. K. Leung.

No. 70  Violence in Ming and Qing Literature (Autumn 2008)
Guest-edited by C. D. Alison Bailey
This issue focuses on violence across time and genre. The translated texts span a period from early Ming to late Qing and include vernacular and classical fiction, drama, memoirs, and poetry. The subject matter and mood range from the horrific to the bawdy, from the supernatural to historical documentation, and from gruesome to grotesque. Themes include justice and injustice, revenge, rape, war and a henpecked husband.

No. 71  Chinese Film (Spring 2009)
Guest-edited by Paul Clark
Extracts from Chinese film scripts and other texts from the 1930s to this century are featured in this issue. They range from The New Woman (1934), starring Ruan Lingyu, to Chunmiao (1975) from the Cultural Revolution, and include a storyboard from Zhang Yimou’s Hero (2001). Fei Mu’s Spring in a Small Town (1948) is a highlight. The issue explores whether the literary film script (dianying wenxue juben) is a uniquely Chinese invention, written like fiction but reflecting what we see on the screen. The more usual shooting scripts of several titles are also included and pages from them help illustrate the issue.

No. 72 (Autumn 2009)
This miscellaneous issue features excerpts from Jin Yong’s martial art novel The Smiling, Proud Wanderer, a short story about Japanese expatriates in Taiwan upon their WWII defeat, as well as Li Yu’s exposition on the theatre. Also included in this issue are selections of poems by Liu Yong and the Tang-dynasty monk, Jiaoran.

No. 73 Special Section: Hong Kong Classical Poetry (Spring 2010)
The fifty-page special section features the works by twenty-four local poets from the yesteryears, illustrated with historical images of Hong Kong. They portray a pastoral and historically-conscious Hong Kong before she evolved into the fast-moving cosmopolitan city known to the world today. Also included in the issue are excerpts from Yu Jian’s travel writing, Liu Yichang’s short story, and Li Yu’s discourse on food and doctoring.
No. 68  The Great Leap Forward (Autumn 2007)  
Guest-edited by Richard King

This collection presents opposing pictures of rural China during the Great Leap Forward (1958–1960), the grand delusion that led to the worst famine of the 20th century. Stories and poems written at the time express boundless, if ill-founded, optimism for a communist utopia. Two decades later, fiction about its aftermath reveals its tragic impact on the peasantry. Set against the backdrop of inflated propaganda and immense hardships are tales of heroism, romance and disillusionment.

No. 67  Modern Chinese Fiction: Examples of Its Evolution  
(Spring 2007)

Directed by political discourse and framed by school and university syllabi, 'Modern Chinese Literature' has always been presented as the fruit of an abrupt break with tradition. The validity of such a representation is now in question. Featuring examples of Chinese fiction written in the last nine decades, this issue reveals the diverse elements that contributed to the genre's development, particularly in terms of narrative structure and voice.

No. 66  Special section: Hong Kong Essays  (Autumn 2006)

The essay is perhaps the literary genre that best represents Hong Kong, and included here are some of the most notable works from the last half-century. The diverse personalities and experiences showcased in these works give readers a glimpse into life in an ever-changing society.

No. 65  Three cases of political dissent  (Spring 2006)

Writers Hu Feng, Qin Zhaoyang and Gao Ertai were three of tens of thousands of people labelled Rightists by the PRC. The biographical writing, memoirs, and interview in this issue describe their experiences through decades of persecution and hard labour.

No. 64  Women of traditional China  (Autumn 2005)

Were traditional Chinese women, as Liang Qichao claimed, men's dependents who never engaged in productive labour? This issue presents various aspects of women's lives, from education to literary accomplishments, and from service at court to widowhood.

No. 63  Contemporary Fiction: Marginal Worlds  (Spring 2005)

Featuring short stories by writers from mainland China, Taiwan and Hong Kong, this issue takes a look at life lived on the margin and at the edge.

No. 62  (Autumn 2004)

Different genres of work by the Song-dynasty writer Lu You, excerpts from the 19th-century novel The Strange Case of Nine Murders by Wu Woyao, and classical poetry by the scholar Yeh Chia-ying.
No. 61 Special section: New Taiwan Poetry (Spring 2004)
Works by thirty-four established as well as young emerging poets representing the latest trends in New Poetry from Taiwan. Also in this issue are a modern short story, Buddhist homilies and two classical letters.

Poems, plays, stories and paintings about the celebrated beauty Wang Zhaojun, the Han court lady who married the Xiongnu Khan in 33 BC. These works reveal a broad spectrum of Chinese cultural attitudes and perceptions of women from the 3rd to the 20th century.

No. 58 (Autumn 2002)
A miscellaneous issue featuring Chinese lyrics, excerpts from the late 19th-century novel Shanghai Demi-monde by Han Banqing, modern fiction by Ding Ling and Zhang Kangkang, and poetry by the Taiwan poet Chen Kehua.

No. 57 (Spring 2002)
This issue features proverbs from H. A. Giles’ Gems of Chinese Literature in bilingual format, stories from Eighty-one Dreams by Zhang Henshui and Yijian zhi by Hong Mai, Ming ditties by Feng Menglong, as well as contemporary poems by Hsi Muren, Han Dong, and Shu Ting.

No. 56 Special Section: New Hong Kong Poetry (Autumn 2001)
This issue introduces the works of fourteen Hong Kong poets, as well as Yu Jian’s controversial and ground-breaking long poem File 0.

No. 55 Special Section: Singaporean Chinese Poetry (Spring 2001)
The first large-scale introduction to contemporary Singaporean Chinese poets, this section features twenty-five poems by fourteen poets. Other highlights include Buddhist poems of Du Fu translated by Burton Watson, stories from Liaozhai zhiyi, and contemporary short stories by Mo Yan and Li Xiao.

Nos. 53 & 54 Chinese Impressions of the West (Spring & Autumn 2000)
This special issue presents Chinese observations and opinions about the West in the second half of the 19th century, when China’s nationhood was threatened by Western technological and military prowess in the aftermath of the two Opium Wars (1840–42 and 1856–60). Included are excerpts from petitions, diaries and travelogues written by government officials, diplomats, dissidents, scholars and students, as well as the depiction of Westerners in popular journal and magazines.
No. 52 (Autumn 1999)
Features fiction by Eileen Chang; two essays by Ch'i Chun and Yu Qiuuyu; classical poetry by Du Fu; contemporary poetry by Zhai Yongming; three stories by Wan Zhi, and a story by Yuan Qiongqiong.

No. 51 (Spring 1999)
‘Chinese literature can be fun’ being the motto of Renditions, this issue is an offering of humorous writings by some of the best known classical writers such as Han Yu and Li Yu, as well as Lu Xun and Guo Moruo from the May Fourth generation, and from Bai folk literature. Also featuring excerpts from Tracks in the Snow by the Manchu Bannerman Lingqin.

No. 50 'There and Back Again' (Autumn 1998)
December 1998 marks the 30th anniversary of the order issued by Mao Zedong that resulted in twenty million urban high-school graduates being sent to do agricultural labour in the countryside. This special issue consists of selections of zhiqing (urban youth) writing from the early 1970s to the mid-1990s. Through this issue, readers will relive the experiences of the first generation raised under Chinese Socialism.

No. 49 (Spring 1998)
Features Zhang Kangkang’s ‘Cruelty’, a story of the Cultural Revolution; poems by Bai Juyi; tales of concubines from Li Yu and Guan Hanqing, and a fable, Supplement to Jiang Zong’s Biography of a White Ape.

Nos. 47 & 48 Hong Kong Nineties (Spring & Autumn 1997)
(Out-of-print, available as CD-ROM, see p. 28 or free download from http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/rct/renditions/e_outputs.html)

No. 46 (Autumn 1996)
Contemporary fiction by Zheng Wanlong; poetry by Yu Jian, Yang Lian; seven poems on getting drunk by Xin Qiji and memoirs by Bing Xin, Ling Shuhua and Lin Huiyin.

No. 45 Eileen Chang (Spring 1996)
A polished writer and talented storyteller, Eileen Chang has been a strong influence on younger women writers in China, Hong Kong and Taiwan. Her pictures of wartime Shanghai and Hong Kong will be of special interest to readers. Illustrated with her own drawings and photographs.

No. 44 (Autumn 1995)
Essays, memoirs, poetry and fiction, including three zidishu ballads based on the classical novel Jin Ping Mei (The Golden Lotus), as well as a critical article, ‘Late Twentieth Century Orientalism and Discourses of Selection’.
An excerpt from Sha Yexin’s play *Jesus, Confucius and John Lennon*; classical fiction by Pu Songling; stories by Yang Kui and Wang Meng; poetry by Bai Juyi, Chen Ziang, Ma Zhiyuan and Gu Cheng; and three essays by Liang Yuchun.

**Nos. 41 & 42 Classical Letters** (Spring & Autumn 1994)
A special double issue of classical letters spanning Chinese history from the Qin dynasty (221–206 BC) to the Qing dynasty (1644–1911). Portraits of the letter writers and samples of their calligraphy highlight this issue. With Chinese texts.

**No. 40** (Autumn 1993)
Classical literature, including scenes from *The Swallow Letter* and excerpts from the *Marshes of Mount Liang*, a new translation of *Shuihu zhuan*.

**No. 39** (Spring 1993)
A miscellany of contemporary fiction and poetry from mainland China, Hong Kong and Taiwan and an excerpt from *Family Dysposition* by Taiwan novelist Wang Wenxing.

**No. 38 Twentieth Century Memoirs** (Autumn 1992)
Reminiscences by well-known literary figures, including Bao Tianxiao, Zhu Ziqing, Ba Jin, Lao She, Yang Jiang and Wang Xiyan.

**No. 37 Special section on Post-Misty Poetry** (Spring 1992)
A 60-page special section featuring the works of China’s most notable young poets of the late 1980s, including Bai Hua, Chen Dongdong, Hai Zi, Han Dong, Lu Yimin, Ouyang Jianghe, Xi Chuan, Yu Jian, and Zheng Zao. With Chinese texts.

**Nos. 35 & 36 Contemporary Taiwan Literature** (Spring & Autumn 1991)
Younger writers are featured, along with a few offerings from well-known writers of the older generation. Also includes critical articles. Copiously illustrated with art from Taiwan.

**Nos. 33 & 34 Classical Prose** (Spring & Autumn 1990)
A wealth of material rarely available in translation, from biographies of recluses to ‘eight-legged essays’ and Taoist prescriptions. A dazzling array of writers from the classical literary tradition. With Chinese texts.

**No. 32 Special Section on Bing Xin** (Autumn 1989)
A special section featuring selections from Bing Xin’s fiction and prose writing as well as translation of Li Qingzhao’s poems, complete with the author’s own Autobiographical Notes. Other highlights include Tang dynasty stories, fiction by Mo Yan and Zhang Tianyi, and the sequel to Liu E’s *The Travels of Lao Can*.

(Out-of-print, free download from http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/rct/renditions/e_outputs.html)
No. 31 (Spring 1989)
Essays by Lu Xun; Yunnan folk tales, poetry by Gu Cheng and Mang Ke and dissident drama, The Retrial of Wei Jingsheng by Wang Keping.

Nos. 29 & 30 Hong Kong (Spring & Autumn 1988)
An anthology of Hong Kong writing, the only one of its kind in English. ‘The breadth and depth of the Hong Kong works collected ... show that the barren rock has become a gem, and ... has achieved a distinct voice of its own.’ — The San Francisco Review of Books
(Out-of-print, available as CD-ROM, see p. 28 or free download from http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/rct/renditions/e_outputs.html)

Nos. 27 & 28 Contemporary Women Writers
(Spring & Autumn 1987)
A collection of fiction and poetry from mainland China, Hong Kong and Taiwan, including the works of Eileen Chang, Lin Haiyin, Xi Xi, Liu Sola and Wang Anyi.
(Out-of-print, available as CD-ROM, see p. 28 or free download from http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/rct/renditions/e_outputs.html)

No. 26 Special section on Lu Xun (Autumn 1986)
Featuring works from Lu Xun’s early and late periods. Paintings by Qiu Sha inspired by Lu Xun’s sayings are included.

No. 25 (Spring 1986)
Liu Xinwu’s ‘Ruyi’, the tale of a school janitor’s love for a former Manchu princess told against the background of the history of modern China; articles by sinologists David Hawkes, W. J. F. Jenner and others; contemporary dramas by Wang Peigong and Tao Jun.

No. 24 (Autumn 1985)
A substantial section on Jin Ping Mei featuring selected chapters translated by David T. Roy and scholarly studies by Zhang Zhupo, Philip Sun and André Lévy. Other highlights include modern fiction by Bei Dao and the classical play The Golden Coins.

No. 23 (Spring 1985)
Bo Yang’s essay ‘The Ugly Chinaman’; ‘Black Walls’ by Liu Xinwu; classical poetry by Li Bo and Li Yu; and contemporary poetry by Bei Dao, Jiang He and Yang Lian. Lithographic illustrations with commentaries from the 19th-century pictorial Dianshizhai huabao.

Nos. 21 & 22 Poetry and Poetics (Spring & Autumn 1984)
Featuring a pantheon of classical poets and their modern translators, as well as modern poetry by Mu Dan and Cheng Ch’ou-yu, and discussions of poetics by Qian Zhongshu, Wen Yiduo, Huang Kuo-pin and others.

Some earlier issues are available. Please inquire: renditions@cuhk.edu.hk
Huang Chunming Stories
Translated by Howard Goldblatt

The stories and novellas of Huang Chunming collected here, brilliantly translated by Howard Goldblatt, the pre-eminent translator of modern Chinese literature into English, present a vivid panorama of the author's short fiction over the past six decades. Huang, who has been from the beginning of his career something of both an artistic and social conscience of contemporary Taiwan, has always been intent upon capturing the instances and rhythms of the life of the ordinary people of Taiwan, even in the children's literature he has devoted himself to in recent years. As a pioneer of the local style that captured the imagination of the Taiwan literary scene in the 1970s, he was perhaps the major voice in creating a new literature and culture reflecting the vibrancy of modern Taiwanese life, particularly its rural roots. He now works in his native city of Yilan, where he is the gracious proprietor of a coffee house that doubles as a venue for children's theatrical productions.

About the translator

Howard Goldblatt is the author or editor of several books and many articles on modern and contemporary Chinese literature and culture. He is particularly well known as a literary translator of fiction from China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong. *The Butcher's Wife, Red Poppies, Notes of a Desolate Man* are some of his best known works. He translated almost all of the Nobel laureate Mo Yan's novels into English, including *The Garlic Ballads, Red Sorghum* and *The Republic of Wine.*
Hong Kong Stories: Old Themes New Voices
Edited by Eva Hung

This is a collection of stories by six young writers who have gained prominence in the Hong Kong literary scene in the last decade of the 20th century. In telling the Hong Kong story, they face up to such issues as rapid economic and political changes as well as the continuous impact of Western ideas and mores. They make a conscious effort to explore their own identity from a Hong Kong perspective, and to describe Hong Kong’s special way of life and the trials and tribulations of a populace caught between two cultures.

‘The six selections contained in Hong Kong Stories, all by younger writers and all published in this decade, indicate the presence of a vibrant and sophisticated writing scene.’

—World Literature Today

‘Although penned by different authors and translators, the collection possesses a strong continuity. The prose is exceptionally elegant and reads well in English. In several stories, fantasy and reality, past and present and several first-person narrators intermingle smoothly. There is modernism yet rich Chinese imagery and fantasy.’

—South China Morning Post

The Cockroach and Other Stories
By Liu Yichang
Edited by D. E. Pollard

Liu Yichang is an institution in the world of Hong Kong literature, admired both for his literary innovations and for his role as a mentor to younger writers. An acute observer of the local scene, Liu catches the mood of the times he chronicles. The five stories collected here, spanning a quarter of a century, showcase the vibrancy and immediacy that characterize both Liu’s fiction and the spirit of Hong Kong.

‘A deep thinker, Liu has allowed his views on philosophy to filter into his work.’

—South China Morning Post

‘These stories … capture photographically the endlessly fascinating life of a city in constant flux.’

—World Literature Today
Xi Xi, pen name of Zhang Yan, is Hong Kong’s most distinguished fiction writer. The haunting, often morbid lyricism that makes her writing has won her many awards, a devoted following in Hong Kong and Taiwan and a growing audience in China.

**Marvels of A Floating City**  
By Xi Xi  
Edited by Eva Hung  

In the first half of the 1980s, the Chinese and British governments negotiated Hong Kong’s fate, occasioning intense soul-searching and close scrutiny of their society among the local population. Xi Xi eloquently conveys the mood of the city in this collection of stories.

‘Xi Xi is now one of the most familiar and best translated of the Hong Kong writers; Marvels of A Floating City confirms her versatility in reconceptualizing that harried and hurried corner of the globe.’  
—World Literature Today

ISBN 962-7255-18-1  
xx+106 pp  
HK$98 / US$16.50

**My City: a hongkong story**  
By Xi Xi  
Translated by Eva Hung  

Hong Kong in the 1970s—a time of rapid economic growth, and more significantly, of growth in self-confidence and the forging of a local identity. In a disarming style that is uniquely her own, Xi Xi weaves a deceptively childlike narrative against the background of the political and social problems of this complex society.

‘The very first to depict Hong Kong from a fresh … human and emotional point of view … a place to live, to work, and to have fun; and for some, there are not many places in the world that can replace Hong Kong.’  
—World Literature Today

ISBN 962-7255-11-4  
 xvii+180 pp  
HK$98 / US$16.50

**A Girl Like Me and Other Stories**  
By Xi Xi  
Edited by Eva Hung  

This anthology presents samples from the author’s entire writing career, ranging from the 1960s to 1990s. It includes excerpts from *Elegy for a Breast*, an intensely personal account of her own battle with cancer.

‘A writer who deserves a place in the international library.’  
—Far Eastern Economic Review  

‘Her stories blend sophistication with an unflinching, childlike wonder.’  
—Islands

136 pp  
HK$98 / US$16.50
Women Writers

City Women: Contemporary Taiwan
Women Writers
Edited by Eva Hung

Huang Ying, Zhu Tianwen, Zhu Tianxin, Xiao Sa and Yuan Qiong-qiong, five of the most brilliant women writers from Taiwan confront issues facing women born and bred in big cities. They offer some of the deepest explorations into human nature, gender manipulation and the sense of isolation suffered by the inhabitants of a fast-changing city.

‘Taipei is arguably the most distinctive and under-appreciated city in Asia, but these five stories by Taiwanese women authors render it with an immediacy that is positively tactile.’
—South China Morning Post

Contemporary Women Writers: Hong Kong and Taiwan
Edited by Eva Hung

A ground-breaking collection featuring a sparkling array of stories from seven of Hong Kong and Taiwan’s leading women writers. Writing from two Chinese experiences, the authors provide a glimpse of changing attitudes and social structures in dealing with topics such as abortion, runaway wives, family, and female sexuality.

‘This fascinating set of tales, all stylishly translated, is a welcome insight into a world that is not always easily approachable for English language readers.’
—Sunday Morning Post

‘A gem of an anthology, selecting in its short space widely varying literary styles …’
—Choice

May Fourth Women Writers: Memoirs
Edited by Janet Ng and Janice Wickeri

A valuable resource for the specialist, this volume also provides the general reader with a glimpse into the lives of educated women in the 1920s and 1930s in China through material seldom available in English. The women writers who tell their stories here broke boldly with tradition, taking the first steps in the formation a new image of modern Chinese womanhood.

‘The individual offerings are fascinating and delightful reading; at the same time they are revealing portrayals of the thinking that prompted these women to write down their experiences.’
—China Review International
Wang Anyi, recognized internationally as one of China’s leading writers, first came into literary prominence in the early 1980s. Her Love Trilogy, of which Love in a Small Town and Love on a Barren Mountain are the first two parts, is among her most acclaimed works.

Love in a Small Town
By Wang Anyi
Translated by Eva Hung

Based on a true story which the author witnessed during the Cultural Revolution, when she was a member of a rural performing arts troupe, this novel is an exploration into human nature and sexuality. Written at a time when sex was a taboo subject in China, this work is noteworthy not just for challenging a social taboo, but for its acknowledgement of sexual love as a powerful force in human life.

‘Wang Anyi is credited with creating fiction from a woman’s point of view.’
—Choice

An ‘affirmation of female sexuality … The author’s keen observation of the psychosexual impulses of adolescents is engaging …’
—The Australian Journal of Chinese Affairs

Love on a Barren Mountain
By Wang Anyi
Translated by Eva Hung

The second volume of Wang Anyi’s famous Love Trilogy. Like Love in a Small Town, this story is based on real events the author observed during the Cultural Revolution when she was a member of a rural performing arts troupe. Wang takes the basic facts of an extra-marital relationship and weaves them into a powerful tale of love and loss. From the mundane everyday life of her protagonists, she conjures up images of great poetic beauty.

‘I think she has interesting things to say about relationships between men and women, and anyone familiar with the Chinese literary scene over the past few years will quickly realize how courageous she is to have tackled this object so honestly and openly.’ —The China Quarterly

‘The reader will enjoy and applaud the author’s ingenious probing into the psychology of the two sexes in love.’ —World Literature Today
Traces of Love and Other Stories
By Eileen Chang
Edited by Eva Hung

Eileen Chang (1920–1995) occupies a unique position in modern Chinese literature. She was a popular writer with enduring appeal whose work has inspired successive generations. As a young woman in her mid-twenties, she wrote her most acclaimed stories in Japanese-occupied Shanghai. The popularity of these works has seen major revivals in Taiwan and Hong Kong, and since the 1980s, in the Chinese mainland where her work had been banned. When she died in 1995, she had achieved near-cult status.

'[Chang's] astute eye for the detail of character and conversation, and the universal transience of life, make for a wonderful collection. … These stories … entertain with a glowing wit, beautifully maintained in these translations.'

—South China Morning Post

Living with their Past: Post-Urban Youth Fiction
By Zhang Kangkang
Edited by Richard King

A teenager at the start of the Cultural Revolution, Zhang was caught up in Mao Zedong's campaign to send educated urban youth away to the poor and remote parts of rural China. After they were finally allowed to return to the cities in the late 1970s, many began to write about their experience. A cultural phenomenon known as 'urban youth literature' was born, and Zhang became one of its leading exponents. The stories collected here reveal the experiences which shaped and still haunt a whole generation of Chinese people.

‘Living with Their Past includes … three stories … Each of the stories is followed by a dialogue between Richard King and the writer. The introduction provides readers with both useful information on the author and her writing and the editor's comments on the stories and on zhiquing literature. …’

—Pacific Affairs
**Blue Sky Green Sea and Other Stories**
By Liu Sola
Translated by Martha Cheung

Liu Sola refuses to deal with serious subjects seriously. Or so it seems. Her wild casual style has a rebellious ring to it and her urbanite trend-setting protagonists are particularly appealing to China’s younger generation. Behind the insistent frivolity and ephemeral tone, however, lie questions concerning the nature of art and the self-realization of the artist.

‘Ms Liu’s stories focus on art and artists, but they are really stories about individuals and individualism.’ —South China Morning Post

**A Chinese Winter’s Tale**
By Yu Luojin
Translated by Rachel May and Zhu Zhiyu

A compelling social document as well as an intensely personal account of the author’s experiences as a young woman during the Cultural Revolution. One of the first post-Cultural Revolution texts to deal openly with sex, its emotional honesty and spirited tone made it one of the most widely read and controversial works of contemporary Chinese literature. The translation follows the original unexpurgated text.

‘... a frightening account of ... endless persecution and deprivation. ...’ —The China Quarterly

**Borrowed Tongue**
By Tao Yang

An overseas Chinese woman confronts her past, seeking the origins of the insecurity that now besets her. An affecting and unusual story about the quest for identity, this is the only Renditions title originally written in English—a borrowed tongue.

‘A touching story about a woman protagonist’s struggle to find her identity among the different values that have been established for her.’ —World Literature Today
Black Walls and Other Stories
By Liu Xinwu
Edited by Don J. Cohn

Liu Xinwu is a prominent and acerbic chronicler of Chinese society. Appointed editor of People’s Literature, China’s flagship official literary journal, in 1986, he was dismissed in 1990 as a sympathizer of the 1989 democracy movement. He remains active as a fiction writer and essayist.

‘paints a vivid picture of life in the Chinese capital’
—South China Morning Post

‘... a welcome addition to the still very scant documentation in English of the relatively more daring literary statements produced in the pre-Tiananmen Incident atmosphere of the late 1980s.’
—World Literature Today

Explosions and Other Stories
By Mo Yan
Edited by Janice Wickeri

The six stories presented here give evidence of the range and power of Mo Yan’s art. Unsentimental portrayals of grinding poverty, forced abortion, sexual and emotional repression go hand in hand with mordant humour and fantastical flights of imagination in the fictionalized world he creates among the wheat and sorghum fields of his boyhood home, Gaomi County.

‘Like Faulkner, Mo Yan presents the reader with a vividly imagined and self-contained world teeming with life...’
—World Literature Today

Homecoming? and Other Stories
By Han Shaogong
Translated by Martha Cheung

A prominent and innovative representative of the ‘root-seeking’ school of fiction writing, Han Shaogong draws on myths, folklore and religious traditions in his search for the causes of China’s cultural stagnation. An atmosphere of doubt and mystery, a lack of ready answers, pervades Han’s work—a major departure from the moralist, didactic and propaganda modes which marked Chinese literature in the recent past.

‘Han skilfully juxtaposes modern roles and tradition in a well-crafted exploration of the post-Cultural Revolution era.’
—Sunday Morning Post

‘... one of the most innovative and accomplished writers to emerge after the Cultural Revolution.’
—World Literature Today
The Carving of Insects
By Bian Zhilin
Edited by Mary M. Y. Fung
Translated by Mary M. Y. Fung and David Lunde

Bian Zhilin (1910–2000), one of the most original voices in 20th-century Chinese poetry, was known for his modern sensibility and intense lyrical appeal. His style combines the techniques of French symbolist poets Baudelaire, Verlaine, Mallarmé and Valéry and English language poets T. S. Eliot and W. H. Auden on the one hand, and the best of Chinese poetic tradition on the other. His lifelong experimentation with the poetic form contributed significantly toward the development of vernacular poetry. The present unique collection, comprising almost Bian's entire corpus, gives full play to his delicate craftsmanship.

Notes of a Blissful Ghost
By Yang Lian
Translated by Brian Holton

This volume traces Yang Lian's poetic career from 1982 to 2001. It is the most comprehensive and representative collection of Yang's work to date. In his work Yang exploits his condition of exile to probe our human and linguistic predicaments. This leads to a continuous reinvention of the poet's self and his chosen form of expression. In Yang's own words, he is always 'crossing boundaries and scaling walls'.

'... the job of translating [Yang Lian] is a Herculean—some might say Sisyphean—task requiring sensitivity, skill and sheer doggedness ... Holton, who has translated Yang's works since 1992, delivers all three, plus a vivid poetic sense of his own.'

—South China Morning Post

'Holton, who has worked closely with Yang, has rightly translated more than “just” meaning: “I continually try to discipline myself against writing elegant open lines where the original is cramped and dense”.'

—Pacific Affairs
Shu Ting: Selected Poems
Edited by Eva Hung

China's leading woman poet, Shu Ting shared the fate of numerous young people during the Cultural Revolution: she was sent to labour in the poverty-stricken countryside before she finished her secondary education. In 1973 she was allowed to return to the city, where she worked on construction sites and in factories. In spite of all this, her firm faith in the human spirit led to poetry.

‘...Shu Ting is a poet of sorrow and a lyric wistfulness dominates her work. In early poems this sadness is often the expression of an adolescent sensibility; in later work she explores a more abstract, broadly existential melancholy. Another element of her mature writing is a powerful feminist consciousness.

‘Selected Poems also confirms her credo that “Writing poetry is instinct/being called a poet is pure chance.”' —World Literature Today

Gu Cheng: Selected Poems
Edited by Seán Golden and Chu Chiyu

Gu Cheng was part of the group which founded the underground literary journal Today during the 1979-80 Democracy Wall movement, of which his own work became emblematic. A major talent, his poetry stands as a reminder of China's vibrant poetry scene despite sporadic official attacks.

‘... an important reference work for those interested in both Gu Cheng's poetry and his idiosyncratic ideals.'
—The Australian Journal of Chinese Affairs

‘... a most distinctive voice that will be remembered for a long time to come.'
—World Literature Today

‘... this is an admirably produced book. ... [A]ll the signs are that this is a publishing enterprise of high quality scrupulously undertaken.’
—South China Morning Post
**A Golden Treasury of Chinese Poetry**  
Translated by John Turner  
Compiled and edited by John J. Deeney

A highly commended anthology of verse translations of 121 Chinese poems dating from the 11th century BC to the 19th century. Through the sensitive and learned rendering of the translator, almost the entire range of classical Chinese poetry is represented here.

‘... deserves a place on the book-shelf of anyone who teaches classical Chinese poetry, Chinese literature in translation, and indeed, any course on Chinese culture and civilization.’ —The China Quarterly

‘John Turner’s meticulous and sensitive translations reveal a welcome glimpse of the beauty of traditional Chinese poetry.’ —China Now

---

**A Little Primer of Tu Fu**  
By David Hawkes

An excellent introduction to the poetry of Tu Fu (712–770), generally regarded as China’s greatest poet. The thirty-five poems included here, each with an exegesis and a prose translation, accompanied by the Chinese text, offer readers the rare chance to savour the poet’s art at different levels. There is also a detailed and lively explication of the form, historical background and meaning of each poem.

‘With the help of this excellent introduction to the poetry of Tu Fu anybody prepared to make a little effort can go directly to the Chinese and appreciate for himself something of the style and flavour of a poet who ... wrote so honestly and so well.’ —The Times Literary Supplement

---

**Silent Operas**  
By Li Yu  
Edited by Patrick Hanan

One of the most original—and controversial—figures in the history of Chinese literature, Li Yu (1610–1680) specialized in challenging social taboos and turning traditional literary themes on their heads. The stories featured here combine the racy wit and hawdiness of the traditional oral storyteller with a very modern blend of subtlety, irony and psychological insight to create a vibrant and accessible picture of 17th-century Chinese life.

‘Transcending formulaic themes, Li Yu makes it so that one can never read the classic Chinese folk-tale with quite the same respect for tradition.’ —South China Morning Post
Renditions Books
To Pierce the Material Screen:
An Anthology of 20th Century Hong Kong Literature
Edited by Eva Hung with the assistance of Chi-yin Ip

The perception of Hong Kong as materially successful and culturally marginal is a common one. The city, sheltered from the Chinese political tsunamis, has in fact developed a distinctive character that is reflected in her literary scene. It has been a safe haven for writers on the run, a cradle for genres unwelcome to the Beijing government, a battleground between ‘Left’ and ‘Right’, and a confluence of East and West, popular and high-brow. Works collected in this anthology, spanning over half-a-century, show how local literature engaged with the dominant discourses of Chinese culture while exploring the pains and possibilities of a fast-developing metropolis. Taken in total, they reveal the emergence of the ‘Hong Kong identity’.

Volume I: Fiction

Volume II: Essays and Poetry

‘These two volumes offer a striking selection of Hong Kong 20th-century writing translated into English. The dynamic entrepot was for long considered something of a cultural desert but isn’t so now. These books show that in reality it wasn’t one for most of the last century either, at least as far as writing was concerned.’

—Bradley Winterton, Taipei Times

‘These works blend traditional and modern Chinese culture with each other and with other cultures—Eastern and Western—to provide an introduction to the fabric of Hong Kong literature.’

—Translation Review
The Chinese Essay
Edited and translated by David E. Pollard

This anthology of seventy-four representative essays from the 3rd century to the late 20th century is the first of its kind in a Western language. The translations are prefaced by an informative historical survey as well as commentaries on each author. It offers readers a unique opportunity to sample the best from a genre central to the Chinese literary tradition.

‘Sinology has rarely touched upon the essay. Professor Pollard’s anthology fills this yawning gap.’
—China Report

‘... never has the considerable tradition of the modern Chinese essay been presented so richly.’
—MCLC Book Reviews

‘The reader will certainly get a feel for the range of the Chinese essay genre. But he will get something more. ... This collection contains a vast amount of information on the details of everyday life, on man’s reaction to the environment, on the textures of social intercourse and on Chinese attitudes and reaction to the world they inhabit.’
—Denis Twitchett

Chinese Classical Prose: The Eight Masters of the T’ang-Sung period
Selected and translated by Shih Shun Liu

The Tang-Song period (8th to 12th century) is regarded as the golden age of Chinese prose. The eight classical prose masters represented in this anthology were the motivating force of a literary movement which aimed at moral regeneration as well as stylistic restoration. Their success in extending the range of the prose genre and reinvigorating its style made them household names in China’s literary tradition.

‘... Liu’s bilingual text, in the attractive and well-edited Renditions production, will be of great utility in the college classroom.’
—World Literature Today
Records of the Grand Historian (3 vols.)
By Sima Qian
Translated by Burton Watson

Sima Qian (145–90 BC) is the first major Chinese historian. His Records of the Grand Historian chronicles the history of China and much of the adjacent world from the remote past to his own time. These three volumes contain a new translation of the history of the Qin dynasty (221–206 BC) and a revised version of the Han dynasty (from 206 up to c. 90 BC) portion of the Records. Western readers will value this book not only for its historical importance, but perhaps even more for Sima Qian’s warm interest in people.

‘Burton Watson’s elegant renditions will continue to be useful, especially when readers are primarily interested in the Shi ji as literature.’

The Translation of Things Past: Chinese History and Historiography
Edited by George Kao

China boasts the world’s oldest continuous historical records, and the study of history has always been one of the most respected fields in her scholarly tradition. One of the best ways to understand Chinese culture is therefore through a study of Chinese views on and approaches to history. The twelve articles collected in this anthology are the work of leading Chinese and Western specialists who write to illuminate the various aspects of Chinese history and historiography, and in that process, throw light on China’s multi-faceted cultural heritage.
**A Silver Treasury of Chinese Lyrics**
Edited by Alice W. Cheang

The song lyric (ci), which began as a form of minor divertissement in the urban pleasure quarters of 8th and 9th century China, evolved into an important poetic form over the four centuries that followed. This collection of ci, consisting of 128 poems by 33 poets, represents the genre’s major stylistic development from its early days to the end of the Song dynasty.

Note: An inexpensive paperback is available in the Renditions Paperbacks series. Chinese texts appended.
ISBN 962-201-206-X xxxviii+i+186 pp  HK$99 / US$15.95

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**Song without Music: Chinese Tz’u Poetry**
Edited by Stephen C. Soong

‘Tz’u’ means ‘song words’ in Chinese. The genre originated as lyrics written to music, sung and enjoyed by the common people. Its popular appeal continued after its adoption by the literati. Tz’u poetry reached its peak in the Song dynasty (10th to 12th century) and still stands as one of the major achievements of China’s poetic tradition.

Comprising nine critical essays and translations of eight representative poets, this volume presents a comprehensive survey of the history of the genre as well as the achievements of individual writers.

‘In this very attractive anthology, editor Soong has brought together poems and essays that gracefully introduce the reader to a major genre of Chinese poetry.’
—A.L.A. Booklist

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**Five Seasons of a Golden Year: A Chinese Pastoral**
Translated by Gerald Bullett

A collection of sixty lyrical poems written by a leading Song-dynasty poet Fan Chieng-ta (1126–1193) and translated by the English poet and novelist Gerald Bullett. The verse translations are complemented by an introduction to the translation approach. This is a bilingual edition, with the original Chinese texts written in elegant calligraphy, and amply illustrated with Chinese landscape paintings.

This book won the AAUP Design Award in 1982.

ISBN 962-201-246-9 xxii+i+156 pp  HK$99 / US$15
A Brotherhood in Song: Chinese Poetry and Poetics
Edited by Stephen C. Soong

For over 1,200 years, classical poetry in the form of regulated verse has been arguably the most popular literary art form in China. Its long tradition has been kept alive by the innumerable masters of the genre, and appreciated by a wide audience, from the highly educated to the man in the street. Lines and phrases from well-known poems have found their way into the language of the common people. This volume contains the works of leading poets through the ages, complemented by scholarly explications of the art of Chinese poetry.

25 T'ang Poets: Index to English Translations
Compiled by Sydney S. K. Fung and S. T. Lai

The twenty-five T'ang-dynasty poets included in this index were active from the 7th to the 9th century which marked the zenith of China's classical poetic tradition. They were the most influential poets of their time, and also the most widely translated into English.

This book includes entries by poet as well as a first-line index and a translator index. Over 12,000 entries of English translations are recorded. Readers can also trace the source of a poem by referring to the comprehensive bibliography.

Chinese Middlebrow Fiction: From the Ch'ing and Early Republican Eras
Edited by Liu Ts'un-yan

Collected in this anthology are major works of popular Chinese fiction from the mid-Ch'ing to the early Republican eras (late 19th century to early 20th century), as well as critical studies of such works. Among the translators for this anthology are leading Sinologists and the novelist Eileen Chang.

‘Chinese Middlebrow Fiction is remarkably successful in re-creating this sentimental genre for the Western reader. ... [It] is required reading for anyone seriously interested in the Chinese novel.’

—World Literature Today
Modern Times: A Brief History of Enlightenment
By Li Boyuan
Translated by Douglas Lancashire

The second half of the 19th century saw the emergence of a new consciousness in Chinese society. Questions concerning China's position in the world and her relationship with Western powers were the subject of nationwide debate. Here the author Li Boyuan (1861–1906), a journalist and editor, combines the traditional form of the Chinese novel with the new thinking which characterized China's transformation. The issues which are at the heart of Modern Times are still of great relevance to China's current debates on globalization.

Two Writers and the Cultural Revolution:
Lao Shê and Chen Jo-hsi
Edited by George Kao

The Cultural Revolution (1966–1976) wrecked the lives of millions of Chinese people; writers and intellectuals were particularly vulnerable. Lao Shê (1899–1966) and Chen Jo-hsi (1938– ), whose works are represented here, both had their lives changed irrevocably in the course of this violent period.

Trees on the Mountain: An Anthology of New Chinese Writing
Edited by Stephen C. Soong and John Minford

A landmark publication which captures the spirit of innovation in the PRC, Taiwan and Hong Kong in the 1980s. The works collected here include essays, fiction, poetry and drama. Of particular interest is the section on ‘Misty Poetry’ by a new generation of mainland Chinese poets, introduced here to English readers for the first time. Many of them are now well known internationally.

‘… the most thoughtful introduction to modernist Chinese poetry and prose ever.’
—Choice

‘Three factors recommend this book very highly: the breadth of its coverage, including prose, fiction, poetry, drama, and criticism; the intrinsic literary merit of the works selected; and the superior readability of the translations.’
—Modern Chinese Literature
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**Art**
Collection of essays and pictures covering most periods of Chinese art and interpreting every aspect, particularly in relation to poetry. Copiously illustrated with paintings, calligraphy and hand-scrolls.

**Tz’u**
*Cî (tz’u)* or ‘song words’, the poetry form most popular during the Song dynasty, are represented here.

**Middlebrow Fiction**
Traditional style novels produced largely in the late Qing and early Republican eras, written by P’u Sung-ling, Han Pang-ch’ing, Tseng P’u, Chang Hen-shui.

**Chinese Literature Today**
Modern prose, fiction, poetry and drama from mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and the Chinese diaspora.

**Contemporary Women Writers**
A collection of fiction and poetry from women writers in mainland China, Hong Kong and Taiwan, including the works of Eileen Chang, Lin Haiyin, Li Ang, Xi Xi, and Wang Anyi.

**Hong Kong**
A wide range of writings on Hong Kong and/or by Hong Kong authors including essays, poetry, fiction, prose, poetry and drama.

**Hong Kong Nineties**
Featuring prose and fiction by both established authors and newer voices, and a poetry section devoted to the works of young Hong Kong poets who emerged in the 1990s.

**The Old Man and Other Stories**
*By Chen Ruoxi*
*Edited by John Minford and T. L. Tsim*
In this collection of five stories, Chen Ruoxi captures the pain of the humble individual crushed by the social and political monolith of modern China more effectively than any other Chinese writer of contemporary fiction.

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