

## Notes on Authors

CHENG KWOK KONG 鄭國江 (1941–), a noted lyricist in Hong Kong, has written more than 2,500 songs since the mid-1970s during his spare time while working as a school teacher. Noted for his fresh and poetic style of song writing, he has cooperated with many famous singers such as Teresa Teng 鄧麗君, Leslie Cheung 張國榮, and Anita Mui 梅艷芳. Many of his works, including pop songs, nursery rhymes and theme songs for movies and TV dramas, remain classics of popular music. Cheng has received numerous awards as recognition of his contribution to Hong Kong music. At present, as a member of the Cantonese Opera Development Fund Advisory Committee, he is devoted to writing scripts for children's Cantonese opera.

CHENG YU-YU 鄭毓瑜 (1959–) is a Professor and also the chairperson of the Department of Chinese Literature at National Taiwan University, where she obtained her Ph.D. Her research interests lie in the study of literature and culture of the Han, Wei, and Six Dynasties. Her book, *Wenben Fengjing—ziwo yu kongjian de xianghu dingyi* 文本風景——自我與空間的相互定義 [The poet in text and landscape: mutual definition of self and landscape] (2005) won the NTU Outstanding Book Award. She won the National Taiwan University Award for Outstanding Teaching in 2002, and the Distinguished Research Award of the National Science Council in the same year.

HUANG ZUNXIAN 黃遵憲 (courtesy name Gongdu 公度, 1848–1905) was born into a Hakka family in Guangdong, and is best known as a major poet and diplomat of the late Qing. Benefiting from his experiences in Japan, the United State, the United Kingdom and Singapore, he incorporated into his poetry many new objects such as the train and the steamboat. As a leading political reformer and modernizer, Huang believed that literature should reflect current social changes and help to raise popular awareness, a view reflected in many of his literary and historical works, including *Poems on Miscellaneous Subjects from Japan* 日本雜事詩 and *Treatises on Japan* 日本國志.

KWONG CHARLES 鄺龔子 read English at the University of Hong Kong and University of Oxford before studying Chinese literature at Yale. He taught in the US, and is now a professor in the Chinese and Translation Departments as well as an adjunct professor (from August 2013) in the Philosophy Department at Lingnan University, where he has received both research and teaching excellence awards. His research areas include classical Chinese poetry and fiction, comparative literature and poetics, the history of ideas and literary translation; his bilingual academic work comprises four books and a broad range of articles. His creative work includes two collections of modern Chinese prose and 2,000 classical Chinese poems published in twenty collections; his translations include rendering the Chinese texts for a book of paintings into English.

LIN BAI 林白 (1958–), born as Lin Baiwei 林白薇 in Guangxi, was sent to the countryside after middle school and later enrolled in Wuhan University in 1978. Beginning her writing career as a poet, Lin quickly established herself as a leading figure in contemporary Chinese women's literature with her novels exploring the psychology, bodily experience and sexual identity of Chinese females. Many of her works, including *Yigeren de zhanzheng* 一個人的戰爭 [A personal war] (1996) and *Shuoba, fangjian* 說吧·房間 [Speak, room] (1997), are based on her own life experiences. She won the Chinese Women's Literary Creation Prize (1998), and the Chinese Literature Yearly fiction Writers' Award (2004).

MAO DUN 茅盾 (1896–1981, pen name of Shen Dehong 沈德鴻, also known by his courtesy name Shen Yanbing 沈雁冰) is celebrated as the leading realist writer of modern China, especially for works such as *Ziye* 子夜 [Midnight] (1932). Born in Zhejiang, Mao Dun took up a position at the Commercial Press in Shanghai in 1916. He was a founding member of the Wenxue Yanjiu Hui 文學研究會 [Literary study society] in 1921. He completed the trilogy of novellas known collectively as *Shi* 蝕 [Eclipse] in 1928, and later became a leader in the League of Left-wing Writers. From 1949 to 1965 he served as Minister of Culture of the PRC. His complete works were published in 1984 by the People's Literature Publishing House.

SHI ZHECUN 施蟄存 (1905–2003) was a modern writer, scholar and literary translator. Shi was best known for his short stories dealing with psychological change and the inner struggles of his characters, their sexual desires and repressed libidinal urges that emerged from the subconscious and clashed with their sense of duty and rationality. His work 'Yecha' 夜叉 [The yaksha] is representative of this style. He served as chief editor of the literary journal *Les Contemporains* (*Xiandai* 現代) in the 1930s, translated several works from French and English, and later became a scholar and professor of Chinese classic culture.

SU TONG 蘇童 (pen name of Tong Zhonggui 童忠貴, 1963–), a native of Suzhou, graduated from the Beijing Normal University and began publishing fiction in 1983. His novella *Qiqie chengqun* 妻妾成群 [Wives and concubines] (1990) was adapted into *Raise the Red Lantern* 大紅燈籠高高掛, a film directed by Zhang Yimou 張藝謀, and earned him international fame. Su is celebrated for his careful depiction of women and his controversial style. He was the Writer of the Year for the eighth Mass Media Award for Chinese Literature (2009) and was awarded the Man Asian Literary Prize in 2009. He is now the vice-president of Jiangsu Writers Association.

WONG YANKWAI 黃仁達 (1955–) studied painting at the École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux Arts in Paris in the 1970s and is one of Hong Kong's most prominent painters. He is also an award-winning art director for film productions and a prolific illustrator and photographer. Wong is similarly accomplished as a poet and writer. He is a columnist for the *Mingpao Weekly* 明報週刊 and publishes frequently in the *Hong Kong Literary Journal* 香港文學. His collection of essays *Taking the Air* 放風 received the Fifth Hong Kong Biennial Award for Chinese Literature in the Prose category (1997–1998).