Native Tongues

Xu Xi

is currently living between New York and Hong Kong. She is one of Asia's leading English-language novelists and has been a reader of *Renditions* for over a decade.

If not for *Renditions*, many modern and contemporary Chinese authors would not have a voice internationally. Over the years, I have appreciated the anthologies of translations of Chinese work from Hong Kong published by the press, as well as those volumes that place such writing in the context of contemporary work from other Chinese societies. *Renditions'* support for bilingual poetry readings, where those who write in Chinese and English or both present their work together without a linguistic divisiveness, is also inspirational.

The politics of international publishing favour those who write in English or are readily translated, as well as those who write within the confines of 'superpower' English language literature, namely in the US and Britain. Those of us who write from outside those walls, as we do in Hong Kong, find ourselves hungry for other voices, ones that do not capitulate to the perspectives of this globalized canon of profit and power.

So thank you *Renditions*, for bringing to light other voices to a wider audience, for showing the world that modern-day Hong Kong produces literature, and that it is a literature worthy of its time and place.