Edited by Maghiel van Crevel and Lucas Klein

Chinese Poetry and Translation

Rights and Wrongs

Chinese Poetry and Translation: Rights and Wrongs offers fifteen essays on the triptych of poetry + translation + Chinese. The collection has three parts: "The Translator's Take," "Theoretics," and "Impact." The conversation stretches from queer-feminist engagement with China’s newest poetry to philosophical and philological reflections on its oldest, and from Tang- and Song-dynasty classical poetry in Western languages to Baudelaire and Celan in Chinese. Translation is taken as an interlingual and intercultural act, and the essays foreground theoretical expositions and the practice of translation in equal but not opposite measure. Poetry has a transforming yet ever-acute relevance in Chinese culture, and this makes it a good entry point for studying Chinese-foreign encounters. Pushing past oppositions that still too often restrict discussions of translation-form versus content, elegance versus accuracy, and "the original" versus "the translated" - this volume brings a wealth of new thinking to the interrelationships between poetry, translation, and China.

“The fascinating, diverse essays in this collection shed new light on the complexities of Chinese poetry and translation. They are both entertaining and erudite, a rare combination.”

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“Ambitious in scope and delightful to read, this book perceptively traces the dynamic, multi-directional interchange between languages and cultures that allows us to become visible and legible to one another.”

Géraldine Fiss, University of Southern California

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