



## Anthology and Workshop *Yangzhou – A Place in Literature*

A Yangzhou Club Activity  
[www.shuoshu.org](http://www.shuoshu.org)

### International Workshop

### Yangzhou – A Place in Literature

The Local in Chinese Culture From the Late Imperial Through the Modern Era

Time: 1–3 September 2011  
Venue: University of Zurich, Institute of East Asian Studies  
Main Organizer: Roland Altenburger (University of Zurich)  
Co-organizers: Vibeke Børdahl (Nordic Institute of Asian Studies, Copenhagen);  
Margaret B. Wan (University of Utah)  
In cooperation with: University Research Priority Program Asia and Europe  
Supported by:



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### 1 Concept: Context, Theme and Motivation

Recent scholarship on late imperial and early modern China across many disciplines has paid increasing attention to the local. The workshop “Yangzhou – A Place in Chinese Literature” will bring together scholars from around the world to examine the rich cultural history of the city of Yangzhou (Jiangsu province, China) from an interdisciplinary perspective. The workshop and subsequent anthology will contribute to our understanding of the relationship between the local and its manifestation in literature, history, and art.

The workshop, to be held at the University of Zurich, Institute of East Asian Studies, on 1–3 September 2011, will be the second meeting of an informal international network of scholars named



the “Yangzhou Club” ([www.shuoshu.org](http://www.shuoshu.org)). This network of scholars who share a research interest in Yangzhou was originally initiated by Vibeke Børdahl and Lucie Olivová, who convened the workshop “Lifestyle and Entertainment in Yangzhou”, held in October 2005, in the city of Yangzhou itself. The papers written for this workshop were later published in the volume *Lifestyle and Entertainment in Yangzhou*, edited by Lucie Olivová and Vibeke Børdahl (Copenhagen: NIAS Press, 2009; NIAS Studies in Asian Topics, vol. 44). In a very fruitful way, the “Yangzhou Club” network brings together senior scholars, who are leaders in their field, with junior scholars at the beginning of their academic career. Moreover, it interconnects scholars from several continents, and in particular scholars of Chinese Studies in the western world with their Chinese colleagues. The “Yangzhou Club”, due to its regional focus, is interdisciplinary and includes specialists of various disciplines, predominantly in literature, history, and art, with a particular interest, shared by several members, in the study of Yangzhou’s local traditions of performed literature, such as storytelling, opera, and singing. The “Yangzhou Club” represents a unique concentration of expertise on the literature, history, and art of Yangzhou.

In September 2010, the “Yangzhou Club” network, further strengthened by several new members, embarked on a new project, an anthology of translated texts, entitled “Yangzhou – a Place in Literature: An Anthology of the Late Imperial through the Modern Era”. It is designed as a survey collection of literary texts of some stature that are directly or indirectly related to the city of Yangzhou and its rich cultural history. The volume is meant primarily to serve the promotion of knowledge about Yangzhou’s literary legacy and local cultural history. It will be more than a textbook, as it includes expert introductory articles to each text, and thus also substantially contributes to scholarly research on Yangzhou’s literature. The book will be particularly suitable for higher-education classroom teaching. This anthology comprises around twenty individual texts, or extracts from texts, including some well-known texts, but also lesser known ones that nevertheless deserve exploration. In terms of genre, it encompasses a wide range of literary genres and styles, from elite to popular, from the serious topographical essay to the rambling city narrative, including genres of semi-oral and oral performed literature. Each text will be accompanied by an introductory essay and textual notes provided by its translator. The volume also features a general introduction by the editors on place and localism in Chinese literature: the role of the local in historical, cultural, literary, and linguistic terms.

The workshop to be held at the University of Zurich’s Institute of East Asian Studies will primarily serve the completion of this anthology project. The workshop will provide the opportunity to discuss most of the contributions to the anthology, focusing primarily on the introduction to each text. The introductions to the texts will seek to point out how each text (and author) is rooted in the context of local culture. Each participant will also serve as a discussant to another’s contribution. Moreover, the organizers of the workshop, who will also act as the editors of the anthology, will present their joint introduction to the future volume and propose a general framework for the various aspects and issues of the local in traditional Chinese literature in general, and in writings on, and from, Yangzhou in particular. The organizers have invited two keynote speakers from China to address the workshop. Liu Yongqiang, from Peking University, Department of Chinese Literature and Language, will present a general outline of the interactions between literature and the local in pre-modern China. Wei Minghua, honorary director of the Yangzhou Culture Research Institute, a leading authority and prolific author on the cultural history of Yangzhou, will present his outline of Yangzhou literature. Translated versions of these contributions might also be included in the anthology. The program also includes two more



Chinese papers, one by Liu Zhen, the director of the Traditional Chinese Drama Research Institute of the China Art Academy, Beijing, and one by Xiao Shufen, from Yangzhou University.

The workshop attendance will encompass a group of sixteen contributing participants (as listed below), and a number of invited guests. Attendance will also be open to a wider circle of interested scholars as well as students. In particular, the workshop will be held in cooperation with the University of Zurich's University Research Priority Program (URPP) "Asia and Europe". The actual workshop program (cf. below) is scheduled to last two-and-a-half days (1–3 September 2011). Workshop languages will be English and Chinese. The funding of this workshop has generously been provided by a grant from the Swiss National Science Foundation's (SNF) "International Exploratory Workshops" funding program and a grant from the Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences (SAGW). Additional funds have been contributed by the University of Zurich's Hochschulstiftung and by the University Research Priority Program "Asia and Europe".

For details on accommodation, dinner and lunch, tours and events, please refer to the separate information in the attachment.

## 2 List of Participants

Participants (in alphabetic sequence)	Institution	Country
Altenburger, Roland	University of Zurich	Switzerland
Børdahl, Vibeke	Nordic Institute of Asian Studies	Denmark
Breuer, Rüdiger	Ruhr University, Bochum	Germany
Chan, Winnie Y. L.	University of Oxford	UK
Kafalas, Philip	Georgetown University	USA
Kuzay, Stefan	University of Helsinki	Finland
Li Mark, Lindy	California State Univ. East Bay (retired)	USA
Liu Yongqiang	Peking University	China
Liu Zhen	China Art Academy, Beijing	China
Mackerras, Colin	Griffith University (retired)	Australia
Matteini, Michele	Reed College	USA
Olivová, Lucie	Palacky University	Czech Republic
Wan, Margaret B.	University of Utah	USA
Wei Minghua	Yangzhou Culture Research Institute	China
Winter, Marc	University of Zurich	Switzerland
Zhuang, Sue (Chuang Su-o)	Taipei National University of the Arts	Taiwan
Invited Guests:		
Behr, Wolfgang	University of Zurich	Switzerland
Hrdlickova, Vena	Charles University, Prague (retired)	Czech Republic
Karlsson, Kim	independent scholar	Switzerland
Riemenschmitter, Andrea	University of Zurich	Switzerland
Xiao Shufen	Yangzhou University	China



Student participants:

Janotová, Kristina	Univ. of Zurich / Comenius Univ., Bratislava	Switzerl./Slovakia
Lin, Wan Hsuan	Taipei National University of the Arts	Taiwan
Sieber, Meline	University of Zurich	Switzerland

### 3 Workshop Program

Wednesday, 31 August 2011

19:00 Welcome dinner

Thursday, 1 September 2011

09:00 Opening ceremony

Welcoming addresses by representatives of the host institution:

Gabriele Siegert, the Pro-Dean of Research, Faculty of Arts, University of Zurich;

Raji Steineck, the Head of the Institute of East Asian Studies;

Andrea Riemenschmitter, the Head of the Department of Chinese Studies, and the Director of the University Priority Research Program *Asia and Europe*

Introductory words by the organizers:

Vibeke Børdahl, the co-founder of the “Yangzhou Club”;

Roland Altenburger, the workshop’s main organizer

09:45 Liu Yongqiang 刘勇强 (Peking University):

“略论古代地域文学的动态特征 — 以明清时期的扬州文学为中心” (“An outline of the dynamic characteristics of ancient local literature – with a focus on Yangzhou literature in the Ming-Qing period”) (keynote lecture)

10:30 Coffee/tea break

10:45 Wei Minghua 韦明铤 (Yangzhou Culture Research Institute):

“扬州文学的地方性” (“The local character of Yangzhou literature”) (keynote lecture)

11:30 Margaret B. Wan (University of Utah):

“Introduction: Yangzhou – a place in literature: issues from a tentative framework”

12:00 Lunch

Afternoon session, chair: Lindy Li Mark

14:00 Philip Kafalas (Georgetown University):

“Zhang Dai’s *Dream memories of Tao’an* (*Tao’an mengyi*, 1670s)”; discussant: Lucie Olivová



- 14:30 Lucie Olivová (Palacky University):  
“Li Dou’s *Pleasure boats of Yangzhou* (*Yangzhou huafang lu*, 1795), part I”;  
discussant: Colin Mackerras
- 15:00 Winnie Y. L. Chan (University of Oxford):  
“Li Dou’s *Pleasure boats of Yangzhou* (*Yangzhou huafang lu*, 1795), part II”;  
discussant: Michele Matteini
- 15:30 Coffee/tea break
- 16:00 Roland Altenburger (University of Zurich):  
“Shi Chengjin’s *The scent of rain flowers* (*Yuhua xiang*, 1726)”; discussant: Rüdiger  
Breuer
- Discussions of contributions by non-attendees:
- 16:30 “Zheng Yuanxun’s ‘Description of my Garden of Shadow’ (*Yingyuan ziji*, n.y.)”,  
translated by Alison Hardie; discussant: Winnie Y. L. Chan
- 16:45 “Zhu Ziqing’s ‘Speaking of Yangzhou’ (*Shuo Yangzhou*, 1934)”, translated by Antonia  
Finnane; discussant: Sue Zhuang
- 19:00 Dinner

Friday, 2 September 2011

- Morning session, chair: Colin Mackerras
- 09:00 Marc Winter (University of Zurich):  
“Wang Zhong’s ‘Dialogue about Guangling’ (*Guangling dui*, 1787)”; discussant: Philip  
Kafalas
- 09:30 Roland Altenburger (University of Zurich):  
“Lin Sumen’s *Three hundred verses from Hanjiang* (*Hanjiang sanbai yin*, 1808)”;  
discussant: Stefan Kuzay
- 10:00 Stefan Kuzay (University of Helsinki):  
“Li Hanqiu’s *The waves of Guangling* (*Guangling chao*, 1909-1919)”; discussant:  
Roland Altenburger
- 10:30 Coffee/tea break
- 11:00 Michele Matteini (Reed College):  
“Ling Xia’s ‘Song of the eight eccentrics of Yangzhou’ (*Yangzhou ba guai ge*, 1896)”;  
discussant: Sue Zhuang
- 11:30 Sue Zhuang (Taipei National University of the Arts):  
“Feng Zikai’s ‘The Yangzhou dream’ (*Yangzhou meng*, 1958)”; discussant: Michele  
Matteini
- 12:00 Lunch



- Afternoon session, chair: Lucie Olivová
- 14:00 Liu Zhen 刘祯 (China Art Academy):  
“扬剧《百岁挂帅》文本及比较研究” (“The Yangzhou-theatre play *Taking command at age one hundred*: a textual and comparative study”) (paper)
- 14:30 Lindy Li Mark (California State University East Bay):  
“*Pi Fifth celebrates the New Year (Pi Wu guo nian*, originally 19<sup>th</sup> century)”;  
discussant: Margaret B. Wan
- 15:00 Margaret B. Wan (University of Utah):  
“Pu Lin's *Qingfeng Sluice (Qingfengzha*, 1819)”; discussant: Vibeke Børdahl
- 15:30 Coffee/tea break
- 16:00 Colin Mackerras (Griffith University):  
“Jiao Xun's *Peasant chats on popular local theatre (Huabu nongtan*, preface 1818)”;  
discussant: Lindy Li Mark
- Discussions of contributions by non-attendees:
- 16:30 “Jiaodong Zhou Sheng's *The Yangzhou dream (Yangzhou meng*, 1840s)”, translated  
by Antonia Finnane; discussant: Philip Kafalas
- 16:45 “Hanshang Mengren's *Dream of romance (Fengyue meng*, preface 1848)”, translated  
by Patrick Hanan; discussant: Stefan Kuzay
- 19:00 Farewell dinner

Saturday, 3 September 2011

- Morning session, chair: Philip Kafalas
- 09:00 Xiao Shufen 肖淑芬 (Yangzhou University):  
“谈中国对作为非物质文化遗产的扬州评话的保护” (“On the protection of Yangzhou  
storytelling as intangible cultural heritage in China”) (paper)
- 09:30 Rüdiger Breuer (Ruhr University):  
“Wu Weiye's ‘Biography of Liu Jingting’ (*Liu Jingting zhuan*, ca. 1647)”; discussant:  
Marc Winter
- 10:00 Vibeke Børdahl (Nordic Institute of Asian Studies):  
“Wang Shaotang's ‘Wu Song fights the tiger’ (*Wu Song da hu*, 1961)”; discussant:  
Rüdiger Breuer
- 10:30 Short break
- 10:45 General discussion about the anthology project
- 11:30 Closing ceremony