Reform in the Balance



SUNY series in Chinese Philosophy and Culture David L. Hall and Roger T. Ames, editors

Reform in the Balance

The Defense of Literary Culture in Mid-Tang China



Anthony DeBlasi

State University of New York Press

Published by State University of New York Press, Albany

© 2002 State University of New York

All rights reserved

Printed in the United States of America

No part of this book may be used or reproduced in any manner whatsoever without written permission. No part of this book may be stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means including electronic, electrostatic, magnetic tape, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise without the prior permission in writing of the publisher.

For information, address the State University of New York Press, State University Plaza, Albany, NY 12246

Production by Judith Block Marketing by Fran Keneston

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

DeBlasi, Anthony.

Reform in the balance: the defense of literary culture in mid-Tang China / Anthony DeBlasi.

p. cm. — (SUNY series in Chinese philosophy and culture) Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 0-7914-5435-5 (alk. paper) — ISBN 0-7914-5436-3 (pbk. : alk. paper)

- 1. Chinese literature—Tang dynasty, 618–907—History and criticism.
- 2. Intellectuals—China. I. Title: Defense of literary culture in mid-Tang China. II. Title. III. Series.

PL2291 .D43 2002 895.1'09003—dc21

2001049780