NOTE ON TRANSLATION

Chinese words and proper names are transcribed in Hanyu Pinyin romanization. Chinese characters are rendered in the traditional form. Names of places that are villages or larger have been transcribed. Names of buildings and landscape formations, such as streets, gates, lakes, canals, gardens, and teahouses, have been translated wherever possible. Personal names are translated only if they are nicknames, pen names, servants' names, or otherwise significant name forms. The term zi is used to indicate a person's adult or courtesy name, and hao for a studio name or other pseudonym or cognomen. Chinese names and terms rendered in roman are listed in the Glossary. If there is more than one word with exactly the same reading in the Glossary, subscripts are used to distinguish them (e.g., yi_1 and yi_2).

In order to distinguish between names of oral repertoires and titles of published editions (often sharing the same names), titles of oral repertoires referred to in this book are in roman type, while book titles are in *italics* as usual.

For the sake of historical accuracy, common Chinese terms for money and measurement have in general been romanized rather than translated. These measurements varied across time. Approximate English equivalents for these terms as used in the Ming dynasty through the Republican era appear below.

chi 尺	"foot"; 10 cun, varied from 24.5 to 33 centimeters
cun 寸	"inch"; varied from 2.45 to 3.3 centimeters
dan 石	a measure for grain; 120 jin, or around 70 kilograms
fen 分	a unit of weight; about one-tenth of a qian, or 0.37 grams

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jin 斤	"pound"; varied from 500 to 597 grams
li 里	distance of approximately one-third of a mile; from 405 to 576 meters
	570 meters
liang 兩	"ounce"; varied from 31.3 to 37.3 grams
mu 畝	one-sixth of an acre, or one-fifteenth of a hectare
qian 錢	"penny"; a copper coin; or a "pennyweight" of silver, about 3
	to 4 grams
wen 文	"penny"; a copper coin; or a unit of weight approximately equal to a <i>aian</i>

zhang 文 "yard"; 10 chi, varying from 2.45 to 3.3 meters