

CONTENTS

Acknowledgments xxiii

Introduction:
Literary Taiwan—An East Asian Contextual Perspective

1

PART I

The Beginnings and Entry Into Modernity Through Colonial Mediation (1728–1948)

37

1. Preface to Volume 1 of *Jade Ruler Between Sky and Sea* (1728)

Xia Zhifang

39

2. Preface to *Collection of Coral Branches* (Eighteenth Century)

Zhang Mei

40

3. Preface Number 5 (by the Author) (1816)

Zhang Fu

41

4. Ars Poetica (Mid-nineteenth Century)
Lin Zhanmei
42
5. Elucidating the Meaning of Literature
Xie Xueyu
42
6. Congratulations on the Founding of the Taiwan Literary Society
Wei Qingde
44
7. On the New Mission to Promote Vernacular Writing
Huang Chengcong
45
8. On Reforming Classical Chinese
Huang Chaoqin
48
9. A Letter to the Youth of Taiwan
Zhang Wojun
50
10. The Awful Literary Scene of Taiwan
Zhang Wojun
51
11. On Reading "A Comparison of Old and New Literature"
in the *Taiwan Daily News*
Lan Yun
54
12. *Diary*
Liu Na'ou
56
13. Advance
Lan Yun
57
14. The Solitary Spirits League and the Anarchist Theater Movement
Zhang Qishi
59

15. Why Not Promote Nativist Literature?
Huang Shihui
 63
16. Annotation on *Three-Six-Nine Little Gazette*
Xin An
 66
17. A Proposal on the Construction of Taiwanese Vernacular Writing
Guo Qiusheng
 67
18. On Reforming the Taiwanese Vernacular
Huang Chungqing
 70
19. The Prospect of *Popular Literature*
Qi
 72
20. A Giant Bomb on the Old Poetry Scene
Chen Fengyuan
 73
21. Elegant Words
Lian Yatang
 74
22. Absolute Objection to Nativist Literature Written
 in the Taiwanese Vernacular
Lai Minghong
 76
23. On Taiwan's Nativist Literature
Wu Kunhuang
 79
24. Burning Hair—the Rites of Poetry
Shui Yinping
 80
25. Writing on the Wall
Guo Shuitan
 83

26. Manifesto
Jie Zhou
83
27. Foreword: Understanding Folk Literature
Huang Deshi
85
28. Art Belongs to the People
Yang Kui
87
29. The Historical Mission of *Taiwan Literary Arts*
Zhang Shengjie
89
30. Miscellaneous Thoughts on Literature—Two Types of Atmosphere
Lü Heruo
94
31. Poetry Snippets: On Highbrow
Weng Nao
96
32. Preface to *Mountain Spirit*
Hu Feng
97
33. Youth and Taiwan (II): Ideal and Reality of the New Drama Movement
Shima Rikuhei
98
34. A Chat with the Governor-General About Discontinuing
Chinese Columns in Daily Newspapers
Anonymous
103
35. Why Can't Taiwan's Art Scene Advance?
Old Xu
105
36. Criticism and Guidance Welcomed
Mansha
106

37. On the Future of Taiwanese Literature
Zhang Wenhuan
108
38. The Prospect of Taiwanese Literature
Long Yingzong
109
39. The Past, Present, and Future of
Taiwanese Literature
Shimada Kinji
111
40. On Building a Literary Scene in Taiwan
Huang Deshi
117
41. *Diary* (1942–1944)
Lü Heruo
121
42. Responsibility of the Literati on the Island
Yu Wen
124
43. Taiwanese Theater in the Current Stage of Development
Takita Teiji
126
44. A Conversation on Taiwanese Culture
Nakamura Akira and Long Yingzong
129
45. A Commentary on Current Literature
Nishikawa Mitsuru
134
46. *Kuso* Realism and Pseudo-Romanticism
Shiwai Min
135
47. An Open Letter to Mr. Shiwai Min
Ye Shitao
138

48. Good Writing, Bad Writing
Wu Xinrong
139
49. In Defense of *Kuso* Realism
Yidong Liang
141
50. The Thorny Road Continues
Zhang Wenhuan
143
51. Our Propositions
Nagasaki Hiroshi, et al.
144
52. The Path of *Bridge*—Report on the Second Writers' Gathering
Ge Lei
150
53. Questions and Answers Concerning Taiwanese Literature
Yang Kui
156

PART II

Wading Through the Cold War Under Martial Law (1949–1987)

159

1. Inaugural Preface to *Literary Creation*
Zhang Daofan
161
2. Declaration
Ji Xian
163
3. Inaugural Preface to *Military Literature*: Establishing a Modernized,
Populist, Revolutionary, and Combative National Literature
Editors
164
4. Poetry Is Poetry; Song Is Song; We Do Not Say “Poem-Song”
Ji Xian
166

5. Explicating the Tenets of the Modernist School
Ji Xian
 167
6. To the Reader
Xia Ji'an
 169
7. A Critique of Peng Ge's *Setting Moon* and a Discussion of the Modern Novel
Xia Ji'an
 171
8. *Newsletter of Literary Friends: Correspondence Between Zhong Zhaozheng and Zhong Lihe*
 174
9. Notes from the Editors of *Epoch Poetry Quarterly*
Zhang Mo
 178
10. On Symbolist Poetry and Chinese New Poetry:
 A Rejoinder to Professor Su Xuelin
Qin Zihao
 179
11. Five Years Later
Editors
 184
12. To the Poet Ya Xian
Shang Qin
 185
13. Random Talk on New Poetry No. 4: Whither It Goes?
Yan Xi
 186
14. Taiwanese Writers Whose Works Burst with Local Color
Wang Dingjun
 188
15. Notes of a Poet
Ya Xian
 189

16. Introduction to *Modern Literature*
Editors
191
17. One Year of *Modern Literature*
Editors
193
18. Preface to *Selected Poems of the 1960s*
Zhang Mo, Luo Fu, and Ya Xian
195
19. On Yu Guangzhong's *Sirius the Dog Star*
Luo Fu
198
20. Goodbye, Nihilism!
Yu Guangzhong
199
21. Preface to the Japanese Edition of *The Orphan of Asia*
Wu Zhuoliu
202
22. An Open Letter to Guo Lianghui
Xie Bingying
204
23. An Announcement from the Chinese Writers Association
206
24. I Do Not Value *The Locked Heart* and Membership
in the Writers Association
Guo Lianghui
208
25. Cutting Off the Prose Braids
Yu Guangzhong
211
26. Lower the Flag to Half-Mast for May Fourth!
Yu Guangzhong
214

27. Message from the Editors
Lin Hengtai
217
28. Postscript to *Carefree Wandering*
Yu Guangzhong
219
29. Toward a New Departure in Modernism:
Thoughts on the Recent Production of *Waiting for Godot*
Chen Yingzhen
220
30. *The Girl with Long Black Hair*:
The Author's Preface
Ouyang Zi
222
31. The Evolution of Modern Poetry in Taiwan
Huan Fu
224
32. Epigraph to the Inaugural Issue
Chen Fangming
226
33. On the Predicament of Modern
Chinese Poets
Guan Jieming
226
34. On the Special Issue of Retrospect
Ye Shan
229
35. Not Our Paradise
Tang Wenbiao
231
36. Benchmarks in Fiction Criticism: Reading Tang Jisong's
"Autumn Leaves by Ouyang Zi"
Bai Xianyong
235

37. Qideng Sheng's "Polio" Style
Liu Shaoming
240
38. Take Pains to Read, Take Care to Evaluate *Family Catastrophe*
Yan Yuanshu
242
39. Looking Forward to a New Kind of Literature
Yan Yuanshu
247
40. Two Kinds of Spirit in Taiwanese Literature:
A Comparison of Yang Kui and Zhong Lihe
Lin Zaijue
248
41. Author's Preface
Huang Chunming
253
42. She Is a True Student of China:
On Reading Zhang Ailing on Reading
Zhu Xining
254
43. Should the Ban on May Fourth and 1930s Writings Be Lifted?
Zhu Xining
255
44. Grassroots Manifesto
Luo Qing and Li Nan
259
45. The Past Decade of Taiwanese Literature (1965–1975)—with
Remarks on Wang Wenxing's *Family Catastrophe*
Liu Shaoming
262
46. The Pursuit and Disappearance of Utopia
Bai Xianyong
267

47. Random Thoughts: Author's Preface
Chen Ruoxi
 271
48. Starting from the Flaws of *Taipei People*: On the Method
 and Practice of Literary Criticism
Ouyang Zi
 272
49. Looking Back
Bai Xianyong
 275
50. Preface to *Three-Three Journal*
Zhu Tianwen
 279
51. It is Realist Literature, Not Nativist Literature—
 A Historical Analysis of Nativist Literature
Wang Tuo
 280
52. Introduction to the *History of Nativist Literature in Taiwan*
Ye Shitao
 284
53. The Blind Spot of Nativist Literature
Xu Nancun
 289
54. Where Is Literature Without Human Nature?
Peng Ge
 293
55. *Xiangtu Wenxue*: Its Merits and Demerits
Wang Wenxing
 297
56. Impressions Gleaned from the Conference on Literary
 Arts Organized by the Armed Forces: The Bugle of Unity
Zeng Xiangduo
 305

57. Notes on the Publication of *Essays on Nativist Literature*
Yu Tiancong
307
58. Two Types of Literary Mind: On Two Short Stories That Won
the *United Daily Fiction Contest*
Zhan Hongzhi
310
59. Ten Years of Flowing River
Lin Haiyin
314
60. Foreword to *Anthology of the Modern Chinese Essay*
Yang Mu
320
61. Preface to *Thirty Eventful Years: The Predicament Facing
the Newspaper Literary Supplement in Taiwan at Present and a Way Out*
Ya Xian
322
62. Looking Back at the Chinese Literary Arts Association
Yin Xueman
327
63. Taiwan Consciousness of the Taiwanese People
Zhan Hongzhi
329
64. Influence and Response! From Concern, Engagement,
and Action to “We Have Only One Earth”
Han Han and Ma Yigong
331
65. Footprints, Sort Of: Superfluous Words on the Launch of the
Newsletter of Literary Friends
Zhong Zhaozheng
333
66. Eternal Quest (in Lieu of a Preface)
Wang Zhenhe
338

67. The Question of Nativization in Taiwanese Literature at the Present Stage
Song Dongyang
 343
68. House of Salt—by Way of Introduction
Shi Shu
 346
69. Flaws and Mercy—Preface to *The Mulberry Sea*
Yuan Qiongqiong
 350
70. The Translingual Generation of Poets:
 Beginning with the Silver Bell Society
Lin Hengtai
 352
71. Heralding a Taiwanese Dawn: Introducing Lin Shuangbu,
 Novelist of the New Generation, and
 Appraising Taiwan's Enfeebled Fiction
Song Zelai
 354
72. Sacrificing a Life to Literature Is Nothing to Boast About
Zhong Zhaozheng
 359
73. A Painful Confession
Ye Shitao
 362
74. Something Out of Nothing: On Improvisation and Theater
Lai Shengchuan
 368
- PART III**
- The Era of Democracy and Globalization (1987–2005)**
 375
1. Preface to *Series in Contemporary Mainland Chinese Writers:*
 Replies to Inquiries
Guo Feng
 377

2. Coming Together for a Long Journey Ahead: Celebrating
the Birth of the Taipei Theater Fellowship
Zhong Mingde
379
3. Preface to *Heteroglossia*
Wang Dewei
381
4. Writing a Literature with a Nationality
Peng Ruijin
382
5. Recovering Our Names
Monaneng
384
6. Preface to *Complete Works of Taiwanese Writers*
Zhong Zhaozheng
385
7. If the Poets Don't Die, the Thieves Won't Quit: The Predicament
of Taiwan's Poetry Scene and How to Resolve It
Lin Yaode
388
8. She Waves the Flag: Preface to Ping Lu's New Collection *Who Killed XXX?*
Zhang Xiguo
391
9. *Diary*
Qiu Miaojin
393
10. Literature of the Military Family Village: The Inheritance
and Abandonment of Homesickness
Qi Bangyuan
395
11. Discovering a New Taiwan: On Wang Qimei's Collage
Jiao Tong
400

12. Inaugural Editorial of the *Taiwanese Poetics Quarterly*
402
13. The World of Mountains and Seas: Preface to the Inaugural
Issue of the *Culture of Mountains and Seas Bimonthly*
Sun Dachuan
403
14. Who Is Going to Wear My Beautiful Knit Dress?
Ligelale Awu
404
15. Summer Mist
Zhu Tianxin
406
16. Postscript to *On the Island's Edge*
Chen Li
408
17. On *Ku'er*: Reflections on *Ku'er* and *Ku'er* Literature
in Contemporary Taiwan
Ji Dawei
409
18. Preface: Just Who Is the Devil with a Chastity Belt?
Li Ang
412
19. Wandering in Gods' Garden (in Lieu of a Preface)
Wang Dingjun
414
20. Saving a Boatload of Starlight: The Story of How Mr. Wang Tiwu
Gave Financial Assistance to Young Writers
Jiang Zhongming
417
21. The Activist Character of the Literary Supplement
to the *United Daily*
Li Ruiteng
419

22. Newspaper Literary Supplements and the Nobel Prize in Literature:
A Personal Reflection
Zheng Shusen
422
23. On *Bai*
Zhang Dachun
425
24. Retrospect on Thirty Years of *Taiwan Literary Arts*
Zhong Zhaozheng
427
25. Foreword II: On Taiwan's Literary Canon
Chen Yizhi
431
26. To the Reader: Preface to the Unitas Edition
of *Complete Works of Luo Zhicheng*
Luo Zhicheng
433
27. Broken Chinese and Good Work
Huang Jinshu
434
28. Like a Road Sign That Looks Ahead and Behind:
Introduction to *Compendium of Taiwanese-Language Literature*
Lin Yangmin
436
29. The Brave New World of the Mother Tongue:
Taiwanese-language Literature Under Construction
Xiang Yang
440
30. A Flower Recalls Its Previous Incarnation:
Remembering Zhang Ailing and Hu Lan Cheng
Zhu Tianwen
442

31. The Mysterious Revelations of Nature Writing
Wu Mingyi
 446
32. Building a Bridge for Taiwanese Literature:
 Foreword to the *Newsletter of the National Museum of Taiwan Literature*
Lin Ruiming
 448
33. A Perspective on Prose
Liu Kexiang
 450
34. My Story of the Chinese Language—*Roaming*
Li Yongping
 450
35. A First Step out of “Migration Literature”
Nanfang Shuo
 457
36. Hakka Literature, Literary Hakka
Li Qiao
 460
37. The End of the Military Family Village
Su Weizhen
 462
38. Interview with Wu He
Zhu Tianxin
 463
39. Zhang Xiaofeng on Prose
Zhang Xiaofeng
 473
40. Preface to the New Edition of *Born Under the Twelfth Star Sign*
Luo Yijun
 475

41. Ocean Tide Loves Me Best: A Dialogue Between
Sun Dachuan and Xiaman Lanpoan
476

Glossary 483

Selected Bibliography 509

Notes on the Translators 519

Notes on the Authors 527

Index 541