

**Other Worlds:
Forms of World Literature
WORKSHOP: Antipodean China
23-24 November, 2017
The University of Adelaide**

OTHER WORLDS: FORMS OF WORLD LITERATURE



WRITING AND SOCIETY
RESEARCH CENTRE



WELCOME

Other Worlds: Forms of World Literature investigates literary relations in time and space, from a local here and now to an expanded where and when. One starting point is the meetings that take place between writers at international festivals and conferences. What transpires on such occasions? From there the interaction can extend to writers, translators, editors, critics, scholars and readers, as literary works travel the world through systems of dissemination that warrant scrutiny. How are influences felt and affinities identified in the process of exchange? How are literary forms shaped and meanings made under these conditions?

The Antipodean China workshop takes as its parameters China and Australia—present-day literary practice and its contexts and lineages. Writing in Australia participates in Western, largely Anglophone literary modes, while Indigenous storytelling carries on millennia of cultural knowledge and practice. Writing in Chinese draws on a deep, rich cultural past, into which diverse traditions have flowed. What kind of creative exchanges have occurred, or might occur, between writers and readers, including translators and critics, in Australia and China? Participants in the workshop are asked to explore the topic from their own perspectives and experiences. It continues discussions at the China Australia Literary Forum in Sydney in 2011 and 2013, Beijing in 2015 and Guangzhou in 2017 and in Buenos Aires as part of the ‘Literatures of the South’ seminar hosted by Universidad Nacional de San Martín, 2014-16.

Project team and invited participants include: Eric Abrahamsen, Brian Castro, Xi Chuan, J M Coetzee, Ben Denham, Ben Etherington, Matthew Hooton, Melinda Jewell, Gail Jones, Nicholas Jose, John Minford, Thomas Moran, Annie Ren, Guisi Tamburello, Sam Trayhurn, Anthony Uhlmann, Alexis Wright, and Simon Wang.

Nicholas Jose
Workshop Convenor,
University of Adelaide

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WORKSHOP: Antipodean China

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

University of Adelaide

Ira Raymond Room, Barr Smith Library

PRELIMINARY EVENT WED 22 NOV

5:00 – 7:30PM

FILM SCREENING

Mountains May Depart (2015), directed by Jia Zhang-ke

Introduced by Thomas Moran

Venue: The University of Adelaide, Napier Building,
room 208



Thomas Moran is a writer and curator. He researches contemporary world cinema and is currently working on a MPhil at the University of Adelaide on the cinema of Jia Zhang-ke.

DAY 1

THUR 23 NOV

9:30 – 10:00AM

REGISTRATIONS

Ira Raymond Room, Barr Smith Library

10:00 – 10:15AM

WELCOME

Ira Raymond Room, Barr Smith Library

Kira Bain

Acknowledgement of
Country

Nicholas Jose – The
University of Adelaide

Welcome, housekeeping
and introduction

10:15 – 11:05AM

MORNING – SESSION 1

The Writers

(Chair: Anthony Uhlmann) Ira Raymond Room, Barr
Smith Library

Alexis Wright – Western
Sydney University

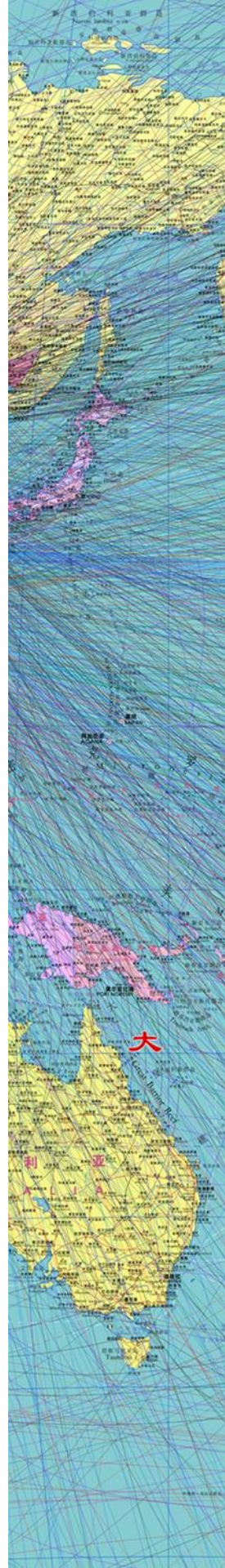
Speaker One

Brian Castro – The
University of Adelaide

Speaker Two

Xi Chuan – Beijing
Normal University

Speaker Three





11:05 – 11:30AM

MORNING TEA

Ira Raymond Room, Barr Smith Library

11:30 – 12:05PM

MORNING – SESSION 2

The Writers CONT...

(Chair: Anthony Uhlmann)

Ira Raymond Room, Barr Smith Library

Gail Jones – Western Sydney University	Speaker One
John Coetzee – The University of Adelaide	Speaker Two

12:05 – 12:30PM

GENERAL DISCUSSION – Q&A

(Chair: Anthony Uhlmann)

Ira Raymond Room, Barr Smith Library

12:30 – 2:00PM

LUNCH

Ira Raymond Room, Barr Smith Library



2:00 – 3:00 PM

AFTERNOON – SESSION 3

The Translators

(Chair: Nicholas Jose) Ira Raymond Room, Barr Smith Library

John Minford – Australian National University	Speaker One
Annie Ren – Australian National University	Speaker Two
Giusi Tamburello – University of Palermo	Speaker Three
Eric Abrahamsen – independent	Speaker Four

3:00 – 3:30PM

GENERAL DISCUSSION – Q&A

(Chair: Nicholas Jose)

Ira Raymond Room, Barr Smith Library

3:30 – 4:00PM

AFTERNOON TEA

Ira Raymond Room, Barr Smith Library

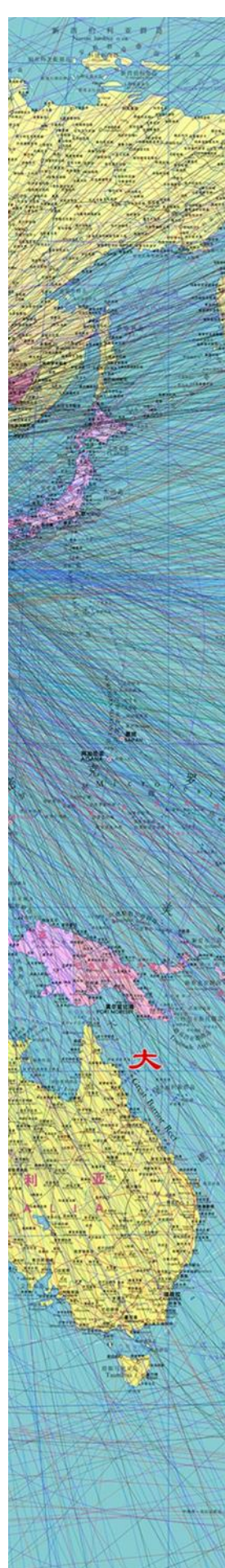
6:00 – 7:30PM

PUBLIC READING

Cultural Musings, The South

J.M. Coetzee, Gail Jones, Alexis Wright

Elder Hall, Adelaide University, North Terrace





DAY 2

FRI 24 NOV

10:00 – 11:00AM

MORNING – SESSION 4

Writers, Scholars and Critics

(Chair: Samantha Trayhurn)

Ira Raymond Room, Barr Smith Library

Ben Etherington –
Western Sydney
University

Speaker One

Anthony Uhlmann –
Western Sydney
University

Speaker Two

11:05 – 11:30AM

MORNING TEA

Ira Raymond Room, Barr Smith Library

11:30 – 12:15 PM

FINAL DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

All speakers

(Chair: Anthony Uhlmann)

Ira Raymond Room, Barr Smith Library

12:15 – 2:00 PM

THANK YOUS AND LUNCH

Nicholas Jose

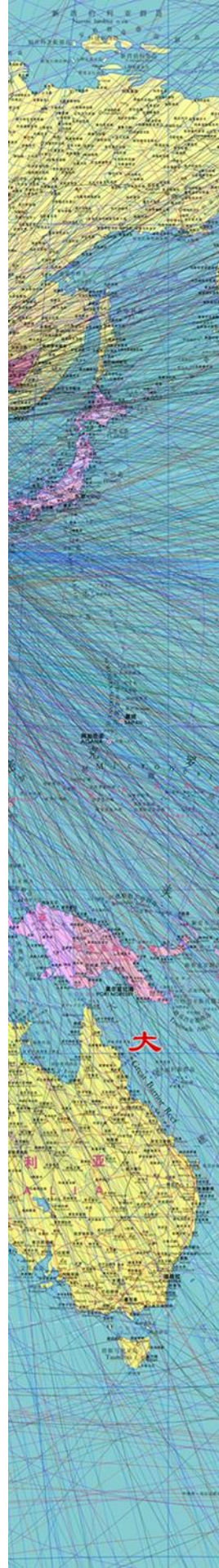
Ira Raymond Room, Barr Smith Library

BIOGRAPHIES – THE WRITERS

Alexis Wright is a member of the Waanyi nation of the Gulf of Carpentaria. She is the author of the novels *The Swan Book*, winner of the ASAL Gold Medal, and *Carpentaria*, which won five national literary awards in 2007, including the ASAL Gold Medal and the Miles Franklin Award. Her most recent publication is *Tracker*, stories of the Aboriginal visionary leader Tracker Tilmouth.



Brian Castro is the author of ten novels and a volume of essays on writing and culture. His novels have won a number of state and national prizes including the Australian/Vogel and four Victorian Premier's awards. Castro is the Chair of Creative Writing at the University of Adelaide and a member of the management committee of the J.M. Coetzee Centre for Creative Practice. Castro was the 2014 recipient of the Patrick White Award for Literature.





Xi Chuan (西川) is a Chinese poet, essayist and translator. Previously a visiting adjunct professor at New York University (2007), an Orion visiting artist at University of Victoria, Canada (2009), and professor of Chinese literature at the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing, he is currently a professor of Beijing Normal University. Xi Chuan has published nine collections of poems, two books of essays and two books of critical writings

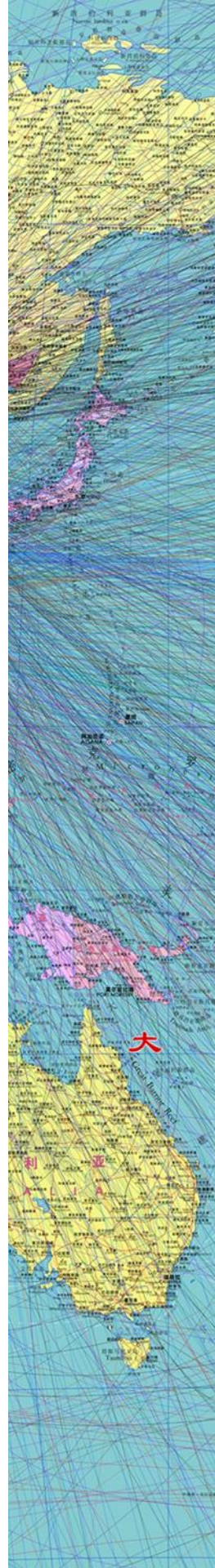


Gail Jones is an academic and the author of two short-story collections and seven novels. The latest, *The Death of Noah Glass*, will appear early in 2018. Her work is widely translated and has been the recipient of numerous prizes. She has worked in Europe, North America and Asia and held a residency in Shanghai in 2008.

J.M. Coetzee has published sixteen works of fiction, as well as criticism and translations. Among awards he has won are the Booker Prize (twice) and, in 2003, the Nobel Prize for Literature. He lives in Adelaide, South Australia. He has a strong interest in translation, and in the importance of dialogue and exchange between writers and critics from across the world.



Nicholas Jose has published seven novels, including *Paper Nautilus*, *The Red Thread* and *Original Face*, and three collections of short stories, most recently *Bapo* in 2014. His non-fiction includes *Chinese Whispers*, *Cultural Essays* and an acclaimed memoir, *Black Sheep: Journey to Borroloola*. He is Professor of English and Creative Writing at The University of Adelaide and an Adjunct Professor with the Writing and Society Research Centre, Western Sydney University.



Samantha Trayhurn is currently undertaking a Doctor of Creative Arts at Western Sydney University. She is interested in world literature as a process for exploring non-unitary, post-human subjectivity. Samantha has a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) and a Bachelor of Science and is interested in cross-disciplinary creative arts practice.



BIOGRAPHIES – THE TRANSLATORS

John Minford 閔福德, is, amongst other roles, the Emeritus Professor of Chinese at ANU. In 1986 he, along with with Professor David Hawkes 霍克思, completed a 5-volume translation of the great 18th-century novel *The Story of the Stone* 石頭記, otherwise known as *The Dream of the Red Chamber* 紅樓夢. He also produced an award-winning translation of the *I Ching*.



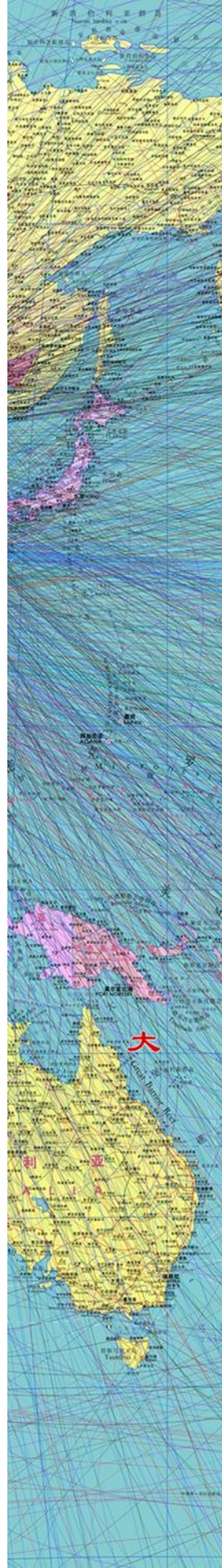
Annie Ren 任路漫 is a PhD scholar at The Australia National University in Canberra. She is currently writing her doctoral thesis on the poetics of the mid-Qing novel *Hongloumeng* 紅樓夢.



Giuseppa Tamburello (or Giusi, 朱西) is a senior lecturer at the University of Palermo in Italy. She teaches Chinese language and Chinese literature, and does research on modern and contemporary Chinese literature. She publishes in Italian, English and Chinese



Eric Abrahamsen comes from Seattle, USA, and has been living in China since 2001. During that time he has worked as a reporter, editor, translator and publishing consultant. In 2007, together with a group of Chinese-English literary translators, he founded Paper Republic (<http://paper-republic.org/>), a website introducing Chinese literature to English-speaking audiences.



BIOGRAPHIES – THE SCHOLARS

Anthony Uhlmann is the Director of the Writing and Society Research Centre, the author of two monographs on Samuel Beckett, and co-editor of two collections of essays on Beckett. His work focuses on the exchanges that take place between literature and philosophy and the way in which literature itself is a kind of thinking about the world.



Ben Etherington is a Research Lecturer in English at the Western Sydney University. His work focuses on the relationship between literature and decolonization. His current research traces the emergence of a creole poetics in the Caribbean from the end of slavery through to its flourishing at the time of political independence. He is the editor, with Jarad Zimbler of the *Cambridge Companion to World Literature*.



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