

Notes on Authors

CHI HUI 遲卉, born in North-eastern China, was a member of the editorial team of *Science Fiction World* 科幻世界 from 2006 to 2010. She currently works as an editor in Chengdu. She uses pen names Heixiaomao 黑小貓 [Black kitten] and Soulaxia for her fantasy and World of Warcraft themed writings, respectively. She has published more than twenty pieces of science fiction writing under the name Chi Hui, including ‘Duzi’ 獨子 [Only son] (2003), ‘Guizhe wulu’ 歸者無路 [Road of no return] (2006), and ‘Chongchao’ 蟲巢 [Bug’s nest] (2008).

FEI DAO 飛氖 (pen name of Jia Liyuan 賈立元), graduated from Beijing Normal University, is currently a Ph.D. candidate in the Chinese Department of Tsinghua University. His short story ‘Yige moshi de gushi’ 一個末世的故事 [A story of the end of the world] (2006) has been translated into Italian and published in *ALIA*, an annual anthology of world science fiction writings. His film script, adapted from his own namesake story ‘Qusi de manman lütu’ 去死的漫漫旅途 [A long journey to death] (2006), won the second Young Script-writers’ Support Programme award in 2009. He has published a short story collection *Chunzhen ji qi suo bianzaode* 純真及其所編造的 [Innocence and what it fabricates] (2011).

HAN SONG 韓松 (1965–), born in Chongqing, graduated from Wuhan University with a bachelor’s degree in English and a master’s degree in journalism. He is currently a deputy department head at the Xinhua News Agency, which he joined as a journalist in 1991. He was the Associate and Managing Editor of *Oriental Outlook* 瞭望東方週刊. He is a leading figure of the current generation of Chinese science fiction writers. His work is usually dark and depressing; he likes to use an almost indifferent tone to portray sinister aspects of human civilization, of brutality, ignorance and immorality, in hopes that his writing may act as an allegorical mirror to reality. His best-known novels include *Hongse haiyang* 紅色海洋 [Crimson ocean] (2004) and *Ditie* 地鐵 [The underground] (2010). His most recent work includes *2066* (2011) and *Gaotie* 高鐵 [High speed rail] (2012), both of which have received critical acclaim.

LA LA 拉拉 (pen name of Zhong Xin 鍾欣, 1977–), born in Chongqing, is currently a technician for a broadband company in Chongqing. He was named ‘Best New Writer’ in the Chinese Science Fiction Galaxy Awards in 2002, and in 2007 he won with his short story ‘Yongbu xiaoshi de dianbo’ 永不消逝的電波 [The radio waves that never die]. He has published a short stories collection *Lüye* 綠野 [The green meadows] (2006).

LIU CIXIN 劉慈欣 (1963–), born in Beijing, now residing in Shanxi, works as a senior engineer for a power plant. Representative of the current generation of Chinese science fiction writers, his work is filled with grand majestic scenery and vivid imagination, combining abstract fantasy with concrete modern technology to highlight the beauty and significance of science. His most renowned novels include the *Santi* 三體 [Three bodies] trilogy (2006, 2007, 2010), the final volume of which received the Chinese Nebula Award for best novel in 2011, *Chaoxinxing jiyuan* 超新星紀元 [Era of the supernova] (1999), *Qiuzhuang shandian* 球狀閃電 [Lightening ball] (2005), and short stories such as ‘Liulang diqiu’ 流浪地球 [The wandering Earth] (2000) and ‘Xiangcun jiaoshi’ 鄉村教師 [The village schoolteacher] (2001). Liu has won the Chinese Science Fiction Galaxy Awards nine times since 1999. English translations of nine of his novellas and short novels have been published as e-books.

LU XUN 魯迅 (pen name of Zhou Shuren 周樹人, 1881–1936) was a writer, critic, translator and literary theorist. Widely regarded as the most influential writer to have emerged from the May Fourth Literary Movement, he is known for his scathing critiques of social ills and his analysis of the collective Chinese character. His most renowned short stories are ‘A Q zhengzhuan’ 阿Q正傳 [The true story of Ah Q] and ‘Kuangren riji’ 狂人日記 [A madman’s diary]. Lu Xun translated a number of pieces of science fiction, such as ‘Yuejie luxing’ 月界旅行 [From the Earth to the moon], ‘Didi luxing’ 地底旅行 [A journey to the centre of the Earth] and ‘Zaoren shu’ 造人術 [The art of creating humanity], which he later considered to be ‘more like re-creations’.

WANG JINKANG 王晉康 (1948–), born in Nanyang, graduated from Xi’an Jiaotong University. He is one of the leading figures in the current generation of Chinese science fiction writers. His work is often written in a desolate, melancholy style, full of philosophical speculation; it closely follows recent scientific developments, especially those in biology, and often portrays humans being replaced by more advanced life forms. His best-known works include the novel *Shizi* 十字 [Cross] (2009), the short story collection *Yangfengren* 養蜂人 [Beekeeper] (2011), and the award-winning short stories ‘Yadang de huigui’ 亞當的回歸 [The return of Adam] (1995) and ‘Shengming zhi ge’ 生命之歌 [The song of life] (2003). He has won the Chinese Science Fiction Galaxy Awards ten times. His novel *Yu wu tongzai* 與吾同在 [The creator] (2011) received both a Chinese Nebula Award and Galaxy Award for best novel in 2012.

WU JIANREN 吳趸人 (1866–1910), also known as Wu Woyao 吳沃堯 and Wofoshanren 我佛山人, was a native of Foshan, Guangdong province. He became a journalist in Shanghai in the 1890s and started publishing novels in 1903. His most famous works include *Jiuming qiyan* 九命奇冤 [The strange case of nine murders], *Tong shi* 痛史 [Annals of sorrow], and *Ershinian mudu zhi guai xianzhuang* 二十年

目睹之怪現狀 [Bizarre happenings eyewitnessed over two decades], the latter being recognized as one of the greatest novels of late Qing China.

XIA JIA 夏笳 (pen name of Wang Yao 王瑤, 1984–) was born in Xi'an. She studied physics at Peking University and later obtained a master's degree in film at Communication University of China. She is currently a Ph.D. candidate in comparative literature and world literature in Peking University. She won the Chinese Science Fiction Galaxy Awards in 2008 with 'Yongxia zhi meng' 永夏之夢 [Dream eternal summer] (2008). Her other well-known short stories include 'Guan yaojing de pingzi' 關妖精的瓶子 [The demon-enslaving flask] (2004), 'Kamen' 卡門 [Carmen] (2005) and 'Yeying' 夜鶯 [Nightingale] (2008). Her first short story collection *Guan yaojing de pingzi* 關妖精的瓶子 has just been published.

XU NIANCI 徐念慈 (also known as Donghaijuewo 東海覺我, 1875–1908), a distinguished late Qing translator, was a native of Jiangsu. He joined the Xingzhonghui 興中會 [Revive China Society] in 1903. As a founder of Xiaoshuolinshe 小說林社, he was one of the editors of the journal *Xiaoshuolin* 小說林 [The novel forest]. His work 'Xin faluo xiansheng tan' 新法螺先生譚 [New tales of Mr Braggadocio] was inspired by Bao Tianxiao's translations, 'Faluo xiansheng tan' 法螺先生譚 and 'Xu faluo xiansheng tan' 續法螺先生譚, and is one of the earliest Chinese works of science fiction. Xu was subsequently regarded as the first Chinese science fiction writer.

XU ZHUODAI 徐卓呆 (pen name of Xu Fulin 徐傅霖, 1880–1958/1961?) was a native of Suzhou. Xu was one of the foremost comic writers in Shanghai from the 1920s to the early 1940s. He enjoyed a varied career as founder of Shanghai's first acrobatics academy, comic playwright, popular short story writer, translator, director and actor, owner of a film company, and founder of an artificial soy sauce factory. The hundreds of plays and stories he published in Shanghai magazines earned him the epithet 'Artisan of Laughter' 滑稽大師.

ZHAO HAIHONG 趙海虹 (1977–) graduated from Zhejiang University with a master's degree in English and American literature. She currently teaches at Zhejiang Gongshang University. Her writings have won her many prizes, such as 'Best New Talent' at the sixth Song Qingling Children's Literature Awards (1999–2001), Zhejiang 'Young Literature Star' Awards (2005), and the Chinese Science Fiction Galaxy Awards. Her work 'Tui' 蛻 (2001) has been rewritten in English and published as 'Exuviation' in *LCRW* No. 25 (2010). She has published the short story collections *Shijian de bifang* 時間的彼方 [The other side of time] (2006) and *Huashu de yanjing* 樺樹的眼睛 [The eyes of the birch] (2011).