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ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTORS

■ AUTHORS

Yi Zhou was born in 1972 and lives in Xi'an, Shaanxi Province. He is a member of the Chinese Writers' Association and has been publishing fiction since 2000. His works include several novels, as well as collections of short stories and novellas. Yi Zhou has received the coveted Mao Dun Literary Prize for New Writers, as well as awards from several prestigious literary magazines. He is widely regarded as one of the best writers of his generation in China.

Zhang Yihe was born in 1942 in Chongqing, imprisoned as a counterrevolutionary in 1970, and cleared and released in 1979. After serving as a researcher and professor of theatre arts at the Opera Academy in Beijing, she retired in 2001. She continues to live in Beijing and is known for her works of history: *Old Stories of Peking Opera Actors* and *The Past Is Not Like Smoke* (published in Hong Kong in a somewhat different version as *The Last Aristocrats*). In recent years, she has written novellas based on the personal stories of some of the female prisoners with whom she was incarcerated. Despite being cast as fiction, the novellas read more like memoirs; the author herself is thinly disguised as the character Zhang Yuhe. To date, she has written about the women Liu, Yang, and Zou. The University of Hawai'i Press and *Mānoa* published English translations of the first two novellas in 2016. NOTE: For a more detailed biographical note of Zhang Yihe, please see Karen Gernant and Chen Zeping, "Editors' Note," pp. vii and ix, in Zhang Yihe, *Red Peonies: Two Novellas of China* (Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 2016), published jointly with *Mānoa* as 28:2.

Zhu Wenying was born in 1970 in Shanghai and now lives in Suzhou. She has written the novels *Aunt Lily's Tiny South* and *Ms. Dai and Blue*, as well as many novellas and short stories. She has won several awards, and Chinese critics have lavished praise on her works. In recent years, she has been active in international literary festivals, as well as international exchanges, and is currently a member of the council of Jiangsu's Writers' Association and vice-chair of the Suzhou Writers' Association. Some of her works have been translated into English, French, Japanese, Russian, Korean, German, and Italian. In 2005, *Mānoa* published her short story "Ephemeral Life."

■ TRANSLATORS

Chen Zeping and **Karen Gernant** began collaborating on translations of contemporary Chinese prose in 1999. Together, they have published approximately sixty translations of short stories, novellas, and essays in prominent literary journals in China, the U.S., and the U.K., and online. *Mānoa* was the first U.S. literary journal to publish their translations, and they have been frequent contributors to *Mānoa* since then. Their book-length translations include Alai's *Tibetan Soul* (MerwinAsia, 2012), Zhang Kangkang's *White Poppies and Other Stories* (Cornell East Asia Series, 2010), and several books by Can Xue: *Blue Light in the Sky and Other Stories* (New Directions, 2006), *Five Spice Street* (Yale, 2009), *Vertical Motion* (Open Letter, 2011), *Frontier* (Open Letter, 2017), *I Live in the Slums* (Yale, 2020, longlisted for the 2021 Booker International Prize), and *Purple Perilla* (Common Era, 2020). Their translation of Can Xue's *I Live in the Slums* was longlisted by ALTA for the 2021 National Translation Awards. Forthcoming from Yale is their translation of Can Xue's *Barefoot Doctor*. Chen Zeping is professor emeritus of Chinese linguistics at Fujian Normal University. Karen Gernant is professor emerita of Chinese history at Southern Oregon University.

■ PHOTOGRAPHER

Robert van der Hilst was born in Amsterdam in 1940. He left the Netherlands at age twenty to travel and photograph, and has worked on five continents, with long stays in Cuba, Canada, Latin America, Japan, and China; he now lives in Paris. Since the seventies, his photographs have appeared in such magazines as *Geo*, *Paris-Match*, *Stern*, *Vogue*, and *Zoom*. He has been featured in many exhibitions worldwide, and his work is held by major galleries, including the Pompidou. In 2002, he published *Cuban Interiors*, and in 2009 *Shanghai 1990–1993*. From 2005 to 2009, he worked on a project that became *Chinese Interiors*, published in 2010 by Shanghai Fine Art Publishing House, then by Gallimard and other European publishers. In these and other books, he acknowledged the influence of Dutch artists, especially Vermeer. “Rather than being one of those photographers taking snapshots of so-called reality, I aim to create my own reality,” he said in 2010, in which the interiors may be as important as the human subjects, striving for “absolute silence.” In 2012, Shanghai Fine Art Publishing House released his book *Timeless World*.