



Home Away From Home: Displacement and Cosmopolitanism in the Itinerary of Xiao Hong

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Modern Chinese literature was produced in cities far beyond the national borders of China. Writers traveled to cities around the world—to New York, Tokyo, Singapore, and wrote stories using the Sinitic script. They participated in translating their works into other languages and wrote in new works in a number of other languages as well. Their transnational travel and production of other literatures unsettle the notion that modern Chinese literature is a national literature written in a national language. The Northeastern writer, Xiao Hong's fiction charts not only her own circulation between minor and major Chinese literary centers such as Harbin, Qingdao, Shanghai and Hong Kong, but also her involvement with members of the Japanese and American left, particularly her friendship with the writers Kaji Wataru, Ikeda Yukiko, and Agnes Smedley. In this paper, I will examine Xiao Hong's changing attitudes towards displacement and statelessness throughout her writing career.

4:30 - 6:00PM

10 APRIL, 2013 (WED)

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