



Taiwan Lectures on
Chinese Studies

臺灣漢學講座

Burning the Midnight Oil: The Making of Verse Narrative Texts by Qing Women

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■ Monday, August 24, 2015 / 10-12 am

■ The Oriental Institute, the Czech Academy of Sciences

(John King Fairbank Library, Pod Vodárenskou věží 4, 182 08 Praha 8)

This talk will explicate the reception and production of a particular form of narrative fiction. *Tanci* (彈詞), a genre of performing art popular in southern China, consists of both spoken and sung sections rhymed with seven-character verses. During the late imperial period, its format was borrowed in fiction and welcomed by female readers, inspiring them to write their own texts. *Tanci* thus became a textual space for female self-expression and literary imagination. This talk will focus on the reading, writing, transcription, circulation, and publication of the female *tanci* narrative in order to demonstrate the significance of this genre for our understanding of Chinese literature, especially in terms of its self-awareness in literary creation and the issue of female resistance to / compliance with society.

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