

黎志添序

自1967年成立以來，中國文化研究所一直是香港中文大學推廣中國文化及相關學術研究的核心。在這半個多世紀，促進學者對中文原始資料的運用，提高本地和海外學者的中國文化研究水平，一直是研究所作為領域內跨學科國際研究中心的使命。研究所以出版書刊、舉辦外展和組織學術活動等豐富的形式，在支持各地研究人員和機構的學術交流與合作上發揮了關鍵作用。

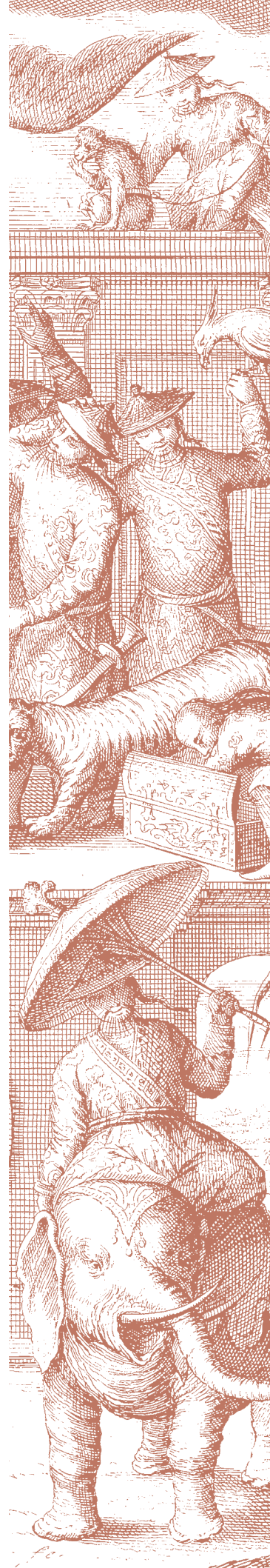
1963年香港中文大學建校時，創校校長李卓敏博士便兼任研究所的首任所長，大學以「結合傳統與現代，融會中國與西方」為創校使命，而中國文化研究所正是其生動寫照。中西之間過去、現在的相遇與交流，一直是充滿活力和想像的領域，時至今日仍是大學的一大研究強項。

早在大學和研究所成立並成為全球中國研究的樞紐之前，一些歐洲的漢學家早已冒險來到東方。他們以傳教士、外交官或探險家的身分接觸本地人民和文化並進行交流。香港中文大學圖書館收藏了他們有關中國的重要著作，這些著作以西方語言撰寫，記錄了其親身考察所得的第一手經驗和發現。在中國文化研究所和歷史系的支持下，大學圖書館籌劃展出這批珍本藏書，作為大學六十周年的紀念活動，實在合適不過。中國文化研究所很榮幸能為這別具意義的活動作出貢獻。馬思途教授整理出如此精彩的圖錄，用來紀念這特別的時刻，我也藉此機會向他致謝並表達祝賀。

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Preface

Stuart M. McManus

As The Chinese University of Hong Kong celebrates the sixtieth anniversary of its foundation, the Department of History is delighted to be able to support this exhibition and its accompanying catalogue inspired by the University's mission "to combine tradition with modernity and to bring together China and the West." Indeed, the books featured here suggest that there is much truth to the oft-repeated maxim that "history does not repeat, but it does rhyme." Not only were there striking parallels in the learned cultures of China and Europe, but the rapid development of early modern European Sinology underlines the deep interest among Western scholars in the history and cultural traditions of China (broadly understood).

The many Renaissance books about China described in this catalogue are also significant for us in another sense. When our first graduate, the historian Yu Ying-shih (1930–2021), departed Hong Kong for Harvard in the 1950s, it was his intention to study the European Renaissance, which it was hoped he would be able to teach at New Asia College. While this great scholar would soon turn his attention to Chinese history and was destined to return to Hong Kong only briefly, the Department has always sought to support the teaching of this foundational period of Western history, which saw not only important scientific and philosophical breakthroughs, but also the first sustained interactions between learned people from our two corners of Eurasia. As always, these interactions were not without misunderstandings and self-interested actions. Yet, they also displayed a striking degree of cultural engagement and mutual appreciation. Indeed, this period reminds us that before the nineteenth century there was a period of several hundred years during which China-Western relations were quite unlike those of the modern period (or at least some popular understandings of it). While the task of the historian is neither praise nor blame, this more cosmopolitan age nonetheless has a certain value for those whose mission is "to combine tradition with modernity and to bring together China and the West."

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馬思途序

適逢香港中文大學建校六十周年之際，中大歷史系有幸為是次展覽及其藏書圖錄略盡綿力，以秉承大學使命「結合傳統與現代，融會中國與西方」。是次展覽的藏書無疑表明，「歷史不會重複，但押韻不變」這句雋語確實並非虛言。不獨中國和歐洲的學術文化有驚人的相似之處，近代早期歐洲漢學的迅速發展也突顯出西方學者對中國歷史和中國文化傳統的深厚興趣。

在這本展覽圖錄中，文藝復興時期有關中國的眾多藏書對我們而言亦蘊含另一番意義。當我們的首屆畢業生——歷史學家余英時（1930–2021）在1950年代離開香港前往哈佛大學時，他的初衷是研究歐洲文藝復興，並希望能回到新亞學院執教。雖然他很快就轉而鑽研中國歷史，並決定只短暫返回香港，但歷史系始終竭力支持對歐洲文藝復興時期的教學，這是西方歷史的奠基時期，不僅出現了重要的科學和哲學突破，而且開啟了來自歐亞大陸兩端的博學之士持續的互動。一如既往，這些互動雖有誤解和自利行為，但其中呈現的文化接觸與互相賞識之深亦出人意料。其實，這一時期提醒我們，在十九世紀以前的數百年間，中西關係與現代截然不同（至少異於一般的理解）。雖然歷史學家的任務既非讚美，亦非指責，但此一時代實在對致力於「結合傳統與現代，融會中國與西方」的人士別具意義。

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