

Acknowledgements

I am grateful to scholars who offered detailed and constructive comments on papers presented at the online conference—Bai Tongdong, Fu Hualing, Kong Xinfeng, Qin Yaqing, Wang Gungwu, and Zhang Yongle—as well as to Gan Qi and Ye Minlei who approved and supported the publication of the book at The Chinese University of Hong Kong Press, and to Tsoi Ting Ting who designed the cover of our book.

I am also grateful to Yuan Zaijun, editor of *The China Review* at The Chinese University of Hong Kong Press, who drove the whole process that led to this book. He helped to organize the online conference that led to the special issue of *The China Review* on the theme “What Does It Mean to Be, or to Become, Chinese?” and suggested we publish an expanded book on the theme with the press. Zaijun is both kind and efficient and he is a constant source of good ideas.