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CHENG YU TUNG EAST ASIAN LIBRARY’S
SPRING HIGHLIGHTS

By Hana Kim, Director, Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library

The Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library was active in hosting various public events.

Throughout the first half of 2020, the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library has continued its outreach efforts by programming a variety of welcoming, thought-provoking and engaging public events and activities.

Information Session on Tibetan Studies Librarianship & Resources

Each year the East Asian Library organizes a Tibetan Studies Open House for Tibetan Studies students and faculty. This year, we hosted an information session on Tibetan Studies Librarianship and updates on Tibetan Studies resources at the library on February 20. This outreach event was open not only to the University community, but also to the general public. The session was presented by Dr. Lauran Hartley, Tibetan Studies Librarian at Columbia University, who also

Above: Viewing of The Murals of Tibet by a group of visitors. Professor Sarah Richardson stands in middle, presenting it to the visitors (Photo credit: Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library)
serves as Tibetan Studies Librarian at our library. Her informative talk included discussion on the latest developments in Tibetan librarianship, Tibetan materials digitization projects, Tibet-related online resources, and our latest newly-received Tibetan publications. It was wonderful to see many students, instructors, researchers, staff and the general public enjoying learning about Tibetan Studies librarianship and our Tibetan resources.

On February 21, the East Asian Library collaborated with the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library in providing a viewing tour of the newly acquired publication *The Murals of Tibet* for a group of scholars from around the world who were attending an international workshop on New Paths in Teaching Buddhist Studies, which was organized by the Robert H.N. Ho Family Foundation Centre for Buddhist Studies at the University of Toronto. This limited-edition publication—the only copy of this rare work in Canada—showcases the most precious surviving murals of Tibetan Buddhist culture. The Library acquired the title to support the Tibetan Studies and Buddhist Studies programs at the University, and it is securely housed in the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library.

**Viewing Gastronomy from the Garden of Contentment**

Last year, the East Asian Library was honored to host an event given by Professor and Chef Leo Chan of George Brown College about Chinese cuisine. This year we continued our investigation of this fascinating field with a new contribution from our guest speaker, Dr. Sean Chen, who has
published the first ever English language translation of the famous Chinese cookbook, *Suiyuan shi dan* (隨園食單), which was written by Yuan Mei during the late 18th century. This complete translation, transcribed from the original Chinese text and carefully edited with helpful new annotations, was published in 2018 under the title: *Recipes from the Garden of Contentment: Yuan Mei’s Manual of Gastronomy*.

During the talk, Dr. Chen used the Qing Dynasty manual to develop a framework for understanding the evolution of Chinese Canadian cuisine. We were honoured to have two of our own faculty members from the Department of East Asian Studies join us for this discussion event: Dr. Graham Sanders, who teaches Classical Chinese literature, moderated the session. His work focuses on narrative depictions of the composition, performance and reception of poetry in pre-modern China. Dr. Linda Feng, a cultural historian of pre-modern China, served as a discussant. Her research is focused on the interconnections among cultural technologies, forms of knowledge, and the various senses. Over the past few years, she has taught two courses related to food. Attendees enjoyed the appetizing culinary discussion and Chinese refreshments that were provided that afternoon.

Dr. Chen holds a PhD in biomedical engineering from McGill University, and is a senior research engineer for computer vision and machine learning in medicine. He has had a lifelong interest in foodways and Chinese history, and is currently working on a translation and annotation of a Song Dynasty culinary work. His other interests include using computational techniques to analyze recipes and cuisines to better understand their common roots.

Above from left to right: Professor Graham Sanders, Professor Linda Feng and Dr. Sean Chen (Photo credit: Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library)
SPRING HIGHLIGHTS (CONTINUED)

Lunch & Learn Session in Collaboration with the East Asian Studies Graduate Student Union (EASGSU)

On February 27, 2020, in collaboration with the East Asian Studies Graduate Student Union (EASGSU), the East Asian Library hosted a Lunch & Learn Session for graduate students in the field of East Asian Studies.

Our librarians had the pleasure of meeting and interacting with our graduate students during the casual learning session on the library’s initiatives, programs, collections and services.

Student Appreciation Day @ the EAL

On March 10, the University of Toronto Libraries held its first Student Appreciation Day, where students were offered snacks and various activities to brighten their day and connect them with the library. The East Asian Library implemented this program by hosting a hands-on practice session of Chinese calligraphy facilitated by our own Lucy Gan, Information Services Librarian. Our students experienced a moment of tranquil time while learning Chinese calligraphy, and enjoyed East Asian snacks and tea. Students also enjoyed exploring a display featuring books on calligraphy.

All of the above events were well-attended and received by the university and surrounding communities.

The Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library will continue to pursue our mandate of providing a forum for such engaging events. We welcome suggestions for further such possible talks or other events. Please contact Library Director Hana Kim at hn.kim@utoronto.ca or 416-978-7690 with your ideas.

Upper left: Lunch & Learn Session, and a tour to the Chinese Rare Book Collection (Photo credit: Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library)
Lower right: Students learning Chinese calligraphy (Photo credit: Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library)
A library is essential for the continuity of curriculum delivery and research. Since the advent of the COVID-19 health crisis, the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library’s commitment to supporting our faculty and students has never ceased. In response to the outbreak, as of March 16, the University of Toronto cancelled all of its in-person undergraduate courses as well as research-stream Master's and Doctoral courses. Since then, the university has begun delivering teaching instruction by other means, including the use of existing online platforms.

In line with the University’s direction, the library system urgently developed and implemented its own continuity plans. As of March 17, 2020, most staff members were asked to work from home, and the Robarts Library, one of the major facilities in our central library system, was the last library that remained open to the University community. However, effective March 24, all University of Toronto Libraries were closed.

The East Asian Library swiftly developed a Virtual Reference Desk Service (operating 1-4 pm, Monday through Friday) model to help students remotely with their research questions about Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Tibetan, and Asian Canadian Studies. Our librarians have been also been busily providing support to our international students who went back to their home countries as soon as the outbreak began, via social media. In addition, in order to cope with this unusual period of library closure, the East Asian Library has created a tip sheet for our library patrons detailing key online resources in the field of East Asian Studies.

Furthermore, the East Asian Library has proactively approached various East Asian book vendors, publishers, and government agencies to secure temporary free access to their databases containing primary sources and articles that are crucial for the research, dissertation writings, teaching and learning activities of our University community. The Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library will continue to support remote research, teaching, and learning using the Library’s extensive digital resources and expertise.
PUBLICATION OF
AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF
CHINESE RARE BOOKS IN
THE CHENG YU TUNG EAST ASIAN LIBRARY,
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO (REVISED EDITION)

By Hana Kim, Director, Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library

… a new revised edition of
“An Annotated Bibliography of Chinese Rare Books in the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library, University of Toronto” now available ...

Above: An Annotated Bibliography of Chinese Rare Books in the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library, University of Toronto (加拿大多伦多大学东亚图书馆藏中文古籍善本提要) (Revised Edition), Guangxi Normal University Press (广西师范大学出版社), 2019
A decade ago, the University of Toronto’s Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library published the first edition of *An Annotated Bibliography of Chinese Rare Books in the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library, University of Toronto* (Guangxi Normal University Press, 2009), which is a comprehensive descriptive catalogue of the Chinese rare book collection of the library. It was the first catalogue of its kind to cover a major Chinese rare book collection in Canada. Now, the newly revised edition of this work has recently been published by Guangxi Normal University Press.

This edition has been greatly enlarged and thoroughly revised, including corrections and suggestions that accumulated since the publication of the first edition. It represents the complete collection of Chinese rare books in print before 1795 and manuscripts compiled before 1911, which are held in the University of Toronto’s Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library and at the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM). In this edition, all 710 entries have been verified using various sources. 11 titles have been removed from the first edition, as they are beyond the scope of this publication. After the library’s publication team consulted with Chinese rare book experts in China and North America, certain errors in the first edition --especially errors related to the scripts of seals-- have been corrected. While the first edition only dealt with the Mu Collection held in the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library, 95 new titles have been added to this revised edition. These titles include both the rare books from the Royal Ontario Museum, which also belong to part of the original Mu Collection (慕氏藏書), as well as the other Chinese rare books that the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library has acquired through donations over the years.

The origin of the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library's Chinese collection can be traced to the acquisition of the Mu Collection, the first Chinese library collection in Canada. The Mu Collection was once the personal library of Mr. Mu Xuexun (慕學勛; 1880-1929), also known as Mu Yuanfu (慕元甫), a scholar who served as the secretary of the German Legation in Beijing for 17 years (1912-1929). This private antiquarian book collection was built up by Mr. Mu himself over a period of 25 years. When Mr. Mu passed away in 1929, the entire collection was bequeathed to his eldest son, Mu Yong (慕庸). However, due to this son’s long-term plans to travel to Europe and North America to
take Chinese antiquities on an exhibition tour, it was impossible for him to care for the books. Thus, he and the family decided to sell the collection in 1933.

The story of the University of Toronto and Royal Ontario Museum’s involvement with the Collection began with the former Anglican Bishop of Kaifeng (開封), Henan, China, William Charles White (1873-1960). The deep passion of Bishop White for introducing Chinese civilization and culture to his adopted country of Canada inspired him to endeavor to purchase the Mu Library for the University of Toronto and the Royal Ontario Museum. Bishop White immediately put in an offer of $10,500 Canadian dollars, which was accepted. In Toronto, Dr. Sigmund Samuel, Sir Robert Mond and Professor John C. Ferguson put together a financial donation to enable the purchase of the collection, which was supplemented by additional funds provided by Bishop White himself. The Mu Collection was catalogued in Beijing, and proudly arrived in Toronto in June 1935. When it arrived at the Royal Ontario Museum, it had already been enlarged to 50,000 volumes, including about 10,000 additional volumes collected by Bishop White himself during the period 1933 to 1935. This formed the first Chinese book collection in Canada.

The Mu Collection gave birth to two libraries: the H. H. Mu Far Eastern Library (then known as the Professor H.H. Mu Library of Chinese Books) at the Royal Ontario Museum, and the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library (then known as the East Asiatic Studies Library) at the University of Toronto. In 1968, the majority of the Mu Collection became part of the University of Toronto Libraries’ holdings, except those relating to art and archeology, which are still housed at the Royal Ontario Museum. The Mu Collection has given the university an invaluable cultural legacy, and laid a strong foundation for the emergence and development of Chinese Studies at the University of Toronto.

This enlarged and revised edition of the catalogue of these materials represents yet another milestone for our library. In order to complete this significant work, since 2016, the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library prioritized this project by undertaking a major Chinese rare book inventory project in order to clearly map the entire rare book collection of the library. Dr. Stephen Qiao, the library’s China Studies Librarian, played an integral role in this publication project as team leader. As a key contributor to its writing, Dr. George Zhao, Chinese cataloguer and reference specialist, also played a critical role in its successful completion. In addition, many other Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library staff members including student assistants aided the project in various ways. We would also like to offer our thanks to the staff of the Royal Ontario Museum, in particular to Dr. Chen Shen, Jack Howard and Kangmei Wang, for their assistance in allowing us to include the Museum’s titles in this new edition, and for coordinating access for us.

Furthermore, the library also received the generous support and assistance of various scholars, rare book experts and researchers from many other institutions. Their aid has been indispensable to the successful completion of this project. Finally, our library would like to express our thanks to Guangxi Normal University Press for once again agreeing to publish this work. We are deeply grateful and forever in their debt for the very special collaborative support they have given us that has made this worthy project possible. We sincerely hope that scholars and researchers may find this publication of use in their research, and humbly hope that the present volume can further contribute to the knowledge of Chinese rare books worldwide.
NOTABLE ACQUISITIONS

NEW E-RESOURCE - CHINESE STUDIES:
Wen shi zi liao / 中国文史资料集萃

The Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library has recently purchased the e-collection, Zhongguo wen shi zi liao ji cui (中国文史资料集萃, Chinese Culture and History Collection), which is now included in and accessible via the Chinamaxx Digital Library of Chinese E-books at the University of Toronto. The database contains two sets of data with full text of more than 26,000 volumes (900,000 articles) of publications arranged by region. The articles are mostly first-person narratives on history, culture, politics, economy, literature, and ethnicity, etc.

Under the policies of Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai (周恩来; 1898-1976), a Committee on the Study of Cultural and Historical Resources (文史资料研究委员会) was established in Beijing in 1959 under National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC). The main mission of this committee was to appeal to members of the national and regional committees of CPPCC (at provincial, city and county levels) and other celebrities to write about their personal histories to provide first-hand accounts of many aspects of important figures and events in modern and contemporary China. It is very interesting to note that some famous rightist intellectuals, KMT generals and high ranking officials captured during the civil war period were included among those asked to write their personal histories. The famous work, “The First Half of My Life,” written by the last emperor of China Aisin Gioro Puyi (溥仪; 1906-1967), took in shape during this cultural and historical data collection campaign. This unique, in-depth glimpse of history on a personal level was unprecedented. For the Chinese Communist Party and government, it was a huge undertaking.

Figure 1. Wen shi zi liao database is accessible from the front page of Chinamaxx e-book platform
designed to enhance the so-called “Patriotic United Front”. On the other hand, this effort accelerated the accumulation of primary historical sources, thereby enriching historical records of the country, the CPC, the People’s Liberation Army and local history, as well as the history of business, social customs, religions, cultural events, minority nationalities, professional organizations, art institutes and many other subject areas. The resources collected by the committee of cultural and historical data are mainly based on the personal experiences of CPPCC members and celebrities, and include such things as memoirs of military commanders of the Sino-Japanese War, and business leaders providing an account of the rise and fall of local businesses.

For example, a search using the term “Beijing” (北京) retrieved 170 book titles, including from the national level Wen shi zi liao xuan ji (文史资料选辑) and Wen shi zi liao xuan kan (文史资料选刊), the municipal level Beijing wen shi zi liao (北京文史资料), and district level Chaoyang wen shi zi liao (朝阳文史资料) and Fangshan wen shi zi liao (房山文史资料). Tables of contents of individual titles are viewable when you click on a title, and individual articles are accessible via a web browser. However, you must enable Adobe Flash in order to browse other articles in the left reading pane. An article may be printed out up to 5 pages, including the possibility of being saved as a PDF file. A paragraph may be copied and pasted using a database built-in OCR function as well. (S. Qiao)
NOTABLE ACQUISITIONS (CONTINUED)

NEW E-RESOURCE - JAPANESE STUDIES:

The Bungei Shunjū Archives/文藝春秋アーカイブス

The University of Toronto Libraries is pleased to announce the acquisition of the Bungei Shunjū Archives 文藝春秋 アーカイブス, available through the JapanKnowledge Lib platform.

Bungei Shunjū 文藝春秋 is a popular magazine that was founded by Kikuchi Kan 菊池寛 in 1923. Kawabata Yasunari 川端康成 and Yokomitsu Riichi 横光利一 were among the small group of editors of what was initially a literary magazine, featuring essays such as Akutagawa Ryūnosuke’s 芥川龍之介 “Shuju no kotoba” 侏儒の言葉. In 1926, a special column was permanently set up to handle current affairs, thus transforming it into a more general magazine. When the Sino-Japanese War broke out in 1937, supplementary issues entitled Shina Jihen 支那事変 were released as a monthly “local report”. Publication of the magazine temporarily ceased between April and October 1945. Presently, it features many articles by politicians, journalists, critics, and non-fiction writers.

An interesting characteristic of this magazine is the publication of various works in a serialized style over several years. Examples include Eto Jun’s 江藤淳 Umi wa Yomigaeru 海は甦る parts 1-5 (1961-1983) and Shiba Ryōtarō’s 司馬遼太郎 Kono Kuni no Katachi この国のかたち (1986-1996).

This resource contains a total of 323 issues of Bungei Shunjū, from the founding issue to December 1950. About 90,000 pages of the original magazine are available in PDF format. These pages contain essays, fiction, and articles by over 4,000 authors and contributors, published in the 28 years up to the post-war period. The acquisition of the Bungei Shunju Archives has enabled us to fill a significant gap in our holdings, namely all issues from volumes 5 to 44. Access to Bungei Shunjū is available either:

- **Online**: Vol. 1-50, available online via the online Bungei Shunju Archives with full-text search;

- **Print**: Vol. 51-present, please use our hardcopy print issues available upon request under call number PL700 .B86. The most current issues are kept in the library in the Current Resources Centre. All the other volumes are available upon request from Downsview (offsite storage). For detailed holdings, see this record at http://go.utlib.ca/cat/4564420 (F. Rocha)

NEW E-RESOURCE - TIBETAN STUDIES:
The Treasury of Lives: A Biographical Encyclopedia of Tibet, Inner Asia & the Himalayan Region

The Treasury of Lives (TOL) is an online encyclopedic database providing accessible, peer-reviewed biographies and data on a wide range of people from Tibet, Mongolia, Bhutan, Sikkim, Ladakh, and neighboring regions. It is one of the largest online biographical databases in the world, now with over 1,200 biographies in continual development. Well-researched essays, accompanied by photos and pre-modern illustrations, document and narrate the lives of Buddhist masters, artists, political officials, prominent women practitioners, and translators. Additionally, the Treasury's dynamic map displays over 900 place names consisting of cultural sites, county seats, and folk regions that can be viewed and searched in phonetics, Tibetan, or Wylie transliteration.

The essays, comprising research by more than one hundred authors, including many preeminent scholars, are based on classical and early-modern Tibetan texts, with reference to current scholarship.
NOTABLE ACQUISITIONS (CONTINUED)

Sources for biographies of modern figures also include oral histories, interviews, popular media, and private archival documents. All content is accompanied by extensive bibliographies of original sources and scholarship. Most essays are peer-reviewed and all include extensive internal and external links to people, institutions, and geographic places with detailed descriptions.

The Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library is proud to be a supporting subscriber to the TOL database, which additionally provides U of T faculty and students with online tutorial and custom mapping tools. For more information, click the holdings link in the UTL Catalog -- or contact Tibetan Studies Librarian, Dr. Lauran Hartley, who jointly serves the University of Toronto faculty and students through a cooperative agreement with the Columbia University Libraries. Her e-mail address is lh2112@columbia.edu.

With English-language entries, faceted searching, and geovisualization tools, the Treasury of Lives database effectively serves as a portal whereby biographical details lead to the discovery of other persons, networks, professions, geographical sites, teaching lineages, and historical periods, as well as religious and social institutions. It also includes direct links to many of the original biographical sources hosted by the Buddhist Digital Resource Center. (L. Hartley)

NEW TIBETAN TITLE:

*Murals of Tibet*

Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library
Call Number: FO-1 00478
(http://go.utlib.ca/cat/13139432)

*Murals of Tibet* comprises an extensive photographic archive of Tibetan Buddhist murals, shot over a ten-year period by Thomas Laird in all corners of the Tibetan plateau and painstakingly reproduced in colour and life-size resolution. The main volume features 498 pages and six fold-outs, all in full colour. The supplementary volume (528 pages, 35 cm) contains the colour images in reduced format with text and explanatory notes by Thomas Laird, Robert A.F. Thurman, Heather Stoddard, Cameron Bailey, and Jakob Winkler.

Left: Dr. Sarah Richardson introduces *Murals of Tibet* to Buddhist Studies conference participants at the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library. Funds for the purchase were provided by the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library. (Photo credit: Dr. Lauran Hartley, Tibetan Studies Librarian)
As a Collector's Edition, the University of Toronto holding is one of just 998 copies in the world, and is unique among academic research libraries in Canada. According to WorldCat, there are just four university holdings in all of North America. The Toronto copy is signed — as are the other limited-edition copies — by His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama. Funds for the acquisition were provided by the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library, which also coordinated the purchase with the publisher in Germany.

This monumental resource was brought to our Library's attention by Dr. Sarah Richardson, an historian of the arts and religions of South Asia at the University of Toronto Mississauga. Having extensively researched the mural paintings at a fourteenth-century Tibetan Buddhist monastery called Shalu for her doctoral work at U of T, Dr. Richardson is especially appreciative of the acquisition: "The Murals of Tibet presents high quality photographs and numerous details of some of the greatest early murals produced in Tibetan temple art. It is a testament and a record to this fantastic artistic tradition, allowing us to see up close details on painted walls that are even hard to see when you are fortunate enough to stand in those temples!"

The main volume weighs in at 60 kg and would stand at 70 cm high if physically possible, but due to its massive size the book arrived with a modular bookstand custom-designed by Shigeru Ban. For logistical purposes, the East Asian Library worked with the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, where the acquisition is preserved and can be accessed with advance request. For more information on the making of the Murals of Tibet, see related presentations on the publisher website. (L. Hartley)

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**LIBRARY UPDATE**

**Updates on EAL Service during the COVID-19 Crisis**

The physical space of the East Asian Library has remained closed since March 17, 2020 due to the COVID-19 outbreak. However, partial access to the EAL collections is now possible, thanks to:

* the HathiTrust Emergency Temporary Access Service (ETAS); and,

* the Robarts Library Curbside Pickup Service, which, starting from June 22, reaches EAL books in the “Stacks” and the (EAL) “Storage”.

Meanwhile, the Library has been working hard to maintain service to the University community during the coronavirus outbreak. Immediately after the COVID-19 library shutdown, it swiftly debuted the EAL Virtual Reference Desk (ZOOM) — if one needs assistance to look for research resources, our staff will meet and serve you at our virtual desk Monday through Friday, between 1-4 p.m. We also handle patron inquiries by email, at ref.eal@utoronto.ca.

Please also find COVID-19 Updates on U of T Library Services and Operations at:

The East Asian Library Newsletter is published twice a year. Please send comments and questions to:

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Photography: The Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library

If you would like to learn more about the library and its upcoming events please visit or follow us at:

https://east.library.utoronto.ca

https://facebook.com/UofTEastAsianLibrary

The cover image is taken from Liu ren tu xiang (六壬圖像) in the Mu Collection (慕氏藏書) of the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library (Photo credit: Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library).