

紙世界：中國晚清烏托邦小說與烏托邦文體的問題

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從中國文學歷史角度來看，新小說是晚清時代最有意思的文化「產品」之一。清朝的最後十年，出現一種很特殊的新小說。這些小說被後來的評論者標上類似名稱，例如「政治小說」、「理想小說」、「烏托邦小說」、「建國小說」等等。當中最著名的作品則有吳趸人《新石頭記》、陸士諤《新中國》、梁啟超《新中國未來記》、蕭然鬱生《烏托邦游記》等。當然，如果從這些小說的內容和風格來看，它們似乎自成一個文類。可是這些「相似處」不足以作為一個文類的定義。文類是一種「啟發式的工具」：通過文類這個工具，可以了解一篇小說與它歷史背景的關係，也可以了解一篇文體的潛台詞和言外之意。特別是在充滿奇特景象的晚清文壇，這樣的類別可能不免是一種累贅，對於了解這些文字的意識型態來源也沒有實際用處。

然而，從文類的角度去討論這些小說，是否仍有用處？如果回答「是」，那麼這個「類別」（烏托邦小說）如何幫助我們了解這些在五四運動前，處於古典文學傳統邊緣的小說，對於中國現代文學的出現有什麼意義？這正是我嘗試要做的。

Paper Worlds: The Late Qing Utopian Novel and the Question of the “Utopian” Genre

The last decade of the Manchu empire saw the emergence of a peculiar “strand” of xiaoshuo, which has been later described and labelled in a variety of similar ways along the lines of “governmental fiction”, “utopian fiction”, “idealistic fiction”, “science fiction”, or “science fantasy”. Indeed those novels published between the years 1902 and 1910 by writers such as Wu Jianren, Lu Shi’e, Bihe Guan Zhuren, Chen Tianhua and Xu Zhiyan present many similarities in style and content, and these similarities may lead us to think of these texts as a coherent literary genre. Yet – we claim – this simple criterion of similarity is not sufficient to define a literary genre, and especially so within the eccentric literary landscape of the late Qing period, because such a critical category would be in the end redundant, tautological and useless for the comprehension of the ideological subtext upon which these texts take form.

Is it useful then to talk about these texts in the terms of a coherent literary genre? And if so, how can such a category (the “utopian novel”) help us to understand the significance and the role of these texts in the creation of the Chinese literary modernity at the margins of the classical tradition and before the May Fourth revolution? With this paper, we will try construct the category of the “utopian novel” as useful heuristic tool for the understanding of the early modernity of Chinese novel.

主講人簡介：

安羅嵐（Lorenzo ANDOLFATTO），義大利籍，現為威尼斯大學（Ca' Foscari University of Venice）中文系博士候選人。安先生主要研究清末民初之際，中國「烏托邦文學」跨時代之交的轉移，以及康有為、梁啟超等人和當時知名小說作家的往來。他本年獲得漢學研究中心獎助，來臺灣研究主題為「顛倒時代：晚清小說與中國國家的發明」。