

The National Central Library and Locus Publishing held a book launch and themed lecture on the afternoon of September 17, 2020, at which National Central Library Director-General Shu-hsien Tseng and Mingyi Hao, Chairman of Locus Publishing, shared the intellectual journey of the reproduction of this precious ancient book. Director-General Tseng emphasized that the reprinting and republication of ancient books could enable the classics in the collection of the National Central Library to be reproduced today—the twenty-first century—with a brand new look. The public could get a glimpse of ancient books. At the same time, it would also facilitate utilization in much overseas sinological research, expanding the depth and breadth of such research. Tseng added that the publication of the *New Edition of the Imperial Tian Yuan Yu Li Xiang Yi Fu* represented the third instance of cooperation between the National Central Library and Locus Publishing. There are many editions of the *Tian Yuan Yu Li Xiang Yi Fu* in the National Central Library collection, she said; the reproduction on the occasion of this collaboration with Locus Publishing was the most complete and beautifully preserved.

At the book launch, Prof. Li was invited to give a lecture titled *The Decryption of Celestial Phenomena: Tian Yuan Yu Li and Contemporary Society*. Prof. Li guided readers towards a comprehensive vision of the beauty of ancient books from rich perspectives, such as those of history, folklore, astronomy, sociology, and philology, and further explained how the ancients viewed these astronomical phenomena, and the social significance and scientific principles behind them.

The *New Edition of the Imperial Tian Yuan Yu Li Xiang Yi Fu* is a three-volume set with an additional appendix volume. In addition to a comparative table by Prof. Li comparing five editions of *Tian Yuan Yu Li*, it also provides 15 links to editions related to the work that can be read at home and abroad, bringing the classics to life and facilitating their enjoyment and the

reader's absorption in them.



The reprinted New Edition of the Imperial Tian Yuan Yu Li Xiang Yi Fu is bound and presented as a three-volume, four-in-one set.

■ “Love Is Our Guide”: Yang Mu’s Life and Literature

In March 2020, the poet Yang Mu passed away, sending shockwaves through literary circles in Taiwan. To remember this treasured poet, National Central Library and Trend Education Foundation co-planned and held a series of events throughout the month of September, called “Love Is Our Guide”: Yang Mu’s Life and Literature. Specific events included an exhibition on “Yang Mu’s Life and Literature,” poetics theater and a lecture called “Remembering Yang Mu,” and viewing the documentary “Towards the Completion of a Poem.” The public was invited to NCL to view the exhibition and to attend the other events. Together everyone was able to remember the style of this great man of letters and his creative works which have already become classics.

Opening Ceremony and Press Conference

On August 31, an opening ceremony and press conference was held in NCL’s Reading Room. In addition to inviting representatives from the Ministry of Culture, the Cultural Affairs Bureau (Department), public libraries to attend, invitations were also sent to Yang Mu’s wife, Mrs. Ying-ying Hsia, their son Chang-ming Wang, a close friend Bi-jung Yeh, and many noted poets and authors including Chun-ming Huang, Yang Zhao, Xiang Yang, Winway Xu, and Yang Ze. Together everyone

paid their respects style of this great man of letters and his creative works which have already become classics. NCL Deputy Director-General Ying-mei Wu during her remarks stated that NCL previously collaborated with Trend Education Foundation to host a series of events entitled “A 2014 Salute to Yang Mu.” It was very well received, so the two organizations have come back together to pay their respects again to this literary giant and express their most deeply felt gratitude.

Special Exhibition

The special exhibition “Yang Mu’s Life and Literature” was held in the reading room at NCL from September 1-30. It was comprised of four parts: 1. Yang Mu’s pictures, 2. Yang Mu’s manuscripts, 3. Yang Mu’s published works, and 4. a video remembering Yang Mu.

Poetics Theater

In Remembrance of Yang Mu: A Poetic Theater Production was held on September 5 at NCL’s Lecture Hall. Two performances were given. The Poetic Theater was planned by Trend Education Foundation and Yang Mu’s family members. Many contemporary poets, musicians, and stage actors were invited to read his poems in conjunction with music, dance, and videos to interpret Yang Mu’s many representative poems. Together they remembered this legendary poet.

Lecture

The lecture by Yang Zhao occurred on September 12 in the Lecture Hall at NCL. The theme of the lecture was “A Real, Shocking, and Lonely Moment: Exploring Yang Mu’s Emotive Style.” Yang Zhao explained in detail the different poetic styles Yang Mu exhibited from when he first started writing as a 16-year-old to when he was old. It was told in sentimental, expressive manner. He led the audience through an explanation of Yang Mu’s literary philosophy and helped writers in Chinese focus on an even wider cultural vision. The audience actively participated in the lecture.

Viewing of Documentary

The documentary on Yang Mu’s literature “Toward the Completion of a Poem” was shown in the Briefing Room at NCL a total of 19 times during September. The documentary is 75 minutes in length and starts with Yang Mu reading one of his poems. It then traces the life of a literary giant, narrating and documenting different stages of his life. The result is an even deeper appreciation when rereading his writings.



Professor Xianren Chen gives a guided tour of the exhibition.



A view of the exhibition “Yang Mu’s Life and Literature”.

Events

■ Reading for Freedom Is Held at NCL

From August 20 to 21, 2020, the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT) and the National Central Library jointly held two Reading for Freedom series of activities. On the afternoon of the 20th, at the launch and post-screening symposium of the film *Ten Years*, the two guests—Sunflower Movement student leader and Deputy Secretary-