



updated 10/28/19

October 28-31, 2019  
New England College  
Henniker, NH

*Poetry Bridging Continents IV: "Rivers ... were made in heaven" R. Frost* is a four day international gathering open to the public at New England College that brings together New England and leading Chinese New Pastoral poets, scholars, and cultural ambassadors to explore ways to build bridges between two distinct cultures and communities using Pastoral Poetry and literary scholarship as a guide.

The symposium continues the alternating annual gatherings between American and Chinese poets and scholars in the New England region and in China that builds upon the environmental creativity of the New Pastoral scholarship which the Twenty-first Century has birthed on both sides of the Pacific Ocean. The New Pastoral Poetry is evolving in the 21st Century into the poetry of The Anthropocene: The geologic period when human activity is the dominant force on the planet's environment. Pastoral Poetry's central focus is concerned with the ways language can be used to preserve and care for natural landscapes, history, and place, in times of human-induced change—a common need for both cultures to address.

For additional Information please contact: Maura MacNeil: [mmacneil@nec.edu](mailto:mmacneil@nec.edu) or Rodger Martin: [rodgerwriter@myfairpoint.net](mailto:rodgerwriter@myfairpoint.net)



The symposium is made possible through the support of the Division of Humanities at New England College, the Monadnock Writers' Group, the Highland Center of the Appalachian Mountain Club, the New Hampshire Poetry Society, and the Worcester County Poetry Association

## Schedule of Events at New England College

All New England College events take place in the Simon Center Great Room and are free and open to the public.

### Monday October 28

#### **9:30-11:30: Opening Renga Ceremony**

Renga is a call and response form of collaborative poetry including both written text and brush strokes. The thematic elements of the poem are focused on images and ideas about the natural world. Participants will be in groups and led by a Renga Master poet and will create a Renga presentation poem with others that will be displayed throughout the duration of the symposium.

**Note:** Spaces are limited for the participation in the Renga Ceremony. Please contact Rodger Martin or Maura MacNeil at least two weeks prior to the symposium to secure a space: [rodgerwriters@myfairpoint.net](mailto:rodgerwriters@myfairpoint.net) or [mmacneil@nec.edu](mailto:mmacneil@nec.edu)

#### **11:45-12:45 Lunch**

#### **1:00-1:30: Welcoming Remarks**

#### **1:30-2:45: Panel Discussion One: *From the Shepherd to the Planet: New Pastoral Poetry***

**Participants:** Mark Long, Keene State College, Gene McCarthy, College of the Holy Cross, emeritus; Poets: Susan Roney-O'Brien, Claire Golding, Maura MacNeil, and Rodger Martin

**Moderator:** Kate McIntyre: Editor, *Worcester Review*

#### **2:45-3:00: Break/Refreshments**

#### **3:00-4:15: Panel Discussion Two: *The Arc of Poetry***

**Presenter:** Chen Yihai is Professor and Dean of the Department of Social Studies at Yancheng Teachers University and widely published poet. He is a member of the Chinese Writers Association and Chair of the Association of Critics of Yancheng.

#### **4:30: Closing Tea Ceremony**

Tuesday October 29

**9:30-10:45: Panel Discussion Three: *Collecting and Preserving Poetry***

**Presenters:**

Rodney Obien: Archivist, Keene State College; Chelsea Hanrahan: Director of the Raymond Danforth Library, New England College; Yue Qi: Vice-Chairman of the Federation of Literature & Arts of Taicang and Director of the Taicang Art Gallery; Kate McIntyre: Editor, *Worcester Review*

**Moderator:** Rodger Martin

**Translator:** Benjamin Landauer

**11:00-11:45: Panel Discussion Four: *Chinese Calligraphy and Chinese Poetry***

**Presenter: Zi Chuan** is a writer and the director of the Poetry Work Committee of Jiangsu Writers Association and a Council member of Jiangsu Writers Association. He serves as the Vice President of the Chinese Poetics Research Association of Jiangsu Province and is a member of Chinese Writers Association as well as a council member of China Poetry Society.

**Translator:** Chen Yihai

**11:50-1:00: Lunch**

**1:00-1:45: Panel Discussion Five: *The "flower" Images in Li Qizhao's Poetry***

**Presenter: Wang Yuqin** is a professor of creative writing of Yancheng Teachers University. She is currently chairing a project of the National Social Science Fund.

**Translator:** Benjamin Landauer

**2:00-3:15: Student Poetry Performance**

**Poets:** Rebecca Curtis, Bonnie Shinn and Cai Yingming

**3:30:** Tea and Closing Remarks

**7:30-8:30: Poetry Reading of Chinese and American Poets**

Bu Lanchen, Terry Farish, Benjamin Landauer, Jennifer Militello, Zi Chuan, Henry Walters, and Chen Yihai,

## Wednesday October 30

### **9:30-10:45: Calligraphy Demonstration by leading calligrapher poets from China**

Participants will have the opportunity to learn about the art of calligraphy and practice the techniques with ink on paper.

**Note: Spaces are limited for the participation in the Calligraphy Demonstration. Please contact Rodger Martin or Maura MacNeil at least two weeks prior to the symposium to secure a space: [rodgerwriters@myfairpoint.net](mailto:rodgerwriters@myfairpoint.net) or [mmacneil@nec.edu](mailto:mmacneil@nec.edu)**

### **7:30-8:30: Reading of American and Chinese Poets**

John Hodgen, Andrew Morgan, Claire Golding, Yue Qui (Stacey), and Susan Roney-O'Brien,

## Thursday October 31

### **9:00-9:50: Panel Discussion Six: Writing the Anthropocene: Language as Ecological Consciousness**

#### **Participants:**

William Homestead, Associate Professor in Communication Studies; Mark Long, Professor of English at Keene State College; Jennifer Militello, Poet and Director of the New England College MFA program; Benjamin Landauer, student and Chinese scholar, Harvard University

**Moderator:** Maura MacNeil

**Translator:** Chen Yihai

### **10:00-10:50: Panel Discussion Seven: Final Reflections**

**Participants:** American and Chinese Poets

**Moderator:** Mark Long

AMC Highland Center Events  
Highland Center at Crawford Notch  
Bretton Woods, NH

Thursday October 31

7:30-9:00: **Poetry Reading with White Mountain and Chinese Poets**

Poets: Maudelle Driskell, Jake Rivers, Liz Ahl, Yue Qui, Cai Yingming

Translator: Benjamin Landauer and Chen Yihai

Friday November 1<sup>st</sup>

10:00-10:45 am: **Art of the White Mountains**

Presenter: Inez McDermott, Professor of Art History

7:30-9:00 pm: **Evening Poetry Reading with American and Chinese Poets**

Poets: Rodger Martin, Maura MacNeil, Susan Roney-O'Brien, Bu Lan Chen, Zi Chuan,  
Chen Yihai

Translator: Benjamin Landauer