

# Institute for Chinese Studies Lecture

From Yuan Opera to Modern Murder Mystery:  
Adapting Guan Hanqing's "The Injustice to Dou E"  
for the Royal Shakespeare Company

**50**  
1969–2019  
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Friday, March 27, 4-5:30 pm  
Mendenhall Lab 115

Frances Ya-Chu Cowhig  
and Gigi Chang

In 2016 the UK's Royal Shakespeare Company commissioned US based playwright Frances Ya-Chu Cowhig and China based translator Gigi Chang to collaborate on an adaptation of Guan Hanqing's Yuan opera "The Injustice to Dou E That Moved Heaven and Earth." The results of their collaboration, the contemporary play "Snow in Midsummer," had its world premiere at the Royal Shakespeare Company in 2017 and its US premiere at the Oregon Shakespeare Company in 2018. In this playwright and translator talk, the collaborators will discuss their approaches to their respective work on the project and share images from productions of Guan's original play and Cowhig's adaptation.

**Frances Ya-Chu Cowhig** is an internationally produced playwright who has spent the past decade completing a trilogy of theatrical works [The World of Extreme Happiness, Snow in Midsummer, The King of Hell's Palace] that are set in contemporary China and explore global capitalism and intergenerational trauma.

**Gigi Chang** translates Chinese theatre and fiction into English. Her translations include Jin Yong's martial arts novel series Legends of the Condor Heroes (MacLehose Press/St Martin's Press), classical Chinese dramas for the Royal Shakespeare Company and contemporary Chinese plays for London's Royal Court Theatre, Hong Kong Arts Festival and Shanghai Dramatic Arts Centre.



Free and open to the public  
[easc.osu.edu/events/ics/cowhig-chang](http://easc.osu.edu/events/ics/cowhig-chang)

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