

## Dr Lucas Klein Book Launch:

### *The Organization of Distance: Poetry, Translation, Chineseness*

#### *Li Shangyin*

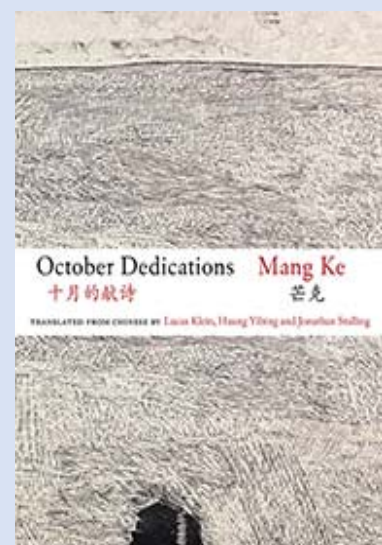
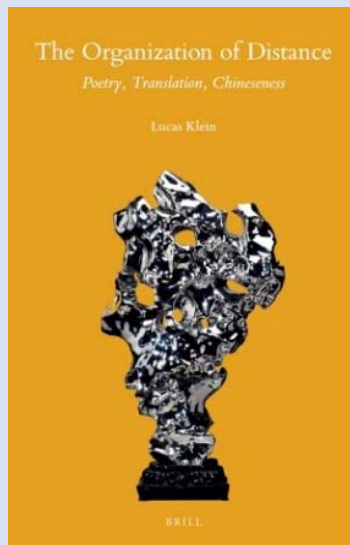
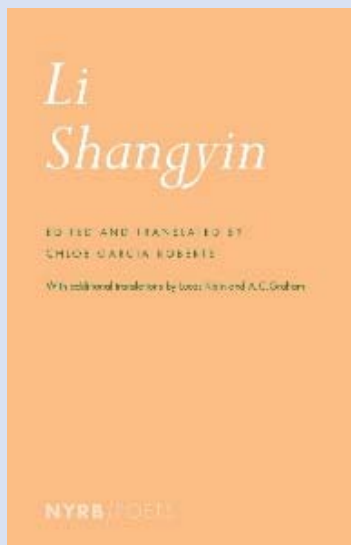
#### *October Dedications: Selected Poems of Mang Ke*

時間 Time: 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Monday 8 October, 2018

地點 Venue: Room 730, Run Run Shaw Tower, Centennial Campus, The University of Hong Kong



**Dr Lucas Klein** is Assistant Professor in the School of Chinese at the University of Hong Kong. A writer, translator, and editor, his work has appeared in *Jacket*, *Rain Taxi*, *CLEAR*, and *PMLA*, and from Fordham, *Black Widow*, and *New Directions* his translation *Notes on the Mosquito: Selected Poems of Xi Chuan* won the 2013 Lucien Stryk Prize.



What makes a Chinese poem “Chinese”? Some call modern Chinese poetry insufficiently Chinese, saying it is so influenced by foreign texts that it has lost the essence of Chinese culture as known in premodern poetry. Yet that argument overlooks how premodern regulated verse was itself created in imitation of foreign poetics. Looking at Bian Zhilin and Yang Lian in the twentieth century alongside medieval Chinese poets such as Wang Wei, Du Fu, and Li Shangyin, *The Organization of Distance* applies the notions of foreignization and nativization to Chinese poetry to argue that the impression of poetic Chineseness has long been a product of translation, from forces both abroad and in the past.

*All are welcome*