

Editor's Note

We are pleased to publish the June 2019 issue of *Acta Koreana*, Vol. 22, No. 1. This issue contains six general articles that explore diverse topics related to contemporary literature, art, and history. Specifically, Christopher Hanscom's article explores "border-crossing" between reality and fantasy in modern Korean fiction, while Kimberly Chung's article analyzes eco-critical connections between visual art and literature. In the following articles, Lee Seunghye defines the changing tradition in Buddhist art, and Seo Yoonjung examines the localization of Western painting techniques in Korean art. Loughlin Sweeney's article discovers early modern Korea portrayed in the travelogues of British officials, and Konstantin Tertitski and Fyodor Tertitskiy's article traces the hagiography of a North Korean leader in Russian and Chinese archives. These articles illuminate not only the breadth and depth of research on Korean culture and history but also the growth of interdisciplinary and inter-regional research in the field of Korean studies.

Beyond the general article section, this issue of *Acta Koreana* offers two longer fiction translations and a long work of non-fiction. Ch'oe Chinyŏng's "Where Exactly," translated by Bonnie Tilland, and Kim Munsu's "Boiled Cat," translated by Daniel Jacinto, are two stories which play around with the idea of the instability of human time. Although each takes place during different historical periods, they both utilize repetition as a device to obscure and disrupt linear temporality. Structurally this reinforces the symbolic chaos each protagonist encounters in their world. Although written in an entirely different mode, Bruce and Ju-Chan Fulton's translation of *The Journal of Chang Inmyŏng* also squeezes and stretches time as one man recalls the disorienting path of his immigration to the United States. This issue concludes with three book reviews. They are Yoon Sung Yang's *From Domestic Women to Sensitive Young Men: Translating the Individual in Early Colonial Korea*, and Ji-Yeon O. Jo's *Homing: An Affective Topography of Ethnic Korean Return Migration*, and *Premodern: Korean Literary Prose: An Anthology*, edited by Michael F. Pettid, Gregory N. Evon, and Chan E. Park.

After a transition to new editorial team in December, we hope to continue our effort to improve manuscript management and reach out to a wider audience, both online and offline. We look forward to providing scholars and readers with intellectually stimulating topics by accommodating theme issue proposals and translations of pre-modern, modern, and contemporary literature.

Finally, we would like to express our sincerest gratitude to all the contributors to this issue, our in-house editorial team, members of our editorial board and advisory board, and

external peer- reviewers for all of their help. We would to especially thank our editorial assistant, Dain Kim, who will be leaving *Acta Koreana* after this issue, for all her hard work. We also would like to give thanks to our publisher, President Synn Ilhi, and the administration of Keimyung University, for their continued, generous support of the publication of this journal. Now we turn toward editing the December 2019 issue. This issue will include the theme issue “Good and Evil in Korean Philosophy, Religion and Spirituality.” We look forward to continue working with Dr. Edward Chung at the University of Prince Edward Island, who will be guest-editing the theme issue.

The Editorial Staff