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Co-Creativity in Chinese Art

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Modern Languages and Literatures

Invites you to

“Co-creativity in Chinese Art”

a presentation by

He Jinli

Trinity University

This paper explores the process of creativity in Chinese art. Chinese artists not only “create” their works, but are “created by” them, in an interactive relationship with both the object and the viewer. This mode of artistic creation is related to the Chinese philosophical tradition, especially the concepts of qi (“vital energy”) and li (“principle”), expressed most prominently by the Neo-Confucian school of the Song Dynasty. He Jinli examines this idea of artistic “co-creativity” in traditional landscape painting as well as modern-day expressions in contemporary visual art and performance art. In traditional landscape painting, “shifting perspective” and “moving perspective” (in contrast to the fixed or determined perspective of Western pastoral scenes) break down the barriers between the artist and the natural world, and invite the viewer into the work. In contemporary art, the boundaries of “artist and work” as well as “work and viewer” are broken completely, in a way reminiscent of traditional works created centuries ago.

Presentation will be:

Friday, February 27

4:15 pm

410 Rhodes Tower

(Reception will follow)