

CHINA CROSSROADS

Tuesday, May 19th, 2026, 19:30 – 21:00

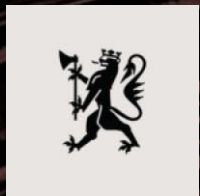
The China Eastern Railway: Condensing History into Poetry and Translating into Norwegian

Han Bo

Poet, Artist, Novelist, Playwright, Travel Writer, Curator

Heidi Berg

Norwegian Translator of Han Bo

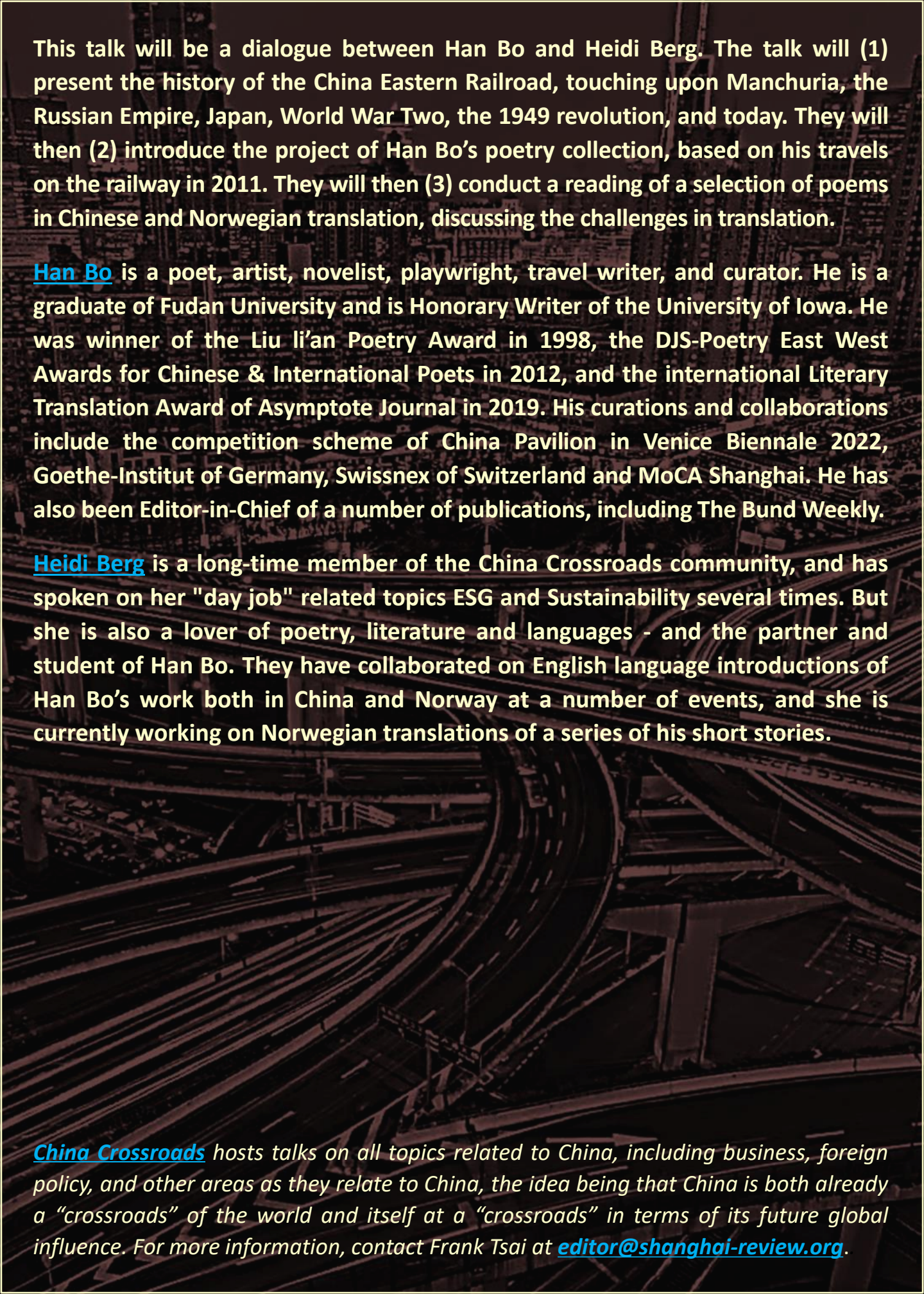


Supported by:

Royal Norwegian Consulate General
Shanghai

Norwegian CG's residence provided to RSVPs only
150rmb admission with drink | FREE for members
Scan to RSVP or email editor@shanghai-review.org





This talk will be a dialogue between Han Bo and Heidi Berg. The talk will (1) present the history of the China Eastern Railroad, touching upon Manchuria, the Russian Empire, Japan, World War Two, the 1949 revolution, and today. They will then (2) introduce the project of Han Bo's poetry collection, based on his travels on the railway in 2011. They will then (3) conduct a reading of a selection of poems in Chinese and Norwegian translation, discussing the challenges in translation.

[Han Bo](#) is a poet, artist, novelist, playwright, travel writer, and curator. He is a graduate of Fudan University and is Honorary Writer of the University of Iowa. He was winner of the Liu li'an Poetry Award in 1998, the DJS-Poetry East West Awards for Chinese & International Poets in 2012, and the international Literary Translation Award of Asymptote Journal in 2019. His curations and collaborations include the competition scheme of China Pavilion in Venice Biennale 2022, Goethe-Institut of Germany, Swissnex of Switzerland and MoCA Shanghai. He has also been Editor-in-Chief of a number of publications, including The Bund Weekly.

[Heidi Berg](#) is a long-time member of the China Crossroads community, and has spoken on her "day job" related topics ESG and Sustainability several times. But she is also a lover of poetry, literature and languages - and the partner and student of Han Bo. They have collaborated on English language introductions of Han Bo's work both in China and Norway at a number of events, and she is currently working on Norwegian translations of a series of his short stories.

[China Crossroads](#) hosts talks on all topics related to China, including business, foreign policy, and other areas as they relate to China, the idea being that China is both already a "crossroads" of the world and itself at a "crossroads" in terms of its future global influence. For more information, contact Frank Tsai at editor@shanghai-review.org.