

Keynote Speaker

Xu Xi

City University of Hong Kong



Xu Xi, Photo by Paul Hilton

Venue: AG710 9:15am – 10:00am

Topic: The Writer at Work

Abstract

Let's NOT talk about inspiration. The most perplexing part about being "a writer" is how often you're asked what inspires you. To write fiction or essays - the two genres that chose this writer - is less about waiting for the Muse (who, like Godot, doesn't make unscheduled appearances) and far more about finding words for this mysterious thing called life. After all, what else is there (really?) to think about, and hence, write about, other than this puzzle, this conundrum, this one truly universal dilemma we all share? Existence, however we each experience it, that is our Human Condition?

Biodata

XU XI www.xuxiwriter.com is author of nine books of fiction and creative non-fiction, and editor of three anthologies of Hong Kong writing in English. Most recent titles are *Access Thirteen Tales*, the novel *Habit of a Foreign Sky* and an essay collection *Evanescent Isles: from my city-village*. She is currently Writer-in-Residence at the Department of English, City University of Hong Kong, where she directs Asia's first, international, low-residency MFA (Masters of Fine Arts) in creative writing www.english.cityu.edu.hk/mfa/. She holds a MFA in fiction from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.