

# Li Po And Tu Fu Poems Selected And Translated With An Introduction And Notes

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Selected Poems of Du Fu 2003-03-17 Du Fu (712–777) has been called China's greatest poet, and some call him the greatest nonepic, nondramatic poet whose writings survive in any language. Du Fu excelled in a great variety of poetic forms, showing a richness of language ranging from elegant to colloquial, from allusive to direct. His impressive breadth of subject matter includes intimate personal detail as well as a great deal of historical information—which earned him the epithet "poet-historian." Some 1,400 of Du Fu's poems survive today, his fame resting on about one hundred that have been widely admired over the centuries. Preeminent translator Burton Watson has selected 127 poems, including those for which Du Fu is best remembered and lesser-known works.

Three Chinese Poets Vikram Seth 1993-09-29 The three T'ang dynasty poets translated here are among the greatest literary figures of China, or indeed the world. Responding differently to their common times, Wang Wei, Li Bai, and Du Fu crystallize the immense variety of China and the Chinese poetic tradition and,

across a distance of twelve hundred years, move the reader as it is rare for even poetry to do.

Selected Poems of Su Tung-p'o Shi Su 1994 Gathers poems about travel, nature, daily life, friendship, and exile by the eleventh-century Chinese poet, who wrote under the name Su Tung-p'o.

Classical Chinese Poetry David Hinton 2014-06-10 With this groundbreaking collection, translated and edited by the renowned poet and translator David Hinton, a new generation will be introduced to the work that riveted Ezra Pound and transformed modern poetry. The Chinese poetic tradition is the largest and longest continuous tradition in world literature, and this rich and far-reaching anthology of nearly five hundred poems provides a comprehensive account of its first three millennia (1500 BCE to 1200 CE), the period during which virtually all its landmark developments took place. Unlike earlier anthologies of Chinese poetry, Hinton's book focuses on a relatively small number of poets, providing selections that are large enough to re-create each as a fully realized and unique voice. New introductions to each poet's work provide a readable history, told for the first time as a series of poetic innovations forged by a series of master poets. From the classic texts of Chinese philosophy to intensely personal lyrics, from love poems to startling and strange perspectives on nature, Hinton has collected an entire world

of beauty and insight. And in his eye-opening translations, these ancient poems feel remarkably fresh and contemporary, presenting a literature both radically new and entirely resonant, in *Classical Chinese Poetry*.

Wang Wei, Li Po, Tu Fu, Li Ho Wei Wang 1980

Three Tang Dynasty Poets 2015-02-26 'Can I bear to leave these blue hills?' A generous selection from three of the greatest and most enjoyable of Chinese poets

Introducing Little Black Classics: 80 books for Penguin's 80th birthday. Little Black Classics celebrate the huge range and diversity of Penguin Classics, with books from around the world and across many centuries. They take us from a balloon ride over Victorian London to a garden of blossom in Japan, from Tierra del Fuego to 16th century California and the Russian steppe. Here are stories lyrical and savage; poems epic and intimate; essays satirical and inspirational; and ideas that have shaped the lives of millions. Wang Wei (roughly 699-761). Wang Wei's Poems is available in Penguin Classics. Li Po (701-762). Tu Fu (712-770). Li Po and Tu Fu is available in Penguin Classics.

Poems Li Po 2015-07-30 Li Po (AD 701-62) and Tu Fu (AD 712-70) were devoted friends who are traditionally considered to be among China's greatest poets. Li Po, a legendary carouser, was an itinerant poet whose writing, often dream poems or spirit-journeys, soars to sublime heights in its descriptions of natural scenes and

powerful emotions. His sheer escapism and joy is balanced by Tu Fu, who expresses the Confucian virtues of humanity and humility in more autobiographical works that are imbued with great compassion and earthy reality, and shot through with humour. Together these two poets of the T'ang dynasty complement each other so well that they often came to be spoken of as one - 'Li-Tu' - who covers the whole spectrum of human life, experience and feeling.

Poems of Dufu Du Du Fu 2016-12-13 This is a bilingual book containing the poems of Du Fu in both Mandarin and English. Ideal for language students, Asia enthusiasts or readers who just want to get closer to the original material, explore these masterpieces of poetry in two languages. Du Fu (712-770) is widely regarded as one of the greatest Eastern poets. As China's 'poet historian,' he brings to life the world of ancient China and the flourishing culture of the Tang Dynasty. Volume I contains a selection of poems from 750-759 A.D.

????? Zu-yan Chen 2008 Returning to a Chinese tradition that locates poetry at the heart of education, "Li Bai & Du Fu: An Advanced Reader of Chinese Language and Literature" offers an innovative approach to studying the writings of China's most revered classical poets. Twenty-six poems of Li and Du in the original, classical Chinese are accompanied by a short essay of analysis and appreciation in contemporary Chinese, to encourage students to assimilate the

subtleties of both contemporary and classical Chinese language. Also available are biographical and historical background in both Chinese and English, exercises in translation and comprehension, and indexed vocabulary.

The Selected Poems of Tu Fu: Expanded and Newly Translated by David Hinton

Tu Fu 2020-03-03 A new and substantially expanded version of Hinton's landmark translation of Tu Fu, published on the thirtieth anniversary of that original edition A newly translated and substantially expanded version of Hinton's landmark Tu Fu, published on the thirtieth anniversary of the original edition Tu Fu (712–770 C.E.) has for a millennium been widely considered the greatest poet in the Chinese tradition, and Hinton's original translation played a key role in developing that reputation in America. Most of Tu Fu's best poems were written in the last decade of his life, as an impoverished refugee fleeing the devastation of civil war. In the midst of these challenges, his always personal poems manage to combine a remarkable range of possibilities: elegant simplicity and great complexity, everyday life and grand historical drama, private philosophical depth and social engagement in a world consumed by war. Through it all, his is a wisdom that can only be called elemental, and his poems sound remarkably contemporary: Leaving the City It's bone-bitter cold, and late, and falling frost traces my gaze all bottomless skies. Smoke trails out over distant salt mines. Snow-covered peaks slant shadows east.

Armies haunt my homeland still, and war drums throb in this far-off place. A guest overnight here in this river city, I return again to shrieking crows, my old friends.

Tu Fu Feng Chih 2004-12-01 This volume is published in commemoration of the 1,250th birthday of Tu Fu, one of China's greatest poets who lived in the Tang Dynasty (618-907 A.D.). Tu Fu was a contemporary and equal of Li Po, widely known in the West. In the minds of many Chinese people he is even greater. Both glorified their days, the golden age of classical Chinese poetry, with writings of unmatched brilliance. It was a time of great turmoil, a time when the Tang rule was declining and wars of aggression swept the country. Tu Fu, born of an intelligentsia family, sank to the lowest rung of the social ladder. He shared the lot of the common folk and therefore had a deep insight into the calamities and sufferings in which they were involved. He hated wars of aggression and longed for peace. He made his poetry a vehicle for the expression of his sympathy for the people, as well as a faithful account of his own tragedy. His poems have been cherished with ever-growing admiration. In 1962, Tu Fu was commemorated as one of the World's Cultural Giants. Feng Chih, the compiler of this book, is a professor of Peking University and the outstanding specialist on Tu Fu's works. His other collection of Tu Fu's works, containing 264 poems, is popular reading among Chinese lovers of poetry. The translator Rewi Alley, himself a poet from New Zealand, has been in

China for more than thirty years. He has travelled widely in northwestern and southwestern China and has personally seen the mountains, rivers, cities and countryside mentioned by Tu Fu. He is most qualified for the translation of Tu Fu's poems. The present volume contains 140 of Tu Fu's poems written at various periods of his life, some of them already widely read. Additional features include the reproductions of the rubbing of a stone carving of Tu Fu's portrait, facsimiles of Tu Fu's works printed in the Sung and Yuan Dynasties, and paintings inspired by the poems.

#### Tu Fu 1974

Chinese Poetic Writing François Cheng 2017-03-15 Chinese Poetic Writing has been considered by many to be one of the most innovative studies of Chinese poetry. Cheng illustrates his text with an annotated anthology of 135 poems from the golden age of Tang Dynasty, featuring lively translations of the works of Tu Fu, Li Po, Wang Wei and other poets. The 1982 translation, based on the original French 1977 edition has been greatly expanded by Cheng with many new additions.

Facing the Moon Bai Li 2007 Keith Holyoak's translations achieve high level of literary excellency while conveying a real sense of the originals, by favorite 8th

century poets Li Bai and Du Fu. Original Chinese calligraphy is on opposite pages. The Selected Poems of Wang Wei Wang 2006 A selection of definitive works by the acclaimed eighth-century Chinese writer offers insight into his mastery of the short imagistic landscape poem, his assiduous practice of Zen Buddhism, and ability to convey philosophical and sensory concepts in a style that has remained accessible to subsequent generations. Original.

The Late Poems of Meng Chiao Meng Chiao 2020-09-01 Late in life, Meng Chiao (A.D. 751--814) developed an experimental poetry of virtuosic beauty, a poetry that anticipated landmark developments in the modern Western tradition by a millennium. With the T'ang Dynasty crumbling, Meng's later work employed surrealist and symbolist techniques as it turned to a deep introspection. This is truly major work-- work that may be the most radical in the Chinese tradition. And though written more than a thousand years ago, it is remarkably fresh and contemporary. But, in spite of Meng's significance, this is the first volume of his poetry to appear in English. Until the age of forty, Meng Chiao lived as a poet-recluse associated with Ch'an (Zen) poet-monks in south China. He then embarked on a rather unsuccessful career as a government official. Throughout this time, his poetry was decidedly mediocre, conventional verse inevitably undone by his penchant for the strange and surprising. After his retirement, Meng

developed the innovative poetry translated in this book. His late work is singular not only for its bleak introspection and "avant-garde" methods, but also for its dimensions: in a tradition typified by the short lyric poem, this work is made up entirely of large poetic sequences.

The Selected Poems of Po Chü-i Chü-i Pai 1999 Po Chu-i (772-846 C.E.) is the quintessential Chinese poet. For although clear thought and depth of wisdom inform the work of all major Chinese poets (as opposed to the complexity and virtuosity often valued in the West), Po makes clarity itself his particular vision. A Study Guide for Li Po's "Drinking Alone Beneath the Moon" Gale, Cengage Learning A Study Guide for Li Po's "Drinking Alone Beneath the Moon," excerpted from Gale's acclaimed Poetry for Students. This concise study guide includes plot summary; character analysis; author biography; study questions; historical context; suggestions for further reading; and much more. For any literature project, trust Poetry for Students for all of your research needs.

Awakened Cosmos David Hinton 2019-10-15 A deep and radically original exploration of Taoist and Ch'an (Zen) Buddhist wisdom through the lens of the life and work of Tu Fu, widely considered China's greatest classical poet. What is consciousness but the Cosmos awakened to itself? This question is fundamental to the Taoist and Ch'an (Zen) Buddhist worldview that shapes classical Chinese

poetry. A uniquely conceived biography, *Awakened Cosmos* illuminates that worldview through the life and work of Tu Fu (712-770 C.E.), China's greatest classical poet. Tu Fu's writing traces his life from periods of relative normalcy to years spent as an impoverished refugee amid the devastation of civil war. Exploring key poems to guide the reader through Tu Fu's dramatic life, *Awakened Cosmos* reveals Taoist/Ch'an insight deeply lived across the full range of human experience. Each chapter presents a poem in three stages: first, the original Chinese; then, an English translation in Hinton's masterful style; and finally, a lyrical essay that discusses the untranslatable philosophical dimensions of the poem. The result is nothing short of remarkable: a biography of the Cosmos awakened to itself in the form of a magisterial poet alive in T'ang Dynasty China. Thirty years ago, David Hinton published America's first full-length translation of Tu Fu's work. *Awakened Cosmos* is published simultaneously with a newly translated and substantially expanded version of that landmark translation: *The Selected Poems of Tu Fu: Expanded and Newly Translated (New Directions)*. Five T'ang Poets Wang Wei 1990 Five great poets of the T'ang dynasty (eighth and ninth centuries A.D.) are represented in this collection: Wang Wei, Li Po, Tu Fu, Li Ho, and Li Shang-Yin. Each poet is introduced by the translator and represented by a selection that spans the poet's development and career. These

constitute some of the greatest lyric poems ever written.

Poems [by] Li Po and Tu Fu Selected and Translated with an Introduction and Notes by Arthur Cooper. Chinese Calligraphy by Shui Chien-Tung Li Po 1973  
The Poet Li Po, A.D. 701-762 Arthur Waley 1919

A Little Primer of Tu Fu David Hawkes 2016-06-21 The deepest and most varied of the Tang Dynasty poets, Tu Fu (Du Fu) is, in the words of David Hinton, the “first complete poetic sensibility in Chinese literature.” Tu Fu merged the public and the private, often in the same poem, as his subjects ranged from the horrors of war to the delights of friendship, from closely observed landscapes to remembered dreams, from the evocation of historical moments to a wry lament over his own thinning hair. Although Tu Fu has been translated often, and often brilliantly, David Hawkes’s classic study, first published in 1967, is the only book that demonstrates in depth how his poems were written. Hawkes presents thirty-five poems in the original Chinese, with a pinyin transliteration, a character-by-character translation, and a commentary on the subject, the form, the historical background, and the individual lines. There is no other book quite like it for any language: a nuts-and-bolts account of how Chinese poems in general, and specifically the poems of one of the world’s greatest poets, are constructed. It’s an irresistible challenge for

readers to invent their own translations.

One Hundred Poems from the Chinese Kenneth Rexroth 1971-01-17 The lyrical world of Chinese poetry in faithful translations by Kenneth Rexroth. The lyric poetry of Tu Fu ranks with the greatest in all world literature. Across the centuries—Tu Fu lived in the T'ang Dynasty (731-770)—his poems come through to us with an immediacy that is breathtaking in Kenneth Rexroth's English versions. They are as simple as they are profound, as delicate as they are beautiful. Thirty-five poems by Tu Fu make up the first part of this volume. The translator then moves on to the Sung Dynasty (10th-12th centuries) to give us a number of poets of that period, much of whose work was not previously available in English. Mei Yao Ch'en, Su Tung P'o, Lu Yu, Chu Hsi, Hsu Chao, and the poetesses Li Ch'iang Chao and Chu Shu Chen. There is a general introduction, biographical and explanatory notes on the poets and poems, and a bibliography of other translations of Chinese poetry.

The Poetry of Du Fu Stephen Owen 2015-11-13 The Complete Poetry of Du Fu presents a complete scholarly translation of Chinese literature alongside the original text in a critical edition. The English translation is more scholarly than vernacular Chinese translations, and it is compelled to address problems that even the best traditional commentaries overlook. The main body of the text is a facing page translation and critical edition of the earliest Song editions and other sources.

For convenience the translations are arranged following the sequence in Qiu Zhao'an's *Du shi xiangzhu* (although Qiu's text is not followed). Basic footnotes are included when the translation needs clarification or supplement. Endnotes provide sources, textual notes, and a limited discussion of problem passages. A supplement references commonly used allusions, their sources, and where they can be found in the translation. Scholars know that there is scarcely a Du Fu poem whose interpretation is uncontested. The scholar may use this as a baseline to agree or disagree. Other readers can feel confident that this is a credible reading of the text within the tradition. A reader with a basic understanding of the language of Chinese poetry can use this to facilitate reading Du Fu, which can present problems for even the most learned reader.

In *Such Hard Times* Yingwu Wei 2009 Presents one hundred fifty poems in Chinese and English translation by a classic eighth-century Chinese poet little known in the West, with explanatory notes accompanying each one.

*Poems Li Po* 1973-07-30 The poems of two of China's most influential classical poets: Tu Fu, called "China's Shakespeare" (BBC), and Li Po, the subject of Ha Jin's *The Banished Immortal* and "China's most beloved poet" (The New Yorker) A Penguin Classic Li Po (AD 701–62) and Tu Fu (AD 712–70) were devoted friends who are traditionally considered to be among China's greatest poets. Li Po, a

legendary carouser, was an itinerant poet whose writing, often dream poems or spirit-journeys, soars to sublime heights in its descriptions of natural scenes and powerful emotions. His sheer escapism and joy is balanced by Tu Fu, who expresses the Confucian virtues of humanity and humility in more autobiographical works that are imbued with great compassion and earthy reality, and shot through with humour. Together these two poets of the T'ang dynasty complement each other so well that they often came to be spoken of as one – 'Li-Tu' – who covers the whole spectrum of human life, experience and feeling. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

Poems of the Late T'ang 2008-01-22 Classical Chinese poetry reached its pinnacle during the T'ang Dynasty (618-907 A.D.), and the poets of the late T'ang—a period of growing political turmoil and violence—are especially notable for combining striking formal innovation with raw emotional intensity. A. C. Graham's slim but indispensable anthology of late T'ang poetry begins with Tu Fu, commonly

recognized as the greatest Chinese poet of all, whose final poems and sequences lament the pains of exile in images of crystalline strangeness. It continues with the work of six other masters, including the “cold poet” Meng Chiao, who wrote of retreat from civilization to the remoteness of the high mountains; the troubled and haunting Li Ho, who, as Graham writes, cultivated a “wholly personal imagery of ghosts, blood, dying animals, weeping statues, whirlwinds, the will-o'-the-wisp”; and the shimmeringly strange poems of illicit love and Taoist initiation of the enigmatic Li Shang-yin. Offering the largest selection of these poets’ work available in English in a translation that is a classic in its own right, *Poems of the Late T’ang* also includes Graham’s searching essay “The Translation of Chinese Poetry” as well as helpful notes on each of the poets and on many of the individual poems.

Selected 300 Poems of Chinese Tang Dynasty Bai Li 2016-08-07 Tang Dynasty (AD618-907) is one of most powerful and prosperous dynasties in Chinese history, it is also a great era of cultural development, the prosperity of poems is the most distinctive feature of Tang Dynasty, it is closely associated with the government officials admission examination of the Dynasty as the skill of writing poems is a necessary subject of such examination, so the big poets, such as Li Bai, Du Fu and Bai Juyi, etc, are also government officials, their works reflect their thoughts

and feeling on official careers and real life. Due to the economic prosperity, the ordinary people also have spare time and interest in writing poems, their works are more close to real life and more natural. The poems of Tang Dynasty showcase all respects of social life of the Dynasty. By reading these poems, you will have a better understanding of the character and spirit of the Chinese.

How to Read Chinese Poetry Zong-qi Cai 2008 In this "guided" anthology, experts lead students through the major genres and eras of Chinese poetry from antiquity to the modern time. The volume is divided into 6 chronological sections and features more than 140 examples of the best shi, sao, fu, ci, and qu poems. A comprehensive introduction and extensive thematic table of contents highlight the thematic, formal, and prosodic features of Chinese poetry, and each chapter is written by a scholar who specializes in a particular period or genre. Poems are presented in Chinese and English and are accompanied by a tone-marked romanized version, an explanation of Chinese linguistic and poetic conventions, and recommended reading strategies. Sound recordings of the poems are available online free of charge. These unique features facilitate an intense engagement with Chinese poetical texts and help the reader derive aesthetic pleasure and insight from these works as one could from the original. The companion volume How to Read Chinese Poetry Workbook presents 100 famous

poems (56 are new selections) in Chinese, English, and romanization, accompanied by prose translation, textual notes, commentaries, and recordings. Contributors: Robert Ashmore (Univ. of California, Berkeley); Zong-qi Cai; Charles Egan (San Francisco State); Ronald Egan (Univ. of California, Santa Barbara); Grace Fong (McGill); David R. Knechtges (Univ. of Washington); Xinda Lian (Denison); Shuen-fu Lin (Univ. of Michigan); William H. Nienhauser Jr. (Univ. of Wisconsin); Maija Bell Samei; Jui-lung Su (National Univ. of Singapore); Wendy Swartz (Columbia); Xiaofei Tian (Harvard); Paula Varsano (Univ. of California, Berkeley); Fusheng Wu (Univ. of Utah)

Two Poets View War Lynn Connor 1966

The Collected Poems of Li He Li He 2017-03-28 The definitive collection of works by one of the Tang Dynasty's most eccentric (and badly-behaved) poets, now back in print for the first time in decades. Li He is the bad-boy poet of the late Tang dynasty. He began writing at the age of seven and died at twenty-six from alcoholism or, according to a later commentator, "sexual dissipation," or both. An obscure and unsuccessful relative of the imperial family, he would set out at dawn on horseback, pause, write a poem, and toss the paper away. A servant boy followed him to collect these scraps in a tapestry bag. Long considered far too extravagant and weird for Chinese taste, Li He was virtually excluded from the

poetic canon until the mid-twentieth century. Today, as the translator and scholar Anne M. Birrell, writes, “Of all the Tang poets, even of all Chinese poets, he best speaks for our disconcerting times.” Modern critics have compared him to Rimbaud, Baudelaire, Keats, and Trakl. The Collected Poems of Li He is the only comprehensive selection of his surviving work (most of his poems were reputedly burned by his cousin after his death, for the honor of the family), rendered here in crystalline translations by the noted scholar J. D. Frodsham.

Li Po and Tu Fu Bai Li 1974

The Selected Poems of Tu Fu Fu Du 1989 Translated works of an eight-century Chinese poet, known for his innovations in language and structure

The Banished Immortal Ha Jin 2019-01-15 From the National Book Award-winning author of *Waiting*: a narratively driven, deeply human biography of the Tang dynasty poet Li Bai—also known as Li Po In his own time (701–762), Li Bai's poems—shaped by Daoist thought and characterized by their passion, romance, and lust for life—were never given their proper due by the official literary gatekeepers. Nonetheless, his lines rang out on the lips of court entertainers, tavern singers, soldiers, and writers throughout the Tang dynasty, and his deep desire for a higher, more perfect world gave rise to his nickname, the Banished Immortal. Today, Bai's verses are still taught to China's schoolchildren and recited

at parties and toasts; they remain an inextricable part of the Chinese language. With the instincts of a master novelist, Ha Jin draws on a wide range of historical and literary sources to weave the great poet's life story. He follows Bai from his origins on the western frontier to his ramblings travels as a young man, which were filled with striving but also with merry abandon, as he raised cups of wine with friends and fellow poets. Ha Jin also takes us through the poet's later years—in which he became swept up in a military rebellion that altered the course of China's history—and the mysterious circumstances of his death, which are surrounded by legend. *The Banished Immortal* is an extraordinary portrait of a poet who both transcended his time and was shaped by it, and whose ability to live, love, and mourn without reservation produced some of the most enduring verses.

Li Po and Tu Fu Bai Li 1973

Bright Moon, White Clouds Li Po 2012-06-05 Li Po (701-762) is considered one of the greatest poets to live during the Tang dynasty—what was considered to be the golden age for Chinese poetry. He was also the first Chinese poet to become well known in the West, and he greatly influenced many American poets during the twentieth century. Calling himself the "God of Wine" and known to his patrons as a "fallen immortal," Li Po wrote with eloquence, vividness, and often playfulness, as he extols the joys of nature, wine, and the life of a wandering recluse. Li Po had a

strong social conscience, and he struggled against the hard times of his age. He was inspired by the newly blossoming Zen Buddhism and merged it with the Taoism that he had studied all his life. Though Li Po's love of wine is legendary, the translator, J. P. Seaton, includes poems on a wide range of topics—friendship and love, political criticism, poems written to curry patronage, poems of the spirit—to offer a new interpretation of this giant of Chinese poetry. Seaton offers us a poet who learned hard lessons from a life lived hard and offered his readers these lessons as vivid, lively poetry—as relevant today as it was during the Tang dynasty. Over one thousand poems have been attributed to Li Po, many of them unpublished. This new collection includes poems not available in any other editions.

The Selected Poems of Li Po Bo Li 1996 Gathers poems written by the eighth-century Chinese poet, and briefly discusses his life and influence on Asian poetry  
The Works of Li Po, the Chinese Poet Bai Li 1922

Du Fu Du Fu 2013-08-21 Du Fu (712–770) is one of the undisputed geniuses of Chinese poetry—still universally admired and read thirteen centuries after his death. Now David Young, author of Black Lab, and well known as a translator of Chinese poets, gives us a sparkling new translation of Du Fu's verse, arranged to give us a tour of the life, each "chapter" of poems preceded by an introductory

paragraph that situates us in place, time, and circumstance. What emerges is a portrait of a modest yet great artist, an ordinary man moving and adjusting as he must in troubled times, while creating a startling, timeless body of work. Du Fu wrote poems that engaged his contemporaries and widened the path of the lyric poet. As his society—one of the world’s great civilizations—slipped from a golden age into chaos, he wrote of the uncertain course of empire, the misfortunes and pleasures of his own family, the hard lives of ordinary people, the changing seasons, and the lives of creatures who shared his environment. As the poet chases chickens around the yard, observes tear streaks on his wife’s cheek, or receives a gift of some shallots from a neighbor, Young’s rendering brings Du Fu’s voice naturally and elegantly to life. I sing what comes to me in ways both old and modern my only audience right now— nearby bushes and trees elegant houses stand in an elegant row, too many if my heart turns to ashes then that’s all right with me . . . from “Meandering River”