

Editorial Introduction

Jacob Eyferth, *University of Chicago*

GAIL Hershatter's *The Gender of Memory* has been reviewed extensively and enthusiastically – among others by Nicole Elizabeth Barnes (*The China Beat*), Louise Edwards (*The China Journal*), Neil Diamant (*Journal of Asian Studies*), Du Shanshan (*American Ethnologist*), Susan Glosser (*American Historical Review*), Ellen Judd (*The China Quarterly*), Kate Merkel-Hess (*LA Review of Books*), Tobie Meyer-Fong (*East Asia History and Culture Review*), James C. Scott (*London Review of Books*), and Wu Weiyi (*China Perspectives*). As other reviewers have pointed out, this is one of the rare books that transform our understanding of the Chinese revolution and, at the same time, makes us think about the way we practice history. The PRC History Group's editorial board agreed that Hershatter's book would make a great start for what we hope will become a regular feature: roundtable reviews of important English or Chinese language books on twentieth-century China. In contrast to standard book reviews, we did not ask our contributors to assess the book in its entirety but encouraged them to focus on those aspects that were close to their research interests. The contributors are:

Alexander Day (Occidental College), author of the *Peasant in Postsocialist China: History, Politics, and Capitalism*.

Harriet Evans (University of Westminster), author of *The Subject of Gender: Mothers and Daughters in Urban China*, as well as numerous articles on gender, sexuality, and public memory.

Jacob Eyferth (University of Chicago), currently working on women's public and domestic work in the collective era.

Alessandro Portelli (La Sapienza Università di Roma), leading oral historian and author of *They Say in Harlan County: An Oral History*.

Irina Mukhina (Assumption College), author of *Rural Women in the Soviet Union and Post-Soviet Russia*.

Aminda Smith, (Michigan State University), author of *Thought Reform and China's Dangerous Classes: Reeducation, Resistance, and the People*.

Yuxiang Yan (UCLA), author of two detailed ethnographic studies (*The Flow of Gifts* and *Private Life under Socialism*) on collective and post-collective rural China.

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- [8] Kate Merkel-Hess, "Country People" review of *Eating Rice from Bamboo Roots: The Social History of a Community of Handicraft Papermakers in Rural Sichuan*, by Jacob Eyferth and *The Gender of Memory: Rural Women and China's Collective Past*, by Gail Hershatter, *The Los Angeles Review of Books*, October 12, 2011, <https://lareviewofbooks.org/review/country-people>.
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