



## A Space for Translation: Thresholds of Interpretation

Presentation Details	
<b>Title of Paper:</b>	Reconstructing National Image: Back-translation of Chinese Narratives in <i>The Joy Luck Club</i>
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<b>Abstract:</b>	<p>Nation can be perceived as an invented and constructed community within which imagination is at work. For this kind of imagination, translation is taken as a significant approach to construct or reconstruct a nation. A particularly interesting case emerges when the image of a nation which has been introduced to a foreign readership through the writer’s translation is reshaped and reconstructed by back-translation, and by virtue of which the target audiences reflect upon themselves through the eyes of “others.” Drawing on examples from three Chinese versions concerning back-translation of Chinese Narratives in <i>The Joy Luck Club</i>, this study seeks to address the following issues such as the unique kind of national image which has been constructed by the writer and subsequently reconstructed by the three translators in different times, the reasons for the emergence of different kinds of national image, and the functions they perform in particular socio-cultural circumstances.</p>

Author’s Biography	
<p><b>Xiaoli LIU</b> recently completed a MA (by research) on translation studies at School of Foreign Languages, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, People’s Republic of China. Her research interests include translating bilingualism and translating Chinese American literature. She has published in <i>Babel</i> and <i>Foreign Language and Translation</i>.</p>	