

Curriculum Vitae

Brian Kao 高博倫

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Research Interests: creative writing (fiction), modernity, twentieth-century American literature, gender studies, memories and identities.

Education

- PhD student in English (creative writing), The University of Kansas, the US.
- MA in Chinese Literature, Tunghai University, Taiwan (2022)
- BA in Foreign Languages and Literature (English), Tunghai University, Taiwan (2016)

Publications

- **When the World Ends, We are Young** (末日青春，荒原之後), Ink Literature, 2025, New Taipei City.
Published in 2025. A novel explores the life journeys of several gay men and queers. It examines themes of desire, emptiness, and frustration in contemporary life before and after the Pandemic, offering a poignant reflection on existence and relationships.
- **It Was Probably Broken After All** (其實應該是壞掉了), Ink Literature, 2020, New Taipei City. **ISBN: 9789863873525**
Published in 2020, this collection of ten short stories delves into human fragility and resilience, capturing intimate moments of connection and disconnection in contemporary society.
- "The White House, 1973" (白宮一九七三), in **Through the Leaves: Yang Mu and Their Tunghai** (葉過林隙—楊牧和他們的東海), edited by Fen-Ling Chou (周芬伶), Ink Literature, 2021, New Taipei City. **ISBN: 9789863874904**
This essay examines the intersections of personal memory, historical events, and literary reflections, paying tribute to renowned Tunghai poet Yang Mu and his influence on Taiwanese literature and writers in the writing community at Tunghai University.

Articles

- "我們共襄盛舉過的尖峰時刻" ("The Peak Moments We Celebrated Together"). *Youth Literary Monthly*, July 2023.
- "回想萬聖節" ("Reflecting on Halloween"). *Liberty Times Supplement*, December 8, 2022.

- "肉身對鏡：手心上的繭" ("The Body Facing the Mirror: The Callus in My Palm"). *Youth Literary Monthly*, November 2021.
- "我憑什麼書寫" ("Why I Write"). *Ink Literature*, April 2021.
- "給未來十年的文學備忘錄：繼續寫下去" ("A Literary Memo to the Next Decade: Keep Writing"). *Ink Literature*, February 2021.
- Translation: Selected from *My Ántonia* by Willa Cather (摘自《我的安托尼亞》). *ISSEY 蘋果一生*, May 13, 2017.
- Translation: Selected from *The Maine Woods* by Henry David Thoreau (摘自《緬因森林》). *ISSEY 蘋果一生*, May 13, 2017.
- Literature Review: "'Cruelty Has a Human Heart' – Review on Han Kang's *The Vegetarian*" (『殘忍，以人心為最』). *ISSEY 蘋果一生*, November 11, 2016.

Prefaces

- "序：古老的靈魂，此時此刻" ("Foreword: An Ancient Soul, Here and Now"). In *The Lesson of Novels and Stories (小說與故事課)* by 周芬伶 (Fen-Ling Chou). Chiu Ko Publishing, 2019. ISBN : 9789864502479

Short Stories on Magazines

- "神木" ("The Sacred Tree"). *Ink Literature Magazine*, May 2020.
- "螢橋" ("Firefly Bridge"). *Short Fiction Magazine*, Issue 18, April 2015.

Theater Works

- **Playwright:** 新品特賣會 (*New Product Clearance Sale*), directed by Hung-Chun Lee (李鴻鈞)
 - Produced by B1-Taichung Underground Theater, performed at Bien Bookstore, January 22–23, 2022
- **Director/Playwright/Lighting Designer:** 河隙 (*The Rift in the River*) Produced by Tunghai Poetry Theater
 - Performed at Tunghai University, November 13, 2021

- **Assistant Director/Actor:** *摩洛哥 (Morocco)*, directed by Huan-Hsiung Li (黎煥雄)
Produced by Tunghai Poetry Theater
 - Performed at Tunghai University, May 29, 2019
 - **Director/Choreographer:** *真希望你為我而來 (I Wish You Came for Me)* Produced by Tunghai Poetry Theater
 - Performed as part of the Chinese Culture and Literature Seminar Series, Tunghai University, November 12, 2017
 - **Actor/Choreographer:** *真希望你為我而來 (I Wish You Came for Me)* Produced by Tunghai Poetry Theater
 - Performed at Tunghai University, June 13, 2017
 - **Actor/Dancer:** *末日後的神話 (Myth After the Apocalypse)* Produced by Tunghai Poetry Theater
 - Performed at the University of Macau, April 27, 2015
 - Performed at Tunghai University, April 16, 2015
 - **Actor/Dancer:** *318 愛慾死 (318 Taiwan Student Movement: Love, Lust, and Death)*
Produced by Tunghai Poetry Theater
 - Performed at Tunghai University, April 28, 2014
 - Performed at National Taichung University of Education, May 2, 2014
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Short Story Judge

Tunghai University Literary Creation Workshop Literary Award – January 9, 2025

- Served as a judge for the short story category, evaluating submissions for originality, narrative quality, and thematic depth.
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Exhibitions

- *Black Sparrow 2025* – March 22–May 11, 2025
Chen Mei-Ling's Room (陳美伶的房間) – Contributing Author of Fictional Texts
 - Exhibition curated by Miss Bench (長椅小姐)
 - Featured artists: Mirna Bamieh, Kawita Vatanajyankur, Shiy De-jinn, Mali Wu, Lii Jiin-shiow, Chuang Hsin-i, Ung Wei-lin
 - Hosted by Taiwan's National Culture and Arts Foundation
- *Black Sparrow 2023* – October 6–November 4, 2023
Chen Mei-Ling's Room (陳美伶的房間) – Document Exhibition and Workshops
 - Location: Taipei Cube, 7th Floor, Taipei, Taiwan
 - Curated by Miss Bench (長椅小姐)

- Focus: Explored Taiwanese women's life histories through fiction, oral histories, images, and curated objects
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Lectures/Public Talks

- **Lin Rong-San Literary Lecture (林榮三文學獎講座)**
 - **Date:** October 15, 2024
 - **Topic:** *Why Are We Afraid of Fiction? On New Generation Novels*
 - **Discussant:** Fen-Ling Chou (周芬伶)
 - **Location:** Providence University (靜宜大學), Taichung, Taiwan
- **TSMC Literature Award Seminar (台積電文學賞講座)**
 - **Date:** December 11, 2022
 - **Topic:** *The Science Fiction Anthropocene*
 - **Role:** Moderator
 - **Speakers:** Yi-Feng Kao (高翊峰) and Chen-Fu Hsu (徐振輔)
 - **Location:** Zheng-Da Bookstore, Tainan, Taiwan
- **Flower Play Theater Festival Lecture (花漾年華戲劇節)**
 - **Date:** February 12, 2022
 - **Topic:** *Brokenness and the Search for Self*
 - **Location:** Back Street People Theatre, Taichung, Taiwan
- **Online Lecture**
 - **Topic:** *Creative Activities at Home during the Pandemic*
 - **Date:** July 25, 2021
 - The Rooftop Studio (那個頂樓), Taichung, Taiwan
- **Worldwave Reading Festival (華山朗讀節)**
 - **Date:** December 6, 2020
 - **Co-reader:** Min-Chun Hsu (許閔淳)
 - **Location:** Bien Bookstore (邊譜書店), Taichung, Taiwan
- **The Rooftop Studio Art Salon (那個頂樓 藝文沙龍)**
 - **Topic:** *The Current State of Taichung's Cultural and Creative Industry*
 - **Discussant:** Yi-Ling Tu (杜依玲), Curator at the National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts
 - **Location:** The Rooftop Studio (那個頂樓), Taichung, Taiwan
 - **Date:** November 11, 2020
- **Book Launch**
 - **Location:** Beginner Bookstore (新手書店), Taichung, Taiwan

- **Date:** August 29, 2020
- **Discussants:** Fen-Ling Chou (周芬伶) and Ya-Ni Chiang (蔣亞妮)
- **Book Launch**
 - **Location:** Blue&Book (華山青鳥書店), Taipei, Taiwan
 - **Date:** August 14, 2020
 - **Discussant:** Chia-Han Chu (朱嘉漢)

Conferences

- **Shanghai-Taipei Cross-Strait Literary Camp and Fiction Workshop**
 - **Date:** December 3-5, 2021
 - **Details:** Invited with other writers from Taipei and Shanghai, participated in a three-day conference and workshop.
 - **Organizers:** *Unitas Literary Magazine* (Taipei) and *Mengya Magazine* (Shanghai)
 - **Location:** New Taipei City, Taiwan
- **The 52nd Central Taiwan Graduate Students Conference in Chinese Literature**
 - **Date:** May 19, 2018
 - **Topic:** *Gao Xingjian's The Other Shore: The Practice of Zero Degree Writing in Poetic Drama*

Grants

- **Ministry of Culture Taiwan Youth Creation Grant (2021) – *Sea Monkey* (Novel)**
 - Awarded approximately 7,000 USD to support manuscript revision for publication.
- **National Culture and Arts Foundation Grant (2017) – *Nameless Temple on the Sea* (Novel)**
 - Awarded approximately 3,670 USD to fund the creative process and development of the novel.

Literary Awards

- **The China Times Open Book Award**, nominated, 2020.
- **Ministry of Education Literary Creation Award**, Short Fiction, 2018.
- **Chung Hsing Lake Literature Award**, Short Fiction, 2014.
- **Tunghai Literary Award**, Short Fiction, 2013.

Scholarly Awards

- **The Phi Tau Phi Scholastic Honor Society of Taiwan (2019)**
 - Awarded to the top 3% of master's graduates in recognition of exceptional academic performance and moral integrity.

Teaching Assistant Experience

- **Department of Chinese Literature**, Tunghai University, Taiwan (2016–2022)
Supervisor: Prof. 周芬伶 (Fen-Ling Chou)
Responsibilities:
 - Assisted in course preparation, grading, and academic research.
 - Guided undergraduate students in literary analysis and creative writing.
 - Supported department events and workshops.

ESL Teaching Experience

- **Full-Time English Teacher** – Michael's English Classroom, Kaohsiung, Taiwan (2022–2025)
 - Developed and implemented an innovative, student-centered ESL curriculum using novels, films, and creative activities to foster engagement and language acquisition for students aged 12–18.
 - Courses taught include *Selected Readings from Classic American and British Literature*, *Learning English with Popular English Films and Songs*, *Reading English News and Global Issues*, and *Oral Training and Composition*.
 - Motivated students to build confidence in English by connecting lessons to their interests and experiences.
 - Created a dynamic, interactive classroom environment that improved proficiency through storytelling and multimedia.
- **Part-Time English Instructor** – Xinhua Individual Educational Institute, Taichung, Taiwan (2014–2022)
 - Provided personalized instruction for students aged 12–18, focusing on exam preparation, communicative skills, and academic writing.
- **Part-Time English Tutor** – Chimei English School, Taichung, Taiwan (2011–2014)
 - Conducted one-on-one and small-group tutoring sessions for students aged 10–15, strengthening foundational language skills and improving academic performance.