

Yuan Mei, his poetry and prose

University of Toronto - Paper

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A Feast of Lanterns: Yuan Mei: Yuan Mei

The Tang dynasty was the pick of the Jintishi.

Poetry in China

He advocated for women's literacy. He commanded high fees for such things as funerary inscriptions and thus lived in comfort and style. Impressed by the poem, Lu Tung Pin invited the old man to his home where they cooked some millet.

Yuan Mei

He traveled quite a bit and soon gained the reputation as the preeminent poet of his time. His contemporary, the ruler Li Yu composed his best poems during the time after the Song ended his reign and took him as a prisoner.

Yuan Mei: Eighteenth Century Chinese Poet

He received his chin-shih, the highest academic degree, at 23 and was retained in the imperial Hanlin Academy. For a student of Chinese literature, Yuan Mei's poetic criticism is perhaps even more important than his poetry because it represents a full-bodied affirmation of what one could call the individualist view of poetry as self-expression. In the decades before his death, Yuan Mei produced a large body of poetry, essays and paintings.

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