



*The Department of Philosophy
Colloquium Series Presents*



On the Political Philosophy of the *Zhuangzi* and the Opening of a Feminist Political Space

by Dr. Jing Liu



This essay investigates some fundamental questions in Zhuangzi's political philosophy and explores its significance to the opening of a feminist political space. According to Zhuangzi, a good society must be able to keep the *dao* in the world so that the nature of all beings and humans can be well kept. What does keeping the *dao* in the world mean? What is the original nature of humans? What is a good way to govern a state according to the *Zhuangzi*? I try to answer these questions. The first part investigates the alienation of humans in the *Zhuangzi*. The second part explores the original nature in the *Zhuangzi*. The third part examines what constitutes good governance for Zhuangzi. I use the example of the Mosuo matriarchal society to illustrate Zhuangzi's ideal society free of oppression and dominance, wherein equality and freedom of the social members are realized through communitarian work. Due to its advocacy for equality and freedom of all beings, in the last part I examine the significance of Zhuangzi's political philosophy to the opening of a feminist political space.

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