

**The Bill and Carol Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry
Emory University**

Public Scholarship Forum

Wednesday, October 30, 2019

4:00pm - 6:00pm

Fox Center • 1635 N. Decatur Road



Language and Culture in Translation: The Letters and Works of Samuel Beckett from English to Chinese

Bo Cao, Professor of English Language and Literature, College of Foreign Studies,
Hunan Normal University, China

Bo Cao heads the Center for British and Irish Literature at Hunan Normal University, where he directs the Department of Translation Studies, and is Secretary General of the China British Literature Association. He is a leading translator of Samuel Beckett's work into Chinese, and spearheaded the publication of *The Complete Collection of Samuel Beckett in Chinese* (Changsha: Hunan Literature and Art Press, 2012, 2016). He also translated Beckett's *More Pricks Than Kicks*, *Murphy*, *Watt*, and the collection *Disjecta* for it. He is currently at Emory University on a grant from the Chinese Government, to translate into Chinese, Volume I of *The Letters of Samuel Beckett*.

Samuel Beckett (1906-1989) is a literary icon of the twentieth century. His writing fundamentally altered western literature, and took form as poetry, fiction, prose, drama, radio, film, and television. Schooled in modern languages and literature, he wrote in both English and French, and immersed himself in art and music. Beckett frequently translated his own works and directed many productions of his plays. Bo Cao will describe the project of finding a Chinese audience for the work of Samuel Beckett, and elucidate some of the cultural and linguistic challenges that arise for the translator.

Discussants:

Maria Sibau, REALC; Lois Overbeck, Director, The Letters of Samuel Beckett; Holly York, Emerita, French

The *Translation in Word and Image* series is co-sponsored by the Department of English and the Department of German Studies.

For more information or to make a reservation, please email the Fox Center: foxcenter@emory.edu or call 404.727.6424.