

## Mr. LIU Cixin

Citation

The first Asian author honored with the prestigious Hugo Award, Mr. LIU Cixin stands as a pioneer in contemporary Chinese science fiction literature. The works that flow from his pen have captured the hearts of readers worldwide, with several of his most celebrated novels adapted into films and television series, propelling Chinese science fiction to the zenith of the global stage. For decades, Mr. Liu's unwavering devotion to his craft has borne extraordinary fruit. The rich harvest of accomplishments he has reaped has ushered in the era he envisioned in his first full-length novel—a veritable “Supernova Era” of Chinese literature.

Born in Beijing in the 1960s, Mr. Liu spent his childhood during the Cultural Revolution, eventually relocating with his parents to Yangquan, Shanxi. At the tender age of seven, he witnessed the launch of China's very first space satellite, Dong Fang Hong 1, streaking across the sky, kindling a profound curiosity about the cosmos—a spark that ignited the boundless imagination through which he would behold the enigmatic universe. It was not until he discovered the foreign sci-fi classics, such as *Journey to the Center of the Earth*, nestled in his father's collection that he unlocked a lifelong passion for the genre. This was the prologue to his decades-long literary odyssey.

Setting one's heart on learning at fifteen, as the Chinese adage goes, Mr. Liu first encountered sci-fi works by Chinese authors at that same age.

Inspired and intrigued, he wielded his pen and set forth on his literary creation. The beginning of his journey was fraught with challenges, for his early submissions were frequently met with rejections. Yet, he continued writing even after entering the workforce, and it took years for his works to make their mark.

Unlike many traditional writers, Mr. Liu did not pursue literary studies at school but instead enrolled at the North China Institute of Water Resources and Electric Power to study engineering. Upon graduating in 1985, he became a computer engineer at the Niangziguan Power Plant in Shanxi Province. Amid the incessant rolling of time, more than two decades slipped by. Throughout the tranquil routine at the power plant, Mr. Liu remained steadfast in his writing craft. In the 1990s, his sci-fi works started to emerge into the limelight, from his maiden piece *The Whale's Song* that was serialized in a sci-fi magazine in 1999, and the novella *The Wandering Earth* in 2000, to his first full-length novel *The Supernova Era* in 2003, culminating in the renowned *The Three-Body Problem* trilogy completed between 2006 and 2010. Mr. Liu's works have mesmerized readers worldwide, cementing his esteemed position in the international literary canon.

Mr. Liu's creations have garnered both national and global acclaim, earning him several Chinese Galaxy Awards and prestigious accolades,

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including the Chinese Nebula Award, Japan's Seiun Award, and the Locus Award, among others. He was also recognized by The Arthur C. Clarke Foundation with the Award for Imagination in Service to Society. In 2015, Mr. Liu was bestowed the Hugo Award for Best Novel for the English translation of *The Three-Body Problem*. With this accolade, which is widely regarded as the "Nobel Prize of Science Fiction", Mr. Liu made history as the first Asian recipient, ushering in a monumental chapter in Chinese literature.

*The Three-Body Problem* trilogy constructs an epic cosmic worldview, narrating the push-pull between human civilization on Earth and an alien civilization. By melding scientific theory with philosophical introspection, the trilogy boasts extraordinary literary depth. To date, it has been translated into 35 languages, with global sales exceeding 30 million copies. As Mr. Liu stated in the preface to *The Wandering Earth*: "My journey in science fiction is, too, a journey in search of home." The footprints he left along this trail are wide and deep and will forever serve as the North Star guiding a new generation of writers in their pursuit of literary creation.

Currently serving as Vice-Chairman of the Shanxi Writers Association, and as a member of both the China Writers Association and the China Science Writers Association, Mr. Liu leads by example in fostering the robust advancement of Chinese

literature. This engineer-author, who harbors the love for human civilization and the vast universe, bridges science and literature through a blend of scientific knowledge and fervent imagination. His works illuminate the soft power of Chinese sci-fi literature to readers across the globe. Mr. Liu's vision resonates strongly with the spirit of HKUST, which endeavors to integrate scientific inquiry with humanistic solicitude. He aspires to leverage the power of technology to enhance human well-being, empowering humanity to continue its quest into the infinite cosmos beyond our horizons.

Through his multifaceted career, marked by a successful transition from engineer to literary titan and a unique synthesis of scientific depth with global commercial appeal, Mr. Liu is a living testament to the vision and value embodied in HKUST's commitment to interdisciplinary education. He stands as a paragon of the success achievable through the integration of knowledge across the very domains represented by our five Schools: Engineering, Humanities and Social Science, Science, Business and Management, and the Academy of Interdisciplinary Studies.

Pro-Chancellor, on behalf of the Council of The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, I have the high honor of presenting to you, Mr. Liu Cixin, the Hugo-winning author, for the award of Doctor of Humanities *honoris causa*.

## 劉慈欣先生

讚辭

劉慈欣先生是開拓中國當代科幻文學的領軍人物，作為首位榮獲雨果獎的亞洲作家，其筆下作品風靡全球讀者，當中最為膾炙人口的著作更獲改編成電影及劇集，將中國科幻小說推向國際舞台之巔。多年來，劉先生筆耕不輟，成就斐然，恰如其首部出版的長篇小說所示，實是開創了中國文學的「超新星紀元」。

劉先生出生於60年代的北京，童年正值文化大革命時期，遂隨父母移居山西陽泉。七歲那年，中國第一顆人造衛星「東方紅一號」劃破長空，自此燃起他對浩瀚穹蒼的滿心好奇，引發他對宇宙奧秘的無窮想像。及後，他偶然從父親的藏書發掘到《地心探險記》等外國科幻經典作品，更對科幻小說手不釋卷，啟發其開展往後數十載筆墨生涯。

少年十五而志於學。時年15歲的劉先生首次讀到由中國作家親撰的科幻小說，深受鼓舞，遂躍躍欲試，提筆創作。然而，文學之路荊棘滿途，他早年的作品屢遭退稿，步入職場後仍勤於筆耕，直至多年後，其作品方才嶄露頭角。

與許多傳統作家不同，劉先生在學時並未專攻文學，而是考入華北水利水電學院研讀工程學。在1985年畢業後，他於位處山西省的娘子關發電廠擔任計算機工程師，一晃眼便是二十多個寒暑。春去秋來，在發電廠的平靜歲月裏，劉先生始終心無旁騖，堅持筆耕硯田。自90年代起，其科幻著作陸續問世，由1999年於科幻雜誌連載的出道作《鯨歌》、2000年發表中篇小說《流浪地球》，到2003年出版首部長篇小說《超新星紀元》，及至2006至2010年間完成家喻戶曉的《三體》三部曲等，均令全球讀者拍案叫絕，奠定了劉先生在國際文壇的崇高地位。

劉先生的作品備受國內外文壇青睞，不僅屢次獲得中國科幻銀河獎，以及全球華語科幻星雲獎、日本星雲獎、軌跡獎等重要獎項，更獲美國阿瑟·克拉克基金會頒發「想像力服務社會」獎。2015年，劉先生憑藉《三體》英文版榮獲第73屆雨果獎最佳長篇小說獎。雨果獎素有「科幻界諾貝爾獎」之稱，劉先生貴為首位獲得此世界級桂冠的亞洲作家，為中國文壇史寫下輝煌的一章。

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劉先生的《三體》系列建構出史詩式的宇宙觀，講述地球人類文明與外星文明之間的角力，科學理論與人性哲思並重，文學價值極高。這系列至今獲翻譯成35種語言，全球總銷量逾3000萬冊。誠如劉先生在《流浪地球》的序言寫道：「自己的科幻之路也就是一條尋找家園的路。」他沿路留下的足跡既廣且深，也將啟發許多文壇後輩追尋創作夢。

劉先生現為山西省作家協會副主席、中國作家協會會員以及中國科普作家協會會員，躬行實踐，帶領中國文學界蓬勃發展。這位工程師作家懷抱對人類文明與無垠宇宙的熱愛，以科學知識和奇思異想構築連接科技與文學的橋樑，讓全球讀者欣賞到中國科幻文學的軟實力。劉先生的理念與科大融匯科研探索與人文關懷的精神高度契合，他期望以科技之力增進人類福祉，讓人類文明繼續在無垠宇宙中勘探，邁步前行。

從工程師成功轉型為文學巨匠，其科學深度與全球商業魅力靈活結合，劉先生的職業生涯多姿多彩，與科大致力推動跨學科教育的視野與價值不謀而合。他的成就卓越，完美體現科大五大學院

(工程學院、人文社會科學學院、理學院、工商管理學院及跨學科學院)所代表的知識領域，及跨學科研究的精神。

大學副監督，本人謹代表香港科技大學校董會，恭請閣下頒授人文學榮譽博士予雨果獎得主劉慈欣先生。