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Intellectual Narratives

Theory, History and Self-Characterization
of Social Margins in Public Writings

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Intellectual Narratives

This book aims to study of intellectual lives of three Hong Kong intellectuals by narrating their lives as self-reflections on theories related to the social margins. Drawing on insights from Paul Ricoeur, Hannah Arendt and Zygmunt Bauman, the author analyses the narratives of these intellectuals through in-depth interviews. Their stories point to an interpretative understanding of the works they had read out of intellectual curiosity when creating their historical narrations of Hong Kong from the 1970s to 2003. The stories of these individual intellectuals, together with their interpretations of what they have individually read about various western theories, challenge theoretical prescriptions of historical contingent events in their narration. Such narration unfolds the self-characterizations of the intellectuals the author interviewed; these self-characterizations represent neglected social marginals whose situations demand immediate attention from the public.