

Les Rendez-Vous de l'Institut  
The Fellows' Series

Salle de Conférence  
4, rue de Chevreuse  
75006 Paris

Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup>  
6:30 pm

Fiona Sze-Lorrain



Hakuin Ekaku (1686-1769)  
*The Monkey Is Reaching for the Moon in the Water*

My Private Poems

An evening of poems, translations, inkwork, and zheng harp music

In English, French, and Chinese  
*En anglais, français et chinois*

I watch

the sun turn from a sphere to a palace. Burning,

but not disastrous. Soon, or  
now, my gaze

will break. I want to honor

the invisible. I'll use the fog to see white peaches.

—from "I Wait for the Ruined Elegance"

Fiona Sze-Lorrain writes and translates in English, French, Chinese, and occasionally Spanish. A French born in Singapore, she grew up in a hybrid of cultures before moving to America, and back to France in 2004. The author of three books of poetry—*The Ruined Elegance* (2016), *My Funeral Gondola* (2013), and *Water the Moon* (2010)—she has translated over a dozen titles of contemporary Chinese, Taiwanese, French, American poetry and other writings, and edited three anthologies of international literature. A *Blue Dark*, an exhibition of ink drawings by Fritz Horstman (Josef and Anni Albers Foundation) with her handwritten poems in ink on treated washi, was held in New Haven last summer. She has performed with her zheng harp worldwide.

To sign-up, please visit <https://ideasimagination.columbia.edu>

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