

The Council on East Asian Studies is pleased to present THE 56TH ANNUAL EDWARD H. HUME MEMORIAL LECTURE





## Stephen Owen

James Bryant Conant University Professor, East Asian Languages & Civilizations
Professor of Comparative Literature, Harvard University

## Thursday, November 5, 2015 4:30 PM

Auditorium, Henry R. Luce Hall, 34 Hillhouse Avenue, New Haven, CT

The "High Tang" is seen as the apex of classical Chinese poetry. But understand an era, we need to free it from the aging weight of its reputation. Professor Owen will show that the received understanding of the High Tang was entirely the creation of the early thirteenth century, half a millennium after the fact. He will go back and look at the community that defines the "High Tang," producing a system of values and a version of empire different from and in opposition to the imperial center and the oligarchy of families that controlled it. He will argue that this was not only the beginning of the "literati" as a distinct community, but that poetry was constitutive of that community. Professor Owen received both his B.A. (1968) and Ph.D. (1972) from Yale University.

The lecture will be followed by a light reception.

Please RSVP to: eastasian.studies@yale.edu by October 29, 2015 if you plan on attending.