Press Release

October 30, 2015—The American Literary Translators Association (ALTA) is delighted to announce the winner of the 2015 Lucien Stryk Asian Translation Prize! The award was officially announced during ALTA’s annual conference, held this year at the Tucson Marriott University Park in Tuscon, AZ from October 28-31, 2015.

Lucien Stryk was an internationally acclaimed translator of Japanese and Chinese Zen poetry, renowned Zen poet himself, and former professor of English at Northern Illinois University. The Lucien Stryk Asian Translation Prize recognizes the importance of Asian translation for international literature and promotes the translation of Asian works into English. A $5,000 cash prize is awarded to the translator of the winning title. This year’s judges are Lucas Klein, Janet Poole, and Stephen Snyder. Read what the judges had to say about the winning title below.

Winner: 2015 Lucien Stryk Asian Translation Prize

Something Crosses My Mind
By Wang Xiaoni
Translated from the Chinese by Eleanor Goodman
(Zephyr Press)

“'I rush down the stairs,/ pull open the door,/ dash about in the spring sunlight…' So begins this exquisite collection of translations by Eleanor Goodman of poems composed over the past several decades by Wang Xiaoni. In what follows we are taken out into the streets and on cross-country trains, into villages, cities and markets; we peep out through the windows of the poet’s home and sense the nostalgia invoked by a simple potato. Here is a poetry of the everyday, written in delicate yet deceptively simple language, and translated beautifully into its like in this first collection of Wang’s work to appear in English. Something Crosses My Mind offers up the refreshing voice of a poet forging her own path, neither shunning the political nor dwelling in the lyrical but gently and resolutely exploring her world in her writing,” write the judges of the Lucien Stryk Asian Translation Prize, Lucas Klein, Janet Poole, and Stephen Snyder.

Submissions for the 2016 Lucien Stryk Prize will be accepted starting in January 2016.
Please visit us at www.literarytranslators.org/awards for more information.