Contributors

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Hansun Hsiung is a historian of science, medicine, and media with particular attention to transnational histories of Japanese science ca. 1750 to the present. Topics explored in prior publications include the late Tokugawa formation of "Western knowledge," the history of print and information technologies, psychical

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David L. McMahan is the Charles A. Dana Professor of Religious Studies at Franklin & Marshall College in Pennsylvania, where he teaches classes on Asian religion and philosophy. His research is on the interface of Buddhism and modernity, including its interactions with science, psychology, literature, romanticism, and transcendentalism. His latest book, *Rethinking Meditation: Buddhist Meditative Practice in Ancient and Modern Worlds* (2023), focuses on the ways that Buddhist and Buddhist-derived meditation is understood and practiced in different cultural and historical contexts, ancient and modern. He has also written on ancient Buddhist literature in India.

James Robson is a Professor of East Asian Languages and Civilizations at Harvard University. He has served as Director of Graduate Studies for Harvard's Regional Studies East Asia MA program. He teaches East Asian religions—in particular, Daoism, Chinese Buddhism, and Zen. Robson received his PhD in Buddhist Studies from Stanford University in 2002 after spending many years doing research in China, Taiwan, and Japan. He specializes in the history of medieval Chinese Buddhism and Daoism and is particularly interested in issues of sacred geography, local religious history, talismans, and Chan/Zen Buddhism. He has been engaged in a long-term collaborative research project with the École Française d'Extrême-Orient studying local religious statuary from Hunan province. He is the author of *Power of Place: The Religious Landscape of the Southern Sacred Peak [Nanyue 南嶽] in Medieval China* (Harvard, 2009), which was awarded the Stanislas Julien Prize for 2010 by the French Academy of Inscriptions and Belles-Lettres and the 2010 Toshihide Numata Book Prize in Buddhism. Robson is also the author of "Signs of Power: Talismanic Writings in Chinese Buddhism" (*History of Religions*, 48:2), "Faith in Museums: On the Confluence of Museums and Religious Sites in Asia" (PMLA, 2010), and "A Tang Dynasty Chan Mummy [*roushen*] and a

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Nataly SHAHAF is a Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Buddhism Public Scholar at Tricycle Magazine and Faculty Fellow at NYU, prior to which she was a joint postdoctoral fellow at the Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies at Princeton University and the School of Historical Studies at the Institute for Advanced Study. She received her PhD in East Asian Languages and Cultures from Columbia University in 2023, specializing in modern Chinese history and religion. Her research examines Buddhism in modern China, with a focus on how media technologies, scientific thought, and religious practice shaped understandings of the visible and invisible worlds. Her forthcoming book, *Multiple Exposures: Ghost Photography, Buddhism, and Visual Heritage in Early Twentieth-Century China*, explores how photography and print culture enabled Buddhist communities to materialize religious presence and engage in global debates on science, spiritualism, and technology.

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