

EALL TALK SERIES

Clearing up Obstructions: An Image Schema Approach to the Concept of *Datong* (大通) in *Zhuangzi* 6

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Friday, February 1, 2013, 3-4 PM, Moore Hall 258

○ In much of modern scholarship, the notion of *datong* 大通 in *Zhuangzi*'s famous *zuowang* 坐忘 ("sitting in disregard," Chapter 6) passage is often interpreted as either *Dao* or a mental/spiritual state of an ideal person, a person who has obtained *Dao*. ○ In either case, however, the association between *datong* and such interpretations lacks detailed justification. I believe that such a phenomenon results from an insufficiently understood relation between *datong* and its immediately preceding statements. ○ Different from the more common readings, I propose a cognitive approach based on the image schema related to non-obstruction. In order to unravel the philosophical importance of this image schema, I will first point out the problems of previous scholarship regarding the *zuowang* passage. ○ Second, I will introduce the image schema related to non-obstruction based on a number of examples taken from the *Zhuangzi*. ○ Finally, I will apply this methodology to solve the problems of traditional readings and to give a cognitive experience-based interpretation of the *zuowang* passage.

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也○讀此可見孔顏心學可見莊子傾服聖門陳詳道日枝
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心忘禮樂則全然不拘束曰可矣猶未也它曰復見曰回益矣
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黜聰明離形去知二總上同於大通切放下矣此謂坐忘仲尼曰

Zhu, Dezhi. *Zhuangzi tong yi*, in Yan, Lingfong (ed.), *Wu qiou bei zhai Zhuangai jicheng xu bian*. Taipei: Yee Wen Publishing Company, 1974.

Light refreshments will be served.

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