

On *Guazhir* 掛枝兒 : A Collection of Popular Songs
—Complementary study to
Feng Meng-lung's *Shange* 山歌

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Guazhir is a kind of popular songs which were widely favored in the late Ming period. The collection of Guazhir was compiled by Feng Meng-lung, an editor of *Shange* 山歌.

Guazhir originated in an urban gay quarter, whereas *Shange* took rise in rural communities. These Guazhir songs were widely sung all over China from north to south, carried by government officials and tradesmen from the singing girl house in one city to that of another city, and went round to the people in the rural communities as well as in the streets.

About the text of Feng's *Guazhir*, the text owned in Shanghai Library can be regarded as the original form of Feng's *Guazhir*.

Feng Meng-lung collected more than four hundred Guazhir songs, arranging them in accordance with the process of love affairs.

Special features of expressions of *Guazhir* is open and direct expression of emotion in love affairs. It treats with not only individual feelings of lovers but also what the love affairs caused in those around them.