

Encountering China

New Zealanders and the People's Republic

EDITED BY DUNCAN CAMPBELL AND BRIAN MOLOUGHNEY



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INSIDE OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH A SUPERPOWER

December 2022 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the signing of diplomatic relations between China and New Zealand. In 1972, when the communiqué was signed, it marked the end of New Zealand's keeping China at arm's length, in deference to the United States' unwillingness to treat with it. In 2022, the United States and China are once again at odds, and China is our largest trading partner. The stand-off between the two presents a difficult balancing act for small nations such as New Zealand.

Tolerance and care, and perhaps benevolence as well, will be needed as New Zealand as a nation, and New Zealanders as individuals, go forward in managing a relationship that has become too complex to be capable of easy solutions, and too important to be left to chance.

In this collection of 50 texts, which range from essays to poems, a wide range of authors, from diplomats and students to politicians, academics and businesspeople, reflect on their experiences of and in China over the last half century. They form a unique insight into the changing face of what is now one of the world's greatest powers, and our relationship with it.

Authors include Hone Tūwhare, Nina Mingya Powles, John McKinnon, James Ng, Alison Wong, Murray Edmond, Meng Foon and Pauline Keating.

ABOUT THE EDITORS

Duncan Campbell studied Mandarin in Malaysia after graduating in English and History from Victoria University of Wellington. Between 1976–78, he was a student in the People's Republic of China. Since then, he has taught (Chinese language, modern and classical; Chinese literature, modern and classical; and aspects of Chinese history and civilisation) at the University of Auckland, Victoria University of Wellington, and the Australian National University in Canberra. In 2015, he was the Curator of the Chinese Garden with the Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens in San Marino, USA. His research focuses on the late imperial period of China's long history.

Brian Moloughney After completing an MA in Chinese history from the University of Canterbury, Brian Moloughney had the good fortune to be awarded a CHEP scholarship, which enabled him to live and study for a period in Nanjing. Between 1993 and 2022 he has taught Chinese history at the University of Otago.

SALES POINTS

- A rich and lively collection that looks back on a pivotal relationship with a growing superpower and our major trading partner
- Of interest to all those seeking to understand China and New Zealand's relationship with it
- An impressive lineup of writers create a vibrant miscellany at an important moment in our diplomatic relations

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