

*Wen hua*—generally translated as “culture”—signifies the process through which one adopts *wen*. However, this process is not simply one of civilizational mimesis or imitation but the “creation” of a new pattern. Most important is that this pattern appears within a constellation in which the opposition “nature vs. culture” does not have the same meaning as in a Western cultural context; the pattern of *wen* is found not only in those things that a Western mind would usually see as “cultural” but also in animals, vegetation, and cosmological phenomena. (TBB)

Literature: Lothar von Falkenhausen: “The Concept of *Wen* in the Ancient Chinese Ancestral Cult” in *Chinese Literature: Essays, Articles, and Reviews*, 18 (1996): 1-22. Peter K. Bol: *This Culture of Ours: Intellectual Transitions in T'ang and Sung China* (Stanford UP, 1992). Stephen Owen: *Traditional Chinese Poetry and Poetics: An Omen of the World* (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1985). Yuehping Yen: *Calligraphy and Power in Contemporary Chinese Society* (London: Routledge, 2005)