ABSTRACT

Qin Zihao dedicated his whole life in pursuit of Muse. Readers acquainted with his works will remember him as the father who sowed the seeds of modern poetry in Taiwan. The purpose of this dissertation is to present an analysis of the author’s modernist poetry, based on the different literal and historical stages, when he was in mainland China and Taiwan, from the 30s to 60s.

The first chapter is a brief overview of the poet’s personal life and writing. The second chapter gives special emphasis to Qin Zihao’s role in lanxing, touching on his pioneer role and contribution in Taiwan’s poetic setting. The third chapter analyses the text of his poems during the mainland period. The fourth and fifth chapter attempts to unveil the essence behind his poems, giving attention to symbolism, a form of expression he had acquired from the French symbolic poets. The sixth chapter deals with his most accomplished collection of poems “Art Gallery” and resolves to explain the complexities of his thought at the later stages of writing, when he not only explores the poetic potential of language, but also seeks to test the possibilities of poetic form from his years of writing experience.

In conclusion, Qin Zihao’s modernist poetry has greatly enthralled readers with the charm of language and literature, bringing home to them the great wealth of benign intentions he had left behind as “the Father of Modernist Poetry” in Taiwan.