

**The Study of Modern Italian Literature  
and Luigi Pirandello in Xu Xiacun's *Xiandai  
Nan'Ou wenxue gaiguan* 现代南欧文学概观  
Modern Southern European Literature**

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*Abstract*

*The Study of Modern Italian Literature and Luigi Pirandello in Xu Xiacun's Xiandai Nan'Ou wenxue gaiguan 现代南欧文学概观 Modern Southern European Literature*

*Xiandai Nan'Ou Wenxue Gaiguan, compiled by Xu Xiacun in 1930, is among the first monographs in China to discuss the modern literature of Southern European countries. The volume particularly highlights modern Italian writers, namely Gabriele D'Annunzio and Luigi Pirandello. An analysis of the critical forms and opinions expressed in the text demonstrates that Xu Xiacun used mainstream literary devices common in that period of the Republic of China. These emphasize the relationship between the lives and the creations of Italian writers, with an analysis on the human condition and the spirit of Italian literature. At the same time, Xu Xiacun was also deeply influenced by the views of literary critics in Europe and America, such as Benjamin Crémieux (1888-1944) and Walter Stakie (1894-1976). He is the pioneer of the Chinese study of Italian literature, and this paper aims to analyze his early work and discuss how Italian literature influenced his criticism.*

**Keywords:** Xu Xiacun; *Modern Southern European Literature*; May Fourth Movement; Italian literature; translation.