

# XU XI, WRITER-IN-RESIDENCE, CITY UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG WRITING THE 'WOMAN'S BOOK'

**"Smart, eloquent, cosmopolitan ...  
a scintillating accomplishment."**

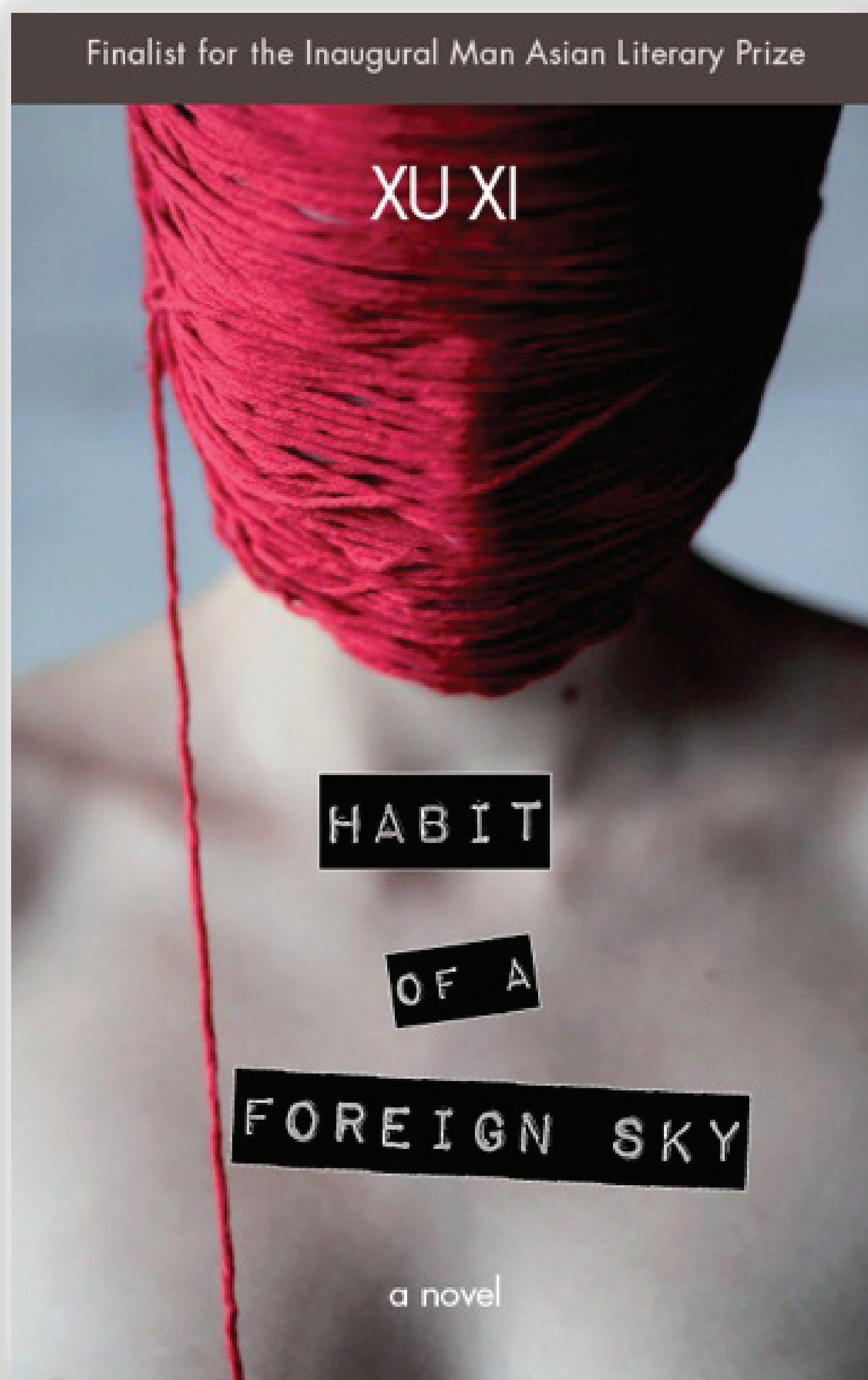
- Don Lee, award-winning author of  
*Yellow and Wrack and Ruin*

**"This accomplished, playful and graceful novel  
shows how swiftly life can change, or seem to,  
depending on where you stand."**

- Jill Dawson, bestselling author of *The Great Lover*

**"An indispensable work of contemporary fiction  
by an important novelist at the height of her powers.  
A compelling, seductive reading experience."**

- Nicholas Jose, Australian author and  
Man Asian Literary Prize judge



**Date: October 4, 2010**

**Time: 16:30-18:00**

**Venue: P4701, 4th Floor, Academic Building, City University of Hong Kong**

Writer-in-residence, Xu Xi will read from her new novel and talk about the impetus behind the writing of what she calls her "woman's book". A book signing will follow.

What happens when an intelligent, high-powered woman executive relinquishes all responsibilities? For Gail, a mixed-race, single mother who loses her only child and her mother in the span of two years, all she has left is a hard-won career at a global investment bank. Life rapidly goes into free fall for this woman with a complicated past, who was once so sure of her direction in life, and who now sees no clear path for herself. With an international cast in New York, Hong Kong and Shanghai, *Habit of a Foreign Sky* dramatises a Sino-American balance of power at a staggeringly intimate level.