

**Winner: Max Rowe, Northwestern University**

**TITLE:** *"Heels, Heels, Heels, Heels, Heels: Repetition and Mu Shiyong's Metropolis"*

**Citation:**

The committee was uniformly impressed by this honors thesis on the important, but understudied modern Chinese writer, Mu Shiyong. "Heels, heels..." demonstrates a high degree of familiarity with current scholarship, is well-versed in critical theory on Shanghai and indeed global modernity, and provides fresh insights on Mu's use of repetition technique in relation to narrative time, intervals, and mass culture. Mobilizing the complex information needed to address major issues around modern pop culture, the elegant explanatory power of this essay's scholarship draws equally on impressive research skills and the ability to frame its textual analysis in a theoretically sophisticated and nuanced manner.