

## Contents

<i>Acknowledgement</i>	xv
<i>List of contributors</i>	xvi
 Introduction	 1
HANS STEINMÜLLER	
1 Moral persons and implicit irony in today's China	14
STEPHAN FEUCHTWANG	
2 The farmer, the foreman, and the tinker: Irony and the displacement of meaning in Xiakou Village	30
JOHN FLOWER AND PAMELA LEONARD	
3 Morality and cynicism in a "grey" world	47
JOHN OSBURG	
4 Chinese migrant workers' cynicism and the politics of 'decent' wage	63
JAESOK KIM	
5 The ironies of 'political agriculture': Bureaucratic rationality and moral networks in rural China	84
TAN TONGXUE	
6 An interactionist perspective on irony in the street-level bureaucracies of Beijing	101
JUDITH AUDIN	
7 The rebel as trickster and the ironies of resisting in contemporary China	122
SUSANNE BRANDTSTÄDTER	
8 Freedom in irony and dreams: Inhabiting the realms of ancestors and opportunities in Southwest China	138
KATHERINE SWANCUTT	

xiv *Contents*

9	Differentiating cynicisms: Irony, cynicism and new media in contemporary China	155
	KEVIN LATHAM	
	Afterword: Ironic reflections in a cynical age	174
	MICHAEL HERZFELD	
	<i>Index</i>	186