

**The voice of the subaltern's subaltern the Tionghua peranakan women writers
(1908-1935)**

ABSTRACT

In her article "Can the Subaltern Speak?" (Spivak 1996), Gayatri Spivak argues that the subaltern's voice cannot be heard and will not be heard because of the all-consuming power of a hegemony and the "nostalgia for lost origins" (1996: 204) which necessarily envelopes the subaltern. Ironically, her doubt in retrieving subaltern history follows her initial calls for Subaltern Studies to include the female subaltern.