Contents

reconsidering the 2006 MIT visualizing cultures controversy

Jing Wang and Winnie Won Yin Wong
Guest Editors’ Introduction: Unpacking a Controversy:
National Histories, Visual Cultures, and Digital Dissent 1

National Histories

Benjamin A. Elman
Optical and Cognitive Illusions: The MIT Visualizing Cultures Controversy in Spring 2006 15

Qin Shao
American Academic Freedom and Chinese Nationalism:
An H-Asia Debate 41

Zhou Kui
The Misplaced “Apology”: Rethinking China’s Internet Patriotism 49
James Farrer  
The Multiple Contexts of Protest: Reflections on the Reception of the MIT Visualizing Cultures Project and the Anti-Right Japanese Demonstration in Shanghai  59

Visual Cultures

Winnie Won Yin Wong  
Lantern Slide Moments and the Taught Subject, 1906 and 2006  91

James L. Hevia  
Image/Text::Text/Image  115

Tani Barlow  
How Chinese Are You? Or, It Could Have Been Me  121

William A. Callahan  
Textualizing Cultures: Thinking beyond the MIT Controversy  131

Digital Dissent

Jack Linchuan Qiu  
Go Baobao! Image-Driven Nationalism, Generation Post-1980s, and Mainland Students in Hong Kong  145

Jing Wang  
Reframing the Visualizing Cultures Controversy: Let’s Talk about the Digital Medium  167

Ian Condry  
The Social in Media: Race, History, and the Visualizing Cultures Controversy at MIT  175

Guobin Yang  
Reflexive Digitization and the Role of the University  181
Appendix

Interview with 2005-6 MIT CSSA President Huan Zhang 185

Note on Digital Sources 191

Contributors 195