

This semester's issue of the Earlham Historical Journal focuses on a variety of scholarship among Earlham students, including a historical analysis of Liang Qichao, Japanese wartime propaganda, and media representations of Serena Williams.

This issue proceeds chronologically, beginning with Anh Nguyen's "Reconstructing Liang Qichao." Nguyen refutes claims of inconsistency within Liang Qichao's ideology, suggesting that Western scholarship confuses intellectual evolution for haphazard wandering. Nguyen argues that Liang exemplified his progressive spirit through innovative, nationalistic ideas, placing importance on both cultural identity and global integration to promote the idea of the New Citizen.

In "Propaganda Painted by Masters: Japanese Art and Photography During the Fifteen Year War," Karen Breece analyzes the utilization of art for propaganda in wartime Japan. Breece reexamines the role of art in Japanese society through an analysis of the wide variety of art forms integrated into the mobilization of the home-front as propaganda leading into World War II.

We conclude the journal with Meg Rose's argument in "Locating Serena Williams in Racialized Ideology and Iconography" that contemporary discourse pertaining to Serena Williams stems from historical dialogue devaluing black women's bodies. Rose compares representations of Williams with both her white competitors and with the dehumanizing display of Saartjie Baartman.

The intent of this issue of the journal is to draw attention to a variety of historical narratives, specifically those that have been oversimplified. These papers attempt to shed light on narratives that have been misrepresented through incomplete dialogue. Accepted portrayals of Liang Qichao underestimate the nationalism and balance of his political thought. The artistic value of Japanese wartime propaganda is unjustly devalued. Serena Williams represents the complex intersections of athletic, racialized, and gendered culture.

This issue of the Earlham Historical Journal represents the hard work of searching for truth that is at the core of research amongst students at Earlham College. It is our hope that it highlights the diversity of scholarship and narratives within history as a discipline and a means of constructing ideology.

On behalf of the editorial board,

Sonia Norton and Tyler Tolman