

Tribhuvan University

Sexuality as a Performance in David Henry Hwang's *M. Butterfly*

A Thesis Submitted to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, in

Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the

Degree of Masters of Arts in English

By

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April 2008

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This thesis submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University by Mr. Santosh Koirala entitled “Sexuality as a Performance in David Henry Hwang’s *M. Butterfly*” has been accepted by the undersigned members of the thesis committee.

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Acknowledgements

In the process of completion of this thesis, many people have contributed directly and indirectly, to whom, I forever remain indebted.

First of all, I would express my sincere gratitude to Mr. Sadan Raj Adhikari, Lecturer, Central Department of English (CDE), Tribhuvan University, for assisting me with his scholarly advice during the research.

Secondly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Krishna Chandra Sharma, Head of Central Department of English, who was always there to suggest me with his cerebral guidance. Besides, I would like to remember respected teachers Dr. Amar Raj Joshi, Dr. Sanjeev Uprety, Dr. Beerendra Pandey, Dr. Arun Gupto, for their scholarly guidance and cooperation in making this thesis to this format.

I also take this opportunity to thank all my friends and colleague and especially to Mr. Dhruba Chandra Luitel, without whose support and good wishes, my dream of completion of Master's Degree in English would not have been accomplished.

Besides, who are not named above; however, they also owe my thanks, either way.

April 2009

Santosh Koirala

Abstract

David Henry Hwang's *M. Butterfly*, through Rene Gallimard, a western diplomat stationed at Peking, challenges the traditional notion of identifying gender and sexuality. Gallimard had been a happily married man for years, until, he falls in love with Song Liling, a female, who is in fact a male. He was contend with the relationship with Song; however, when the reality is exposed, of him being used as a prey to milk important information to the east making a trap in oriental concept of beauty; he commits suicide to save his western ego of masculinity, because of his inability to save western masculinity.

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