

CGA Newsletter



Center for Global Asia
环球亚洲研究中心



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NYU Shanghai

NYU Shanghai was founded in 2012 through a unique partnership between New York University (NYU) and East China Normal University. NYU Shanghai is the first Sino-U.S. joint research university in China and the third degree-granting campus of NYU. With an enrollment of 1,300 students and a distinguished international faculty of 200, NYU Shanghai exemplifies the highest ideals of contemporary higher education by uniting the intellectual resources of NYU's global network with the multidimensional richness of China. At the undergraduate and postgraduate level, NYU Shanghai's programs prepare graduates to be creative and culturally adept leaders with global vision.



Director's Note



Despite ongoing challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Center for Global Asia has adapted swiftly to them through effective teamwork and unceasing research momentum. Although we are a small team, the Center has harvested a year of consistent productivity in research, teaching, training, and outreach. Here are some of the highlights we'd like to share:

With funding from the Henry Luce Foundation, we held two research meetings with scholars worldwide as part of our multi-year project, Port Cities Environments in Global Asia. First, we conducted the second part of the workshop on "Indian Ocean Port Cities and Their Hinterlands," which we began in the last academic year. Second, with scholars based in Mainland China, we organized panel discussions on trends and concerns related to the Belt and Road Initiative. On our virtual platforms, not only have we continued to build our "Asian Studies in China" and "China-India Studies" database projects, we have also come to the final stage in preparing for a virtual gallery exhibition entitled "Flowers on One Stalk: China-India Artistic Interactions in the 20th Century," to be launched on our website this October. Currently the Center is also collaborating with the French Institute of Pondicherry, India, to create a digital archive documenting social and environmental transformations along the Coromandel Coast.

As part of our continuous effort to promote research and teaching at NYU Shanghai, the Center organized a year-round webinar series on humanities and social-scientific research. We hosted sixteen well-attended public webinars for audiences worldwide on topics concerning global Asia, offered by scholars from history, anthropology, literature, dance, international relations, film and media, environmental studies, gender and sexuality studies, and sinology. Furthermore, we continued the tradition of our annual "Young Scholars Symposium on Asia and the World," in collaboration with fellows from the academic program, "Global Perspectives on Societies." The symposium enjoyed the participation of NYU Shanghai's postdoctoral and doctoral fellows, recent alumni, and faculty affiliates as panel chairs, who together engaged in studies of inter-Asian and global connections from multidisciplinary angles.

Through new partnerships with the Royal Asiatic Society China and with China Crossroads, the Center also broadened the form and scope of its outreach. We co-hosted three public talks with these two Shanghai-based learned societies in the spring semester of 2021 and are looking forward to future collaboration in respect of event organization and academic publication. In witnessing the Center's development, our fellows (Alice Lin, Vidhya Raveendranathan, Shujing Wang) and administrative team (Minghui Li, Haozhe Li, Meizhen Zhu) contributed their teamwork and camaraderie, besides pursuing individual research projects and fulfilling regular administrative duties. The Center also continued to offer training through internships and assistantships to numerous students both within and outside the NYU network.

In June 2021, the Henry Luce Foundation renewed its research grant to New York University for three additional years. This grant of USD 450,000, distributed equally among the Global Asia programs in New York, Abu Dhabi, and Shanghai, will aid us in advancing our collaborative projects on Port Cities Environments in Global Asia in exciting, innovative ways. These projects, especially research related to the Belt and Road Initiative, will be further supported in part by the NYU Shanghai Boost Fund, worth RMB 400,000.



CGA team and GPS colleagues at the Bund.
Photo by restaurant staff

Tzu-hui Celina Hung

Interim Director

Center for Global Asia
NYU Shanghai

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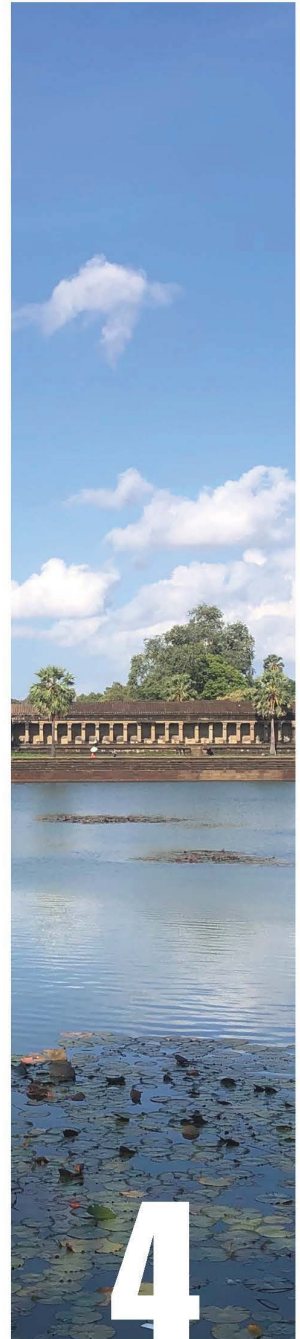
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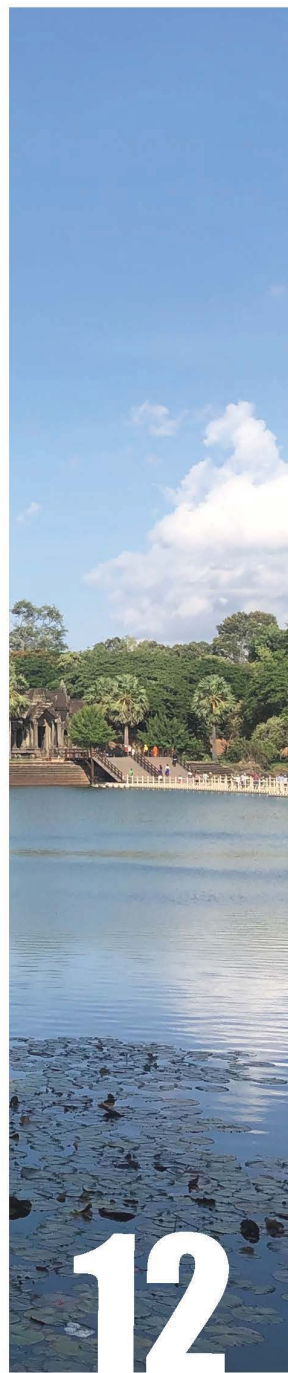
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Workshops, Symposium, and Lecture Series

Indian Ocean Port Cities and their Hinterlands: A Henry Luce-Funded Workshop

Vidhya Raveendranathan and Elke Papelitzky

Building on collective momentum from the previous “Indian Ocean Port Cities and Their Hinterlands Workshop” in September 2019, the second installment of the Workshop was held on Zoom on 23–24 October 2020, gathering 25 worldwide participants (including eight panel presenters) selected by Professor Duane Corpis, Professor Tansen Sen, and the Center's doctoral and postdoctoral fellows from a total of seventy submissions in an open call. Eight scholars from Asia, South Africa and Europe presented their research on port cities in the Indian Ocean, ranging from Durban, South Africa, across the far southwest of the Indian Ocean, to cities such as Calcutta, Ayutthaya, Bombay, Bencool, Djibouti, Madras, Calcutta, Rangoon, Chittagong, and Aden, from the seventeenth century to today. Each panelist made a ten-minute presentation, followed by an extensive discussion of the pre-circulated papers. In contrast to our previous workshop, which focused on trade networks, labor migration, and governance structures within port cities, this second workshop touched upon diverse themes, such as gender relations, commodity circulation, gift-giving, and knowledge transfer.

After introductory comments from Tansen, the morning session began with a presentation by Manami Goto on the origins and diffusion of different types of face masks in the coastal areas of the Persian Gulf and the Western Indian Ocean, as well as the manner in which these were adapted and reshaped by the region's maritime connections. This was followed by Prerna Agarwal, whose paper examined a particular strike episode in order to investigate the emergence of worker politics and the extent of connections established between workers of various occupations both within and outside the Calcutta docks. In her paper, Marina Kaneti challenged gendered representations across the Indian Ocean with their implicit focus on these ports being an exclusive domain of masculine patriarchy. Instead, her paper demonstrated

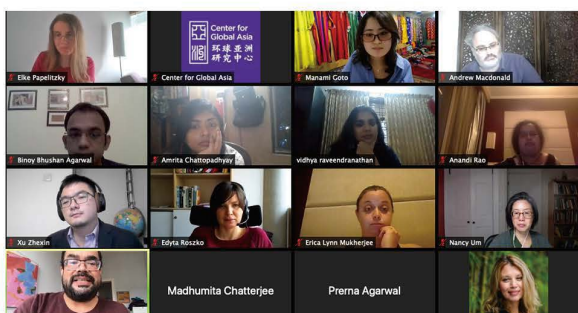
the centrality of women in shaping maritime interactions in the pre-colonial world.

In the afternoon session, Andrew MacDonald discussed the ecological, political, and commercial transformations that developed Durban into a key gateway for trade and a site for the confinement of a mobile laboring population. In the final presentation of the day, Elke Papelitzky discussed how the Chinese, Dutch, and French sources mentioned the challenges sailors encountered while sailing in the Gulf of Thailand to the port city of Ayutthaya in the fifteenth and eighteenth centuries.

The second day started with Xu Zhexin's paper on medieval maritime trade, the regional history of southeastern China, and the role of the often marginalized hinterlands. Following this, Madhumita Chatterjee's presentation argued that medieval port cities like al-Fustat (Old Cairo), Aden, Nahrwara (Patan), Cambay, Ghogha, and al-Manjir (Mangalore) did not function merely as conduits for commercial expansion but also as sites for community formation and the articulation of emotional ties among Arab Muslim and Jewish mercantile communities. Binoy Bhushan looked at port cities as messy contact zones for studying cross-cultural encounters and the transnational dynamics of race, class, and caste relations in colonial Calcutta. In the final paper of the afternoon session, Amrita Chattopadhyay pointed out the centrality of trade in perfumes in commodity circulation and economic exchange in the Indian ocean. Given that perfumes were central to court culture, religious practices, and the consumption practices of the elites, she demonstrated how port cities became the epicentre of the circulation of aromatic objects. To end the session, Duane Corpis and Celina Hung offered concluding remarks.

During the Workshop, Nancy Um delivered her keynote speech on “Viewing Mocha from Sea, Air, and Land.” At the center of her discussion stood two images of the port city of Mocha from the seventeenth century, one made by Dutch, the other by Indian artists. Nancy argued that while at first glance we might believe the Dutch image to be more reliable, as it seems more “realistic,” Dutch artists took liberties in depicting buildings, as the respective Indian image provides different information. Each of the images had their own story to tell, and each of them helps us to understand space in Mocha in its own way.

The papers presented at the Workshop will be published in the two journals the Center co-edits: the *Journal of Indian Ocean World Studies* and *Crossroads: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Asian Interactions*.



Workshop and Keynote Screenshots by Haozhe Li

“Belt and Road Initiative” Collaborative Discussion

Ivan Willis Rasmussen



Discussion participants. Photo by Haozhe Li

On June 19, 2021, the Center hosted scholars from across Mainland China for a collaborative meeting on the Belt and Road Initiative, a new research initiative to be incorporated into our Luce-funded projects in the next three years. Organizers include Professors Tansen Sen, Maria Adele Carrai, and Ivan Willis Rasmussen, plus the Center's post-doctoral fellow, Shujing Wang. Together they invited six eminent and rising academics to present their views on both trends and concerns related to the Belt and Road Initiative. The invited panelists include Zhang Liangren (Nanjing University), Li Yuqi (Nankai University), Ding Yu (Peking University), Chen Dingding (Jinan University) and the independent think tank Intellisias, Wan Xiaohong (South China Normal University), and David Kiwuwa (University of Nottingham Ningbo China).

The discussions focused on less discussed issues related to the Belt and Road Initiative. In the morning session, the discussion focused on the impact of the BRI on archaeological sites and scholarly pursuits, as well as China's "go abroad" trend in archaeology. Dr. Liangren Zhang discussed his work in Russia and Iran. Of particular interest was the finding regarding metallurgy emerging from the Middle East and subsequent trade with China. In addition, Dr. Zhang's summer program was able to bring students from across disciplines to Russia, a model for potential student exchange initiatives in the future. Dr. Ding Yu explored findings from East Africa and the potential for Chinese imperial trade with the region dating back to the Ming

Dynasty and linked to the well-known voyage of Zheng He. Dr. Yuqi Li shared a co-authored article about the increasing activity in Chinese archaeology abroad. The panel offered insights into the impact of the BRI on current and future directions in the Chinese archaeological field.

In the afternoon sessions, the focus was on some of the dynamics of political and international relations in the BRI. For example, Dr. Dingding Chen found that the recent G-7 summit revealed the impetus for more global development expanding on the BRI. A less studied element of the BRI is the role of overseas Chinese, which was the primary focus of Dr. Xiaohong Wan's talk. He found that this group faces a mixture of challenges and opportunities in the context of the BRI. Finally, Dr. David Kiwuwa brought the discussion back to the local voices that are sometimes neglected in the geopolitics of the BRI. In particular, these scholars found that there is a deep need to understand the status of overseas Chinese, locals' and host countries' views on the BRI, and the BRI's geopolitical dynamics.

The workshop concluded by exploring a project to develop a GIS-enabled digital map and a session to brainstorm ways to integrate the participants' existing research and their graduate-student training, so as to bring forward publications and course-teaching modules on the BRI.

Archiving Loss, Displacement, and Transformations along the Coromandel Coast:

A Digital Project in Collaboration with the French Institute of Pondicherry, India

Vidhya Raveendranathan

Globally under this heading, there has been a proliferation of mega projects, such as roads, bridges, railways, airports, dams, ports, telecommunications, energy systems, special economic zones, and large-scale schemes for urban redevelopment. These stitch together far-flung financial institutions, public and private stakeholders, expertise and planning in the hopes of realizing the modernist dreams of greater connectivity, economic growth, and prosperity. Infrastructure becomes the site for nation states to enact projects of citizenship and aggressively push aspirations regarding employment generation, investment, and the better distribution of resources, while communities worldwide are forced to negotiate the catastrophic consequences of ecological imbalances, the monetization of the commons, the disruption of livelihoods, abandoned projects, and ruin.

In 2015 the Government of India announced an investment of about 92,160 crores for the “integrated management and development of fisheries, aquaculture and marine fisheries,” as well as the construction of physical infrastructure in the form of ports, roads, railways, and rail links through a model of public-private partnership along the Orissa coast to the Cuddalore-Nagapattinam Petroleum Corridor in Tamil Nadu. Derived from an all-encompassing model of coastal infrastructure development proposed under the much touted framework of Sagarmala and the Blue Revolution, this project brought together financiers, transnational corporations, policy consultants, and conservationists to promote a plan for an accelerated export economy and the sustainable use of resources. What is striking about these projects is the vision they promote, their optimism about capital flows, their connectedness and technological modernity, and their contribution to food security, poverty alleviation, and the expansion of trade, investment, and maritime connectivity.

Our collaborative project, part of the Center’s Henry Luce Foundation initiative, entails reversing the historical gaze from the hubris of capitalist modernity associated with these fixed littoral and infrastructural projects to the quotidian social worlds, political economies, and ecologies of coastal communities. In order to help visualize the contingent and amphibious histories of the coast, the changes to ecological landscapes, and the deep sutures in people’s relationships with the land and sea, we propose

to build a digital community archive to track the transformations in both the past and present days. Through a collaboration with a group of historians, geographers, and anthropologists based at the French Institute of Pondicherry, we focus on a few fishing settlements in Cuddalore District, Tamil Nadu, a region that used to be an East India trading port and is now an industrial corridor for energy investments and a large part of the larger petrochemical investment region (PCPIR). Through ethnographic work in this region, our collaborators will undertake three key projects. First, we assess the impact of technological and infrastructural interventions on small-scale fishers who are forced to undertake large-scale mechanized fishing and the effects of new marketing institutions on women fishers. Second, using oral histories and maps, we document how the establishment of a thermal power plant exacerbated coastal erosion, land erosion, and other environmental issues. Third, we collect and curate oral histories of fishermen and their responses to the post-tsunami infusion of capital investments aimed at harnessing profits out of disasters. By recording the myriad ways in which ordinary men and women responded to the crisis and the multiple and often contested frameworks they employed to understand state-led rehabilitation projects, the disasters memories project is an attempt to write against bureaucratic and reductive definitions of calamitous events and to recover voices that have otherwise been silenced by state and institutional discourses. The proposed archive will curate the histories, maps, vernacular newspapers, case histories, stories and poems to capture the effects of all three on these fishing communities.

Besides tracing the erasure of the social, economic, and ecological coastal landscapes, and of the laboring lives in an assemblage of state- and corporate-led projects, the archival project also attempts to trace its own links to the colonial past. Colonialism left its imprint on coastal lives by freezing them in a temporal and spatial stasis. As it sought to territorialize and domesticate the coastline through mapping, censuses, and infrastructural building, the colonial state created artificial boundaries between land and sea, designed the coast, and locked coastal populations into neat compartments. Through an extensive study of colonial photographs, travelogues, and legal texts, the archive will curate representations of coastal and fishing communities and the false genealogies and knowledge created about them treating them as primitive, self-contained, peasant-like, and antiquarian across the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. By putting the past and present into a dialogue, the digital archival project aims to document the ongoing ruination of coastal livelihoods and the continuous reworking of the social and natural space of the coast. Vidhya Raveendranathan and Duane Corpis have taken the lead in developing this collaborative project with the French Institute of Pondicherry.

A Spiritual Home on the Cloud: China-India Artistic Rendezvous in CGA's VR Gallery

Yu Yan

After two years of preparation, a VR exhibition entitled “Flowers on One Stalk: China-India Artistic Interactions in the 20th Century” will be launched on the CGA website in October 2021. The launching of the exhibition is planned to coincide with and celebrate the tenth anniversary of the establishment of NYU Shanghai.

As two of the ancient civilizations in Asia, China and India have built bridges of cooperation, peace, and mutual understanding since the first century CE, when Buddhism was introduced to China. Whether in philosophy, literature, or fine arts, China and India have been blossoming together like twin flowers on one stalk throughout their long-established history. In this forthcoming VR exhibition, more than eighty rare paintings from various collections in China and India will be exhibited to a global audience. Among them are works by Zhang Daqian, Xu Beihong, Gao Jianfu, Ye Qianyu, Shi Lu, and many other preeminent Chinese artists of the twentieth century. In addition, there will also be a large number of paintings by Chang Xiufeng, the first known Chinese art student who went to India in the twentieth century. These valuable artworks not only reveal artistic exchanges between India and China since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries in 1950, but also fill the lacuna in intra-Asian interactions and circulations of artistic traditions during the period leading to decolonization.

The exhibition consists of four galleries. The first gallery, “In Pursuit of the Essence of Art in India,” focuses on the imitative works of Indian paintings such as Ajanta mural paintings, Mughal miniatures, and the tempera paintings of the New Indian Art Movement, as well as sketches of the Indian landscape and local customs by Chinese artists during their travels and exchanges in India in the twentieth century. The second, “New Fusion of Chinese and Indian Art,” will demonstrate new creations by Chinese artists that fuse with the essence of both Chinese and Indian art. For instance, Zhang Daqian's *Dance in the Silent Countryside* (1950), in which the artist skillfully blends the brushwork technique of Chinese Dunhuang figure-painting with the typical dress and dancing posture of indigenous Indian women, presenting the exotic style of Indian women with the unique charm of the Chinese woman in a subtle and restrained manner.



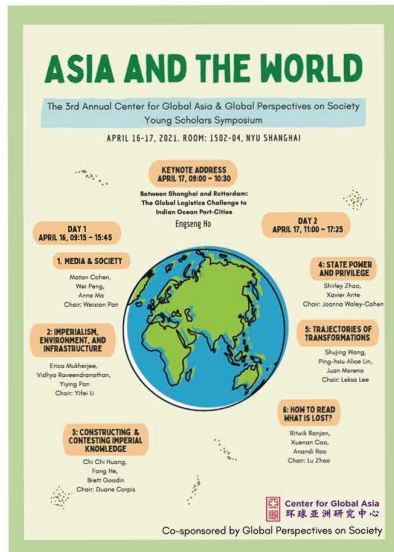
VR Exhibition, Image provided by Yu Yan

Another example is Chang Xiufeng's *Corner of the International University (Santiniketan) Campus*, which depicts the scenes he saw during his study at Santiniketan, the land of peace in India, with Indian tempera color and traditional Chinese painting techniques in the depiction of rocks and mountain, combining the elements of both Chinese and Indian art, and creating a new style. The third gallery, “Arts for the People,” presents the connection between China and India in the transformation of modern Chinese art from elite to public taste after the establishment of the People's Republic of China (PRC). During his visit to China in 1924, the celebrated Indian poet Rabindranath Tagore stressed the importance of art serving the needs of life. He encouraged artists to go out of the studio to depict nature and integrate themselves into the life of the public. In the middle of the twentieth century, when Xu Beihong and Shi Lu returned from their visit to India, they were deeply touched by the indigenous Indian workers, not only for their magnificent physiques, but also for their uprightness in character and sincerity of demeanor. Xu Beihong's most renowned painting, *The Foolish Old Man Moving the Mountain*, was just modeled on the working people of India. The fourth gallery, “Chinese Classical Art in India,” focuses on how Indian audiences have come to accept and enjoy Chinese classical art. This section includes a series of traditional Chinese landscape paintings made by Chang Xiufeng during his study in India, as well as a series of Chinese calligraphy and classical ink paintings created by the established Chinese philosopher Xu Fancheng during his stay in South India. These Chinese artworks have been spoken of highly and are highly treasured by people from all walks of life in the Indian local community.

This exhibition has received generous support from the National Museum of China, the Xu Beihong Memorial Museum, the Ye Qianyu Art Museum, the Guangzhou Art Museum, the Art Museum of the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Sotheby's Hong Kong, the Sri Aurobindo Ashram Trust in India, Shi Dan, daughter of the painter Shi Lu, Chang Zheng and Wang Yizhu, descendants of the painter Chang Xiufeng, and a number of private collectors. We want to express our utmost appreciation and gratitude for the generosity of the above-mentioned organizations and collectors.

The 3rd CGA-GPS Young Scholars Symposium

Shujing Wang and Ping-hsiu Alice Lin



Poster by Roslynn Ang

NYU Shanghai's Center for Global Asia and the school's academic program Global Perspectives of Society co-hosted the third Young Scholars' Symposium on April 16-17, 2021. The Symposium saw the participation of young scholars from NYU Shanghai – primarily postdoctoral and doctoral fellows, as well as recent alumni – engaged in the study of pan-Asian and global connections. Through a total of six panels, the Symposium reexamined the interconnectivity between Asia and the world through multidisciplinary angles, bringing young scholars from different fields to introduce new materials, perspectives, and methods for reassessing current scholarly discourses. The Center's faculty affiliates, Weixian Pan, Yifei Li, Duane Corbis, Joanna Waley-Cohen, Leksa Lee, and Lu Zhao, also joined us as panel chairs and moderators.

The first two panels focused on media and infrastructure. The panelists probed the interplay between institutions and individual narratives, as well as between imperial powers and the environment. Examining photographic illustrations of crimes in late 1940s Shanghai and portrait studios in 1930s Taiwan, the first two papers revealed the different readings of photos across publics and the role of government institutions in circulating and reproducing such images. The following three papers shifted the discussion to the regions of Bengal, Madras, and the Upper Yangtze River. These papers described colonial and imperial efforts to improve and design the infrastructures in the river or coastal environment with varying degrees of success.

The central themes of the third and fourth panels, imperial knowledge and state power, attended to the negotiations between the state or colonial empire and frontier regions:

the British Empire and Hong Kong, the U.S. and Hawaii or Fiji, and Qing China and Manchuria or Guizhou. The five papers depicted the idealization and imagination of the frontier ports, as well as the contests, integration, and nation formation in the borderlands. They also captured the diverse experiences of colonial and imperial audiences, immigrants, sailors, cultivators, and local grassroots, demonstrating the diverging conceptions of place, event, and policies.

The last two panels of the Symposium explored the shifting nature of objects, texts, and other subject matters, particularly how they emerge or are obscured in processes of transformation. Speakers in the fifth panel investigated the trajectories of objects and substances in ritual practices, production, and application procedures in relation to their archaeological, economic, and techno-political contexts in different regions of Central Asia and Southeast Asia. The discussion of the sixth panel examined the disappearance of words, books, and narrations in translation, performance, bibliography, and intellectual history due to historical transformations, local adaptations, and the political culture in either India or China.

The keynote speaker for the Symposium, Engseng Ho, Professor of Anthropology and History at Duke University, gave a talk entitled "Between Shanghai and Rotterdam: The Global Logistics Challenge to Indian Ocean Port-Cities," which echoed the conference theme of "Asia and the World" through a close examination of port cities located between China and Europe. How do port cities rise and fall in a changing world of horizontally integrated production and corporate profits? In this talk, Professor Ho showed how port cities in Asia develop and find new roles in a changing world, shaped by expansive global supply-chain networks and international trade. More than the historical dimension and location, what made certain port cities more successful than others was their ability to draw networks of trade to themselves through logistics and government that act as both state and commercial enterprises. Much like the presentations that preceded and succeeded Ho's talk, a multidisciplinary approach is foregrounded in understanding the movement of commodities and peoples, and the development of infrastructure across port cities and elsewhere.

Most importantly, the presentations and discussions that took place during the 3rd Young Scholars' Symposium highlighted the diversity and complexity of current scholarship on Asia. By extending research into Asia's global connections beyond the frequently studied themes of migration, colonialism, and mercantile networks, the participants in the Symposium opened up questions regarding political ecology, labor, identity, knowledge transmission, and collective imaginaries. The interdisciplinary nature of their research joined a vibrant and important stage in Asian studies in the globalized world.

The 3rd Center for Global Asia & Global Perspectives on Society Young Scholars Symposium Program

April 16–17

Panel I: Media & Society

Chair: Weixian Pan | NYU Shanghai
Wei Peng | NYU Shanghai
Anne Ma | NYU Shanghai

Panel II: Imperialism, Environment, and Infrastructure

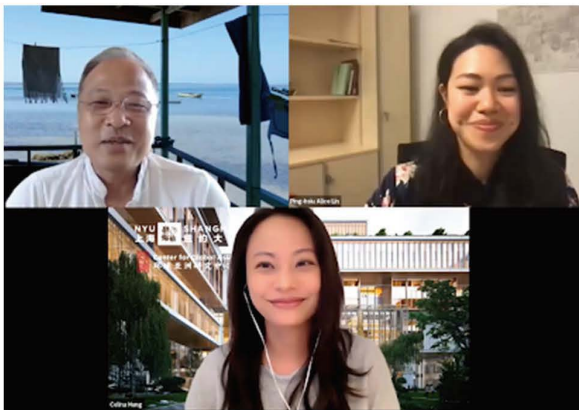
Chair: Yifei Li | NYU Shanghai
Erica Mukherjee | NYU Shanghai
Vidhya Raveendranathan | NYU Shanghai
Yiyang Pan | NYU Shanghai

Panel III: Constructing & Contesting Imperial Knowledge

Chair: Duane Corbis | NYU Shanghai
Chi Chi Huang | NYU Shanghai
Fang He | NYU Shanghai
Brett Goodin | NYU Shanghai

Keynote Address: Between Shanghai and Rotterdam: The Global Logistics Challenge to Indian Ocean Port-Cities

Engseng Ho | Duke University
Introduction by Ping-hsiu Alice Lin, Doctoral Fellow, Center for
Global Asia, NYU Shanghai.



The 3rd CGA-GPS Young Scholars Symposium keynote Zoom webinar.
Screenshot by Haozhe Li

Panel IV: State Power and Privilege

Chair: Joanna Waley-Cohen | NYU Shanghai
Shirley Zhao | Stanford University
Xavier Ante | University of Chicago

Panel V: Trajectories of Transformations

Chair: Leksa Lee | NYU Shanghai
Shujing Wang | NYU Shanghai
Ping-hsiu Alice Lin | NYU Shanghai
Juan Moreno | NYU Shanghai

Panel VI: How to Read What is Lost? Missing History, Missing Objects, Missing Words

Chair: Lu Zhao | NYU Shanghai
Ritwik Ranjan | NYU Shanghai
Xuenan Cao | NYU Shanghai
Anandi Rao | NYU Shanghai

Keynote Abstract:

In this keynote, Professor Engseng Ho explains how port-cities come to dominate rivals in the Indian Ocean, and become icons of globalization. Located between China and Europe, these cities have jockeyed with one another for half a millennium to capture the traffic of world trade. Singapore and Dubai have become such successes in recent decades, positioning themselves as hubs in air-sea multimodal logistics and new global supply-chain networks. Others such as Jedda, Aden, Mocha, Djibouti; Surat, Calicut, Bombay; Malacca, Aceh, Riau, were dominant in previous centuries as maritime ports, and some are repositioning themselves as contenders today and into the future. They keep on their toes: none of them take success or failure for granted. What are the dynamic currents that shape and reshape such places in the Indian Ocean – their constants over the long term, and their recent shifts?



The 3rd CGA-GPS Young Scholars Symposium participants.
Photo by Meizhen Zhu



The 3rd CGA-GPS Young Scholars Symposium panel V.
Photo by Meizhen Zhu

Partnerships and Events with the Royal Asiatic Society China and the China Crossroads



RAS Library. Photo by Haozhe Li

Tzu-hui Celina Hung

During the Spring semester of 2021, the Center broadened its local outreach by forming new partnerships with two of Shanghai's most notable learned societies for locally-based academic and professional audiences: the Royal Asiatic Society China (RAS) and the China Crossroads. We procured an institutional membership of RAS, which now allows NYU Shanghai faculty and staff subscribers to gain discounted rates for both their events and our jointly hosted ones, as well as to access their library archives. With RAS, we also discussed potential editorial collaboration in journal special issues in the near future. On February 6, 2021, the Center's director Tansen Sen gave the first talk for China Crossroads at the Wooden Box café on the topic of "Inventing the 'Maritime Silk Road.'" Later in May and June, NYU Shanghai Provost Joanna Waley-Cohen and Professor Jacqueline Armijo also delivered talks at the events we co-hosted with the two societies, on the respective topics of "China's Openness to the West Preceding the Opium War" and "China's Soft Power Initiatives in the Middle East." With RAS and China Crossroads, we look forward to bringing more high-quality lectures from NYU Shanghai faculty to local audiences.



Professor Tansen Sen gave a talk for China Crossroads at the Wooden Box. Photo by Frank Tsai



Professor Jacqueline Armijo gave a talk for China Crossroads at the Wooden Box. Photo by Frank Tsai



Provost Waley-Cohen from NYU Shanghai gave a talk for China Crossroads at the Wooden Box. Photo by Frank Tsai

Faculty Highlight

Yifei Li

Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies
NYU Shanghai



Yifei's research is primarily concerned with the political underpinning of environmentalism in China, both past and present. His overall research agenda centers around the question of how the increasing salience of environmental protection in Chinese politics challenges or reinforces existing social-science knowledge about contemporary China. Using an interdisciplinary lens, his work engages with multiple social-science and humanities fields. The broad reader reception of his writings, presentations, and practices reflects this orientation.

China Goes Green

Some of Yifei's work advances a macro-sociological analysis of the Chinese state's exercise of environmental power at home and overseas. In his first book, *China Goes Green: Coercive Environmentalism for a Troubled Planet* (Polity 2020), Yifei and his co-author Judith Shapiro of American University probe the concrete mechanisms of China's coercive environmentalism to show how "going green" helps the state to further other agendas such as citizen surveillance and geopolitical influence. Through top-down initiatives, regulations, and campaigns to mitigate pollution and environmental degradation, the Chinese authorities also promote control over the behavior of individuals and enterprises, the pacification of borderlands, and the

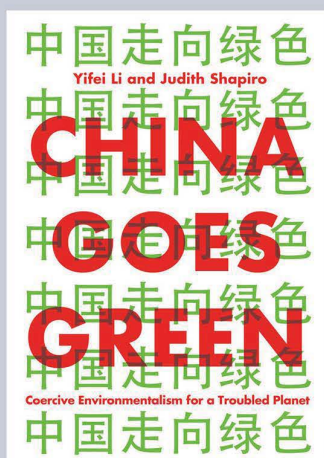
expansion of Chinese power and influence along the Belt and Road and even into the global commons. Given the limited time that remains to mitigate climate change and protect millions of species from extinction, we need to consider whether a green authoritarianism can show us the way. This book explores both its promises and its risks.

Environmentalism of, by, and for the State

Yifei's research also includes micro-sociological inquiries into the rational calculus and sentimental instincts of Chinese state agents. In his next book project, tentatively titled *Environmentalism Of, By, and For the Chinese State*, Yifei draws on concrete evidence from his extensive field-work to provide a richly detailed account of state-backed environmentalism. This monograph advances the central argument that the problem in contemporary China is not the lack of environmental considerations in its state bureaucracy, but the omnipresence of environmentalism to the point of banality. The Chinese state is characterized by environmental "plenty," that is, a systemic overstocking of environmental targets, goals, slogans, rules, mandates, projects, institutions, and even values. This abundance has not led to improvements in China's ecological conditions, nor in the environmental experiences of the Chinese people. This has the unfortunate effect of numbing the environmental sensibility of state officials. Against the constant cacophony of high-minded pronouncements from above and urgent outcries from below, state agents tend to adopt a blasé attitude in their everyday handling of environmental challenges.

Beyond Environmental Politics

An environmental sociologist by training and by heart, Yifei also works on the environmental entanglements of Daoism, extractive activities in the Belt and Road initiative, Shanghai waterfront development and governance, the global green economic transition, and the cultural politics of food, among other exciting topics. His work has appeared in top academic journals, edited volumes, disciplinary handbooks, and popular press outlets.



CGA Fellows 2020–2021



Shujing Wang, Fudan-NYUSH Joint Postdoctoral Fellow, 2020–2021

Shujing received her B.A. from Peking University and obtained an MPhil. and a Ph.D. from the Institute for the Study of the Ancient World at New York University. Her doctoral dissertation, *Pastoralists at the Crossroads: Late Iron Age Kurgan Burials in the Periphery of the Bukhara Oasis*, investigated complex funerary practices, diverse identities, local production, and exchanges in western Central Asia in the Late Iron Age (ca. 3rd century BCE–3rd century CE). She is currently the field director for the archaeological excavations of Bukharan burials in Uzbekistan. She has also excavated at various sites in China, Poland, and Armenia.

Her research interests include Central Asian and Chinese art and archaeology, intercultural exchanges along the Silk Roads, the study of networks, pottery production and behavioral chains. Currently, she is working on a research project entitled *Rethinking the 'Colonization' on the Silk Road: Migration, Exchange, and Social Network of the Turfan Oasis from Late Antiquity to the Early Medieval Period*. Her project aims to visualize the interactions of different migrants archaeologically via the Silk Road networks within the context of the mutual encounters of diverse cultural traditions.



Ping-hsiu Alice Lin, Doctoral Fellow, 2020–2021

Ping-hsiu Alice Lin is a socio-cultural anthropologist with interests in commodity chains, artisanship and labor, environmental colonialism and knowledge production, and China-Pakistan relations. In July 2021 she defended her dissertation, "Precious Economies: Gems and Value-making from the Afghan-Pakistan Borderlands," at the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) and in August 2021 joined the Harvard Academy for International and Area Studies as a postdoctoral fellow.

"Precious Economies" traces the supply chain of colored stones mined in Afghanistan and Pakistan and transported to Thailand, approaching ideas of value and quality in the market by "following" notions of aesthetics, ethics, and authenticity as they circulate across different geographical scales. Anchored in fifteen months of fieldwork in a market in Peshawar, a city in Pakistan near the Afghan border, and visits to a range of other sites across Asia, the project examines the social worlds of miners, cutters, and shuttle traders at the starting nodes of this transnational trade. Her work has been funded by grants from the Wenner-Gren Foundation, CUHK, and EHES.

Ping-hsiu obtained a B.A. in International Relations from the Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales (INALCO) and an MPhil in Asian Studies from the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS), where her thesis focused on the multi-generational histories of ethnic Chinese in Pakistan. She has spent extended periods studying and doing fieldwork in Pakistan, India, and Thailand.



Vidhya Raveendranathan, Doctoral Fellow, 2019–2021

Vidhya Raveendranathan is a doctoral fellow at the Centre for Global Asia. Her dissertation, titled "Fabricating Labor in the Port City of Madras c. 1780-1840," examines how, in contrast to historically contained spatial units such as the factory, ship or plantation, the port city emerged as the key site for the growth of modern labor relations. Taking into account the interaction of heterogeneous groups of labor navigating the quays, beaches, markets, streets, and households, the thesis shows how port cities became the epicentre for various colonial projects to legally constitute, classify, and calibrate a whole range of labor relations. Prior to joining the Center for Global Asia, her research was funded by the German Research Council, fellowships from the German Historical Institute, and European Research Council stipendiums in Göttingen and Berlin. She completed her Master's and MPhil degrees in the History Department at Delhi University. Vidhya has also published articles in journals such as *History Compass*, *Transfers*, and the *Journal of Mobility Studies*, and has co-authored pieces for the news online portal called the Wire. She has also contributed a book chapter to an edited volume by Sabyasachi Bhattacharya and Rana Behal entitled *The Vernacularisation of Labour Politics* (Tulika Books, Delhi, 2016). She is also currently editing a forthcoming special issue on port cities in the Indian Ocean for the *Journal of Indian Ocean World Studies*.

CGA Administrative Team



Minghui Li, Administrator

One of the biggest challenges we faced in this unprecedented year was the need to be resilient and embrace change. Temporarily we learned how to tackle jet lag and time differences when everyone seemed to be working in different time zones. As COVID-19 hindered global travel and everything happened virtually, finding a better way to synchronize our cohorts became our priority for organizing and planning events, symposiums, and meetings. Spatially, we became familiar with commuting between Century Avenue and the Shinmay/Fuhui sites along with our go-local teams, as we contributed our parts to the community's collective efforts to recover normal teaching functions. Navigating ways to coordinate people around the world, with tools such as World Time Planner and Zoom, as well as through mutual support and understanding during evening meetings and calls, we were able to overcome pandemic-induced physical distance and mental challenges, and to truly echo, witness, and shape the connectivity and interdependence of our global network.



Meizhen Zhu, Web Master

During this special and fulfilling year, Meizhen has contributed significantly to the development of an online interactive CGA event calendar, collated all types of CGA events (across Shanghai, New York, and Abu Dhabi), built CGA digital research projects, and enhanced the technical support of fully online CGA events. Together with the entire administrative team, Meizhen's work received much positive feedback from followers of our online platforms. And yet, none of this would have been possible without the CGA family!



Haozhe Li, Associate

Since joining the CGA team in spring 2020, Haozhe has actively participated in the University-wide effort to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. He learned, practiced, and tested various video-conferencing applications, and developed the Zoom webinar and its hosting protocols in order to deliver high-quality academic events both online and in mixed modes for the Center. This activity resulted in sixteen widely-attended webinars, one fully online workshop, and two mixed-mode events being offered during the 2020-2021 academic year. Haozhe prepared the Center's annual Newsletter and event promotional materials on WeChat and MailChimp platforms, and he also supervised student workers and interns working on the database projects. In addition to fulfilling regular responsibilities at the Center, Haozhe also joined the Office of Graduate and Advanced Education to provide essential support to the Graduate Go-Local program, where he served as the student advisor for a total of around three hundred graduate students.



CGA end-of-semester dinner. Photo by restaurant staff



CGA administrative team and doctoral fellow. Photo by Haozhe Li

CGA Interns & Student Workers



Xiao Liang (Maggie), Student Worker

Xiao Liang (Maggie) is a philosophy student due to graduate in 2022. She joined the CGA in March 2019 as a student worker and enjoyed the community here. She likes to dance and write.



Lanxuan Qiao, Student Worker

Lanxuan Qiao is a student in the Class of 2023. She is majoring in Economics and Social Science (Psychology track). This is her second year at the CGA as a student worker, and she really enjoyed this student job. During her leisure time, she likes to go swimming for relaxation.



Hanyue Gai, Intern

Hanyue Gai received her first Bachelor's degree in International Politics and a second Bachelor's degree in Journalism from Fudan University. Currently she is pursuing a Master's degree with a concentration on International Relations at Fudan University. Hanyue joined the CGA as an intern from 2020 to work on the "Asian Studies in China" database.



Siran Pan, Intern

Siran Pan graduated from the Hopkins-Nanjing Center with a Master's degree in International Relations and American Studies. Prior to this, Siran studied International Politics and English at Shandong University. She joined the CGA in June 2020 and has been working as an intern since then. It has been a year since Siran joined the CGA, and she enjoys learning how to gather online data and manage academic databases.



Zhiting Sophia Chen, Intern

Zhiting Sophia Chen is a second-year Master's student at Tsinghua University. Sophia graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from Fudan University. She is currently pursuing a research project on Malay midwives (*bidan*) in British Malaya in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.



Jiayue Zhao, Intern

Jiayue Zhao has been working as a Web intern for the Center since April 2021. She is a sophomore student from Northeastern University, majoring in Computer Science and Design. Jiayue's main job at the CGA is to develop online module websites and help with student website transfers. In her spare time, she loves playing the violin and is part of her school's orchestra.



Yujie Lan (Tracey), Student Worker

Tracey Yujie Lan is a Global China Studies senior (Advanced Track) at NYU Shanghai. She joined the CGA in May 2021. Tracey is passionate about understanding how people from different cultural backgrounds encounter and perceive China. She shares contents ranging from vlogs to studying tips on YouTube and Bilibili. She is recognized as a maker of high-quality educational videos on the Shipinhao platform. She enjoys painting, playing volleyball, and learning different languages.



Qichen Yao (Daniel), Intern

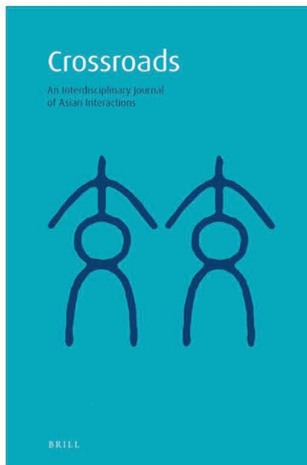
Daniel is a rising sophomore majoring in Media, Culture, and Communication. He joined the Center in May 2021, soon after taking the inspiring class called "the Concept of China" taught by the Center's director, Professor Tansen Sen. Other than studying, he enjoys reading, watching films, and doing yoga.

CGA Publications

Crossroads: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Asian Interactions

Edited by Angela Schottenhammer and Tansen Sen

Crossroads is designed as an international forum for contributions related to the analysis of exchange relations, connections and interactions across the Asian world. The “Asian World” in this context connotes not only the (Eur-) Asian continent and countries in adjacent maritime spaces, such as the Indian Ocean or the Asia-Pacific, but regions elsewhere that are connected to Asia through trade, politics, science and knowledge transfer, diffusion of ideas, culture, migration, etc. These connections can be continental (overland) or maritime (overseas), bilateral or multilateral, as well as empirical or imaginary. The journal welcomes contributions that offer new insights into the history of Asian connections and interactions, employing disciplinary or interdisciplinary frameworks, analysing archaeological, textual, oral, visual, or other sources, and can range from historical studies to contemporary topics.



Vol 19, No 2 (2020)

Special Issue Introduction (Erica Fox Brindley)

Trade Relations between the Đại Việt Kingdom and the Song Empire in the Long Twelfth Century (James A. Anderson)

The Power of Representation: Mimesis and Alterity in Nanzhao-Tang Relations (Megan Bryson)

The Sông Cai (Red River) Delta, the Chinese Diaspora, and the Trần/Chen Clan of Đại Việt (John K. Whitmore)

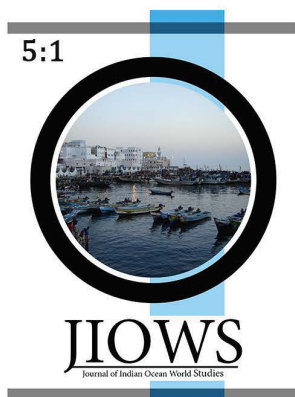
The Đông Sơn Speech Community: Evidence for Vietic (Mark J. Alves)

On Pinghua, and Yue: Some Historical and Linguistic Perspectives (Hilário de Sousa)

Sengupta, Nilanjana. *Votive Pen: Writings on Edwin Thumboo*. Singapore: Penguin Books, 2020. (Book review by Tzu-hui Celina Hung)

The Journal of Indian Ocean World Studies

CGA jointly edits *The Journal of Indian Ocean World Studies* (JIEWS) with the Indian Ocean World Center, McGill University. JIEWS publishes original peer-reviewed articles by established and emerging scholars in the social sciences and related disciplines that contribute to an understanding of the Indian Ocean World (IOW) and its constituent parts, from early times to the present day. The IOW is here defined as a macro-region running from Africa to the Far East, comprising both maritime and terrestrial zones.



Vol 5, No 1 (2021)

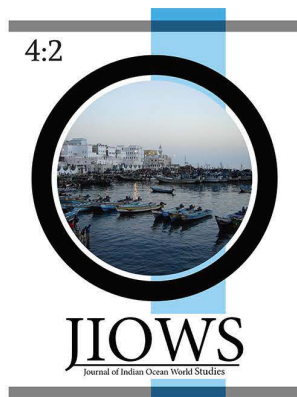
Guest Editors: Vidhya Raveendranathan and Duane Corpis

“Owned Them Like a Father”: Labor Contractors, Port Workers, and the Makings of Ethnicity in Singapore (Laura Wing Mei Yan)

William Tolly and His Canal: Navigating Calcutta in the Late-eighteenth Century (Kaustubh Mani Sengupta)

Shifting Tides: The Port City of Mombasa and the First World War (Daniel Steinbach)

The Indus Delta Between Past And Future: Precarious Livelihoods and Neoliberal Imaginaries in a Parched Coastal Belt (Hasan H. Karrar)



Vol 4, No 2 (2021)

Editorial Introduction: Editors of the *JIOWS* 75

The Indian Ocean as a Diasporic Space: A Conceptual Introduction (Iain Walker, Martin Slama) 76–90

'Being Chinese' in Mauritius and Madagascar: Comparing Chinese Diasporic Communities in the Western Indian Ocean (Federica Guccini, Mingyuan Zhang) 91–117

Reimagining the Aapravasi Ghat: Khal Torabully's Poetry and the Indentured Diaspora (Shanaaz Mohammed) 118–143

An Imagined Diaspora: The Making of Shi'i Muslim Ethnicity in Sri Lanka (Harun Rasiah) 144–164

Preserving and Transmitting the Teachings of the Thariqah 'Alawiyyah: Diasporic Ba 'Alawi Female Preachers in Contemporary Indonesia (Fatimah Husein) 165–187

The Hadrami Diaspora: A "Diaspora for Others" in the Indian Ocean (Iain Walker) 188–211

China Connections

The Newsletter is a free academic publication produced three times a year by the International Institute for Asian Studies. With a worldwide readership of about 50,000, *The Newsletter* is the premier Asian Studies forum for Asia scholars to share commentary and opinion; research essays; book, journal and website reviews; and announcements of events, projects and conferences, with colleagues in academia and beyond. Since 2016, CGA has been jointly editing the "China Connections" section of *The Newsletter* with the Asia Research Center at Fudan University.



Things on the Move: Material Culture and Connectivity in Ancient China (*The Newsletter* 86 Summer 2020)

Edited by Fan Zhang

Things on the Move: Material Culture and Connectivity in Ancient China (Fan Zhang) 45

Interregional Transmissions of Bronze Mirrors with Geometric Decorations in Early China (Yanlong Guo) 45

Tracing the Exotica: Sasanian Glassware in Inner Mongolia (Maliya Aihaiti) 46

Making the Sacred: Relics and Reliquaries in Medieval China (Wei Yu) 46

Blue-and-White Porcelain on Shangchuan Island: Chinese-Portuguese Trade during the Ming Dynasty (Dashun Xiao) 47

Transnational Exchange of Metallic Commodities during the Era of the Canton Trade (Chao Huang) 47



India–China Artistic Engagements in the 20th Century (*The Newsletter* 87 Autumn 2020)

Edited by Yu Yan

India–China Artistic Engagements in the 20th Century (Yu Yan) 18

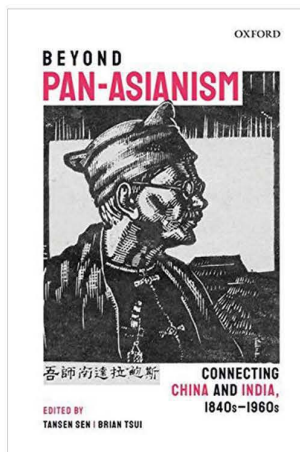
A Forgotten Place (Yu Yan) 18

In Search of a Forgotten Dialogue. Sino–Indian Artistic Discourse in the Early 20th Century (Amitava Bhattacharya) 20

Land of Peace. Chang Xiufeng's Decades-old Paintings Trace India–China Links (Sowmiya Ashok) 20

Xu Fancheng: a Chinese Scholar, Artist and Sage in 20th Century India (Devdip Ganguli) 21

Recent Books by CGA Faculty

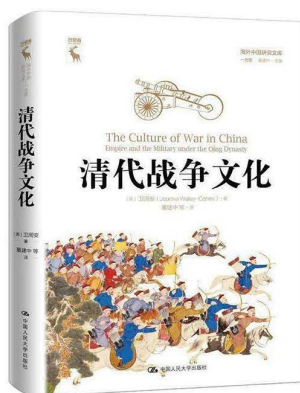


Beyond Pan-Asianism: Connecting China and India, 1840s-1960s

New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2020

Edited by Tansen Sen and Brian Tsui

Within Asia, the period from 1840s to 1960s had witnessed the rise and decline of Pax Britannica, the growth of multiple and often competing anti-colonial movements, and the entrenchment of the nation-state system. *Beyond Pan-Asianism* seeks to demonstrate the complex interactions between China, India, and their neighbouring societies against this background of imperialism and nationalist resistance. The contributors to this volume, from India, the West, and the Chinese-speaking world, cover a tremendous breadth of figures, including novelists, soldiers, intelligence officers, archivists, among others, by deploying published and archival materials in multiple Asian and Western languages. This volume also attempts to answer the question of how China–India connectedness in the modern period should be narrated. Instead of providing one definite answer, it engages with prevailing and past frameworks—notably ‘Pan-Asianism’ and ‘China/India as Method’—with an aim to provoke further discussions on how histories of China–India and, by extension the non-Western world, can be conceptualized.



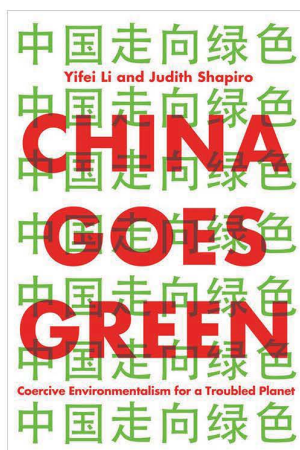
The Culture of War in China: Empire and the Military under the Qing Dynasty

Beijing: China Renmin University Press, 2020

By Joanna Waley-Cohen

Translated by Jianzhong Dong

Was the primary focus of the Qing dynasty really civil rather than military matters? In this ground-breaking book, Joanna Waley-Cohen overturns conventional wisdom to put warfare at the heart of seventeenth and eighteenth century China. She argues that the civil and the military were understood as mutually complementary forces. Emperors underpinned military expansion with a wide-ranging cultural campaign intended to bring military success, and the martial values associated with it, into the mainstream of cultural life. *The Culture of War in China* is a striking revisionist history that brings new insight into the roots of Chinese nationalism and the modern militarised state.



China Goes Green: Coercive Environmentalism for a Troubled Planet

Cambridge, UK: Polity, 2020

By Yifei Li and Judith Shapiro

What does it mean for the future of the planet when one of the world's most durable authoritarian governance systems pursues “ecological civilization”? Despite its staggering pollution and colossal appetite for resources, China exemplifies a model of state-led environmentalism which concentrates decisive political, economic, and epistemic power under centralized leadership. On the face of it, China seems to embody hope for a radical new approach to environmental governance.

In this thought-provoking book, Yifei Li and Judith Shapiro probe the concrete mechanisms of China's coercive environmentalism to show how ‘going green’ helps the state to further other agendas such as citizen surveillance and geopolitical influence. Through top-down initiatives, regulations, and campaigns to mitigate pollution and environmental degradation, the Chinese authorities also promote control over the behavior of individuals and enterprises, pacification of borderlands, and expansion of Chinese power and influence along the Belt and Road and even into the global commons. Given the limited time that remains to mitigate climate change and protect millions of species from extinction, we need to consider whether a green authoritarianism can show us the way. This book explores both its promises and risks.

Recent Articles by CGA Faculty

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CGA Events Fall 2020



October 6 Book Launch

China Goes Green: Coercive Environmentalism for a Troubled Planet

Yifei Li | Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies, NYU Shanghai, PRC

Judith Shapiro | Director of the Masters in Natural Resources and Sustainable Development
American University, USA

October 23–24 Henry Luce Workshop

Indian Ocean Port Cities Workshop

Binoy Bhushan Agarwal | University of Delhi, India

Perna Agarwal | Ashoka University, India

Madhumita Chatterjee | Vanderbilt University, USA

Amrita Chattopadhyay | Jawaharlal Nehru University, India

Duane Corpis | NYU Shanghai, PRC

Manami Goto | Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Japan & University of Exeter, UK

Tzu-hui Celina Hung | NYU Shanghai, PRC

Marina Kaneti | National University of Singapore, Singapore

Ping-hsiu Alice Lin | NYU Shanghai, PRC

Alexander Major | Université de Montréal, Canada

Andrew MacDonald | University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa

Elke Papelitzky | Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium

Vidhya Raveendranathan | NYU Shanghai, PRC & Universität Göttingen, Germany

Tansen Sen | NYU Shanghai, PRC

Nancy Um | Binghamton University, USA

Shujing Wang | NYU Shanghai, PRC

Zhexin Xu | University of Salzburg, Austria



October 24 Henry Luce Workshop Keynote

Viewing Mocha from Sea, Air, and Land

Nancy Um | Professor of Art History
Binghamton University, USA



November 5 Mongols and the World

Environmental Aspects of the Mongol Conquest

Nicola Di Cosmo | Luce Foundation Professor in East Asian Studies
Institute for Advanced Study, USA



November 12 Mongols and the World

Religious Tolerance and Inter-Religious Encounters in the Mongol Empire

Jonathan Brack | Assistant Professor, Department of Middle Eastern Studies
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel



November 17 CGA Lecture Series

Sinophone Queer Homecoming as Tactics of Interventions

Eng Kiong TAN | Associate Professor of Comparative Literature and Sinophone Studies
Stony Brook University, USA



December 3 Mongols and the World

The Mongol Imperial Space: From Universalism to Glocalization

Michal Biran | Professor, Dept. of Asian Studies, Dept. of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies
Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel



December 8 CGA Lecture Series

Sex Work, Media Networks, and Transpacific Histories of Affect

Lily Wong | Associate Professor, Dept. of Literature; Critical Race Gender and Culture Studies
American University, USA

CGA Events Spring 2021



February 23 Global Asia Lecture Series

Revolutionary Bodies: The Transnational History of Modern Chinese Dance

Emily Wilcox | Associate Professor of Chinese Studies
William & Mary, USA



March 16 CGA Lecture Series

Hong Kong Women in Diaspora

Gina Marchetti | Professor and Director, Center for the Study of Globalization and Cultures
The University of Hong Kong, HK SAR, PRC



March 26 Henry Luce Lecture on the Indian Ocean

Indian Ocean Studies: How Did We Get Here and Where Are We Going? A historian's perspective

Edward Alpers | Research Professor (Emeritus)
University of California, Los Angeles, USA



April 8 Global Asia Lecture Series

Identity, Security, and China: National Humiliation Discourse in the 2020s

William A. Callahan | Professor of International Relations
London School of Economics and Political Science, UK



April 13 Global Asia Lecture Series

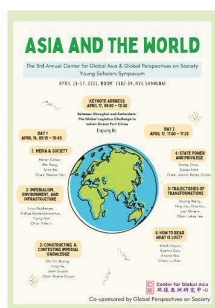
Paul Robeson, Joris Ivens, and Modern China

Liang Luo | Associate Professor, Chinese Studies
University of Kentucky, USA

April 16–17 The 3rd CGA-GPS Young Scholars Symposium

Asia and the World

Roslynn Ang | NYU Shanghai, PRC
Xavier Ante | University of Chicago, USA
Xuenan Cao | NYU Shanghai, PRC & Duke University, USA
Duane Corpis | NYU Shanghai, PRC
Brett Goodin | NYU Shanghai, PRC
Fang He | NYU Shanghai, PRC
Engseng Ho | Duke University, USA
Chi Chi Huang | NYU Shanghai, PRC
Tzu-hui Celina Hung | NYU Shanghai, PRC
Leksa Lee | NYU Shanghai, PRC
Yifei Li | NYU Shanghai, PRC
Ping-hsiu Alice Lin | NYU Shanghai, PRC
Anne Ma | NYU Shanghai, PRC
Juan Moreno | NYU Shanghai, PRC
Erica Mukherjee | NYU Shanghai, PRC
Yiying Pan | NYU Shanghai, PRC
Weixian Pan | NYU Shanghai, PRC
Wei Peng | NYU Shanghai, PRC
Ritwik Ranjan | NYU Shanghai, PRC
Anandi Rao | NYU Shanghai, PRC
Vidhya Raveendranathan | NYU Shanghai, PRC
Tansen Sen | NYU Shanghai, PRC
Joanna Waley-Cohen | NYU Shanghai, PRC
Shujing Wang | NYU Shanghai, PRC
Lu Zhao | NYU Shanghai, PRC
Shirley Zhao | Stanford University, USA



April 17 The 3rd CGA-GPS Young Scholars Symposium Keynote

Between Shanghai and Rotterdam: The Global Logistics Challenge to Indian Ocean Port-Cities

Engseng Ho | Professor of Anthropology and Professor of History
Duke University, USA



April 27 CGA Lecture Series

The Thief Who Stole My Story: Self-Narration and Metafiction in Sinoophone Literature from Thailand

Rebecca Ehrenwirth | Assistant Professor of Translation
University of Applied Sciences/SDI Munich, Germany



May 4 CGA Lecture Series

Which Global? Circulating Chinese Drama and Theatre in Europe, the Americas, and Southeast Asia

Josh Stenberg | Senior Lecturer in Chinese Studies
The University of Sydney, Australia

CGA Affiliated Faculty



Jacqueline Armijo

Visiting Associate
Professor of History



Maria Adele Carrai

Assistant Professor of
Global China Studies



Jian Chen

Distinguished Global Net-
work Professor of History



Wu-Wei Chen

Assistant
Arts Professor



Zhihong Chen

Research Professor



Duane Corpis

Associate Professor
of History



Anna Greenspan

Assistant Professor of
Contemporary Global Media



ChengHe Guan

Assistant Professor of
Urban Design



Eric Hundman

Assistant Professor of
Political Science



Leksa Lee

Clinical Asst. Professor of Global
China Studies and Anthropology



Heather Ruth Lee

Assistant Professor of
History



Xuan Li

Assistant Professor of
Psychology



Yifei Li

Assistant Professor of
Environmental Studies



Jia Miao

Assistant Professor Faculty
Fellow of Sociology



Weixian Pan

Assistant Professor of
Interactive Media Arts



Ivan Rasmussen

Assistant Professor of Practice
in Political Science



Lena Scheen

Assistant Professor of
Global China Studies



Francesca Tarocco

Visiting Associate
Professor of Buddhist Cultures



Lu Teng

Assistant Professor of
Philosophy



Paolo Visigalli

Visiting Scholar
in Residence



Joanna Waley-Cohen

Provost and Julius Silver
Professor of History



Brad Weslake

Associate Professor of
Philosophy



Xiaogang Wu

Yufeng Global Professor of
Social Science



Lu Zhao

Assistant Professor of
Global China Studies



Lala Zuo

Associate Professor of Art
History



Chinese New Year gathering. Photo by Tansen Sen



Group photo after 2021 commencement ceremony.
Photo by NYU Shanghai Student

Photo Gallery



Dinner. Photo by restaurant staff



Chinese New Year gathering. Photo by Yuxi Tian



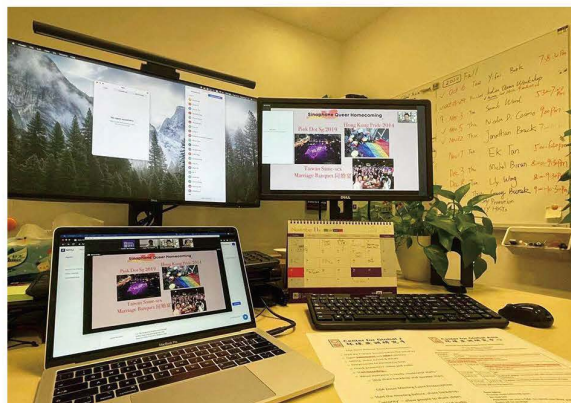
Shanghai Museum. Photo by Shujing Wang



Group photo after the Young Scholars Symposium. Photo by Haozhe Li



CGA team playing badminton. Photo by Haozhe Li



Zoom Webinar "backstage". Photo by Haozhe Li

Forthcoming Fall 2021 Speakers

Jairam Ramesh | *Rajya Sabha MP*

Francesca Orsini | *SOAS*

Saskia Schaefer | *Humboldt University*

Romila Thapar | *Jawaharlal Nehru University*

Tim Winter | *University of Western Australia*

Bin Xu | *Emory University*

Alexa Alice Joubin | *George Washington University*

Sujung Kim | *DePauw University*

Center for Global Asia
全球亚洲研究中心

Co-sponsored by the Global China Studies Program

Book Launch

China Goes Green

Coercive Environmentalism for a Troubled Planet

Vifai Li

Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies, NYU Shanghai

Global Network Assistant Professor, NYU

Judith Shapiro

Director of the Institute in Natural Resources and Sustainable Development

The School of International Service

Brandeis University

Date: October 6, 2020

Time: 19:00 - 20:30 Shanghai

Register here to receive Zoom event invitation.

Introduction by Maria Montoya

Dean of Arts and Sciences, Global Network Associate Professor of History, NYU Shanghai

Associate Professor of History, NYU

Center for Global Asia
全球亚洲研究中心

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HENRY LUCE FOUNDATION INDIAN OCEAN DISTINGUISHED LECTURE

VIEWING MOCHA

FROM SEA, AIR, AND LAND

9:00 - 10:30AM | OCTOBER 24

SHANGHAI

Nancy Um

Professor of Art History

Associate Dean for Faculty Development and Inclusion, Harper College

Brighton University

RSVP via QR code to receive Zoom event invitation.

Introduction by Tiansen Sen, Professor of History

Director of the Center for Global Asia, NYU Shanghai

Center for Global Asia
全球亚洲研究中心

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HENRY LUCE FOUNDATION GLOBAL ASIA LECTURE

Environmental Aspects of the Mongol Conquest

Speaker: Nicola Di Cosmo

Henry Luce Foundation Professor of East Asian Studies

The Institute for Advanced Study

Date: November 5th

Time: 9:00-10:30PM Shanghai

RSVP via QR code to receive Zoom event invitation.

Introduction by Tiansen Sen, Professor of History

Director of the Center for Global Asia, NYU Shanghai

Center for Global Asia
全球亚洲研究中心

Co-sponsored by the Global China Studies Program

HENRY LUCE FOUNDATION GLOBAL ASIA LECTURE

Religious Tolerance and Inter-Religious Encounters in the Mongol Empire

7:00 - 8:30 pm | November 12

Shanghai

Speaker: Jonathan Brack

Assistant Professor in the Department of Middle East Studies

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel

RSVP via QR code to receive Zoom event invitation.

Introduction by Tiansen Sen, Professor of History

Director of the Center for Global Asia, NYU Shanghai

Center for Global Asia
全球亚洲研究中心

Co-sponsored by the Global China Studies Program

Sinophone Queer Homecoming as Tactics of Interventions

5:00 - 6:30 pm

Shanghai

November 17

Speaker: E. K. Tan

Associate Professor of Comparative Literature and Sinophone Studies

Department of English, and Asian and Asian American Studies

Suny Bingham University

RSVP via QR code to receive Zoom event invitation.

Introduction by Celine Hong, Assistant Professor of Literature

Interim Director of the Center for Global Asia, NYU Shanghai

Center for Global Asia
全球亚洲研究中心

Co-sponsored by the Global China Studies Program

HENRY LUCE FOUNDATION GLOBAL ASIA LECTURE

The Mongols' Imperial Space: From Universalism to Glocalization

6:00 - 7:30 pm

Shanghai

December 3 2020

Speaker: Michael Harkin

Professor, Department of Asian Studies and Department of History and Modern Eastern Studies

Hebrew University of Jerusalem

RSVP via QR code to receive Zoom event invitation.

Introduction by Tiansen Sen, Professor of History

Director of the Center for Global Asia, NYU Shanghai

Center for Global Asia
全球亚洲研究中心

Co-sponsored by the Global China Studies Program

Sex Work, Media Networks, and Transpacific Histories of Affect

8:00 - 9:30 pm

Shanghai

December 8

Speaker: Lily Wong

Associate Professor, Department of Literature

Cultural Policy Studies and Cultural Studies

American University

RSVP via QR code to receive Zoom event invitation.

Introduction by Celine Hong, Assistant Professor of Literature

Interim Director of the Center for Global Asia, NYU Shanghai

Center for Global Asia
全球亚洲研究中心

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Global Asia Lecture Series: China and the World

Revolutionary Bodies

9:00 - 10:30 pm

Shanghai

February 23 2021

Speaker: Emily Wilcox

Associate Professor of Chinese Studies

Department of Modern Languages and Literature

Willam & Mary

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Introduction and moderation by Bin Tan

Assistant Asia Professor of Chinese, NYU Shanghai

Center for Global Asia
全球亚洲研究中心

Co-sponsored by the Global China Studies Program

HONG KONG WOMEN IN DIASPORA

7:00 - 8:30 pm

Shanghai

March 16 2021

Speaker: Gina Marchetti

Director of the Center for the Study of Globalization and Culture

The University of Hong Kong

RSVP via QR code to receive Zoom event invitation.

Introduction by Celine Hong, Assistant Professor of Literature

Interim Director of the Center for Global Asia, NYU Shanghai

Center for Global Asia
全球亚洲研究中心

Co-sponsored by the Global China Studies Program

HENRY LUCE LECTURE on the Indian Ocean

Indian Ocean Studies: How Did We Get Here and Where Are We Going? A Historian's Perspective

Center for Global Asia
全球亚洲研究中心

Co-sponsored by the Global China Studies Program

Global Asia Lecture Series: China and the World

Identity, Security, and China: National Humiliation Discourse in the 2020s

11:15 am - 12:30 pm

Shanghai

April 8 2021

Center for Global Asia
全球亚洲研究中心

Co-sponsored by the Global China Studies Program

Global Asia Lecture Series: China and the World

Chee Lai

Paul Robeson, Joris Ivens, and Modern China

Center for Global Asia, NYU Shanghai

The Center for Global Asia at NYU Shanghai serves as the hub within the NYU Global Network University system to promote the study of Asian interactions and comparisons, both historical and contemporary. The overall objective of the Center is to provide global societies with information on the contexts for the reemerging connections between the various parts of Asia through research and teaching. This includes exploring how the politics and societies of Asia have interacted over time and are now beginning to interact again on broad fronts. The Center also encourages the examination of Asia's connections with the wider world, focusing specifically on how these connections have in the past and at present impact Asian societies.

Center for Global Asia
全球亚洲研究中心

Co-sponsored by Global Perspectives on Society

2. POPULARIZATION, ENVIRONMENTALISM, AND INFRASTRUCTURE

3. TALKING BACK TO TRANSFORMATIONS

4. HOW TO READ WHAT IS LOST?

5. CONSTRUCTING A CENTRING IMPERIAL KNOWLEDGE

Shing Hong

Professor of Chinese Studies

Department of Chinese Studies

Chinese University of Hong Kong

Chai Chi-hung

Associate Professor of Chinese Studies

Department of Chinese Studies

Chinese University of Hong Kong

Introduction by Celine Hong, Assistant Professor of Literature

Interim Director of the Center for Global Asia, NYU Shanghai

Center for Global Asia
全球亚洲研究中心

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Global Asia Lecture Series: China and the World

Which Global?

6:00 - 7:30 pm

Shanghai

May 4 2021

Speaker: Josh Stenberg

Senior Lecturer in Chinese Studies

University of Sydney

RSVP via QR code to receive Zoom event invitation.

Introduction by Celine Hong, Assistant Professor of Literature

Interim Director of the Center for Global Asia, NYU Shanghai

Center for Global Asia
全球亚洲研究中心

Co-sponsored by the Global China Studies Program

Global Asia Lecture Series: China and the World

Circulating Chinese Drama and Theatre in Europe, the Americas, and Southeast Asia

6:00 - 7:30 pm

Shanghai

May 4 2021

Speaker: Josh Stenberg

Senior Lecturer in Chinese Studies

University of Sydney

RSVP via QR code to receive Zoom event invitation.

Introduction by Celine Hong, Assistant Professor of Literature

Interim Director of the Center for Global Asia, NYU Shanghai



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