CGA Newsletter

Center for Global Asia

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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

Due to the spread of COVID-19, the 2019-20 academic year has been a distressing period for students, faculty, and researchers around the world. The Center for Global Asia has been no exception. After an active fall semester in 2019, beginning with the Center’s flagship Annual Conference in late August, all events scheduled for the spring 2020 semester and the summer were cancelled. It is unlikely that any in-person event will take place during the fall 2020 semester either. However, despite the limitations imposed by the pandemic, the Center has continued to be productive in its academic work. It has been editing two journals, The Journal of the Indian Ocean World Studies and Crossroads: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Asian Interactions; continued research activities related to the Henry Luce project on “Port Cities Environments in Global Asia”; and it has added to the database projects on “Asian Studies in China” and “China-India Studies.”

The past academic year also saw the arrival of new staff members at the Center. Professor Celina Hung joined us as the Associate Director, Li Minghui as the Administrator and Li Haozhe as the Associate. I welcome all of them to the Center.

During the fall 2020 semester the Center plans to start several webinar series, including one on Mongol history in collaboration with NYU and NYU Abu Dhabi, and a monthly lecture series on Global Asia. It will also organize the second Port Cities Workshop, albeit as an online forum. Additionally, as part of the Henry Luce project, the Center will be involved in creating teaching modules for courses on Global Asia topics, starting with one on the Mongols in World History. As with other institutions around the world, the Center for Global Asia will adjust to the new circumstances and forge ahead with its activities and research agenda. The Center intends to be globally engaged and will continue to foster knowledge about Asia among faculty members and students at NYU Shanghai.

Please stay safe and well.

Tansen Sen
Professor of History
NYU Shanghai
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2019 Annual Conference of Center for Global Asia

Asian Migration

August 26–28, 2019

Co-sponsored by the Institute of Chinese Study at Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences, Asia Research Center at Fudan University, Henry Luce Foundation Project on Port Cities Environments in Global Asia, and NYU Shanghai University Communications

Duane Corpis

From August 26 to the 28, the Center for Global Asia at NYU Shanghai held its 2019 Annual Conference on the theme of “Asian Migration.” Between 1850 and 1930 there was unprecedented growth in Asian migration due to the widespread political and economic transformations in Asia that were associated with European expansion. Around seven million people from Qing and Republican China settled in Southeast Asia during this period. Many also went to South Asia and Europe, while others arrived in Africa and the Americas, embedded within the indentured labor movement and drawn by the California Gold Rush respectively. Moreover, about six million Indians settled in Southeast Asia, and millions of others migrated to Africa, Australia and the Americas as indentured laborers. Migrations of Chinese and Indians continued throughout most of the twentieth century up until the present day. The geographical mobility of women and men from Japan, Korea, Southeast Asia, and West Asia within and beyond Asia paralleled the movement of Chinese and Indian migrants. This movement of Asians has shaped the history and culture of different regions of the world, fostered cross-regional connections, led to the spread and mixing of religious beliefs, created different cuisines, and complicated the concepts of national and cultural identities. Given the complexity of the theme that was investigated at the CGA’s fourth annual conference, panelists agreed that it was not sufficient to explain migration through material circumstances and discourses alone, nor by investigating the types of infrastructure, sociocultural formations, ecological changes, and new modes of knowledge that result; it also meant confronting the conceptual elasticity of the term “migration” and uncovering the historical connectedness of individual Asian societies.

Conference participants represented a range of institutions, including the University of Singapore, the University of Hong Kong, Tsinghua University, Shiv Nadar University, Rice University, the University of the Philippines, the National Taipei University of Education, Michigan State University, Nanyang Technological University, the Institute of Ethnology at Academia Sinica, Waseda University, National Chung Cheng University, Peking University, Jilin University, Korea University, and Duke Kunshan, as well as NYU, NYU Abu Dhabi and NYU Shanghai. In addition, this year our participants included artists, performers, and non-academic professionals engaged closely with the social and political worlds of migrants and migrations in Asia.

Thematically, the conference covered a wide range of topics and places, including transgendered migrants’ experiences as refugees in Thailand, Turkish and South Asian tourists as travelers through imperial realms, and Chinese foodways transmitted across immigration routes to the United States. The question of what it means for a country to be a land of immigration – especially any nation traditionally considered to be “homogeneous,” such as Japan or Korea – was explored by several speakers, as was the question of legal immigration restrictions and the social effects such barriers have had upon migrations of Asian populations within Asia and beyond. These issues were also raised in the stimulating and provocative keynote address delivered by Brenda S.A. Yeoh of National University of Singapore, entitled “Transnational Migrations, Plural Diversities, and Spaces of Encounter in Singapore.”

The conference was generously funded with support from the Center for Global Asia at NYU Shanghai, the NYU Shanghai University Communications, Fudan University, the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences, and the Luce Foundation.
2019 Annual Conference Program
August 26-28

Panel I: Imperial Itineraries: The Politics of Travelers and Traveling within and across Empires
Chair: Duane Corpus | NYU Shanghai
David Ludden | New York University
Elvan Cobb | Rice University
Devleena Ghosh | University of Technology Sydney

Panel II: Asian Migrations and Encounters in Contact Zones
Chair: Tzu-hui Celina Hung | NYU Shanghai
Choy Fong Theodora Lam | National University of Singapore
Jian An Liew | National University of Singapore
Kelvyn Wee | National University of Singapore
Kristel Anne Aceveda | National University of Singapore

Panel III: Migrations in East Asia
Chair: Hongyan Gu | Institute of China Studies, Shanghai
Academy of Social Sciences
Chunji Xuan | Jilin University
In-Jin Yoon | Korea University
Hideki Tarumoto | Waseda University

Keynote Address: Transnational Migrations, Plural Diversities and the Spaces of Encounter in Singapore
Brenda S.A. Yeoh | National University of Singapore
Introduction by Joanna Waley-Cohen, Provost and Professor of History, NYU Shanghai; Julius Silver Professor of History, NYU.

Keynote Abstract:
Contemporary postcolonial migration is a compelling force increasing diversity in globalising cities such as Singapore. Amidst multiplicities of diversities, processes of enclavement and encounter along a spectrum of self/other divides, occur alongside those of selective acculturation and negotiated co-existence as people with different histories and geographies meet and take stock of one another in the constant (re)making of diversities. While civility in public spaces (“ritualised codes of etiquette”) is often taken to be the key litmus test for private prejudices/moralities, it is equally important to rethink the politics of diversity and migrant encounter in private spaces, where “the other” may be strange and unfamiliar, but may well be the intimacy of its streets but the intimacies of its homes need to be “places of self-knowledge, not fear” (Sennett, 2001).

Panel IV: The Chinese in India
Chair: Marina Kaneti | National University of Singapore
Tansen Sen | NYU Shanghai
Piya Chakraborty | Shiv Nadar University
Yin Cao | Tsinghua University

Panel V: Asians in Africa
Chair: Shirin Esther Edwin | NYU Shanghai
Cheryl Schmida | NYU Shanghai
Derek Sheridan | Institute of Ethnology, Academia Sinica
Liang Xu | Peking University

Panel VI: Asians in the Americas
Chair: David Ludden | New York University
Fang He | NYU Shanghai
Heather Ruth Lee | NYU Shanghai
Tina Shrestha | Waseda University
Deirdre Harkins | New York University

Panel VII: Representing Southeast Asian (Im)mobile Life in Contemporary Taiwan
Chair: Brenda S.A. Yeoh | National University of Singapore
Yun-Chan Liao | CommonWealth Magazine
Tzu-hui Celina Hung | NYU Shanghai
Tsung-Lung Tsai | National Chung Cheng University
Hsin-Chin Evelyn Hsieh | National Taipei University of Education

Panel VIII: The Chinese in Southeast Asia: Colonial Modernity, Wartime Exile and Identity Politics
Chair: Tansen Sen | NYU Shanghai
Anh Sy Huy Le | Michigan State University
Qian Zhu | Duke Kunshan University
Xiaorong Han | The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Panel IX: Between Home and a More Hospitalite Place: Migration and Transgender Identity Affirmation in Southeast Asia
Chair: Jaya Jacobo | University of Philippines
Brenda Rodriguez Alegre | University of Hong Kong
Leo Fernandez Almero | Emerson Electric [Asia] Limited
Prempeenda Pramoj Na Ayutthaya | Rainbow Sky Association of Thailand
Shieko Reto | Freelance Artist
Hendri Yulis | Independent Writer and Researcher

Panel X: Port Cities and Environmental Governance in the Age of Global China
Chair: Mark Swislocki | NYU Abu Dhabi
Yifei Li | NYU Shanghai
Marina Kaneti | National University of Singapore
Ayesha Omer | New York University

Model of North Boot Quay (Singapore) presented at the Colonial and Indian Exhibition in London in 1886.
Henry Luce Port Cities Workshop: Indian Ocean Port Cities and Their Hinterlands

Elke Papelitzky & Vidhya Raveendranathan

An open call for applications for a Workshop on “Indian Ocean Port Cities and their Hinterlands” resulted in over seventy submissions. The Selection Committee, composed of Professor Duane Corris, Professor Tansen Sen, and the Center’s doctoral and postdoctoral fellows, identified 25 participants from around the world. It was decided that a workshop having the primary aim of publishing the papers presented should take place in two installments. The first of these took place on September 26 and 27. Thirteen scholars from Asia, America, and Europe presented their research on port cities from throughout the Indian Ocean World, ranging from Durban in South Africa to the very southwest of the Indian Ocean World and to Hong Kong in China in the east of the region, but including also cities such as Kuwait, Bombay, Bencoolen, Djibouti, Madras, Calcutta, Rangoon, Chittagong and Aden from the seventeenth century to today.

During the past decade, there has been a considerable increase in literature documenting the growth of Indian Ocean port cities. Famously described as the Brides of the Sea, port cities such as Cape Town, Shanghai, Karachi, Bombay (Mumbai), Madras (Chennai), Calcutta, Rangoon, Singapore, and Batavia (Jakarta) became bridgeheads for the establishment of European dominance in the region. This workshop had three aims. First, it focused on the mobile and multifaceted connections, networks and routes of exchange that constitute the life worlds of port cities and beyond them, into their immediate hinterlands or even more distant localities. Secondly, it highlighted the interconnected oceanic histories, networks, and flows, and also examined the relationships between the port, the hinterland and the coast. Thirdly, the workshop also explored the legal, regulatory, and political structures that were put in place to govern the port cities.

After introductory comments from Tansen Sen, the first session, entitled “The Indian Ocean and the Building of the Empire,” began with a presentation by Peter C. Valenti on the long-standing trade networks and cross-cultural influences that have existed between Kuwait and India. This was followed by Tiraana Bains, whose paper examined the interlinked histories of Bencoolen and Bombay and the administrative debates surrounding the definition of the ideal port city. Grace Easterly talked about the production of Djibouti as a strategic space by different states over a long period of time.

The second session, “Production, consumption, and resource management,” had food and water as a central theme, with Kathleen Burke discussing practices of gardening and horticulture in the Dutch port cities of Batavia and Colombo, while Alexander Schunka explored the scarcity of freshwater in Indian Ocean port cities and its representation in European travelogues of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

In the third session, on “Law, Labour and Infrastructure in Early Colonial Port Cities,” Kaustubh Mani Sengupta explained the relationship between infrastructure, economy, and the law in shaping the space of Calcutta, while Vidhya Raveendranathan described how the reworking of coastal work rhythms fortified the links between land and sea in the port city of Madras.

The fourth session on Friday morning, entitled “Migration, Mobility and Diaspora,” started with Laura Yan comparing the lives of dockworkers in Singapore and Hong Kong, while Ritesh Kumar Jaiswal followed with a paper on the characteristics of non-indentured migration in the context of Indian unskilled labor moving to Rangoon in the late nineteenth century.

In the fifth session, “Narrativizing Life and Labour of Fishers,” Hasan Karrar explored the links between an old port city, Keti Bunder, and a new planned city called Zulfiqarabad in Pakistan, and their effects on livelihoods and ecology in the Indus delta. This was followed by Annabelle Suitor’s paper on the seasonality of fishing and its impact on the religious geography of the port city of Chittagong.

In the sixth session, “Ideas and People in Motion,” Shaul Marmari looked at the emergence of Jewish diasporas in the port cities of Bombay and Aden and their dominance of the Indian Ocean’s commercial space, while Daniel Steinbach examined the effects of the First World War and the resultant migration of soldiers and workers into the African port cities of Mombasa in British East Africa (modern Kenya), Dar es Salaam in German East Africa (modern Tanzania) and Durban in South Africa. To end the session, Duane Corris offered some concluding remarks. A second workshop was scheduled to take place in March 2020, but has been delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The papers presented at the Workshop will be published in the two journals that the Center co-edits: The Journal of Indian Ocean World Studies and Crossroads: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Asian Interactions. The second workshop is now planned for October 2020.
The Coromandel Coast: Examining Port Cities and Coastal Environments

Vidhya Raveendranathan

On 2nd January 2020, a group of three professors and seven researchers from NYU Shanghai and NYU arrived in South India as part of a study trip organized by the Center for Global Asia. Over the course of one week (2nd–9th January) the group visited several port cities and port towns in the Coromandel coastal region such as Chennai, Mahabalipuram, Pondicherry, Tharamambadi (Tranquebar), Nagapattinam, and Cuddalore, which are known to have developed trading links historically with parts of Southeast and East Asia, which included the networks of the Dutch, French, and English East India Companies. While the Coromandel coastal region presents an archive of global and colonial transformations spanning a period of five hundred years, it continues to witness several transformations in the present through coastal redevelopment and infrastructural projects such as the construction of new harbors, pipelines and oil refineries. Given the shared research interests of the group and the vast potential of the region for Indian Ocean studies, the field visit was a continuation of several events that CGA has organized as part of its Luce project to uncover the multiple circuits of labor, commodity and travelling networks, religious and diasporic connections and routes of exchange in Indian Ocean port cities and their coastal and hinterland localities.

Our first stop was Chennai (formerly Madras). We began our visit to the oldest fishing villages in the city, which date back to the seventeenth century, when, as part of its endeavor to develop the port, the colonial state settled coastal labor to service the needs of the expanding maritime empire. Adjacent to these old neighborhoods are the newly built fishing harbor and other port infrastructure. We then proceeded to the city’s prominent temples, churches, and markets, rounding off our visit by going to the Adyar Theosophical Society’s library archives, the state archives, and finally the famous Besant Nagar beach. On our second day, we left for Mamallapuram, an eighth-century port city and temple town which historically served as an important entrepot for the Chinese and Southeast Asian trade.

Our next destination was Pondicherry, where we had scheduled two important meetings. The first meeting was with a group of historians and anthropologists from the French Institute who are currently engaged in researching the historical and contemporary life worlds of the coastal communities in the context of infrastructure-driven ecological imbalances, coastal erosion, and the displacement of livelihoods. After the presentations, we discussed the potential for developing a collaborative research model with research scholars at the French Institute in order to facilitate further dialog on coastal environments in the Indian Ocean region. Our second meeting took place at the Aurobindo Ashram Trust Office, where Professor Tansen Sen and Dr Yan Yu had the chance to examine Xu Fancheng’s paintings for research on the artistic connections between India and China in the 1930s. The Trust is also planning to publish and hold a virtual exhibition of some of these paintings. The group also spent time at the Pondicherry state archives and explored some of the city’s French-style architecture. We then set off to Cuddalore and visited the fishing harbor which also houses the ruins of many British-era godowns dating back to the eighteenth century. Our final stop was the seventeenth-century Danish trading port of Tranquebar, where we visited the Danish fort, museums, and the churches built by two German missionaries belonging to the Halle Mission. Professor Duane Corpis shared his knowledge of the Halle mission archives, while Professor David Ludden, who has extensively worked on South India, provided invaluable inputs to the participants of the field visit.

Photos by Tansen Sen
Faculty Highlight

Lena Scheen
Assistant Professor of Global China Studies
NYU Shanghai

Lena’s research can be summarized in two questions: What are the social and mental impacts of rapid urban transformation? And what role does storytelling play in driving these changes, as well as in resisting, challenging or negotiating their impacts? Given the unprecedented scale, scope, and speed of Shanghai’s recent transformation, she has selected this city as her main case study, functioning as a “magnifying glass” for global urban issues.

First monograph

In her book Shanghai Literary Imaginings: A City in Transformation (AUP 2015), Lena analyzes Chinese fiction set in contemporary Shanghai and written by local authors who lived in the city when urban transformation reached its peak. This is the first book-length study to give a full overview of the literary culture of Shanghai since 1990, critically engaging with Chinese-language scholarship.

Robin Visser noted in a review that the book is “essential reading on turn-of-the-millennium Shanghai literary culture.” Andrew Field called it “an admirable feat of organization, analysis, translation, and interpretation, bringing to light a large body of work that would otherwise lie buried, at least in the western world of Chinese studies.” And Michel Hockx praised the book for its “significant new insights into contemporary Chinese urban culture from a highly innovative methodological perspective.”

Current book project

Lena is currently working on her second monograph, Historical Memory and Place Attachment: Urban Strategies and Resistance in Shanghai (working title; under contract with Brill). The book argues that storytelling can be used as a powerful tool for inclusive urban politics. By taking rapidly transforming and globalizing Shanghai as its focus, it analyzes how the government’s use of storytelling functions as a double-edged sword, building community as well as silencing dissent, and how Shanghai residents, in their turn, use storytelling to negotiate, challenge, or resist the changes imposed on them.

The book is divided into three parts. Part I explores promotional materials on urban planning projects (renewal and preservation) issued by the municipal government to analyze how Shanghai, the city “haunted by the past and obsessed by the future” (Abbas 2002), uses its urban planning projects to remember and process its past and envision its future. The second part presents the stories of those who have been written out of the official “city myths” discussed in Part I and who, in their turn, use oral storytelling as a form of resistance, either countering or writing themselves into the “grand narratives.” The final part focuses on the city’s professional storytellers: historical fiction and science fiction (科学幻想, or in literal translation “science fantasy”) by writers who create alternatives to the official narratives of Shanghai. The book will show how these imaginings of the past and the future, enmeshed as they are in the social, material, and political realities of the changing cityscape, both reflect and shape perceptions.

Other books

Lena has also published an online course textbook, Aansluitingsmodule Chinastudies (Orientation Course in Chinese Studies; with Frank Piekoe, ICLON Leiden University 2012), Hartenvrouw (Queen of Hearts, a translation of collected stories by Su Tong 努); De Geus 2013), and two co-edited volumes: Spectacle and the City: Chinese Urbanities in Popular Culture and Art (with Jeroen de Kloet; AUP 2013), and Boredom, Shanghai and Digitisation in the time of Creative China (with Chow Yiu Fai and Jeroen de Kloet; AUP 2019).
CGA Fellows

2019–2020 Doctoral and Postdoctoral Fellows

Elke Papelitzky, Postdoctoral Fellow, 2018–2020

Elke Papelitzky obtained her PhD in history from the University of Salzburg with a dissertation on "Historical Geographical Texts of the Late Ming (1368–1644) and China’s Maritime History." Before joining NYU Shanghai in 2018 on a two-year postdoctoral fellowship, she worked as a postdoc at LMU Munich. Her research focuses on knowledge transfer and the perception of the world of Ming and Qing literati as seen in geographical sources, both written and cartographic. Currently she is researching maritime knowledge on Chinese, Japanese, and Korean maps of the fifteenth to eighteenth centuries, aiming to compare the three cartographic traditions and to study the relationship between the production of maritime knowledge (by seafarers) and the circulation of knowledge on maps (by cartographers). Dr. Papelitzky has also completed a book manuscript entitled Writing World History in Late Ming China and the Perception of Maritime Asia, which was published in 2020.

Vidhya raveendranathan, Doctoral Fellow, 2019–2020

Vidhya Raveendranathan is a doctoral candidate at the Centre for Modern Indian Studies, Georg-August-Goettingen University, Germany. Prior to joining NYU Shanghai, she was a doctoral fellow at the German Historical Institute, London, and worked on a European Research Council project entitled “Servants Past” based at the Zentrum Moderner Orient (ZMO) Berlin. She completed her Master’s and MPhil degrees at the History Department of Delhi University. Her dissertation is a historical study of the colonial port city of Madras in the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

Vidhya has also published articles in journals such as History Compass, South Asia, Journal of South Asian Studies, Transfers, and Journal of Mobility Studies, and has co-authored pieces for a new online portal called the Wire. She has also contributed a book chapter to an edited volume by Sabiyasachi Bhattacharya and Rana Behal entitled, The Vernacularisation of Labour Politics (Tulika Books, Delhi, 2016).

Yu Yan, Fudan-NYUSH Joint Postdoctoral Fellow, 2019–2020

Yan Yu is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Global Asia Center, NYU Shanghai, and a Junior Research Fellow at the Asia Research Center, Fudan University. She received her BA from Peking University (2012) and PhD from The Chinese University of Hong Kong (2018). Her PhD thesis explores the social function and cultural significance of writing ancient Chinese scripts in late imperial China. Intrigued by her academic interest, she works on a wide range of topics, including calligraphy, print culture, female painting and material culture. She has published several articles in the above-mentioned fields and co-curated a porcelain exhibition for the Art Museum at the Chinese University of Hong Kong (2016). In addition, she is also skilled in painting, Guqin, and writing various calligraphy scripts. She had served as a part-time instructor for teaching calligraphy and painting at the Department of Chinese Culture, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (2014–2016).
2019–2020 Visiting Fellows

Arunabh Ghosh, Visiting Fellow, Spring 2019–Fall 2019

Arunabh Ghosh (BA Haverford; PhD Columbia) is a historian of twentieth century China with interests in social, economic, and environmental history, and histories of science and statecraft. He is currently an Associate Professor in the History Department at Harvard University. Ghosh’s first book, Making it Count: Statistics and Statecraft in the early People’s Republic of China (Princeton University Press, 2020), offers new perspectives on China’s transition to socialism in 1949 by investigating an elemental but hardly elementary question—how did the state build capacity to know the nation through numbers? His current projects include: a history of small-scale dam-building in twentieth century China, a history of China-India scientific connections, ca. 1920s to 1980s, and a collaborative archival project on China-related materials in the recently declassified Nehru Papers. Ghosh’s work has appeared in the Journal of Asian Studies, Osiris, BIHS Themes, EASTS, PRC History Review, and other venues.

Edyta Roszko, Visiting Fellow, Fall 2019

Edyta Roszko is a Senior Researcher at the Chr. Michelsen Institute in Bergen, Norway, where she is developing a new research direction on oceans. After her PhD at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology and Martin Luther University, Halle, Germany (2011), which focused on religion and politics in Vietnam, she completed ethnographic research among Chinese and Vietnamese fishing communities in the common maritime space of the South China Sea. Bridging different historical periods and countries, the question of the mobility, migration, and connectivity of fishers compelled her to historicize fishing communities and to work beyond the framework of the nation state and area studies. Edyta’s newly awarded European Research Council (ERC) Starting Grant project, Trans-Ocean, at the Chr. Michelsen Institute expands her geographical field beyond Vietnam and China to include other global regions in Oceania and West and East Africa.

Edyta’s scholarly articles have appeared in Cross-Currents: East Asian History and Culture Review, Nations and Nationalism, the Journal of Contemporary Ethnography and other journals. Her monograph, Fishers, Monks and Cadres: Navigating State and Religious Authorities along Central Vietnam’s South China Sea Coast, is in press with NIAS Press, Copenhagen.

Florence Catherine Nick, Visiting Student, Spring 2019

Florence is currently interning with GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH) on capacity-building for climate-change adaptation in Madagascar. Her thesis will be on gender roles and relations and the potential of the production of edible insects to generate an income for rural women in Madagascar. She is a student in her final year of the Joint Master’s Program, “Geography of Environmental Risks and Human Security,” at the United Nations University and the University of Bonn. Her research focus is on environmental governance and human vulnerabilities with regard to environmental and climate risks. In 2017, she completed her Master’s degree at the Université Nice Sophia Antipolis in Nice, France, with a specialization in climate, risk, environment, and health. Her Bachelor’s thesis, which she wrote at the Institute for Development Geography of the University of Bonn, focuses on post-politics, opposition to international climate negotiations, and ethnographic observations.
Updates on Former Fellows

Weilin Pan, Fudan-NYUSH Joint Postdoctoral Fellow, 2018–2019

Weilin Pan is Assistant Professor at the Institute of China Studies of the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences. From August 2019 to May 2020, she was a visiting scholar at the Harvard-Yenching Institute. Since 2014 she has been Adjunct Assistant Professor with the China Studies Postgraduate Program at Shanghai International Studies University. She earned her doctoral degree in history from Fudan University in 2010. She was a visiting scholar at APSI Duke University (2008–2009) and the Carter Center, Atlanta (2015), and was the 2017 Robinson Scholar at the British Museum. Her academic interests include the material culture of modern China, China in modern English literature, and overseas Chinese Studies. She is the author of Un/Making the Hell Money: A Material Cultural History of Tinfoil in Southeast China (Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences Press, 2018) and the editor of Material Culture in Modern China (Shanghai Rare Book Press, 2015). Her new book project is about recycling in Mao’s China (1949–1976).

Yuan He, Postdoctoral Fellow in Residence, Fall 2018

Yuan He was a Postdoctoral Fellow in Residence at NYU Shanghai. She is now Global Perspectives on Society Teaching Fellow at NYU Shanghai. She holds a PhD and an MPhil degree from the Centre of Development Studies, University of Cambridge, funded by the Cambridge China Development Trust and the Malaysian Commonwealth Trust.

Yuan’s research interests lie in China and India’s development models, human development, governance, and meritocracy. Specifically, she works to move the political economic comparison of China and India beyond the “democracy and development” trajectory by emphasizing governance structure and capacity, and to broaden academic understanding of development by re-examining the economic philosophy of human development.

She has published in top international and Chinese journals, including the Journal of Contemporary China and Technology Economics (Jishu Jingji 技术经济). Her PhD thesis on “Food and Shelter: Village Lives in India and China,” based on two years of fieldwork in both countries, will be published as a book.

Di Luo, Postdoctoral Fellow, 2017–2018

Di Luo is Chu-Niblack Assistant Professor of Art History and Architectural Studies at Connecticut College. She previously taught at Wake Forest University, the University of Pittsburgh, and the University of Southern California. Her research focuses on how particular building forms and practices in China and Buddhist Asia evolved over time and how, more importantly, certain “prototypes” and “archetypes” persisted through these changes and became highly distinctive motifs which prevailed across China’s borders. Luo’s former training as an architect has enabled her to adopt various visualization and digitization tools, especially 3D modeling and photogrammetry, in research and teaching.

Ka-Kin Cheuk, Postdoctoral Fellow, 2017–2018

Ka-Kin Cheuk completed his PhD in Social and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Oxford. He is now Annette and Hugh Gragg Postdoctoral Fellow in Transnational Asian Studies at Chao Center for Asian Studies, Rice University. Prior to joining NYU Shanghai, he was Postdoctoral Researcher at Leiden University’s Institute for Area Studies, where he was a research member of the Europe-China interdisciplinary research consortium on “Immigration and the Transformations of the Chinese Society” (2015–2018). Trained as a social and cultural anthropologist, Ka-Kin has conducted long-term ethnographic research on Sikh migrants in Hong Kong and Indian textile-traders in southeast China.

Ka-Kin’s on-going book project is an ethnographic study of a third-tier Chinese city called Keqiao. A municipal district located in eastern Zhejiang Province, Keqiao is not only a global trading frontier in Asia, but also a “Little India” in China. Its wholesale market accounts for one-third of the annual turnover of China-made semi-finished textiles before being exported to over 180 ports around the world. This makes Keqiao one of the major textile-trading centers in Asia. In the local fabric market, Indian traders have established a particularly vibrant trading economy, exporting large quantities of fabrics not only to South Asia, but also to Southeast Asia, the Middle East, eastern Europe, West Africa, and South America. Based on two periods of fieldwork in 2010–2012 and 2016–2017, this project aims to demonstrate the significance of this trade in terms of its transnational connectivity and global economic influences. Ka-Kin has published articles in journals, including the Cambridge Journal of Anthropology, and edited a journal special issue titled “Transient Migrants at the Crossroads of China’s Global Future” for Transitions: Journal of Transient Migration (Intellect Ltd).

Kunbing Xiao, Fudan-NYUSH Joint Postdoctoral Fellow, 2017–2018

Kunbing Xiao is Associate Professor of Anthropology at Southwest Minzu University, Chengdu, Sichuan. Her research interests include historical anthropology, sensory anthropology, cultural heritage studies, and particularly the cultural history of tea in China. Kunbing received her PhD degree from the Ethnology and Anthropology Department of Xiamen University, Fujian, China. Her doctoral dissertation focuses on the Bohea tea trade in northern Fujian province from the seventeenth to the nineteenth centuries in the context of modern globalization. From 2014 to 2015 she was an ArgO-EMR research fellow affiliated to the Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Oxford. Her book titled Materials, Spaces, and Histories: Tracing the Circulation of Tea in the Mountainous Region of Northern Fujian (1644–1949) was published by Beijing University Press in 2013. Her second book, Strolling through the Flora: A Historical Anthropological Study of Ancient Tea Plants in Guizhou, was published by Guizhou Renmin Press in 2013. Her third book, Anthropological Observation on Tea, was published by the Ethnic Publishing House in 2020.

Hyeju J. Jeong, Doctoral Fellow, Summer 2016

Hyeju J. Jeong was formerly a doctoral fellow from Duke University at CGA. She completed her Ph.D. degree requirements in December, 2019. For her graduate study, Hyeju explored the connections and networks between East Asia and West Asia through the lenses of religion and diasporas. She received her BA degree from Duke University with a double major in Asian & Middle Eastern Studies and History. Since her tenure at CGA in the summer of 2016, she has completed dissertation research in Saudi Arabia and Taiwan with the support of a Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship and a Center for Chinese Studies Fellowship.
Mo Tian, Fudan-NYUSH Joint Postdoctoral Fellow, 2016–2017

Mo received his PhD in History from the Australian National University. His dissertation examined the social control of rural Manchuria under Japanese occupation between 1932 and 1945. His research interests include modern East Asian history and Japanese imperialism in Asia. During his tenure as Fudan-NYUSH Postdoctoral Fellow, Mo completed two publications, including “The Korean War and Manchuria: Economic, Social, and Human Effects” in *The Korean War in Asia: A Hidden History*, edited by Tessa Morris-Suzuki and Adam Brinowski (Rowman & Littlefield, 2018). Mo is currently a research fellow at Jinan University (2019).

Ruth De Llobet, Postdoctoral Fellow, Spring and Summer 2017

Ruth De Llobet received her PhD in Southeast Asian History from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Prior to joining NYU Shanghai, she was Postdoctoral Fellow at KITLV, Leiden, the Netherlands, and was recently FASS Postdoctoral Fellow at the National University of Singapore, as well as Visiting Postdoctoral Fellow at Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona, Spain. Her research interests include Southeast Asian history, the political and constitutional history of the Philippines, Asian interconnections, networks, and colonial elites, and the age of revolution in a global context.

At NYU Shanghai Ruth worked on a project entitled “Co-opting Empire: Chinese Mestizo Socio-Political and Legal Strategies in Manila, 1730–1830,” completing one article and one book chapter during this period, both of which have been published: “Luis Rodríguez Varela: literatura panfletaria criolla en los albores del liberalismo en Filipinas, 1790–1824,” in *Revista de Crítica Literaria Latinoamericana*, Tufts University (Special issue on Filipino literature, 2018); and “De ciudadania a sedición: la trayectoria política de Domingo Roxas, 1820–1843” in *La Construcción de la Nación Filipina: Un Caso de Estudio a través de la Familia Roxas*, edited by María Dolores Elizalde and Xavier Huetz de Lemptz.

Shuang Wen, Postdoctoral Fellow, Summer 2016

Shuang Wen is a historian of the modern Middle East and East Asia. Prior to joining NYU Shanghai as a Visiting Assistant Professor of History, Shuang held fellowships at the National University of Singapore and New York University Abu Dhabi. She received a PhD in Transregional History (modern Middle East and East Asia) from Georgetown University and an MA in Middle East Studies from the American University in Cairo. She also received additional Arabic-language training from the University of Damascus and Middlebury College. Before switching her career to academia, Shuang was a broadcast journalist for Phoenix Satellite Television InfoNews Channel in Hong Kong (香港凤凰衛視資訊, 2003–2006).

During her tenure at CGA, Shuang completed an article manuscript, which was later published in the *Asian Journal of Middle East and Islamic Studies* entitled “From Manchuria to Egypt: Soybean’s Global Migration and Transformation in the Twentieth Century.” This research and her other interests were featured by the American Historical Association in “Member Spotlight” and *Perspectives on History*. Using Arabic- and Chinese-language primary sources from multi-sited research in mainland and Taiwanese China, Egypt, Syria, the UK, and the US, her forthcoming first book investigates the transformative processes of Arab-Chinese entanglements in the age of global empires from the mid-nineteenth century to the end of World War II.
Wonhee Cho, Postdoctoral Fellow, Spring 2017

Wonhee is now a full-time researcher at the Jangseogak Archives, Academy of Korean Studies, where he oversees the various “globalization” projects. He received his PhD from Yale University (2014) for a dissertation on “Beyond Tolerance: The Mongols’ religious policies in Yuan China and Il-Khanate Iran (1200–1368).” He received his Bachelor’s degree in English Language & Literature and his Master’s degree in Asian History from Seoul National University. As a historian of the Mongol empire (1206–1368), Wonhee is particularly interested in religion, comparative empire studies, digital humanities, and cross-cultural interactions.

Wonhee’s book project, entitled Empire and Religion: Politics of Difference and Negotiation in the Mongol Empire (1206–1368), examines the different religions of the Mongol empire in China, namely Buddhism, Daoism, Christianity, and Islam, and their interactions with the empire. During his tenure at NYU Shanghai, Wonhee completed two articles, both of which have been accepted for publication: “Negotiated Privilege: The Tax Exemption Policies concerning Religion under the Mongol-Yuan Empire” (Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient, forthcoming), and “From Military Leaders to Administrative Experts: The Biography of the ‘Treachery’ Minister’ Temüder and his Ancestors” (Asiatische Studien – Études Asiatiques). His forthcoming article, “Negotiated Privilege: The Tax Exemption Policies concerning Religion under the Mongol-Yuan Empire” (Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient 66-1), has been accepted for publication in 2020.

Yin Cao, Postdoctoral Fellow, Spring and Summer, 2016

Yin Cao received his PhD in History from the National University of Singapore. His research interests cover modern India, global history, and India-China relations in the twentieth century. His first book, entitled From Policemen to Revolutionaries: A Sikh Diaspora in Global Shanghai, 1885–1945, was published by Brill in 2017. This book demonstrates how the identity of the Sikh community in modern Shanghai was transformed in the context of the rise and fall of the British imperial network. Other publications by him can be found in journals such as Trans, Journal of World History, Indian Historical Review, and Britain and the World.

Yin is currently Associate Professor and Cyrus Tang Scholar at the Department of History, Tsinghua University, Beijing, and is working on two research projects: one on the history of the Chinese community in Pakistan (sponsored by the All-China Federation of Returned Overseas), the other on the Chinese sojourners in India during World War II (sponsored by the National Social Science Fund of China).
CGA New Staff

Celina Hung, Associate Director

Tzu-hui Celina Hung is an Assistant Professor of Literature at NYU Shanghai. She has been an active faculty affiliate of CGA since its establishment in Fall 2015, and in January 2020 she assumed the role of the Center’s Associate Director. In this new capacity, she works closely with the Director to organize the Center’s lecture series and other academic events, recruit fellows and staff, and maintain oversight of its administrative team. Prior to joining NYU Shanghai, she was a Visiting Assistant Professor and Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in the Humanities at the University of California, Los Angeles. In 2018, she was a postdoctoral fellow with the Henry Luce Foundation/ACLS Program in China Studies.

Celina Hung’s research and teaching center on issues in the following areas: Sinophone culture in the context of globalization; Chinese migration and its changing sociocultural networks; postcolonial conditions in archipelagic Southeast Asia; Anglophone literature; and the discourses of creolization and multiculturalism (particularly as manifested in contemporary Sinophone and Asian societies). She is currently completing Creolizing the Sinophone Pacific, a book project that examines cosmopolitan articulations of creolized identities at the turn of the twentieth century and later by multilingual writers and filmmakers hailing from archipelagic Southeast Asia with peranakan Chinese and its closely-connected backgrounds, amid a nexus of competing sociopolitical forces. She has also begun a second project, which traces the history and impact of Taiwan’s parallel politics of indigenous and new-immigrant representations within the society’s ongoing settler-colonial framework. Her articles can be found in the journals Sun Yat-Sen Journal of Humanities and Journal of Chinese Overseas, as well as in the edited volumes Keywords of Taiwan Theory and Asian Video Cultures. Two recent articles on the fast-evolving community of Taiwan’s Southeast Asian migrant workers and immigrants are forthcoming in the book volumes Feeling Transpacific Current(s) and Sinoglossia.

Minghui Li, Administrator

Minghui obtained her first Master’s Degree from the University of Leicester majoring in Film and Film Cultures in 2016 and took a second Master’s Degree majoring in English Literature from Shanghai International Studies University in 2017. She was awarded her Bachelor’s Degree in English Language & Literature from Shanghai International Studies University in 2014. Prior to joining CGA, Minghui had worked in NYU Shanghai since July, 2018, assisting faculty and areas of Social Sciences and Humanities. Minghui is now working as the Administrator of CGA and providing day-to-day support to the center’s operation, including coordinating event projects and liaison with other partner collaborations with the center.

CGA has been a great research hub that brings together scholars and researchers studying in-Asian interactions over the years. It is meaningful and rewarding to play a part in supporting this progress with my expertise, as the area where we live and on which we focus is of great strategic significance today. Joining CGA is a great opportunity to gain wider and broader experience and professional growth within our community, enabling me to pursue a career in higher education that will always seek cultural vision and the exchange of ideas.

Haozhe Li, Associate

Haozhe Li provides administrative and academic support for CGA’s operation and development, designing and editing the CGA newsletter, managing a team of student interns to maintain and update CGA’s databases, and assisting in preparing and delivering academic events.

Haozhe received his MPhil in Education from the University of Cambridge, UK, and his B.A. in International Studies from the University of Oregon, US. While studying for his degrees, he worked for the Cambridge China Education Forum, the University of Oregon Career Center, etc. His passions for higher education, research, and Asian studies brought him to the CGA.
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.

The Journal of Indian Ocean World Studies

CGA jointly edits The Journal of Indian Ocean World Studies (JIOWS) with the Indian Ocean World Center, McGill University. JIOWS 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.

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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.


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Recent Books by CGA Faculty and Former and Current Fellows

Writing World History in Late Ming China and the Perception of Maritime Asia

Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 2020

By Elke Papelitzky

The last century of China’s Ming dynasty (1368–1644) saw many troubles and challenges from abroad. Pirates raided the coast, Europeans challenged the traditional world order of the tribute system, and the everlasting threat from the northern steppe people continued to raise concerns for the state’s survival. This climate of uncertainty resulted in many Ming literati discussing foreign countries. During the last decades of the Ming era, seven authors wrote monographs that can be considered a form of Chinese “world history.” The authors describe the geography, history, and political systems of foreign countries and regions, ranging from China’s close neighbors Japan and Mongolia to more distant lands such as Mogadishu and Europe. This book studies each of the seven authors’ knowledge and perceptions of the world and focuses especially on countries linked to China by a maritime border, namely Siam (present-day Thailand), Malacca, and Portugal. The book combines a close textual and paratextual analysis with a biographical study to understand why the authors wrote the texts the way they did. This is the first comprehensive introduction to these texts to contribute to the understanding of late Ming historiography and late Ming scholars’ perceptions of foreign countries.

In Pursuit of the Great Peace: Han Dynasty Classicism and the Making of Early Medieval Literati Culture

Albany: SUNY Press, 2019

By Zhao Lu

Through an examination of the Great Peace (taiping), one of the first utopian visions in Chinese history, Zhao Lu describes the transformation of literati culture that occurred during the Han Dynasty. Driven by anxiety over losing the mandate of Heaven, the imperial court encouraged classicism in order to establish the Great Peace and follow Heaven’s will. But instead of treating the literati as puppets of competing and imagined lineages, Zhao uses sociological methods to reconstruct their daily lives and to show how they created their own thought by adopting, modifying, and opposing the work of their contemporaries and predecessors. The literati who served as bureaucrats in the first century BCE gradually became classicists who depended on social networking as they traveled to study the classics. By the second century CE, classicism had dissolved in this traveling culture, and the literati began to expand the corpus of knowledge beyond the accepted canon. Thus, far from being static, classicism in Han China was full of innovation, ultimately giving birth to both literary writing and religious Daoism.
Travelling Pasts: The Politics of Cultural Heritage in the Indian Ocean World

Leiden: Brill, 2019

Edited by Burkhard Schnepel and Tansen Sen

*Travelling Pasts*, edited by Burkhard Schnepel and Tansen Sen, offers an innovative exploration of the issue of heritage in the Indian Ocean world. This collection of essays demonstrates how the heritagization of the past has played a vital role in processes and strategies related to the making of socio-cultural identities, the establishment of political legitimacies, and the pursuit of economic and geopolitical gains. The contributions range from those dealing with the impact of UNESCO’s World Heritage Convention in the Indian Ocean world as a whole to others that address the politics of cultural heritage in various distinct maritime sites, such as Zanzibar, Mayotte, Cape Town, the Maldives, Calcutta, and Penang. Also examined are the Maritime Silk Road and the Project Mausam initiatives of the Chinese and Indian governments respectively. The volume is an important contribution to the transdisciplinary fields of Indian Ocean Studies and Heritage Studies.

From Policemen to Revolutionaries: A Sikh Diaspora in Global Shanghai, 1885–1945

Leiden: Brill, 2017

By Yin Cao

*From Policemen to Revolutionaries* uncovers the less well-known story of Sikh emigrants in Shanghai in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Cao Yin argues that the cross-border circulation of personnel and knowledge across the British colonial and Sikh diasporic networks facilitated the formation of the Sikh community in Shanghai, eventually turning this Chinese city into one of the overseas hubs of the Indian nationalist struggle. By adopting a translocal approach, this study elaborates on how the flow of Sikh emigrants, largely regarded as subalterns, initially strengthened but eventually undermined British colonial rule in East and Southeast Asia.
Digital CGA: Database Projects

Asian Studies in China

The Asian Studies in China database is a collaborative effort between the Center for Global Asia, NYU Shanghai and the Asia Research Center, Fudan University. This database provides a platform for researchers and scholars to search for publications in the field of Asian studies (not including publications that solely relate to China) published in China in Chinese language. The entries are translated into English and transcribed into Pinyin. The 2016 entries are available for searching and the team is currently working on the publications that appeared in 2017.
China-India Bibliography

Edited by: Tansen Sen, Arunabh Ghosh, and Adhira Mangalagiri

This is an attempt to compile a list of key writings on China-India topics, which will be eventually added to a China-India database. Anyone can contribute to the list by suggesting entries here. These entries (including PhD Dissertations) should place China and India within a single investigative framework, or have important relevance to examining issues related to China and India. They could cover any time period and be in any language, but please provide translations for non-English entries. Op-eds and policy papers will not be included on this list.

A List in Progress

This is an attempt to compile a list of key writings on China-India topics, which will be eventually added to a China-India database. Anyone can contribute to the list by suggesting entries here. These entries (including Ph.D. Dissertations) should place China and India within a single investigative framework, or have important relevance to examining issues related to China and India. They could cover any time period and be in any language, but please provide translations for non-English entries. Op-eds and policy papers will not be included on this list.

Questions, clarifications, and corrections could be sent here.

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CGA Events Fall 2019

September 23  Lecture Series
The Many Colors of Excrement: Galen and the History of Chinese Phlegm
Natalie Köhle | Research Assistant Professor, Department of History
Hong Kong Baptist University, PRC

September 26–27  Henry Luce Workshop
Indian Ocean Port Cities and their Hinterlands
Tiraana Bains | Yale University, USA
Kathleen Burke | University of Toronto, Canada
Duane Corpis | NYU Shanghai, PRC
Grace Easterly | The Stimson Center, USA
Ritesh Kumar Jaiswal | Delhi University, India
Hasan Karrar | Lahore University of Management Sciences, Pakistan
Shaull Marmari | Universität Leipzig, Germany
Elke Papelitzky | NYU Shanghai, PRC
Vidhya Raveendranathan | NYU Shanghai, PRC & Universität Göttingen, Germany
Alexander Schunka | Freie Universität Berlin, Germany
Tansen Sen | NYU Shanghai, PRC
Kaustubh Mani Sengupta | Bankura University, India
Daniel Steinbach | University of Copenhagen, Denmark
Anabelle Suitor | Brown University, USA
Peter C. Valenti | New York University, USA
Laura Yan | Columbia University, USA

October 7  Lecture Series
Nationalism, Media, and Gender in East Asia
Mayfair Yang | Professor of Religious Studies and East Asian Studies
University of California, Santa Barbara, USA

October 16  Panel Discussion
Comparing the Past: Early China and the World
Michael Nylan | University of California, Berkeley, USA
Michael Puett | Harvard University, USA
Trenton Wilson | University of California, Berkeley, USA

October 21  Performance
Dance Performance | Kathak Performance
Deepti Gupta | Dancer and Choreographer
October 29  Lecture Series

Here Be Dragons: Surveying the Sacred, Shanzhai, and Simulated Spaces of Chinese Burning Man
Ian Rowen | Assistant Professor of Sociology, Geography and Urban Planning  
Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

November 8  Digital Humanities Workshop

Resonance of Wisdom: Buddhist Deities Restoration and Digital Heritage Imaging
Yabuuchi Satoshi | Tokyo University of Arts, Japan  
Yamada Osumu | Tokyo University of Arts, Japan  
Luo Xiyan | Shanghai Museum, PRC  
Huang Ying | Shanghai Museum, PRC  
Chen Wu-Wei | NYU Shanghai, PRC

November 13  Lecture Series

Peak Dam? Towards a History of Dam-building in Twentieth Century China
Arunabh Ghosh | Associate Professor, History Department  
Harvard University, USA

November 14  Lecture Series

Re-enacting an imagined lost homeland of Champa: Migration, Pilgrimage and Ritual in the South China Sea
Edyta Roszko | Senior Researcher & Henry Luce Foundation Visiting Scholar  
Chr. Michelsen Institute, Norway & NYU Shanghai, PRC

November 19  Lecture Series

"Dead Money" and "Live money": Entrepreneurial Aspiration in Contemporary China
Xiao He | Postdoctoral Researcher, Development Institute  
Fudan University, PRC

November 25  Lecture Series

A Sino-Jewish Encounter, A Humanitarian Fantasy
Haiyan Lee | Professor of Chinese and Comparative Literature  
Stanford University, USA

December 11  Lecture Series

The Borders of Chinese Architecture
Nancy S. Steinhardt | Professor of East Asian Art and Curator of Chinese Art  
University of Pennsylvania, USA
CGA Affiliated Faculty

Jian Chen
Distinguished Global Network 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

Heather Ruth Lee
Assistant Professor of History

Leksa Lee
Asst. Professor Faculty Fellow of Global China Studies

Xuan Li
Assistant Professor of Psychology

Yifei Li
Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies

Ivan Willis Rasmussen
Assistant Professor of Practice in Political Science

Lena Scheen
Assistant Professor of Global China Studies

Francesca Tarocco
Visiting Associate Professor of Buddhist Culture

Lu Teng
Assistant Professor of Philosophy

Paolo Visigalli
Visiting Scholar in Residence

Joanna Waley-Cohen
Provost and Professor of History

Brad Weslake
Associate Professor of Philosophy

Xiaogang Wu
Professor of Sociology

Lu Zhao
Assistant Professor of Global China Studies
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 polities 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.