

Chinese History in Global Contexts

UISFL Title VI Project on Chinese Language and Culture Studies

Presenter Biographies

Shana Brown is a specialist in 19th- and 20th-century China, focusing on intellectual and cultural history. She received her BA in 1993 from Amherst College, where she began studying Chinese and Japanese for a degree in East Asian Languages and Civilizations. She received her PhD in History from the University of California, Berkeley in 2003, shortly before joining the faculty of the University of Hawai'i. A Fulbright scholar, Dr. Brown has spent some four years studying and working in East Asia. Her research interests include Chinese cultural and intellectual history, with a specific focus on visual culture, collecting practices, and gender. Some of her recent publications include: *Pastimes: From Art and Antiquarianism to Modern Chinese Historiography* (University of Hawaii Press, 2011); "Chinese Women as Collectors and Bibliophiles at the Turn-of-the-Century," *Material Women: Consuming Desires and Collecting Objects, 1770-1950*, ed. Beth Fowkes Tobin and Maureen Daly Goggin (Aldershot: Ashgate, 2009): 279-294; and "Sha Fei, the Jin-Cha-Ji Pictorial, and the Ideology of Chinese Wartime Photojournalism," in *Visual Culture in Wartime China*, ed. Christian Henriot (Berkeley: Institute of East Asian Studies, 2012 forthcoming).

Cathryn Clayton is a cultural anthropologist of China who teaches in the Asian Studies Program at UH-Manoa. Her work explores the question of Chineseness—how and why it becomes a compelling form of collective subjectivity (be it nationalist, diasporic, regional, civilizational) at different points in time and space. Her research and teaching areas thus encompass sovereignty and imperialism, nationalisms and transnationalisms, ethnicity and diaspora, historical and collective memory, and place-making, especially as they have played out in 20th-century China and Chinese communities abroad. Her recent book examines how conceptions and practices of sovereignty shaped the categories through which Chineseness was imagined in Macau (a southern Chinese city that had been a Portuguese colony since the mid-sixteenth century), as that city prepared to be transferred from Portuguese to Chinese administration in 1999.

Kate Lingley is Associate Professor of Art History at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa. She was educated at Harvard University, Peking University, and the University of Chicago, where she received her Ph.D. in 2004. Professor Lingley's research focuses on Buddhist votive sculpture of the Northern and Southern Dynasties period, with a particular interest in the social history of religious art. Her dissertation was a study of donor figures as representations of the self-image of art patrons in the sixth century. She is interested in issues of representation and identity, particularly ethnic identity, in a period in which non-Chinese peoples ruled much of North China. This has led to a further interest in Chinese identity in a range of historical periods. Her most recent

public project was an exhibition of Chinese painting and calligraphy from Honolulu collections, that focused on the work of reformers of the 19th and 20th centuries. She is currently working on a book manuscript that examines the relationship between tomb portraits and donor figures in the art of Northern Dynasties China.

Christopher A. McNally is an Associate Professor of Political Economy at Chaminade University and Nonresident Fellow at the East-West Center in Honolulu, USA. His research focuses on comparative capitalisms, especially the nature and logic of China's capitalist transition. He is also working on a research project that studies the implications of China's capitalist reemergence on the global order. He has held fellowships conducting fieldwork and research at the Asia Research Centre in West Australia, the Institute of Asia Pacific Studies at the Chinese University of Hong Kong and at the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences. He received his Ph.D. in political science from the University of Washington. He has edited four volumes, including an examination of China's political economy: *China's Emergent Political Economy – Capitalism in the Dragon's Lair* (Routledge, 2008). He also has authored numerous book chapters, policy analyses, editorials and articles in journals such as *Business and Politics*, *Communist and Post-Communist Studies*, *Comparative Social Research* and *World Politics*.

Seio Nakajima teaches sociology at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. He has conducted organizational analyses of Chinese film industry, as well as ethnographies of Chinese film audiences and consumption. His research has appeared, among others, in *From Underground to Independent* (P. G. Pickowicz and Y. Zhang, eds. [2006]), *Reclaiming Chinese Society* (Y. Hsing and C. K. Lee, eds. [2009]), *The New Chinese Documentary Film Movement* (C. Berry, L. Xinyu and L. Rofel, eds. [2010]), *Art, Politics, and Commerce in Chinese Cinema* (Y. Zhu and S. Rosen, eds. [2010]), and *Xie Jin Dianying: Zhongguo Yujing yu Fanshi Jiangou* (Xie Jin Cinema: the Construction of the Chinese Context and Models) (Jin Guanjun and Nei Wei, eds. [2011]). He has recently expanded his research interests to sociology of art, and his "Prosumption in Art" (2012) has appeared in *American Behavioral Scientist*.

Wensheng Wang is Assistant Professor of History at the University of Hawaii, Manoa. Born and raised in China, Prof. Wang received his Ph.D. from the University of California, Irvine. He was a Mellon/ACLS Fellow, and has received major fellowships from the UC Pacific Rim Research Program and other sources. Prof. Wang's publications appear in peer-reviewed journal, edited volume, and encyclopedia. In addition, his book manuscript, entitled "White Lotus Rebels and South China Pirates: Social Crises and State Retreat in the Qing Empire, 1790-1810," is under contract to Harvard University Press. Trained as a historian of late imperial China and East Asia, Prof. Wang's research interests include empire building, peasant movements, popular religion, and maritime interactions.

R. Bin Wong is Professor of History and Director of the UCLA Asia Institute and Distinguished Guest Professor, Fudan Institute for Advanced Study in Social Sciences. Wong's research has examined Chinese patterns of political, economic and social change, especially since eighteenth century, both within Asian regional contexts and compared

with more familiar European patterns. Among his books, *China Transformed: Historical Change and the Limits of European Experience* (Cornell University Press, 1997) also appears in Chinese. His latest book, co-authored with Jean-Laurent Rosenthal, *Before and Beyond Divergence: The Politics of Economic Change in China and Europe* (Harvard University Press 2011) is expected to appear in Chinese and French. Wong has also written or co-authored more than seventy articles published in Chinese, English, French, German and Japanese in journals that reach diverse audiences within and beyond academia.

Daqing Yang is an Associate Professor of History and International Affairs at the George Washington University, where he teaches modern Japanese and East Asian history. He is a founding co-director of the Memory and Reconciliation in the Asia Pacific program based in the Sigur Center for Asian Studies. A native of China, Professor Yang graduated from Nanjing University and received his Ph.D. from Harvard University. He has also taught at Harvard University, Yonsei University (Korea), the University of Tokyo, and is currently teaching at Waseda University (Japan). Professor Yang is a recipient of fellowships from the SSRC, NEH, Japan Foundation, and the Northeast Asian History Foundation. His research interests include the Japanese empire, World War II in Asia, and memory and historical reconciliation in East Asia. His book, *Technology of Empire: Telecommunications and Japanese Expansion in Asia, 1883-1945*, was published in 2011. His edited books include: *Rethinking Historical Injustice and Reconciliation in Northeast Asia* (2006), *Communication under the Seas: The Evolving Cable Network and Its Implications* (2009), and *Toward a History Beyond Borders: Contentious Issues in Sino-Japanese Relations* (2012).

Paola Zamperini has a PhD in Chinese literature and Woman and Gender Studies from UC Berkeley, and is currently associate professor of Chinese literature and director of Chinese studies in the department of Asian Languages and Civilizations at Amherst College. As of July 1st, 2012, she will become the chair of the Asian Languages Department and also a joint member of the Women and Gender Studies Department of Amherst College.

Her research and teaching interests span pre-modern Chinese literature, gender studies, Chinese history, fashion theory, as well as Chinese and Tibetan Buddhism, contemporary Chinese fiction, cinema, and popular culture. In particular, she has been studying and writing about the ways in which women and men in fiction deal with desire, love, and sexuality in late imperial novels, as reflected by her most recent book, *Lost Bodies: Prostitution and Masculinity in Late Qing Fiction* (Brill University Press, 2010). To date, she has written and published extensively about prostitution, female suicide, pornography, and spiritual resonance in pre-modern Chinese literature. In one of her current book projects, titled "Spellbound. Gambling in Chinese Fiction," she looks at fictional and non-fictional representations of gambling in a variety of pre-modern and modern sources. She is also working on early twentieth century Chinese women's magazines and journals. Professor Zamperini has also been working for a long time on the way in which fashion is represented in pre-modern and contemporary

Chinese fiction and visual culture. Visual culture in China, past and present, as well as in the East Asian region has been one of her main research interests, and for the past four years she has been a member of the B-4 Group, run by Heidelberg University, on Transnational Visual culture.

<http://www.asia-europe.uni-heidelberg.de/en/research/b-public-spheres/b4.html>.

More detailed information about professor Zamperini's work and background can be found at

<https://www.amherst.edu/people/facstaff/pzamperini>