



Where's Your Asia? Symposium

Presented by the Asian Australian Studies Network

Thursday, 22 November 2018 | UWA Institute of Advanced Studies

#yourasia

Programme

Time		Presenters	Chair
9am	Welcome and opening conversation – Where's your Asia? The Asia in <i>Crazy Rich Asians</i>	Denise Woods Terence Lee	
9.45am	Locating Families	Tami Xiang Peasantography: Family portrait of Left Behind Children In China Elizabeth Ooi Time and risk preferences of first and second generation Australians Nadia Rhook 'The Chinese Doctor' James Lamsey: tracing the racial borders of medicine and property in settler colonial Bendigo.	Terence Lee
10.45am	Morning Tea		
11.15am	Environments	Hulin Sun A Chinese Garden in Perth Dr Li Chen and Dr John Charles Ryan Abalone in Diasporic Chinese Culture: The Transformation of Biocultural Traditions through Engagement with the Western Australian Environment Hollie White Library Knowledge Organization Systems in Southeast Asia Rahul Gairola Peering Outside of the Pink Tent: Mapping Postcolonial Digital Humanities along the Queer Rim of the Indian Ocean	Robert Wood

Time		Presenters	Chair
12.35pm	Lunch		
1.30pm	Migration and Identity	<p>Charmaine Lim ‘Nobody knows what a Filipino is’: Investigating the politics of belonging as a Filipino migrant in Australia</p> <p>Catherine Martin The Chinese Influx and Federation: the effects of the metaphoric framing of Chinese migrants in the 1880s</p> <p>Brett Jarvis Chinese Australians and the 1911 Revolution</p>	Jo Elfving-Hwang
2.30pm	Spaces: Virtual, political, physical	<p>Kanti Pertiwi Interpreting Corruption in Indonesia: Democracy, Development and Identity</p> <p>Denise Woods and Kai-Ti Kao Imagined places in online spaces: Overwatch’s construction of Asia and Australia</p> <p>Rebecca Cairns and Michiko Weinmann ‘Successful participation’? Exploring the gap between intended and experienced Asia curriculum in senior secondary schooling</p>	Hollie White
3.30pm	Afternoon Tea		
4pm	Mapping Stories	<p>Emily Sun <i>Maybe it’s Wanchai</i>: A Narrative (and Medicalised) Response to, “Where are you <i>really</i> from?”</p> <p>Yuanhang Liu Reifungsromane or Ageing Social Novels — The Comparative Study on Ageing Female Fiction in Contemporary Australian and Chinese literature</p> <p>Gregory Pryor and Ashley Yihsin Chang Taiwanese Encounters: A Debrief on Two Cross-Cultural Arts Projects</p>	Rahul Gairola
5pm	Closing remarks	Moving forward: Future planning	Nadia Rhook

Tami Xiang

tami.xiang@research.uwa.edu.au

@tamiilove_

The University of Western Australia

Peasantography. Family portrait of Left Behind Children In China

This research project addresses the unique voice of contemporary socially engaged Chinese art through a specific case study of the Left Behind Children. This research project is about the 63 million left behind children growing up with their grandparents or great grandparents in the countryside while their parents work in the cities, sometimes thousands of miles away.

The children only see their parents once a year during the Chinese Spring Festival or even as rarely as once every few years. Due to the registration (*hukou*) policies, children raised in the rural area are treated differently than the children in the urban areas. The registered rural household residence of the LBC is not entitled (Xiaogang 2011) to receive the same welfare benefits as those afforded to registered urban household residences. As a result, these rural children are often deprived of the social benefits and educational opportunities provided to their urban counterparts. They don't have access to more modern medical facilities, higher levels of education and other welfare that is provided in the cities. It is because of this disparity based on location of birth that they have to live the countryside with their grand parents or live on their own.

Tami Xiang is a Perth based Chinese Australian contemporary artist, whose work deals with social and political issues. Tami's work has been exhibited in Australia, China, France, Taiwan and the US in the past few years. Tami was a featured artist at the *Head On* photo festival 2014 in Sydney, and her work has been published in the *New York Times*, the *Eye of Photography* in France and *The Artlink* in Australia. Tami is completing a Master of Fine Arts in contemporary art at The University of Western Australia. Tami has a Bachelor of Arts from Guizhou University. In 2013 she received an Advanced Diploma of Photoimaging from the Central Institute of Technology. In 2016 she graduated with a Bachelor of Creative Industries from Edith Cowan University.

Hulin Sun

huilin.sun@uwa.edu.au

The University of Western Australia

A Chinese Garden in Perth

The Chinese garden is a work of art in forms of nature which reflect the Daoist practice of philosophising life through understanding the workings of the universe. Nine of Ming dynasty (1368 – 1644) classical scholar gardens are listed as UNESCO world heritage sights reflecting the cultural and artistic significance of this genre. Many Chinese gardens have been built in recent years across the world, mimicking the design of the classical scholar gardens of Suzhou (most of which mostly used Cheese plants). A Chinese garden in Perth will make a significant contribution to local cultural life, enhance the multicultural society of Australia and educate visitors about Chinese arts and design. This paper demonstrates an avant-garde approach to making this a cultural and eco-rehabilitation project. It proposes an amalgamation of Chinese design with endemic WA plants, honouring the land, the soil and the indigenous cultures connecting to flora and fauna.

Educated in China and Australia, **Huilin Sun**, as an artist and designer, has published papers in design, aesthetics, garden and sustainability. She is interested in creativity, authenticity, indigeneity, identity and multiculturalism. Huilin is initiating a cultural and rehabilitation project of building a Chinese garden in Perth with endemic plants. She is a lecturer in Chinese studies at the School of Social Sciences at UWA.

Hollie White

Hollie.white@curtin.edu.au

Curtin University

Library Knowledge Organization Systems in Southeast Asia

Libraries throughout the world are organized according to Knowledge Organization Systems (KOSs) created in the late 19th century for Euro-American contexts. To this day these systems are advertised as “international” in nature and world-wide adoption is encouraged through West vs. Rest (Hall 1996; Iwabuchi 2014) style globalization and peer pressure. This has resulted in many libraries in Southeast Asia using these systems. Because library KOSs reflect the biases of the time periods and places they were created, applications of these systems outside of those contexts are potentially problematic in terms of gender, culture, and ethnic exclusion (Olsen, 1998; Alemu & Stevens, 2015). Within Southeast Asia, what are the consequences of using such systems and how do library professionals within these environments perceive them?

This paper will begin by introducing the concept and problematic nature of currently used library-based KOSs, such as cataloguing codes, classification schemes, and languages of aboutness. Next, findings from observational studies of libraries in Bangkok and Kuala Lumpur will be presented. Preliminary results from a focus group and a series of interviews of Bangkok-based librarians from November 2018 will also be included.

References

- Alemu, G. & Stevens, B. (2015) The Web 2.0 paradigm and the emergence of socially-constructed metadata approaches. In, G. Alemu & B. Stephens (eds.), *An emergent theory of Digital Library Metadata: Enrich then filter* (pp. 29-42). Waltham MA: Chandos.
- Hall, S. (1996). The West and the rest: discourse and power. In S. Hall, D. Held, D. Hubert & K. Thompson (Eds.), *Modernity: An introduction to modern societies* (pp. 185-227). Maiden, MA: Blackwell Publishing.
- Iwabuchi, K. (2014). De-westernization, inter-Asian referencing and beyond. *European Journal of Cultural Studies*. 17 (1), 44-57.
- Olsen, H. (1998) Mapping beyond Dewey’s boundaries: Constructing classificatory space for marginalized knowledge domains. *Library trends*. 47(2), 233-.

Hollie White (Ph.D.) is a lecturer in the Library, Archives, Records and Information Science Program at Curtin University in Perth, Australia. Hollie teaches and researches in the areas of information organization, repositories, library assessment, and cross-cultural knowledge organization. Prior to coming to Curtin in March 2017, Hollie was Digital Initiative Librarian at the Duke University’s J. Michael Goodson’s Law Library in Durham, North Carolina in the United States where she managed the law school’s institutional repository and other library-based digital projects. She has a PhD in Library and Information Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, a Master of Science in Library and Information Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and a Master of Arts in English from the University of Georgia.

Dr Li Chen and Dr John Charles Ryan

lilycx@hotmail.com

Abalone in Diasporic Chinese Culture: The Transformation of Biocultural Traditions through Engagement with the Western Australian Environment

In October 2017, the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development of Western Australia (WA) promulgated a new regulation on recreational abalone harvesting. A notable change was that, from 2017 on, the annual fishing season in the West Coast Zone was reduced to four days, from every December on Saturdays only. During the last decade, WA’s abalone fishing regulations have been overhauled frequently because of depleting local stocks. Worldwide, the marine heatwave resulting from climate change and illegal overfishing are considered the two principal reasons for abalone’s decline. Today, the highly lucrative abalone market has attracted more participants in recreational fishing in Perth, WA. Based on Asian natural heritage traditions and employing a multispecies sensory ethnographic methodology, this article provides an in-depth case study of the interaction between the local Chinese diaspora and the environment as represented in abalone harvesting practices. Between 2014 and 2016, the authors conducted one-on-one and focus group interviews with Chinese immigrants to Perth, WA, and also participated in abalone harvesting. The analysis reveals a suite of environmental influences on local Chinese diasporic life through heterogeneous forms of interaction between abalone and Perth-area Chinese immigrants.

Dr Li Chen is a recent doctoral graduate from the School of Arts and Humanities at ECU. Her research project was entitled “Chinese diaspora and Western Australian nature (Perth region): A study of material engagement with the natural world in diasporic culture”. This ethnographic study explored the local Chinese perceptions of nature, their diasporic experiences of engagement with the material world and the dynamic relationship between the people and their ecologies. Dr Chen was a humanistic documentary filmmaker and a journalist in China. Currently she is the co-author and co-editor of the book *Swamp Thinking: Australian Wetland Cultures*.

Dr John Charles Ryan is a poet and scholar who holds appointments as Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the School of Arts at the University of New England in Australia and Honorary Research Fellow in the School of Humanities at The University of Western Australia. His teaching and research cross between the environmental and digital humanities. He is the author or editor of *The Language of Plants* (Minnesota, 2017), *Plants in Contemporary Poetry* (Routledge, 2017), *Southeast Asian Ecocriticism* (Lexington, 2017) and *Forest Family* (Brill, 2018).

Denise Woods and Kai-Ti Kao

Denise.woods@curtin.edu.au, Kai-ti.Kao@curtin.edu.au

@denisegwoods

Curtin University

Imagined places in online spaces: Overwatch’s construction of Asia and Australia

In this paper we look at an outward imagination of Australia and Asia using the globally popular game Overwatch as our vehicle. Released in May 2016 by American company Blizzard Entertainment, Overwatch is an internationally popular multiplayer online video game which built a 30 million strong global player base within its first year of release. We examine how various places in Asia and Australia are respectively constructed in the game, and suggest that while the Asian locations within the game are largely idealistic, this is in contrast to the dystopian view presented of the Australian outback. We attempt to trace whose idea of Asia and Australia is being reflected in these imaginings, and what implications these have in shaping perceptions of the region.

In a time when representation issues matter, particularly through new digital media, we argue that the virtual imaginings of these places play into the cultural constructions that shape global engagement.

Denise Woods is a Lecturer in the School of Media, Creative Arts and Social Inquiry, Curtin University. Her areas of research include the representation of Australia in Asia. She has published in the Journal of Australian Studies, Media International Australia and Alter/Asians: Asian-Australian Identities in Art, Media and Popular Culture.

Kai-Ti Kao is a Sessional Academic in the School of Media, Creative Arts and Social Inquiry, Curtin University. Her research examines the intersecting discourses of communication technologies and global development. She teaches across a range of media and communication topics including global media, media governance, web communication, online games, and communication research. She has published in Media International Australia, Continuum, and Media Asia.

Elizabeth Ooi

elizabeth.ooi@uwa.edu.au

The University of Western Australia

Time and risk preferences of first and second generation Australians

Time (e.g. short-term vs. long-term) and risk (e.g. aversion or taking) preferences of individuals are key factors influencing financial decision making and financial literacy. Prior literature shows that time and risk preferences of parents and children are correlated, providing evidence of intergenerational transfer of preferences. However, little is known about how this transfer occurs. In this study, I propose that the cultural background of parents is a channel for this transfer. Specifically, I hypothesise that the correlation between parent and children time and risk preferences is mediated by the parents’ culture. Australia is an ideal setting in which to test this hypothesis given that 49% of the population is first or second generation and the majority are of Asian background. Further, Asian cultures display particularly strong time and risk preferences. I take advantage of the Australian Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) survey which contains panel data on time and risk preferences, socio-demographic and cultural factors for approximately 17,000 individuals and 7,000 households over the period from 2001 to 2016. The results of this study will help to shape policy on the design of financial education initiatives.

Dr. Elizabeth Ooi is a Lecturer of Finance at UWA. She teaches financial planning and her research interests include financial literacy and education as well as superannuation fund governance. She previously worked in financial services in Melbourne and has acted as a consultant to the OECD on financial literacy issues in the South East Asian region.

Rahul Gairola

Rahul.Gairola@murdoch.edu.au

Murdoch University

Peering Outside of the Pink Tent: Mapping Postcolonial Digital Humanities along the Queer Rim of the Indian Ocean

In the rise of the field of Digital Humanities, DH practitioners have often unwittingly privileged western spaces as those in which DH discourse takes root. This trend is moreover underpinned by heteronormative algorithms of gender and sexuality that a number of theorists, ranging from Amy Earhart (2012), Radhika Gajjala (2013), Roopika Risam (2015), and Safiya Umoja Noble (2018). My project reconfigures the original title of Terras' landmark blog publication in two major ways. Firstly, I speak about peering "outside" rather than "inside" to emphasize that which DH excludes, namely the postcolonial nations of the Global South, in Big Tent Digital Humanities. Secondly, I view this tent as "pink" to identify the queer discourses that Big Tent Digital Humanities visibly marginalizes.

Refusing to view these two points as mutually exclusive, I instead view them as intersectional and necessary in formulating a less Anglocentric and Eurocentric model of DH, one that instead promises a more democratic model of global digital humanities. This project surveys the ways in which digital culture and praxis is apart from yet connected throughout three postcolonial cities that were once jewels in the British Empire's crown: Durban in South Africa, Chennai in southern India, and Perth in Western Australia. I track the Zulu, Tamil, Hindi, and English circuits of queer communities networked across the Indian Ocean rim. I explore how the digital milieu in this sector of the Global South (itself a problematic term) is shaped by its displacement from the male/ female binary, and instead enables a flexibility that reflects the acceptance of the third gender.

Rahul K Gairola, PhD (University of Washington, USA), is The Krishna Somers Lecturer in English & Postcolonial Literature and Fellow of the Asia Research Centre at Murdoch University in Perth, Australia. He is the author of *Homelandings: Postcolonial Diasporas & Transatlantic Belonging* (London & New York: Rowman & Littlefield International, 2016), and co-editor of *Revisiting India's Partition: New Essays in Memory, Culture, and Politics* (Hyderabad, India: Orient Blackswan & Washington, DC: Lexington Books, 2016). He has published over 40 single-authored articles in peer-reviewed journals and books that are reputable and international in scope. He is an Article Editor for *Postcolonial Text* and co-editor of *salaam*: the newsletter of the south asian literary association.

Charmaine Lim

charmaine.lim@research.uwa.edu.au

Curtin University

'Nobody knows what a Filipino is': Investigating the politics of belonging as a Filipino migrant in Australia

Despite its large numbers and its heterogeneity, Filipino migrants in Australia are subsumed under the rubric of 'Asians in Australia'. Departing from the argument that Asian migrant populations are heterogeneously constituted, I explore a burgeoning group of global migrants who now constitute a major component of the overseas-born population in Australia: Filipinos. According to the Australian Department of Social Services, the Philippines-born population is the fifth largest overseas-born population in Australia. The question I wish to ask is, what forms the basis of commonality for such a large population? Drawing on data collected from interviews and participant-observation among Filipino migrants in Perth, I identify three particular domains of commonality: a class-based commonality, a hybridised collective identity and finally a religious collectivity. Evidence from the field demonstrates the problem with an 'Asian' identity and reflects instead the diversity that characterises a singular overseas-born population.

Charmaine Lim is a final year PhD candidate in the Discipline of Anthropology and Sociology at The University of Western Australia. Charmaine graduated with First Class Honours from a Bachelor of Arts degree at Curtin University in 2013. She is currently researching the lived experiences of Filipino migrants in Australia. Through her voluntary engagement with Filipino migrant organisations, Charmaine is particularly interested in looking at the role that non-state structures play in societal and individual cohesion both locally and globally. Her research interests include identity, belonging, cosmopolitanism, community and migration.

Catherine Martin

catherine.martin@research.uwa.edu.au

The University of Western Australia

The Chinese Influx and Federation: the effects of the metaphoric framing of Chinese migrants in the 1880s

Focusing on the 1880s Intercolonial Conferences and the related Chinese immigration restriction legislation that was introduced across Australia in this decade, the paper will use a discourse analysis approach to examine the way the Chinese influx was framed in newspaper reports of the time. While it is generally accepted that anti-Chinese sentiment and the need to restrict Chinese migration was one of the drivers of Federation, this paper will argue that the process was deeper than simply responding to a perceived threat. By examining the specific metaphors used in coverage of the Chinese, the paper will argue that embedded within their structuring of Chinese difference and 'alien-ness', was also the persistent reiteration of who did belong, and to what. Using the concept of elective affinity, this paper will suggest that the language used to frame the Chinese played a significant role in the inculcation of the Australian national identity.

Catherine Martin is a PhD researcher at UWA studying the use of metaphors within press coverage of migration. Covering from the 1850s until the present, the aim is to track the development of such metaphors, and examine how they are used to help shape discourses around migration and national identity.

Nadia Rhook

nadia.rhook@uwa.edu.au

@Nadirhook

'The Chinese Doctor' James Lamsey: tracing the racial borders of medicine and property in settler colonial Bendigo.

The history of medicine in Australia has often been imagined as the exclusive domain of British and Australian-born white men. From the 1850s gold rushes, though, Chinese practitioners were part of the daily fabric of health and medical practice, and remained so even after the 1901 Immigration Restriction Act effectively limited Chinese oceanic immigration. Meanwhile, scholars have shown the profound implications of medicine for the biopolitical making of colonial power in disparate global contexts. This paper draws on a case study of Toi Shan-born Bendigo Doctor and prolific proprietor, James Lamsey, to explore the racial nexus between medical power and property. How, I ask, did Lamsey position himself in settler colonial property relations, and what does this tell us about the ways that racial borders were formed, contested, and ignored in the urban spaces of Bendigo?

Nadia Rhook is a white settler historian and writer. She lectures and researches Indigenous, colonial, and Australian history at the University of Western Australia, on Whadjuk Noongar land. Her research is much inspired by her background in ESL teaching, and in 2016 she curated the City of Melbourne heritage exhibition 'Moving Tongues: language and migration in 1890s Melbourne'. She's published in international and local journals including the *Journal of Colonialism and Colonial History*, *Postcolonial Studies* and *Peril Magazine*, and is currently writing a book about the politics of language and Asian migration in colonial Melbourne, forthcoming with Duke University Press.

Gregory Pryor and Ashley Yihsin Chang
g.pryor@ecu.edu.au, yihsinac@gmail.com
Edith Cowan University

Taiwanese Encounters: A Debrief on Two Cross-Cultural Arts Projects

Curator and arts facilitator Ashley Yihsin Chang's recent projects *A Portrait of Taiwan in Perth* and *Antipodean Encounters: Western Australian Artists and Taiwanese Culture* brought together women from the Perth Taiwanese community to work with twenty local artists on a number of projects, including artworks, talks, workshops and other cultural activities aimed to enhance cultural dialogue and social integration for the Taiwanese immigrants. Her partner, Australian Artist Gregory Pryor has worked closely with her in a consultative role and this jointly prepared paper outlines their own cross-cultural dialogue that evolved behind the scenes of these projects. They will discuss the challenges of face-to-face cultural exchange that is sustained and meaningful in an age of online and social media communities.

Gregory Pryor is an artist, writer and academic based in Perth, Western Australia. Pryor arrived in Western Australia in 2003 and since then there has been a strong emphasis in his work about place and the role that botanical diversity and loss plays in shaping the landscape – particularly the ancient landscapes of the South West of Western Australia. His most recent exhibition was 'Looking Glass' at the Art Gallery of Western Australia. Pryor is represented by Lister Gallery, Perth and currently works as a lecturer in visual art at Edith Cowan University.

Ashley Yihsin Chang has worked as an art curator, arts manager, art consultant and coordinator in Taiwan for over 20 years. Before immigrating to Australia in 2010, she worked as the Cultural Programs Manager for the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT). In Perth, Ashley has served as an exhibition committee member for the Mundaring Arts Centre, and since 2016, she has worked as the International Project Manager for Turner Galleries, mainly focusing on the Perth-Taipei cultural exchange program with the Kuandu Museum of Fine Arts in Taipei. Ashley has also been coordinating the cross-cultural women's community project 'Guanyin in the South West: A Portrait of Taiwan in Perth' and curated the exhibition 'Antipodean Encounters: Western Australian Artists and Taiwanese Culture' at the Midland Junction Arts Centre.

Rebecca Cairns and Michiko Weinmann
r.cairns@deakin.edu.au, michiko.weinmann@deakin.edu.au
@cairnsrebecca
Deakin University

'Successful participation'? Exploring the gap between intended and experienced Asia curriculum in senior secondary schooling

This paper draws on a recent pilot study that investigated Asia-related curriculum from the perspective of senior secondary students in Victoria. Asia literacy has been a goal of national education policy for a number of decades and has been prioritised as the 'Asia and Australia's engagement with Asia' cross-curriculum priority in the Australian Curriculum. The study of Asia is believed to enrich the lives of young people and "increase the likelihood of successful participation in the 'Asian century'" (ACARA, 2018).

Young people are therefore at the centre of Asia engagement and positioned as the conduits to future social cohesion and economic prosperity (ACARA, 2010; MCEETYA, 2008). However, there is a significant absence of research on student learning, attitudes and future engagement in relation to Asia (Halse & Cairns, 2018). The learned or experienced curriculum (how it is experienced by students) is an under-researched aspect of curriculum inquiry in comparison to the intended/stated curriculum (i.e. official or written curriculum) and the enacted curriculum (how it is interpreted by teachers) (Erikson et al., 2008).

This research aims to address this gap by contrasting curriculum policy constructions of Asia with students' experiences of Asia learning. By exploring the curricular imaginations of Asia and the lived experiences of students, this paper seeks to contribute to a reconstitution in the debates around critical engagement with Asia literacy.

Rebecca Cairns is an early career researcher and lecturer in Education at Deakin University. Her recently completed PhD thesis examined the representation of Asia in senior secondary history curriculum policy in Victoria. It analysed the political and socio-historical contexts of three decades of state and national curriculum policy, the discursive construction of Asia and Asia-related history within history curriculum policy and the complexities that shape the curricular decision-making of teachers. She has a Master of Education in Studies of Asia and taught History, Humanities and English in secondary schools for over a decade.

Michiko Weinmann is Senior Lecturer in Languages Education in the School of Education at Deakin University, and Co-Director of the Centre for Teaching and Learning Languages (CTaLL). Her research explores the nexus of language, culture, and identity in globalised local contexts. Michiko was a contributor to the national report 'Asia Literacy and the Australian Teaching Workforce' (Halse et al, 2013). Her most recent publications have explored curriculum perspectives of Asian languages learning in Australia and internationally (Weinmann, 2015, 2018).

Brett Jarvis

brettjarvis1@hotmail.com

Chinese Australians and the 1911 Revolution

In the early 20th century, Australia and China were clearly defined, not just geographically but culturally and racially. With Federation and the Immigration Restriction Act, Australia cemented the process of defining itself through laws of exclusion. China was also being redefined at this time with burgeoning nationalism taking aim at the ruling Manchu dynasty, and revolutionaries calling for the restoration of the Han, culminating in the 1911 Revolution. A key similarity in these two cases was a means of identifying their respective nations, or their ideal nation, through race and culture. Australians were defined through the 'white Australia policy', whilst the Chinese defined themselves through Han nationalism. In the centre of this were Chinese Australians. These men and woman were forced to debate the larger question of what it meant to be Australian, Chinese, Manchu or Han in terms of geography, culture and race. This paper explores how Chinese Australians navigated these issues, whilst exploring how race and culture became intrinsically tied to the idea of nationhood for both Australia and China in the early 20th century.

Brett Jarvis majored in History and Chinese language at Curtin University. In 2017 he received the Academic Excellence Award for Chinese. He completed his honours dissertation on 'Chinese Australians and their Engagement with the 1911 Revolution' in 2017.

Emily Sun

emsun2016@gmail.com

Murdoch University

Maybe it's Wanchai: A Narrative (and Medicalised) Response to, "Where are you really from?"

"Where are you *really* from?" is familiar to many Australians who are visibly "ethnic", and this paper responds to the question through storytelling. I posed the question to myself when, after a second blood-cancer relapse in 2013, my doctors believed that my only cure was an allogeneic stem-cell transplant. Extant studies find that Westerners have a better chance of finding a donor match because there is less genetic diversity but higher donor rates amongst "some European" populations. My desperation and panic over my odds of finding a lifesaving match propelled me to launch an on-line campaign in search of stem-cells from someone, most likely an East or South-East Asian, with whom I shared at least 9 out of 10 human leukocyte antigen (HLA) codes.

Maybe it's Wanchai? is a narrative about my search. In telling the story, I untangle the often asked question about one's point of origin, and problematise the ways individuals and institutions categorise ethnicity, race, and culture.

Emily Sun grew up in Perth, Western Australia. She has had works published in various publications including *Westerly*, *Island*, *Hecate* and *Growing up Asian in Australia*. She started writing fiction at the Iowa short-fiction summer workshop at the International Institute of Modern Letters in Wellington, NZ. More recently, Emily has completed an MA in English and Creative Arts at Murdoch University and started blogging again at her website <http://iamemilysun.com>.

Yuanhang Liu

yuanhang.liu@postgrad.curtin.edu.au

Curtin University

Reifungsromane or Ageing Social Novels — The Comparative Study on Ageing Female Fiction in Contemporary Australian and Chinese literature

This research comprises a literature review of critical feminist theories of ageing and an in-depth comparative study of two writing forms on ageing females.

By reviewing criticism and theory on senescence, this research will try to engage with the current academic understandings of ageing and ageing females. Considering the fact that the feminist studies of ageing in the Chinese literary field are less consistent compared with that of Australian and Western academia, this literature review also helps to introduce the existing research and critical scholarship on ageing in Western and Australian academia to Chinese academia.

Reifungsromane, was first proposed in 1990 by Barbara Frey Waxman. It was reflected in some writings of Australian writers to portray female ageing as a process of ripening. Meanwhile, in China, the ageing of the “college girls” generation has led to a focus on ageing women in the dominant genre of Chinese realist Social Novels. Through examining selected exemplar texts, this research will identify different features of each writing form in terms of representation, theme and literary techniques. By analysing limitations and merits of these two forms, this study considers the possibility of combining them for the purpose of providing a comprehensive literary form to explore older womanhood.

Yuanhang Liu is a Ph.D. student in Humanities, Curtin University. Her topic is The Comparative Study on Ageing Female Fiction in Contemporary Australian and Chinese Literature. She received a Bachelor of Arts with the award of Outstanding Graduation Thesis from Ocean University of China in 2016. Yuanhang was invited to give a presentation on her topic at Creative Conversations hosted by China Australia Writing Centre in 2017. Meanwhile, she also co-translated David Lodge’s *The Novelist at the Crossroads* which will be published by China Social Science Publishing House by the end of 2018.

Kanti Pertiwi

kanti.pertiwi@unimelb.edu.au

University of Melbourne

Interpreting Corruption in Indonesia: Democracy, Development and Identity

Corruption is evil. This has been the dominant view worldwide. Recent scholarship, however, suggests that corruption needs to be understood in context. This paper examines what corruption means in the Indonesian context, a country often considered as one of the most corrupt nations in the world. Through an analysis of media texts and interviews with groups of people considered as (anti)corruption stakeholders, I will show how different meanings of corruption are produced and consumed by different actors, demonstrating the intersubjective meanings of it. My analysis also suggests that imaginations of what Indonesia is, how it is positioned vis-à-vis other countries, and what it means to be Indonesians, shape what corruption means and how it is enacted upon in everyday life. My research contributes to corruption literature by bringing in the voice of people rarely heard in empirical research and to anti-corruption practices in the South East region as well as globally in rethinking about the production of knowledge in the field of (anti)corruption and issues of inequality.

Kanti Pertiwi is a lecturer in the Department of Management, Universitas Indonesia and an honorary fellow at the University of Melbourne where she completed her PhD looking at the issue of corruption in business-government relations in Indonesia. Prior to teaching at UI, she was a staff member of the Indonesian Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK). She was also a recipient of the Prime Minister’s Australia Asia Award, which aims to develop internationally-aware, skilled people who are considered the next future leaders in Asia and Australia.

Notes



THE UNIVERSITY OF
**WESTERN
AUSTRALIA**

Institute of Advanced Studies

The University of Western Australia
M021, Perth WA 6009 Australia
Tel: +61 8 6488 1340
Email: ias@uwa.edu.au
ias.uwa.edu.au
Twitter: @IAS_UWA



Asian Australian Studies Research Network (AASRN)

Email: asianozstudies@gmail.com
Twitter: @aasrn
Facebook group: AASRN
<https://aasrn.wordpress.com>