

Past events AY 22-23

## Rehabilitating Ali: Historiography and The Tools of Orthodoxy

CAS Event

Thursday, September 15, 12:30 - 1:45pm

Space is limited - registration required. Register [here](#).

This event is in person, and location will be given upon registration.

A research presentation by [Nebil Husayn](#) (Religious Studies: Miami University), with Aun Hasan Ali (Religious Studies: CU Boulder) and John Matthew Willis (History: CU Boulder) responding. Islam's fourth caliph, Ali, can be considered one of the most revered figures in Islamic history. His nearly universal portrayal in Muslim literature as a pious authority obscures the views of his opponents who considered him an illegitimate ruler and a centuries-long process that entailed the rehabilitation of his character. In his new book, *Opposing the Imam*, Nebil Husayn considers the diverse ways in which early Muslims remembered Ali and contextualizes the rise of both Sunnism and Shi'ism. This presentation discusses key findings from this recent publication.

**The CU Mediterranean Studies Group**  
and supporting units present


**Nebil Husayn**  
(Religious Studies: University of Miami)

**Rehabilitating Ali:**  
**Historiography and The Tools of Orthodoxy**

with respondents:

**Aun Hasan Ali**  
(Religious Studies: CU Boulder)

**John Matthew Willis**  
(History: CU Boulder)



**Thursday, 15 September 2022, 12:30–1:45 pm**

Space is limited: register on or before 11 September at [www.cumediterranean.info](http://www.cumediterranean.info)

These events are made possible by the generous support of Religious Studies, Jewish Studies, Humanities, the Bruce D. Benson Center for the Study of Western Civilization, Classics, History, Ethnic Studies, French & Italian, Asian Languages and Civilizations, Spanish and Portuguese, the Center for Asian Studies, the Center for African and African American Studies, and Philosophy at the University of Colorado Boulder.  
Administrative support provided by Religious Studies.  
For more information: [www.cumediterranean.info](http://www.cumediterranean.info)

## The Demonization of Malcolm X and the Sanitization of Dr. Martin Luther King

CAS Event

Thursday, September 15, 6pm - 7:30pm

Eaton Humanities 250

A public talk by [Nebil Husayn](#) (Religious Studies: Miami University)

This lecture challenges the ways in which two icons of the 1960s, Dr. King and Malcolm X, are popularly characterized as rivals. Dr. Nebil Husayn argues that the two icons, in fact, represented a radical black tradition of political action that was subversive to narratives of American exceptionalism. As a consequence of myth-making and a process of collective remembering and forgetting, Dr. King is largely sanitized of this radicalism, which lingers with the legacy of Malcolm. Dr. Husayn argues that such mythmaking is also apparent in how we conceive of our presidents, police officers, and to the detriment of black activists, those who devote themselves to racial justice.

The CU Mediterranean Studies Group  
and supporting units  
present  
**Prof. Nebil Husayn**  
Religious Studies  
University of Miami

**The Demonization of Malcolm X  
and the Sanitization of Dr. Martin Luther King**

Thursday, 15 September  
6:00 – 7:30 pm  
HUMN 250  
Free & Open to the Public

co-sponsored by the Center for Asian Studies, Ethnic Studies &  
the Center for African and African American Studies  
full information at [www.cumediterranean.info](http://www.cumediterranean.info)

## Big Events in Northeast Asia: Games, Expos, and Development

CAS Luncheon Series

Thursday, September 29 at 12:30pm

CASE Building, room W311

Angus Lockyer

Visiting Scholar, Center for Asian Studies, University of Colorado Boulder

Most of us know that northeast Asia has hosted the Olympics twice in the last two years – the winter games in Beijing earlier this year, and the postponed summer ones in Tokyo last summer. Many of us may not be aware that Osaka is currently planning to hold its third international exhibition, or world's fair, and Japan's fifth, in 2025. Few of us likely realize that this history of "big events" in the region goes back over half a century, linking Japan, Korea, and China, and tying games and expos into the state's plans for development. This talk will identify the pattern, beginning with the Tokyo Olympics of 1964 and the Osaka Expo of 1970; trace its durability, through Seoul 1988 and Daejeon 1993, Beijing 2008 and Shanghai 2010, and beyond; and spell out the differences – between games and expos, but also between the way they have been used in different times and places. Development may be a broad church, but in northeast Asia the use of spectacle has long been a consistent creed.

**Angus Lockyer** was born in Singapore, brought up in the UK, and did his graduate work on the west coast. He taught Japanese, Asian, and global history in North Carolina for four years and London for fifteen, writing on expos and museums, as well as the history of Japanese golf. He also worked closely with the British Museum, most recently on a special exhibition on Hokusai – *Beyond the Great Wave*. He relocated to Boulder in 2019, where he is currently redesigning his life. A new podcast – *historicity* – explores how cities got to be the way they are.

## Indonesian Language Table - Batik 101

Wednesday, October 12

1:30pm - 3:00pm

The Hive, ALTEC in Hellems



The poster is for an event titled "Indonesian Language Table BATIK 101". It features a dark background with gold-colored text and decorative floral patterns in the corners. The main title "BATIK 101" is in large, bold, gold letters. Below it, a paragraph explains that Batik is an art of decorating cloth using wax and dye, and that it was designated as an Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO in October 2009. The event details are listed in a gold-bordered box: "Wednesday October 12th 2022", "1:30 - 3:00 PM", and "The HIVE, ALTEC". To the left of this box is a small image of hands drawing a batik pattern. Below the event details box is a list of activities: "Batik History & Philosophy", "Wearing Batik Demo", "Free Indonesian snacks", and "Door prizes (Batik Merchandise)". At the bottom left, there is a "Sign up!" section with a QR code and a link "bit.ly/batik101eu". At the bottom right, there is a small image of a colorful batik pattern.

Indonesian Language Table

# BATIK 101

Batik is an art of decorating cloth using wax and dye that has existed for centuries. In October 2009, UNESCO designated Indonesian Batik as an Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. Let's join and celebrate Batik Day in the Month of Batik!

Wednesday  
October 12th 2022  
1:30 - 3:00 PM  
The HIVE, ALTEC

- Batik History & Philosophy
- Wearing Batik Demo
- Free Indonesian snacks
- Door prizes (Batik Merchandise)

Sign up!

[bit.ly/batik101eu](https://bit.ly/batik101eu)  
Ida.Fauziyah@colorado.edu

# **#WomAn, Life, Freedom Context, Symbolism, and Solidarity in the Iranian Women's Revolution**

Thursday October 20, 2022 5-6:30 pm  
CASE E422

The death of Jina Mahsa Amini on September 16 has sparked historic demonstrations centered on women's socio-political rights, human rights, and regime change in Iran. Over the past month, tens of thousands of Iranians have taken to the streets across the country to protest the Iranian government's treatment of girls and women. The women-led protests have shaken Iranian society and the government has brutally responded with tear gas, bullets, kidnappings, arrests, and internet blackouts.

Despite the government's violent crackdown, protests have only widened with workers in the oil and energy sector staging strikes in solidarity. This movement has the potential to affect struggles for women's rights and human rights globally.

The panel will be moderated by A. Marie Ranjbar (Assistant Professor in Women and Gender Studies) with reflections by: Shideh Dashti (Associate Professor in Civil, Environmental, and Architectural Engineering); Nabil Echchaibi (Associate Professor in Media Studies); Nader Hashemi (Associate Professor in International Studies, Denver University); Poupeh Missaghi (Assistant Professor in Creative Writing and Literary Studies, Denver University); Samira Rajabi (Assistant Professor in Media Studies); Shawhin Roudbari (Assistant Professor in Environmental Design), & Neda Shaban (PhD Student in Geography).

Please join us for a public discussion of the historical context, symbolism, and impacts of women's rights protests. This is an opportunity to share in solidarity, connect, learn, hold community, and brainstorm actions.

*cosponsored by*

*Women and Gender Studies (WGST) Community Engaged Design and Research (CEDaR) Center for Media, Religion, and Culture (CMRC) Center for Asian Studies (CAS)*





## Urban 'Re'-development: Caste and Embodied Infrastructural Realities of Slum Redevelopment in Delhi, India

with Naomi Hazarika

What happens when the houses built as part of 'slum redevelopment' act as infrastructure that exacerbates the urban inequality built into the rapid urbanization process of the global south? In this presentation, and as part of my doctoral research, I look at a recent slum redevelopment policy introduced by the Government of India and adopted by the city of New Delhi that allows private developers to build high rises for slum dwellers in order to clear up slum lands in exchange for remunerative components. Building on Lancione's (2020) theory of 'dwelling as difference' but in the context of postcolonial urbanism, I argue that housing struggles in the context of slum redevelopment in cities of the global south need to be understood as instances of everyday lived and embodied contestation of the given habitus for the most vulnerable urban population- the urban poor.

These lived experiences of negotiations, contestations and struggles in the backdrop of the desire for and the right to formal housing offer an understanding of how postcolonial urbanization as a process creates and exacerbates existing socio-economic inequalities on the lines of caste and class in cities of the global south. Findings reveal the importance of focusing on the body as a site of politics, to push the concept of infrastructure further into the sphere and scale of the body, desires and aspirations in order to capture the socio-spatial realities of caste in India.

*Emma Loizeaux is a PhD student in the Geography Department. She is from Maryland, and her work is informed by experiences living, studying and working in mainland China, as well as navigating the worlds of education and technology in the California Bay Area. Her research interests are in market-based and technological "fixes" to climate change, and on how approaches to climate and conservation travel and transform internationally, with a focus on China and the U.S.*

*Naomi Hazarika is a second year PhD student at the Department of Geography, University of Colorado Boulder. Her doctoral research is rooted in studying a range of urban inequalities through the crucial vector of housing (especially concerning social and economically disadvantaged communities on the lines of caste and class) and the increasingly privatized as well as financialised urban frontier in Delhi through a recent 'slum' redevelopment policy.*

## Tashi Delek! བསྐྱེད་ཤིང་བདེ་ལེགས།!

Join us to practice your listening and speaking skills at the Tibetan Conversation Table! All ability levels are welcome. We'll enjoy lively conversation, coffee, and games in The HIVE @ALTEC (Hellem 159), at **4-5 pm on Thursdays**. Hosted by ALTEC and the Center of Asian Studies.

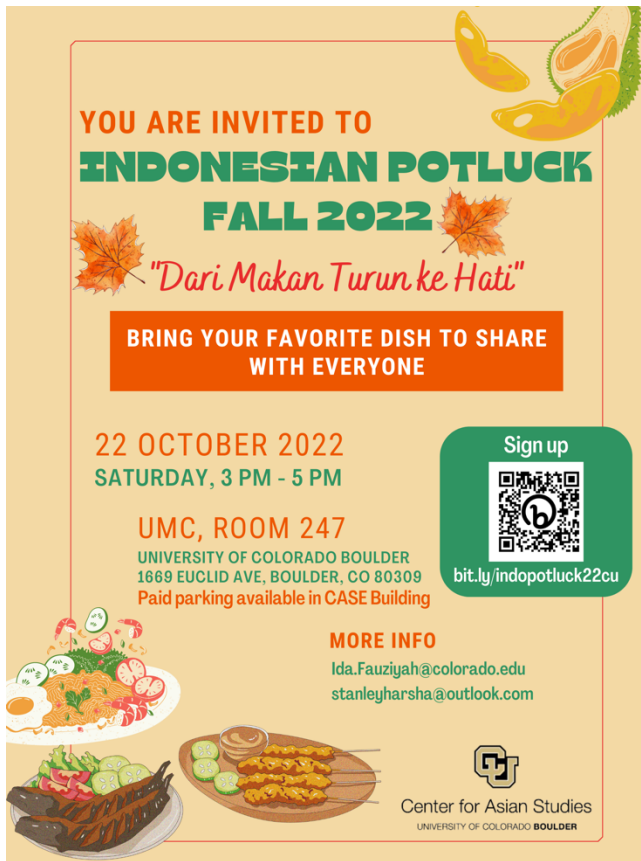
## Indonesian Potluck

October 22, 3pm-5pm  
Hale Science Reading Room  
1350 Pleasant St., 4th Floor

Indonesia is a country with diverse heritage of cuisines from its sprawling 17000 islands. We would like to invite you to come and try a taste of Indonesian cuisine right here in Boulder. Meet us in The

Hale Science reading Room on October 22, 2022 and join the Indonesian community who are happy to present you "Indonesian Potluck Fall 2022" with an array of Indonesian food.

Bring a dish to share!



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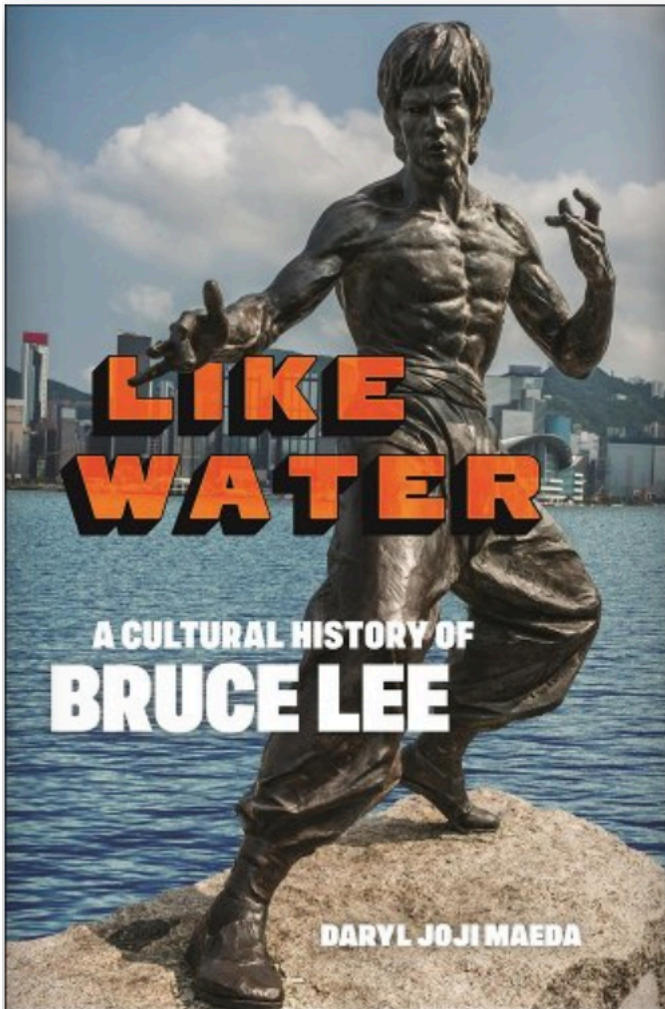
## Join us for a conversation about Dr. Maeda's New Book "Like Water: A Cultural History of Bruce Lee"

CAS Event  
Tuesday, November 1 at 9am

Via Zoom

Join Dean and Vice Provost of Undergraduate Education Dr. Daryl Joji Maeda as he discusses his most recent book, 'Like Water'. An Asian and Asian American icon of unimaginable stature and influence, Bruce Lee revolutionized the martial arts by combining influences drawn from around the world. By blending cultural history with biography, 'Like Water' unearths the cultural strands that Lee intertwined in his rise to global stardom. This speaking engagement will be moderated by Dr. Stanley Thangaraj of Stonehill College's Center for the Study of Race, Ethnicity, and Social Justice.

*Co-Sponsored by A&S Office of JEDI, The Center for Humanities & the Arts, Latin American Studies Center, The Center for African and African American Studies.*



## **Remarkable Japanese Women Artists and Craftsmakers in a Male Dominated World - from the 17th century to the Present**

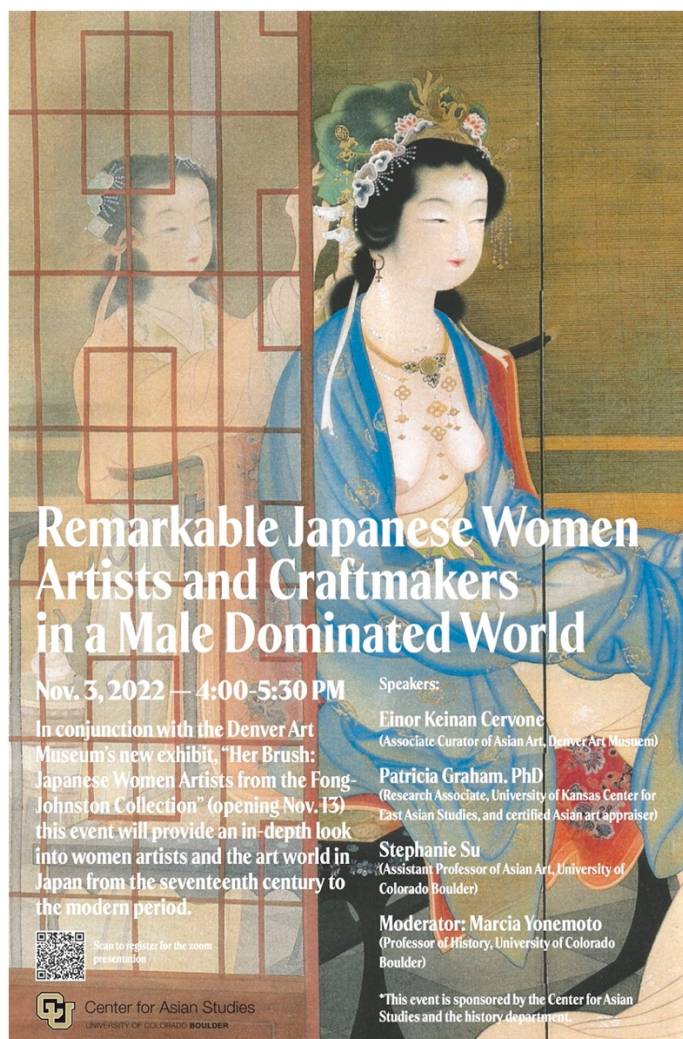
CAS Event

**Thursday, November 3 at 4pm**



In conjunction with the exhibition, “Her Brush: Japanese Women Artists from the Fong-Johnston Collection” at the Denver Art Museum (opening on Nov. 13, 2022,) which features recently donated collection of Japanese art by women artists, this event will provide scholarly and comparative perspectives on women artists and various genres of artworks that women created from the early modern to modern periods in Asia. The event will feature a brief introduction of the exhibit by the DAM associate curator of Asian Art, **Einor Keinan Cervone** and will have two main presenters, **Patricia Graham** and **Stephanie Su**. Patricia Graham will give an overview of the various types of arts that women created from pre-modern to the modern times focusing on women Buddhist craft artists. She has also worked as an appraiser for the donated collection on which the exhibit is pulled from and will share her insight about the collection. Stephanie Su will provide a comparative overview of women artists in Japan and China from the period to provide a deeper context for the exhibit.

*Co-Sponsored by the Department of History*



**Remarkable Japanese Women Artists and Craftmakers in a Male Dominated World**

**Nov. 3, 2022 — 4:00-5:30 PM**

In conjunction with the Denver Art Museum's new exhibit, “Her Brush: Japanese Women Artists from the Fong-Johnston Collection” (opening Nov. 13) this event will provide an in-depth look into women artists and the art world in Japan from the seventeenth century to the modern period.

**Speakers:**

**Einor Keinan Cervone**  
(Associate Curator of Asian Art, Denver Art Museum)

**Patricia Graham, PhD**  
(Research Associate, University of Kansas Center for East Asian Studies, and certified Asian art appraiser)

**Stephanie Su**  
(Assistant Professor of Asian Art, University of Colorado Boulder)

**Moderator: Marcia Yonemoto**  
(Professor of History, University of Colorado Boulder)

\*This event is sponsored by the Center for Asian Studies and the history department.

Scan to register for the zoom presentation

**Center for Asian Studies**  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

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# Infrastructure and the Remaking of Asia

November 9th 4:00 - 5:30 PM

Hale 230

A book launch for the ChinaMade project, featuring a panel discussion with CAS Visiting Scholar **Max Hirsh**, **Gökçe Günel** (Rice University), CAS Faculty Director **Tim Oakes**, and Professor **Emily Yeh** (CU Geography).

In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, infrastructure has undergone a seismic shift from West to East. Once concentrated in Europe and North America, global infrastructure production today is focused squarely on Asia.

Infrastructure and the Remaking of Asia investigates the deeper implications of that pivot to the East. Written by leading international infrastructure experts, it demonstrates how new roads, airports, pipelines, and cables are changing Asian economies, societies, and geopolitics—from the Bosphorus to Beijing, and from Indonesia to the Arctic. Ten tightly interwoven case studies powerfully illustrate infrastructure's leading role in three global paradigm shifts: climate change, digitalization, and China's emergence as a superpower.

Combining social science methods with mapping techniques from the design professions, the book establishes a dialogue between academic research on infrastructure and the professional insights of those responsible for infrastructure's planning, production, and operation. This mixed method sheds light on the mindset of practitioners, while also attending to the materiality and agency of the infrastructures that they create.

We apply that method to a detailed analysis of transport, energy, telecommunication, and resource extraction projects in China, the Middle East, and Central and Southeast Asia. The book synthesizes research on infrastructure from six academic fields, while making those insights accessible to a wider audience of students, professionals, and the general public.

Edited by Max Hirsh and Till Mostowlansky, *Infrastructure and the Remaking of Asia* is published by the University of Hawaii Press with the generous support of the Henry Luce Foundation, the Research Grants Council of Hong Kong, and the Swiss National Science Foundation.

Book link: <https://uhpress.hawaii.edu/title/infrastructure-and-the-remaking-of-asia/>



EDITED BY  
**MAX HIRSH AND  
TILL MOSTOWLANSKY**

**INFRASTRUCTURE AND THE  
REMAKING OF ASIA**

The Center for Asian Studies presents

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Center for Asian Studies  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER



**HENRY  
LUCE  
FOUNDATION**



香港人文社會研究所  
(Incorporating the Centre of Asian Studies)  
THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

# Activism in Bloom: Campus Politics and Socialist Democracy in China, 1956-1957

CAS Luncheon Series  
Thursday, November 10 at 12:30pm  
CASE Building W311

The talk sets China in the Communist world of the late 1950s, especially after Khrushchev's speech denouncing Stalin's personality cult in 1956. The speech triggered a series of unrest in Eastern Europe, and it also provoked Mao's launching of the Hundred Flowers and Rectification Campaigns. The talk compares student activism in China with that of Poland and Hungary in terms of their understanding of socialist democracy. It demonstrates that Chinese students remained informed of the outside world despite limited information channels, and that some students drew connections between crises afar with problems at home. The latter enraged the Chinese authorities, which in turn nipped the blooming activism in the bud. Students in these three counties were all inspired by Khrushchev's call for de-Stalinization, but they would pay a huge price for testing whether socialism could coexist with democracy.

**Yidi Wu** is an Assistant Professor of History at Elon University in North Carolina, where she teaches China, East Asia and world history. Her first book focuses on student activism in 1957's China. She is a recipient of the National Academy of Education / Spencer Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship. Her research has been published by the *Twentieth-Century China* and the *PRC History Review*.

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## Asia at CU

Tuesday, November 15 at 2pm

via Zoom

On Tuesday November 15<sup>th</sup> at 2pm, the Center for Asian Studies will be hosting a virtual "Asia at CU" information session for undergraduates interested in study abroad and work opportunities in Asia, scholarships and fellowships available for study in Asia, and the CU Asian Studies minor and major. Speakers from the Center for Asian Studies, Academic Advising, Education Abroad, and the Office of Top Scholarships will be in attendance to share with students from all majors across campus about the many ways in which they can incorporate learning about and from Asia into their studies and professional development.



## Global Asias Cyber Chat: Globalization and Circulation of Asian Popular Culture

Tuesday, November 15 at 12:00pm MST

This discussion will examine issues such as how various forms of Asian popular culture have responded to or engaged with other forms of national and hemispheric popular cultures, such as those in Europe, the Americas, Africa, and the Pacific, how Asian American and Asian diaspora



communities have drawn on Asian popular cultures, and the implications of homegrown Asian popular cultures circulating within and beyond Asia.

with **Carla Jones** (CU Boulder) co-editor of *Re-Orienting Fashion: The Globalization of Asian Dress*  
**Dr. Vernadette Gonzalez**, (University of Hawai'i at Mānoa), working on an interdisciplinary critical reader about the K-pop group BTS

**Anita Mannur** (Miami University), author of *Intimate Eating*: <https://www.dukeupress.edu/intimate-eating>

moderated by **Tim Oakes**, professor of Geography and Center for Asian Studies Interim Faculty Director

*Co-Sponsored by the Center for Humanities and the Arts, and the Global Asias Initiative*

## Global Asias Cyber Chat:

### Globalization and Circulation of Asian Popular Culture



**Carla Jones** (CU Boulder) co-editor of *Re-Orienting Fashion: The Globalization of Asian Dress*



**Candace Epps-Robertson** (UNC Chapel Hill), author of "Transcultural Fandom: BTS and ARMY"



**Anita Mannur** (Miami University), author of *Intimate Eating: Racialized Spaces and Radical Futures*

moderated by **Tim Oakes**, Professor of Geography and Center for Asian Studies Interim Faculty Director



**PennState**  
College of the Liberal Arts

**GLOBAL ASIAs**  
INITIATIVE



**Center for Asian Studies**  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER



**Center for Humanities & the Arts**  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

**Tuesday,  
November 15  
at 12pm MST  
on Zoom**

Register  
here

<https://bit.ly/3Ss9iTE>



As part of the Global Asia Cyberchat program, the Center for Asian Studies is partnering with the CHA to bring scholars from CU Boulder and beyond to talk about Asian popular culture circulating in Asia and around the globe.

[www.colorado.edu/cas](http://www.colorado.edu/cas)  
[casevent@colorado.edu](mailto:casevent@colorado.edu)

## China Town Hall

HALE 230

Doors open at 4:30, webcast begins at 5pm sharp.

We are delighted to announce that the 2022 CHINA Town Hall program will be held on **Wednesday, November 16, at 5:00pm MST** (7:00 p.m. EST), and will feature former U.S. ambassador to Russia, China, and Singapore, **Jon M. Huntsman Jr.**

Following the webcast, a presentation by Associate Professor of History and NCUSCR member, **Tim Weston**

## “China, the United States, and Perilous Times”

followed by a Q&A moderated by the Faculty Director of the Center for Asian Studies, **Tim Oakes**. CHINA Town Hall connects leading China experts with Americans around the country for a national conversation on the implications of China’s rise on U.S.-China relations and its impact on our towns, states, and nation. The National Committee is proud to partner with a range of institutions and community groups, colleges and universities, trade and business associations, and world affairs councils to bring this important national conversation to local communities around America for the 16th consecutive year.

Center for **Asian** Studies presents

Wednesday, November 16  
HALE 230  
Doors open at 4:30pm  
Event begins promptly at 5pm

A national discussion on the topic of the current Sino-American relationship and the impact it is having on us, on our businesses, our educational institutions, our communities, our states, our country.

The 2022 CHINA Town Hall program will feature **former U.S. ambassador to Russia, China, and Singapore, Jon M. Huntsman Jr.**

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**“China, the United States, and Perilous Times”**

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**CHINA TOWN HALL**  
LOCAL CONNECTIONS. NATIONAL REFLECTIONS

Featuring former U.S. Ambassador to Russia, China, and Singapore

**JON M. HUNTSMAN JR.**

WEBCAST | NOVEMBER 16 | 7:00 PM EST

**NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS**

*free and open to the public  
light refreshments will be served*

[www.colorado.edu/cas](http://www.colorado.edu/cas)  
303-735-5122

 Center for Asian Studies  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

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# Private Screening of the film *The Movement and the “Madman”* by filmmaker Robert Levering

Wednesday, November 30 at 5:30pm

Humanities 135

Featuring an introduction to the film by filmmaker **Robert Levering** (Executive Producer), and discussion and Q&A with **Sam Brown** and **Steven Dike** (CU Boulder Honors) after the screening. This film tells the little-known story of one of the most dramatic and consequential showdowns in American history between a protest movement and a president.

The film reveals how two antiwar demonstrations in the fall of 1969 — the largest the country had ever seen — helped prevent a massive escalation of the U.S. war in Vietnam, including the threatened use of nuclear weapons. At the time, protestors had no idea what they had prevented and how many lives they had saved.

It’s an inspiring story, one that offers hope in a time when autocracy threatens democracy, war rages in Ukraine, and we all face an impending global climate catastrophe.

*This event is the first in a series that will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Vietnam Peace Accords. Additional events are planned for late January and early February of 2023.*

**Robert Levering** is a journalist who has written dozens of articles and authored eight books about the corporate workplace. He coauthored *Fortune* magazine’s annual “100 Best Companies to Work For” article, and founded Great Place to Work Institute, a global research and consulting firm. He was on the New Mobilization staff for the Nov. 15, 1969, demonstration and was a staff organizer for other national antiwar actions.

**Sam Brown** was one of the principals of the “Dump Johnson” movement which successfully opposed the renomination of Lyndon Johnson in 1968 because of his war policies. In 1969 he was a founder and co-coordinator of the Vietnam Moratorium, the largest anti-war demonstration in American history. He was later elected State Treasurer of Colorado. President Carter appointed him and he was confirmed by the Senate to serve as head of U.S. volunteer agencies, including Peace Corps and VISTA. He was appointed by President Clinton to serve as U.S. Ambassador to the Organization for Security in cooperation in Europe; and was appointed to the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board by President Obama.

# The Center for Asian Studies presents

A Private Screening  
for the CU Boulder  
Community of the film



**The MOVEMENT  
and the "MADMAN"**



**Wednesday,  
November 30  
@ 5:30pm MST  
Humanities 135**

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With discussion over zoom by  
**Executive Producer Robert Levering**  
and **Activist Sam Brown**,  
moderated by **Steven Dike** (CU Boulder Honors).



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[www.colorado.edu/cas](http://www.colorado.edu/cas)  
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# Lunar New Year Celebration

Wednesday, January 25, 2023, 11:30am – 1:30pm

The Center for Asian Studies is co-sponsoring a Lunar New Year Celebration, along with Metro State University of Denver.

Join us in the Tivoli Turnhalle (900 Auraria) for a Lunar New Year Celebration! There will be activities, crafts, and food such as a Japanese tea ceremony and Gamelan, K\*Pop, and Kung Fu performances.



## Anthropology of Japan Series: “Occult Play in Japan”

Public lecture: Wednesday, Feb 1, 2023  
11:15am-12:05pm MT, on Zoom

**Dr. Laura Miller**, Ei'ichi Shibusawa-Seigo Arai Endowed Professor of Japanese Studies and Professor of History, University of Missouri-St. Louis

Contemporary divination products, media, and services are usually categorized under the term *uranai* (divination). Scholars have noted that divination in Japan includes in a preponderance of female aesthetics and tastes being channeled into a diverse range of new or refurbished businesses. The divination arts include forms such as physiognomy, Chinese-style astrology, feng-shui, blood typology, Western astrology, and Tarot. All these traditional and borrowed forms are thriving, but so too are multiple genres of creolized and sometimes humorous types of divination. Many journalists and other critics claim that women and girls participate in divination because they are seeking partners, missing the desire for self-exploration, entertainment, and social interaction that often drives this industry. Divination is worthy of research not only because its services and media produce staggering profits, but because it may be interpreted as a form of resistance to mainstream ideology.



## Vietnam and the USA: Looking Forward and Back

Thursday, February 2, 2023 at 5:30pm  
CASE Building, room E422



**A panel discussion featuring Sister Sen Nguyen, Dr. Ted Ning, and Dr. Pete Steinhauer**

We're 50 years out from the United States's withdrawal from combat in Vietnam in 1973, 48 years from the Fall of Saigon and the unification of Vietnam under a government we had been at war with for over two decades. It certainly looked pretty grave in the 1970s regarding relations between the two countries, and yet that hasn't been the story of the subsequent history.

This discussion will be historical—what have you all witnessed as you've seen America and Vietnam's relationship change over the last decades? What have been the unexpected successes and achievements? What personal stories do you have that CU students and the community would learn from?

It's also future oriented—where do you see things going? What obstacles remain?



## **Nothing Is Impossible, America's Reconciliation with Vietnam: A Talk by Ambassador Ted Osius**

Friday, February 3, 2023 at 5:00pm

CASE Building, 4th Floor

Chancellor's Auditorium

A reception with light refreshments will follow the talk.

A diplomat for nearly thirty years, Ted Osius served from 2014 to 2017 as U.S. ambassador to Vietnam, a country he has loved since serving there in the 1990s, when he helped open the U.S. Consulate General in Ho Chi Minh City and was one of the first U.S. diplomats at the U.S. Embassy in Hanoi. Leading a mission team of 900, Ambassador Osius devised and implemented strategies to deepen security ties, sign tens of billions of dollars' worth of commercial deals, expand educational exchange, conclude agreements on trade, law enforcement, environmental protection, and address

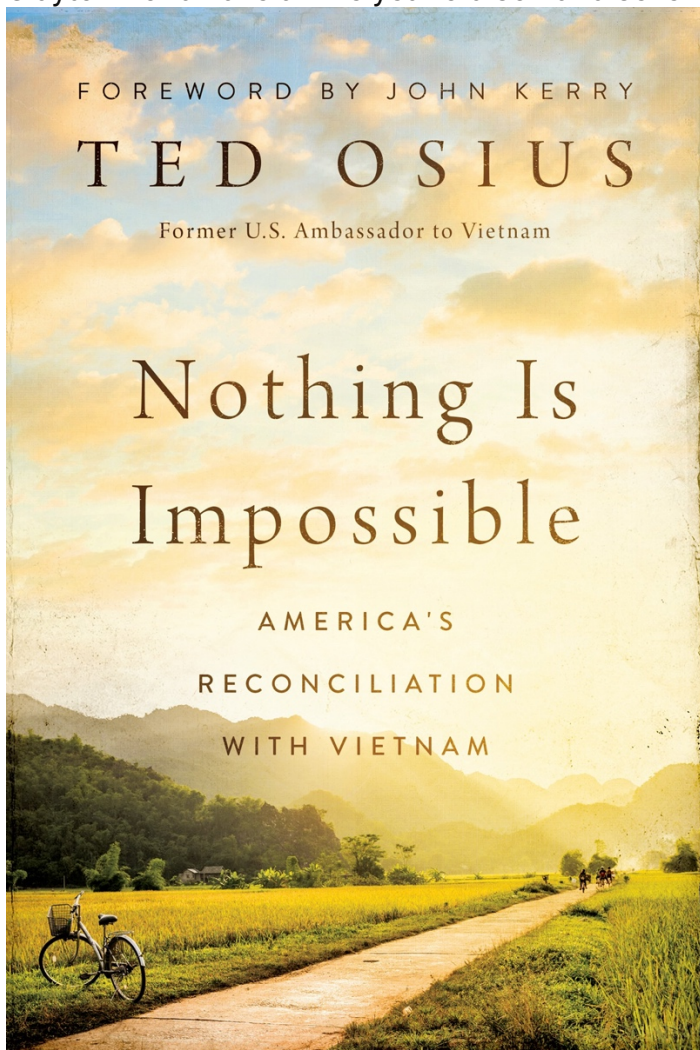


honestly a difficult past. Ambassador Osius' leadership helped bring about a positive transformation in U.S.-Vietnam relations.

As he worked to improve U.S.-Vietnam relations, Ambassador Osius came to know the heroes who sought to reconcile our nations, including John Kerry, John McCain, Pete Peterson and Le Van Bang. Under four Presidents and seven Secretaries of State, Ambassador Osius contributed to reconciliation not just between governments, but between former combatants, and the people of both nations. The first openly gay U.S. ambassador to serve in East Asia, he was only the second career diplomat in U.S. history to achieve that rank.

Ambassador Osius earned a Bachelor's degree from Harvard University, a Master's degree from Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies, and an Honorary Doctorate from Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology and Education. A member of the Board of Governors of the American Chamber of Commerce Vietnam, Ambassador Osius loves all kinds of travel, biking, sailing, theater and photography.

Ambassador Osius was a co-founder of the State Department's affinity organization for LGBTQ+ diplomats in the early 1990s. He was the second openly gay career diplomat in U.S. history to achieve the rank of ambassador, and the first to be assigned to East Asia. He and his husband Clayton Bond have a nine-year-old son and seven-year-old daughter.



# Annual Conference of CU Boulder Asian Studies Graduate Association

**Tina Lu**, Yale University

4:20 p.m. Saturday, February 4, 2023

UMC, Aspen Rooms

“How to Read a Seventeenth-Century Book”

Although it is mentioned in other seventeenth-century texts and strongly associated with Sun Yunqiu, Jingshi (Anatomy of Lenses, sometime after 1681) was only rediscovered in 2015; it is one of a handful of seventeenth-century Chinese texts that allude to a Chinese-made telescope. I find this slender volume (which includes many prefaces and postfaces, as well as eight illustrations) compelling and confounding. I will be talking about some non-author-centric ways to consider what I regard not as a text but as a book.

**Sabine Frühstück**, University of California, Santa Barbara

4:10 p.m. Sunday, February 5, 2023

UMC, Aspen Rooms

“Where Have All the Children Gone?”

Historians of East Asia, particularly those based at western institutions, have only just begun to study children and childhoods in earnest. The volume of scholarship is vastly disproportional to the size of the territories, populations, political heft, and global impact of the region, historically or at present. Similarly, children of East Asia have long constituted about one-third of the region’s total population. And yet, most historians of the region have assumed that children are historically irrelevant—meaning, they have been grossly overlooked in the historical record. This talk considers a range of approaches to the historical study of children, highlights how these histories matter, and how they ought to complicate the histories of pretty much everything.

The CU Boulder Asian Studies Graduate Association (CUBASGA) Conference is affiliated with the Department of Asian Languages and Civilizations, and sponsored by Center for Asian Studies, Cultural Events Board, and Arts and Sciences Student Government, with particular support from the Center for Student Involvement.

This year’s conference will feature 10 panels dedicated to a variety of topics and fields, including literature, history, media studies, cultural studies, linguistics, sociology, religious studies, etc. Each panel consists of three to four presentations (15 mins each) with discussion sessions (5-10 mins each).

CUBASGA conference aims to facilitate academic conversation and networking among graduate students across the U.S. and around the world. Graduate students are able to present their research and receive feedback from both CU's world-class faculty and invited keynote speakers. Keynote speakers for CUBASGA 2023 are: Prof. Tina Lu (Colonel John Trumbull Professor of East Asian Languages and Literatures, Yale University) and Prof. Sabine Frühstück (Koichi Takashima Chair in Japanese Cultural Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara).

We hope to foster a convivial ambience for exchanging ideas. We welcome everyone from CU who is interested to drop by and join us!

**CEB & CUBASQA present**  
**2023 Asian Studies**  
**Graduate Conference**

**KEYNOTE SPEAKERS**  
 Professor Tina Lu (Yale)  
 Professor Sabine Frühstück (UCSB)

**February 4th**  
 9am-5:50pm  
 Aspen Room & 415/417  
 UMC

**February 5th**  
 10:30am-5:40pm  
 Aspen Room & 247  
 UMC



**CULTURAL EVENTS BOARD**  
[www.colorado.edu/ceb](http://www.colorado.edu/ceb)

To request ASL interpretation or other accommodations, please contact CEB at [CEB@colorado.edu](mailto:CEB@colorado.edu) or visit us at UMC 319 at least 5 business days before the event.

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**Center for Asian Studies**  
 UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

**ARTS & SCIENCES STUDENT GOVERNMENT**

## Hearts and Minds

Saturday, February 4, 2023  
 at 7:30pm  
 Munzinger Auditorium

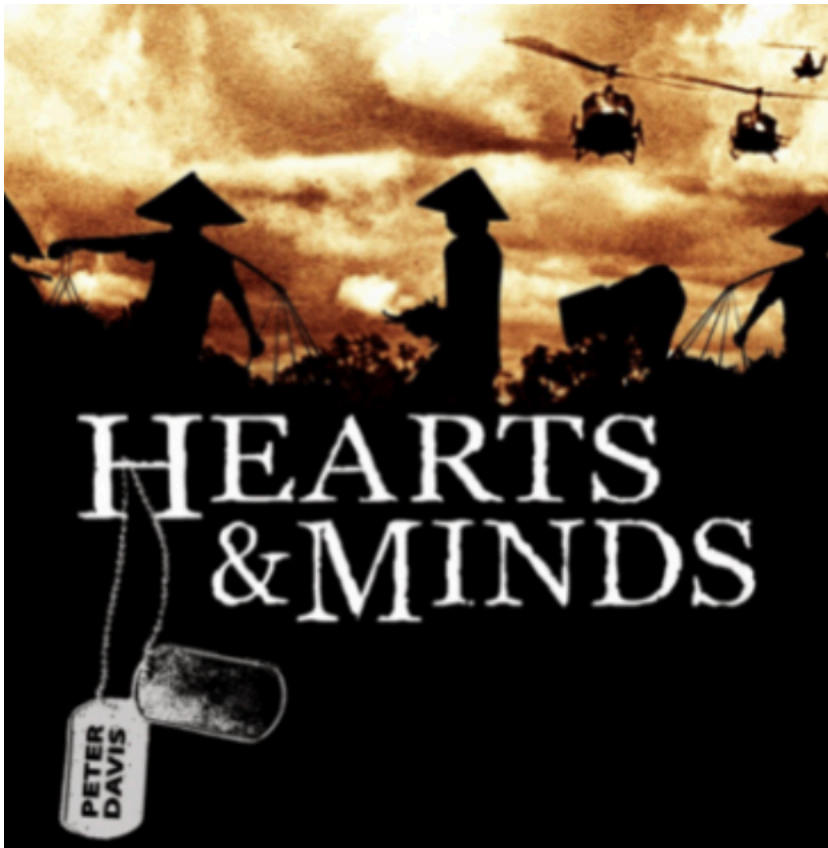
*The Center for Asian Studies and The International Film Series commemorate the anniversary of the signing of the Paris Peace Accords with a special free screening of the documentary, HEARTS AND MINDS. With a special video intro by the film's director, Peter Davis!*

Here is a documentary about Vietnam that doesn't really level with us on a simple technical level. If we know something about how footage is obtained and how editing can make points, it sometimes looks like propaganda, using such standard tricks as the juxtaposition of carefully selected but unrelated material to create a desired effect. And yet, in scene after scene, the raw material itself is so devastating that it brushes the tricks aside.

"Hearts and Minds" was filmed over a period of a year at a cost of about \$1 million, making it at the time the most ambitious American documentary since "Woodstock." And then it was shelved for a year because its original distributor, Columbia, feared legal problems. The ironic result is that it went into wide release in 1974, just at the moment when the whole Vietnam experiment seemed to be collapsing. By then, the hard-hat parades, the returning heroes lecturing school-children, the television

promises of Johnson and Nixon, the hawkish line of Walt Rostow and the surprisingly racist banalities of Gen. William Westmoreland all seemed not only tragic but pathetic.

We see a tearful graveside scene in North Vietnam, for example, with a widow trying to throw herself onto her husband's coffin, and then we get Westmoreland soberly explaining that Orientals don't place a high value on life. In this and his other comments about what he calls "the Oriental philosophy," Westmoreland comes over as not only racist and stupid, but incredibly lacking in awareness of how his remarks will sound. This man ran a war for years in a country he didn't begin to understand.



## **Anthropology of Japan Series: “Religion in Contemporary Japan”**

Public lecture: Wednesday, Feb 8, 2023  
11:15am-12:05pm MT, on Zoom

Dr. Levi McLaughlin, Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, North Carolina State University

This presentation introduces religion in contemporary Japan. McLaughlin will introduce Japan's diverse religious landscape by describing how people's everyday interactions with Shinto shrines, Buddhist temples, and other religious sites, as well as within politics and other spheres, instantiate religion in Japanese contexts. He will summarize historical processes that inform dispositions that guide Japanese people's religious interactions, examine distinctive ambiguities that surround



“religion” as a Japanese category, and discuss new challenges that have emerged in the wake of the July 2022 murder of former Prime Minister Abe Shinzō.



# Creating Culturally Inclusive Learning Environments: Incorporating Cultures and Languages Across the Curriculum (CLAC)

**Monday, February 13, 11:30am to 1pm on [Zoom](#)**

*An information session and roundtable discussion hosted by the Center for Asian Studies.*

*Speakers will include Asian Languages and Civilizations faculty members **Katherine Alexander**, Assistant Professor of Chinese, **Marjorie Burge**, Assistant Professor of Japanese, and **Evelyn Shih**, Assistant Professor of Chinese. Moderated by Center for Asian Studies Executive Director **Danielle Rocheleau Salaz**.*

CLAC is a curricular framework that provides opportunities to develop and apply language and intercultural competence within all academic disciplines through the use of multilingual resources and the inclusion of multiple cultural perspectives. Since 2017, CU faculty have been applying CLAC to courses across the curriculum to better engage and enrich learning by heritage language users and students of Asian languages.

CLAC courses provide a structure for students to deepen their study content from an English-language course through the incorporation of additional source materials in another language. These courses have been shown to enhance student learning, create a deeper sense of community and belonging, and improve language skills.

Join us to learn about the CLAC model, hear about the experiences of faculty at CU who have successfully designed and led CLAC courses, and find out about opportunities for course development grants for CLAC programming using Asian languages. Although funding is only available for Asian-language course development grants, we encourage participation from across disciplines and languages as the CLAC model is valuable for all languages and students.



# Anthropology of Japan Series: “The Bust of Harry S. Truman”

Public lecture: Wednesday, Feb 15, 2023  
11:15am-12:05pm MT, on Zoom

In 2020, the 75th year anniversary of the atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japanese ceramic artist Momoko Usami was given a public commission to create a bust of Harry S. Truman for Hotel Kansas City. Truman may have advocated for civil rights domestically, but he also authorized the dropping of atomic bombs on Usami’s native country. For Usami, who now lives in the American Midwest with her family, having mixed-race children in a period of civil unrest helped shape the complexity of her depiction of Truman. Her key motivation in her depiction was a fear of repeating the worst of history. Usami hopes that her art increases public awareness so we will not make the same mistakes again, and that we will find better paths for the future.



**Tashi Delek!** བཏཱ་ཤེས་བདེ་ལེགས།!

Join us to practice your listening and speaking skills at the Tibetan Conversation Table! All ability levels are welcome. We'll enjoy lively conversation, coffee, and games in The HIVE @ALTEC (Hellemms 159), at **2pm - 3pm** on **Thursdays**. Hosted by *ALTEC* and the Center of Asian Studies.


# Words that Got Around: Early Japanese Literary Transmission in a Comparative Context

Monday, February 20, 5:00-6:30pm, HUMN 135

Joshua Frydman, University of Oklahoma

Excavations in recent decades have uncovered inscriptions of poetry from the seventh through tenth centuries in Japan, many of which are on objects that were thrown away, as well as "graffiti" on buildings. These inscriptions comprised networks of "informal" transmission of poems and tropes separate from more formal avenues of circulation. A comparative approach to similar behavior in other premodern societies may explain why the early Japanese created these inscriptions, and offer paradigms for understanding how formal and informal methods of literary transmission coexisted in early Japan.

*Co-sponsored by Asian Languages and Civilizations*



**WORDS THAT GOT AROUND:**  
**EARLY JAPANESE LITERARY TRANSMISSION IN A COMPARATIVE CONTEXT**

**DR. JOSHUA FRYDMAN**  
**UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA**

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**MONDAY FEBRUARY 20 | 5-6:30PM | HUMN 135**

# Palm Oil Voices: Making Audible and Tactile Deforested Futures in Indonesia

Tuesday, February 21 at 3pm MST

In person CASE room W313 - *in-person capacity is very limited*

**Bonnie Etherington** will be speaking via Zoom, and will not be on the Boulder Campus for this event. Event hosted by **Carla Jones**, Associate Professor of Anthropology CU Boulder  
With Discussant **Colleen Scanlan Lyons**, Governors' Climate and Forests Task Force  
In her book *Indigenous Species* (2016), Indonesian writer Khairani Barokka writes from the perspective of a kidnapped woman on a boat in a river "drifting down open sores of forest" cleared for palm oil plantations in Kalimantan. She writes that this oil later coopts and transports "eons of intricacies and strength/ From the forest to molecular form/ On a woman's lipstick bottle in Iowa". In her poem that she also presents in Braille, I argue that Barokka makes audible and tactile the often invisible movements, connections, and interdependent relationships of palm oil that sustain modernity in other parts of the world. I will also read two texts by West Papuan authors: a song by elder Gerardus Gebze, and a poem by Aleks Giyai, which are both about the devastating impacts of palm oil on a forest landscape in their homeland: specifically the impact of oil palms on a staple lowland Papuan food resource, sago. Read together, these literary works present multidimensional, multi-vocal views of (de)forested kinships and interconnections in regions critical for palm oil production in Indonesia. These "voices" sketch out unexpected geographies of palm oil and intervene into global conversations about oil, modernity, and capitalism in the face of precarious environmental futures.

Bonnie Etherington was an Environmental Futures Postdoctoral Fellow at CU Boulder. She is currently a Lecturer in Literary & Creative Communication in the School of English, Film, Theatre, Media Studies & Art History at Victoria University in Wellington, New Zealand.

Bonnie earned her PhD in English from Northwestern University, where she was also a Presidential Fellow. She is at work on a book manuscript entitled *One Salt Water: Writing the Pacific Ocean in Contemporary Indigenous Protest Literatures*, and her scholarly work is forthcoming in *The Contemporary Pacific*, and recently published in *New Oceania: Modernisms and Modernities in the Pacific* (Routledge, 2019). Her first novel, *The Earth Cries Out* (Vintage NZ, 2017), was shortlisted for the William Saroyan International Prize for Writing and long-listed for the Ockham New Zealand Book Awards. At Northwestern she was also a team member with the Humanities Without Walls project, "Indigenous Art and Activism in Changing Climates: The Mississippi River Valley, Colonialism, and Environmental Change." Bonnie was born in Aotearoa New Zealand and raised in West Papua. This talk builds on a CNAIS-sponsored talk Bonnie gave in November, 2020 on **Weaving Trans-Indigenous Solidarities in the Pacific: The Case of West**

**Papua:** <https://www.colorado.edu/cnaais/2020/11/05/weaving-trans-indigenous-solidarities-pacific-case-west-papua>

Co-Sponsored by: CNAIS, Ethnic Studies, Anthropology, Sociology, CMCI/Center for Communication and Democratic Engagement, Michigan State University Asian Studies Center, The Carolina Asia Center, and Metropolitan State University of Denver

Center for **Asian** Studies presents

**Palm Oil Voices:  
Making Audible and  
Tactile Deforested  
Futures in Indonesia  
with Bonnie Etherington**

**Tuesday,  
February 21  
at 3pm**



## **Azadi! Azadi! Azadi! : The ontologizing capacity of caste**

CAS Luncheon Series

Thursday, February 23, 2023 at 12:45pm

CASE Building

room W311

Rooted in the historical present of the brahmanical nation, this project traces the *imperial spectacle* (Rana, 2011) to discern the rhetoric of enemy-making. I juxtapose the understanding of caste as a hierarchical structure against an affectual and ontological understanding of caste as a *hierarchizing force*. To do this, I turn towards the spectaclized violences of 2019-20, that are inseparable from the capacitating forces behind them - the potential for the violence to happen in the first place and on whose body it manifests, and how.

Therefore, I propose that we think of how caste materially makes the world, leaving violence in its wake particularly towards caste-oppressed and Muslim bodies, I question how caste ontologizes Muslimness, or to echo Ashley and Billies (2020), I ask, *What does caste do?*

**Salwa Kazi** (*they/them/theirs*) is a 2nd Year PhD Student, at the Dept. of Communication, CU Boulder. Their research focuses on entanglements of racialization, caste and religion in India. Their current projects look at radical religious futurity and rhetorics of violence and desire.

## **Tashi Delek! བསྐྱེད་པའི་ལེགས་ཀྱི་འཕྲིན་ལྗང་།**



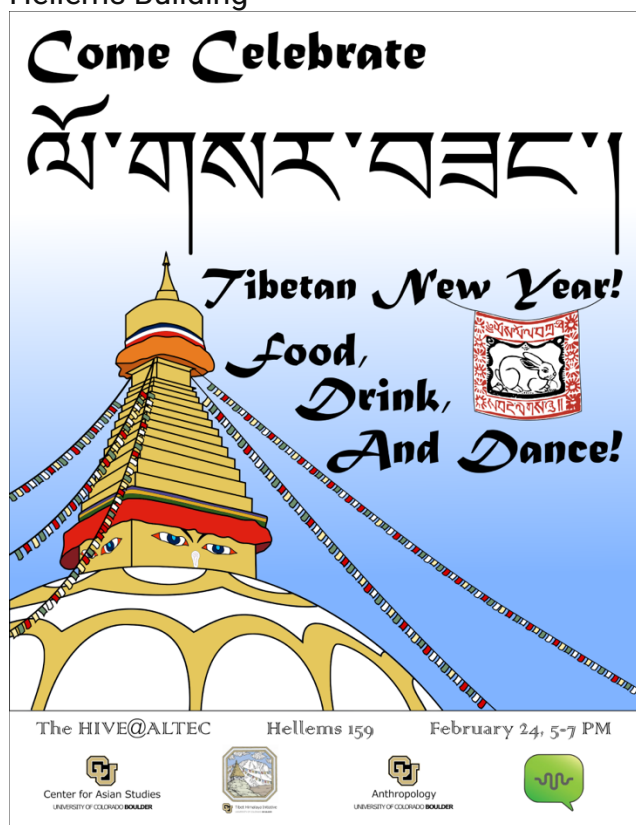
Join us to practice your listening and speaking skills at the Tibetan Conversation Table! All ability levels are welcome. We'll enjoy lively conversation, coffee, and games in The HIVE @ALTEC (Hellems 159), at **2pm - 3pm** on **Thursdays**. Hosted by **ALTEC** and the Center of Asian Studies.

## Tibetan Losar (New Year) Celebration

Friday, February 24, 2023

5pm - 7pm

The Hive, ALTEC  
Hellems Building



## Gamelan Practice

Saturday, February 25 2023

1PM - 3 PM

UMC 386



# Disclosing Food Allergies in Japan: Reading the Air, Imagination, and Trouble

Public lecture: Monday, Feb 27, 2023  
11:15am-12:05pm MT, on Zoom

**Dr. Emma Cook**

Associate Professor, Modern Japanese Studies Program, Hokkaido University, Japan  
Toyota Visiting Professor, Center for Japanese Studies, University of Michigan (2022-2023)

In this talk I explore how young adults with food allergies in Japan “read the air” and try to avoid creating trouble for others and themselves in their practices of allergy disclosure. I trace how their experiences of reading the air and their engagement with feelings of trouble (*meiwaku*) emerge out of - and become - an imaginative practice that is embodied, intersubjective, and built on feelings of how people might respond to their disclosures, as well as the social risks that they feel food allergies present.



# Batik Cutting Board Coloring

Tuesday, February 28, 2023

4pm-5pm

The Hive @ALTEC

Hellem 159.



# Epigraphy and the Rise of Islam: the religious landscape of late pre-Islamic Arabia

Thursday, March 2 at 5pm  
Humanities 135

This talk will present new epigraphic discoveries from the late 5th to early 7th-century Hijaz region of Arabia. Dr. Al-Jallad will discuss religious continuities and transformations that occurred in this period and their implications for our understanding of the background of Islam.


**Ahmad Al-Jallad** did his doctoral work at Harvard University in Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations. He currently researches the languages, writing systems, and cultures of pre-Islamic Arabia and is the Sofia Chair of Arabic at the Ohio State University. He is the author of *The Religion and Rituals of the Nomads of Pre-Islamic Arabia: A reconstruction based on the Safaitic inscriptions*, among other works.

*Co-Hosted by Asian Languages and Civilizations, The Department of Classics and the CU Mediterranean Studies Group*

## EPIGRAPHY AND THE RISE OF ISLAM:

### the religious landscape of late pre-Islamic Arabia

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Thursday 3/2  
5:15-6:45PM  
HUMN 135

**Ahmad Al-Jallad** did his doctoral work at **Harvard University** in Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations.

He currently researches the languages, writing systems, and cultures of pre-Islamic Arabia and is the Sofia Chair of Arabic at the Ohio State University.

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Religious Studies  
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The CU Mediterranean Studies Group



Department of Classics  
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# Tashi Delek! བསྐྱེད་པའི་ལཱ་གསལ།

Join us to practice your listening and speaking skills at the Tibetan Conversation Table! All ability levels are welcome. We'll enjoy lively conversation, coffee, and games in The HIVE @ALTEC (Hellem 159), at **2pm - 3pm** on **Thursdays**. Hosted by *ALTEC* and the Center of Asian Studies.

# We Measure the Earth with our Bodies: Book Reading with Tsering Lama

March 2, 2023

## 5:30pm Reception

6pm Book talk followed by Q&A

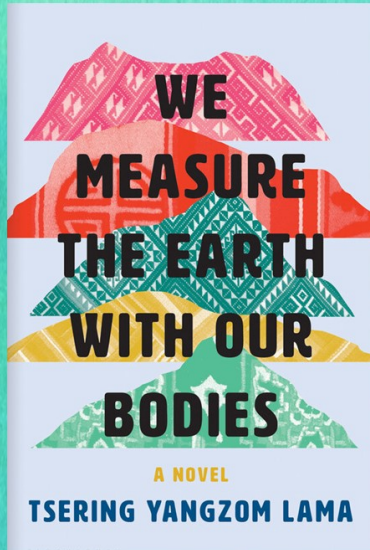
Chancellor's Hall and Auditorium  
CASE Building, 4th floor

**Join us for an extraordinary event:** a book reading and dialogue with **Tsering Yangzom Lama** about her award-winning debut novel, *We Measure the Earth with Our Bodies*, the first novel in English by a Tibetan woman.

Breathtaking in scope and powerfully intimate, *We Measure the Earth with Our Bodies* is a gorgeously written meditation on colonization, displacement, and the lengths we'll go to remain connected to our families and ancestral lands. Told through the lives of a family across three generations, this beautifully lyrical debut novel provides a nuanced portrait of the world of Tibetan exiles. *We Measure the Earth with Our Bodies*, won the 2023 New Writers Award for Fiction from the Great Lakes Colleges Association. A New York Times Summer Reads pick, her novel was shortlisted for The Scotiabank Giller Prize and longlisted for The Center for Fiction First Novel Prize and The Toronto Book Awards. **Tsering Yangzom Lama** holds an MFA in Writing from Columbia University where she was a TOMS Fellow, Writing Fellow, and Teaching Fellow. She earned her BA in Creative Writing and International Relations from the University of British Columbia. A lifelong activist, she is a Storytelling Advisor at Greenpeace International, where she guides and trains people around the world in narrative strategy. A recipient of grants from the Canada Council for the Arts and the Barbara Deming Memorial Fund, Tsering has been a resident at the Jan Michalski Foundation, Banff Center for Arts and Creativity, Hedgebrook, Willapa Bay AiR, Vermont Studio Center, Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, Lillian E. Smith Center, Art Omi, Catwalk Institute, WildAcres, and Playa Summerlake. She was selected as a 2018 Tin House Novel Scholar. Tsering's writing has appeared in *The Globe and Mail*, *The Malahat Review*, *Grain*, *Kenyon Review*, *Vela*, *LaLit*, and *Himal SouthAsian*, as well as the anthologies *Old Demons New Deities: 21 Short Stories from Tibet*; *House of Snow: An Anthology of the Greatest Writing About Nepal*; and *Brave New Play Rites*. Tsering is also a co-founder of [LhakarDiaries](#), a leading English-language blog among Tibetan youth in exile. Born and raised in Nepal, she currently splits her time between Vancouver, Canada and Sweden.



The first novel in English by a Tibetan woman writer...



### BOOK READING & DIALOGUE with Tsering Yangzom Lama

Breathtaking in scope and powerfully intimate, *We Measure the Earth with Our Bodies* is a gorgeously written meditation on colonization, displacement, and the lengths we'll go to remain connected to our families and ancestral lands. Told through the lives of a family across three generations, this beautifully lyrical debut novel provides a nuanced portrait of the world of Tibetan exiles.

Chancellor's Auditorium

CASE Building 4th Floor  
725 Euclid Ave, CU Boulder

Thursday, March 2

5:30 Meet the Author | 6pm Book Reading

Books available for advanced purchase at the CU Bookstore. Signing after the event!



For more info, visit  
<https://tseringlama.com>  
or [www.colorado.edu/cas](http://www.colorado.edu/cas)



Tibet Himalaya Initiative  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

# Indonesian Cultural Booth and Performance CU International Festival

Saturday, March 4 2023  
3 PM - 7pm  
Glenn Miller Ballroom  
UMC



# Anthropology of Japan Series: Automating Affect

Wednesday, March 8, 11:15am – 12:05pm MT

With **Dr. Daniel White**, Senior Research Associate, Department of Social Anthropology, University of Cambridge

What is an affect automated? This lecture situates discussions on affect, emotion, and technology in anthropology in the context of contemporary Japan. It asks what happens to the culturally specific dimensions of affective experience when it is 1) formulated as a theory, 2) modeled in a machine, and 3) used as a technological tool to collect data and interpret human behavior. The lecture will explore this question through examples of social robots in Japan with so-called artificial emotional intelligence. It will then use these examples to examine how hierarchies of state power and gender are reproduced through algorithmic embodiments.



# High altitude hunting, horses, and human prehistory in the Mongolian Altai

CAS Luncheon Series

Thursday, March 9, 2023 at 12:45pm

CASE Building

Room W311

Despite the importance of Mongolia's horse cultures in shaping Eurasian prehistory, the origins of the region's unique pastoral cultures have proven difficult to trace in the archaeological record. New discoveries from archaeological research at high altitude snow and ice patches in the Altai Mountain range shows that mountain hunting has played a key role in subsistence in the region for millennia, and shakes up our understanding of the region's role in early horse domestication. As the climate warms, melting ice and wildlife loss threaten both these rare archaeological snapshots into the past, as well as the viability of traditional lifeways in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**William Taylor** is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Curator of Archaeology at CU Boulder. Dr. Taylor's research focuses on the relationship between humans and animals, with a topical focus on horses and animal domestication, and a technical emphasis on archaeozoology, glacial archaeology, archaeological science, and emerging technologies. He has ongoing field projects in the Great Plains and the American Southwest as well as Mongolia and the Steppes of Central Asia. He also conducts museum collections research in China, Australia, and South America.

## Tashi Delek! བཀྲ་ཤིས་བདེ་ལེགས།!

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## Tukdam: Between Worlds

A new documentary film by Donagh Coleman

Thursday, March 9, 2023

Reception at 6pm

Film begins at 6:30pm (91 min.)

discussion with Donagh Coleman after the film

CASE Chancellor's Hall and Auditorium, 4th floor

*This event is not taking reservations, and is first come first serve for seating. Doors open at 6pm.*

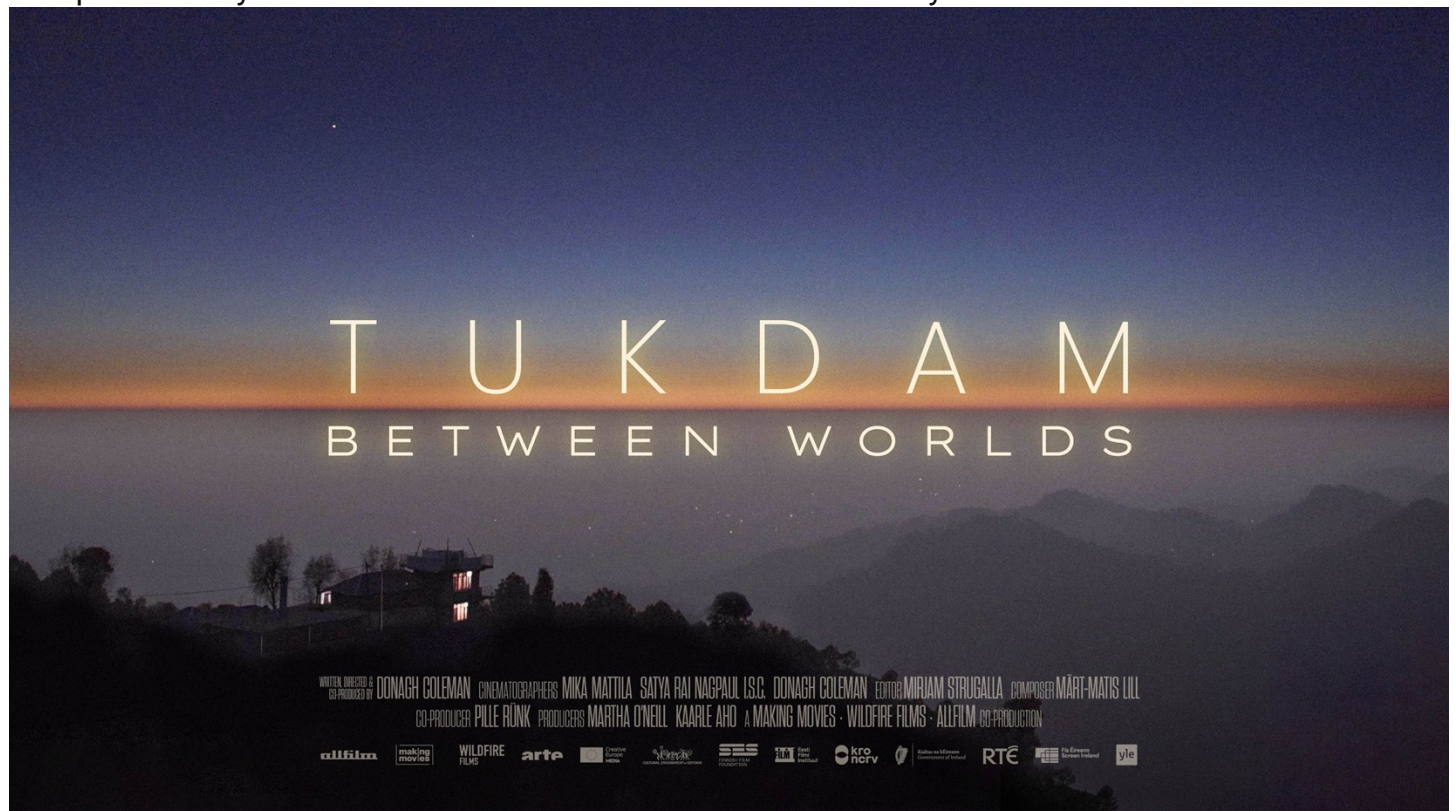
*In what Tibetans call tukdam, deceased meditators show no signs of death for days or weeks. Juxtaposing ground-breaking scientific research and Tibetan perspectives, this creative documentary challenges our notions of life and death, and where we draw the line between them.*



We tend to think of death as something clear-cut, and that medical science has it neatly figured out. This feature documentary explodes such assumptions through its exploration of a phenomenon that blurs life and death to an unprecedented degree. In what Tibetan Buddhists call *tukdam*, advanced meditators die in a consciously controlled manner in meditation. Though dead according to our biomedical standards, they often stay sitting upright in meditation posture; remarkably, their bodies remain fresh and lifelike, without signs of decay for days, sometimes weeks after clinical death. The film follows the first ever scientific research into *tukdam* by neuroscientist Richard Davidson's team, juxtaposed with intimate death stories of *tukdam* meditators and Tibetan understandings of the death process – which include ideas about consciousness and the mind-body connection that are very different to those of mainstream science. Unfolding in cinematic dialogue between scientific and Tibetan perspectives, the film unravels our certainties about life and death, and shows how differently death can be construed in different cultural contexts. In this encounter between worlds, the scientists' methods and views are challenged by a civilization where death has been a central preoccupation for centuries.

Finnish-Irish-American filmmaker **Donagh Coleman** holds degrees in Philosophy and Psychology and Music and Media Technologies from Trinity College Dublin, and a MA in Asian Studies from UC Berkeley. Previous award-winning films with wide international festival and TV exposure include *A Gesar Bard's Tale* (2013) and *Stone Pastures* (2008). Donagh's films have also been shown at museums such as MoMA and the Rubin Museum of Art in New York, and by the European Commission. Besides films and TV-docs, Donagh directs radio documentaries for the Finnish and Irish national broadcasters. His Radio Feature *Gesar!* was Finland's entry for the 2012 Prix Italia competition, and his feature *Do I Exist?* was Finland's entry for the 2015 Prix Europa competition. Donagh has also worked as a TV journalist and presenter for the Finnish broadcaster YLE News. He is currently doing a PhD in medical anthropology at UC Berkeley, continuing the research conducted for his 2022 feature documentary on meditative Tibetan Buddhist *tukdam* deaths.

Co-Sponsored by the Renee Crown Institute and the Tibet Himalaya Initiative



# It's Not Enough to be Cool: Why Interactive TV Didn't Take Over Japan

Wednesday, Mar 15, 2023

11:15am-12:05pm MT, on Zoom

**Dr. Elizabeth Rodwell**, Assistant Professor, University of Houston Department of Information & Logistics Technology

Following the 2011 Fukushima nuclear disaster, some within the Japanese TV and journalism industries used the crisis as an opportunity for self-critique; others side-stepped questions of self-censorship and advertiser coercion by focusing on restoring audience engagement through the development of pioneering interactive (social) television. Outside the major broadcast conglomerates, journalists began experimenting with interactivity to try to circumvent the institutions they perceived as working against public interest and safety. Interactive technologies make big promises to Japanese audiences, but do they deliver?



# Screening of 'CROSSINGS' with Christine Ahn

Wednesday, March 15, 7 pm  
CASE Chancellor's Auditorium, 4th Floor

Join us for a screening of *Crossings*, a new documentary film by Deann Borshay Liem that follows the historic journey of 30 women peacemakers including Gloria Steinem and Nobel Peace Laureates as they cross the De-Militarized Zone between North and South Korea calling for an end to a 70-year war that has divided the Korean Peninsula and its people.

Following the film, we will host a discussion with **Christine Ahn**, Executive Director of Women Cross DMZ, who led the women's peace walk. Ahn is a CU Boulder alumna, INVST graduate, and recipient of the 2022 Social Activist Award from the Nobel Peace Laureates.

Refreshments donated by Lucky Pie of Louisville.

For more info, contact [invst@colorado.edu](mailto:invst@colorado.edu).

*Co-Sponsored by INVST, Peace, Conflict and Security Program, CU Engage, Center for Inclusion and Social Change, Women and Gender Studies*

*This event is free and open to the public*





## SCREENING OF 'CROSSINGS' WITH CHRISTINE AHN

Wednesday, March 15, 7 pm  
CASE East, 4th Floor, CU Boulder

Join us for a screening of *Crossings*, a new documentary film by Deann Borshay Liem that follows the historic journey of 30 women peacemakers including Gloria Steinem and Nobel Peace Laureates as they cross the De-Militarized Zone between North and South Korea calling for an end to a 70-year war that has divided the Korean Peninsula and its people.

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Refreshments donated by Lucky Pie of Louisville. Center for Academic Success is located at Euclid and Broadway next to the UMC. For more info, contact [invst@colorado.edu](mailto:invst@colorado.edu).



Co-Sponsored by Center for Asian Studies,  
CU Engage, Center for Inclusion and Social Change,  
Women and Gender Studies



## Tashi Delek! བསྐྱེས་བདེ་ལེགས།!

Join us to practice your listening and speaking skills at the Tibetan Conversation Table! All ability levels are welcome. We'll enjoy lively conversation, coffee, and games in The HIVE @ALTEC (Hellems 159), at 2pm - 3pm on **Thursdays**. Hosted by ALTEC and the Center of Asian Studies.

## Settler Garrison: Debt Imperialism, Militarism, and Transpacific Imaginaries

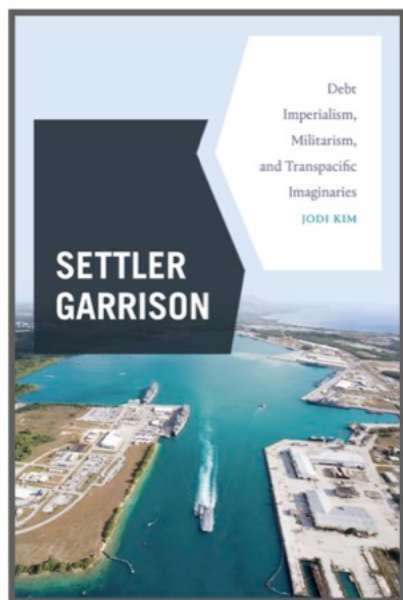
Tuesday, March 21 at 5pm  
CASE Building, room E422

Book talk by **Jodi Kim**, Professor, Media & Cultural Studies, University of California Riverside



Jodi Kim's research and teaching interests are at the intersections of Asian American studies, critical ethnic and race studies, postcolonial theory, feminist epistemologies, and critiques of US empire and militarism. Her first book, *Ends of Empire: Asian American Critique and the Cold War* (University of Minnesota Press, 2010), offers a critique of American empire in Asia through an interdisciplinary analysis of Asian American cultural productions and their critical intersections with Cold War geopolitics and logics. Her second book, *Settler Garrison: Debt Imperialism, Militarism, and Transpacific Imaginaries* (Duke University Press, 2022) theorizes how the United States extends its sovereignty across Asia and the Pacific in the post-World War II era through a militarist settler imperialism that is leveraged on debt as a manifold economic and cultural relation undergirded by asymmetries of power. Kim demonstrates that despite being the largest debtor nation in the world, the United States positions itself as an imperial creditor that imposes financial and affective indebtedness alongside a disciplinary payback temporality even as it evades repayment of its own debts. Kim reveals this process through an analysis of how a wide array of transpacific cultural productions creates antimilitarist and decolonial imaginaries that diagnose US militarist settler imperialism while envisioning alternatives to it.

*Event Co-Sponsored by The English Department, Media Studies, Ethnic Studies, Asian Languages and Civilizations.*



## Settler Garrison: Debt Imperialism, Militarism, and Transpacific Imaginaries

Tuesday, March 21 at 5pm  
CASE Building, Room E422

Book talk by **Jodi Kim**,  
Professor, Media & Cultural Studies,  
University of California Riverside

*Settler Garrison: Debt Imperialism, Militarism, and Transpacific Imaginaries* (Duke University Press, 2022) theorizes how the United States extends its sovereignty across Asia and the Pacific in the post-World War II era through a militarist settler imperialism that is leveraged on debt as a manifold economic and cultural relation undergirded by asymmetries of power. Kim demonstrates that despite being the largest debtor nation in the world, the United States positions itself as an imperial creditor that imposes financial and affective indebtedness alongside a disciplinary payback temporality even as it evades repayment of its own debts. Kim reveals this process through an analysis of how a wide array of transpacific cultural productions creates antimilitarist and decolonial imaginaries that diagnose US militarist settler imperialism while envisioning alternatives to it.



Center for Asian Studies  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

Event Co-Sponsored by the English  
Department, Ethnic Studies, Media Studies,  
and Asian Languages and Civilizations

*This event is free and open to the public*

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[casevent@colorado.edu](mailto:casevent@colorado.edu)

# Technophany and the Sacralisation of Infrastructure in India and Thailand

Tuesday, March 21

4pm

Paleo Hall, CU Boulder Museum of Natural History

This will be a public lecture by Professor **Kenneth George**, (Anthropology) The Australian National University, as part of a two-talk series for this year's Distinguished Lecture in Cultural Anthropology. He and his partner, Professor Kirin Narayan, are co-PIs of a multi-year, multi-sited project on the renewed interest in venerating Vishwakarma in contemporary India. Vishwakarma, the deity associated with craft and artisanal work, has recently become much more visible and linked to national industry, making him the god of India's new infrastructure boom.

The rise of industrial capitalism in South and Southeast Asia since the late 19th century has been accompanied by rites that aim to bring emerging infrastructures, technologies, and objects of manufacture into alignment with the cosmos. Most prominent among these rites are those tied to the worship of the Hindu-Buddhist deity known in India as Vishwakarma, and in Thailand as Witsanukam. This god and his manifestation in ritual do not stand outside of technological practices and assemblage, but occasion a time of "technophany," a time in which societies of technical ensembles and beings are made visible and wondrous to devotees and their publics. Using the conceptual framework of technophany, and drawing from historical study and team-based ethnographic fieldwork in both India and Thailand (2017-2019, and 2022), this comparative look at Vishwakarma worship calls for a rethinking of frameworks that would treat religion and technology as ontologically distinct domains.

Vishwakarma. Yogendra Rastogi, c. mid-1970s. Photo courtesy of Christopher Pinney

Open to the public.

Sponsored by the Department of Anthropology,  
the Center for the Humanities and Arts,  
and the Center for Asian Studies.



## Artisans and Ancestors in India's Ellora Caves

Thursday, March 23, 2023 at 4pm

Paleo Hall, Museum of Natural History, CU Boulder

**Kirin Narayan**, Professor of Anthropology The Australian National University

Ellora, Western India, is a World Heritage Site with 34 magnificent Buddhist, Hindu and Jain cave temples excavated and sculpted into the scarp of a basalt mountain. These caves, made between the 6th and 10th centuries CE, have long attracted pilgrims, travellers, and scholars, some of whom have left records of encounters across the centuries. Learning of a story transmitted among hereditary artisans in Western India (particularly Rajasthan and Gujarat) that their ancestors were responsible for the skilled shaping of these caves, I became curious about this claim and its imaginative consequences. The focus of artisans' worship at Ellora has historically been Cave 10, a seventh-century Buddhist shrine featuring a towering seated Buddha viewed by hereditary artisans as the deity Vishwakarma, "Maker of the Universe." Following clues to understand this relationship propelled research beyond ethnography towards engagement with diverse disciplinary arenas, fieldsites, and collaborations. The emerging "questography" brings alternative, artisan-centered perspectives to this celebrated ancient site, even as their focus on the mysteries and dangers of making hold insights for the crafting of unusual texts.

Open to the public.

Sponsored by the Department of Anthropology,  
the Center for the Humanities and Arts,  
and the Center for Asian Studies.



## Tashi Delek! བསྐྱེད་སྤྱོད་ལེགས་ཤོག!

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## NGUYỄN PHAN QUẾ MAI -- "DUST CHILD"

Saturday, March 25th at 4:00pm,  
at Boulder Bookstore

**Nguyễn Phan Quế Mai will speak about and sign her new book, *Dust Child*, on Saturday, March 25th at 4:00pm, at Boulder Bookstore.**

**About the Book:**

In 1969, sisters Trang and Quỳnh, desperate to help their parents pay off debts, leave their rural village and become “bar girls” in Sài Gòn, drinking, flirting (and more) with American GIs in return for money. As the war moves closer to the city, the once-innocent Trang gets swept up in an irresistible romance with a young and charming American helicopter pilot. Decades later, an American veteran, Dan, returns to Việt Nam with his wife, Linda, hoping to find a way to heal from his PTSD and, unbeknownst to her, reckon with secrets from his past.

At the same time, Phong—the son of a Black American soldier and a Vietnamese woman—embarks on a search to find both his parents and a way out of Việt Nam. Abandoned in front of an orphanage, Phong grew up being called “the dust of life,” “Black American imperialist,” and “child of the enemy,” and he dreams of a better life for himself and his family in the U.S.

Past and present converge as these characters come together to confront decisions made during a time of war—decisions that force them to look deep within and find common ground across race, generation, culture, and language. Suspenseful and poetic, *Dust Child* tells an unforgettable and immersive story of how those who inherited tragedy can redefine their destinies through love, hard-earned wisdom, compassion, courage, and joy.



Boulder Bookstore Presents

Nguyễn Phan Quế Mai

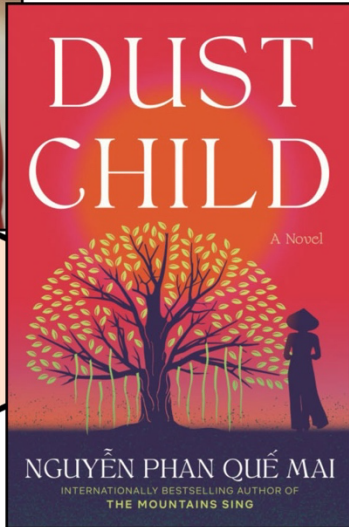
In-Store



author of

## *Dust Child*

Saturday,  
March 25<sup>th</sup>  
at \*4:00pm\*



In 1969, sisters Trang and Quỳnh leave their rural village and become “bar girls” in Sài Gòn, drinking, flirting (and more) with American GIs in return for money. Decades later, their descendants come together to confront decisions made during a time of war. *Dust Child* tells an unforgettable story of how those who inherited tragedy can redefine their destinies through love, hard-earned wisdom, compassion, courage, and joy. This event is co-sponsored by the

CU Center for  
Asian Studies.



Center for Asian Studies  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

**Tickets: \$5** (+ a small processing fee)

*Tickets include a coupon for \$5 off Dust Child, or a purchase on the event day. The coupon will be distributed at the event.*

[NguyenPhanBBS.eventbrite.com](http://NguyenPhanBBS.eventbrite.com)

## Boulder Bookstore

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# Precarity and placelessness in Japan's superaged society

Wed, Apr 5

11:15am-12:05pm MT, on Zoom

**Dr. Jason Danelly**, Reader in Anthropology, Oxford Brookes University

With a shrinking population, older people in Japan are increasingly living their last years alone and impoverished. The social welfare system, once a global model of cost-effective universal care, is no longer able to provide adequate support, and family members, struggle to cope. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Japan was praised for its relatively low nursing home fatality rates, but at the same time, cases of elder abuse by family members climbed to its highest rates since records began. Older people who are isolated, estranged from, or experiencing conflict with family members are also increasingly committing crimes. The proportion of incarcerated individuals over 60 in Japan is growing, and the majority are repeat offenders. Others become isolated in their homes, eventually dying alone and unnoticed. Across these various trajectories, older people have lost a sense of place, or home.

In this talk, I discuss ethnographic research with carers, formerly incarcerated individuals, and community volunteers to draw together themes of loneliness, aging, and what Anne Allison has called 'ordinary refugeeism,' or the lack of a place of belonging. We will discuss what this situation means for Japan in the present, and what some people are doing to make things better.



# Tashi Delek! བསྐྱེས་བདེ་ལེགས།!

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## Snow leopards and Tibetan herders: Pursuing harmonious coexistence in China's first national park

Friday, April 7 at 3:35pm to 5:00pm

In person: Guggenheim Geography, 205  
1475 Central Campus Mall, Boulder, CO 80309

### Gao Yufang

PhD Candidate, Sociocultural & School of the Environment  
Yale University

Livestock depredation by snow leopards and other large carnivores is a significant concern for wildlife conservationists seeking harmonious coexistence in China's Sanjiangyuan National Park. Gao Yufang studies the interactions between snow leopards and Tibetan herders and the perspectives of Tibetan Buddhist monks and Han Chinese conservationists on coexistence. From 2019 to 2021, he conducted 30-month ethnographic and ecological fieldwork in Nyanpo Yutse, one of the core zones of Sanjiangyuan. In this talk, he will share his preliminary findings, focusing on the cultural dimension of human-wildlife coexistence.

*Co-Sponsored by the Geography Department. Free and Open to the Public.*



## An Evening with Lobsang Sangay

Tuesday, April 11 at 7pm

## Old Main Chapel

With Political Leader of an Exile Government, **Lobsang Sangay**.

In 2011, the Dalai Lama stepped down as political leader of the Tibetan exile government. For the first time ever, the Tibetan community democratically elected a new political leader: Mr. Lobsang Sangay. He served two terms as *Sikyong* (President) from 2011-2021. As Sikyong, Mr. Sangay traveled the world on behalf of the exile government and the Dalai Lama. In his talk at CU, he shares these experiences, asking what makes a good leader.

*Co-Sponsored by the Tibet Himalaya Initiative and Department of Anthropology. Free and open to the public.*



# Japan's Nuclear Waste and Disposable Futures

Wed, Apr 12, 2023

11:15am-12:05pm MT, on Zoom

**Dr. ann-elise lewallen**, Associate Professor of Pacific and Asian Studies, University of Victoria  
Across Asia, Indigenous relationships with ancestral land are shaped by environmental racism and neoliberal capitalism, but also by ancestral instructions to care for the land. Yet, Indigenous communities in Japan refuse to accept state-sponsored energy development projects on their land. Indigenous Ainu (Japan) engage in ancestral land relations to challenge these development projects as “sustainable” or “clean.” In this talk we examine a proposal to discard forever waste (nuclear waste) in a 300-meter deep tunnel hollowed underneath an ancestral Ainu village. The waste dump proposal exposes how intersecting forces of settler extractivism and energy colonialism have routed energy infrastructures in settler Hokkaido. Looking toward the future, I argue that this proposal and the science that undergirds it hinge on what may be understood as “disposable futures,” namely how



energy development and energy futures presuppose a body of pollutable land, or a “sink,” to absorb settler waste for eternity.



## Tashi Delek! བཀྲ་ཤིས་བདེ་ལེགས།!

Join us to practice your listening and speaking skills at the Tibetan Conversation Table! All ability levels are welcome. We'll enjoy lively conversation, coffee, and games in The HIVE @ALTEC (Hellems 159), at **2pm - 3pm on Thursdays**. Hosted by **ALTEC** and the Center of Asian Studies.

## The Growing Movement for Caste Equity in Big Tech

April 13, 3:30 - 4:30pm

**In person:** Engineering Center, ECCR 265

Talk by **Tanuja Gupta**, first year student at Cardozo Law School in New York

The caste system is a millennia-old system of exclusion originating in South Asia. It impacts over 1.9B South Asians globally today, including 5.4M South Asians here in America. Dalits (the most oppressed in the Caste system) have been historically subjected to violence and denied access to education, healthcare, land ownership, and other social capital. Dalits are considered 'untouchable' because they are considered 'polluted'. And today, even though this sort of discrimination runs afoul of federal and local laws, Dalits, including those who have migrated to other countries like the United States, continue to suffer discrimination in private and public spaces - including tech workspaces such as Cisco, Google and more. The talk traces the growth of movement for caste equity in tech, and how you can join it in the future.

**Tanuja Jain Gupta** has been an engineering program manager at companies like Google, Barnes & Noble.com and Broadway.com for the last 20+ years. She was also one of the lead organizers of the global Google Walkout in 2018, when thousands of Google workers walked off the job in response to the company's poor handling of decades of sexual misconduct. Gupta and a group of organizers

spun out to form Googlers for Ending Forced Arbitration, demanding the company end its use of forced arbitration, a practice that silences victims of harassment and discrimination. The group's education and activism campaigns were followed by Google's decision to end forced arbitration in March 2019. She was a key advocate for HR 4445, which became law in March 2022, bringing together survivors of sexual harassment around the country to end forced arbitration. While managing a large team at Google and working on some of its highest profile engineering and regulatory initiatives, Gupta continued to advocate for matters of caste equity. You can read more about how Google received her caste equity efforts in The Washington Post (which includes a copy of her resignation letter) and The New Yorker. Gupta is now a first year student at Cardozo Law School in New York, where she lives with her husband and volunteers with Sanctuary for Families.

Computer Science Colloquium


**The Growing Movement for  
Caste Equity in Big Tech**

A talk by Tanuja Gupta

*This talk is co-sponsored by the Department of Women and Gender Studies, the Department of Ethnic Studies, and the Center for Asian Studies*

Thursday, April 13 at 3:30pm to 4:30pm  
Engineering Center, ECCR 265  
1111 Engineering Drive, Boulder, CO 80308  
Dial-In Information <https://cuboulder.zoom.us/j/190280621>

**Abstract:** The caste system is a millennia-old system of exclusion originating in South Asia. It impacts over 1.9B South Asians globally today, including 5.4M South Asians here in America- including tech workspaces such as Cisco, Google and more. The talk traces the growth of movement for caste equity in tech, and how you can join it in the future.



**Bio:** Tanuja Jain Gupta has been an engineering program manager at companies like Google where she was an active organizer of gender and caste equity efforts till she resigned in protest. She is now a first year student at Cardozo Law School in New York.

## Upstream from the Aral Sea catastrophe: is response-ability and social learning possible?

CAS Luncheon Series  
Thursday, April 13, 12:45pm - 1:45pm  
CASE Building, room E422

Ethnographic and artistic renditions of waterscapes frequently highlight local interactions and understandings, such as otherwise 'invisible' reed bed economies. But national and global water policy arenas still widely depend on universalizing languages and blue-print principles to forge political consensus. So what allows embedded, ethnographic and artistic forms of knowing to carry across spatial and temporal scales, to transforming future response-abilities around waterscapes such as the Aral Sea catastrophe?

This talk discusses the experience of a team ethnographic study and exhibition along 3000 kilometres of river in Central Asia, to explore the potential impact of such new river understandings on broader publics and decision-making institutions in the region. The Syr Darya, known in its eastern reaches as the Naryn, is the longest river in Central Asia, and second-largest feeder of the now divided and shrunken Aral Sea. Its water allocation has been a central source of conflict between upriver and downriver republics in the independence era; opposing key interests in hydropower and irrigation. We conceived transdisciplinary research as a first step in unlocking the impasse over regional water management in Central Asia, aiming to unseat the monolithic idea of a river as x cubic kilometres of water to fight over. Supported by a small, locally embedded group of researchers and artists over the course of six years, we devised ways to re-cognize the Syr Darya, drawing out locally differentiated river concepts and material practices between the glaciated highlands of Kyrgyzstan and the semi-deserts of western Kazakhstan.

I discuss our efforts to work the intersection of environmental art, policy and academic analyses: what allows embedded forms of knowing to 'scale-up'? How might this process transform such representations of material waterscapes, and what is the scope for tangibly immersing policy processes in the rustle of reeds?

**Dr. Jeanne Féaux de la Croix** is a social anthropologist specializing in environmental issues and transdisciplinary methods. She has lead research projects on large rivers, holy sites and urban air pollution in Central Asia. Since completing her PhD at St. Andrews University (Scotland), she has held research positions in Berlin and Tübingen (Germany). Her research interests include climate change, pastoralism, marine and other forms of renewable energy, labour, the politics of knowledge-making and age relations. Jeanne is now setting up a transdisciplinary team at the University of Bern to foster environmental justice around marine renewable energy sites in Asia and the Americas.

## Wilderness in Tibetan Buddhism

Thursday, April 13, Reception 5:30, Lecture 6pm, followed by Q&A  
Humanities 250

with **Kurtis Schaeffer**

The idea of wilderness, a natural environment largely unmarked by human settlement, has long been central to Buddhism. Wilderness is a space where spiritual development begins, flourishes, and achieves fulfillment. The Buddha began his quest by leaving the city and immersing himself in the wild. Throughout the millennia, Buddhist writers have promoted the benefits of living in the wilderness for working with body, mind, and emotion. And contemplatives in Tibet and the Himalayas seek to spend their latter years enjoying the serenity of solitude in nature.

Wilderness is one of *the* spaces where Buddhism takes place. As both an imagined and a physical environment, it is a fundamental means by which Buddhists have characterized the world specifically as a *good* place and have sought to craft a good human life in relation to that world. It is a realm often said to be devoid of people even when it teems with life. Wilderness is a morally elevated space

that rises above the troubles of the social complexities of settled places. And it is a realm of deep beauty, vivid sensuality, and captivating awe.

In this talk we will hear from Buddhist wilderness writers of Tibet and South Asia, drawing primarily from contemplative literature. We will ask how they define, describe, and relate to wilderness. We will ask how they synthesize ideas about wilderness and spirituality. We will also compare Buddhist portrayals of nature with those of the wilderness movement in modern America in the hope that such a thought experiment will enhance our understanding and appreciation of wilderness ideas and wilderness practice across time and place.

**Kurtis J. Schaeffer** specializes in the narrative and poetic literature of Buddhism in Tibet, India, and the Himalayan Buddhist Kingdom of Bhutan, and more broadly in the literary and religious cultures of Buddhism. For over twenty-five years he has researched and published on stories of the Buddha, Buddhist saints, and famous Buddhist masters of the Himalayas, and has published several books and over twenty articles on the subject. Recently he translated a [classic life story of the Buddha](#), the first major work of literature from Bhutan's golden age of Buddhist culture to be published in English. [The Culture of the Book in Tibet](#) (2009) explores the lives of the great Tibetan religious figures who created the Tibetan Buddhist Canons. [Himalayan Hermitess](#) (2004) chronicles the life story of an extraordinary Buddhist nun who lived in the Nepal Himalayas. And [Dreaming the Great Brahmin](#) (2005) traces the many lives of the great Indian yogi Saraha through the history of Tibet. He is also the co-editor of the largest anthology of classical Tibetan literature in English, [Sources of Tibetan Tradition](#), as well as co-editor of a large anthology on Tibetan History, [The Tibetan History Reader](#). Many of my publications may be found on Academia.

He regularly conducts research in Bhutan, Nepal, India, China, and Tibet and has served as President of the [Buddhist Digital Resource Center](#), the world's largest digital repository of Buddhist texts. From 2012 to 2020 he served as Chair of the Department of Religious Studies at UVA, and before that, from 2010 to 2012, as Associate Chair.

*Co-Sponsored by the Tibet Himalaya Initiative. Free and open to the public.*

## THE BUDDHIST WILDERNESS





# **CANCELLED: America's Ways to Win - Actions for Peace in East Asia**

Friday, April 14 at 11:30am  
Hale 230

**THIS EVENT HAS BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO A DEATH IN THE FAMILY.**  
WE HOPE TO RESCHEDULE IN THE FUTURE, PLEASE KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR UPDATES.

In this lecture, former Prime Minister of South Korea **Nakyon Lee** will summarize the reasons why nuclear negotiations with North Korea have failed. He will suggest realistic and pragmatic approaches for the US and all relevant parties to move toward denuclearization and peace on the Korean Peninsula. Such approaches involve incremental, reciprocal, and simultaneous concessions between Washington and Pyongyang, according to a well-defined, long-term road map for mutually reducing threats and improving relations.

**Nakyon Lee** is a former prime minister of the Republic of Korea serving during the Moon Jae-in Administration. He graduated from Seoul National University with a degree in law and became a journalist at Dong-a Ilbo. After 21 years as a journalist, he entered politics and served five terms as a member of the National Assembly. During his fourth term in 2014, he became the governor of Jeollanam-do Province until President Moon nominated him as prime minister in 2017. He was also elected as the chairperson of the Democratic Party of Korea in 2020. During his years in public affairs, he has focused on both the domestic and international affairs of South Korea. As prime minister, he was responsible for domestic issues, including the safety of the citizens and society. He was a member of the Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee at the National Assembly, in which he worked towards a peaceful inter-Korean relationship. He is currently a visiting scholar at the George Washington University Institute for Korean Studies, where his research focuses on the peacebuilding process on the Korean Peninsula.

With welcoming remarks by **John-Michael Rivera**, Divisional Dean for the Arts and Humanities **Tom Zeiler**, Professor of History and Director of the Program in International Affairs, will offer remarks after the talk.

*Co-Sponsored by the International Affairs Program and the Peace, Conflict, and Security Program. Free and Open to the Public.*

# **CANCELLED: Re-reading apparent climate displacement as cumulative socio-natural displacement in eastern Sulawesi, Indonesia**

April 14, 2023  
3:35pm - 5pm

THIS EVENT HAS BEEN CANCELLED

**Lisa Kelley**

Assistant Professor of Geography and Environmental Science  
University of Colorado, Denver

Climate-induced displacement is attracting increasing media, state, and scholarly attention, albeit often in a way that situates migration as either an example of climate adaptation or a failure thereof. Whether depicted as success or failure, both framings invisibilize the pre-existing socio-environmental processes that render such migrations necessary—or that can inhibit them entirely. This talk instead argues for the need to understand migration not as climate displacement, but as one among many facets of *cumulative socio-natural displacement*. I make this case by drawing on large-scale climate data, remotely sensed imagery, and ethnographic work in eastern Sulawesi, Indonesia to situate recent intensifications in extreme flooding and out-migration events in the historical developments and environmental changes that have long separated rivers from floodplains and people from floodplain cultures. Such histories not only set the stage for anomalous rains to beget 'climate' disaster. They have also scoured broader landscapes of social reproduction (Katz 2008) in ways that closely shape peoples' resulting livelihood responses, whether or not these involve out-migration. The result is a much more contested terrain of climate policies and politics than is often recognized.

*Co-Sponsored by the Geography Department. Free and Open to the Public.*

## Global Asias Cyber Chat: Circulation of Contemporary Social Movements across Global Asia and Asian America

Join the conversation about social movements circulating in Global Asia and Asian America.

Monday, April 17, 1:30 - 2:30pm

The event topic on the circulation of contemporary social justice movements will examine interconnections among social movements in Asia and across a variety of Asian diasporas, including struggles against racism(s), labor movements, refugee/migrant organizing, and religious and nationalist movements.

This virtual panel will feature 3 scholars in conversation, roundtable style, followed by a 20-minute Q&A.

Professor [Miliann Kang](#), PhD, teaches at the University of Massachusetts Amherst in the College of Humanities & Fine Arts. Dr. Kang will discuss the role of mothers in social movements, especially Asian American activism, from Lily Chin, mother of Vincent Chin, who galvanized nationwide organizing after her son's murder, to Patsy Mink, first woman of color elected to Congress who is known as the "mother of Title IX," to contemporary maternal activism against anti-Asian racism. Dr. Kang studies Asian American feminisms, immigrant women's work and labor issues, race and reproductive politics, and gender, work and family issues in transnational contexts.

People often refer to 1990s Japan as the "lost decade" because of the economic malaise that set in after the bubble burst at the end of the 80s. Dr. [Petrice Flowers](#), Associate Professor at the University

of Hawai'i at Mānoa, will focus on how this decade and the following were a renaissance of activism, often led by women. Her research focuses on Japan in an international context and investigates the global-local connections between Japan and the world.

Dr. [Deepti Misri](#) is an Associate Professor in the Department of Women and Gender Studies at the University of Colorado Boulder. Her areas of interest span South Asian literary and cultural production, transnational feminist studies, and feminist theory and criticism. Dr. Misri will consider women-led forms of activism and art in the context of Kashmir, also examining instrumentalist state mobilizations of "women's rights" discourses, and reflecting on avenues for transnational solidarity with Kashmiri women.

Co-Sponsored by CU Boulder's Center for Humanities and the Arts and the [Global Asias Initiative](#).

## *Global Asias Cyber Chat:*

# GENDERING SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

**Across Global Asia and Asian America**



**MONDAY, APRIL 17, 2023**

**1:30PM - 2:30PM MT | ZOOM (VIRTUAL)**



**MILIANN KANG**



**PETRICE FLOWERS**



**DEEPTI MISRI**



Center for Humanities & the Arts  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

**GLOBAL ASIAs**  
INITIATIVE



PennState  
College of the Liberal Arts



Center for Asian Studies  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

# Scholarships, Careers, and Study in Asia Opportunities

On Tuesday, April 18th from 5 pm-6:15pm, the Center for Asian Studies and the CU Honors Program will be hosting an information session on scholarships, careers, and study opportunities for undergraduates interested in going to Asia. Speakers from the Office of Top Scholarships, Career Services, Asian Studies, Peace Corps, and Education Abroad will be in attendance to share with students from all majors across campus about the many ways in which they can pursue study and work opportunities in Asia.

Location: CASE W313



## Scholarships, Careers, and Study in Asia

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Join the Center for Asian Studies and the CU Honors Program on **Tuesday, April 18th in CASE W313** for an information session on scholarships, careers, and study opportunities for undergraduates interested going to Asia.

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Tuesday April 18th  
5:00-6:15pm  
CASE W313

Rsvp to:  
[collink@colorado.edu](mailto:collink@colorado.edu)



# Interrogating Households in Anticipation of Disasters: The Feminization of Preparedness in Japan

Wed, Apr 19, 2023

11:15am-12:05pm MT, on Zoom

**Dr. Chika Watanabe**, Senior Lecturer in Social Anthropology, The University of Manchester

It is now a maxim that disaster preparedness needs to involve community-based approaches in order to be effective. These include not only neighbourhood-level strategies but also those involving households. But what is a “household” in the first place in disaster preparedness initiatives? This talk explores how particular notions of the household are produced through household-based disaster preparedness policies and activities in Japan. The questions driving the paper emerge from a transnational ethnographic research project that has looked at preparedness activities with children, their schools, and their families in Japan and Chile. The paper suggests that household preparedness efforts mobilize a gendered understanding of the household, a phenomenon entailing “the feminization of preparedness.” Ultimately, as much as anthropologists and others have challenged essentialized and stable definitions of “community” in disaster research, we must do the same for “the household.”



## Tashi Delek! བཀྲ་ཤིས་བདེ་ལེགས།!

Join us to practice your listening and speaking skills at the Tibetan Conversation Table! All ability levels are welcome. We'll enjoy lively conversation, coffee, and games in The HIVE @ALTEC (Hellem 159), at **2pm - 3pm** on **Thursdays**. Hosted by ALTEC and the Center of Asian Studies.

# The Asia Symposium 2023: Environment, Empire, Social Justice

Friday, April 21, 10:30am - 5pm  
CASE Building E422

This year's Asia Symposium will explore two fundamental contemporary legacies of imperialism and colonialism in Asia: indigeneity and environmental justice. Noting that empire has been a crucial factor in shaping the trajectories of past and present Asian societies, this year's symposium seeks to draw connections between past and present, between activism and scholarship, and between Asia and the US. The Asia Symposium will feature two roundtables featuring both early-career and more established scholars from the Colorado Front Range region, and a keynote by Professor Sunil Amrith. Please join us for this special day of discussion and reflection on the linkages between empire and changing Asian environments, social movements, and indigenous politics.

Schedule:

## **10:30 Opening Remarks**

**Tim Oakes** (CAS Interim Faculty Director) and

**Holly Barnard** (Associate Dean for Research)

## **10:45am - 12:15pm Roundtable: Politics of Indigeneity in Asia**

This roundtable brings together scholars to discuss contemporary politics of indigeneity in Asia. Centering Indigenous perspectives and epistemologies, the scholars will discuss how indigeneity functions across different colonial/imperial geographies in Asia and highlight varying struggles for self-determination and sovereignty.

Panelists:

**Naim Aburaddi** (PhD Student, Media Studies, CU Boulder)

**Patrick Das** (PhD Student, Linguistics, CU Boulder)

**Shae Frydenlund** (Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Geography, Indiana University)

**Dawa T. Lokyitsang** (PhD Candidate, Anthropology, CU Boulder)

Moderated by: **Natalie Avalos** (Assistant Professor, Ethnic Studies)

## **12:15pm-1:15pm Lunch Break (on your own)**

## **1:15pm-2:45pm Roundtable: Environmental Justice in Asia**

This roundtable will feature scholars from several Front Range universities to discuss environmental justice in contemporary Asia. Topics will include a discussion of the work being done by activists in different parts of Asia toward climate justice and a just transition, the key injustices faced in different contexts, the relationship between activism and scholarship, and how research on environmental justice in Asia shapes the teaching of EJ issues in the US context.

Panelists:

**Denise Fernandes** (PhD Candidate, Environmental Studies, CU Boulder)

**Sara Jackson Shumate** (Director for the Center for Individualized Learning (CIL) At Metropolitan State University of Denver)

**KuoRay Mao** (Associate Professor, Sociology, Colorado State University)

**Phaedra Pezzullo** (Associate Professor in the College of Media, Communication, and Information, CU Boulder)

**Emma Loizeaux** (PhD Student, Geography, CU Boulder)

Moderated by: **Emily Yeh** (Professor of Geography, CU Boulder)

**3:00-4:30 Keynote: Sunil Amrith, (Yale University)**

***Life, Moving: Notes from a Small Island***

Ecologists tell us that we are living in the midst of a “universal redistribution of life on Earth.” This talk explores what that means, starting from the vantage point of a city-state—Singapore—that is better endowed than most small islands to respond to rising waters. What kinds of people—and what other forms of life—can, and can’t, move in response to escalating risk and uninhabitable conditions? Moving from the biography of a single tree to the constrained movement of migrant workers across borders, the talk places both mobility and immobility at the heart of our considerations of environmental justice.

**Sunil Amrith** is the Renu and Anand Dhawan Professor of History at Yale University, and current chair of the Council on South Asian Studies at Yale’s MacMillan Center. His research focuses on the movements of people and the ecological processes that have connected South and Southeast Asia. Amrith is the author of four books, including *Unruly Waters* (2018) and *Crossing the Bay of Bengal* (2013). He is the recipient of the 2022 Dr A.H. Heineken Prize for History, a 2017 MacArthur Fellowship, and the 2016 Infosys Prize in Humanities. Followed by a reception in the Chancellor's Hall

[2023 Asia Symposium Participant Bios](#)



## Indonesian Lebaran Celebration Potluck & Gathering

"Rayakan Kebersamaan"

Friday, April 28, 2023 at 4:30pm

The HIVE - Hellems 159

Bring your favorite dish to share!

Lebaran is one of the major national holidays in Indonesia after the end of Ramadan month. Foods and delicacies are served to visiting guests, family, relatives, neighbors, and friends during this festive occasion. Join us at the Lebaran Celebration this year! There will also be games, dance, and door prizes.



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## Conversation: Ecological Rejuvenation and Living Well in Disaster's Wake

Public lecture: Mon, May 1, 2023, 11:15am-12:05pm  
on Zoom



**Dr. Hiroko Kumaki** (Postdoctoral fellow, Dartmouth College)

**Dr. Jun Mizukawa** (Lecturer, Lake Forest College Department of Sociology and Anthropology and Department of Religion)

This conversation will focus on areas of Northern Japan impacted by the March 2011 earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear disaster. Dr. Kumaki's research explores what it means to live well in a world where certain levels of environmental exposure are considered "reasonable," taking as a case study the "Memorable Food Project," an initiative to share knowledge and cultivate relationships around local food practices. Dr. Mizukawa's research focuses on experimental projects that aim to establish a sustainable, site-specific entanglement across species, specifically a group of "guerilla planters" who ally themselves with geological and ecological forces in the face of global climate change.



## Indonesia Nongkrong

Monday, May 1, 2023 at 12:15pm

The HIVE - Hellems 159

Indonesia is not just Bali!

It is a home of more than 300 ethnic groups and cultures, with dozens of languages, different social and cultural backgrounds. Indonesian language is used to unite all those differences.

LEARN ABOUT INDONESIA AND THE LANGUAGE!

- Free refreshment
- Door prize

A promotional poster for 'Indonesia Nongkrong'. The top half has a dark blue background with the title 'Indonesia is not Just Bali!' in large yellow font. Below the title, white text describes the diversity of Indonesia: 'It is a home of more than 300 ethnic groups and cultures, with dozens of languages, different social and cultural backgrounds. Indonesian language is used to unite all those differences.' Three circular images on the left show a volcanic landscape, the Borobudur temple, and Komodo dragons. The bottom half has a light blue background with event details in blue and black text. Logos for the Anderson Language and Technology Center and the Center for Asian Studies are at the bottom.

Indonesia Nongkrong

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THE HIVE - HELLEMS 159  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER  
MONDAY, MAY 1st at 12.15 PM

MORE CONTACT INFO:  
Ida.Fauziyah@colorado.edu

Anderson Language and Technology Center  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

Center for Asian Studies  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

## Center for Asian Studies Graduation Recognition Ceremony

*The Center for Asian Studies invites you to our annual graduation ceremony and celebration of student and faculty accomplishments including thesis presentations and a reception.*

Friday, May 12, 2023 from 9:30am to 11:30am

The Center Academic Success and Engagement (CASE),  
1725 Euclid Ave.  
Room E422, 4th floor

Parking is available in the garage under the CASE Building. All parking on University grounds is free on Thursday and Friday, May 11 and 12.

You can find a parking map here: <https://www.colorado.edu/map/>

Congratulations Graduates!

# Viewing of Dear Corky and Q&A with Director Curtis Chin

Wednesday, May 24 at 12:00pm to 1:00pm  
on Zoom

For over 50 years, New York native Corky Lee photographed his hometown's Chinatown, and Asian American communities around the country. With a strong sense of social justice, he captured activists, celebrities, and everyday heroes with equal passion, taking over a hundred thousand photos. Sadly, while documenting the latest rise of anti-Asian hate crimes, Corky fell to COVID. Through his own words and pictures, Dear Corky reveals the man behind the camera.

This 17-minute documentary screening will be followed by a Q&A with the director Curtis Chin.

*This event is co-sponsored by the A&S Office for Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion*

