

Past Events AY 2021-2022

CAS Events

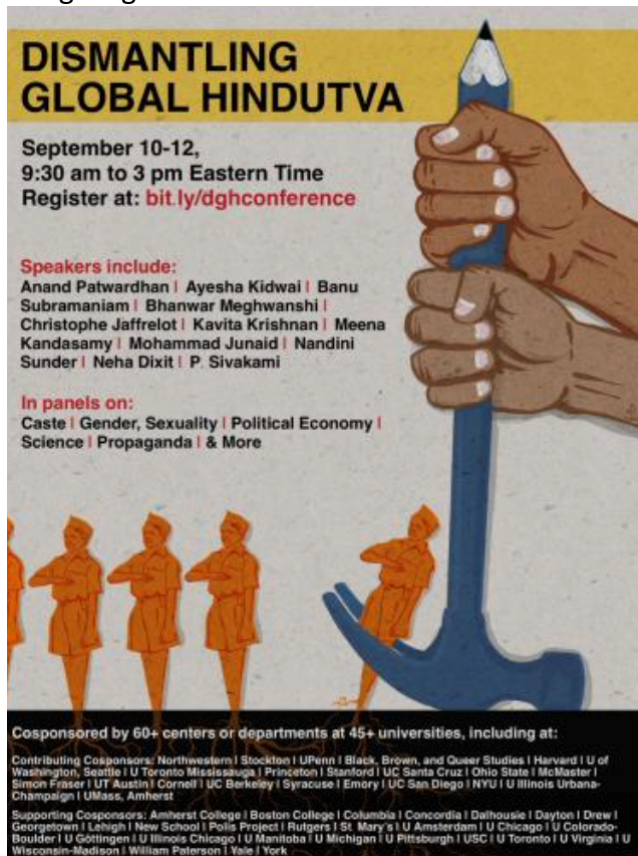
Dismantling Global Hindutva Conference

CAS co-sponsored event

Friday September 10 - Sunday September 12

Virtual conference

This conference is being co-sponsored by faculty entities at fifty American universities and it brings together scholars and activists from around the world.



Indonesian Nongkrong

CAS Event

Wednesday, September 15 at 3pm

Location: The HIVE @ALTEC Hellems 159

Selamat datang! Join us to practice your listening and speaking skills at the Indonesian Nongkrong, hosted by ALTEC and the Center of Asian Studies!

How Does Climate Influence Population Change in Semi-Arid Regions of the Indian Sub-Continent? The Answer Might Be Water Access and Food Security.

CAS Lunch Series

Thursday, September 30 at 12:30pm

Anthropogenic climate change will be one of the biggest social and economic disruptors over the 21st century, particularly in densely populated areas in the tropics. Climate studies are warning that even in a 20C warmer world, climate hotspots of the tropics will experience direct and indirect climate impacts that will have long-lasting implications for food security and geopolitical stability (IPCC 2021). One of the key regions is the sub-continent, which is responsible for most of food crops, substantial amounts of cash crops and livelihoods that depend on these agricultural activities. The subcontinent is also home to some of the most threatened climate hotspots. Quantifying information extracted from 18th-20th century British colonial administrative documents pertinent to Madras and Bombay presidencies of peninsular India, we show that vast population changes during times of small climate fluctuations (rain failure induced famines) were tied to food security; low food security was responsible for vast changes in population, both on account of migration and death. This study has strong implications for our understanding of climate impacts socioeconomic and health infrastructure in resource poor regions of the sub-continent

Atreyee Bhattacharya

Atreyee is a paleoclimatologist who studies the nature, causes and socioeconomic impacts of climate variability in semi-arid climate hotspots of the global south. Atreyee currently hold a research faculty appointment at the University of Colorado, Boulder and an adjunct faculty member at the department of Social studies and humanities at the Indraprastha Institution of Information Technology (IIIT), New Delhi (since 2020). She holds a PhD in earth and planetary sciences from Harvard and has extensive experience in popular science writing. You can follow her work here (website: <https://sites.google.com/view/atreyee-bhattacharya/about>)

Indonesian Nongkrong

CAS Event

Wednesday, October 13 at 3pm

Location: The HIVE @ALTEC Hellems 159

Selamat datang! Join us to practice your listening and speaking skills at the Indonesian Nongkrong, hosted by ALTEC and the Center of Asian Studies!

Afghanistan, the US Departure, and the Taliban Takeover: Experiences and Perspectives

CAS Event

Monday, October 18 at 4pm MDT

Over the past few months, Afghanistan has experienced the US withdrawal, the Taliban takeover, the fall of the US backed government, followed by a chaotic evacuation of some but not all Afghans allied with US. The panelists will provide details based on their own experiences of US engagements in Afghanistan, the evacuation efforts, and the realities of Taliban rule.

Speakers:

Jennifer Fluri is a Professor of Geography, and a feminist political geographer concentrating on conflict, security, and aid/development in South and Southwest Asia. Jennifer is particularly interested in understanding the spatial organization and corporeal representations and experiences of individuals and groups working and living within conflict zones.

Sayeed Naqibullah:

Living under Taliban Rule

Sayed Naqibullah was born and raised in Afghanistan. He has worked with expats in Afghanistan and now lives in Colorado.

Zareen Taj:

The Fate of Ethnic Minorities under Taliban Rule

Zareen Taj is a women's rights and human rights activist. She is currently an LLC Ph.D. student at the University of Maryland-Baltimore County.

Zalad Ahmad:

Now What? The Economics of being an Afghan Woman in Today's Afghanistan

Zalad Ahmad, founder of HOLD, and Afghan NGO, has over 15 years of experience working in the field of international development, with a focus on education, human rights, and economic development. She is deeply committed to social and economic progress in her home country of Afghanistan and has a passion for rectifying social justice and gender equality through education and economic empowerment of Afghan women. Throughout her career, Zala has operated in some of the most remote and precarious areas of rural Afghanistan. Zala earned a M.A. in International Economics and Finance from Brandeis University, as a Fulbright scholar. She is a Research Associate in the Department of Geography at the University of Colorado-Boulder.

Sponsored by

Center for Asian Studies

Department of Geography

Department of History

Department of Women and Gender Studies

Department of Sociology

Department of Anthropology

International Affairs Program

and the International Business Circle



Sedimented Acts: Performing History and Historicizing Performance in Vietnam, Myanmar and Singapore

CAS Event

Wednesday, October 20, 2021 from 2pm to 3pm

Nora Annesley Taylor is the Alsdorf Professor of South and Southeast Asian Art at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She is the author of *Painters in Hanoi: An Ethnography of Vietnamese Art* (Hawaii 2004 and reprint National University Singapore Press 2009) and co-editor of *Modern and Contemporary Southeast Asian Art* (Cornell SEAP Press 2012) as well as numerous essays on Modern and Contemporary Vietnamese and Southeast Asian Art. She was the recipient of a Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship in 2013.

Sponsored by Art and Art History and the Center for Asian Studies



Nora Taylor

"Sedimented Acts: Performing History and Historicizing Performance in Vietnam, Myanmar and Singapore"

Nora Annesley Taylor is the Alsdorf Professor of South and Southeast Asian Art at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She is the author of *Painters in Hanoi: An Ethnography of Vietnamese Art* (Hawaii 2004 and reprint National University Singapore Press 2009) and co-editor of *Modern and Contemporary Southeast Asian Art* (Cornell SEAP Press 2012) as well as numerous essays on Modern and Contemporary Vietnamese and Southeast Asian Art. She was the recipient of a Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship in 2013.

Wednesday, October 20, 2021 from 2 - 3 PM
Visiting Scholar Lecture Series

Presented via Zoom; registration is required.
Visit the Art & Art History website: www.cas.berkeley.edu/artandarthistory to register.
Co-sponsored by the Center for Asian Studies.



Art & Art History
DEPARTMENT OF VISUAL ARTS



Center for Asian Studies
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

Renouncing Attachment, Embracing Aesthetics: Cultural Production in a Tibetan Buddhist Monastery

THI Event

Thursday, October 21 at 4pm

British Studies Library, 5th Floor, Norlin Library*

Guest Lecture by Dominique Townsend

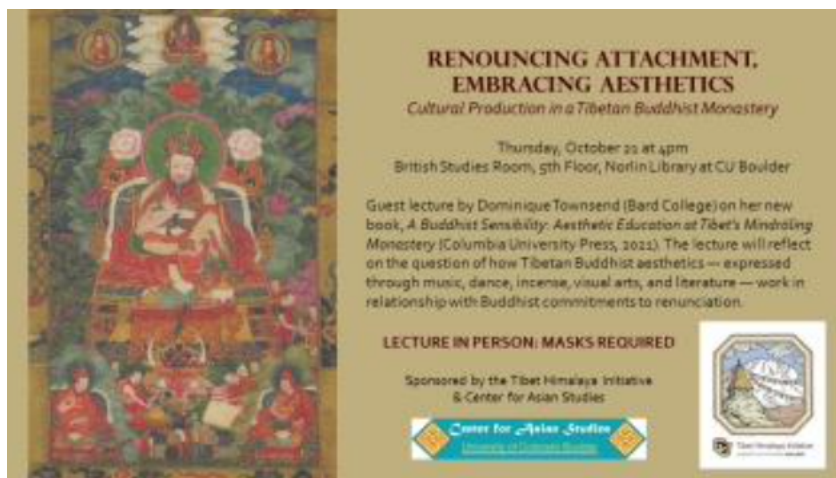
We are delighted to welcome Dominique Townsend (Bard College) for a guest lecture on her new book, *A Buddhist Sensibility: Aesthetic Education at Tibet's Mindröling Monastery* (Columbia University Press, 2021). Her lecture, "Renouncing Attachment, Embracing Aesthetics: Cultural Production in a Tibetan Buddhist Monastery," will reflect on the question of how Tibetan Buddhist aesthetics — expressed through music, dance, incense, visual arts, and literature — work in relationship with Buddhist commitments to renunciation.

Founded in 1676 during a cosmopolitan early modern period, Mindröling monastery became a key site for Buddhist education and a Tibetan civilizational center. Its founders sought to systematize and institutionalize a worldview rooted in Buddhist philosophy, engaging with contemporaries from across Tibetan Buddhist schools while crystallizing what it meant to be part of their own Nyingma school.

In *A Buddhist Sensibility*, Dominique Townsend investigates the ritual, artistic, and cultural practices inculcated at Mindröling to demonstrate how early modern Tibetans integrated Buddhist and worldly activities through training in aesthetics. Combining historical and literary analysis with fieldwork in Tibetan Buddhist communities, this book reveals how monastic institutions work as centers of cultural production beyond the boundaries of what is conventionally deemed Buddhist.

Free and open to the public. **Masks required for indoor events at CU Boulder.**

**The Center for Asian Studies will be following Boulder County health guidelines regarding live events. The format of this event may change depending on those guidelines. Please check back before the event to ensure you have the most up to date information.*



Projecting China: Trade Engagement in Beijing's Half Century

CAS Luncheon Series

Thursday, October 28 at 12:45pm

The People's Republic of China has confronted the United States with diplomatic challenges ever since Washington recognized Beijing in the 1970s. Basic to this engagement was (and is) economics, and particularly trade, which elicited American responses ranging from enmity, fear, and uncertainty to hope and cooperation. Scholarship has not focused enough attention on the ideals and values that undergirded commercial relations as America's principal approach to China. By beginning with the Nixon opening to Beijing and ending with the Trump trade war (with touchstones in the Nixon, Bush I, Clinton, Obama, and Trump years), this presentation analyzes how a bilateral trading relationship that so transformed the world evolved from recognition to rivalry. The answer to the wax and wane lies in the near-century long practice of American free-trade internationalism, guided by the principles of a "capitalist peace" paradigm that the United States long embraced as a pillar of its foreign policy.

Tom Zeiler is a Professor of History and Director of the Program in International Affairs at the University of Colorado Boulder. He specializes in American history, focused on diplomacy, economics, baseball, and World War II. This talk is drawn from his forthcoming book, *Capitalist Peace: A History of American Free Trade Internationalism*, to be published by Oxford University Press.

Crafternoon - Languages and Crafts @ALTEC

CAS Event

Tuesday, November 2 at 4pm

Location: The HIVE @ALTEC Helles 159

Hosted by ALTEC and our world language faculty and student partners, Crafternoon is an event where you can come learn a craft AND a language! Let's get crafty!

U.S.-China Relations in the Era of Xi Jinping

CAS Event

Monday, November 8 at 5pm

Hale 230*

The backdrop to rising U.S.-China tensions has been the emergence of Xi Jinping as China's most powerful leader since Mao Zedong. Former senior diplomat Dave Rank talks about the impact Xi has had on the bilateral relationship -- and on China's own political and economic system -- and the implications this has for the United States and the world.

Dave Rank is a Senior Fellow at Yale University's Jackson Institute for Global Affairs, the head of the China practice at The Cohen Group, a global business strategy consultancy, and teaches at the Johns Hopkins University School for Advanced International Studies (SAIS) and the University of Wisconsin's La Follette School of Public Policy. He spent 27 years as a State Department Foreign Service Officer, including his final assignment as Deputy Chief of Mission and, following the 2016 election, as the Charge' d'Affaires (acting Ambassador) at the U.S.

Embassy in Beijing. In addition to six Foreign Service assignments in greater China (including Beijing, Shanghai and the American Institute in Taiwan), Dave served in Washington and at the U.S. embassies in Kabul, Athens, and Port Louis (Mauritius). In 2015, he received the State Department's Distinguished Honor Award for his role in the release of the only American servicemember held by the enemy in Afghanistan. Mr. Rank speaks Mandarin Chinese, French, Dari and Greek and received the American Foreign Service Association's Sinclair Award for the study of languages and their related cultures. He and his wife, Mary, have three children.

**The Center for Asian Studies will be following Boulder County health guidelines regarding live events. The format of this event may change depending on those guidelines. Please check back before the event to ensure you have the most up to date information.*



Ibn Idris al-Hilli (d. 1202) and the Transformation of Shi'i Law

CAS Luncheon Series

Thursday, November 11 at **11am**

The century after Abu Jafar al-Tusi (d. 1067) is regarded as a period of stagnation in the history of Shii law. Imitation of Tusi was so widespread that later jurists mistook his opinion for the prevalent opinion of the school. Over the next two centuries, the landscape of Shii law would change dramatically. The sea change began with sustained criticism of Tusi led by Ibn Idris al-Hilli (d. 1202). In this presentation, I will explain Ibn Idris's critique of Tusi. Although Ibn Idris's approach won few supporters, he succeeded in rejuvenating Shii law by injecting the lifeblood of tradition into the discourse: conflict. Furthermore, while conflict is essential, I will explain why the loss of early written sources and the growth of increasingly sophisticated legal argumentation made Ibn Idris's critique of Tusi more consequential.

Aun Hasan Ali joined the Department of Religious Studies in 2015. He works on the Islamic tradition. Ali studied Religion and Philosophy at Rutgers University, receiving his BA in 2003. That same year he travelled to Yemen to continue studying Arabic. He earned an MA in Islamic Studies from McGill University in 2007, and will receive his PhD in Islamic Studies from McGill University in 2015. Ali's research focuses on the intellectual history of Shi'ism, including both the pre-modern and modern periods. In particular, he is interested in studying Shi'ism through the lens of the concept of tradition and social network theory. Ali is also interested in Shi'i law and legal theory, especially the interplay between shariah and legislation. His current project examines intellectual life in the city of Hillah in southern Iraq in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries CE. Ali is also preparing the final draft of an article in which he examines the relationship between Sunnism and Shi'ism through the lens of the issue of documentary evidence in Islamic law. His recent publications include a translation of a Persian chapter about the Qajar philosopher Abu'l-Hasan Jilveh in Philosophical traditions in Qajar Iran, set to be published by Brill in 2015, and two articles on Shi'i legal theory, classical and modern, in The Oxford Encyclopedia of Islam and Law.

Asian Studies at CU

CAS Event

Tuesday, November 16 at 9:30am

The Center for Asian Studies will be hosting an "Asian Studies 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, Career Services, and the Office of Top Scholarships will be in attendance to share with students about the many ways in which they can incorporate Asian Studies into their studies and professional development.



Indonesian Nongkrong

CAS Event

Wednesday, November 17 at 3pm

Location: The HIVE @ALTEC Hellems 159

Selamat datang! Join us to practice your listening and speaking skills at the Indonesian Nongkrong, hosted by ALTEC and the Center of Asian Studies!

International Game Night @ALTEC

CAS Event

Wednesday, November 17 at 4pm

Location: The HIVE @ALTEC Hellems 159

Are you interested in playing games from countries around the world or in different languages? Join ALTEC, our world language departments, faculty, and students at International Game Night! All languages and levels are welcome!

Behind the Scenes in Lhasa: The Economics of Rituals in the Tibetan Buddhist State

CAS Event


Thursday November 18 at 4pm MST

Guggenheim 205*



Paljor Tsarong is a Tibetan anthropologist and historian, and son of George Dundul Tsarong, a ranking bureaucrat in the Ganden Phodrang government and a decade in exile after 1959. Paljor has recently completed a book, to be published by Lexington Press, *The Life and Times of George Tsarong of Tibet, 1920-1970: A Lord in the Traditional Tibetan State*. Paljor has also worked extensively with Melvyn Goldstein and has written extensively on Marxism and Tibet. In this talk, he will speak on the structure and function of the traditional Tibetan government, including the economics of rituals in the traditional state.

BEHIND THE SCENES IN LHASA:
THE ECONOMICS OF RITUALS IN THE TIBETAN BUDDHIST STATE
Paljor Tsarong

Thursday, November 18, 2021 | 4 pm MT | Guggenheim 205
In-person lecture: Masks required



Paljor Tsarong is a Tibetan anthropologist and historian, and son of George Dundul Tsarong, a ranking bureaucrat in the Ganden Phodrang government and a decade in exile after 1959. Paljor has recently completed a book, to be published by Lexington Press, *The Life and Times of George Tsarong of Tibet, 1920-1970: A Lord in the Traditional Tibetan State*. Paljor has also worked extensively with Melvyn Goldstein and has written extensively on Marxism and Tibet. In this talk, he will speak on the structure and function of the traditional Tibetan government, including the economics of rituals in the traditional state.

 Center for Asian Studies
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER 

Politics of Power in Myanmar

CAS Event, co-sponsored with the Geography Department

Friday, November 19 at 12 noon

Myanmar is one of the least electrified countries in the world. The country's Ministry of Energy and Electricity claims (overestimates?) that 50 percent of the population has been electrified as of 2020, and the power consumption per capita is about twenty times less than the world average. For rural households, access to electricity is lower still. Prior to 2011, five decades of military rule left many communities fending for themselves with regards to electricity, leading to a number of resourceful innovations. At the same time, the country has been a major exporter of energy -- with Myanmar in long-term contracts to deliver natural gas through pipelines to Thailand and China and plans for huge hydroelectric facilities that would primarily export electricity to China and Thailand. In ethnic minority areas (Shan, Karen, Kareni, Katchin, Mon) energy projects have been implicated in human rights abuses including deliberate flooding of villages and forced labor.

This talk will explore Myanmar's energy situation and how this situation changed during and after its decade of democracy from 2011 to 2021 followed by the military coup and violent crackdown; the role of Thailand and China as exploiters of Myanmar energy sources; Myanmar's deployment of clean decentralized energy including community-centered energy development, and the complicated relationship between states/regions and the union government vis-a-vis energy development.

Kyi Phyto -- Foundation Renewable Energy and Ecology (FREE)

Shoon So Oo -- World Wildlife Fund Myanmar

Chuenchom Greacen -- independent consultant

Dr. Chris Greacen -- independent consultant

Note: This talk will be on zoom only; it will not be recorded.



Indonesian Nongkrong

CAS Event

Wednesday, December 8 at 3pm

Location: The HIVE @ALTEC Hellemms 159

Selamat datang! Join us to practice your listening and speaking skills at the Indonesian Nongkrong, hosted by ALTEC and the Center of Asian Studies!

Introduction to the Anthropology of Japan Public Lecture Series - Can a culture be cute?

Japan's kawaii aesthetic

Public lecture: Friday Jan 21, 2022

12:20-1:10pm MT

Dr. Laura Miller

Ei'ichiShibusawa-SeigoArai Endowed Professor of Japanese Studies and Professor of History, University of Missouri-St. Louis

This event is free and open to the public

Japan's cute aesthetic has spread beyond girl culture and into politics, conduct literature, history textbooks, and elsewhere. Cute serves important social and cultural functions: It is a clever way to inform us, admonish us, and convince us. Cute also provides an outlet for creativity and humor. This presentation surveys the history of kawaii and a spectrum of cute (and warped cute) found in diverse cultural domains, emphasizing the critical role of this aesthetic in contemporary society.

Sponsored by the Center for Humanities & the Arts and the Center for Asian Studies, University of Colorado Boulder



Introduction to the Anthropology of Japan Public Lecture Series - Pockets of Utopia: The Promise of Interactivity in Japanese Journalism and Television

Friday Jan 28, 2022

12:20-1:10pm MT

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?



Introduction to the Anthropology of Japan Public Lecture Series - Asian American rap in a world of anti-Asian racism

Fri, Feb 4, 12:20 PM - 01:10 PM MT

Dr. Noriko Manabe, Associate Professor of Music Studies, Temple University

Visiting Associate Professor, East Asian Languages and Cultures (AY2021-22), Stanford University

This paper explores how Asian American interracial relationships and politics are expressed in hip hop. I first consider the reasons, including racial frames, which tend to exclude Asian American rappers from the mainstream music industry, and the ways interracial tension and fascination are played out in hip hop. I then explore case studies of Asian American rap

regarding two events: Japanese-American internment during World War II and #StopAsianHate, the movement against anti-Asian violence in the wake of the pandemic.



Introduction to the Anthropology of Japan Public Lecture Series - Automating Affect

Fri, Feb 11, 12:20 PM - 01:10 PM MT

“Automating Affect”

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.



Introduction to the Anthropology of Japan Public Lecture Series - Religion in Contemporary Japan

Fri, Feb 18, 2022, 12:20 PM - 01:10 PM MT

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

This presentation will provide an introductory overview of 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, and he will examine distinctive ambiguities that surround "religion" as a Japanese category.



The CU Boulder Asian Studies Graduate Association (CUBASGA) ONLINE MEETING

Sessions will be held on February 19th, 9:15–17:20 & 20th, 9:30–17:00 (Mountain Standard Time)

Please note that for the parallel sessions, A panels will be hosted in the main room, and B panels will be in a breakout room, which you can join and quit anytime by clicking the "breakout rooms"/ "leave room" button. Please be reminded to update your Zoom in order to access the breakout rooms freely without having to be assigned by the host.

We will also use Gather Town during lunch breaks as a platform to create a virtual social space for us to communicate with each other. The link and a brief introduction to Gather Town will be delivered at the beginning of the conference.

Keynote Speeches

Saturday, February 19th, 15:50–17:20 (MST)

Prof. Lucas Bender (Assistant Professor of Chinese Literature and Thought, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, Yale University)

Title: Why the Mid-Tang Poet-Monks (Shiseng 詩僧) Chose Shi 詩-Poetry

Sunday, February 20th, 15:30–17:00 (MST)

Prof. Fabio Rambelli (Professor of Religious Studies & East Asian Cultures, UC Santa Barbara)

Title: Music, the Sacred, and Healing: The Gagaku Piece Sokō and a Different Look at the Intellectual Systems of Premodern Japan

Introduction to the Anthropology of Japan Public Lecture Series - The Bust of Harry S Truman

Fri, Feb 25, 12:20 PM - 01:10 PM MT

Momoko Usami, Ceramicist

Abstract:

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



Introduction to the Anthropology of Japan Public Lecture Series - Engaged Scholarship and Academic Colonialism

MONDAY, Feb 28, 12:20 PM - 01:10 PM MT

Dr. ann-elise lewallen, Associate Professor, Pacific & Asian Studies, University of Victoria, B.C., Canada

Abstract:

Can research be meaningfully “decolonized”? Is it possible to craft ethnographic approaches that are empowering to (Indigenous and racialized) communities? How does research conducted by Indigenous peoples counter the approach of “majority researchers”? Through

centering these questions, I will provide examples of how I have sought to address these questions through work that I have done with Indigenous communities in Japan and India.



Tibetan Losar (New Year) Celebration

March 4, 2022, 5pm-7pm

The Hive @ ALTEC

Hellems 159

Come celebrate the Tibetan New Year with Food, Drink and dance!



Indonesian Nongkrong

Tuesday, March 8 at 2pm

The Hive @ ALTEC

Hellems 159

Please attend the Indonesian Nongkrong for conversation, food, culture and an opportunity to make new friends!



Introduction to the Anthropology of Japan Public Lecture Series - Fragility and Loss in Japan's Aging Society

Fri, Mar 11, 12:20 PM - 01:10 PM MT

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

Abstract:

While later life in Japan remains strongly framed by western-style biomedical and social care institutions, recent years have seen a renewed interest in alternative approaches to aging, that incorporate the processes of both aging and dying. In this talk, I will discuss how Japan's aging population has given rise to a new sensibility concerning the processual fluidity between aging, illness, death, and the afterlife, in ways that challenge dominant gerontological paradigms based on notions of resilience and independence. This rethinking of the process of aging and dying involves an ordinary aesthetics of fragility and loss, that draws upon broader reconsiderations of the relationships between person, society, and nature. I show that this new aesthetic sensibility also draws upon cultural narratives of interdependence, mutuality, ecology and spirituality. On the anniversary of the 3.11 disaster and with the pandemic still impacting us, this talk offers a reflection on what it means to grow older, to mourn, and to be in the world with others.



Indonesian Potluck

Friday, April 1, 5-7 pm

Hale Science Building, Room 450 (4th Floor)

For more information, contact Taufik

Join CAS and friends for an Indonesian potluck and Ramadan Eve celebration. All are welcome!

Bring a dish to share, if you can!



Introduction to the Anthropology of Japan Public Lecture Series - (In)Dispensable: Citizenship and Marginality in Japan

Fri, Apr 1, 12:20 PM - 1:10 PM MT

via Zoom

Roundtable:

Dr. Yulia Frumer (History of Science and Technology, Johns Hopkins University)
Dr. Kathryn Goldfarb (Anthropology, CU Boulder)
Dr. Tristan Ivory (Sociology, Cornell University)
Dr. Kristin Roebuck (History, Cornell University)
Dr. Michael Sharpe (Political Science, CUNY)

Abstract:

“Citizenship” is often defined in terms of rights and responsibilities encoded by legal status. This narrow definition of citizenship overlooks the ways legal status alone does not ensure access to full membership in a given society. In what ways are citizenship and social inclusion constituted by their opposites—peoples deemed extraneous, undesirable, disposable, or dispensable? By examining who is excluded and what is denied in Japanese society, this roundtable explores what full social membership entails, beyond national borders and across time and space.

Indonesia Nongkrong

Tuesday, April 5th 2pm - 3pm

ALTEC HIVE, Hellems 159

Culture and Number - Get to know Indonesian iconic culture and have fun learning its numbers.



Introduction to the Anthropology of Japan Public Lecture Series - Prototyping Events: Creating Child-Oriented Methods of Disaster Preparedness

Fri, Apr 8, 12:20 PM - 01:10 PM MT

Dr. Chika Watanabe (she/her)

Senior Lecturer in Social Anthropology, University of Manchester

Abstract:

Across the Pacific Ocean, Japanese and Chilean actors have been cooperating on disaster preparedness since the 1960s. A popular method Chilean actors have taken up is the use of games for children to foster their disaster survival skills. In this paper, I suggest that understandings and practices of international cooperation need to take account of the hard and often tedious labour that certain 'brokers' do to ensure that projects connect different communities but remain open-ended. This flexibility has something to teach us about how to be prepared for future disasters.



Searching for Grass and Water: Nomads of the Tibetan Plateau and Himalaya

Event and Exhibit

“Searching for Grass and Water: Nomads of the Tibetan Plateau and Himalaya” by Daniel Miller

In conjunction with the Tibet Himalaya Initiative, which is hosting a talk by Daniel Miller as well as a Tibetan Women Writers’ Conference at CU Boulder in April, Norlin Library will host an exhibit, *Searching for Grass and Water: Nomads of the Tibetan Plateau and Himalaya* featuring photographs by Daniel Miller. The exhibit will be on display from April 13 to May 27 in the Underground West Gallery.

About *Searching for Grass and Water: Nomads of the Tibetan Plateau and Himalaya*

Moving across the grasslands with their livestock, transhumant and nomadic herders evoke freedom. They cherish the ability to move in the search for optimal grass and water for their livestock. This flexibility and mobility is crucial to thriving in patchy and heterogeneous rangeland ecosystems. Constantly exposed to the elements of nature – rain, snowstorms and drought -- herders take these events for granted and face them with remarkable equanimity. They also have an intimate knowledge of their environment and an amazing ability

to handle animals – a skill rare among most people today. Despite these admirable traits, pastoral cultures are not well known and they face numerous threats to their ways of life. An estimated two million people still practice nomadic or transhumant pastoralism on the Tibetan Plateau and in the Himalaya. Throughout the Tibetan areas of the People's Republic of China and in the northern parts of Bhutan, India and Nepal, herders are an important element in local economies and society.

This exhibition, based on photographs taken over four decades, reveal Tibetan pastoralists' perspectives on life as they roll their homes up in bundles and lash them to the back of yaks as they move across vast landscapes. Their world operates on a rhythm completely different from that of industrialized urban centers and their lives are finely tuned to the growth of grass, the births of animals and the seasonal movement of their herds. However, Tibetan nomads didn't merely eke out a living; they created a unique culture and were part of a remarkable civilization that was the most powerful empire in Asia over 1,300 years ago.

Daniel Miller started taking photographs of Tibetan herders in Nepal as an American Peace Corps Volunteer over forty years ago. As a rangeland ecologist and livestock specialist, he has worked with pastoralists throughout the Himalaya, Tibetan Plateau and Mongolian Steppe. His photographs have been displayed in Kathmandu, Beijing and New Delhi. ***Searching for Grass and Water*** provides a visual record of Tibetan herders over four decades. As such, Miller's images serve as a documentary on nomads in the Himalaya and Tibetan Plateau and their vanishing way of life, adding to our understanding of a remarkable landscape and an extraordinary culture.



ALTEC International Spring Game Night

Spring Game Night hosted by HIVE @ALTEC

Tuesday (4/19) at 4-6 PM in Hellems 159.

It is an event hosting countries around the world that want to showcase their traditional games.

EMERGING VOICES: Tibetan Women Writers

Join us for an evening of contemporary Tibetan poetry and short stories with Tibetan women writers from India and China.

EMERGING VOICES: Tibetan Women Writers

Thursday, April 21st at 5pm | CU Boulder, Humanities 250

Introduction by Nicole Willock, author of *Lineages of the Literary*.

Readings by Tibetan writers Tsedron Kyi, Nyima Tso, & Min Nangzey.

About the Presenters:

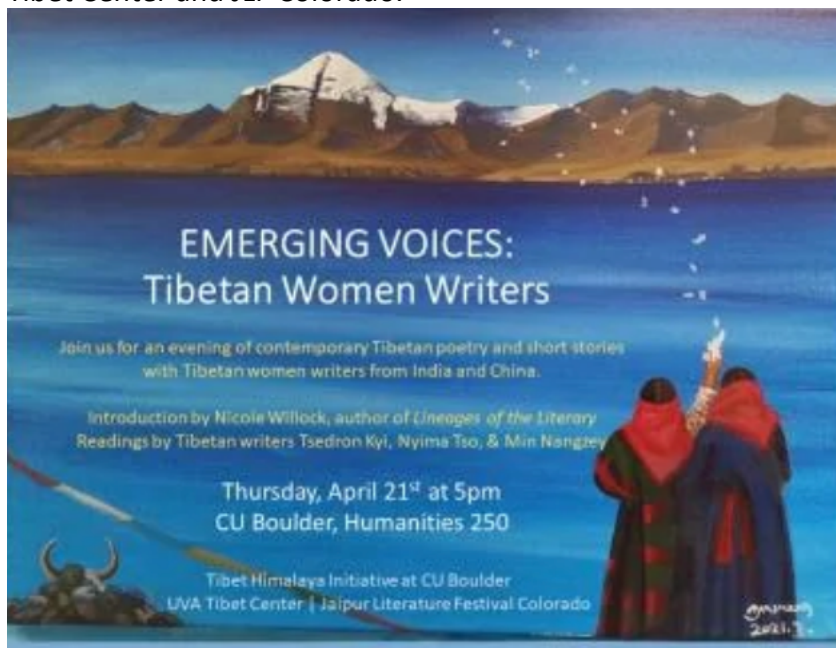
Tsedronkyi (ཅེ་སྐྱེན་ལྷི་མོ་) is a short story writer from Chapcha, Amdo and teacher of Tibetan language and literature. She has published two books of collected short stories, *A Melancholy Drama* (ལྷོ་ལྷོ་གི་ལྷོ་གཤམ་གསལ་ 2005) and *Clinging* (ཁྱེན་ 2016).

Nyima Tso (ཉི་མ་འཚོ་) is a poet and short story writer from Labrang, who currently lives in Dharamshala. She has published two books of collected poems and short stories respectively: *The First Journey of This Life* (མི་ཚེ་འདིའི་འགྲུལ་བཞུད་ཐེངས་དང་པོ་ 2003) and *A Fragment* (ཟུར་ཞིག་ Zhur zhig 2007).

Min-Nangzey (མིན་ལྷོ་མཚོ་) is an emerging poet and essayist from Golok, who currently lives in Dharamshala. She has published two books of collected poems and lyrics respectively: *Princess of the Snow Mountain* (གངས་ཅིའི་སྤྲུལ་མོ་ 2006) and *Songs of Emotions* (ཚོར་བའི་ཟུ 2015).

Nicole Willock is Associate Professor of Philosophy & Religious Studies at Old Dominion University. Her book, *Lineages of the Literary: Tibetan Buddhist Polymaths of Socialist China* was published last year.

This event is hosted by the Tibet Himalaya Initiative at CU Boulder in conjunction with the UVA Tibet Center and JLF Colorado.



Saving Sumatra's Rainforests, Its Orangutans, and the Orangutan Haven

Thursday, April 21, 2022

5pm - 6:30 p.m. MDT

via Zoom

Dr. Ian Singleton will talk about his work to rescue and conserve orangutan and about conservation efforts of the forests in the face of deforestation for palm oil plantations.

Moderated by **Daniel J. Naumenko**

Dr. Ian Singleton is Director of Conservation at PanEco Foundation and Scientific Director for the Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Programme. He was formerly Senior orangutan keeper at Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust and Animal keeper at Royal Zoological Society of Scotland and [Zoological Society of London](#). He studied at the University of Kent (PhD, Ecology; orangutan ranging behaviour, 1996 – 2000) and the University of Sunderland (BSc(hons), Environmental Science, 1984 – 1987).

He works to confiscate illegal pet orangutans and return them to a life in the wild and continues field research and monitoring of the remaining wild Sumatran orangutan population in an effort to protect their habitat. He was bestowed the highly esteemed Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (OBE) by Britain's Queen Elizabeth for his notable contributions to environmental conservation throughout his career. Singleton considered his 2017 discovery of a new orangutan species – the Pongo tapanuliensis, also known as the Tapanuli orangutan – alongside other scientists in North Sumatra -- to be one of his most memorable accomplishments.

Daniel J. Naumenko is a Ph.D Student who has worked with an international research team studying Bornean orangutans and their forest habitats for the past 7 years. His work focuses on the impacts of forest fire smoke emissions on orangutan health and behavior, and on environmental drivers of oxidative stress and decelerated aging.



Introduction to the Anthropology of Japan Public Lecture Series - Different Faces of Recovery: Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant Accident

Fri, Apr 22, 12:20 PM - 01:10 PM MT

Dr. Hiroko Kumaki

Postdoctoral Fellow, Society of Fellows/Anthropology, Dartmouth College

Abstract:

Divergent forms of recovery are emerging in the ongoing aftermath of Tokyo Electric Company's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant Accident in 2011. This talk discusses the experience of the nuclear disaster and recovery, with a focus on those who stayed and those who evacuated and returned to the former evacuation zones. I discuss the histories, present, and futures at stake as residents sought to live well in a place marked by the nuclear fallout.



China's Nuclear Belt & Road

China's Nuclear Belt & Road

Socio-technical perspectives on China's export nuclear infrastructures

In-person workshop, free and open to the public

Friday April 22nd

Venue: Center for British & Irish Studies, Norlin Library, CU Boulder Campus

Morning Program:

9:30 – 9:45 Welcome and Introductory session (Tim Oakes, University of Colorado Boulder)

9:45 – 10:30 *China's Nuclear Cooperation and Global Security* (Lynn Lee, Princeton University)

10:30 – 11:00 Break

11:00 – 11:45 *China's Pledge on Overseas Coal and the Nuclear Belt and Road* (Lami Kim, US Army War College)

Afternoon Program:

1:00 – 2:30 Keynote Address *China's Nuclear Export Ambitions in Context* (Jessica Lovering, Good Energy Collective)

2:30 – 3:15 Remote presentation: *Exporting Reactors? Nuclear Energy and China's Belt and Road Initiative* (MV Ramana, University of British Columbia)

3:15 – 3:45 Break

3:45 – 4:15 Remote presentation: *The Weight of China's Nuclear Projects May Lead to Global Spondylosis* (Ipshita Bhattacharya (Jagran LakeCity University)

4:15 – 4:45 Remote presentation: *Nuclear Innovation: China's Strategy* (Yi-chong Xu, Griffith University)

Saturday April 23rd

Venue: Flatirons Room, Center for Community, CU Boulder Campus

10:00-11:30 Roundtable Discussion: What's next for China's Nuclear Belt & Road and for nuclear power globally?

This will be the second of three workshops organized for the project *A Tale of Two Asias: Living In and Beyond the Nuclear Age*, hosted by the Center for Asian Studies. Funding for the project is being provided by the Albert Smith Nuclear Age Fund at the University of Colorado Boulder.

About the second workshop: China's Nuclear Belt & Road

Three years after the Fukushima disaster, China's President Xi Jinping announced his signature foreign policy initiative: the 'Belt & Road' (一带一路). Designed in large part to address China's chronic oversupply of domestic infrastructural construction capacity, much of the BRI focuses on developing energy infrastructure connectivities across Asia and beyond, with nuclear power being a significant part of this infrastructure development. With 47 existing reactors which already account for 1/5 of global nuclear power generating capacity, China proposes to build at least 30 new reactors across Asia, as part of the BRI, by 2030. This in addition to the 43 new reactors already planned for construction *within* China. In contrast to Japan, then, China's future reliance on nuclear power is guaranteed. Indeed, China increasingly presents itself as a model of how to live in the nuclear age, while in Japan there has been much greater emphasis on living *beyond* the nuclear age.

This second workshop will explore the prospects for, and possible consequences of, China's efforts to position itself, and Asia more broadly, as the global leader in nuclear power production. What have been the social, economic, cultural, and/or political effects and implications of China's nuclear energy infrastructure development both within China and in other Asian countries where China is currently investing in nuclear energy development projects? In keeping with the broader project's socio-technical lens, we hope to emphasize in our discussions the relationships between local communities and nuclear technology within the broader context of China's growing influence throughout the Asian continent and beyond.



Last Night I Saw You Smiling Film

Last Night I Saw You Smiling Film Screening April 26th 3:30-4:45pm, Solomon Film Screening Room, ATLAS 102

On **Tuesday April 26th at 3:30pm** join students from *ASIA 1000: Origins of Contemporary Southeast Asia Class* for a special screening of Kavich Neang's *Last Night I Saw You Smiling* (77 minutes)

One decade after Cambodia's independence and amid a movement of New Khmer Architecture, Cambodian architect Lu Bun Hap and Soviet architect Vladimir Bodiansky constructed the Municipal Apartments, also known as the White Building. The housing block bore witness to a tremendous series of events: the young nation's Golden Age; a traumatic breakdown under a radical regime; decades of cultural revival centered within its walls; and, the rapid pace of capitalist development that would ultimately lead to its demise.

When director Kavich Neang learns the 493 families of the White Building, an architectural landmark in Phnom Penh where he lived since birth, have agreed to vacate for a condo development, he decides to document the last days, starting by following his parents and family.

His father, a sculptor with the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts, and his mother arrived to the White Building when the government gathered surviving artists to live there after 1979. They express satisfaction with the compensation, but they argue amid the pressure of the move-out process. By the time that they leave, they cannot contain their emotions anymore.

Among Khmer directors emerging today, Kavich Neang is one of the most talented, and certainly one of the most singular voices for Cambodian cinema yet to come.

The White Building was a historic and symbolic building in the heart of Phnom Penh, built in the 1960s and recently destroyed. For nearly thirty years, from his birth in 1987 to his departure in 2017, Kavich Neang lived at apartment number 37, on the third floor of the White Building's building B. Kavich Neang often shot in this incredible place (*A Scale Boy*, *Three Wheels*). When the government abruptly announced a demolition plan for the White Building in May 2017, it became urgent for Kavich Neang to capture the remaining moments of the building's iconic heritage before they became only memories.

This film responds to his desire to capture and reconstruct the memory of this place and the meaning it has held for so many families through the decades. But this project is more than just a memorial. Through the liberating power of cinema, Kavich Neang plays with the very notions of memory or nostalgia even as he maintains the honesty of lucid observation on the realities of modern Cambodia.

In recent years, the Cambodian film industry has seen real changes, with the emergence of new directors and with the re-opening of movie theaters. Cinema has become fashionable again. But as in all countries around the world, the mainstream film industry is defining the rules, and the struggle has moved to the challenge of building and defending independent voices on the sidelines of the main industry. Our company Anti-Archive was created to accompany the development of those independent filmmakers in Cambodia, and *Last Night I Saw You Smiling* by Kavich Neang is a fundamental step towards fulfilling this ambition.



Center for Asian Studies 2022 Symposium - Intermountain Asia and DEI: Asian Studies in Colorado and Beyond

CAS 2022 Symposium

CAS's theme this academic year has been Intermountain Asia. With this symposium, we seek to draw attention to the myriad connections between our corner of the world and Asia. We aim to better connect with our fellow Asianists nearby, and to cultivate a vision of Asian Studies that does not limit "Asia" to a distant place, or an object of inquiry far removed from our everyday lives here in Colorado and the Rocky Mountain region more broadly. Teaching and researching Asia in Colorado means asking our students to engage with non-western societies, cultures, and languages; grappling with histories of colonialism and imperialism in which the US is implicated; and providing understandings of local, regional, and transnational connections within and across Asia. Indeed, many Asia scholars are tied to both Asia and the US, through family, work, and other connections.

Former Association for Asian Studies President Christine Yano has called for Asian Studies to take a more global perspective, emphasizing transnational circuits and dynamic encounters, focusing on mobilities and interactions across oceans and borders. Asia cannot be artificially separated from the rest of the world, including the United States. In this spirit, we believe that discussions of linkages between the US and Asian societies and examinations of how Asian societies and Asian diaspora communities are grappling with issues of religious, racial/ethnic, and gender/sex diversities and inequalities can also help us to think about how scholars of Asia can contribute to ongoing efforts to build justice, equality, diversity, and inclusion in our communities.

Intermountain Asia and DEI: Asian Studies in Colorado and Beyond

British and Irish Studies Room, Norlin Library 5th Floor (CBIS)

Friday, April 29, 2022

Noon to 4:30 pm

*Introductory remarks from **John-Michael Rivera**, Associate Dean for Arts and Humanities*

This public-facing symposium during the afternoon of April 29, 2022 will bring together faculty from several Front Range higher educational institutions to discuss connections across Asian societies and between Asia and the US, diversity and marginalization in and among Asian countries, and how scholars of Asia can participate in diversity and equity initiatives in Colorado and elsewhere. The symposium will highlight CAS's unique ability to coordinate and organize academic discussions on Asia in the Front Range region. Cumulatively, the symposium will bring Asia, Asian America, and transnational Asia into dialogue.

This symposium will be structured around 3 inter-locking roundtables:

12:15 pm Roundtable 1 - Inter-Asian Connections and Links between Asia and Colorado, will ask participants to reflect on the importance of teaching about Asia in Colorado and what is gained by examining connections and linkages between Asian societies and Colorado.

Einor Cervone, Associate Curator of Asian Art, Denver Art Museum

Clarence Lee, Asian Languages and Civilizations, CU Boulder

Carole McGranahan, Anthropology, University of Colorado Boulder

Andrea Stanton, Religious Studies, University of Denver

Moderator: **Rachel Rinaldo**, Sociology and Center for Asian Studies, University of Colorado Boulder

1:30 pm - Roundtable 2 - Diversity and Marginalization within and among Asian Societies, will ask participants to reflect on historic and recent struggles over religious, racial/ethnic, sex/gender and other forms of inequality and diversity within and between Asian societies and what can be learned from such struggles.

Lucy Chester, History, University of Colorado Boulder

Joon Kim, Ethnic Studies, Colorado State University

Evelyn Shih, Asian Languages and Civilizations, University of Colorado Boulder

Tenzin Tsepak, Center for Asian Studies, University of Colorado Boulder

Moderator: **Keller Kimbrough**, Asian Languages and Civilizations, University of Colorado Boulder

2:45 pm - Roundtable 3 - Asian Studies in Justice, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Work, will ask participants to reflect on how scholars of Asia can participate in JEDI efforts, in Colorado and elsewhere.

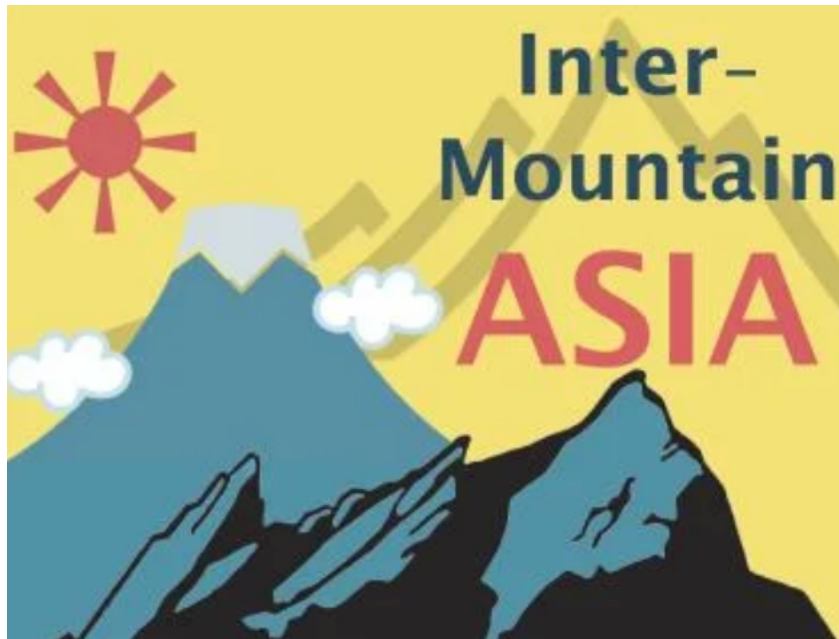
Aun Hasan Ali, Religious Studies, University of Colorado Boulder

Mithi Mukherjee, History, University of Colorado Boulder

Stephanie Santos, Gender, Women, and Sexualities Studies, Metropolitan State University Denver

Moderator: **Katherine Alexander**, Asian Languages and Civilizations, University of Colorado Boulder

A reception with light refreshments will follow



Global China - A View From The Ground

IBC Global Program

In partnership with the Center For Asian Studies (CAS) at the University of Colorado Boulder:

Global China: A View From The Ground + Networking

Monday, May 2

10 AM MDT / 12 Noon EST

Via Zoom (registration below)

Join us ... for a thought-provoking session with Professor Tim Oakes . What can we learn?

Powerful insights for sure!

Discussion Points:

Conventional accounts of China's investments abroad, and of its increasingly aggressive international posture, tend to emphasize policy pronouncements from Beijing and national-level data.

China's activities tend to look quite different up close, where local contingencies and practicalities compel China to take more of an opportunistic than strategic approach, and to pursue pragmatic avenues that typically constrain its agendas in significant ways.

This talk considers China as a global development actor integrated within an international capitalist system that tends to shape, rather than be shaped by, Beijing's world-making ambitions.

About our Speaker:

Tim Oakes is Professor of Geography and former Director of the Center for Asian Studies at the University of Colorado Boulder. His most recent research explores the development and use of leisure and consumption spaces in China's urban areas, as well as in urbanizing areas of rural China. He is currently working on urban planning and infrastructural urbanism in China's 'New Area' urban zones. His most recent book is Making Cultural Cities in Asia (2016). Tim has held

visiting professor positions at the University of Hong Kong, Guizhou Minzu University, the National University of Singapore, Wageningen University, and the University of Technology, Sydney. He holds research affiliations at Cornell University and at the College of Media, Communication, and Information at CU Boulder.

Our Co-Hosts

John A.K. Lowe

Maggie Fouquet

Tickets:

Included in membership for IBC members.

Complimentary for first-time guests and CAS Members.

\$35 for non-members.



Asian Studies Graduation Recognition Reception

The Center for Asian Studies will be celebrating the graduation of Asian Studies Major and Minors with a reception.

Please join us as we wish our graduating senior the best.

Friday, May 6th, 2022 from 10am to 11am

Center for British and Irish Studies

Norlin Library, 5th floor

University of Colorado Boulder
Center for Asian Studies
Commencement



Friday, May 6, 2022
Center for British and Irish Studies
Norlin Library

Non-CAS Events

Jaipur Literature Festival Boulder (Virtual)

Non-CAS Event

October 8-10, 2021

website: <https://jflitfest.org/colorado>

Panels that may be of interest to you:

Myanmar:

5:00 PM - 5:50 PM MDT, OCTOBER 08, 2021

Miss Burma and the Names For Light

Charmaine Craig and Thirii Myo Kyaw Myint in conversation with Anindita Ghose

A powerful session weaving together the personal and the political. Academic and writer Charmaine Craig's novel, *Miss Burma*, vividly intertwines the fate of a country and a family not only by war and revolution but also by desire and loss. Writer Thirii Myo Kyaw Myint's memoir, *Names for Light: A Family History*, traverses through oral narratives, official, and mythical histories of Myanmar, and binds together three generations of a family and the impact of post colonial violence and racism. In conversation with Anindita Ghose, journalist and author of *The Illuminated*, which was published in India this summer, they take us on an evocative journey through time, memory and the search for legacy.

India:

4:00 PM - 4:50 PM MDT, OCTOBER 09, 2021

The Secret Keeper of Jaipur

Alka Joshi in conversation with Arsen Kashkashian

Writer Alka Joshi's latest work, *The Secret Keeper of Jaipur*, second in the Jaipur trilogy, takes forward the stories of the iconic characters from her bestselling novel, *The Henna Artist*.

Rooted deeply in Rajasthan's remarkable history and varied traditions, the narrative explores

the underbelly of Jaipur city and gives us a gritty look into nuances of class, identity, and deceit. In conversation with Arsen Kashkashian, Joshi takes us on an evocative journey through Lakshmi's life as she explores the process of giving voice to the silenced.

11:00 AM - 11:50 AM MDT, OCTOBER 09, 2021

Walking Kabul

Taran N Khan, Christina Lamb, Shazia Haya Ahmadzai and Sanaz Fotouhi in conversation with Pragya Tiwari

A session focused on the severity of navigating and depicting Afghanistan's conflicted lands as women. Award-winning foreign correspondent and writer Christina Lamb's *Our Bodies, Their Battlefield: What War Does to Women* provides harrowing, first-hand accounts of women's experiences in war zones. She is joined by journalists Shazia Haya Ahmadzai and Taran N. Khan. Ahmadzai's last piece before escaping Kabul addresses the rights and future of Afghan women; Khan's acclaimed portrait of proscribed spaces, *Shadow City: A Woman Walks Kabul*, is kindred to author and filmmaker Sanaz Fotouhi's latest, *Love Marriage in Kabul: A Memoir*, which details the challenges in making the namesake documentary. In conversation with Festival Co-Director and author William Dalrymple, pioneering voices in the discourse surrounding Afghanistan explore the process of covering the region as women.

10:00 AM - 10:50 AM MDT, OCTOBER 10, 2021

Becoming Ourselves: Journey's of Discovery

Rajiv Mohabir, Samra Zafar, and K Ming-Chang in conversation with Vangmayi Parakala

*Writer's participation is sponsored by the Consul General of Canada in Denver

A session examining the complex nuances of immigrant identity, across the markers of race and culture to explore the intangibles of home. Rajiv Mohabir's hybrid memoir, *Antiman*, navigates the fraught constellations of sexuality, race, and cultural heritage that have created the foundation of his Indo-Guyanese immigrant identity. K-Ming Chang's lyrical novel, *Bestiary*, explores three generations of Taiwanese-American women who carry the myths of their homeland within themselves. Samra Zafar's memoir, *A Good Wife: Escaping the Life I Never Chose*, follows her journey of escaping an abusive marriage and quest to find herself and pursue her dreams as a culturally isolated immigrant in Canada. In conversation with Vangmayi Parakala, they explore the geographies and multilayered legacies that have formed their lives and quest for home

3:00 PM - 3:50 PM MDT, OCTOBER 10, 2021

The Roots of a Nation

Fali S. Nariman in conversation with Tripurdaman Singh

Celebrated writer, jurist, and former President of the Bar Association of India, Fali S. Nariman is the author of *God Save the Hon'ble Supreme Court*, *The State of the Nation*, and his recent *Constitution of India*, among others. He takes us on a reflective journey through the layers, complexities, and nuances of the document that marked the arrival of the world's largest democracy. One of the world's longest and most important political texts, *The Constitution* was adopted by the Republic of India on 26th January 1950, laying the framework of governance, fundamental rights and civil responsibility that have formed the very roots of India. In conversation with writer and historian Tripurdaman Singh, Nariman speaks of his life experience in law and the Indian Constitution.

And there also is Homi Bhabha on the lure and current compelling status of conspiracy theories;

Israeli Gideon Levy and Iranian Ramita Navai on the middle east. Harvard's Vincent Brown on an Atlantic slave war; Current Booker short list finalist Damon Galgut, fabulous novel The Promise, set in South Africa.

The Cement-Steel-Infrastructure Interface: China's Export and Investment Boom in the Philippines

The Cement-Steel-Infrastructure Interface: China's Export and Investment Boom in the Philippines

Alvin Camba,

Korbel School of International Studies

Denver University

In Person:

GUGG 205

Jan 21, 2022, 3:30 PM

Abstract:

In the Global South, the population's demand for economic involvement has been met by an infrastructure drive. Through the Belt and Road Initiative, China has financed a variety of infrastructure projects, particularly roads, bridges, railway projects, dams, and many others. However, alongside infrastructures, cement and steel imports and investments have also been expanding at alarming rates alongside. I ask: how important is China to the expansion of cement and steel imports and investments? By examining Chinese cement and steel imports and investments in the Philippines, I argue that there is an emerging cement-steel-infrastructure interface in the Global South, a product of a political settlement between Chinese firms and domestic business elites. The affinity between host country elites and Chinese firms has created a surge in both imports and investments in steel and cement. Taking advantage of this expansion, host country business elites, who are often campaign contributors or family members of host country leaders, are building cement and steel factories to provide inputs to ongoing foreign-funded infrastructure projects in their countries. Chinese firms and their host country business partners are also importing steel and cement products. I build this paper by combining host country databases on import and shareholder data on cement and steel alongside several detailed case studies derived from several Philippine provinces.

Friday, January 21 at 3:30pm to 5:00pm

Part of the [China Made](#) Project