



# SMLC Newsletter

2019-2020  
FIRST ISSUE

SMLC Highlight

## Novembre Numérique - Littérature Au Vol

French Programme, Nov 2019

Littérature Au Vol (literature on the fly) is an original project designed by the HKU French programme. The project was presented in the 2019 Hong Kong edition of Novembre Numérique; a worldwide annual festival organized by the Institut Français to celebrate digital cultures.

Littérature Au Vol focuses on revisiting classic French literary texts in the age of the digital cultures.

In this project students were given the opportunity to discuss, contextualize and interpret collectively a French literary text chosen for its interest or relevance in the context of Hong Kong.

This year, a group of HKU French students worked on a video adaptation of *Les Djinns* by Victor HUGO. *Les Djinns*, one of the most famous poems by Victor HUGO, was published in 1829 in *Les Orientales*. The poem is distinguished by its very original form, in "crescendo" and "decrescendo". This form resonates with the poem which is the account of the crash caused by the passage of a swarm of djinns around the narrator's house.

Students chose to render the poem as a short narrative video depicting the sense of urgency and dramatization which emanate from the text.

Work of the students:

<https://www.french.hku.hk/les-djinns>



# 2nd Latin American and Iberian Film Series

Spanish programme , 02 Oct - 21 Nov 2019

SMLC’s new edition of Spanish-language and Lusophone cinemas continued successfully in October and November 2019 with screenings of recent films and post-screening discussions with its directors via Skype. The 2nd Latin American and Iberian Film Series opened with the Portuguese film *The Dead Queen* (2018) followed by a discussion with the director, António Ferreira, on October 2. At the opening, we were honored with the presence of Consul Alves from Portugal and representatives from the Instituto Português do Oriente, Consul Grygianiec from Argentina, Consul Zambrano from México, and Mr. ROLDÁN and Ms. MIGUÉLEZ from the Spanish Consulate in Hong Kong. The other two films shown in the first semester of 2019-20 include the successful Argentine tragicomedy *Wild Tales* (2014) and the religious Peruvian film *The Eyes of the Journey* (2017). This series, co-organized with the Consulates General of Argentina, Chile, Mexico, Peru, Portugal and Spain, and the Honorary Consulate of Uruguay, and two universities (PolyU and CUHK), has been extremely successful with the public and we hope to continue with it in the second semester.



**2nd Latin American and Iberian Film Series**

**PEDRO E INÊS**  
THE DEAD QUEEN  
DIR. ANTONIO FERREIRA, 2018  
and a post-screening discussion with the director

2 Oct 2019 (Wed)  
CPD-LG 18,  
Centennial Campus, HKU  
(HKU MTR exit C1)

6:30PM COCKTAIL RECEPTION  
7:00PM WELCOME REMARKS  
7:10PM FILM SCREENING

**LOS OJOS DEL CAMINO**  
THE EYES OF THE JOURNEY  
DIR. RODRIGO CHESCHERBAUD, 2017  
and a post-screening discussion with the director

22 Oct 2019 (Tue)  
CPD-3.04, Centennial Campus, HKU  
(HKU MTR exit C1)

6:30PM RECEPTION  
7:00PM FILM SCREENING

**WILD TALES**

**RELATOS SALVAJES**  
WILD TALES  
DIR. DAMIAN SZIFRON, 2014

1 Nov 2019 (Fri)  
CBC, LG1/E,  
Chow Yei Ching Building, HKU  
(HKU MTR exit C1)

6:30PM RECEPTION  
7:00PM FILM SCREENING

# Arabic Programme Booth - Come and have a taste of Arabia



Arabic Programme, 7 Nov 2019 (Thu)

On November 7, 2019, the Arabic Programme organised an event “Arabic Programme Booth - Come and have a taste of Arabia”, at the University of Hong Kong.

This event is a start of a series of events to be organised by Arabic Programme aiming to introduce Arabic language and culture to the students of The University of Hong Kong and the general public.

The booth welcomed a large audience from inside and outside the University to enjoy the Arabian hospitality by tasting the Arabian dates, the hot anise drink and the cold hibiscus drink. The visitors had their names written in Arabic Calligraphy on a beautifully designed card.

The booth was a great opportunity to meet students face to face, answer their questions about Arabic language and the Arabic courses offered by the School of Modern Languages and Cultures, that include Credit courses, non-credit courses, culture courses, and general public courses.



# Rigoletto from the pit: Up close and personal with Maestro Paolo Olmi

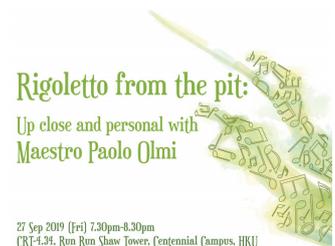
Italian Programme, 27 Sep 2019 (Fri)

On September 27th, the Italian programme hosted the internationally renowned conductor, Paolo OLMI, for a speaking engagement on Rigoletto, one of the most famous Italian operas composed by Giuseppe VERDI.

The event “Rigoletto from the pit” was co-organized by the Italian programme, the Italian Club@HKU, the Italian Consulate and Istituto italiano di cultura. The event was open to the public.

Paolo OLMI engaged in a meaningful conversation with Peter GORDON, editor of the Asian Review of books. They first discussed the origin of opera, and then its rendering in the different theaters around the world.

Although it remains one of the most fascinating performing arts, Opera is gaining less attention from the public, especially from younger audiences. This is largely due to its complexity. Engaging with its major experts is an excellent opportunity for students to enhance their understanding and enjoy the art form more fully.



27 Sep 2019 [Fri] 7:30pm-8:30pm  
CRT-4.34, Run Run Shaw Tower, Centennial Campus, HKU

Giuseppe Verdi's most famous opera – La traviata at the Metropolitan Opera House in New York City – under the baton of the internationally renowned conductor, Paolo Olmi, was the focus of the evening. The evening was well-received, and the conductor was praised for his work on the opera's performance.

Maestro Olmi was not Verdi's only problem. The Austrian composer looked at the story of a poor girl and her lover, and was inspired to write the opera. He was inspired by the story of a poor girl and her lover, and was inspired to write the opera. He was inspired by the story of a poor girl and her lover, and was inspired to write the opera.

Maestro Olmi is a highly respected conductor in the international arena and has been a leading figure in major opera houses throughout the world. He has conducted at the Metropolitan Opera House, the Royal Opera House, the San Francisco Opera, and the Los Angeles Opera. He has also conducted at the Teatro alla Scala in Milan, the Teatro del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino in Florence, and the Teatro di San Carlo in Naples.

Please register at: [https://www.hku.hku/central/calendar](https://www.hku.hk/central/calendar)



# 8 keywords to understand today's Italy (Otto parole per spiegare l'Italia di oggi)

Italian Programme, 24 Oct 2019 (Thu)

On October 24th, the Italian programme hosted Beppe SEVERGNINI at the HKU. SEVERGNINI is, among other things, a columnist and editor of one of the major Italian newspapers, Il Corriere della Sera. He was a foreign correspondent from various countries, including United Kingdom and Russia. He is also the author of numerous books and the editor of a very popular online blog, 'Italians'.

The event at HKU, “8 keywords to understand today's Italy”, was co-organized by the Italian programme, the Italian Consulate and the Istituto Italiano di Cultura as part of the celebrations of The Week of Italian Language in the World.

In his lecture, SEVERGNINI gave an ironic and highly entertaining presentation of some interjections in Italian, demonstrating through a series of anecdotes the expressive importance of various sounds and words in Italian (Oh, Ah, Eh, Boh, etc.) that are typically ignored or underestimated in formal studies of linguistics and lexicography.

The event was well-attended. It offered another great opportunity for our students to enhance their understanding of the Italian language as spoken by native Italians.

**8 KEYWORDS TO UNDERSTAND TODAY'S ITALY**  
Beppe Severgnini

24 Oct 2019 (Thu) 4:30pm-5:30pm  
Room 4.34, Run Run Shaw Tower, Centennial Campus, HKU

Beppe Severgnini is a columnist and an editor at Corriere della Sera, which he joined in 1992. He was the editor-in-chief of its weekly magazine "L'Espresso" from 2017 to 2019 and he created the blog "Italians" in 1998. He became a contributing opinion writer for The New York Times in 2013. His writing has appeared in The Financial Times and The Economist, where he was the Italy correspondent from 1986 to 2003.

He is the author of 11 books, including The American Berlusconi, Ciao, America! An Italian Chronicle, The U.S. and the Arab Spring, An Italian Guide to the World, and his most recent books: The Italian Renaissance, 1492-1517, 1987, and The Italian Renaissance, 1492-1517, 1987, and The Italian Renaissance, 1492-1517, 1987.

He is a frequent lecturer at the University of Florida. As a frequent correspondent, he was posted in London, Moscow and Washington. He also covered Eastern Europe, China and the Middle East. He teaches at the School of Journalism of the University of Miami, and he has been a research fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, an Israeli Berlin visiting scholar at Oxford University, and a visiting fellow at the Center for Strategic Studies in Jerusalem.

In 2005, he was appointed an Officer of the British Empire by Queen Elizabeth II, and in 2011 the president of Italy conferred on him the title of commissioner in the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic.

He lives near Milan with his wife and son.

All are welcome. No registration needed. The program is open to all. Contact: [central@hku.hk](mailto:central@hku.hk)

CO-ORGANIZED BY:  
MODERN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES  
CENTENNIAL CAMPUS, THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

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# Animal-Human Interactions in the Anthropocene China and Asia: Interdisciplinary Approaches

East Studies Division, 04 - 05 Dec 2019 (Wed - Thu)

This international workshop is generously funded by the Faculty of Arts Conference Fund and co-sponsored by the Harvard Yenching Institute. Convened by Dr Victor TEO, the aim of this workshop is to bring together an interdisciplinary research group to further scrutinize the theme of animal-human interactions contextualized against the idea of the Anthropocene, with a focus on China and Asia. By centralizing how animals are broadly treated and discussed across disciplines, the workshop aspires to enhance the understanding of existing broader environmental and ecological problems related to animals through discussion and criticism. In particular, the workshop hopes to transcend the duality of nature versus culture debate by locating animal-ecological problems in the behavior of human institutions, beliefs and practices –

often which are affected by prevailing political ideologies, economic interests and scientific agendas. This workshop thus provides humanists and area studies specialists to provide a voice to these challenges, particularly so in China and Asian studies. Fifteen papers were selected through an open call for papers issued earlier. The researchers hailing from the United States, Israel, Sikkim, India and from Asian countries such as Singapore, Japan and China met to discuss their findings and future plans for publication, further conference and grant applications. The workshop is grateful to Miss Francisca Kwok at the Arts Faculty Office and Miss Zena CHEUNG, Miss Lucilla CHENG, Miss Lavender LUI, Mr William HO and other colleagues at the SMLC Technical Office for their logistical assistance.



# Memory at the Margins - Photo Exhibition Opening

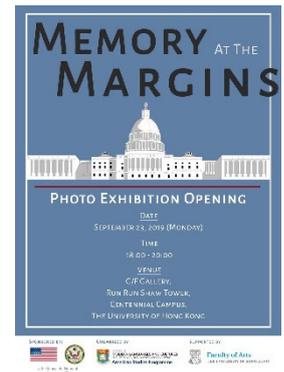
American Studies, 23 Sep 2019 (Mon)

**KWOK Ka Ling, year 4 student, American Studies Major**

*Memory at the Margins* featured photos taken during the two-week American studies field trip of June 2018. Under the guidance of Dr. Tim GRUENEWALD, the study trip employed a critical memory studies approach to national remembrance in Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. The exhibition traced how painful chapters of American history are remembered and forgotten. The individual exhibits used a montage approach by juxtaposing seemingly unrelated images. For example, one frame displayed the domes of the National Museum of the American Indian and of the Jefferson Memorial, asking the viewer to reflect on the impact of Jefferson's Louisiana Purchase on Native Americans. Another example was a photo of a sandstone and marker commemorating enslaved African American labor used for the construction of the U.S. Capitol displayed in its Visitor Center, which also contains a statue of James Zachariah George, who supported secession as a member of the Mississippi Secession Convention. Overall, the American studies field trip and photo exhibition aimed at encouraging critical reflection on how public commemoration contributes to the U.S. national imagination.

Personally, assisting with the curation of the exhibition was a rewarding learning experience as a major in American Studies, which demanded a synthesis of my knowledge of the field. Working on the exhibition was like writing a condensed thesis, since it required finding connections between different memorials and museums and capturing them succinctly for the captions.

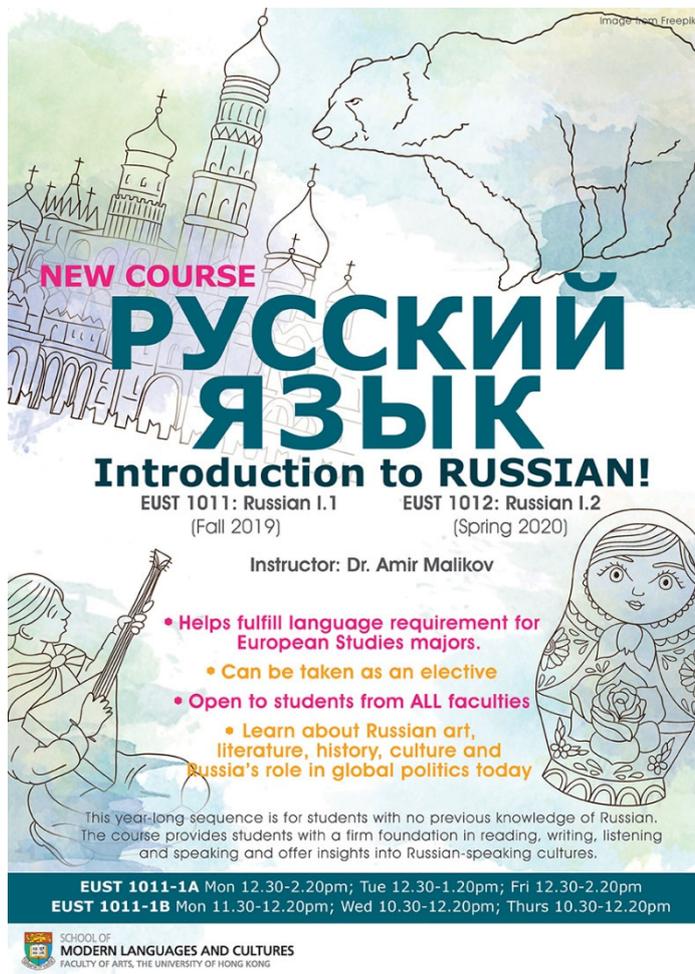
We would like to thank the United States Consulate General of Hong Kong and Macau and the Faculty of Arts at HKU for their generous support of the exhibition.



# New Russian courses

## European Studies

About 300 million people in the world speak Russian, which puts the Russian language in 5th place in the world. At the same time, the Russian language is one of the UN languages and opens up for the speaker the entire post-Soviet space. The rich Russian literature, especially classical authors such as Dostoevsky, Tolstoy, and Chekhov became a strong motivator to study Russian language and culture worldwide. This minor is intended whether for complete beginners in Russian or advanced level speakers. The course offers a broad introduction to the Russian language and culture of contemporary Russia. While participants will learn how to express themselves in Russian and understand the fundamentals of the language, they will also gain a deeper appreciation of the Russian society, its cultural heritage and its way of life. Separate practice groups to consolidate the work done in lectures will also be arranged separately on a regular basis.



**NEW COURSE**  
**РУССКИЙ ЯЗЫК**  
**Introduction to RUSSIAN!**

EUST 1011: Russian I.1 (Fall 2019)      EUST 1012: Russian I.2 (Spring 2020)

Instructor: Dr. Amir Malikov

- Helps fulfill language requirement for European Studies majors.
- Can be taken as an elective
- Open to students from ALL faculties
- Learn about Russian art, literature, history, culture and Russia's role in global politics today

This year-long sequence is for students with no previous knowledge of Russian. The course provides students with a firm foundation in reading, writing, listening and speaking and offer insights into Russian-speaking cultures.

**EUST 1011-1A** Mon 12.30-2.20pm; Tue 12.30-1.20pm; Fri 12.30-2.20pm  
**EUST 1011-1B** Mon 11.30-12.20pm; Wed 10.30-12.20pm; Thurs 10.30-12.20pm

SCHOOL OF MODERN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES  
 FACULTY OF ARTS, THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG



Russian teacher, Dr. Amir MALIKOV

# Seminars and Conferences

## Hong Kong Studies

21 Sep 2019 (Sat)

### Voices of Hong Kong - The New Sensitive

香港的聲音 - 新敏感詞



**VOICES OF HONG KONG - THE NEW SENSITIVE**

The rising tension that a ravaging Hong Kong has woken the long dormant multitude who hope complete to articulate their burgeoning, multiple consciousness as their conflicting consciousness of home and place, standing up to a world that had long denied them a voice. The disempowered multitude are being increasingly and systematically disempowered from any vision of the city's future. If there is to be a critical public history and memory of a city, of this present point of history, there is nothing more urgent than amplifying the cohesiveness/symphony of voices of Hong Kong to the world.

Why the time to gather undergraduate and postgraduate students and emerging and seasoned scholars alike, to exchange thoughts on controversial issues and sensitive keywords, a one-day bilingual workshop entitled VOICES OF HONG KONG - THE NEW SENSITIVE will be held with the following details:

September 21 (Sat)  
10am - 5pm  
CRT 4.36  
Run Run Shaw Tower  
Centennial Campus HKU

**hong kong keywords workshop 2019**  
the new sensitive  
新敏感詞

September 21 (sat)  
10am - 5pm  
CRT 4.36  
Run Run Shaw Tower  
Centennial Campus, HKU

registration 0930  
welcoming remarks 0945 Prof. Stephen YW Chu  
Director, HK Studies Prog. HKU

panel one 1000-1115 new investigator: Peter Mau, HKU  
invited director: Lillian L. Hsu  
邀請嘉賓: 廖文蔚, HKU  
panel discussion: 廖文蔚, HKU  
political participation: Thomas Wang, HKU

panel two 1115-1230  
invited director: Carmen Chung, HKU  
invited director: Jeffrey Chan, HKU  
邀請嘉賓: 陳永賢, HKU  
邀請嘉賓: Chan Yik & Bryan Yu, HKU  
邀請嘉賓: Luker Luk & Bala Man, HKU

panel three 1330-1430 hong kong: Maria Tabor-Alexander  
invited director: Adam Lee, HKU  
邀請嘉賓: Adam Lee, HKU  
邀請嘉賓: Jean Waiwan, HKU  
邀請嘉賓: Johnathan Wang, HKU

panel four 1430-1550 hong kong: 廖文蔚, HKU  
invited director: Denny Chan, HKU  
邀請嘉賓: Denny Chan, HKU

roundtable moderators:  
1600-1700 Prof. Stephen YW Chu  
Director, HK Studies Prog. HKU  
Dr. Leung Shuk Man  
HK Studies Prog. HKU

www.hkstudy.hku.hk

## China Studies

03 Oct 2019 (Thu)

### Building a Comprehensive Database for Social Science and Evidence-based Policy Research: Hong Kong, Shanghai and Shenzhen

By Professor Xiaogang WU

**Building a Comprehensive Database for Social Science and Evidence-based Policy Research: Hong Kong, Shanghai and Shenzhen**

**Prof. Xiaogang Wu**  
3 Oct 2019 (Thu), 4:30pm-6:30pm  
CPD-LG.08, Centennial Campus, HKU

The Hong Kong Home Survey of Social Dynamics (HPSD) is the first ever large-scale representative household panel survey to track the Hong Kong household's social dynamics over time. The first wave (2014) representative household panel survey has been completed in 11 2014, 2015, and 2017 respectively, including 221 households, 2,216 adults and 298 children in the first wave and 2163 households, 4,279 adults and 621 children in the second wave, and 2341 households, 4,661 adults and 477 children in the third wave and 2020 households, 3947 adults and 471 children in the fourth wave. The fifth wave is to be conducted in 2019. It parallel project, the Shanghai Urban Neighborhood Survey (SUNS), was completed in July 2017, including 1152 households, 8613 adults and 1902 children from 189 neighborhoods, and the second wave is to be completed in 2019. This talk aims to introduce the background, research design, and content coverage in both HPSD and SUNS, and present some findings on selected topics concerning urban issues in Hong Kong and Shanghai and the some about the study of Shenzhen in the comparative project. The HPSD and SUNS are expected to serve as an important database for social science research and policy study as well as for computer analyses in the Greater China region.

Xiaogang Wu (Ph.D., UCLA, 2001) is Chair Professor at Division of Social Sciences and Division of Public Policy at Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST). His research interests include social inequality, stratification and mobility, gender and family, urban sociology, survey and quantitative methods. His previous work has appeared in the Annual Review of Sociology, American Sociological Review, American Journal of Sociology, Social Forces, Demography, Social Science Research, and other leading journals in China studies. Professor Wu is the President of International Chinese Sociological Association (ICSA) (2018-2019), the founding editor of the Chinese Sociological Review (CSR) (ISSN 1550-1632) in 2015. He also serves on Editorial Board of many prestigious international peer-reviewed journals, including Social Forces, Sociology of Education, Social Science Research, and currently also serves as a member of Humanities and Social Sciences Panel, the European Research Council (2017-2019).

CEAS  
CENTRE FOR MODERN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES  
HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Social Sciences  
HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

All are welcome. No registration is required.  
By invitation, please contact: Ms Doris Lo at dlo@hkust.hkust.hk  
Program by Subsector of Peoples

## American Studies

17 Oct 2019 (Thu)

### Jews as Books and Books as Jews: On History, Memory, People and Objects

By Dr. Zvi SEPTIMUS

**CONNECTING MEMORIES**

**Keynote Lecture:**  
'Jews as Books and Books as Jews: On History, Memory, People and Objects'

**Dr Zvi Septimus**  
Associate Professor of Hebrew Literature  
Shanghai International Studies University

Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at 5pm  
The Jockey Club Tower, 2/F, CPD 2.37

*Flourishing on Jewish Studies and specialising in the Talmud, Dr Septimus's research has explored a variety of aspects regarding the reading and interpretation of sacred books. His talk will centre on the mechanism Jews have used to preserve historical memory.*

This lecture is a collaboration between Connecting Memories and the American Studies Programme in the School of Modern Languages and Cultures at the University of Hong Kong.

Connecting Memories is a collaborative interdisciplinary research initiative opening up a space for provocative intellectual debates to interest and share their perspectives on what memory means in the context of their research.

For more information and to register, please visit our website: <http://www.connectingmemories.hku.hk>  
For more details on the speakers, please visit our website: <http://www.shanghaiisus.com>  
For more information on the event, please contact: [connect@connectingmemories.hku.hk](mailto:connect@connectingmemories.hku.hk)  
For more information on the event, please contact: [connect@connectingmemories.hku.hk](mailto:connect@connectingmemories.hku.hk)

China Studies

24 Oct 2019 (Thu)

**Mutable Inequalities: Meritocracy and the Making of the Chinese Academe, 1912-1952, A Data Analytic Approach**

By **Professor James Z. LEE**

**SCHOOL OF MODERN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES** Department of Sociology  
**FACULTY OF ARTS, THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG** HKU Sociological Forum Fall 2019-2020

**Mutable Inequalities: Meritocracy and the Making of the Chinese Academe, 1912-1952, A Data Analytic Approach**

**Professor James Z. Lee**  
 (The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology)

**Thursday, October 24, 2019**  
**4:30pm - 6:30pm**  
**CPD-LG.08, LG/F Central Podium, HKU**

This talk takes advantage of three new Big Historical datasets to identify four salient features of the early Chinese academe during the Republic of China. First, it was highly international in terms of training. Second, the proportion of female students was unexpectedly large. Third, there was a heavy emphasis on STEM. Finally, the social and spatial origins of China's university students and university faculty changed from a national population of civil servant families to business and professional families, largely from Jiangnan and the Pearl River Delta. The datasets are the 'China University Student Dataset-Republic of China' which includes almost half of all students to graduate from a Chinese university during the first half of the twentieth century, the 'China University Student Dataset-Overseas' which includes the vast majority of all Chinese students to graduate from an American, European, or Japanese university during this same period, and the 'China University Employee Dataset' which includes almost all university faculty in China 1941-1950.

sociology.hku.hk

European Studies

07 Nov 2019 (Thu)

**1989-2019, The End of Communism in Central and Eastern Europe: A panel discussion on the significance and contemporary relevance of the 1989 revolutions in Europe**

By **Dr. Stefan AUER, Dr. CHAN Ka Lok Kenneth, Dr. Roman DAVID, Dr. Loretta KIM, Dr. Krzysztof SLIWINSKI** as panelists



**The End of Communism in Central and Eastern Europe**

A panel discussion on the significance and contemporary relevance of the 1989 revolutions in Europe

**Dr. Stefan Auer** - Associate Professor & Jean Monnet Chair, European Studies, The University of Hong Kong  
**Dr. Chan Ka Lok Kenneth** - Associate Professor, Department of Government & International Studies, Hong Kong Baptist University & President of the Hong Kong Association for European Studies  
**Dr. Roman David** - Professor & Head, Department of Sociology and Social Policy, Lingnan University  
**Dr. Loretta Kim** - Assistant Professor & Director, China Studies, The University of Hong Kong  
**Dr. Krzysztof Sliwinski** - Associate Professor, Department of Government & International Studies, Hong Kong Baptist University

**Thursday, 7 November**  
**16:30 - 18:20**

**K. K. Leung Building**  
**Room KK.101**  
**HKU**



Global Creative Industries

27 Nov 2019 (Wed)

**Baudelaire Contra Benjamin: A Critique of Cultural Marxism and Politicized Aesthetics (co-authored with Beibei Guan) and Idolizing the Idea: A Critical History of Modern Philosophy: Challenging Consensuses in Literary Theory and Philosophy**

By **Professor Wayne CRISTAUDO**

**Baudelaire Contra Benjamin: A Critique of Cultural Marxism and Politicized Aesthetics**  
 (co-authored with Beibei Guan) and  
**Idolizing the Idea: A Critical History of Modern Philosophy: Challenging Consensuses in Literary Theory and Philosophy**

**Prof Wayne Cristaudo**  
 Professor of Politics at Charles Darwin University

**27 Nov 2019 (Wed) 4:30-6:00pm**  
**Room 4.34, Run Run Shaw Tower, Centennial Campus, HKU**

As well as discussing the core ideas in the books mentioned above, and the paradigmatic challenges they pose, Professor Cristaudo will also discuss the more general difficulties one faces as an academic and author when one engages widely with intellectual consensus. In the book on Baudelaire and Walter Benjamin, the central issue concerns the way in which literature is now taught in universities, through political and artistic commitments, which Cristaudo argues oversimplify the human condition and the nature of politics, and which also distract from appreciating the real strengths of literature. In the second book, the critique of what the 19<sup>th</sup>-century philosopher Franz Karl called "the way of ideas" is developed to make the broader point that the two most dominant tendencies in contemporary philosophy – the so-called analytic and anti-essentialist philosophies – replicate the problem of "idea-ism" (sic). The book argues that "idea-ism" diminishes the insight and potentials of modern philosophy within the human sciences.



Spanish

07 Nov 2019 (Thu)

**Open Class With Mexican Writer Cristina Rivera Garza at HKU**

By **Ms. Cristina RIVERA-GARZA**

Global Creative Industries

23-24 Nov 2019 (Sat-Sun)

**The Cultural Intermediaries in the East Asian Film Industries**

Global Creative Industries

30 Nov - 01 Dec 2019 (Sat-Sun)

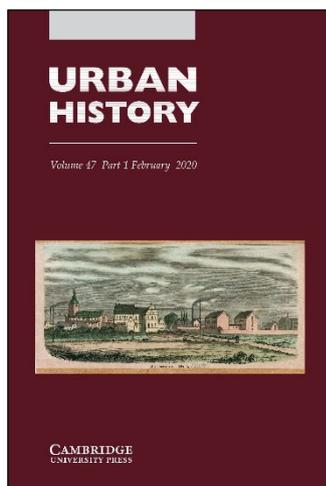
**Food Cultures in East Asia**

# Publications

**BORLAND, Janet**

**"Small Parks, Big Designs: Reconstructed Tokyo's New Green Spaces, 1923–1931."**

*Urban History* 47, no. 1, 2020. P 106-125.



**FERNÁNDEZ MELLEDA, Bárbara**

**"Notas para una refundación de Chile."**

*Revista Pléyade*, 2019.



**LI, Ji**

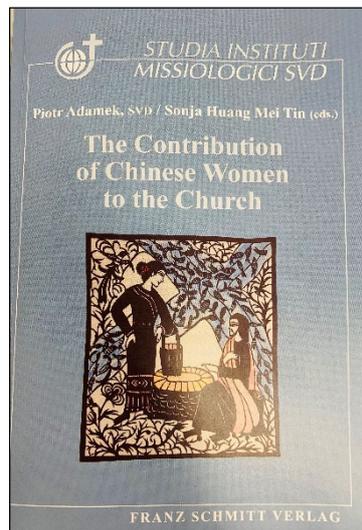
**"A Study on the Archives of the Mission Mandchourie at the Missions Étrangères de Paris."**

*Hong Kong Journal of Catholic Studies*, No. 10, 2019.

**LI, Ji**

**"'Little Flowers': Chinese Christian Women in Northeast China"**

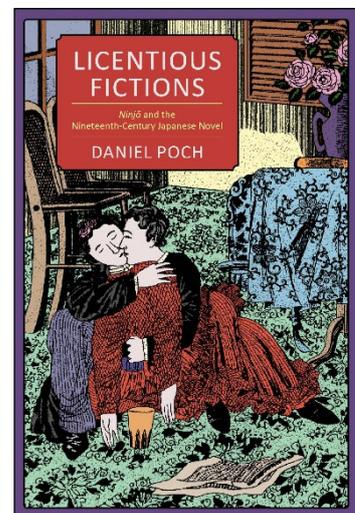
Piotr Adamek and Sonja Huang Mei Tin (Eds.) **The Contribution of Chinese Women to the Church**. Franz Schmitt Verlag, Siegburg 2019. p. 103-118.



**POCH, Daniel**

**Licentious Fictions: Ninjō and the Nineteenth-Century Japanese Novel**

New York: Columbia University Press, 2020



# In the Media

## American Studies

Dr. Bárbara  
**FERNÁNDEZ  
MELLEDA**

**The Chilean Spring (Part One): Tip of the Iceberg**  
Alborada  
21 Oct 2019

**The Chilean Spring (Part One): Tip of the Iceberg**

In the first in a three-part series, we address the main issues behind Chile's current unrest and the right-wing government's disproportionate response.

by **Barbara Fernández Melleda**

21 October 2019



**Chile Protests: Chileans Are Angry About Far More Than Rising Metro Fares**  
Novara Media  
22 Oct 2019

**The Chilean Spring (Part Two): It's Thirty Years, not Thirty Pesos**  
Alborada  
24 Oct 2019

**Protesters in Chile Aren't Angry About 30 Pesos. They're Angry About 30 Years of Neoliberalism**  
Novara Media  
25 Oct 2019

**Protesters in Chile Aren't Angry About 30 Pesos. They're Angry About 30 Years of Neoliberalism**

By **Barbara Fernández Melleda**

After weeks of protests to support the 1978-1980 Chilean Olympic bid, it's time to ask: how did the country get here? The answer is not the 1980s, as many would have you believe. It's the 1970s, when the military overthrew the socialist government of Salvador Allende and installed General Pinochet. It was then that the country was opened up to neoliberalism, a policy that has led to the current crisis.

**The Chilean Spring (Part Three): How the Elite Tricked Us All**  
Alborada  
3 Nov 2019



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**The Chilean Spring (Part Three): How the Elite Tricked Us All**

The last in our three-part series demonstrates the scale of corporate corruption that has driven public opposition to an economic model designed to benefit the country's elite at everybody else's expense.

by **Barbara Fernández Melleda**

3 November 2019

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## China Studies

Dr. Ji Li

**Report on new book manuscript (Catholics in China: A Survival Story)**  
HKU Bulletin Vol. 21  
November 2019



## European Studies

Dr. Stefan AUER

**Hong Kong, el nuevo espejo del independentismo (Comparisons between Catalan fight for independence and the situation in Hong Kong)**  
El País  
14 Sept 2019

**Boris Johnson has defied all his critics on Brexit**  
CNBC  
18 Oct 2019



**Conservative manifesto gives UK's Johnson a strong position**  
CNBC  
25 Nov 2019

**Letter: So much for good governance after 1989**  
Financial Times  
4 Dec 2019



**Boris Johnson has done fairly well in the election campaign**  
CNBC  
11 Dec 2019



**Boris Johnson has done fairly well in the election campaign: Academic**

Stefan Auer, Associate Professor in European Studies, Jean Monnet Chair, The University of Hong Kong

# Cultural and Other Events

## American Studies

17 Oct 2019 (Thu)

### Award Presentation 2019



## Swedish

25 Oct 2019 (Fri)

### The 100-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out of the Window and Disappeared (Hundraåringen Som Klev Ut Genom Fönstret Och Försvann)

Film Screening



## European Studies

05-06 Nov 2019 (Tue-Wed)

### Zen in Ice Rift

Screening and panel discussion

with **Dr. Li CHONG** and **Dr. Mercedes VÁZQUEZ**

Co-sponsored by the **Committee on Gender Equality and Diversity** of the Faculty of Arts at HKU and the **Italian Cultural Institute in Hong Kong**



## French

02 Dec 2019 (Mon)

### Award Ceremony 2019

The ceremony was held at the Residence de France.

## Japanese Studies

10 Dec 2019 (Tue)

### New MOU with UTokyo and JAL to Enhance Collaborative Opportunities

SMLC's Japanese Studies Department has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Global Japan Studies Research Network in the Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia at **the University of Tokyo and Japan Airlines Co., Ltd. (JAL)**, with the aim of enhancing collaborative opportunities for both staff and students. The MOU, which was signed in Tokyo on 10 Dec 2019, formalizes existing cooperative ties between the three parties, particularly in the area of the two institutions' joint summer programs.

JAL is a long-time supporter of the HKU-UTokyo Joint Summer Program. The program was first launched in August 2013 and provides opportunities for students from both institutions to engage with business and academic leaders, and gain greater insight into the social, cultural and commercial ties that connect Japan and Hong Kong. The MOU will enable further cooperative activities between JAL and the two universities, including visits and exchanges of faculty and students, joint research initiatives, and the identification of other areas for potential collaboration.

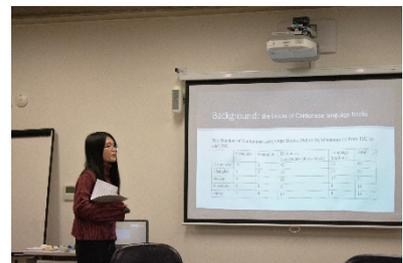
# Students Achievements

## China Studies

Shoujie Dongbeiya Shehui Wenhua Luntan 首届东北亚社会文化论坛 [The First Northeast Asia Social and Cultural Forum] was held in Harbin, China in December 2019. **CHANG Kin-lan**, first year PhD student in China Studies, presented a paper titled “Cong Duanfang Zhi Shi Kan Xinhai Geming De Man Han Guanxi 從端方之死看辛亥革命的滿漢關係 [Looking at the Manchu-Han relation during 1911 Revolution through the death of Duanfang]”. This forum was followed by a field trip to a Manchu village in Yingchengzi Manzu Xiang 營城子滿族鄉 in Wuchang city 五常市 in Heilongjiang province.



PhD student **CHEN Sixing** has finished Archival Research in SOAS Library and Cambridge Library funded by Pilot Scheme in Fall 2019. She also presented her research in The Oxford International History of East Asia Seminar Autumn 2019 Session.



PhD student **Ignatius SUGLO** participated in the Africa-China Mini-Symposium, organized by Chi Sun College, HKU, in November 2019 (Poster attached). His paper "'The Sound of Friendship": The Role of Music in Cultural Understanding in Africa-China relations" was accepted by AAS to be held in Boston in March 2020.

**Mini-Symposium: China in Africa, Africa in China**  
Public event, open to all Chi Sun and JCSVIII residents & guests!  
Wednesday (Nov 6) | 7:30PM - 9:15PM  
3/F Library, Chi Sun College

**Panelists:**

**Roland Vogt (Germany)**  
Assistant Professor of European Studies at HKU. His research is on political leadership and European foreign and security policy. His current research lies in energy diplomacy and the financing of terrorism, and has appeared in international Affairs and other prestigious venues.

**Ignatius Suglo (Ghana)**  
Ghanaian PhD student at HKU. He holds a Masters in Chinese Linguistics from Beijing Language and Culture University and won the 2nd prize in the Zhejiang provincial Chinese language proficiency competition. His research interests include China-Africa relations with a focus on people-to-people exchanges and the role of media.

**Justin Haruyama (USA)** Doctoral candidate in cultural anthropology at UC Davis. His research examines the controversial presence of Chinese migrants in Africa today, with a focus on encounters between Chinese and Africans in religious congregations and in a Chinese-operated coal mine in Zambia.

**Moderator:**

**Kofi Yakpo**  
Resident Fellow, Chi Sun College, Associate Professor, Linguistics, HKU. Teaches the Common Core Course "Globalization: African Experiences" at Chi Sun College.

**Keynote Speaker**

**Roberto Castillo (Mexico)**  
Assistant Professor in cultural studies at Lingnan University, HK. Has been living, working and researching in the Asian region since 2006 besides cultural studies, his training is in journalism, international relations, political science and history. In 2009, when working as an editor for Xinhua News Agency in Beijing, he developed an interest in the presence of foreigners in China and their transnational connections. Since 2010, he has been carrying out cultural research on Africans in Guangdong. He also administers a website dedicated to the wider field of Africans in China at [www.africanarchina.net](http://www.africanarchina.net)

**Chengyi ZHOU** (PhD, China Studies) gave a presentation on "A Study of the Standardization of Manchu-Han Transcription Based on the Three Versions of the Old Manchu Archives" at the "Manchu Language and Qing History Research Workshop" sponsored by the Sun Yat-sen University in Zhuhai, Guangdong from 02 to 04 Nov 2019.

# Staff News

## New Staff

### Dr. Jin JEONG

Assistant Lecturer  
(Korean Studies)

### Dr. Maggie LEUNG

Lecturer  
(Hong Kong Studies)

### Ms Lavender LUI

Executive Assistant  
(General Office)

### Dr. Amir MALIKOV

Assistant Lecturer  
(European Studies (Russian))

### Dr. Francisco ROMO SIMON

Assistant Lecturer  
(Spanish Programme)

### Mr. Kin WONG

Assistant IT Officer  
(Technical Office)

## Departing Staff

### Ms. Ada WONG

Laboratory Assistant  
(Technical Office)

## Staff Achievements

### Dr. Loretta KIM (China Studies)

Dr. Loretta KIM gave the opening presentation, "Daur Names and Daur Identities: Testing Boundaries of Social and Cultural Perceptions," at the International Workshop on Peoples and Languages of Sino-Russian Borderlands: Dauria held at Palacky University (Olomouc, Czech Republic) on 09 Oct 2019 (Wed), and was the solo speaker for an exclusive session on "Food as a Medium of Cross-Cultural Contact and Ethno-Local Identity in the Benxi-Huanren-Xinbin Region," at the 2nd International Conference for Reconciliation and Coexistence in Contact Zones at Chung-Ang University (Seoul, South Korea), on 08 Nov 2019 (Fri).

## Staff taking up new positions

### Dr. Nadia CAMPORESE

Lecturer  
(Italian Programme)

### Ms. Eunkyung CHANG

Lecturer  
(Korean Studies)

### Mr. Martin JUARISTI GARAMENDI

Lecturer  
(Spanish Programme)

### Miss Yukiko SASAKI

Assistant Lecturer  
(Japanese Studies)

### Dr. Roland VOGT

Associate Professor  
(European Studies)

### Dr. John WONG

Associate Professor  
(Hong Kong Studies)

## CONTACT

For more details on all of the above events, please visit <https://smlc.hku.hk/news/>

If there is any information you would like to see featured in future issues of the e-newsletter or if you have any comments or suggestions related to the current issue, please don't hesitate to contact the Outreach and Development committee

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