

Organized by the Department of History
The University of Hong Kong

4-5 May 2023

12th SPRING HISTORY SYMPOSIUM



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History Endowment Fund



Faculty of Arts
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**HISTORY
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Schedule of Events

DAY 1 - 4 MAY 2023

- 9:00-9:15 – Opening Remarks by Dr. Oscar Sanchez-Sibony
- 9:15-10:30 – Panel 1A. Health: Body and Mind
- 10:30-11:45 – Panel 1B. British Empire in Asia
- 11:45-13:00 – Panel 1C. Modern China
- 13:00-14:00 – Break for Lunch
- 14:00-15:15 – Panel 1D. Religion, Belief, and Communal Identity
- 15:15-16:30 – Panel 1E. Second World War
- 16:30-17:45 – Panel 1F. Economy and the Environment

DAY 2 - 5 MAY 2023

- 9:00-10:15 – Panel 2A. Cold War
- 10:15-11:15 – Panel 2B. Culture and Entertainment
- 11:15-12:30 – Panel 2C. Childhood and Youth
- 12:30-13:30 – Break for Lunch
- 13:30-14:45 – Panel 2D. Gender
- 14:45-16:00 – Panel 2E. On the Verge: Multitudes of the Social in South Asia
- 16:00-17:15 – Keynote Lecture by Dr. Chi Man Kwong
- 17:15-17:30 – Closing Remarks by Dr. Alastair McClure

Panel 1A. Health: Body and Mind Moderator: Nicole VAUGHAN

Kelvin CHAN – Vanquishing the Dragon: Rehabilitation and Methadone Maintenance in Hong Kong's Anti-Narcotics War, 1959-1980s

-

Chayyim HOLTKAMP – Resistance in a Mental Institution: The South Carolina Lunatic Asylum as a Site of Patient Agency

-

WANG Tianwei – Negotiation for the Hong Kong Plague Patients' Returning to Canton in 1894

-

Nicole VAUGHAN – 'Intolerable Nuisance': Nerves, Noisy Trades, and the Production of Space in Hong Kong, 1900-1910

Panel 1B. British Empire in Asia Moderator: Jodie CHENG

Quinton HUANG – The Hong Kong Handover from Below: Anticipatory Trauma, States of Exception and Moral Economies During the 'Special' Clearance of Kowloon Walled City (1987-1994)

-

LAU Kin-yu (Samuel) – Surveying new territories: the Survey of India and its works in Hongkong in 1899-1904

-

Doris Y.S. CHAN – Labour Shortage and Immigration Control in Post-WWII Malaya and Singapore, 1946-1948

-

CHAN Pui-To – The Crown Prince in Hong Kong: A Study to the Royal Visit to Hong Kong of Edward, The Prince of Wales in 1922

Panel 1C. Modern China Chair: Adonis LI

Zhenxin CHEN – The May Fourth New Intellectuals and the Public Sphere in Modern China, Xinchao as a case

-

JIN Chen – Negotiating “Ren Qing Wei”: Sheng Qinxian and her screenwriting practice in Occupied Shanghai

-

ZHOU Wenyu – Offshore Nationalism: Peicai School and Wartime Education in the Leased Territory of Guangzhouwan

-

Ho-chiu LEUNG – China’s Scramble for Rubber: From Environmental Constraints to International Purchases

Panel 1D. Religion, Belief, and Communal Identity Chair: Nicole VAUGHAN

Duanran FENG – Christianity and Materialism in Y. T. Wu’s No Man Hath Seen God (1948)

-

Dmitry GOTS – Identity construction in Venetian historical texts of the late XV and XVI centuries (the case of the Troy myth)

-

Francesca IORIO – Mission as a journey. The French Jesuits’ 1698 trip to China between travel literature and cultural exchange.

-

Argene ÁGUILA CLASARA – Glimpsing the Dominican missionary enterprise in China through the life of Mons. Gregorio Lopez, O.P. 罗文熠 (1617-1690): a Chinese Catholic convert turned-bishop

Panel 1E. Second World War Chair: Pavel KREJČÍ

Tsz Ho WONG – The Wartime Japanese Empire's Capital and Power Elites Networks of the Non-Ferrous Metals Industry

-

Cherry HITKARI – Of Victors and Vanquished: Revisiting the International Military Tribunal for the Far East Trial

-

Angie Ching Yi KWAN – A Gambit of Global Nuclear Diplomacy before the Eve of Decolonisation: Anglo-American Clandestine Defense Purchases, 1944-5

-

Pavel KREJČÍ – From Shoemakers to Brothers in Arms. Czechoslovak Soldiers in the Battle of Hong Kong (1941)

Panel 1F. Economy and the Environment Chair: Adonis LI

GAO Yunxiang 高云翔 – Surviving among empires: the public finance of Portuguese Macau, 1799-1811

-

Yu-Chien JEN – The Eruption of Mount Tambora and The Agricultural Production in Taiwan and China from 1815 to 1817: Perspectives from Adaptation and Long-Term Measures

-

Junyu LIANG – Moving and Crossing: Smugglers in Canton, Hong Kong and Macao 1945-1949

-

Marco CHEUNG Man Sing – Liminal markets and Hong Kong's Post-war economic recovery, 1945-1949

Panel 2A. Cold War Chair: Pavel KREJČÍ

Ladislav ZEMÁNEK – A Wasted Opportunity? The Soviet Leadership & Chinese Reforms, 1978–1991

-

Ka Shing SO – Shadow Economy: Underground Economic Circulation of Hong Kong During Korean War

-

Luke THRUMBLE – ‘Ignorantly Arrogant Souls’: Looking Back at US/UN Control over North Korea in the Autumn of 1950

-

Corrine FU – The Cold War and the Making of Hong Kong identity, 1959-1997

Panel 2B. Culture and Entertainment Chair: Jodie CHENG

David CHU – Song-and-Dance Epics in Flux: From The East Is Red to Song of the Chinese Revolution

-

Tommy C. K. TONG – Brief Histories of Stand-up Comedy OF Hong Kong (Dung6 Duk1 Siu3) and Stand-up Comedy IN Hong Kong: The Localized and the Localizing

-

WONG Kang Shing, James – The Denied Races? Horse Racing in Shanghai, Singapore, and Hong Kong

Panel 2C. Childhood and Youth Chair: Tracy Hoi Ching LEUNG

Palak VASHIST – Historicizing Age: A study of Bombay Textile Mills in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century

-

Yixue YANG – Revolutionary Vision: Myopia, Socialist Youth and Public Health Campaigns in China (1960-1976)

-

FU Yu – Scout Uniform's Power in Republican China

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Tracy Hoi Ching LEUNG – Guiding youth in the colony: Girl Guiding and youth concerns in post-war Hong Kong, 1946-1978

Panel 2D. Gender Chair: Tracy Hoi Ching LEUNG

Iris Boyun LEI – Bounded Women: A Transnational Study of Chinese Woman Trafficking Across the Pacific

-

Aydin QUACH – Touching Intimacy: Feeling Masculinities and Intimate Labour in Colonial Singapore

-

Meilong LIU and Jackie Xiu YAN – The Transgressive Power of Women's Clothing in Jin Ping Mei: Unorthodox Beauties in Classical Chinese Literature and Translation

-

JIANG Mengjie – Diagnosis and Treatment of Dysmenorrhea in Modern China

Panel 2E. On the Verge: Multitudes of
the Social in South Asia
Chair: Ashesh Kumar DHAR

Sagnik SAHA – Carved in Stone: Bhārhut Relics and Rakhaladas
Banerji's Idea of Social

-

Aisarya Dutt ROY – Voices beyond Victimhood: Fragments of
Queer Social in Modern India

-

Ashesh Kumar DHAR – Law and Duress in a South Asian
Borderland

-

Vaibhav RAMANI – Wild and Wilder: Social imaginings of Nature in
the late nineteenth and twentieth century Nilgiris

Keynote Lecture

Dr. Chi Man KWONG

Uncovering and Curating the Second World War Heritage in Hong Kong using Geospatial Technologies: Experiences and Lessons

Hong Kong witnessed intense fighting, brutal occupation, and aerial bombing from 1941 to 1945 during the Second World War. While this part of history is not unknown, and the war-related relics have received more official and public attention in the past decade, the commemoration of the war privileged frontline actions of the experiences of certain groups, thereby missing the diversity of wartime experiences. This article assesses the use of digital humanities methods, including spatial history and geospatial technologies, to uncover, interpret, and curate military heritage sites related to the history of Hong Kong during the Second World War. Based on the research team's experience in creating interactive digital platforms based on the combination of archival research, fieldwork, and geospatial technologies, this article argues that such platforms are useful in uncovering the often-overlooked aspects of the war and the people's experience that can lead to deeper understandings of the war's impact on Hong Kong and its people and a more inclusive way to approach the wartime experience and the related heritages. Such an approach also helps expand the understanding of the Second World War as a "total war experience" in Hong Kong and other parts of Asia.

Keynote Speaker

Dr. Chi Man KWONG

Dr Chi Man KWONG was born and raised in Hong Kong and had completed his doctorate degree in Cambridge, United Kingdom. His interest lies in military history in East Asia.

He is the author of a number of books, including *Hongkongers in the British Armed Forces, 1860-1997* (2022, OUP), *War and Geopolitics in Interwar Manchuria* (2017, Brill), and *Eastern Fortress: A Military History of Hong Kong, 1840-1970* (2015, HKUP, co-authored). His works can also be found in *Modern Asian Studies*, *Journal of Military History*, *Journal of Chinese Military History*, and *War and Society*. His recent projects include an interactive map about the Battle of Hong Kong in 1941, which can be found here:

<https://digital.lib.hkbu.edu.hk/1941hkbattle/en/index.php>

Discussant: Dr. Javier Cha

Dr. Javier Cha is a medievalist, digital historian, and technologist. His expertise includes Korean Neo-Confucianism, medieval literary criticism, patronage, and data-assisted historical methods. As the director of the Big Data Studies Lab, he examines data centres and the global telecommunications infrastructure in a manner comparable to how a book historian investigates medieval manuscripts and libraries. Dr. Cha has been active in the digital humanities community since 2008. He serves on the editorial boards of the *International Journal of Humanities and Arts Computing* and *Cursor Mundi*, as well as the international nominations committee for Digital Humanities Awards.

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