

Call for Papers

**Institute for World Literatures and Cultures (IWLC)
The Seventh International Forum Series “World Maps and World Cultures”**

**Chinese Cultures, Translation and Contemporaneity:
Literature – Cinema - Performance - Visual Arts**

A Three-day Online Forum

co-organized by
The Institute for World Literatures and Cultures,
Tsinghua University, Beijing
and
The Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture, School of Art and Design
University of New South Wales, Sydney



UNSW
SYDNEY

May 20-22, 2022

Forum Convenors:

**Prof. Paul GLADSTON (University of New South Wales, Sydney)
and Prof. JIN Haina (Communication University of China)**

Keynote speaker: Prof. YAN Haiping (Tsinghua University)

This three-day online forum will bring together leading and emerging scholars from across the humanities to explore ways in which literature, cinema, performance and the visual arts in contemporary China and related diasporic communities have been transformed by translations between cultural-linguistic contexts and across geographical frontiers. The forum will also reflect on the role of culture as a means of re/constructing and sustaining Chinese identities, as well as that of translation in the production of knowledge and enabling of international communications.

In recent years, the intensified interconnectivity and tilting of economic and soft power toward the east and south brought about by globalization has resulted in what has been described as an emerging world-wide condition of contemporaneity involving a heightened contestation of sociopolitical and cultural viewpoints overwriting but not entirely eclipsing the previous dominance of Western(ized) post-Enlightenment discourses. Included in which is a growing attentiveness on the world-stage toward

discourses, practices and materials associated with traditional and contemporary Chinese cultures. The conditionality of contemporaneity highlights significant challenges to the possibility not only of direct translations between cultures but also, consequently, a global convergence on shared cultural values.

The present forum aims to intervene in those challenges, and what can be seen as an attendant crisis of representation in the humanities, by opening a space for critical encounters between differing cultural and disciplinary perspectives. Rather than aiming for a rationalizing synthesis or deconstructive hybridization of viewpoints once envisaged by Western(ized) modernist and postmodernist discourses, including in relation to ideas of cosmopolitanism and multi-culturalism, the forum will assess the positive and negative implications of an increasingly interactive but nevertheless irreducibly pluralistic - poly/cacophonic - study of cultural discourses and practices and their significances as part of contemporaneity. In doing so, it will seek to contribute critically to decolonizing discourses that aspire toward a just intersection/reciprocity of differing sociopolitical, economic and cultural outlooks.

Possible topics for papers include, but are not limited to:

- translation and transformations of culture and society
- culture and translation in the context of contemporaneity
- translation as a means of cultural and social criticism
- cultural translation and difference
- translation, transculturalism and modernity
- cosmopolitanism, multi-culturalism and translation
- cultural production, translation and de-colonization
- the impact of translation on international communication through the arts

Proposals for papers to be presented at the forum should be in Word document format, Times New Roman 12pt. double spaced, and include:

- a title and, if appropriate, a subtitle,
- the name, institutional affiliation and contact information of the speaker and any other contributing authors,
- an abstract outlining the content of the paper of no more than 300 words, and
- a short biography of the speaker and any other contributing authors

The deadline for proposals is Tuesday 4 January 2022

Proposals should be sent by e-mail to:

Prof. Paul Gladston

p.gladston@unsw.edu.au

and

Prof. Jin Haina

jinhaina@cuc.edu.cn

The final decision on papers to be given at the forum will be made by the organizers and communicated to authors no later than 31 January 2021.