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Studies Society Inc

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1. Report from the NZASIA President

Dear all,

I hope that those of you who attended the 20th biennial NZASIA conference, successfully held by the University of Auckland, are now safely back home or happily onward to a further destination wherever that might be. Our thanks as a society go to Conference Convenors Professor Paul Clark and Dr Hilary Chung for organizing the event together with their team of able helpers. The conference was blessed with three excellent keynote speakers in Professors David Howell (Harvard), Amita Baviskar (Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi) and Geremie Barmé (ANU), as well as a wealth of interesting talks by conference participants. The 2015 conference will be held at the University of Canterbury, although the date has yet to be determined.

One concern that arose from this event was a drop in attendance, relative to past years, by postgraduate students, which appears to be linked to funding. It is an unfortunate but undeniable fact that New Zealand universities are currently operating in more constrained financial environments and this situation is likely to continue for some time. The absence of postgraduate support from the Asia:NZ Foundation that had been present for many years previously also seemed to contribute to the drop in numbers. The Society hopes to lobby in creative ways to cooperate with Asia:NZ to foster our younger generation of scholars, whose contribution is essential to ensure that our community remains vital. In the meantime, please do encourage postgraduates and colleagues who you feel should be part of our networks to join the Society and to take part in our biennial conferences. We hope to see a very strong turnout in 2015 to show our support for the University of Canterbury and for Christchurch itself.

One decision made at the Society's General Meeting is that the Newsletter will go back to an annual publication schedule instead of biannually, as it has been these last two years. As always, of course, the current issue of the Newsletter has a number of engaging items and reports from our universities about the activity of NZASIA members. Please feel free to distribute the newsletter widely to those who may be interested.

In closing, my thanks go to the other members of the Executive Committee for their work over the course of the year, with a special nod to Dr Rosemary Haddon of Massey University for putting together this issue of the Newsletter.

With best wishes to everyone for the summer and into 2014,

Stephen Epstein
Victoria University of Wellington
President, NZASIA
28 November 2013

2. Regional Updates

2.1 Massey University

The 2013 new New Zealand Forum

On 16 October Massey University, in partnership with Westpac, presented a forum on China. The panel of experts included Dr. Martin Jacques, the author of *When China Rules the World: the End of the Western World and the Birth of a New Global Order*. Distinguished Professor Paul Spoonley (Pro. V.C. College of Humanities and Social Sciences) presented a talk titled “The demographics tell the story - the rapid growth of Asian influence within New Zealand, especially ‘Aucklasia. Will our biggest city’s most dominant culture be well served?” The following website contains more information about the forum programme.

<http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/about-massey/events/new-nz-forum/the-new-new-zealand-forum.cfm>

Visitors

The School of People, Environment and Planning hosted two visitors who gave talks on India. The talks were presented by the New Zealand India Research Institute (NZIRI).

- “Good to Eat, Good to Think: India’s Changing Food Cultures,” presented by Associate Professor Amita Baviskar. Monday 25 November, 1:30 pm, Geography Building, Room 2.03, Turitea Campus.
- A Dialogue Between Professor Felix Padel and Associate Professor Amita Baviskar entitled “Activism vs. Academia in India.” 25 November 2013, 6:30 pm, Palmerston North City Library, Sound and Vision Zone.
- “Genocide and Ecocide in the heart of modern India,” presented by Professor Felix Padel. 26 November, 12pm, Geography Building, Room 2.03, Turitea Campus

Staff Activities and Publications

Dr. Robyn Andrews (Social Anthropology) reported that she went to Kolkata in July to meet with other Anglo-Indian scholars and the University of Calcutta VC’s representative and chief librarian to discuss the possibility of setting up a Centre for Anglo-Indian Studies at the University of Calcutta, Kolkata.

In late June Robyn was notified that she was successful in obtaining a grant of \$30,000 from the New Zealand Research Institute (NZIR) (through Education NZ) to carry out collaborative research with Indian-resident academics on a project titled ‘Ethnographic Profiling of Anglo-Indians in small towns of India.’ The research will be carried out between July 2013 and December 2014.

Dr. Rosemary Haddon (Chinese) reported that earlier in the year the CUAP Proposal for a Minor in Asian Studies was circulated among New Zealand’s universities. The resolution concerning the Round Two CUAP proposals will become final after the Vice-Chancellors’ meeting on 5 December 2013. The announcement regarding the BA (AsianStudiesMinor) will be made at that point.

This year Rosemary engaged in a programme self-review with the aim of updating the Chinese papers, diversifying the offerings and growing enrolments. The two Chinese Heritage papers will be launched in internal mode at the Albany campus beginning in semester one and two 2014.

The Chinese Film Festival 2013 took place in Palmerston North 12-23 September in the Sound and Vision Zone, Palmerston North City Library. It was screened a second time 30 September - 4 October in the Sir Neil Waters Building and the Study Centre Auditorium, Albany campus (Auckland). The attendance was about sixty viewers each night. Rosemary is grateful for the support of the Confucius Institute, Victoria University of Wellington, for providing the five Chinese-language films that were screened in the festival.

Rosemary's research activities include the following:

"Li Ang." In *Dictionary of Literary Biography* Volume 370: *Chinese Fiction Writers, 1950-2000*. A Bruccoli Clark Layman Book. Detroit, New York, San Francisco: Gale Cengage Learning (2013): 134-140.

Tiananmen Fictions Outside the Square: The Chinese Literary Diaspora and the Politics of Global Culture, by Belinda Kong. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2012. *The China Journal*, no. 70 (2013): 264-265.

"Transitions and Transformations: Spatial constructions in China's post-1989s fiction (re-titled "Geographies of space and place: China's literary inventions in the era of "post-"). New Zealand Asian Studies Society International Conference 2013, 22-24 November, University of Auckland.

Dr. Penny Shino (Japanese) reported on activities related to the teaching of Japanese at the tertiary level. The activities include the following:

Japanese programmes at NZ tertiary institutions are pleased to announce the establishment of Japanese Studies Aotearoa New Zealand (JSANZ). The nationwide organisation to promote and advocate for Japanese language and Japanese studies in NZ was established at its inaugural meeting at the University of Auckland on June 28 this year. JSANZ is co-chaired by Dallas Nesbitt (AUT) and Penny Shino (Massey University) with an executive committee comprising Harumi Minagawa (University of Auckland), Fumiko Nishimura (University of Waikato), T. Taniwaki (International Pacific College, Palmerston North), Edwina Palmer (VUW), M. Ogino (University of Canterbury), Yoshi Holmes (CPIT), J. Hayashita (University of Otago), Jo Barber (NZJALT President), Naomi Collins (Sasakawa Fellowship Fund), the National Language Advisor, currently Akiko Harada (Japan Foundation) and Adele Scott (coordinator). Membership of JSANZ is automatic to all staff teaching and researching Japanese language and Japanese studies in NZ at tertiary level. Please contact Penny Shino (p.a.shino@massey.ac.nz) if you wish to have your name added to our email list.

Japanese Language Education in New Zealand: An evaluative literature review of the decline in students since 2005. Penny draws attention to the online publication of this report commissioned by the Sasakawa Fellowship Fund for Japanese Language Education and published at www.sasakawa.co.nz in August 2013. The report is the outcome of a joint project by Massey University and International Pacific College. *Japanese Language Education in New Zealand* analyses the current decline in students studying Japanese at school and university on the basis of existing literature, suggesting reasons and possible ways forward.

Penny presented a paper entitled 'A Contested Aesthetic Space: Claims on the

Interpretation of *Yūgen*’ at the New Zealand Asian Studies Society International Conference 2013, 22-24 November, University of Auckland.

Rosemary Haddon

2.2 University of Auckland

Marsden Success for Professor Paul Clark

Professor Clark was successful in the 2013 Royal Society of New Zealand Marsden Fund round, with a three-year \$365,217 award for “Recreating Beijing: Public space, private pursuits and popular agency since 1949.” This is Paul’s second Marsden award. His first (2006-2008) produced his *Youth Culture in China: From Red Guards to Netizens* (Cambridge UP, 2012). Paul Clark was also one of two keynote speakers at an international conference on “Chinese-language Cinema: Text, Context and History” held at Hong Kong Baptist University in June 2013. In October he was invited to an international conference on Socialist Culture in China Reconsidered at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. In December he will present a paper at a conference on Chinese Cultural Revolution “educated youth” at Fudan University, Shanghai.

Fellowship Award for Dr Lawrence Marceau

Dr Lawrence Marceau has received a Sir George Grey Special Collections Scholarship, Research in Residence, from the Auckland Library Heritage Trust. He is currently identifying and researching a collection of some four dozen titles, consisting of woodblock-printed Japanese illustrated books published ca. 1880. He is also working with Mathew Norman, Curator, Auckland Art Gallery / Toi o Tāmaki, assisting in the preparation of an exhibition of the Art Gallery’s collection of Japanese prints and drawings, to be held in April 2014.

Staffing Matters

Professor of Chinese, Manying Ip has announced her retirement at the end of 2013. Manying began her lecturer position in the Department of Asian Languages and Literatures in 1984, though she had taught earlier as a tutor while completing her PhD degree in the History Department on the Commercial Press in early twentieth-century China under Richard Phillip’s supervision. As she rose through the ranks, Manying carved out a distinguished international reputation as a researcher on the Chinese diaspora in New Zealand. Her oral histories of Chinese-New Zealander families brought this history into the mainstream. In addition, as a new wave of Chinese and other immigrants from Asia rose in the late 1980s, Manying became active in public commentary on changes in New Zealand society. In 2003 she was awarded a Marsden Fund grant for research on Maori-Chinese historical interactions which produced two acclaimed volumes. Manying was awarded an OMNZ for her scholarly and other contributions to Chinese in New Zealand. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand and of the New Zealand Academy of the Humanities. At Auckland, Manying has been active in research mentoring, equity issues for staff and students, and a fine colleague. We wish her well in her retirement.

New Appointments

Supported by the School of Asian Studies’ recent successful application for a grant from the Academy of Korean Studies, a new postdoctoral position in Korean Language Studies/Linguistics has been advertised, with the successful applicant due to take up the position in February 2014.

A fixed-term early career position in Chinese culture has also been advertised and is currently in process. Again, it is hoped that the successful candidate will be in position at the beginning of the 2014 academic year.

Seminar Series

The School of Asian Studies has enjoyed a lively seminar series this year. Seminars presented in the second semester included:

Professor Kyuhan Bae, Sociology, Kookmin University, Seoul, Korea: "Searching for a New Paradigm of Social Institutions in Information Society: Focusing on Education Institution of Korea."

Dr Lawrence Marceau: "Rethinking Aesthetic Dissent: *Bunjin* Writers and Poets in 18th-Century Japan."

Dr Inshil Yoon: "Changing perceptions of *p'ungsu* (*fengshui*) from the mid-18th-Century to early 20th-Century Korea."

Dr Chris Wilson: "Path Dependent Processes and Violent Conflict in Democratic Indonesia."

Dr Ellen Nakamura: "Knowing too much in late Tokugawa Japan: the case of Mise Shūzō (1839-1877)."

Dr Changzoo Song: "Building a De-territorialised Nation: South Korea's Response to the Challenges of Transnationalism."

Dr Harumi Minagawa: "Linguistic analysis of vulnerable emotions: a case of agony aunt letters in Japanese."

Dr Rumi Sakamoto: "Kobayashi Yoshinori's post 3.11 triple disaster comic books."

Dr Robert Sanders: "What Multi-Dimensional Scaling Can Show Us about Chinese Dialects."

Dr Hilary Chung and Dr Bernadette Luciano: "The dis/located migrant as an agent for transposition: two films compared - *Un cuento chino* [Chinese Take-away] (2011) directed by Sebastián Borensztein (Argentina) and *Io sono Li* [Shun Li and the poet] (2011) directed by Andrea Segre (Italy)."

Developments in Korean Studies

As a result of the successful application for a grant from the Academy of Korean Studies, course offerings in Korean will be expanded in 2014. They include a new course in Modern Korean history at Auckland taught by Professor Ken Wells and the re-launching of a Korean language course for 1.5 generation Korean students.

Visitors

In early September, Reiko Kondo hosted a visit by two researchers from the National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics, Tokyo, Japan. Reiko is a participating member of a research project team lead by Professor Sakoda of the Institute. The purpose of the Japanese government funded project is to collect samples of both spoken and written Japanese from learners in order to construct a learners' corpus of Japanese as a foreign language. The corpus is a database that has a wide collection of real examples of language use. The learners' corpus will contribute to the development of research on teaching Japanese as a foreign language, linguistics, Japanese language study and second language acquisition worldwide by providing the basic data necessary for researchers. Students' Japanese language samples have been and will be collected from over 20 tertiary institutions in 17 countries including New

Zealand, where the sample collecting took place in early September at the School of Asian Studies, facilitated by Reiko.

Conferences

Many NZ ASIA colleagues travelled to Auckland for the Twentieth Biennial Conference of the Society on 22-24 November. We enjoyed welcoming everyone to the conference, and were happy to host such a stimulating and memorable meeting.

The School of Asian Studies Tenth Annual Graduate Conference was held on Wednesday, 30 October 2013. A total of twenty-four graduate students presented papers, several of whom came from other universities in New Zealand. Students appreciated the opportunity to obtain feedback and everyone enjoyed the networking and lively conference atmosphere.

News from the Japan Studies Centre, New Zealand Asia Institute, University of Auckland

The New Zealand Asia Institute/Japan Studies Centre hosted an international conference at the University of Auckland (3-14 September 2013) on "Japanese Responses to Social Crisis and Disaster, 1995 and 2011." This event was a part of the larger "Re-engaging Japan" project funded by the Japan Foundation. In cooperation with Sophia University's Institute of Comparative Culture in Tokyo, this conference brought together a multidisciplinary and international team of scholars from Japan, Europe, Australia, and New Zealand to examine the diverse responses to these two critical crisis moments in post-war history, and included presentations on the responses of the national and local governments, political leaders, citizen activists, religious organizations, literary figures and public intellectuals. The papers are now being revised for publication.

The Japan Studies Centre will welcome two new researchers in January 2014 to collaborate on two new projects. Dr Emily Anderson will join the Centre as a post-doctoral research fellow for a one-year appointment, a position generously supported by the Japan Foundation. Dr Anderson completed her PhD in history at UCLA (2010) and will be on leave from her position as assistant professor at Washington State University. During her time at the Centre, she will be completing her monograph on *Christianity and Imperialism in Modern Japan: Empire for God* (Under contract, Bloomsbury Publishing Group, SOAS Studies in Modern and Contemporary Japan) and contributing to a joint project of the Japan Studies Centre/Korean Studies Centre that will address the issue of Nationalism in Korean and Japanese Religions in Colonial and Post-Colonial Contexts.

Dr Jinhee Hong of Kyonggi University, Republic of Korea, will join the Centre as a Visiting Research Fellow and be involved in a new project entitled, "Worlds Collapsing: Disasters and Literary Media in Japan," led by Dr Lawrence Marceau, Senior Lecturer in Japanese, School of Asian Studies. Dr Hong will continue her research on the writings of 1994 Nobel Prize in Literature laureate Oe Kenzaburo and plans to examine Oe's recent writings to determine, among other things, how the latest events in Fukushima have influenced his thought and activism. Dr Marceau is engaged in a study of disasters that occurred during the early modern (Edo/Tokugawa, c.1580-1880) period, and how writers, artists, and publishers portrayed these events. In an era that lacked electronic communication, but did possess technologies of printing and publishing, disasters were widely reported and influenced both elites and masses through their

portrayals. There are tentative plans to organise a symposium in September 2014 to bring scholars and advanced graduate students together to share ideas and research results related to Japan's disasters and their depiction in literary media, including memoirs, essays, and graphic media, such as *manga*. Please contact the Centre if you are interested in additional information on these projects.

News from the Korea Studies Centre, New Zealand Asia Institute, University of Auckland

The Korea Studies Centre (KSC) of the New Zealand Asia Institute has launched a revamped seminar series. With support from the Academy of Korean Studies grant, the series will bring several eminent international speakers to Auckland to give lectures and run workshops with staff and students in Korean Studies. The inaugural speaker was Professor Ken Wells (retired from the ANU), who gave a seminar on October 24 about the educational activities of Korean Christians in the two decades of the 1920s and 1930s.

News from the Confucius Institute

The Confucius Institute (CI) in Auckland has had another fruitful year in 2013. Supported by the Ministries of Education of New Zealand and China, there are 28 teaching assistants from the University of Auckland's Chinese partner universities working in 81 local schools, contributing greatly to the increasing number of New Zealand students learning Chinese. We continue to offer professional development workshops and networking events to teachers and principals to foster the development of Chinese programs in local schools. For tertiary students, the CI in Auckland offered 20 China scholarships to support young New Zealanders study the Chinese language in China from periods ranging from 6 months to 2 years.

The newly initiated China Study Plan project has the potential to attract more scholars to become better connected with China. This year the CI sponsored Prof Zhong from Fudan University to be the keynote speaker at the New Zealand BioTech Conference in Auckland. The joint inaugural Oceania China Forum between the University of Auckland and Fudan took place on Friday 15 November. Academic speakers from Fudan University, the University of Auckland, Victoria University of Wellington and the University of Sydney gave presentations on the topic of "China in Change." This is an ongoing project to promote China-related academic exchange through the CI. Another joint international conference on language teaching is being held at Fudan University next year to encourage further dialogue among interested parties and to maintain the momentum of global connections.

New Publications

- Allen, M. and Sakamoto, R. (eds) *Japanese Popular Culture, Critical Concepts in Asian Studies Series* (4 volumes), Routledge (forthcoming 15 July 2014).
- Allen, M. and Sakamoto, R. "War and Peace: War Memories and Museums in Japan", *History Compass*. (2013 forthcoming).
- Chung, H.J. and Luciano, B. 'Autonomous Navigation? Multiplicity and Self-reflexive Aesthetics in Sergio Basso's documentary film *Giallo a Milano* and web-documentary *Made in Chinatown*.' In Camille Deprez and Judith Pernin eds. *Defining Independent Documentaries? Case Studies in the Post-1990 Context*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press. (Forthcoming 2014).

- Chung, H.J., 'The autoethnographic impulse: two New Zealand Chinese playwrights.' In Kam Louie et al eds. *Diasporic Chineseness after the Rise of China*. Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, 2013. (In press).
- Chung, H.J., 'Native Alienz: Multicultural Enactments.' In Jacqueline Leckie and Gautam Ghosh eds. *Multiculturalism in Aotearoa New Zealand*. Otago University Press. (Forthcoming 2014).
- Lawrence, W.P., "Taketomi-zima-hougen-to 'keiretu-betu-go'i' (Hu: Taketomi-zima-hougen-ban 'Kitakaze-to taiyou') [Taketomi dialect accent and the "tonal classes of the proto language" : Addendum - Taketomi dialect "The north wind and the sun"]", *Ryuukyuu-no Hougen* 37.1-24. 2013.
- Ishizaki, H. and Lawrence, W.P., "Agunoeru-no sirusita Kudaka-hougen" [The Kudaka dialect recorded by Haguenaue], *Ryuukyuu-no Hougen* 37.143-161. 2013.
- Lawrence, W.P., "(Nitiryuu) hougen-kenkyuu-no omosiroa" [What is interesting about (Japanese and Ryukyuan) dialect research], *Ibunka Kenkyuu* [Journal of Cross-cultural Studies] 7.69-88. 2013.
- Lawrence, W.P., "Mama-o tazunete sanzen-ri : Hatizyou-hougen-no keitouteki iti-ni tuite" [3000 leagues in search of mama: On the genealogical position of the Hachijou dialect] *Syoumetu-kiki-hougen-no tyousa/hozon-no tame-no sougouteki kenkyuu : Hatizyou-zima-hougen Tyousa-houkoku-syo* [General study for research and conservation of endangered dialects in Japan : Research Report on Hachijo Dialect]. 71-75. Tokyo: National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics. 2013.
- Marceau, Lawrence E. "Bunjin: Literati Consciousness in Early Modern Japan". In Haruo Shirane, ed. *Cambridge History of Japanese Literature*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, forthcoming in 2014.
- Minagawa, Harumi, 'The kono... noni construction: A semantic, syntactic and pragmatic analysis' *Journal of Japanese Linguistics* 29: 1-16 (In press).
- Mullins, Mark R., "Sacred Sites and Social Conflict: Yasukuni Shrine and Religious Pluralism in Japanese Society," in Chiara Formichi, ed. *Religious Pluralism, State and Society in Asia*. Routledge, 2013.
- Mullins, Mark R. "Kagawa Toyohiko and the Japanese Christian Impact on American Society," in David Yoo and Albert Park, eds. *Encountering Modernity: Christianity and East Asia*. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press (forthcoming, 2014).
- Noakes, Stephen, "Kill Fewer, Kill Carefully: State Pragmatism, Political Legitimacy, and the Death Penalty in China," (forthcoming, *Problems of Post-Communism*).
- Noakes, Stephen, "Intellectuals and Authoritarian Resilience: The Role of Political Science in China," (forthcoming, *Political Science Quarterly*).
- Song, C. 2013. "Korean Communities in Australia and New Zealand: Migration, Life and Challenges" in Injin Yoon (ed.) *The Current Situation and Policy Requirements of Korean Diaspora*, pp. 157-173. (Conference Proceedings for the Korean Diaspora Hub Conference, September 27, 2013 at Korea University).
- Song, C. 2013. "South Korea's Relations with Korean Diaspora: Implications and Explanations on Recent Policy Directions" in the *Proceedings of the 11th ISKS International Conference on Korean Studies*. Guangzhou, China. Vol.2: 662-673.
- Song, C. "Financial Support for Students in New Zealand and Australia in regard to Family Incomes and Resident Status: Implications for Korea" *Journal of Higher Education and Finance* 1/1: 47-66.
- Song, C. 2013. "New Zealand for South Korea's Food Industry: A Suggestion for 'Strategic Globalization'" *Bulletin of Food Technology*. Vol.26, No.3: 208-221.

- Sperlich, D & Sanders, R. M., To mark or not to mark: Just how similar are Chinese dialects in this regard? *Cahiers de Linguistique Asie Orientale*, pp. 289-340, 2013.
- Sperlich, D & Sanders, R. M., Whither a 'Pan-Chinese' grammar: Examining the usage and frequency of three syntactic constructions. *Proceedings of the 14th International Conference on Methods in Dialectology*, Frankfurt. Peter Lang GmbH, 2013.

Ellen Nakamura

2.3 University of Canterbury

The **Confucius Institute at the University of Canterbury (CIUC)** hosted a number of lectures and workshops in the second half of this year. Professor Ouyang Kang, former Vice President of Huazhong University of Science and Technology in Wuhan, China, gave a Confucius Institute Forum of Cultural Understanding Series lecture on the topic of “Chinese Values and Its World Meaning”. Students and staff from the University of Canterbury as well as members of the general public attended.

In June and September, CIUC, in collaboration with ILEP, a subsidiary of the Ministry of Education, organised two teachers' workshops. Speakers were selected from around the South Island and participating teachers said that they gained skills and ideas for their work. CIUC and Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology (NMIT) also co-organised a Chinese Culture Workshop aimed at business leaders in the Nelson Marlborough area. CIUC hopes to be able to organise four such lectures every year.

In collaboration with the Consulate General of the P R China in Christchurch, CIUC hosted the 8th Chinese Film Festival Premiere. CIUC also had the opportunity to contribute to many cultural events in the South Island, including Moon Festival celebrations in Christchurch, Oamaru, Timaru and Dunedin and the South Canterbury International Festival.

Finally, CIUC's Mandarin Language Assistant, Xingyuan (Nancy) Chu was awarded “Excellent Mandarin Language Assistant” for 2012. She was the only recipient selected from Oceania.

Staff Activities and Publications

Piers Locke (Anthropology) recently visited Sri Lanka as a visiting fellow of the Ringling Bros. Barnum and Bailey Center for Asian Elephant Conservation, Rajarata University. Hosted by Professor Charles Santiapillai and Mr. Shanmugasundaram Wijeyamohan, his field research involved participant observation with conservation biologists monitoring wild elephant populations in the Uda Walewe, Wasgamuwa, and Kaudulla National Parks. Piers also investigated rescued elephant rehabilitation at the Elephant Transit Home, and the management of semi-wild elephants at the Pinnewala Elephant Orphanage, which is also a major tourist attraction. He also consulted on a project to protect villagers from wild elephant attacks, and interviewed mahouts and managers of captive elephants at the Buddhist Temple of The Sacred Tooth in Kandy, and the Buddhist temple at Devinuwara. Piers also conducted archival research on elephant iconography at the National Museum, and acquired resources on the Esala Perahera, a major ritual event involving captive elephants, for his current Marsden

project on the historical photography of human-elephant relations in colonial South Asia. Finally, with his Sri Lanka colleagues, Piers has also begun organizing a follow-up conference to his recent Symposium on Human-Elephant Relations in South and Southeast Asia, this time bringing together elephant handlers from Asian elephant range countries to discuss their respective traditions, practices, and concerns regarding their work in captive elephant management.

Piers has also published an article on new approaches to studying human-elephant relations - 'Explorations in Ethnoelephantology: Social, Historical, and Ecological Intersections Between Asian Elephants and Humans'. *Environment and Society: Advances in Research* 4(1):79-97.

Aditya Malik (Anthropology) gave two lectures (one public and the other departmental) in the Department of Political Science at the Central University of Hyderabad entitled 'The Paradox of Modernity' and 'The Violence of Modernity' in January, 2013. He conducted a colloquium based on his research together with fellows, doctoral and post-doctoral students at the Max-Weber-Kolleg (University of Erfurt) entitled: 'Possession, Alterity, Modernity' in October, 2013. He gave a lecture at the Centre for Modern India at the University of Wuerzburg entitled: 'Writing Intimacy: Petitions to Goludev, the God of Justice' in October, 2013. He planned and organized a panel at the Annual Conference of the American Academy of Religion in Baltimore entitled: 'A Proliferation of Friends: Hindu, Muslims and Jains in History, Narrative and Ritual in South Asia' (November, 2013). He is giving the keynote address at the inaugural conference of the NZIRI and Central University of Hyderabad entitled: 'Critical Modernity: Re-envisioning religion and society in India'. The conference theme is 'Society, Religion and Modernity in India' (November 2013).

He has been appointed as Fellow for a period of one year beginning in July 2013 at the Max-Weber-Kolleg for Advanced Social and Cultural Study in Erfurt, Germany. The fellowship is accompanied with a teaching buyout for the Department of Anthropology at Canterbury along with travel and accommodation costs. He attended and also gave the inaugural homage to Lord Ganesha at the Human-Elephant Symposium organized by Dr Piers Locke (Anthropology, UC) in May, 2013. He initiated a highly successful monthly colloquium series housed in the School of Social and Political Sciences but involving academics (staff and post-graduate students) from across the Arts as well as other sections of the University Canterbury. He was Head of Anthropology in the first half of 2013 before taking up the fellowship at the Max-Weber-Kolleg.

Dr James Beattie (Waikato) and **Dr Richard Bullen (Art History)** were successful in the last Marsden round in securing funding for their project on the Rewi Alley Collection at the Canterbury Museum. Rewi Alley first sent an item to the Museum in 1935, and continued to do so up until his death. The 1950s and 60s was the busiest period of acquisition. The Collection is estimated at around 2000 objects. The project will examine the scope of the Collection and its strengths, why and how it developed, and its reception by New Zealanders.

Adam Lam (Chinese) published a book review "Musing on Musings: Leo Lee's Musings: Reading Hong Kong, China and the World," *China Journal* 70(July 2013): 262-264; and presented a conference paper on new media and national cinema, "Floating Power as Enabled by New Media: Hu Ge and Battling Bandits in Mt Birdcage," Shanghai University, China: The 3rd Global Chinese-Language Cinema Conference, 13-16 Dec

2013. He was also awarded by the Taiwan Fellowship Award for his research on cultural tourism at film locations to be carried out in 2014.

Ken Henshall (Japanese) went into semi-retirement as of January this year. His book, *In Search of Nature: The Japanese Writer Tayama Katai (1872-1930)* was published this year by Global Oriental/Brill. He was commissioned to write a book for the Historical Dictionary Series (series editor Jon Woronoff, Scarecrow Press). Ken's book, *Japan to 1945* (500 pp) is in press and will be available very soon.

Ken has also been working on updating his *Guide to Remembering Japanese Characters* (originally 1988, Tuttle/Periplus) together with his old friend, Christopher Seeley (who *inter alia* wrote *A History of Writing in Japan*). They have been aided by a Chinese doctoral student, Jiageng Fan. Ken and Chris are in the process of completing the manuscript, which will be around one thousand pages. Not only are there more characters after the 2010 reforms but they have also gone into greater detail than the original, including citing opinions of various scholars in the field of ancient China and ancient Japan and providing a fuller context. They plan to complete the manuscript by the end of this year.

Rachel Payne (Japanese) has been working as the editorial assistant on a 3-year Cambridge University Press project to compile the History of Japanese Theatre - with over 50 contributors and 80 articles/ chapters. Her chapter on Meiji kabuki censorship has been published in "Negotiating Censorship in Modern Japan" (Routledge). And her chapter on Meiji kabuki's receptivity to foreign cultural material was published in 'East meets West' (Beijing Normal University). She will be presenting her latest research on a Meiji theatre impresario at the NZ Asia 2013 conference.

Alex Tan (Political Science) published two articles; with Huang, M-H. and Whang, T. (2013) "Explaining Government Turnover in Asian Democracies," *Asian Politics and Policy* 5(4): 609-626; with Chen, B-Y (2013), "China's Competing and Coopting Nationalisms: Implications to Sino-Japanese Relations," *Pacific Focus* 28(3): 365-383. He also presented the following conference paper, "PLA Naval Modernization and Its Implication to the South China Seas," at the 11th Global Strategy and Taiwan Security International Conference, National Chung-Hsing University, Taichung, Taiwan, on November 8.

Naimah Talib

2.4 University of Otago

Centenary of Indian Cinema: Aesthetics, Economics and Politics

It was immense pleasure for the NZIRI to convene an international conference in New Zealand, in Dunedin particularly, marking the centenary of Indian cinema: on May 3 1913, Dadasaheb Phalke screened the first Indian film Raja Harishchandra at Coronation Theatre in what was then Bombay. Today Indian cinema is a global phenomenon. On 3 and 4th October 2013, the NZIRI convened a two-day international conference titled *Centenary of Indian Cinema: Aesthetics, Economics and Politics* at the University of Otago. Hosted by the [Department of Media, Film & Communication](#) at the Otago Museum, the event attracted international, national, and postgraduate scholars working in the field of Indian cinema. The global cohort of scholars spent two

days reflecting and debating Indian cinema's history, politics, influence, and future to come. The event was graced by two eminent scholars in the study of Indian cinema – Professor Vijay Mishra (Murdoch University, Australia) and Associate Professor Ranjani Mazumdar (JNU, India) – as well as new, emerging and established scholars from New Zealand and around the world. Various themes related to this cinema were debated, including the genre of the Bollywood gothic, love, colour and trains, politics of representation – class, caste, gender, sexuality, new modes of exhibitions, marginalized cinemas, and song and dance. The various countenances of Indian cinema that was discussed testify to the multiplicity that is Indian cinema and it was fantastic to see the debates capture this heterogeneity. Further to this, we also had Bharatanatyam performance by Swaroopa Unni from the *Natyaloka School of Indian Classical Dance*. Discussions after the conference have continued and we were very pleased with all the positive, encouraging feedback we received – participants were very impressed with the hosting, conviviality and opportunity to form research networks with other scholars. The media were also present at the event: both the [Otago Daily Times](#) and [Channel 39](#) (Otago regional channel) conducted interviews with the Director and Associate Directors of the NZIRI, about the business, industry and creative links and opportunities between India and New Zealand that can take place through cinema. The two-day international conference was a resounding success. It brought together international and national experts on Indian cinema, has opened the possibilities for further collaborative research between scholars here in New Zealand and India, promotes New Zealand as the place to conduct research on, and about India and the Indian diaspora, and fosters the possibilities for business and community organizations to engage with India and Indian cinema. Both the Associate Directors who convened the conference, Sita Venkateswar and Vijay Devadas, are now pursuing publication possibilities from the papers presented at the Centenary conference.

Staff Publications & Other Activities

As well as convening the conference, **Vijay Devadas** has some recent publications and other activities to note:

Vijay Devadas 2013 'The Shifting Terrains of Nationalism and Patriotism in Indian Cinemas', in *Routledge Handbook of Indian Cinemas*. Gokulsing. M and Dissanayake, W. (eds). Routledge, London and New York: 218-230.

Vijay Devadas & Selvaraj Velayutham 2012 'Cinema in Motion: Tracking Tamil Cinema's Assemblage', in *The Travels of Bollywood Cinema*, Anjali Gera Roy & Chua Beng Huat (eds). Oxford University Press, Delhi: 164-182.

He has also conducted a Masterclass for PhD Candidates (in Communication) of Tamil Nadu and Poindicherry Universities. Department of Journalism & Communication, University of Madras, and the Association of Communication Teachers of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry. 8 August 2013.

His presentations include: *Toward a New Commons: Hardt, Negri and the Political Documentaries of Anand Patwardhan*, Media and Society Seminar Series, Department of Journalism & Communication, University of Madras, 7 August 2013; *Cultivating Futures: The Social Life of Youths in Chennai*. *Changing India: From Decolonization to Globalization*, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, 28-29 Aug, 2013; *Biopolitical Interventions: The Political Documentaries of Anand Patwardhan*. The Sixth Biennial International Conference of IAAPS, University of Calcutta, India, 15-17

Dec 2012. In May 2013 he hosted the Asian Migrations Research Theme's sponsored visit by Professor Chua Beng Huat.

Chinese soft power and culture: between complicity and independence

On Wednesday, 20 November, Dr Paola Voci of Otago's Chinese Programme and Professor Brian Moloughney (PVC, Humanities) hosted a public workshop titled *Chinese soft power and culture: between complicity and independence*. The event took place on the Otago campus in the Richardson Building. Co-sponsored by the New Zealand Contemporary China Research Centre (NZCCRC) and the Australian Centre on China in the World Centre (CIW), with support from the Division of Humanities, the Department of Languages & Cultures, and the Otago Office of the Confucius Institute in Auckland, the workshop examined the many complex and even contradictory directions in which soft power has been developed in contemporary Chinese culture.

The term soft power - coined by American political scientist Joseph Nye - refers to the power a state can develop to influence and attract positive responses. Unlike hard power (i.e., military and economic power) that is characterised by more aggressive and coercive actions, soft power relies on cultural factors, historical narratives, and diplomatic strategies. While arguably the Chinese leadership has long been interested in promoting its international influence and appeal, more recently it has openly embraced the idea that soft power needs to become a bigger priority. China's charm offensive has not gone unnoticed (by news media and scholars alike), but the focus has mostly been on the "official" discourse on soft power. The papers presented in the workshop instead focused on the ambivalent roles that other players - e.g., religion, tourism, cinema, Internet, the arts, and so on - have in undermining or endorsing (or in fact challenging the very notion of) the officially promoted soft power.

The speakers included scholars from both NZ and Australia. Professor Geremie Barmé (director of the China in the World Centre) opened the workshop with a talk on "Thirty Years of Spiritual Pollution", reflecting on lines of continuity between past and more recent developments of the so-called "soft power". The participants all engaged in a critical analysis of the different cultural locations in which soft power is developed, both in agreement with the official charm offensive and in different and even oppositional directions. Other presenters were Luo Hui, Vanessa Frangville (both from Victoria University in Wellington), Benjamin Penny, Olivier Krischer, Shih-Wen (Sue) Chen (all from ANU), Paul Clark (University of Auckland) and Paola Voci (University of Otago). Tony Browne (Chair of the NZCCRC Advisory Board, former NZ Ambassador to China), Huang Xiaoming Director NZCCRC, and Duncan Campbell (ANU) chaired the sessions. The speakers' abstracts can be found on the workshop website <http://www.otago.ac.nz/chinese/chinasoftpower.html>

The workshop was well attended by faculty, students, general public, as well as local media. between, The workshop marks the beginning of a collaboration between the NZCCRC and the CIW - a partnership that is planned to continue in a second event to be organized next year at ANU.

Asian Migrations Research Theme

The wide scope of those involved with the Theme has been reflected in the activities during the second half of 2013. A particularly successful event was the premier NZ screening of the documentary 'Hafu: the mixed race experience in Japan' in October which was also open to the wider community. Visits have been hosted (or will be in the near future) for Yaghoob Foroutan, Tessa Morris-Suzuki, Mark Mullins and Shu-mei Shih. A particular strength of the theme is the support being given to foster postgraduate student research, assisting fieldwork, presentations and conference attendance, including NZASIA 2013.

PLEASE NOTE: A major conference hosted by the Theme is planned for **August 2014**. Further information and a call for papers will be made in early 2014.

New Staff at Otago

The University of Otago is pleased to welcome two new staff members working in Asian studies:

Benjamin Schonthal came to Otago as Lecturer in Buddhism in March 2013. Events/activities include being awarded the 2013 Dissertation Prize from the Law and Society Association for his dissertation on religion and law in contemporary Sri Lanka. He hosted Tim Graff from Heidelberg University in screening his documentary *Souls of Zen* at Otago in September. He was featured as a speaker in Northwestern Law School's colloquium series "Constitutional Design in the Muslim World" in October.

Yuko Shibata (Department of Languages and Cultures) joined University of Otago in June 2013. Her chapter, "Belated Arrival in Political Transition: 1950's Films on Hiroshima and Nagasaki," was accepted for publication in Roy Starrs, *When Tsunami Comes to Shore: Culture and Disaster in Japan* (Leiden: Brill, forthcoming). She is in her final preparation for her book, *Transnational Images of Hiroshima and Nagasaki: Knowledge Production and the Politics of Representation*. She gave her talk entitled "Kamei Fumio's Surreal Documentary Films on Shanghai and Hiroshima/Nagasaki" at a departmental seminar in October.

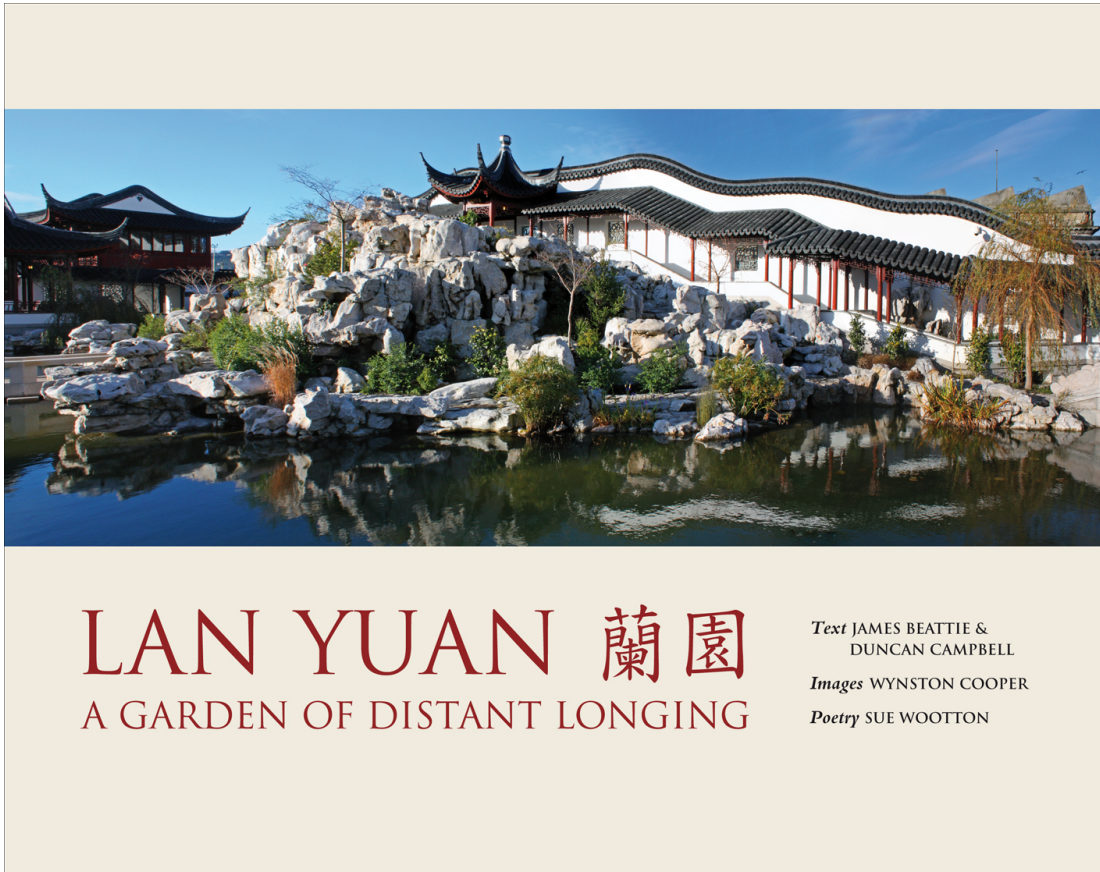
Susan Heydon

2.5 University of Waikato

Dr. James Beattie (History) reported the following research activities:

New book on Dunedin's Chinese garden: "Lan Yuan 蘭園 A Garden of Distant Longing"

The Shanghai Museum and the Dunedin Chinese Garden Trust have just published a book on Dunedin's Chinese garden: *LAN YUAN 蘭園: A GARDEN OF DISTANT LONGING*. Written by Dr James Beattie, a Senior Lecturer in History at the University of Waikato, and Duncan Campbell, of the Australian National University, the book features poetry by Sue Wootton and photography by Wynston Cooper.



Lan Yuan tells the story of the world's southern-most Chinese garden, a garden that was conceptualised in New Zealand, designed and built in Shanghai, before being shipped 13,000 kilometres to Dunedin. *Lan Yuan* thus connects two different histories, traditions and peoples.

In following the garden-building principles of seventeenth-century China and in acknowledging the history of Otago, this beautiful garden both evokes the memory of the Chinese gold miners who reached New Zealand in the 1860s and confidently looks forward to the strengthening of the New Zealand-China relationship. This lavishly produced book - which contains over 100 colour images - invites readers to linger in the world of Lan Yuan, and to inscribe the garden with new meaning. *Lan Yuan* is available for purchase from University Book Shop (Otago), and is priced at \$29.99.

Successful Grant Application

As also noted in the University of Canterbury report, Dr. Richard Bullen (University of Canterbury) and Dr. James Beattie (University of Waikato) have been awarded \$434,783 for their project: Selling New China to New Zealand: Rewi Alley and the Art of Museum Diplomacy.

The Rewi Alley Collection of Canterbury Museum, New Zealand, is unique as an overseas collection assembled with the official sanction of the Chinese Government for the purpose of favourably presenting 'New China' to the West. Their three-year project represents the first research ever conducted on this internationally significant collection of Chinese art and material culture. It will also be the first study to explore

the historical relationship between material culture and Chinese 'cultural diplomacy.' Analysis of the Rewi Alley Collection of Chinese artefacts will generate new knowledge on the role of Chinese art in communist cultural diplomacy. Specifically, the project will examine: 1) the scope of the Collection and its strengths; 2) why and how it developed; 3) the extent to which its range, content and exhibition encouraged favourable perceptions of 'New China' in New Zealand. In analysing its changing reception over time and between cultures as an example of cultural diplomacy, we will establish and employ innovative, overlapping methodologies to analyse objects, archives, published sources, and exhibitions.

Project findings, resulting in multiple publications, an online database and an exhibition, will significantly advance knowledge in the areas of Chinese art history and exhibition history, diplomatic history, and New Zealand-China relations.

James Beattie

2.6 Victoria University of Wellington

New Staff

Victoria University of Wellington welcomed two new Asianists to its staff in the second half of 2013. Dr. Emerald King joined the Japanese Programme of the School of Languages and Cultures from the University of Tasmania where she recently completed a PhD. Emerald's research interests include violence in text; masochistic theory; kimono in Japanese literature and costume representation in anime and manga.

In June Dr. Manjeet Pardesi became the latest Asia specialist in VUW's Political Science and International Relations Programme. Manjeet is a recent graduate of Indiana University, Bloomington (IUB), where he just completed his PhD in Political Science. Originally from Mumbai/Bombay (India), Manjeet was educated in Singapore and the United States and holds a PhD from Indiana University, Bloomington. He has an MSc in Strategic Studies from the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (now the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies), Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. Manjeet's research interests include strategic rivalries, causes of war, Asian security, Indian foreign/security policy (especially Sino-Indian relations, US-India relations, and India's 'Look East' policy), and international relations in world history.

Marsden Success for Dr Alexander Bukh

Dr Alexander Bukh of the School of History, Philosophy, Political Science and International Relations was successful in the 2013 Royal Society of New Zealand Marsden Fund round, with a \$300,000 Fast Start grant for a project titled *Territorial disputes and civil society in east Asian democracies*. He seeks to explore the role of civil society groups engaged in territorial dispute related activism in Japan, South Korea and Taiwan in shaping their respective state's foreign policies.

VUW's Asia-related Institutes

Confucius Institute, VUW

The Confucius Institute in association with the New Zealand Centre for Literary Translation presented the following literary festival:

Chinese Literature Re-imagined:

A literary festival of texts, images and ideas

28-31 August 2013

Madeleine Slavick contributed her lyrical impression of the festival as follows:

THE FOUR DAYS BEFORE SPRING

By Madeleine Slavick

What is literature but words, images, music, and ideas, and what is a festival but togetherness: this one held on the last four days of winter in New Zealand.

Words. Spoken, written, lectured, sung, recorded on film, and recorded in a book typeset by hand, a book that opens and then flows down, like a waterfall: and the words I love most within: 'blossoms fallen overflow my robes'. Words in Chinese, whether Mandarin, Taiwanese, Cantonese, and perhaps the most expressive: Hubeinese. Words in English, whether in translation, or the original, whether one's native language or one's second, third, fourth... And a few in Te Reo. The launch of the 'paper engineered' book opens with the greeting, *tena koe, tena koe*, and Hinemoana Baker, a poet I watch the film premiere of 'One Tree Three Lives' with, says 'Kia Ora' before and after she speaks. *Kia Ora: Be Healthy.*

Images. In full colour, still, monochrome, or in movement. Images of cat scratches or maybe they are 'writerly anxiety'. Images of a personal geometry and a large community. Ninety-five minutes of film documenting the three lives of Nieh Hualing, 88, an accomplished Chinese-American writer who calls herself a tree - with roots in China, the trunk in Taiwan, and all the leaves and branches in the United States; Nieh also pictures her home as where the Yangtze and Iowa rivers meet. Images of calligraphy, created in English by the poet-designer Ya-wen Ho, but what can first appear to be an early Chinese script. Images of bright mirrors, white hairs, the moon, bells, drums, a dappled horse, birds, stream, wine....

Music. Especially from the piano, sometimes the slow press of a single key, and then spontaneous and glorious at Te Marae in Te Papa, together with the flurry of Li Bai, spoken, sung, with so much body, by two bodies, in two languages - poets always seem somewhat drunk. And maybe translators too - the world-renowned Bonnie S. McDougall writes about imaginary audiences and secret love letters, and the liveliness in her step feels like the beginning of song. After she delivers her lecture, she seems released, as if ready for wine. In the film *One Tree Three Lives*, Taiwan is introduced with the melodious 'Serenade of the Green Island' and how we can feel the languorous sub-tropical sway.

Ideas. I call them trees. Seamus Heaney was called a great oak; the author Nieh Hualing is a tree; and Luo Hui, the person who conceptualized the festival, once wrote that translation is like a winter tree: branches mirror roots. Heaney died on August 30th, and we blessed him, saying that when an idea becomes a project, such as Sydney Shep's and Ya-wen Ho's book, or Angie Chen's award-winning film, everything and everyone is called to life again. The people joining these four festival days before Spring are like a family, a community: we gather in a cinema, a marae, a museum, and university - all centres of togetherness. Several of us share more than one meal. And all around Wellington: blossoms of magnolia, plum, almond, camellia. So alive, so bright, if short, temporary.

We would not have such a sense of community among us - writers, filmmakers, scholars, book designers, musicians and audiences - without translation. Not all of us know Chinese, and not all of us know English well either. Yuan Yuan, the newly appointed cultural attaché from the Chinese Embassy, in her first public appearance, says, in English, that translators are 'brave ones' who take on such hard work, and McDougall agrees, calling translation 'fiendishly difficult'. Meeting the challenge is Roo Borson and Kim Maltman, who beautifully render Li Bai's 'Bring on the Wine!' and 'Whiling Away the Time'. Their exquisite work is beautifully rendered yet again in a performance by Gao Ping (piano), Luo Hui (reciting in his native Hubeinese), and Ya-wen Ho (in English). They only had one rehearsal, on a morning after Ya-wen's overnight bus ride: I also call them brave.

While Borson and Maltman choose to work with T'ang Dynasty texts, McDougall concentrates on translating the modern and contemporary: Mao Tse-tung, Lu Xun, Dung Kai-Cheung, Bei Dao, and more. We hear her discuss issues surrounding translation, that very little Chinese literature is translated, that most of what gets translated is by Confucius, that the Japanese and French and Germans are leaders in the field, and that she does not rely on translation work for a living. Luo Hui brings about twenty-five books from his home to McDougall's lecture, as samples of different ways one can translate. They include *Wild Grass*, *Soul Mountain*, and *Shanghai Baby*, which McDougall says should read *Shanghai Babe*. As the lecture ends, a man in the audience asks if he can borrow every single book.

In the audience of the film, a student in a back row says, in honesty and modesty, 'I may not be a famous person, but tonight I have been very moved.' The Hong Kong independent film documenting the larger than life Nieh Hualing screens at the Paramount Cinema on a Wednesday evening. All the seats are booked. It is the New Zealand premiere, but the Confucius Institute has a humble face and does not mention this. Yiyan Wang says that Nieh Hualing is important as the first Chinese woman migrant writer, Mo Yan has called her a hero, with true grit, and MacDougall points out that Nieh has not lived as an outsider in the United States, and has not lived in the past, as migrants sometimes do. Instead, Nieh greatly contributed to the United States, especially as co-founder of the world-renowned International Writing Program of Iowa University. She also wrote more than twenty books, choosing to write in Chinese although she could have chosen English: Nieh had once earned her living as an English teacher.

I have seen the film several times, but this time, with a fellow writer, the experience is heightened. Side by side, we laugh, cry, sigh, identify, empathize. We are not afraid to feel. Hinemoana recently attended the Program in Iowa, and I can sense the intensity of the experience for her, there and now, here. Like Hualing, Hinemoana identifies with bodies of water: her name alone means 'woman of the ocean'. Mine means 'happy thinking' in Chinese, and perhaps writers are at their best, their happiest, when our words and images and ideas become writing. Some writers like to do work near the sea. I prefer rivers and trees.

At 90-minutes long, *One Tree Three Lives* took three years to make, 200 hours of footage, and includes interviews with more than 26 writers. The Hong Kong Arts Development Council provided skeleton funding, colleagues and friends donated skills and money, the Confucius Institute sponsored the screening and Chen's accommodation in Wellington, and the Hong Kong Festival of New Zealand, in its inaugural year in Wellington, funded Angie Chen's air fare from Hong Kong. Certainly, film is a large community.

One project I love in the festival is one of the smallest, and at the Cinema too, but in the cafe. I view this alone. From a distance, the photographic images can feel like fallen twigs, or shadows of twigs, or perhaps carved ones. Closer, as one approaches the brick wall along which they are displayed, the images are texture, expression, ideas: they are Holly Lee's 'playful response' to the Oracle Bones, China's first writing system. They are also cat scratches on Lee's worn and warm living room floor, and the series is called *Claw Script*, a name I love.

On the opposite wall - with tables and cups of coffee between - is the work of Lee Ka-sing, Holly Lee's husband. His images can seem more intellectual, yet, once you know of the people in his life, you can feel the warm language of the photography, which I might also call geometry. *Mobile Poetry Lab* is the name he gives to the series, and I like that idea: that we are always moving, and being moved, that every day is poetry, and life an experiment.

And I hear the hyperbolic joy of Li Bai again, through the 'brave' minds of translators Borson and Maltman, another couple: "When life's going well you must seize every pleasure - don't

let the golden cup sit empty facing the moon. Heaven gave me talents, these must have a use. Scatter a thousand in cash, it all comes back. Boil up a sheep, slaughter an ox - let's make merry! Down three hundred cups in a single go."

Madeleine Slavick is the author of several books of photography, poetry, and non-fiction books on China. *Fifty Stories Fifty Images*, her most recent title, is a book on Hong Kong where she lived for 25 years. She lives in the Wairarapa where she coordinates the monthly event Wairarapa Word.

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Other activities in the CI 2013 cultural programme include:

- a concert series entitled 'Journey to the East' featuring new Chinese music performed by the NZ String Quartet, the NZTrio, the composer/pianist Gao Ping and the Chinese guzheng virtuoso, Chen Xi-Yao
- sponsorship of 18 screenings of Chinese films through the New Zealand Federation of Film Societies
- a visit from the Chinese filmmaker Han Jie that included a Q&A, a film class at VUW and a meeting with the NZ Film Commission
- sponsorship of the 2013 Chinese New Year Festival at Te Papa, National Museum of New Zealand

NZ Contemporary China Research Centre (NZCCRC)

On 20-21 August 2013, NZCCRC held the Wellington Conference on Contemporary China. "*China's Global Course: The Political Economy of China Going Global*" (August 2013) commenced with a keynote speech from Hon Steven Joyce, Minister for Economic Development. The economics of China are a defining feature of the world economy in the early 21st century. The conference explored what this means for global patterns of trade, investment, finance and governance of the world economy as well as China's growing impact on individual countries and economies like New Zealand. A group of leading international scholars and policymakers from China, the US, Australia and the UK gathered to examine the trends and emerging patterns of China's international trade, overseas investment, financial markets, global enterprises and global economic governance.

At a conference reception, NZCCRC launched a China discussion paper by Xiaoming Huang and Jason Young entitled "*China and the world economy: Challenges and opportunities for New Zealand.*" A panel was invited to attend a roundtable discussion of the paper to provide critical commentary and discussion of the paper's major finding. The panel consist of Shamubeel Eaqub,(Principal Economist, New Zealand Institute of Economic Research), Charles Finny (Saunders Unsworth) , Ming ZHANG (Director, Department of International Investment, Chinese Academy of Social Science), Jane Golley (Associate Director, Australia Centre for China in the World, ANU), Gary Hawke, (Senior Fellow, New Zealand Institute of Economic Research) and Guang Yang (Senior Economist, Business and Economic Research Limited)

For more information see the following:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/chinaresearchcentre/programmes-and-projects/wellington-conference-on-contemporary-china/2013-chinas-global-course#keyspeakers>

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/chinaresearchcentre/research-and-fellowships/china->

In July, the NZCCRC held two symposia:

1) *“Successful Market Entry Strategies in China Academic Research Matched by Practical Business Experience”*. The symposium was co-organized with the NZ China Trade Association Inc., and the NZ Asia Institute of The University of Auckland and examined business opportunities with China and also discussed the strategic options for entering this huge consumer and business market.
<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/chinaresearchcentre/programmes-and-projects/china-symposiums/successful-market-entry-strategies-in-china>

2) *“Improving China Business Strategy”* was a joint initiative with VUW's Victoria Business School and Wellington City Council. This event offered Wellington's perspective on business with China, and an opportunity to hear from two China business experts visiting Wellington, Associate Professor Yuhuang Zheng (Tsinghua University, Beijing) and Patrick Chovanec (Managing Director and Chief Strategist at Silvercrest Asset Management, New York) on their keynote speeches.
<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/chinaresearchcentre/programmes-and-projects/china-symposiums/improving-china-business-strategy>

On 1 August Professor Hugh White of the Australia National University delivered a public lecture on *“The rise of China: Implications for New Zealand and Australia,”* with the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Australian High Commission. Professor White shared his thoughts on the political and strategic implications of China's rise for New Zealand and Australia. Professor White noted that some hope that the stable Asian order of the last few decades will last indefinitely, with China using its growing power to support the status quo rather than challenge it. If so then China's rise means little for New Zealand's and Australia's political and strategic situation. However, he argued that China has the both ambition and the capacity to reshape the old order in some fundamental ways and that the implications for NZ and Australia depend on what China wants.

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/chinaresearchcentre/about-us/events/previous-events>

Additional seminars held by the NZCCRC include:

“Shame on those who wallow in luxury, extravagance, pleasures and leisure: President Hu Jintao's Crusade Against Consumerism” from Dr Thomas Boutonnet, Department of Chinese Studies of the University of Strasbourg

“Building trade infrastructure with China and Asia-Pacific countries: VAT/GST challenges for businesses, governments and researchers” by Associate Professor David White of VUW.

New Zealand India Research Institute

The inaugural international conference of the New Zealand India Research Institute (NZIRI) 'Changing India: From Decolonization to Globalization' was held on 28-29 August 2013 in Rutherford House, Pipitea campus of Victoria University. In the opening session, Professor Neil Quigley, Deputy Vice Chancellor Research, Victoria University of Wellington, welcomed the guests. Hon Steven Joyce, Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment, Government of New Zealand, opened the conference and formally launched the Institute. In his speech Minister Joyce mentioned the importance of India to New Zealand, particularly in the area of higher education. He

mentioned the recent initiative taken by the two Prime Ministers in setting up the India New Zealand Education Council and acknowledged the valuable contributions made by the NZIRI towards the activities of the Council.

In the opening session of the conference, Professor Pat Walsh, Vice Chancellor of Victoria University, mentioned the long tradition of India studies in this university and acknowledged some of the valuable research projects on India being undertaken by the fellows of the Institute. On behalf of the two of NZIRI's long-term partners, Mayor of Wellington Celia Wade-Brown remembered the contributions made by the Indian community to the urban life of Wellington and welcomed the establishment of the NZIRI, while Robert McIntyre spoke of the ANZ Bank's interests in India and its support for India related research in New Zealand.

In the second session, Professor Kaushik Basu, Senior Vice President and Chief Economist of the World Bank, gave the principal keynote address. The topic of his lecture was 'India's Economy in a Globalizing World: Challenges and Research Agenda', in which he outlined the history of India's recent economic growth, its current woes and the way forward, particularly in relation to the task of poverty alleviation.

On the first day of the conference several invited speakers also discussed various aspects of changing India. Professor Ranjan Ray of Monash University discussed the growing disparity between the rich and the poor in recent years in India, while Professor Anthony D'Costa of Melbourne University argued that globalization was not helping the working classes. Professor Nandini Sundar of the Delhi School of Economics spoke on tribal movements, Maoist insurgency and the role of the state. Professor Amitabh Mattoo, Director of Australia India Institute at Melbourne University, speaking through video link from Melbourne, spoke on India's foreign policy and its search for space, stability and strength. Professor Brian Stoddart, former Vice Chancellor of La Trobe University, spoke on cricket, IPL and India's new global 'soft' power.

While the first day of the conference was for the invited overseas speakers, on the second day in eight parallel sessions 24 papers were presented by scholars from New Zealand, Australia and Singapore, covering practically all aspects of contemporary India. In the last session the fellows and delegates discussed the future of NZIRI in an open dialogue with the Director and the Associate Directors. The conference was attended by more than one hundred people.

Apart from the inaugural conference, the NZIRI also hosted the following distinguished speakers in the last six months:

1. Dr Hilal Ahmed, Associate Fellow, Centre for Developing Societies, New Delhi
2. Professor A.R. Venkatachalapathy of the Madras Institute of Development Studies
3. Associate Professor Ranjani Mazumdar of Film Studies programme, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
4. Professor Heather Goodall, Professor of History, Sydney University of Technology
5. Professor P.R. Kumaraswamy, Professor of International Relations, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi was the Visiting ICCR Chair in Indian Studies at Victoria in 2013. He taught a course on Indian foreign policy and gave a public lecture.
6. Dr Samia Khatun, a Visiting Postdoctoral Fellow at The Centre for Research on Colonial Culture, the University of Otago, will speak at VUW in December.

Stephen Epstein

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