



Trinity Centre for Asian Studies

Events Archive 2014/2015, 2015/16, 2016/2017

30 Nov - 2 Dec 2017. International Japanese Studies Symposium, Japanese Studies in a global context: “The art of friendship”. Part of a series of activities marking the 60th anniversary of Japan-Ireland diplomatic relations. We would like to acknowledge the generous support of the Kansai Osaka 21st Century Association (JEC Grant Fund), without whom this symposium would have been impossible. We also extend our thanks to the TCD FAHSS Arts & Benefactions Fund and to Osaka University Graduate School of Letters for their financial support. The full symposium programme is available [here](#).

13 December 2017. Trinity Centre for Asian Studies Lunchtime Seminar Series by HE Mr Richard Andrews, Australian Ambassador to Ireland. "Australia's East Asian Foreign Policy".

6 November 2017. "From 'Far East' to 'East Asia' in Global English Academic and Societal Discourse". TCAS Public Evening Lecture, with guest speaker Dr Kenn Nakata Steffensen. This presentation traced the genealogy of the contemporary idea of East Asia through Karl Ritter's Ost-Asien, his student Élisée Reclus' politicised use of Asie orientale, the migration of the Japanese ideas of East Asia from meteorology and geography to political discourse, and from there to the dreaming spires of Harvard. Dr Nakata Steffensen (IRC Marie Skłodowska Curie Fellow, UCD) is a philosopher whose primary research interest is in social and political thought in modern Japan, the political philosophy of the wartime Kyoto School in particular.

15 November 2017. "World in Motion: Professional Circuits through Nineteenth-century China" by Professor Robert Bickers. Robert Bickers is Professor of History at the University of Bristol. He specialises in modern Chinese history and the history of colonialism, in particular the British empire and its relations with China and the history of Shanghai (1843-1950s). His guest lecture explored the acceleration of travel, and the interaction of various entertainers with China, c. 1850s-1890s. It examined "professionals" in an old sense, of theatres and performers, and discussed amateur and professional music, circuses, Hong Kong's first tourist, a globe-trotting Chinese giant, jugglers and acrobats.

12 October 2017. "Business between Ireland and China". TCAS Lunchtime Seminar with guest speakers Padraic Brennan (Head of Business Banking Development) and Chen Tian (Senior Vice President, Foreign Direct Investment) from the Bank of Ireland to the first in this year's lunchtime seminar series. The TCAS Lunchtime Seminar Series brings guest speakers from business, trade and industry to the table for an informal presentation and Q&A.

18 September 2017. "The Underside of Japan": Capitalism, Empire, and the Production of Space in Modern East Asia, 1895-1972. Dr Yijiang Zhong, Tokyo University. This lecture explored spatial production in modern East Asia. It focuses on the origin and operations of the idea "the Underside of Japan" or "Ura-Nihon." The term refers to the Sea of Japan side of the Japanese archipelago in contrast to the area facing the Pacific Ocean, known as the Upper-side (Omote-Nihon). The idea "the Underside of Japan" emerged in the context of late Meiji industrialization and discussions of civilization and progress. This talk explores how it came to be identified, in spatial proximity and ideological association with the Asian continent, as bleak, stagnant, and backward in contradistinction to the bright and progressing Upper-side, the embodiment of Japan's modernity. Yijiang Zhong is associate professor of the Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia, the University of Tokyo. He is a historian of modern Japan with major research interests in religion, nation(alism), and space. His first book, "The Origin of Modern Shinto in Japan: the Vanquished Gods of Izumo" (Bloomsbury 2016), looked at how early modern developments of Shinto both enabled and compromised the construction of the modern nation-state in Meiji Japan (1868-1912). While examining "space," he also closely follows the globalization of Japan's higher education.

8 June 2017. TCAS Public Evening Lecture, Neill Theatre, Trinity Long Room Hub. Sino-US relations in the Trump era by Professor Sam Crane, Williams College, Massachusetts. Since coming into office, the Trump administration has reversed itself on several of its campaign positions regarding China. It turns out China will not be labelled a "currency manipulator," and the US government will continue to adhere to the "One-China policy." Also, suggestions that the US might back away from its close alliances with Japan and South Korea have been superseded by events. What does the apparent inconsistency and uncertainty of US policy toward China portend for East Asian international relations in the coming years? Sam Crane is W. Van Alan Clark '41 Third Century Professor in the Social Sciences at Williams College in Massachusetts. He teaches courses on contemporary Chinese politics, East Asian international politics, and ancient Chinese philosophy. His most recent book - Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Dao: Ancient Chinese Thought in Modern American Life (Wiley, 2013) - draws ideas from classical texts of Confucianism and

Daoism and applies them to controversial social issues (abortion, same sex marriage, end of life questions) current in the US today.

1 June 2017. TCAS Lunchtime Seminar by Paul Costigan, General Manager Asia Pacific, DecaWave. Paul Costigan is a leading semiconductor executive with global experience.

Former CEO at Senseg, he was previously the chief operating officer and president of the Asia-Pacific region for Movidius. Prior to that, he was the chief operating officer of Chipidea Microelectronica S.A., based in Lisbon. Mr Costigan is known as the co-founder and chief executive officer of Massana, a Dublin- and Palo Alto-based fabless semiconductor firm focused on the Gigabit Ethernet market that was acquired by Agere Systems (now part of LSI Corp.) in 2003. Paul Costigan began his career as a GSM chipset developer for Alcatel. He holds an MSEE degree from Northeastern University and a BE degree from University College, Dublin.

9 May 2017. "Briefing on Indonesia" by His Excellency Dr Sukma, Indonesian Ambassador to the United Kingdom and Ireland. Trinity Centre for Asian Studies Public Evening Lecture.

His Excellency Dr. Rizal Sukma assumed his position as the Indonesian Ambassador to the UK and Ireland in February 2016. He was the first Indonesian to receive the Nakasone Award, in July 2005, and named one 100 Global Thinkers in 2009 by Foreign Policy magazine. Dr Sukma has published three books: *Security Operations in Aceh: Goals, Consequences, and Lessons* (Washington, DC: East-West Centre, 2004); *Islam in Indonesia's Foreign Policy* (London: Routledge, 2003), and *Indonesia and China: The Politics of a Troubled Relationship* (London: Routledge, 1999).

11-12 April 2017. Trinity Creative. The Music of Silence: Its Interpretation and Performance.

Can silence be musical? Putting this question differently, can music exist when there is silence? The answer to this question depends on what "silence" really means and how it is interpreted culturally and musically. Different cultures respond to this question differently. Trinity Centre for Asian Studies and the Department of Music collaborated in exploring the role of silence in music, setting out to show that true silence in the sense of a "complete absence of sound" does not exist and, using Chinese, Japanese, Korean as well as Western music (classical and contemporary) as examples in performance, demonstrate that different musical traditions have different culture-unique interpretations for something like silence. Further details about Trinity Creative. The full event programme is available [here](#).

3 April 2017. TCAS Public Lecture Series in Asian Studies. A Timely Passion for 'Printed Things': Chester Beatty's Collection of Surimono Prints, by Dr Mary Redfern, Chester Beatty Library. From 3 March to 27 August, the Chester Beatty Library celebrated the 60th anniversary of formal diplomatic relations between Japan and Ireland with an exhibition of surimono prints from its permanent collections. Privately commissioned by individuals and poetry clubs for exchange at New Year or on other occasions of note, these luxurious prints embody the cultivated taste of the literati circles of Edo Japan. It was the refinement and quality of surimono (lit: 'printed things') that caught the eye of Sir Alfred Chester Beatty. When Beatty began to collect Japanese prints in earnest in the mid-1950s, he recognised the unique appeal of surimono. While other collectors were busily fighting over their larger cousins—the better-known and commercially produced ukiyo-e—Beatty was able to amass an impressive collection. Examining the formation of the Library's collection of surimono and the role played by Beatty's advisor, Jack Hillier, this lecture

considered the place of these prints within the institution Beatty was then establishing. Mary Redfern was appointed Curator of the East Asian Collections at the Chester Beatty Library in October 2015. Prior to completing her PhD on imperial tableware and diplomatic dining in Meiji-era Japan at the University of East Anglia, she worked as assistant curator for East Asian collections at the Victoria and Albert Museum, the National Museum of Scotland and Bristol City Museum and Art Gallery. Mary curated the Chester Beatty's Library's exhibition, 'The Art of Friendship: Japanese Surimono Prints'.

March 2017. Manga Hokusai Manga Travelling Exhibition. The Japan Foundation's travelling exhibition *Manga Hokusai Manga: Approaching the Master's Compendium from the Perspective of Contemporary Comics* was hosted by TCAS as part of the university's celebrations marking the 60th anniversary of Japan-Ireland diplomatic relations, in association with the Embassy of Japan and Experience Japan. Press release.

27 March 2017. TCAS Public Lecture Series in Asian Studies. Seizo Sugawara, Eileen Gray's enduring collaborator by Ruth Starr, Trinity College Dublin. This lecture considered Eileen Gray's position in the early 20th century at the intersection of an Irish and European perception of Japonisme with the reality of lacquerwork as actually practiced by Japanese masters. It explored the central role of Seizo Sugawara's influence on Eileen Gray's emerging aesthetic. Ruth Starr is a lecturer in the Arts of Japan at Trinity College Dublin. Her research interests include aspects of Japonisme in Ireland with particular reference to lacquerware and Eileen Gray.

6 March 2017. TCAS Lunchtime Seminar. What do Chinese Christians think about politics? Political support and liberal democratic values among young urban Protestants by Dr Phil Entwistle, UCD. Protestant Christianity has grown rapidly in China in recent decades, raising the question of what effect this will have on the country's society and politics. This lunchtime seminar focused on what political values and attitudes do Protestants hold, and how these differ from those of non-Protestants. Dr Entwistle is Lecturer in Chinese Studies in the School of Languages, Cultures and Linguistics at University College Dublin.

20 February 2017. TCAS Lunchtime Seminar. The Epicentre of the Meiji Literary Translation Boom, by Dr James Hadley, Trinity Centre for Literary Translation. Japan's modern history of literary translation is generally held to have begun in the Meiji period, when the near isolationism of the previous two centuries gave way to an enthusiastic importation of ideas from the expansionist powers of Europe and North America. While technical, diplomatic, and philosophical translation was undertaken from before the beginning of the Meiji period, literary translation was not undertaken widely until the latter two decades of the nineteenth century. When it did begin, the translation of literary works originally written in European languages fostered substantial change in native Japanese literary norms, and continues to play an important role in the Japanese literary system as a whole. This event was part of a series of activities held in Trinity College celebrating 60 years of diplomatic relations between Japan and Ireland in 2017.

9 February 2017. Dublin Chinese New Year Festival public lecture. How do we connect Years of the Rooster to environmental protection in the People's Republic of China and why does it matter? by Dr Heidi Ningkang Wang-Kaeding. This lecture tracked back to 1957, the first year of

the Rooster in the People's Republic, and explored representative events from each Year of the Rooster to demonstrate the trend of environmental protection (or destruction) of various political actors. Dr Heidi Ningkang Wang-Kaeding is Assistant Professor in Asian Politics in the Department of Political Science and the Trinity Centre for Asian Studies at Trinity College Dublin.

6 February 2017. Dublin Chinese New Year Festival public lecture. A century of Years of the Rooster: Vignettes of a changing China by Dr Isabella Jackson. Traditionally, people are warned to expect bad luck in their own year of the Chinese zodiac, so those born in the year of the rooster should beware in 2017. This lecture traced the life of an imaginary character born in the year of the rooster 1909, looking at how China changed in each year of the rooster during her lifetime, and how these changes would affect her. Dr Isabella Jackson is Assistant Professor in Chinese History in the Department of History and the Trinity Centre for Asian Studies at Trinity College Dublin.

31 January 2017. Dublin Chinese New Year Festival public lecture. Chinese eating and drinking: A linguistic and cultural perspective by Dr Adrian Tien. While the acts of eating and drinking may seem universal, the cultural underpinnings of eating and drinking certainly vary from culture to culture. Eating and drinking in some cultures occupy a special place, sometimes to the point of reverence. Chinese cuisine is world renowned, but it isn't often that people go beyond the gastronomic pleasures in an attempt to understand why eating and drinking in Chinese hold a privileged place in Chinese culture. This lecture delved into the acts of eating and drinking in Chinese culture through linguistic evidence that attest to the culture-uniqueness of these acts. Dr Adrian Tien is Sam Lam Associate Professor in Chinese Studies and Programme Director of the M.Phil. in Chinese Studies at Trinity College Dublin.

30 January 2017. TCAS Public Lecture Series 2016/17. Chinese New Year Celebration: China in the Year of the Rooster. Celebrating the Chinese New Year – the Year of the Rooster – with Adrian Tien, Isabella Jackson and Heidi Wang-Kaeding from the Trinity Centre for Asian Studies. This public lecture comprised three short talks, each tackling an aspect of China or Chinese related to the theme of the rooster.

26-28 January 2017. Eco-Urbanites: International Multidisciplinary Symposium in Comparative Urban Studies. This symposium brought together a range of experts who will approach the growth of the city through their own particular lens – as architects, urban geographers, sociologists and historians, linguists, policy-makers and engineers. Contemporary urbanism locates the study of the city within a social framework, where the nature of city living is scrutinised, and issues of justice, equity and well-being are at the heart of understanding what cities are and can become. In other words, despite the differences in scale, cities in Japan and Ireland are understood as spaces within which intense human interaction occurs, often fleeting yet always constant. Visit the dedicated Eco-Urbanites symposium website: www.eco-urbanites.com. Download the symposium programme and the symposium slides. We gratefully acknowledge the generous support of the Japan Foundation in the organisation of the Eco-Urbanites symposium. This event was the first in the series of activities to be held in Trinity College in 2017 which celebrate 60 years of diplomatic relations between Japan and Ireland.

19 January 2017. TCAS Lunchtime Seminar. Media and Medical Equipment in the Republican Shanghai, 1912-1949, by Meishan Zhang, doctoral researcher, Trinity Centre for Asian Studies.

Republican Shanghai (1912-1949) has been an important area of investigation for its distinctive treaty-port environment. Politically, public health provided an important avenue for the expansion of foreign authority to face social and environmental challenges which were caused by the expanding population and required institutional intervention. Culturally, Shanghai was the centre of the Chinese media, which enabled the exchange of medical knowledge, the dissemination and discussion of policies and especially the promotion of medical products and services. For the development of medical science, the rapidly developing industry and commerce supported the mass-production and importing of medical products. This talk examined the significant roles that medical equipment and media were playing as material and cultural vehicles, and how they made health issues more Chinese or Shanghainese in the newly forming medical system among the public, medical institutes and the government against a multicultural background.

5 December 2016. TCAS Public Lecture Series in Asian Studies. Rakugo: Traditional Storytelling in Contemporary Japan by Dr Till Weingärtner, Lecturer in Japanese Studies, University College Cork.

As an art of Japanese storytelling that involves relaying past events from Japanese history, the majority from the Tokugawa Period (1603-1868), Rakugo storytelling might initially appear to be an anachronism. Dressed in a Kimono, the lone performer entertains the audience with very traditional comic monologues, thereby evoking a feeling of nostalgia and longing for the past. As methods of entertainment have progressed and become more elaborate and varied, many critics have previously forecast the death of Rakugo. However, it is still very much alive in the 21st century: Performers, fans and journalists even speak of a new “Rakugo Boom”. This talk was followed by an English-language performance of Rakugo.

29 November 2016. TCAS Lunchtime Seminar. TCAS Lunchtime Seminar, Do the right thing: Chinese expressions of moral duty and practical necessity, by Dr Carlotta Sparvoli, Lecturer in Contemporary Asian Studies, School of Asian Studies, University College Cork.

This seminar focused on the notions of sense, sensibility and practical necessity in Chinese, highlighting the different paradigms that underpin the notion of necessity in China and the West. It explored how different types of necessity are embodied in two natural classes of words, retrievable at a cross-linguistic level. In the Chinese modal system, the duty-necessity contrast play a particularly significant role and is lexicalized in two words of different grammatical status: the auxiliary yīnggāi 应该 and bìxū 必须, which is often described as an adverb. These two terms represent the prototypical elements of two distinct classes of modals, deontic and anankastic, and which are described in Li Jinxi (1924), Lü Shuxiang (1942) and Gao Mingkai (1948), under the labels of yīngrán 应然 (duty) and bìrán 必然 (necessity). Dr Sparvoli showed how these two classes of words have symmetrical distinctive features and are related to the different semantic contribution of these modalities.

10 October 2016. TCAS Public Evening Lecture Series, Current Developments in the East Asian and Chinese Economies by Professor Kai KAJITANI, Graduate School of Economics, Kobe University, Japan. In this public evening lecture, Professor Kajitani addressed the current state of the East Asian economy and discussed the role of the Chinese economy in this context as well as in the world economy. This lecture examined the issues surrounding the accumulation of capital in the Chinese economy and its potential impacts, exploring the objectives and prospects of Chinese economic policy. Professor Kajitani, a leading international scholar, specialises in the study of Chinese Economics, Development Economics and Comparative Economics, and has published extensively in these areas. In association with the Embassy of Japan in Ireland.

5 September 2016. TCAS Launch of the Penguin English translation Tales of Ise, one of the seminal works of Japanese literature, by Peter MacMillan. Trinity Long Room Hub, Neill Theatre. Along with the Tale of Genji and One Hundred Poets, One Poem Each, The Tales of Ise is considered one of the three most important works of Japanese literature. A poem-tale collection from the early Heian period, it contains many stories of amorous adventures, faithful friendship and travels in exile, framing the exquisite poems at the work's heart. The Tales of Ise has influenced waka, Noh, tales and diaries since the time it was written, and is still the source of endless inspiration in novels, poetry, manga and cartoons. This volume has been translated by Peter MacMillan and includes a preface by the renowned Japanologist Donald Keene. Organised in association with the Embassy of Japan in Ireland.

14 June 2016, TCAS Lunchtime Seminar on How Far Can Confucianism Go in the West? by Professor Sam Crane, Williams College, Massachusetts. In recent decades Confucianism has been revived in China and there is a growing expectation in some quarters that it could gain wider prominence as a world philosophy, attaining meaningful influence in various cultural contexts around the globe. But how far can Confucianism go in the West? This lunchtime talk considered sociological and political factors that appear to obstruct the global dissemination of Confucianism. Sam Crane is W. Van Alan Clark '41 Third Century Professor in the Social Sciences at Williams College in Massachusetts. He teaches courses on contemporary Chinese politics, East Asian international politics, and ancient Chinese philosophy. His most recent book - Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Dao: Ancient Chinese Thought in Modern American Life (Wiley, 2013) - draws ideas from classical texts of Confucianism and Daoism and applies them to controversial social issues (abortion, same sex marriage, end of life questions) current in the US today.

10 May 2016, TCAS Asian Studies Public Lecture on "Extraordinary and Unaccountable Customs": British Observations on Population, Infanticide, and Footbinding in China by Professor John Carroll, Hong Kong University. From the mid-1700s through the late 1830s, Britons in China were confined to a tiny section of the city of Canton (Guangzhou). This encounter is known best for resulting in the Opium War (1839-42) and the "opening" of China. But it also generated a massive corpus of writings. Frustrated with the restrictions on trade and unable to live or travel elsewhere in China, these Britons devoted thousands of pages in journals, memoirs, and books trying to understand China, its people, and their culture. They discussed almost everything they saw, and speculated about much of what they could not see. This talk examined three interrelated aspects of this enterprise: determining the size of China's massive population, the extent of infanticide, and the origins and meanings of footbinding. These were all part of a larger

project of understanding China, and represented some of the difficulties and complications inherent in doing so. These discussions also coincided with an emerging belief in Europe that a nation or culture's level of civilization depended on the condition of its women. They reveal a sophisticated level of interest in China, admittedly to help open it to foreign trade and Christian evangelization, but also to understand it on its own terms. In the face of ever-increasing publications on China in the West, often based more on speculation than on fact, they were also a way for Britons who spent time in China to distinguish themselves as experts on the Middle Kingdom. John Carroll is Professor of History and Associate Dean in the Faculty of Arts at the University of Hong Kong. He is the author of *Edge of Empires: Chinese Elites and British Colonials in Hong Kong* and *A Concise History of Hong Kong*. His current book project, *Canton Days*, looks at the British community in South China in the late 1700s and early 1800s.

18 April 2016, TCAS Asian Studies Public Lecture on Learning from Talleyrand: Yoshida Shigeru and postwar Japanese foreign policy by Dr Declan Downey, University College Dublin. As the great French statesman, Talleyrand, had saved France from dismemberment through his diplomatic strategies at the Congress of Vienna in 1815; Japan's postwar premier, Yoshida Shigeru, had ensured his country's economic survival and expansion, as well as its international political rehabilitation in his negotiations with the USA that culminated in the Peace Treaty of San Francisco in 1951, and in his direction of Japan's foreign policy. This paper explored the influence of European Classical Diplomacy on Yoshida's professional formation, and on his legacy in the emergence of Japan as a major world player. Declan M. Downey, LL.M. (Leiden), PhD (Cantab.), is lecturer in Modern European & Japanese Diplomatic History, co-director of the BCL Law with History Degree programme at University College Dublin, and Trustee of the Chester Beatty Library. Over the past 20 years, he has taught courses in Japanese History in UCD. A considerable number of his former students have undertaken graduate studies in Japan on the Monbukagusho scholarship and Japan Foundation schemes. In recognition of his promotion of Japanese Studies, he was awarded the Japanese Ambassadorial Commendation in 2010. Currently, Dr. Downey is working on a biography of Japan's postwar premier, Shigeru Yoshida.

29 February 2016. Book launch of *Thinking Through China*. This new volume co-authored by Jerusha McCormack and John G. Blair, currently Visiting Academics at the Trinity Centre for Asian Studies, introduces China on its own terms by explaining ten key concepts that frame the way most Chinese people think about the world. Creating a cultural cartography through both text and image, the authors provide readers with a vivid sense of what is uniquely Chinese about China. The volume was launched by His Excellency Declan Kelleher, former Irish Ambassador to the People's Republic of China and to Mongolia and currently Permanent Representative of Ireland to the European Union.

25 February 2016. TCAS Asian Studies Public Lecture on China's Urban Civilization: A Brief History by Dr Toby Lincoln, Lecturer in Modern Chinese Urban History and Honorary Secretary of the British Association of Chinese Studies. Dr Lincoln, from the School of History at the University of Leicester, is the author of *Urbanizing China in War and Peace: The Case of Wuxi County* (2015). This lecture described the development of China's urban civilization over the past two thousand years, and explained how the world's most populous country has become its newest urban society. In common with other countries, empires and kingdoms around the world, China

was predominantly agricultural for much of its long history. However, after unification in 221 BCE, an empire-wide urban system emerged, cities took on distinct physical forms, and their inhabitants engaged in activities distinctive to urban spaces. Driven by economic and political forces, and reflecting changes in China's culture and society, this urban civilization grew in complexity over the next two thousand years. Then the emergence of modernity in China in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries was the catalyst for the country's transformation into the urban society we see today. This society is not simply a copy of that in other regions of the world. Instead, Chinese urban modernity has been shaped by Western imperialism, the Japanese invasion, the Communist revolution, and the legacies of its own long history of urban civilization. [Click here to listen to the podcast.](#)

16 February 2016. Dublin Chinese New Year Festival evening talk on Revolutions in the Air: The 1911 Chinese Revolution in the Context of the 1916 Rising by Isabella Jackson, Assistant Professor in Chinese History, Trinity Centre for Asian Studies. In late 1911, the last dynasty of China, the Qing, which had ruled the Chinese empire since 1644, was toppled in a few short months in a relatively peaceful revolution. This ended 2,000 years of dynastic rule and ushered in a transformative period of republican governance, nationalism and anti-imperialism, and the rise of communism. In this centenary year of the Easter Rising of 1916, Dr Jackson reflected on the same revolutionary period in China, revealing similarities and differences between the two anti-imperial revolutionary movements. [Click here to listen to the podcast.](#)

15 February 2016. TCAS Lunchtime Public Lecture on Equality - Common Value? by Kato Takayuki, Visiting Professor, School of Law, Trinity College Dublin. Currently the idea of equality has gained significant influence in political and legal philosophy. The idea has reached the point where it permeates every political, social and private sphere. It has also affected Japanese society. By highlighting equality-relevant cases in both Ireland and Japan, the lecturer explored how the two worlds are trying to apply the same idea to distinctive real societies. Kato Takayuki, LL.B., LL.M., Ph.D., Chuo University (Japan), is Professor of Law at Asia University, Japan. His areas of expertise include constitutional law, jurisprudence and administrative law. Selected publications include "Boundaries of Regulations on Sexually Explicit Materials" and "Learning Constitutional Law through Cases on Human Rights".

9 February 2016. Dublin Chinese New Year Festival lunchtime talk on The Linguistics of Chinese New Year: Linguistic and Cultural Practices by Adrian Tien, Sam Lam Associate Professor in Chinese Studies, Trinity Centre for Asian Studies. Chinese New Year is not just an important annual event to celebrate on the Chinese lunar calendar, it is packed with traditional linguistic and cultural practices that are highly demonstrative of aspects of the Chinese culture. [Click here to listen to the podcast.](#)

8 February 2016. TCAS Asian Studies Public Lecture on Chinese music and its cultural tradition: An introduction by Adrian Tien, Sam Lam Associate Professor in Chinese Studies, Trinity Centre for Asian Studies. This introductory lecture on Chinese music and its cultural traditions focused on Chinese music as it had been practised before its westernisation. Chinese music is very much an integral aspect of the Chinese culture, with important connections with other genres and domains, including Chinese language.

14 December 2015. From “Mao’s little red soldiers” to the Thinking Generation: Red Guards and the emergence of China’s democracy and human-rights movement. Professor Jackie Sheehan, School of Asian Studies, UCC. Although the Cultural Revolution (1966-76) is routinely spoken of as the worst thing to happen in Mao’s China, in fact it was not even the worst thing to happen there in the 1960s. Other responses to the political fluctuations of 1966-76, such as the Red Guard view often expressed in the late 1970s that it had been a liberating and democratizing experience for their generation, have long since been lost in the dominant narrative of a single mass of Mao-worshipping zealots and thugs egged on to mindless violence by the Gang of Four. In reality, the Red Guards were not one united force, nor were they motivated only by the desire to do Mao’s bidding. The Rebel faction, in particular, developed a profoundly radical political agenda which they became adept at inserting into different phases of the campaign. As Mao’s manipulation of their movement revealed to them the true nature of the Chinese Communist Party regime, they carried over into China’s democracy and human-rights movement their hard-won conviction that if anyone was to be safe in China, the rights of all had to have legal guarantees which overrode the authority of the ruling party. Professor Jackie Sheehan joined the School of Asian Studies at University College Cork in September 2013, having spent the previous ten years as Associate Professor in Contemporary Chinese Studies in the School of Contemporary Chinese Studies at Nottingham University, and before that lecturing in Chinese and East Asian history at the universities of Nottingham and Keele.

12 October 2015. Unbound feet: the changing status of Chinese women, c. 1890-1950. Isabella Jackson, Assistant Professor in Chinese History at Trinity College Dublin. For almost one thousand years, most Chinese women had their feet bound to achieve an artificial smallness that corresponded to an ideal of beauty, but restricted movement and caused immense pain and suffering. The eradication of this practice in the early twentieth century was a huge achievement and stands as a symbol of both female emancipation and the end of the old imperial order with the fall of the last dynasty in 1911. But it was just one among many changes in the status of Chinese women, which fluctuated with the political movements of the period. This lecture will trace these changes, from the decline in footbinding, through the social developments in early twentieth-century cities like Shanghai, to the implementation of the 1950 Marriage Law passed in the young People’s Republic. Developments in the fashion of women’s clothes and shoes provide a striking visual record of these changes in Chinese women’s lives. Dr Jackson arrived at the Department of History at TCD in 2015, after three years as a lecturer in Modern East Asian History at the University of Aberdeen. Prior to that she taught at the University of Oxford and gained her PhD from the University of Bristol. She researches the modern history of China and the global and regional networks that shaped the treaty ports, which were opened to foreign traders by force, in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. [Click here to listen to the podcast.](#)

28 September 2015. Celebrating the Centenary of So Chongju Korea’s Premier 20th Century Poet. Kevin O’Rourke, Professor Emeritus (Kyunghee University), is an Irish priest (Columban Fathers), who has lived in Korea since 1964. The first foreigner to receive a Ph.D in Korean literature from a Korean university (Yonsei University 1982), he has published many translations of classical and contemporary fiction and poetry including Choe Inhun’s celebrated Korean War

novel, *The Square* (Spindlewood 1985), which was the first Korean novel in English translation to be published outside Korea.

23 June 2015. Noh from the past to the present - Noh and Contemporary Music. Ryoko Aoki, Noh performer and Japan Cultural Envoy. Noh is a Japanese traditional theatre and one of the oldest extant theatrical forms in the world. It is a form of drama in which dance and music play an important role. The story is told not just through dialogue but also through utai (singing), hayashi (musical accompaniment), and dance. It's like a musical, which Kan'ami and Zeami, father and son, created in the fourteenth century. Dr Aoki obtained a BA and a Master of Music from the Faculty of Music at the Tokyo University of the Arts with coursework in Japanese Noh theatre (Kanze school). She obtained a PhD at the University of London, School of Oriental and African Studies for her thesis "Women and Noh". She has performed several traditional Noh plays, and has also challenged collaborations with contemporary composers as a Noh singer (<http://ryokoaoki.net/e/biography.html>).

5 May 2015. Hong Kong: Asia's World City. Mrs Carrie Lam, Chief Secretary for Administration, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. Mrs Carrie Lam joined the Administrative Service of the Hong Kong Government in August 1980 upon graduation from the University of Hong Kong. She was Director-General of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in London from September 2004 to March 2006. She was appointed a Principal Official on July 1, 2007 as the Secretary for Development. On July 1, 2012, Mrs Lam was appointed as the Chief Secretary for Administration. As head of the Government Secretariat, she is the most senior Principal Official of Hong Kong Government after the Chief Executive. This special lunchtime talk was chaired by the Vice-President for Global Relations, Professor Juliette Hussey.

20 April 2015. Asian language learning in Europe - the 'conundrum' of heritage language speakers. Professor Anne Pauwels, Professor of Sociolinguistics, SOAS. Speakers of a multitude of Asian languages are now a visible part of the (urban) linguistic landscapes in many European countries: wars, natural disasters and globalisation have brought many Asians temporarily or permanently to Europe. Furthermore, Europe's (renewed) attention for Asia has been triggered by the rise in Asian economic powerhouses. These developments have had an impact on education, specifically language learning, in many European schools. Firstly, there is a growing number of Asian background students in all levels of education, with many having varying levels of proficiency in their 'heritage' language. Secondly, a number of Asian languages are now becoming part of the (foreign) language learning curricula in primary and secondary as well as university education. Although Europe is committed to plurilingualism and to increased (foreign) language learning (at least in policy terms), the presence of (a high number of) heritage language speakers in foreign language education has been left unacknowledged, leaving these learners in a 'conundrum': on one hand, they are seen as a major problem because they do not present as 'typical' language learners, on the other hand, they are seen as a major resource to fill the growing demand for these languages. This talk examined these contradictions by analysing how these were played out in another western nation - Australia - and to what extent we can draw upon Australia's experience to address this 'conundrum'. Anne Pauwels is Professor of Sociolinguistics and former Dean of the Faculty of Languages and Cultures at SOAS. Her research deals with the social and sociolinguistic aspects of language and communication, with particular attention to

multilingual and transnational settings. Her main research foci include multilingualism, language maintenance/shift, language policy in relation to language learning in schools and universities as well as various aspects of the relationship between gender and language. [Click here to listen to the podcast.](#)

27 March 2015. Launch of the Asian Development Outlook 2015: Financing Asia's Future Growth. With Alan Dukes, Chair Asia Matters and former Irish Minister for Finance; Leo Goodstadt, former Chief Policy Adviser to the Hong Kong Government as Head of its Central Policy Unit and Adjunct Professor, School of Business, Trinity College Dublin; Nick McIlroy, Visiting Professor at ESSCA Shanghai; Director at McIlroy Wang; Jim Stewart, Professor of Finance, School of Business, Trinity College Dublin. The growing size and financial power of developing Asia is transforming the global economic landscape. ADB's flagship economic publication Asian Development Outlook 2015 (ADO) provides a comprehensive analysis of macroeconomic issues in developing Asia, with growth projections by country and region. The ADO special theme chapter on Financing Asia's Future Growth explores the role of developing Asia's financial system in sustaining its growth, while also examining ways to make the system more inclusive and stable. ADB's Deputy Chief Economist Mr. Juzhong Zhuang, presented the key findings of the Asian Development Outlook 2015, including this year's special theme chapter on Financing Asia's Future Growth and this was followed by a panel discussion. The event was chaired by Professor Louis Brennan of the School of Business at Trinity College.

25 March 2015. Republics Compared: Reflections on Anglo-Indian and Anglo-Irish relations. Sir David Goodall GCMG.

23 February 2015. Comparative Studies of China and the West: How? Why? Professors John Blair and Jerusha McCormack. In this contribution to the Inaugural Asian Studies Lecture Series, Professors Blair and McCormack sought to demonstrate the various pedagogical techniques they have devised over the past ten years of teaching China in the West and the West to China. In doing so, they hoped also to show how and why these techniques can improve on traditional approaches focusing on only one civilization at a time – as well as the gains in cultural literacy that may flow from such an enterprise. For the past dozen years Professors John Blair and Jerusha McCormack, retired from English Departments at the University of Geneva and University College, Dublin, respectively, have moved back and forth between Dublin and Beijing. In the West they teach about China (inaugurating comparative courses at NUIM and DCU over the past two years). In China, they teach about the West: mainly (but not exclusively) at Beijing Foreign Studies University (Beiwai). There they rely on the new sourcebook they have devised: Western Civilization with Chinese Comparisons [WCwCC], published by Fudan University Press in Shanghai (now going into its fourth edition). For use in the West, a re-edited American edition has been issued under the revised title, Comparing Civilizations: China and the West in 2013. Drawing on its readings, as well as their experience of working in and between these two worlds, they have just finished a joint book (Thinking through China, Rowman and Littlefield, 2015), which seeks to introduce Western readers to dominant Chinese views of the world.

12 January 2015. Why do consumers buy counterfeit brands? Morality vs. emotion. Professor Rosa Chun, Chair in Global Leadership, Reputation and Responsibility, University College

Dublin. Today, business ethics classes are offered as core module on the MBA program in most business schools. The theories used in the classroom are mostly developed from the western countries. However, moral standards differ by time and place. Counterfeit is illegal and unethical and known to be associated with moral values. This empirical research conducted in Hong Kong seeks to identify the differences in purchase motivations behind authentic and counterfeit luxury consumption and to discuss the societal role of counterfeit consumption. In addition, the participants are encouraged to engage in a lively discussion about ethical issues facing global markets in 2015. Professor Rosa Chun is Chair in Global Leadership, Reputation and Responsibility at UCD. Prior to joining UCD, Professor Chun was Professor of Corporate Reputation at IMD, Switzerland, and held a Chair in Business Ethics and Corporate Social Responsibility at Manchester Business School, U.K. and has taught globally at CEIBS, Rotterdam School of Management, Bocconi, Lugano, Fudan, and Yonsei University. Professor Chun's research and consultancy work has focused on developing virtue ethics and corporate reputation as a strategic framework for senior management. Her work on reputation gap demonstrates how firms' performance is linked to reputation, leadership and virtues. These findings are based on extensive empirical work with services (Tesco, House of Fraser), IT businesses (Samsung, Sony), and the governmental and non-profit organizations (Police, Health center, Catholic churches). Her work appears in a wide variety of publications including the Strategic Management Journal, Harvard Business Review among others, and was featured in the Financial Times, New York Times, Economist, Marketing Week, Times of India, Chosun Daily and Donga Daily.

8 December 2014. Dangerous Women and Violent Confucians: Early Catholicism in Korea. Dr Kevin Cawley, Director of the Irish Institute of Korean Studies, UCC. Dr Cawley is the Director of the Irish Institute of Korean Studies. Originally from Co. Armagh, he completed his undergraduate degree at Trinity College Dublin in French and Irish. He took his Ph.D. in Korean Studies from the School of East Asian Studies at the University of Sheffield. Dr Cawley lectures in Korean Philosophy and Korean Religious Traditions, as well as Korean Contemporary Society and Korean History. Dr Cawley researches Korea's intellectual history, both philosophical and religious traditions, using contemporary critical theory. He is also interested in acculturation between traditions, such as Buddhism and Neo-Confucianism, and in particular, between Christianity and Neo-Confucianism in the late 18th and early 19th century.

17 November 2014. China's economic "miracle" falters: Why growth and globalisation are not enough. Mr Leo F. Goodstadt. After 35 years of unbroken growth, China is now the world's second largest economy. But the "miracle" shows signs of faltering. This presentation discussed how the nation's leaders are seeking to manage a conflict between wealth and welfare now that high-speed growth is no longer enough to meet the public's rising expectations of better living standards and modern housing, hospitals and schools. The Chinese Communist Party has difficult choices to make. It has already started to boost domestic markets and personal incomes and to shrink the role of foreign trade and investment in driving the economy. The policy-makers are also struggling to upgrade the financial and banking systems to meet the needs of a new consumer society and an expanding middle class. "Welfare" issues are daunting. The "economic" miracle was fuelled by the transfer of 250 million individuals from villages to cities, where they have minimal rights to public housing and social services. China's leadership has repeatedly pledged to

end this potential source of social unrest. The pension and health services cannot cope with a rapidly ageing population, whose families are too small to cater unaided for the 200 million elderly because of strict enforcement of a one-child policy since 1978. Leo F. Goodstadt is an Adjunct Professor in the School of Business at Trinity College. He is an Honorary Fellow of the University of Hong Kong, and he has held five Research Fellowships at the Hong Kong Institute for Monetary Research since 2005. He has published extensively on China's financial reforms, economic management and its fiscal, demographic and agricultural systems. His books include the pioneering *China's Search for Plenty. The Economics of Mao Tse-tung* (1973) and *Reluctant Regulators: How the West Created and China Survived the Global Financial Crisis* (2011), which appeared in a Chinese edition in 2012.

15 October 2014. Japan in East Asia. His Excellency Mr Chihiro Atsumi, Ambassador of Japan to Ireland. The Inaugural Asian Studies Lecture Series, supported by the Trinity Long Room Hub Research Institute for the Arts and Humanities was opened by His Excellency Mr Chihiro Atsumi, Ambassador of Japan to Ireland, on the topic 'Japan in East Asia'.

28-29 May 2014. Peace in the Korean Peninsula: Confrontation or Engagement? Reflections from the Northern Ireland Peace Process. International Symposium, Irish School of Ecumenics, Trinity College Dublin. Co-organisers: Trinity Centre for Asian Studies; Centre for Post-Conflict Justice, Trinity College Dublin; University of North Korean Studies, Seoul.

Guest Speaker, Comedian Des Bishop, March 2015. We would like to extend our thanks to Des Bishop for the captivating Q&A session with our Introduction to Contemporary Asia undergraduate class on 4 March 2015. We wish him every success with his 'Coming Home' tour.

Korean Speech Contest. The Centre hosted Ireland's first public Korean speech contest on 11 October 2014, for Korean language learners in Ireland. The date was selected to mark Hangeul Day (Korean Alphabet Day, held on 9 October in South Korea), a national commemorative day which marks the invention of Korea's unique writing system by King Sejong. Twenty contestants in four divisions ranging from Junior Infants to University students and Adults participated in the contest, which was funded by the Korea Foundation. The event was supported by the Korean Embassy, and the Ambassador of Korea to Ireland, H.E. Mr Park, presented the prizes. The speech contest represents an important step in raising awareness of the Korean language in Ireland as well as in encouraging Korean learners to showcase their language skills.