

# Voicing Gender in China

CHINA  
ACADEMIC  
NETWORK ON  
GENDER

FOURTH  
CONFERENCE

17-18 JUNE  
2025

## KEYNOTES

HOWARD CHIANG  
(UCSB)  
RACHEL HARRIS  
(SOAS)



PROGRAMME  
& REGISTRATION



## DAY 1 – TUESDAY 17 June

SALLE ATHÉNA, MAISON DE LA RECHERCHE, 4 RUE DES IRLANDAIS, 75005 PARIS

### REGISTRATION & WELCOME COFFEE

9 :00

### CONFERENCE OPENING & WELCOME ADDRESS

9:30-9:45

Anne Isabelle FRANCOIS (GIS Institut du Genre & Université Sorbonne Nouvelle)  
Coraline JORTAY (CNRS – THALIM)

### OPENING KEYNOTE ADDRESS

09:45-11:00

HOWARD CHIANG (UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA)  
*Trans Without Borders: Voices from the Decolonial Past*

### PANEL 1: AFFECTIVE OUTLETS: VOICE AND EMOTIONS IN CONTEMPORARY CHINA

11:00-13:00

Discussant: Rachel HARRIS (SOAS)

ZENG Jinyan (Lund University)  
*Affective Podcasting: Forging Feminist Community for Sinophone-Tibetans*

HUANG Fei (University of St Andrews)  
*Support-Seeking Attitudes and Emotional Sharing Practices Among Stay-at-Home Fathers in Urban China*

Arianne M. GAETANO (Auburn University)  
*Gendered Subjectivity and Embodied Resistance of Single Women in Urban China*

### LUNCH

13:00-14:00

### PANEL 2: STAGING TRANSGRESSIVE VOICES

14:00-16:00

Discussant: Howard CHIANG (University of California, Santa Barbara)

ZHU Ke & LI Jinghui (University of Amsterdam)  
*Lip syncing and the Trans-Asian Art of Dragging in China*

LI Yizhuo (City University of Hong Kong)  
*“Voicing the Villainess: Gender Transgression in Qing Drama”*

LI Leshan (Heidelberg University)

*Masculinized Appearances, Feminized Voices: Revolutionary Women in Chinese New Opera, 1949–1966*

HUANG Yixuan (University of Edinburgh)

*The Indeterminate Nü-Er: Cross-Dressing of Pre-Teen Boyish Girls in 1960s Hong Kong Cinema*

#### COFFEE BREAK

16:00-16:30

#### PANEL 3: MARGINALIZED VOICES FROM THE INNER QUARTERS

16:30-18:30

Discussant: Jennifer BOND (University College London)

XU Ning (University of Hong Kong)

*Soundscape in Women's Sphere: Cross-Class Cultural Community of Tanci in the Ming and Qing Dynasties*

XIA Shi (New College of Florida)

*Excluding Concubines: The Contested Politics of Progressive Women's Groups in Republican China (1912-1949)*

Anne KERLAN (CNRS - EHESS - Université de Paris)

*The Silences of Ruan Lingyu (1910-1935), Movie Star and Woman*

#### CONFERENCE DINNER

19:00

### DAY 2 – WEDNESDAY 18 June

SALLE ATHÉNA, MAISON DE LA RECHERCHE, 4 RUE DES IRLANDAIS, 75005 PARIS

#### PANEL 4: PAPER VOICES: GENDER IN TRANSMEDIAL PERSPECTIVES

09:00-11:00

Discussant: Coraline JORTAY (CNRS – ENS - Université Sorbonne Nouvelle)

Chloe ESTEP (University of Pennsylvania)

*Vulgar Classicism: The Book of Odes, the Dance Hall, and the Cinema*

CUI Wendong (Chinese University of Hong Kong)

*Tracing Female Heroes' Voices: Tang Hongfu's Gendered Translations Amid Cultural Tensions in Early Twentieth-Century China and Japan*

SHI Bingbing (University of St Andrews)

*Spy Number One and the Creation of the First Chinese Female Spy Film*

ZHENG Qijun (École Pratique des Hautes Études)  
*Echoes of Emancipation: A Century of Women's Voices, Gender Dynamics  
and Religious Authority at Maoshan in China (1912-2012)*

COFFEE BREAK  
11:00-11:30

**PANEL 5: SPEAKING WITH AUTHORITY: WOMEN IN SCIENCE, MEDICINE, AND THE ARTS**  
11:30-13:30

Discussant: Chang LIU (Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen)

Chiara CIGARINI (Ca' Foscari University and Wellesley College)  
*Non-Linear Hydric Futures: An Ecofeminist Perspective on Chinese Narratives,  
Water Policy and Affect*

Martina MERENDA (University of Bologna)  
*Calligraphy means Feminine: A Focus on a Female Calligraphic Approach  
within Performance art in Contemporary China*

Clover Yue GU (Shanghai University)  
*How Was Disability Presented? Emotions, Marriage, and Circumstances of the  
Stone Maiden in Late Imperial and Republican China*

LUNCH  
13:30-14:30

**PANEL 6: VOICES FROM BELOW**  
14:30-16:30

Discussant: Beatrice ZANI (CNRS - LISE)

Isabelle ATTANÉ (INED)  
*Women: Forced Actors in Securing China's Demographic and Economic  
Future?*

Marijn FENNEMA (York University)  
*Voicing Allure: Shifting Social Profiles and Work Methods of Sex Workers in Early  
20th-Century Yantai*

Isabella JACKSON (Trinity College Dublin)  
*"I am a Slave-Girl, not an Adopted Daughter." Enslaved Girls Speaking – and  
Being Heard – in Early Twentieth-Century China*

LIU Xi (Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University)  
*Social Inequalities in Urbanization and Its Discontent: Representing Subaltern  
Women in Post-2020 Chinese Writings*

## CLOSING KEYNOTE ADDRESS

16:30-17:45

RACHEL HARRIS (SOAS)

*“No Longer Baby-Making Machines”? Hearing Uyghur Women's Voices Under the Anti-Extremism Campaigns*

## CLOSING COMMENTS

17:45-18:00