

Aynne Kokas, Ph.D.

Chao Center for Asian Studies, MS-475
6100 Main Street, Houston, TX 77005
aek5@rice.edu - 1.248.736.1233

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2014-

Assistant Professor of Media Studies and Media Policy
Department of Media Studies, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA

2012-2014

Fellow in Chinese Media Studies, Baker Institute for Public Policy, Rice University
Postdoctoral Fellow, Chao Center for Asian Studies, Rice University, Houston, TX

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Asian Languages and Cultures—Contemporary Chinese Media, June 2012
University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA,
Dissertation Committee: John Caldwell (Co-Chair), Theodore Hutters (Co-Chair)
Dissertation Title: *Shot in Shanghai: Sino-U.S. Post-WTO Media Co-Production*
** 2013 International Communication Association Best Dissertation Award

M.A., Comparative and Cultural Studies (Chinese and Korean), June 2008
University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA

B.A., Political Science and Chinese
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
**William Branstrom Prize (Top 5% of University of Michigan Students)

PUBLICATIONS

Book

Shot in Shanghai: Blockbusters, Social Networks and Sino-U.S. Media Convergence, book manuscript under revision, in discussions with Duke University Press

Book Chapters

"American Media Behind the Great Fire Wall: Chinese Social Media and Hollywood Film" in *Connected Viewing: Selling, Sharing, and Streaming Media in a Digital Era*, eds. Jennifer Holt and Kevin Sanson (New York: Routledge, forthcoming 2013).

Kokas, Aynne. "Childhood as Para-Industrial Practice: International Theme Parks and Youth Media Participation in Shanghai" in John T. Caldwell, ed., *Para-Industry: International Trends in Production Studies Research*. Rutgers, NJ: Rutgers University Press, forthcoming 2014.

Manuscript under review

Defining Digital Ephemera: Theorizing Social Media Archives in the PRC under review by
positions: east asia cultures critique

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Policy Paper

Kokas, Aynne. "How to Build a Transparent Web: Transnational Social Media, Cybeseurity, Sino-U.S. Trade." James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy. October 2014.

Book Review

Kokas, A. (November 2011) Review of the book *Art, Politics and Commerce in Chinese Cinema* by Y. Zhu and S. Rosen. *Chinese Journal of Communications*, 4(3).

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS AND HONORS

- United Nations University Institute for Advanced Studies ProsperNet Grant (\$3,000)
- Best Dissertation, International Communication Association, Global Communication Section, Summer 2013
- Rice University Division of Humanities Travel Grant, Summer 2013 (\$1,500)
- Baker Institute Transnational China Project Travel Grant, Summer 2013 (\$1,100)
- Visiting Fellow, Shanghai Institute for International Studies, Summer 2013 (\$2,000 + Housing)
- Mellon-Sawyer Cultures of Energy Seminar, Rice University, 2012-2013
- Rice University, Postdoctoral Fellowship in Sustainability, Chao Center for Asian Studies, 2012-2014 (\$100,000)
- UCSB/Warner Bros. Media Industries Connected Viewing Project Fellow, 2011-2012 (\$1,000 + Expenses)
- UCLA-Fudan Scholarly Translation Fellow, Summer 2011 (\$1,000 + Housing)
- UCLA Presidential Scholar, 2009-2010 (\$16,000 + tuition)
- Fulbright IIE Scholar, Shanghai, China, Academic Year 2008-2009 (\$24,000)
- UCLA Graduate Research Mentorship, Academic Year 2007-2008 (\$16,000 + tuition)
- Social Science Research Council Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship, Visual Culture, Summer 2007 (\$5,000)
- Summer Graduate Student Research Mentorship, 2006; 2007; 2008 (\$4000 x 3)
- Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship, Chinese: Summer 2007 (\$4,500)

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- Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship, Korean: 2005-2006; 2006-2007 (\$16,000 + tuition x 2)
- UCLA Presidential Scholar: 2004-2005 (\$19,000 + tuition)
- Chinese Ministry of Education Fellow, Beijing Film Academy: 2003-2004 (\$2000 + Housing + Tuition)

INVITED LECTURES

- "Bruce Willis and the Great Firewall of China: How the Growth of Chinese Social Networks is Challenging PRC Media Policy," University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA, March 4, 2013.
- "Ironman is Now Chinese. Social Media and Film Co-Production in the PRC," Telecommunication and Information Policy Institute and School of Radio, Film and Television, University of Texas, Austin, Texas, February 25, 2013.
- "Green Media, Greenwashing and Global Environmental Leadership," Global Green Business Week, UCLA Anderson School of Business, Center for International Business Education and Research, Los Angeles, CA, 2011/2012
- "*Slumdog Millionaire* and the Politics of Asian Co-Productions," Shanghai University School of Film and Television Cinema Salon, Shanghai, China, 2009
- "Border Insecurities: *Code 46*, *Ultraviolet* and Shanghai in Contemporary Western Cinema," Getty Research Institute, Getty Center, Los Angeles, CA, 2008
- "The Films of Wong Kar-wai and the Politics of Remembrance," Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA, 2008
- "Film Industry Development in Post-WTO China," APEC Youth Forum, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, Thailand, 2003

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY/PARTICIPATION:

Conferences/Panels Organized:

Co-Organizer, James A. Baker Institute for Public Policy 20th Anniversary Event "The Politics of Reform of China," Houston, TX, Spring 2013

Conference Organizing Committee, Getty Research Institute "International Symposium on China and the West: Visual and Artistic Encounters in the Qing Dynasty," Beijing, Summer 2011

Panel Chair, "Contemporary East Asian Film Co-Production and Collaboration: Historical and Industrial Perspectives" Association of Asian Studies, Honolulu, HI, Spring 2011

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Panel Chair, "Contemporary Asian Film Industries," Los Angeles, CA, Society of Cinema and Media Studies, Spring 2010

Papers Presented:

"Picturing Global China: Hollywood, *Iron Man*, and the Rise of Chinese Co-Productions," Picturing Global China, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon, 2013.

"New Presentation Methods in the Digital Humanities," Digitization in the Humanities, Rice University Humanities Research Center in Conjunction with the Oxford University, Rice University, Houston, TX, 2013.

"The Politics of Reform in Contemporary China," James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy Twentieth Anniversary Event, Rice University, Houston TX, 2013.

"Defining Digital Ephemera: Theorizing Social Media Archives in the PRC," Defining Ephemera Workshop, Houston, TX, 2012

"Flow versus Firewalls: the Politics of Access in Streaming Mainland Chinese TV," FlowTV Conference, Austin, TX, 2012

"American Media Behind the Great Fire Wall: Social Media and Film Viewing in China," UCSB/Warner Bros. Media Industries Project, Connected Viewing Initiative Conference, Los Angeles, CA 2012

"Branding Chinese Childhood: International Theme Parks and Youth Media in Contemporary Shanghai" at University of Heidelberg "Asia and Europe in Global Context—New Urban Imaginaries" Conference, Shanghai, China, 2011

"Imaginary Landscapes, Imagined Communities: the Nation, the Consumer, and the new Chinese Movie Theme Parks" Contemporary Chinese Media and Culture, University of California, Los Angeles, CA, 2011

"The Image, the City: Media industries, Industrial Infrastructure, and the Rise of Film Co-Production in Shanghai" Association of Asian Studies, Honolulu, HI, 2011

"Shot in Shanghai: Film Co-Production and the Rise of the Shanghai "Brand"" Society of Cinema and Media Studies, New Orleans, LA, 2011

"Sino-U.S. Co-Production Practice and the Rise of the Chinese Film Market," Society of Cinema and Media Studies, Los Angeles, CA, 2010

"When Your City Is No Longer Your City: Representing Remnants of Wartime Shanghai/Hong Kong," at the Pacific Seminar, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, 2007

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"Sinophone Media Modulations from the Local to the Global: The Narrative of *Everlasting Regret*," at the American Comparative Literature Association Conference, Puebla, Mexico, 2007

"The Lady from Shanghai: Cinematic Forms of the Body in New Sensationist Avant-Garde Literature," at the American Comparative Literature Association Conference, Princeton, New Jersey, 2006

"Remake as De-Politicization in *Crazed Fruit* and *Summer Heat*" at the Columbia University Asian Studies Graduate Student Conference, New York, NY, 2006

"Story Fragments, Emotional Remains: The Jarring Narrative Discourse of Wong Kar Wai's *2046*," Columbia Asian Studies Graduate Student Conference, New York, NY, 2005

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate

- Transnational Asian Media, Course Designer/Instructor, Rice University, Winter 2013; Fall 2013
- Global Environmental Media, Course Designer/Instructor, Rice University, Winter 2013; Fall 2013; UCLA, Spring 2011; Spring 2012
- Academic Advancement Program World Literature Teaching Fellow, UCLA, 2010
- Intensive First-Year Chinese, Teaching Fellow, UCLA 2010; 2011
- Hong Kong Martial Arts Cinema, Teaching Associate, UCLA 2007 Graduate
- Asian Languages & Cultures Pedagogy, Course Designer/Instructor, UCLA 2008
- Asian Digital Humanities, Course Designer/Instructor, UCLA 2006; 2007

RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Research Experience

Research Assistant, Getty Research Institute • Los Angeles, CA 2007-2008; 2009-Present

- Facilitated planning of international conference on Qing dynasty cultural exchange with Getty scholar, Petra Chu
- Collaborated on Chinese cultural institutions project with Dean of Peking University School of the Arts
- Conducted special collections research for scholar Tom Gunning's Mellon-winning project *The Poetics of Cinema*
- Translated and archived art historical primary text materials for the production of art history scholar Sarah Fraser's untitled book project on painter, Zhang Daqian

Fellow, Asia-Pacific Leadership Program

East-West Center • Honolulu, HI • Thailand • Washington, D.C. 2002-2003

Selected Media Production Experience

Commentator/Guest Host, "Blockbuster Film Co-Production in Shanghai." *Reel Talk*, International Channel Shanghai, Shanghai, China, 2008

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Commentator/Guest Host, "International Fan Culture and the World of James Bond," *Reel Talk*, International Channel Shanghai, Shanghai, China, 2009

Chinese Translator and Dialect Coach, *Bones*, Episode 214, Los Angeles, CA, 2007

Market Analyst, Manifest Films, Santa Monica, CA - 2005-2006

Analyzed Greater China financing and film production market to determine the viability of film investment for producer of the *Joy Luck Club* and *High School Musical: China*

Distribution Consultant, Huayi Taihe Film Investment Co., Ltd. Beijing, China, 2004

- Designed distribution strategy for Xie Dong, one of the earliest Chinese independent filmmakers
- Developed first international market focus group by a Chinese production company

SKILLS

Languages

Professional proficiency: Mandarin Chinese and Spanish

Research proficiency: Korean and German

Basic: Japanese, Cantonese, Shanghainese

Technology

Final Cut Pro, Adobe Premiere, MovieMagic, GEPHI, R

Professional Memberships/Affiliations

Society of Cinema and Media Studies (2006) and Association for Asian Studies (2007)

REFERENCES

John Caldwell

Professor of Cinema and Media Studies

UCLA Film & TV, BOX 951622, 203 E. Melnitz

Los Angeles, CA 90095-1622

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Michael Curtin

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Tom Gunning

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