

# Monthly Title Information

## AI Sheets - September 2020

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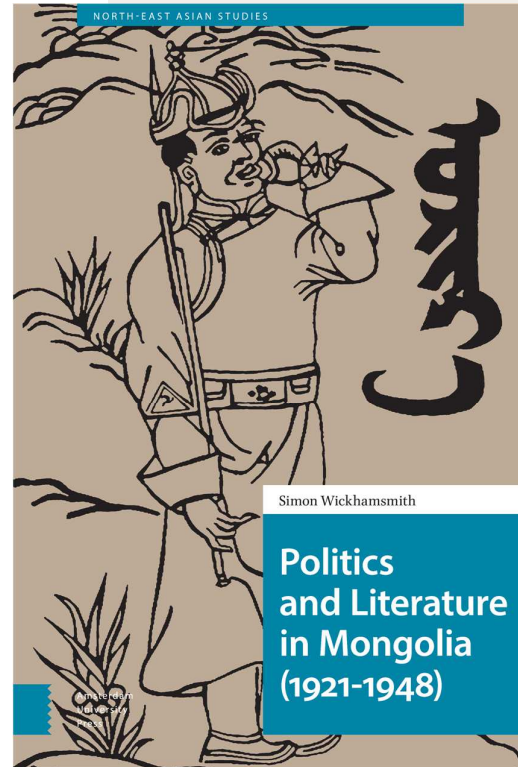
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Simon Wickhamsmith

## Politics and Literature in Mongolia (1921-1948)

This study investigates the relationship between literature and politics during Mongolia's early revolutionary period. Between the 1921 socialist revolution and the first Writers' Congress, held in April 1948, the literary community constituted a key resource in the formation and implementation of policy. At the same time, debates within the party, discontent among the population, and questions of religion and tradition led to personal and ideological conflict among the intelligentsia and, in many cases, to trials and executions. Using primary texts, many of them translated into English for the first time, Simon Wickhamsmith shows the role played by the literary arts - poetry, fiction and drama - in the complex development of the "new society," helping to bring Mongolia's nomadic herding population into the utopia of equality, industrial progress and social well-being promised by the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party.



**Simon Wickhamsmith** is a scholar and translator of modern Mongolian literature. He teaches in the Writing Program and the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures at Rutgers University.

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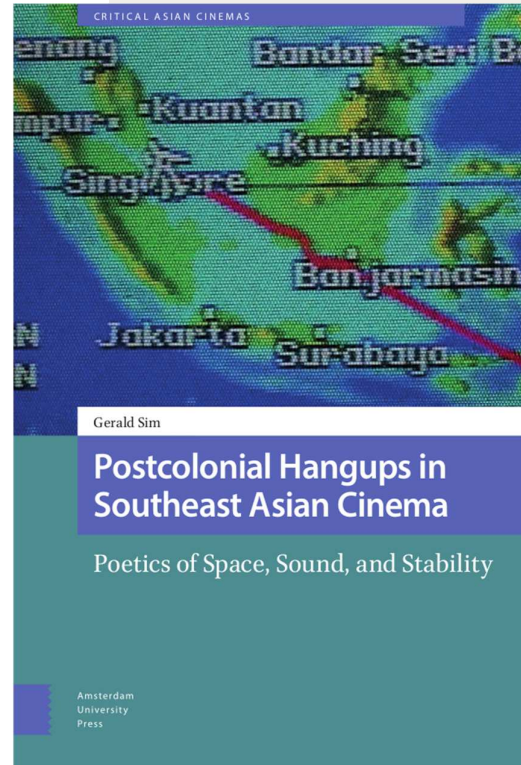
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Gerald Sim

## Postcolonial Hangups in Southeast Asian Cinema

*Poetics of Space, Sound, and Stability*

*Postcolonial Hangups in Southeast Asian Cinema* explores a geopolitically situated set of cultures negotiating unique relationships to colonial history. These particular Singaporean, Malaysian, and Indonesian identities are discussed through a variety of commercial films, art cinema, and experimental work. It discovers instances of postcoloniality that manifest stylistically through Singapore's preoccupations with space, the importance of sound to Malay culture, and the Indonesian investment in genre.



**Gerald Sim** is an Associate Professor of Film and Media Studies at Florida Atlantic University, the author of *The Subject of Film and Race: Retheorizing Politics, Ideology, and Cinema* (2014), and Lee Kong Chian NUS-Stanford Fellow on Contemporary Southeast Asia in 2016-2017.

Critical Asian Cinemas  
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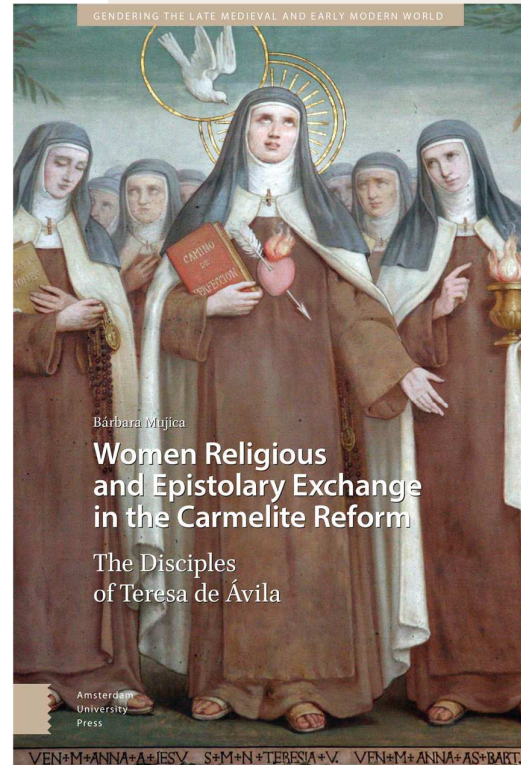
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**Bárbara Mujica**

## Women Religious and Epistolary Exchange in the Carmelite Reform

*The Disciples of Teresa de Ávila*

The sixteenth century was a period of crisis in the Catholic Church. Monastic reorganization was a major issue, and women were at the forefront of charting new directions in convent policy. The story of the Carmelite Reform has been told before, but never from the perspective of the women on the front lines. Nearly all accounts of the movement focus on Teresa de Ávila, (1515-1582), and end with her death in 1582. *Women Religious and Epistolary Exchange in the Carmelite Reform: The Disciples of Teresa de Ávila* carries the story beyond Teresa's death, showing how the next generation of Carmelite nuns struggled into the seventeenth century to continue her mission. It is unique in that it draws primarily from female-authored sources, in particular, the letters of three of Teresa's most dynamic disciples: María de San José, Ana de Jesús and Ana de San Bartolomé.



**Bárbara Mujica** is a Professor Emerita of Spanish literature at Georgetown University, where she taught early modern Spanish literature with a specialization in the Spanish mystics, women's writing, and Spanish theater. She was awarded a Presidential Medal, the School of Languages and Linguistics Service Medal, and the Dean's Medal for Excellence in Teaching.

Gendering the Late Medieval and Early Modern World

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John Beusterien

## Transoceanic Animals as Spectacle in Early Modern Spain

Animal spectacles are vital to a holistic appreciation of Spanish culture. In *Transoceanic Animals as Spectacle in Early Modern Spain*, Beusterien christens five previously unnamed animals, each of whom was a protagonist in a spectacle: Abada, the rhinoceros; Hawa'i, the elephant; Fuleco, the armadillo; Jarama, the bull; and Maghreb, the lion. In presenting and analyzing their stories, Beusterien enriches our understanding of the role of animals in the development of commercial theater in Spain and the modern bullfight. He also contributes to growing scholarly conversations on the importance of Spain in the history of science by examining how animal spectacles had profound repercussions on the emergence of the modern zoo and natural history museum.

Combining scholarly content analysis and pedagogical sagacity, the book has a broad appeal for scholars of the early modern Spanish empire, animal studies scholars, and secondary and post-secondary instructors looking for engaging exercises and information for their Spanish language, culture, and history students.



**John Beusterien** is Professor of Spanish and Coordinator of the Comparative Literature Program at Texas Tech University.

Connected Histories in the Early Modern World  
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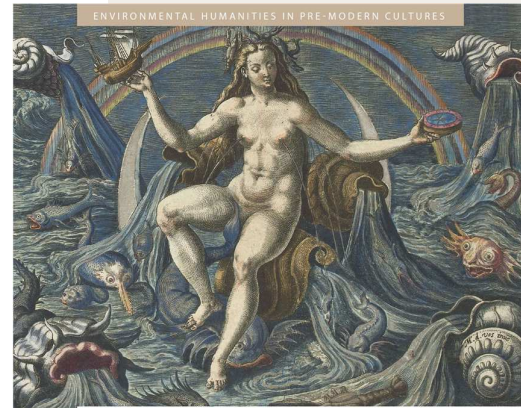
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Lindsay J. Starkey

## Encountering Water in Early Modern Europe and Beyond

*Redefining the Universe through Natural Philosophy, Religious Reformations, and Sea Voyaging*

Both the Christian Bible and Aristotle's works suggest that water should entirely flood the earth. Though many ancient, medieval, and early modern Europeans relied on these works to understand and explore the relationships between water and earth, particularly sixteenth-century Europeans were especially concerned with why dry land existed. This book investigates why sixteenth-century Europeans were so interested in water's failure to submerge the earth when their predecessors had not been. Analyzing biblical commentaries as well as natural philosophical, geographical, and cosmographical texts from these periods, Lindsay Starkey shows that European sea voyages to the Southern Hemisphere combined with the traditional methods of European scholarship and religious reformations led sixteenth-century Europeans to reinterpret water and earth's ontological and spatial relationships. The manner in which they did so also sheds light on how we can respond to our current water crisis before it is too late.



Lindsay J. Starkey

### Encountering Water in Early Modern Europe and Beyond

*Redefining the Universe through Natural Philosophy, Religious Reformations and Sea Voyaging*

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**Lindsay Starkey** is an Assistant Professor of History at Kent State University at Stark.

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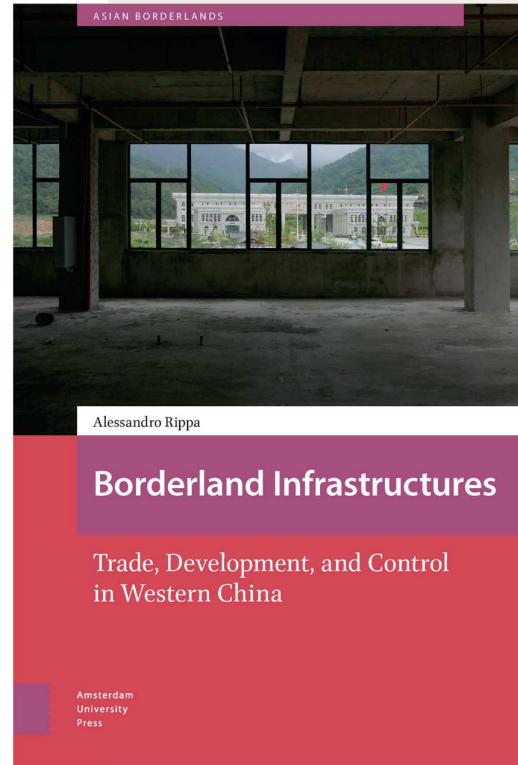
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**Alessandro Rippa****Borderland Infrastructures***Trade, Development, and Control in Western China*

Across the Chinese borderlands, investments in large-scale transnational infrastructure such as roads and special economic zones have increased exponentially over the past two decades. Based on long-term ethnographic research, 'Borderland infrastructures' addresses a major contradiction at the heart of this fast-paced development: small-scale traders have lost their historic strategic advantages under the growth of massive Chinese state investment and are now struggling to keep their businesses afloat.

Concurrently, local ethnic minorities have become the target of radical resettlement projects, securitization, and tourism initiatives, and have in many cases grown increasingly dependent on state subsidies. At the juncture of anthropological explorations of the state, border studies, and research on transnational trade and infrastructure development, 'Borderland infrastructures' provides new analytical tools to understand how state power is experienced, mediated, and enacted in Xinjiang and Yunnan. In the process, Rippa offers a rich and nuanced ethnography of life across China's peripheries.



**Alessandro Rippa** is Associate Professor of Chinese Studies at Tallinn University and "freigeist" Fellow (2020-2025) at the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, LMU Munich.

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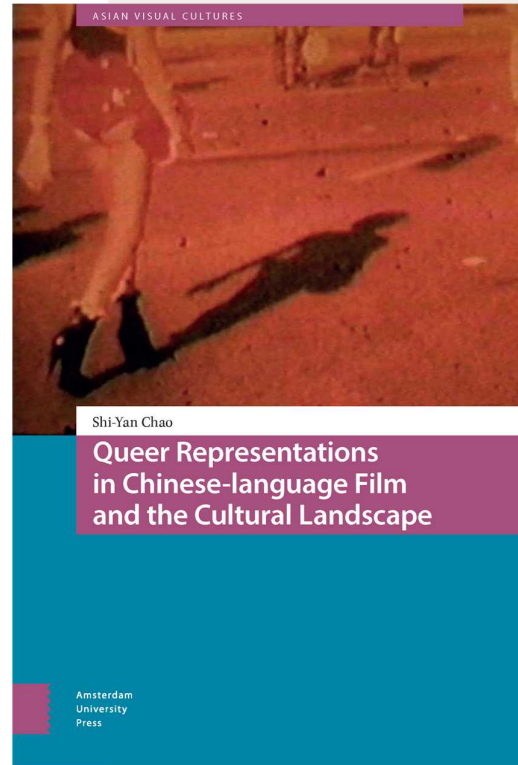
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Shi-Yan Chao

## Queer Representations in Chinese-language Film and the Cultural Landscape

This book provides a cultural history of queer representations in Chinese-language film and media, negotiated by locally produced knowledge, local cultural agency, and lived histories. Incorporating a wide range of materials in both English and Chinese, this interdisciplinary project investigates the processes through which Chinese tongzhi/queer imaginaries are articulated, focusing on four main themes: the Chinese familial system, Chinese opera, camp aesthetic, and documentary impulse. Chao's discursive analysis is rooted in and advances genealogical inquiries: a non-essentialist intervention into the "Chinese" idea of filial piety, a transcultural perspective on the contested genre of film melodrama, a historical investigation of the local articulations of mass camp and gay camp, and a transnational inquiry into the different formats of documentary. This book is a must for anyone exploring the cultural history of Chinese tongzhi/queer through the lens of transcultural media.



**Shi-Yan Chao** is research assistant professor in the Academy of Film at Hong Kong Baptist University. His recent publications can be found in *Transgender Studies Quarterly*, *International Journal of Cultural Policy*, and *The Fantastic in Contemporary Chinese Cinemas* (forthcoming).

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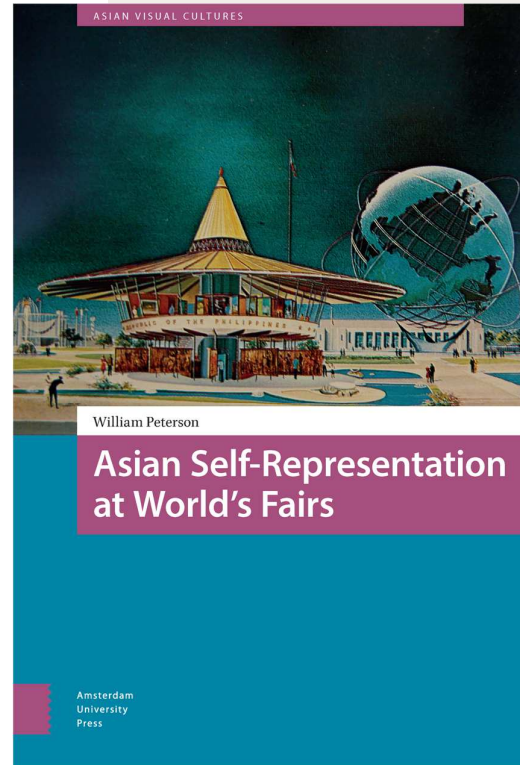
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**William Peterson**

## Asian Self-Representation at World's Fairs

International expositions or "world's fairs" are the largest and most important stage on which millions routinely gather to directly experience, express, and respond to cultural difference. Rather than looking at Asian representation at the hands of colonizing powers, something already much examined, this book instead focuses on expressions of an empowered Asian self-representation at world's fairs in the West after the so-called golden age of the exhibition. New modes of representation became possible as the older "exhibitionary order" of earlier fairs gave way to a dominant "performative order," one increasingly preoccupied with generating experience and affect. Using case studies of national representation at selected fairs over the hundred-year period from 1915-2015, this book considers both the politics of representation as well as what happens within the imaginative worlds of Asian country pavilions, where the performative has become the dominant mode for imprinting directly on human bodies.



**William Peterson** is Senior Lecturer of Drama at Flinders University, Adelaide, Australia.

Asian Visual Cultures  
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