



8th ASSOCIATION FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN CINEMAS CONFERENCE

“Codes, Kitsch, Camp: Genre in/and Southeast Asian Cinemas”

7 > 10 JULY 2014 - FILM ARCHIVE, SALAYA, THAILAND



PARTICIPANTS BIO

Dr. Katarzyna Ancuta
Assumption University in Bangkok, Thailand

Katarzyna Ancuta is a lecturer at the Graduate School of English at Assumption University in Bangkok, Thailand. Her research interests tend to focus on contemporary cultural manifestations of Gothic, particularly in such areas as popular fiction, comics and graphic novels, multimedia and performance art, film and video, theatre, music and dance, fashion and alternative lifestyles. Most of her publications are concerned with the interdisciplinary contexts of contemporary Gothic and Horror, and recently with (South)-East Asian (particularly Thai) cinema and supernatural anthropology. She is currently working on a book on Asian Gothic, and a multimedia project on Bangkok Gothic. She is also involved in a number of film-related projects in South-East Asia.

Asst. Prof. Brian Bernards
University of Southern California

Brian Bernards is Assistant Professor of East Asian Languages and Cultures at the University of Southern California. He is co-editor (with Shu-mei Shih and Chien-hsin Tsai) of *Sinophone Studies: A Critical Reader* (Columbia UP, 2013), and has published in the journals *Postcolonial Studies* (2012), the *Sun Yat-sen Journal of Humanities* (2013), and *Modern Chinese Literature and Culture* (forthcoming, 2014). His manuscript project, *Writing the South Seas* (now under review), examines the history of Chinese migration, settlement, and creolization in Southeast Asia through the evolution of the Nanyang as a postcolonial trope in literature from China, Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand.

Fernando Calleja Jr.
University of the Philippines-Diliman

Fernando S. Calleja Jr., is an MA Media Studies Film student of the University of the Philippines-Diliman and an AB Communication graduate of Ateneo de Naga University (2006). His short film *Pila*, about Bicolano culture, religion, and sexuality, was submitted to the 1st Cinemalaya Film Festival in 2005. He has also produced several short subjects and documentaries, mostly focusing on religiosity (*Decadence*, *Church Culture*, *Kagurangnan*). He currently works as an Assistant Manager for a publishing account in an outsourcing company and plans to put up a film review blog someday.

Asst. Prof. Patrick F. Campos
University of the Philippines Film Institute

Patrick F. Campos is Asst. Prof. at the University of the Philippines (UP) Film Institute. He is Associate Editor of Humanities Diliman and *Plaridel: A Philippine Journal of Communication and Media* and a consultant at the Open University of Malaysia. He was formerly the Coordinator of the UP Film Center, where he directed international film festivals and the longest running film workshop in the Philippines. His publications and presentations have been preoccupied with polylocalities and how contemporary Philippine cinema has engendered nation and nationalism. More recently, his research interest has shifted to the wider circle of Southeast Asian cinemas, specifically the cinemas of Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, Malaysia, and Singapore.

Graiwoot Chulphongsathorn
Queen Mary, University of London

Between 2003-2010, Graiwoot worked as a film journalist and managing editor at *Bioscope Movie Magazine*, Thailand. Now he is a PhD student at Queen Mary, University of London. His research, funded by Queen Mary Principle's research studentship, is about the potential of the forest as a non-anthropocentric space in contemporary art cinema.

Prof. Camilla Fojas
DePaul University

Camilla Fojas is Vincent de Paul Professor of Latin American and Latino Studies and Global Asian Studies at DePaul University. Her books include *Cosmopolitanism in the Americas* (Purdue UP 2005), *Border Bandits: Hollywood on the Southern Frontier* (University of Texas Press 2008), and *Islands of Empire: Pop Culture and U.S. Power* (University of Texas Press, 2014). She co-edited with Rudy Guevarra *Transnational Crossroads: Remapping the Americas and the Pacific* (Nebraska UP, 2012) and, with Mary Beltran, *Mixed Race Hollywood* (NYU, 2008).



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Elmo Gonzaga
National University of Singapore

Elmo Gonzaga is a Lecturer at the National University of Singapore's Ideas and Exposition Program, where he teaches two courses, 'From Kodak to Instagram: How Images Tell Lies' and 'Visualizing Southeast Asian Cities.' He has a PhD in Rhetoric from the University of California, Berkeley with a specialization in the visual and spatial culture of modern and contemporary Southeast Asia. He is currently working on his book manuscript, 'Monsoon Marketplace,' which attempts to trace the entangled genealogies of consumer capitalism, public life, and urban modernity in Manila and Singapore by examining changes in the configuration and experience of important commercial and leisure spaces across the 1930s, 1960s, and 2000s.

Asst. Prof. Nguyen Tan Hoang
Bryn Mawr College

Nguyen Tan Hoang teaches and writes about queer cinema, experimental film, Asian American visual culture, video production, race and new media. His essays have appeared in *Porn Studies* (2004), *Vectors: Journal of Culture and Technology in a Dynamic Vernacular* (2006), *GLQ* (2007), *kultur & geschlecht* (2012), and *Resolution 3: Video Praxis in Global Spaces* (2012). His experimental videos were screened at the Museum of Modern Art, the National Museum of Modern Art at the Pompidou Center, the Getty Center, and numerous film and media festivals. In fall 2005, he was a residential fellow at the University of California Humanities Research Institute in the cluster, "The Object of Media Studies." His book, *A View from the Bottom: Asian American Masculinity and Sexual Representation* (Duke University Press, 2014), examines the depiction of gay Asian bottomhood in Hollywood cinema, European art film, gay pornography, and experimental documentary.

Dredge Byung'chu Käng
Emory University

Dredge Byung'chu Käng is a PhD/MPH candidate in anthropology and global epidemiology at Emory University. His research focuses on homosexuality and transgenderism, sex work, transnational relationships, East Asian popular culture flows, and Asian regionalism in contemporary Thailand. Dredge has published on Thai queer media and art, transgenderism, and HIV. He has several forthcoming articles and book chapters on gender/sexuality and K-pop cover dance in Thailand.

Dr. Katinka van Heeren

Katinka van Heeren built up a specialization in Javanese culture, Indonesian Islam, and Indonesian contemporary audio-visual media. Between 2001 and 2012 she organized several film screenings in the Netherlands and Indonesia, as well as took part at different film festivals as a member of the jury. In 2012 she published her research *Contemporary Indonesian film: spirits of Reform and ghosts from the past*, KILT/TV Press. Since then she has assisted in the production of Indonesian films and documentaries. Currently she works for the Indonesian television station Trans TV and is engaged in the early production stages of a feature film project.

Assoc. Prof. Gaik Cheng Khoo
University of Nottingham, Malaysia Campus

Gaik Cheng Khoo currently teaches film and cultural studies. She has published mostly on Malaysian and Singaporean independent films (in journals such as *Inter-Asia Cultural Studies*, *Asian Cinema*, *Journal of Chinese Cinemas*, *SEAR*, *Concentric*, *Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography*, numerous essay collections and Criticine online). Recent publications: "The Politics of Reformasi: independent filmmakers re-imagine citizenship in *Malaysian Gods and Project 15Malaysia*" in *Misplaced Democracy: Malaysian Politics and People* (ed. Sophie Lemiére, SIRD 2014) and "Syiok Sendiri? Independent Filmmaking in Malaysia" in *Independent Filmmaking Around the Globe*. (eds. D. Baltruschat & M. P. Erickson, U of Toronto Press, 2014). Upcoming publications include a co-edited special issue of *Citizenship Studies* with Julian Lee entitled "Malaysia's new ethnoscaples and ways of belonging" and a jointly-authored book with Jean Duruz called *Eating Together: Food, Space and Identity in Malaysia and Singapore* (New York: Rowman and Littlefield, 2014). She is the regional co-ordinator (for SEAsia) for *Asian Cinema* journal since 2013 and also sits on the editorial boards of *Asian Visual Cultures* (Amsterdam University Press), *TransAsia: Screen Cultures* (Hong Kong UP) and *Plaridel Journal* (Philippines).



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Prof. Adam Knee
University of Nottingham, Ningbo, China

In recent years Adam Knee's teaching and research have focused on contemporary Southeast Asian cinema. But he retains his earlier interests in issues of race, gender, stardom, and genre in American popular film. Knee serves on the editorial boards of *Celebrity Studies* (Routledge), the newly re-launched *Intensities: The Journal of Cult Media*, and the Thailand-based *Asian Journal of Literature, Culture and Society*. Current research projects include preparation of a bibliography on horror film for the Oxford Bibliographies Online program, as well as work on a regional study of the contemporary Southeast Asian horror film. Prior to entering the University of Nottingham Ningbo China in May 2013, Knee taught at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. There he also served as Head of Division of Broadcast and Cinema Studies from 2008-2013. Before that he taught at Ohio University in the US, where he coordinated the film studies MA program from 2003-2008.

Assoc. Prof. Mariam B. Lam,
University of California, Riverside

Mariam Lam received her B.A. in English and Spanish and her Ph.D. in Comparative Literature at the University of California, Irvine (UCI). Prior to teaching at UCR, she served as a faculty member at UCI and Loyola Marymount University. A professor in the Comparative Literature and Foreign Languages Department, Lam has taught a wide variety of courses ranging from topics concerning comparative world literature and postcolonial theory to gender and sexuality and comparative pop culture. Outside of the classroom arena, she is involved with the Politics of Race, Immigration, and Ethnicity Colloquium, the Vietnamese Studies Group, and the Center for Asian Pacific America. Presently she holds the position of Director of Southeast Asian Studies (SEATriP) at UC Riverside.

Amara Thiha
University of Coimbra, Portugal

Amara Thiha graduated from West Yangon University with South East Asia and Pacific Studies in 2008. He studied for his Masters degrees in Electronic Government at Orebro University, Sweden and Roads to Democracy (History) at the Uppsala University, Sweden in 2009. He was admitted to the PhD programme “Democracy in the XXI Century” at the University of Coimbra, Portugal in 2010.

Dr. Philippa Lovatt
Stirling University, UK and the University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

Philippa Lovatt is a lecturer in Media and Communications at the University of Stirling, UK. She also teaches Media Management at the University of Social Sciences and Humanities in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, and her main area of research is East and Southeast Asian Cinema (with a particular focus on sound). She has published her research in *Screen* and *The New Soundtrack* and is currently writing a monograph provisionally entitled *Sound, Affect and the Ethics of Listening in Global Cinema*.

Asst. Prof. Natthanai Prasannam
Kasetsart University, Thailand, and University of St Andrews, Scotland

Natthanai Prasannam obtained a BA in Thai from Silpakorn University, a MA in Thai at Chulalongkorn University, a second BA in English at Ramkhamhaeng University and a Certificate in Communication Arts (Film) at Sukhothavithayalai Open University. He works as an Assistant Professor of Thai Literary and Cultural Studies at the Department of Literature, Kasetsart University, Thailand. His research interests include modern Thai literature, Southeast Asian literature, film studies and visual culture. At the present he is working on a preliminary phase of his doctoral research in Film Studies at University of St Andrews, Scotland.

Kong Rithdee
Bangkok Post

Kong Rithdee has been writing about cinema for the Bangkok Post, Thailand's leading English-language newspaper for 18 years. His works have also been published in international film magazines. He has served as jury at many film festivals, including Hong Kong, Busan, Locarno, Jeonju, Vancouver, as well as the Asian Film Awards. He's also a part-time documentary filmmaker: The film he co-directed, *The Convert and Baby Arabia*, was shown at various film festivals. His latest documentary, called *Gaddafi*, was shown at International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam last year. Currently, he is the deputy editor for the arts section of the Bangkok Post.



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Prof. Kim Soyoung
Korean National University of Arts

Kim Soyoung graduated from Cinema Studies at New York University and as the first graduating member of the Korean Academy of Film Arts. As an academic, she published several books on modernity, gender, cinema and media both in Korean and English including *Specters of Modernity: Fantastic Korean Cinema* (Korean), *Electronic Elsewhere: Media, Technology, and the Experience of Social Space* (U of Minnesota Press, 2010) co-edited by Chris Berry, Soyoung Kim and Lynn Spigel. Currently she has a new book coming out, entitled *Modernity in Suspense* (Hong Kong UP, forthcoming). As a critique, she wrote for *Cahiers du cinema*, *Inter-Asia Cultural Studies* and *Cine-21* (Korean) as well as for newspapers on film and popular culture. As a filmmaker she has produced several films among which *Women's History Trilogy* (2000-2004) (*Koryu : Southern women/South Korea*, *I'll Be Seeing Her*, *New Woman : Her First Song*) and *Viewfinder* (Kyung) (2010). At the present she is in the process of a documentary project called *Open City*. This project deals with the dwelling of Koryo people in Asnan, a multicultural hub in South Korea, as well as the Korean Koryo post-Soviet diasporic lives in Central Asia. On account of her academic merits and film career Soyoung was a guest of Honor at Guanajuato International Film Festival, 2011 and her films were screened at Asia Society, Mumbai, Harvard University and University of London and Magic Lantern, Pesci, Hungary. She was a visiting professor at UC Berkeley, UC Irvine and Duke University and a visiting research fellow at the Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore. Kim Soyoung is also Director of Trans Asia Screen Culture Institute, Seoul Korea and editorial board member of *Inter-Asia Cultural Studies*. She is a founding programmer of Jeonju International Film festival and Seoul Women's film Festival and currently a festival co-director of Seoul Women's Film Festival.

Asst. Prof. Noah Viernes
Akita International University

Noah Viernes is an Assistant Professor in the Global Studies Program at Akita International University. He specializes in Thai studies, globalization, and political theory. His work is published in *South East Asia Research*, the *International Journal of the Semiotics of Law*, *Manusya*, and the *Thai-language NIDA Journal of Language and Communication*.

Prof. Rolando Tolentino
University of the Philippines, Film Institute

Rolando B. Tolentino is Dean of the University of the Philippines College of Mass Communication and faculty of the UP Film Institute. He has taught at the Osaka University and National University of Singapore, has been Distinguished Visitor of the UC-Berkeley and UCLA Southeast Asian Studies Consortium, and was recipient of the Obermann Summer Research Fellowship. He is author of *National/Transnational: Subject Formation and Media in and on the Philippines* (2001), and editor of *Vaginal Economy: Cinema and Sexuality in the Post-Marcos Post-Brocka Philippines* (positions, 2011), and *Geopolitics of the Visible: Essays on Philippine Film Cultures* (2002). He is a member of the Manunuri ng Pelikulang Pilipino (Filipino Film Critics Group) and chairs the Congress of Teachers and Educators for Nationalism and Democracy (CONTEND-UP).

Dr. Jack Yeager
Louisiana State University

Jack Yeager specializes in Southeast Asian Francophone literature, Francophone women's writing and gender studies. He was part of the MLA Divisional Committee Francophone Literatures and Cultures (1999-2004), MLA Delegate Assembly (1999-2004), Conseil d'administration, Conseil International d'Etudes Francophones (1999-2004), President, Northeast MLA (1992-93), Visiting Professor, Wellesley College (1997), Visiting Professor, University of Oregon (1996).

Asst. Prof. Jasmine Nadua Trice
University of California

Jasmine Nadua Trice is an Assistant Professor of Cinema and Media Studies in the Department of Film, Television, and Digital Media at the University of California, Los Angeles. Her current book project deals with the circulation of national and transnational cinemas in contemporary Manila, Philippines. She is also working on a piece on new media in Singapore and on a historical project that examines media and urban culture during the American colonial period in Manila.



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Dag Yngvesson
University of Minnesota

Dag Yngvesson is a filmmaker, lecturer, and PhD candidate in Cultural Studies at the University of Minnesota. Drawing on a wide array of theoretical perspectives and many years of film- and field-work in the US, Java and Bali, his dissertation re-examines the question “What is Cinema” by unpacking the diverse symbolic, structural, and socio-political roots of the practice of filmmaking in Indonesia. The result is a series of “unlikely” themes linking the formally, aesthetically, and historically distinct films of the Sukarno, Suharto and Reformasi eras, and placing them within a critical re-mapping of the global history of cinema. He has recently been awarded a Fulbright Hays research fellowship (2013-24), and has published articles in *Jumpcut* (2011) and *Wacana* (forthcoming Fall 2013), and served as co-curator for the Arkipel Experimental and Documentary Film Festival in Jakarta (August 2013). His current film projects include collaborative film/ethnographies on the politics of peace in Aceh and on the large Indonesian migrant community in South Philadelphia.

Chalida Uabumrungjit
Film Archive, Thailand

Chalida Uabumrungjit studied film at Thammasat University and film archiving at University of East Anglia, UK. She has supported independent film through Thai Short Film and Video Festival in which she served as Festival Director since 1997. She coordinated programmes of Thai films for various international festivals. She is also involved in making a number of experimental films and documentaries. She is one of main advocates for film preservation and anti-censorship. Currently she works as Deputy Director of the Film Archive, Thailand.

Kuan Chee Wah
Tunku Abdul Rahman University, Malaysia

Kuan Chee Wah was born in Penang, Malaysia. He received his M.A. from National Chengchi University, Taiwan. He teaches in the Department of Journalism, Faculty Arts and Social Science, University Tunku Abdul Rahman, Malaysia. His research interests including Chinese cultural identities and Chinese language cinema, and has published several essays on the Chinese language cinema studies. He is currently a PhD student in the School of Communication, University of Science, Malaysia and working on his research thesis regarding Chinese identities in Chinese Malaysian cinema.