

## **Dr Adam Yuet Chau's Conference Presentations and Invited Lectures (Since 2008)**

### **Conference Presentations (Since 2008)**

- 2008 'Providing Public Goods or Constructing a Good Public?: Social Engagement and Religious Subjectification in China'. International conference Engaged Religions and the Public Good in Chinese Societies. May 31 – June 2, 2008. Tsinghua University, Hsinchu, Taiwan.
- 2008 Invited speaker at Symposium on Religion and the Future of China, Session on 'Religion, Civil Society, and Economic Life'. June 11, 2008. Council on Foreign Relations, New York, USA.
- 2008 'China's Encounter with the World and Script Fundamentalism as Reflected in the Practice of 'Treasuring Written Traces' (international conference 'Chinese Religions in the Age of Globalisation' at the University of Cambridge, 3-6 July, 2008).
- 2009 'Buddhist Internationals and the Japanese Empire'. International workshop Religious Internationals in the Modern World. Jan 12-13, 2009. University of Oxford, Oxford, UK.
- 2009 'The Kangxi Emperor Sponsors and Hosts an Offering Rite for a Minister's Deceased Mother'. Text reading seminar at the Research Training Workshop in Old Chinese 'Philosophy and Religion'. Jan 29-Feb 1, 2009. University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK.
- 2009 'Embeddedness: Temples as Social Thickener' (interdisciplinary workshop 'The Revitalization and Invention of Tradition: Destruction and Reconstruction of Religious Sites and Rites in Post-Socialist China,' Center for Interdisciplinary Research, University of Bielefeld, Germany, 6-7 March, 2009).
- 2009 Panel discussion on Religion and Politics in China with Gil Delannoi (Science-Po, Paris), organised by the Religion and Secularism Network. May 22, 2009. Pembroke College, University of Cambridge, UK.
- 2009 'Cherishing Lettered Paper: Confucian Local Elites in the Transition to Modernity' (international workshop 'Translation and Conflict: Confucianism, the Classics and Chinese/Asian Modernities', Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH), University of Cambridge, 2 July, 2009)
- 2009 'Ritual Polytypy at Chinese Funerals: Implications for the Religious Market Model' (international workshop 'Beyond the Market: Exploring Religious Fields in Modern China', University of Wales, Lampeter, 20-22 November, 2009)
- 2010 'The Impact of Secularism and Modernity on the Five Modalities of doing Religion in China' (workshop 'Religion, Secularism, and Modernity in Asia', Centre for Research

in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH), University of Cambridge, 19 February, 2010)

- 2010 ‘從‘惜字紙’與‘媽祖進香’看個人修鍊與關係/來往的‘做宗教’模式’ (Cherishing Lettered Paper and Mazu Pilgrimage: Self-Cultivational and Relational Modalities of Doing Religion) (international conference ‘媽祖與民間信仰’ (Mazu and Popular Religion), 新港 (Hsinkang), Taiwan, May 22-23, 2010)
- 2010 ‘The formation of Charitable Habitus through Religion’ (international conference ‘Religion and the Charitable Society’, University of Westminster, London, July 1-3, 2010)
- 2010 ‘Merchants Beware!: Commerce and the Practice of Cherishing Lettered Paper (惜字紙) in Early 20th century’ (international conference ‘New Trends in the Study of Chinese Popular Religion(s)’ ‘中国民间信仰、民间宗教研究的新趋势’, University of Leipzig, Germany; 1-2 October, 2010)
- 2011 ‘The Impact of Maoism on the Chinese Religious Landscape’ (workshop ‘Religion and Communism: Comparative Perspectives’, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity, Göttingen, Germany; 6-7 May, 2011)
- 2011 ‘The Temple Modern: Traditional and Modern Technologies in Chinese Popular Religion’ (international conference Ritual as Technology, Technology as Ritual, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin, Germany; May 12-14, 2011)
- 2011 ‘Efficacy, Not Confessionality: Ritual Polytypy in Chinese Religious Culture’ (international conference Christianity in East Asian: Past, Present and Future, Chinese University of Hong Kong; May 26-28, 2011)
- 2011 ‘Heritage and Popular Religion in China’ (workshop Patrimoine et musées dans le monde chinois contemporain, Université Paris Ouest (Nanterre); June 17, 2011)
- 2011 ‘Resonant Body-Persons, Rites of Convergence, Sociothermic Affect, and Collective Effervescence: On Elementary Forces of Sociality’ (workshop on the legacy of Émile Durkheim’s Elementary Forms of Religious Life, University of Oxford, 8-9 July, 2011)
- 2011 ‘Religious Pluralism from the Perspective of Religious Consumers (Especially of Rituals)’ (‘Religious Diversity in Chinese Thought,’ Symposium at the Cluster of Excellence ‘Religion and Politics,’ University of Münster, Germany; Oct 27-31, 2011)
- 2012 ‘Religious Subjectification: Cherishing Written Traces and Being a Tzu Chi Person’ (宗教主體化: ‘敬惜字紙’與‘做慈濟人’) (第四屆國際漢學會議 Fourth International Conference on Sinology, at Academia Sinica, Taiwan; June 20-22, 2012)
- 2012 ‘The Production of Exuberance’ (international conference on Chinese temples; Qingdao, Shandong, June 24-26, 2012)

- 2012 ‘Ritual Rights as Human Rights?’ The Household as Unit of Religious Engagement’ (international conference ‘Justice in China’; University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway; 27-28 June, 2012)
- 2012 ‘Script Fundamentalism: The Practice of Cherishing Written Characters (Lettered Paper) (惜字紙) in the Age of Literati Decline and Commercial Revolution’ (VII International Sinology Forum 天, 陸, 海, 人 Sky, Continent, Sea, Man; Oporto, Portugal; March 1-3, 2012)
- 2012 ‘Putting Religion in its Place: Spatialising Illegality in Contemporary China’ (to be presented at international colloquium ‘Norms in the Margins and Margins of the Norm: The Social Construction of Illegality’; Tervuren and Brussels, Belgium, October 25-27, 2012)
- 2013 ‘Popular Religion and the Agrarian Public Sphere’. International workshop Religious Issues in China’s Rural Development. May 10-11, 2013. The Chinese Agriculture University, Beijing, China.
- 2013 ‘Dead Bodies Between Local Moral Worlds and the State’. International conference Social Lives of Dead Bodies in Modern China. June 14-16, 2013. Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, USA.
- 2013 ‘Chinese Socialism and the Household Idiom of Religious Engagement’. International conference Religion, Spiritual Capital and Civil Society in China. July 10-14, 2013. Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong.
- 2013 Discussant of Keping Wu’s paper ‘Rebuilding Religions in China: Social Service Provision of Buddhist and Protestant Groups’. International conference Religion and Development in China: Innovations and Implications. Oct 17-18, 2013. Inter-Asia Roundtable, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore, Singapore.
- 2014 ‘Travelling with Gods’. The 9th International Sinology Forum. Feb 20-22, 2014. Leiria, Portugal.
- 2014 ‘The Menu as a Social and Trans-locutional/Trans-inscriptional Technology’. HAU-Fyssen Workshop Translating Worlds. Mar 20-21, 2014. Fyssen Foundation, Paris, France.
- 2014 ‘Hosting (做主) in Chinese Religious and Political Culture’. International conference Food in Asia (Focus Asia). April 15-16, 2014. Centre for East and South-East Asian Studies, University of Lund, Sweden.
- 2014 ‘The Rise of the Religion Sphere in Modern China’. April 23-26, 2014. The European Social Science History Conference, Vienna, Austria.
- 2014 ‘Spirit Mediums and Their Assistants in Shaanbei’. The Second Shifu (Religious Masters) Project Workshop. June 11-13, 2014. Abbaye de Royaumont, Asnières-sur-Oise, France.

- 2014 'The Denominationalisation and Conglomeratisation of Chinese Buddhism'. Panel The Anthropologies of Buddhism and Hinduism at the Association of Social Anthropologists (ASA) conference. June 19-22, 2014. Edinburgh, Scotland, UK.
- 2014 Discussant of two papers on Buddhism during the Republican period. Shengyen International Conference on Chinese Buddhism, June 29-30, 2014. Taipei, Taiwan, Republic of China.
- 2014 'Forget the Gift!: De-Maussifying Anthropology'. International workshop The Anti-Gift: Musings on Unrequited Reciprocity, Social Parasitism and Gratuity. Sept 3-6, 2014. Villa Malinowski, Oberbozen/Soprabolzano, Italy.
- 2014 Discussant at international conference Buddhism after Mao: Exploring Chinese Models of Religious Production. Oct 16-18, 2014. Institut national des langues et civilisations orientales (Inalco), Paris, France.
- 2014 'Events and Event Productions in the Making of Relatedness'. Workshop Towards an Eventology of Kinship: Rupture, Virtue and the Making of Mutuality in China's Precarious Times. Oct 24-26, 2014. Fondazione Giorgio Cini, Isola di S. Giorgio Maggiore, Venice, Italy.
- 2014 'Visiting Sites: The Mutual Construction of Tourism and Religion in Contemporary China'. International workshop Religion and Tourism in China and India. Nov 13-14, 2014. Frankfurt, Germany.
- 2014 Discussant at workshop The Fine Art of Lying. Nov 24, 2014. Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium.
- 2015 'Enacting Spatialised Time and Temporalised Space: Pilgrimage Chronotopia in Taiwan's Mazu Cults'. Workshop Temporal Dimensions of Space in Imperial China. June 20, 2015. Institute of East Asian Studies, University of Leipzig, Germany.
- 2015 'The Formation of the Religion Sphere in Modern and Contemporary China'. International workshop Multifaceted Study of Chinese Politics and Society. July 8-9, 2015. Shanghai Jiaotong University, China.
- 2015 'The Emergence of the "Religion Sphere" in Modern China'. International conference Framing the Study of Religion in Modern China and Taiwan: Concepts, Methods and New Research Paths. Dec 9-12, 2015. University of Groningen, the Netherlands.
- 2016 'Spirit Mediums and Their Attendants in Shaanbei' (co-authored with Dr. LIU Jianshu). International colloquium « Vieux maîtres et nouvelles générations de spécialistes religieux aujourd'hui en Chine: Ethnographie du quotidien et anthropologie du changement social », ANR Shifu International Collaboration Project. March 23-25, 2016. Université Paris Ouest Nanterre la Défense, Paris, France.
- 2016 'The Nation in Religion and Religion in the Nation: How the Modern Chinese Nation Made Religion and Was at the Same Time Made by Religion'. International conference (IIAS Seminar) New Religious Nationalism in Chinese Societies. April 21-22, 2016. Leiden, the Netherlands.

- 2016 ‘Guiyi (皈依) / Being Affiliated or Becoming a Spiritual Dependent: The Formation of a Lay Religious Identity in Contemporary China.’ International conference *Les mots de la Chine: Ruptures, persistance, émergence*. 11-13, May, 2016, Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium.
- 2016 Panel chair and discussant. International conference *La religion des Chinois de France: Implantations, croyances et pratiques*. May 18-20, 2016. Paris, France.
- 2016 ‘Events: The Mutual Rendering of Life and Epoch’. Workshop *History and Temporality*. May 27, 2016. St. Catharine's College, University of Cambridge, UK.
- 2016 ‘Hosting the Periphery: The Alternating Audience System (年班) during the Qing Dynasty’. International conference *Transformations of Intercultural Diplomacies: Comparative Views on Asia and Europe (1700 to 1850)*. June 2-4, 2016. Universität Bern, Bern, Switzerland.
- 2016 ‘Ritual Terroir: Spatial Practices in Chinese Popular Religion’. International workshop *Religion in a Plural Society: Comparing the Chinese and Indian Worlds*. June 10-11, 2016. Confucius Institute, Geneva, Switzerland.
- 2016 ‘Ritual Terroir (Note: Not ‘Ritual Terror!’): The Generation of Site-Specific Vitality’. International workshop *Vitalism, Sacrifice, and Utopia. A Workshop on the Human Impetus*. June 18-19, 2016. Ginostra, Stromboli, Italy.
- 2017 ‘Efficacy: The Immediate-Practical Modality of Doing Religion’. International conference *Sakralität und Macht (Sacrality and Power)*. March 15-18, 2017. Friedrich-Alexander-Universität, Erlangen, Germany.
- 2017 ‘Modalities of Doing Religion as Model of Religious Diversity and Religious Pluralism’. International symposium *Models of Religious Pluralism and Chinese Constructions of Religious Identity (宗教多元化模式及中国建构成的宗教定位)*. May 6-7, 2017. International Center for Studies of Chinese Civilization, Fudan University, Shanghai, China.
- 2017 ‘Modalities of “Believing” in Contemporary Chinese Religious Practices’. International conference *From Trustworthiness to Secular Beliefs – Changing Concepts of xin 信 from Traditional to Modern Chinese*. June 9-11, 2017. Freie Universität Berlin, Germany.
- 2017 ‘When the Host is the Emperor or God: The Figure of the Absolute Host’. International workshop *Cumulus: Hoarding, Hosting and Hospitality*. June 28-30, 2017. Centre for Ethnographic Theory, SOAS, London and St John's College, University of Cambridge, UK.
- 2017 ‘Spirit Mediumism in Shaanbei (northern Shaanxi Province) in Northcentral China’. International conference *Spirit Possession: Multidisciplinary and Global Perspectives*. July 6-8, 2017. University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand.

- 2017 ‘Youth Cultural Production in Rural China’. International conference Youth Spaces of Creation, Consumption, Circulation and Representation (EASt-Waseda Workshop). Sept 18-19, 2017, Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium.
- 2017 ‘Modalities of Doing Religion as Model of Religious Diversity and Religious Pluralism’. Conference of the Dutch Association for the Study of Religion Dynamics of Religious Diversity: The Study of Different Religions and Religious Difference in Postcolonial Configurations (panel organised by Mayfair Yang, Religious Diversity and Hegemonic ‘High Modernism’ in China). Oct 19-20, 2017. Utrecht, the Netherlands.
- 2017 ‘Religious Change and Social Change in Contemporary China’. International symposium Monumental Change: China’s Transformation Since the 1980s. 14–15, Nov, 2017. Center for Asia Pacific Studies, University of San Francisco, USA.
- 2017 ‘Intermeshing Structural Forms: The System of Competitive Pig-Raising and Competitive Hosting amongst the Hakka in Northern Taiwan from the Late Qing Dynasty to the Present Day’. International workshop Chine: histoire et société locales / Chinese local history and local society (co-organised by the École française d'Extrême-Orient [EFEO] and the University of Cambridge). Dec 14-15, 2017. Maison de l'Asie, Paris, France.
- 2017 ‘The Host Versus the Religious Subject: Two Ways of Doing Religion in Contemporary China’. International conference Transcultural China. Dec 21-22, 2017. Sogang University, Seoul, South Korea.
- 2018 ‘China and Its Globalising Religions’. International conference China Global: Ideas, Values, Practices (Kick-off conference). May 4-5, 2018. University of Cologne, Germany.
- 2018 ‘当代中国的宗教主体化’ (Religious Subjectification in Contemporary China) The First Chinese Religion Research Workshop (第一届现代中国宗教研究工作坊). June 29-30, 2018. Institute of World Religions, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing, China.
- 2018 ‘Temple Stelae as “Texts Acts”’. International symposium Text, Context, and Acts: Chinese Popular Religion in Practice. Sept 29-30, 2018. University of Rochester, Rochester, NY, USA.
- 2018 ‘Daoist on Top, Daoist Alongside, Daoist Absent, or Host on Top?: Reinterpreting Host-Guest Dynamics and the Daoist Liturgical Framework in the Jiao’. International conference ‘Daoism and Local Cults: Rethinking the Paradigms’. Nov 29 – Dec 1, 2018, Leipzig University, Germany.
- 2019 ‘Homo Arborealis: Regimes of Tree-Mindedness’. International conference Chinese Religio-Environmental Ethics and Practice. Jan 11-12, 2019, University of California Santa Barbara, California, USA.
- 2019 ‘Sinophone and Francophone Buddha’s Light: Buddha’s Light (Foguangshan) in France’. International conference Chinese Religion and Globalisation (The 16th annual

symposium of social science of religion). June 29-30, 2019, Renmin University, Beijing, China.

2019 'Storied Spirits: Constructing Efficacy (*lingying* 靈應) and the Strange (*lingyi* 靈異) Through Telling Tales'. Internationaler workshop A Powerful Term: Ling (靈). Oct 4-6, 2019. Freie Universität Berlin, Germany.

2019 'Grounding Pilgrimage: Terroir and the Production of Localised Vitality'. International workshop Agency of People, Nature and Artifacts: Religion, Animism and Pilgrimage. Oct 13-14, 2019. University of Roehampton, London.

### **Invited Public Lectures (since 2009)**

2009 'Hosting Rituals and the Qing Incorporation of Inner Asian Domains'. March 13, 2009. Seminar series of the Mongolian and Inner Asian Studies Unit, University of Cambridge, UK.

2009 'Sacred Traces: Respect the Written Word or Die a Horrible Death'. April 30, 2009. The LSE Department of Anthropology East Asia seminar series, LSE, London, UK.

2009 'Bigger, Brighter, Louder, Weirder: The Making of Giant Pigs and the Production of Exuberance at the Xinpu Hakka Yimin Festival'. Sept 22, 2009. The Department of Anthropology, National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan.

2009 'Pigs are Good to Decorate: Technologies of Exuberance in Taiwanese Popular Religious Festivals'. Nov 27, 2009. The Senior Seminar Series, Department of Social Anthropology, University of Cambridge, UK.

2010 'What is a Daoist?: An Anthropologist Looks at a Confused Category'. June 3, 2010. The Chinese Studies Seminar Series, Institute of Chinese Studies, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK.

2011 '敬惜字紙與清末民初傳統文人的衰落' (The Practice of Cherishing Lettered Paper and the Decline of the Traditional Literati at the End of Qing and the Beginning Of the Republican Period). Oct 6, 2011. The Department of Anthropology, National Tsinghua University, Hsinchu, Taiwan.

2011 '大豬祭祀與製造'鬧熱' (The Giant Pig Festivals and the Production of Red-Hot Sociality). Oct 12, 2011. The Department of Anthropology, National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan.

2012 'Text Acts: The Textographic Fetish in Chinese Religious Culture'. May 17, 2012. Symposium Art, Writing and Chinese Culture, concluding Wu Hung's visit to Cambridge as Humanitas Visiting Professor. CRASSH, University of Cambridge, UK.

2012 'Actants Amassing (AA), or, What's Wrong with Durkheim and Mauss?' May 25, 2012. The Max Planck Institute for Cultural and Religious Diversity, Goettingen, Germany.

- 2013 Wilde Lectures in Natural and Comparative Religion, University of Oxford, on the theme of ‘The Sovereign Host: China, Ritual, Theory’ (a series of four lectures presented in Hilary Term of 2013 in the Examination Schools)
- 12 February Hosting Gods, Ghosts and Ancestors: Hosting as a Cultural Idiom
- 19 February Household Sovereignty and Religious Subjectification: China and the Christian West Compared
- 26 February Actants Amassing (AA): Hosting Hungry Ghosts with Giant Pigs and Dancing Girls
- 5 March Household Sovereignty Usurped: The Kangxi Emperor Hosts a Offering Ritual
- 2013 ‘Transnationalising Japan: Pathways, Processes and Methods’. Japan in World History Colloquium, May 2, 2013. Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona, Spain.
- 2013 ‘Real Religious Pluralism: Beyond Inter-Faith Dialogues’. May 24, 2013. Religious Studies Senior Seminar Series, the Divinity School, University of Cambridge.
- 2013 ‘Cos-MAO-logy: Religious Dimensions of the Mao Cult’. Mao’s Golden Mangoes exhibition-opening public lecture (one of two), Rietberg Museum, Zürich.
- 2013 ‘Religious Diversity in China from the Perspectives of Ritual Service Providers and Consumers’. Nov 29, 2013. Scottish Inter-Faith Week, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK.
- 2014 ‘A Diversity of Religious Diversities’. Jan 15, 2014. Graduation Special Lecture, Divinity School, Free University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands.
- 2014 ‘“Accomplishing” the Ancestral Tablet (成主)’. Jan 31, 2014. Text Reading Seminar, Needham Institute, University of Cambridge.
- 2014 ‘Human Organs in Oil Tank Trucks: An Extractology’. Seminar, Feb 4, 2014. Mongolian and Inner Asian Studies Unit [MIASU], University of Cambridge.
- 2014 ‘Giant Pigs at Temple Festivals: The Relational Modality of Doing Religion in Chinese Societies’. May 8, 2014. The Sinology Programme, Goethe University, Frankfurt, Germany.
- 2015 ‘Household Sovereignty Usurped: The Kangxi Emperor Hosts an Offering Ritual for the Deceased Mother of His Favourite Minister’. June 22, 2015. The Confucius Institute, University of Leipzig, Germany.
- 2016 ‘试论中国“宗教界”的形成’ (The Emergence and Development of the Religion Sphere (zongjiaojie) in Modern and Contemporary China). April 6, 2016. Centre for the Study of Religion and Society, Department of Sociology, East China Normal University, Shanghai, China.



- 2016 ‘Divination and the Discursive Modality of Doing Religion: The Black Dragon King Divination-Slips Set’. International Consortium for Research in the Humanities “Fate, Freedom and Prognostication: Strategies for Coping with the Future in East Asia and Europe,” April 12, 2016. Friedrich-Alexander University, Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany.
- 2016 ‘Hosting, Not Hospitality.’ Nov 15, 2016. Seminar, Mongolian and Inner Asian Studies Unit (MIASU), University of Cambridge.
- 2017 ‘From the Household to the Individual?: Towards Religious Subjectification in Contemporary China’. June 20, 2017. The Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity, Göttingen, Germany.
- 2017 ‘The Construction of the “Religion Sphere” (*zongjiaojie* 宗教界) in Modern and Contemporary China’. ANU China Seminar Series. July 20, 2017. The Australia National University, Canberra, Australia.
- 2017 ‘Religious Subjectification and Social Transformation in Contemporary China’. Asian Studies Seminar Series. Oct 3, 2017. University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK.
- 2018 ‘A Most Awkward Sphere: The “Religion Sphere” in Modern and Contemporary China’. April 23, 2018. Cornell Contemporary China Initiative, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA.
- 2018 ‘The Formation of “Spheres” in Modern China and the Case of the “Religion Sphere”’. (‘*界化社会*’与中国宗教界的形成). June 28, 2018. Institute of World Religions, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing, China.
- 2018 ‘Religious Subjectification: Becoming (More) Confessional in Contemporary China’. Oct 8, 2018. Faculty of Theology, Free University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands.
- 2019 ‘The Indonesian Chinese in Indonesia, China and Hong Kong: Serial Migration and Cultural Identity’. March 22, 2019. Seminar for research project Sinophone Borderlands – Interaction at the Edges, Palacký University, Olomouc, the Czech Republic.
- 2019 ‘The Modernity of the Practice of Treasuring Lettered-Paper’ (惜字纸习俗的现代性). April 4, 2019. Department of Chinese Language and Literature, Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou, China.