



ASIAN STUDIES NOTES

NEWSLETTER OF THE ASIAN STUDIES PROGRAM OF THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO

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<http://cas.buffalo.edu/depts/asianstudies/newsletter/index.shtml>

亞細亞學研究

The Taipei International Book Exhibition

Won K. Ha, Lockwood Library

The Taipei International Book Exhibition, the largest book fair in Asia, was held February 15-20 in the three exhibition halls of The Taipei World Trade Center in Taipei, Taiwan. This year it saw 877 publishing houses from 40 countries displaying their books in 2,099 booths. I attended the Exhibition on behalf of UB Libraries.

Exhibition halls featured publishers from abroad including Germany, France, and South Korea; Taiwanese government publications; general books; special interest books in areas such as literature, spirituality, art, and natural sciences; popular comics from Taiwan, Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong, and China; and children's books from Taiwan and abroad. The children's books attracted many pre-

school and elementary school excursions.

South Korea was chosen as the first Asian country to be honored at the book fair under the slogan "Gateway to the Publishing Markets of Asia."

Fifteen South Korean publishing houses displayed their products in the Korean Pavilion in Hall I. There were seminars on Korean literature and Korean pop culture.

South Korean writer Lee Mun-Yul held a book signing. South Korean pop culture is currently

sweeping Taiwan, fueled mostly by immensely popular South Korean television programs such as the historical drama "Dae Jang Geum" and the saccharine love drama "Lovers in Paris" - already in reruns. "Lovers in Paris" is a modern-day Cinderella story

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Sinologist to Join Anthropology Department

The Department of Anthropology announces the conclusion of an international search and the appointment of Everett Yuehong Zhang to a faculty position to begin in the Fall semester.

Dr. Zhang studies changes in social institutions in China from the historical period of pre-socialism, through socialism, to contemporary post-socialist society. His current research, with a clear psychological

orientation, treats changes in male sexuality. His dissertation, "Impotence in the Making: An Illness of Chinese Modernity," was completed at the University at California at Berkeley in 2003. His undergraduate work was done at Sichuan University in Chengdu. Zhang has published numerous articles in English and Japanese and a book in Chinese on AIDS. He presently is a post-doctoral fellow at Harvard Medical School.

The National Acrobats of Taiwan

On Wednesday, April 20, at 8:00 p.m., the UB Center for the Arts will bring on the National Acrobats of Taiwan. The National Acrobats are considered the foremost company from all of China. The troupe is made up of over 40 young performers, each with eight years of strict training.

Balancing spinning plates on a pole, performing handstands on top of stacked chairs, riding one bicycle with a dozen friends - these feats look easy when performed by the master acrobats of Taiwan's Fu Hsing Academy.

As world-class entertainers who defy gravity with their precision, strength, and breathtaking agility, these artful acrobats create an inspiring and colorful drama. \$15 adults, \$12 children (12 & under). CFA Box Office and Ticketmaster.



Taiwan Acrobats © The Center for the Arts

UB Department of Theatre & Dance presents: The Good Woman of Setzuan

The Good Woman of Setzuan is one of the best-known works of Bertolt Brecht, widely considered to be the most influential European playwright



Photo by Johnny Knight

of the 20th century. Written in 1939-40, the play is set in a remote Chinese province. It tells the story of Shen Te, a young prostitute who is given the opportunity to pursue a new way of life by three visiting deities. In order to succeed at living a life of goodness, she must create a male alter-ego who can ruthlessly protect her interests. Brecht gives us a modern parable about the nature of morality in a competitive, capitalist world.

Director Saul Elkin uses the version of the play translated Eric Bentley in 1947. Bentley, an important theater critic and translator, was professor of theater at the University at Buffalo 1974-1982.

April 7-9 at 8pm; April 10 at 2pm; April 14-16 at 8pm; April 17 at 2pm. \$15 General, \$6 Students & Seniors. Center for the Arts. CFA Box Office and Ticketmaster.

Cont. from p. 1 : Taipei Book Exhibition about a poor and spirited young woman who wins the heart of a young automobile industrialist. All South Korean programs are dubbed in Mandarin Chinese.

The book fair, considering its grand size, ran smoothly. The event was immaculately organized with friendly staff and state of the art facilities. Attendance was high, especially youth, drawn by advertisements on the streets and subways of the world-class city of Taipei. More information in Chinese and English on the fair can be obtained on

the official website: <http://www.tibe.org.tw>.

A number of seminars addressed topics concerning the People's Republic, such as channels for book distribution. But those PRC publishers present were from Hong Kong. Bookstore chains such as Eslite Bookstores of Taiwan were present in full array; but so were many Taiwanese small publishing houses, which struggle to stay in business.

(Won-Kyong Ha served in the Lockwood Library as Information Literacy Librarian until February 2005. She now holds a position in Hamilton, Ontario.)

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April 8 and April 15 Asia at Noon Features Des Forges, Cichocki

The Asian Studies Program welcomes students and faculty to interesting presentations and discussions in its brown bag series. All sessions meet Fridays, 12:00-1:00, in Park 280.

- April 8. **Roger Des Forges**, Professor of History. Professor Des Forges is co-authoring a junior-high textbook, *The World of Asia to 1500 C.E.* He will discuss issues that have arisen in the course of working with editors and a co-author to place a millennium of the history of South, Central, East, and Southeast Asia in the larger context of world history. The convener will be Professor Catherine Cornbleth of the Graduate School of Education, who is a specialist in social studies education and curriculum.
- April 15. **Nina Cichocki**, Assistant Professor of Art History. Her topic is "The Life Story of the Cemberlitas Hamam, Istanbul: From Bath to Tourist Attraction." This noteworthy bath in Turkey is a repository of art and history, and is the focus of Cichocki's current research. The convener will be Donald McGuire, *Adjunct Associate Professor of Classics*.

Asian Studies Picnic

September 18, 2005

at the home of the Burkmans

RSVP by Thursday, September 15, to

Mary Anne Lang

at mal@buffalo.edu, or 645-3474

Conferences

Canadian Southeast Asia Conference 2005

The Canadian Asian Studies Association announces "Re-visioning Southeast Asia: Conflicts, Connections and Vulnerabilities," an interdisciplinary conference to be held October 14-16, 2005 at York University in Toronto.

Proposals for papers and panel sessions are invited, due May 15. For details, go to <http://canadianasianstudies.concordia.ca/html/ccseas2005.htm>

New York Conference on Asian Studies Annual Meeting

September 30 and October 1, 2005, at SUNY New Paltz. Proposals of panels and papers are due April 1. <http://www.newpaltz.edu/nycas05>

NYCAS 2005 Ryan Prize for Student Papers

The New York Conference on Asian Studies announces the 2005 competition for the Marleigh Grayer Ryan prize. NYCAS encourages the development of the skills of scholarly writing by awarding annual prizes for excellent student papers dealing with Asia. Two such prizes are awarded each year, one to an undergraduate student and one to a graduate student. Runners-up are named in each category. Professors are asked to encourage undergraduate and graduate students to submit quality papers for review by the selection committee.

Awards: Each winner will receive a \$100 prize; up to \$100 reimbursement for travel and expenses to attend the NYCAS 05 Annual Meeting at SUNY New Paltz, September 30 and October 1, 2005; and waiver of registration fee and cost of conference meals at the NYCAS meeting.

For full information on eligible subject fields, format, and length, go to <http://www.newpaltz.edu/asianstudies/nycas/MGRPrizeGuidelines2005.htm>. Entries are due no later than June 1, 2005. Winners will be announced by August 1. Submit papers by e-mail attachment to the Ryan Prize Committee, c/o Laurie Damiani: lad2@cornell.edu.

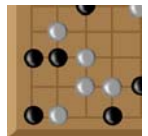
Noted scholar of moral relativity: David Wong to Deliver Philosophy Lecture April 28

David B. Wong is one of the leading experts on the subject of moral relativity. He is Professor and Chair of Philosophy at Duke University. His lecture, "The Meaning of Detachment in Daoism, Buddhism, and Stoicism," will address the relational self and how such a self might balance its interests against those of others.

Co-sponsored by the Philosophy Department and the Asian Studies Program, the event is scheduled for April 28 at 4:00 p.m. in Park 141.

Announcing *The UB Go Club*

This club is for anyone with an interest in the game of go. It is one of the world's oldest board games and dates back 4,000 years. It was created in China and is still widely played throughout Asia today. Its popularity is growing in the United States. For more information contact the club president, Monica Kassab, at mkassab2@buffalo.edu.



Asian Studies Calendar

April

- Apr. 1, 2:30– 5:00 pm. Baldy Manuscript Workshop. Assistant Professor, **Piya Pangsapa**. *Factory Women and the Thai Global Apparel Industry: Exploitation and Possibilities for Resistance*. 545 O'Brian.
- Apr. 1, 6:00– 9:00 pm. "Thai Night 2005." Harriman Hall, South Campus. asc6@buffalo.edu or (716) 909-1231.
- Apr. 3, 5 pm. "China Night '05." Ticket: \$10 in advance, \$12 at doors. Presented by The Chinese Student Association. CFA Mainstage.
- Apr. 4, 7:00-10:00 pm. "Korea Night." \$10 per person. SU Theatre.
- Apr. 5, 3 pm. "International Student Mobility in a Global Knowledge Economy." **Dr. Kemal Gürüz**, the former President of the Turkish Council of Higher Education. 567 Capen.
- Apr. 7-10, 14–17. "The Good Woman of Setzuan." \$15 General, \$6 Students & Seniors. CFA.
- Apr. 7, 12:30. "Nonviolence as a Positive Way of Life." Arun Gandhi, founder of the M.K. Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence and grandson of Mohanda Gandhi.
- Apr. 8, 12:00-1:00. Asia at Noon. "Co-Authoring a Junior-High Textbook: The World of Asia to 1500 C.E." Prof. **Roger Des Forges**, Dept. of History. Park 280. (Co-sponsored by the Asian American Model Minority Myth

Research Group)

- Apr. 9, 5 pm. "Indian Night." CFA Mainstage.
 - Apr. 15, 12:00-1:00. Asia at Noon. "The Life Story of the Cemberlitas Hamam, Istanbul: From Bath to Tourist Attraction." Prof. **Nina Cichocki**, Dept. of Art History. Park 280.
 - Apr. 15, 1:00– 5:00. Workshop: Immigration Policy and Practice Post– 9/11: Impacts, Historical Precedents, and Future Directions.
www.law.buffalo.edu/baldycenter/immig04.htm. (Sponsored by the Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy.) 545 O'Brian.
 - Apr. 20, 8 pm. "The National Acrobats of Taiwan." Tickets: \$15 Adults, \$12 Children (12 & Under). CFA Mainstage.
 - Apr. 28, 4 pm. **David B. Wong**, Professor and Chair of Philosophy at Duke University. "The Meaning of Detachment in Daoism, Buddhism, and Stoicism." Park 141.
 - Apr. 28, 7 pm; Apr. 29, 4 pm; Apr. 30, 2 pm. "A Korean Comedy of Errors" at SUNY/Geneseo, produced by GEN-seng. Ticket: \$4. kaplanr@geneseo.edu
- ### June
- Jun. 9 to 11. Conference: "Locating Law in Buddhist Societies." At UB. Organized by Rebecca French, UB Law, and David Engel, UB Law, of the Law and Buddhism Project. (Sponsored by the Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy)



Asian Studies Notes

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