

Transnational East Asian Cinema since 1997

Saturday 06th December 2008, University of Southampton, UK

A one day symposium sponsored by *Screen*, hosted by the University of Southampton with Goldsmiths, University of London and the University of Hong Kong



The University of Hong Kong

The theme of the symposium is the relationship between cinematic representations and transnational cultural exchange, centred on one of the most active areas of cinematic activity over the past decade - East Asian cinema. It encompasses a broad range of topics that reflect upon how academia, filmmakers and the film industry have responded to the effects of globalisation, and the ways in which representations are read through the differing transnational contexts that exist between Asia and the West.

The symposium will focus on developments since 1997, when certain cultural events in Asia impacted upon local film industries and transformed their relationship to the West. Two key events from this period include the return of Hong Kong to China and the economic crisis in South Korea. The impact of these events spread beyond national boundaries and was a modern turning point in the socio-economic and cultural history of the region. The period also saw a resurgence in Asian cinema, with production increasing amongst most countries (despite the opposite seen in Hong Kong), and success at the local box office. In the West, while certain films have gained success at the international box office, those which found cult or arthouse success have been remade by Hollywood. Meanwhile, Asian and Western actors and directors are being influenced by one another, while others are able to move freely between Asia and the West. These cultural exchanges of cinematic texts, stars, directors, influences and techniques are typical of the contemporary cultural relationship between the two regions. Beyond cinema, our event will create a significant dialogue whose relevance relates to important issues surrounding globalisation and intercultural communication between East and West, as well as the status and function of Film Studies in different cultural contexts.

Confirmed Speakers: Prof. Tim Bergfelder (University of Southampton); Prof. Chris Berry (Goldsmiths College, London); Dr. Esther Cheung (University of Hong Kong); Dr. Gina Marchetti (University of Hong Kong); Dr. Julian Stringer (University of Nottingham); Dr. Isolde Standish (SOAS, University of London); Dr. Rayna Denison (University of East Anglia); Dr. Mark Morris (University of Cambridge).

Transnational East Asian Cinema since 1997 is sponsored by *Screen* as one of its 50th Anniversary events and hosted by the Department of Film Studies, University of Southampton with Goldsmiths University of London, and the University of Hong Kong. Please contact Richard Donne (richarddonne@hotmail.co.uk), Daniel Hickin (djh104@soton.ac.uk) and Aramchan Lee (filmtheory@gmail.com) regarding this event.