

Other Epistemologies Online Lecture Series 2.0

Semester Focus: Innovative Approaches to Gender and Genre: Literature and Women Studies

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Butterflies and Resistance: Creative Activism against Persistent Colonial Gaze on East and Southeast Asian Women

14:00-15:45 (CEST) / 20:00-21:45 (GMT+8), Friday, 24 November 2023

The lecture will take place via Zoom. Please register here: <https://www.aoi.uzh.ch/registration>

Online Lecture by Dr. Wing-Fai Leung, King's College London

This lecture provokes discussion about the harmful white saviour/lotus blossom romance trope found in Giacomo Puccini's opera "Madama Butterfly," the popular musical "Miss Saigon" and many other iterations in films, television, and cultural products originated from the Global North. The presentation will then analyze the significance of recent activism initiated by creatives in the UK and beyond, ranging from short film productions and new writing to the boycotting of the Sheffield Crucible Theatre because it staged "Miss Saigon."

Dr. Wing-Fai Leung is a Reader in Cultural and Media Industries at King's College London. Her research focuses on East Asian films and media, intersectionality, non-normative genders and sexualities. Since 2020, she has been collaborating with colleagues on public engagement, community activism and research projects that combat anti-East and Southeast Asian racism. This yielded as a result creative outputs (archived on the East and Southeast Asian community hub), a journal article ("Responses to Health Risks and Suffering") and a monograph (*Migration and Identity in British East and Southeast Asian Cinema*, 2023).

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