

Asia-Europe Cultural Partnership Initiatives: New Media

New Media Workers across Asia and Europe:

Research Platform for Interregional Collaborations

8-11 July 2010, Shanghai, China

Contact:

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Project Webseite:

- <http://hbksaar.de/newmediaworkers.html>

Concept:

The central concept that frames this initiative concerns the conditions of labor and life among new media workers in Asia and Europe. Inviting new media practitioners from Asia and Europe to collectively analyze and discuss their work practices with artists and civil society organizers provides an innovative means of tracking transformations in the web-based industries and encouraging dialogue between the regions. In Europe, images of new media practitioners as either exploited precarious workers or free creative spirits abound, but have these same stereotypes proliferated in Asia? What are the cultures of creativity and work that frame these practices? Bringing together various actors whose intellectual, artistic and social expressions confront these questions is highly relevant to policy making that seeks to address the changing relations between culture and economy as well as the ongoing transformations of borders and regions.

Participants:

- Vincensius 'Venzha' Christiawa, Indonesia
- Mauricio Corbalan, Netherlands/Argentina
- Chen Hangfeng, China
- Anja Kanngieser, Germany/China/UK
- Maurizio Lazzarato, France
- Geert Lovink, Netherlands
- Angela Melitopolous, Germany
- Brett Neilson, Australia
- Shveta Sarda, India
- David Teh, Singapore
- Ned Rossiter, China
- Manuela Zechner, UK/Austria
- Soenke Zehle, Germany

Formats of Events/Outcomes:

- Online Network (Mailinglists, Blogs)
- Workshops
- Fieldwork
- Multilingual Research Website (Videoblogs, Readings, Interviews, Fieldwork Reports)
- Multilingual Publications (Online/Print)

Research Context:

Culture in Transition: Creative Labour and Social Mobilities in the Asian Century

Funding by Australian Research Council Discovery Grant 2009-2011

The Asian century has arrived Australia's economic relations with China and India are crucial. Its cultural relations with these nations assume new importance. This project investigates how economic and cultural processes interact to change Australia's position in Asia. Focusing on the experiences of workers in the creative and cultural sectors of three cities (Beijing, Kolkata, Sydney), the project will advance understandings of changing forms of governance and migration in the region. New media will be used to 1) conduct experiments in cultural collaboration between Australia, India and China, and 2) build innovative platforms for the broadening of debates on social inclusion, intercultural dialogue and economic uncertainty.

Methodologies:

Transit-Labour: Circuits, Regions, Borders

构想，区域，边界

Transit-labour investigates changing patterns of labour and mobility in the whirlwind of Asian capitalist transformation. Mindful of the view of Asia as the world's factory, this three year research project examines the role of creativity, invention and knowledge production in the new economic order being forged from the region's capitalist centres. Particular attention is given to changing relations of culture and economy in this transition and their entanglement with the production of new subjectivities and modalities of labour.

在亚洲资本市场转变的旋风中，对劳动力市场的流动模式的认知，随着相关调研的深入而不断变化着。亚洲因成为“世界工厂”而被世人所关注，而这个为期3年的研究项目为此探讨了创意、发明和艺术领域在区域资本中心逐步形成的新经济秩序中所起的生产力作用。尤其是在这一转变时期，文化和经济之间关系的转型，以及他们与新的主观性劳动力市场模式之间所产生的关联。

The research focuses on the precariousness and mobility of creative labour across three cities: Shanghai (2010), Kolkata (2011) and Sydney (2012). Each of these cities is the site of a research platform that combines online and offline methods to map conceptual and material linkages between labour, mobility and subjectivity. Based on previous research conducted in Beijing (<http://orgnets.net>), these platforms gather researchers from across the world bringing them into collaborative relations with local participants through workshops, field trips, symposia, exhibitions, mailing lists, website documentation and the preparation of publications.

该研究项目聚焦在三大城市：上海（2010年），加尔各答（2011年）和悉尼（2012年），调研的重点是创意劳动力市场的流动性和不稳定性。在这些城市中将各设立一个研究平台，结合网上在线与离线的方式，从理性与客观的角度，来描绘劳动力、流动性和主观性之间关联。根据过去在北京进行的调研（<http://orgnets.net>），这些网络平台汇聚了来自世界各地的专业研究人员。这些专业研究人员与当地的参与者共同协作，完成了工作室、实地考察、专题讨论、展览展示、邮件列表、网站编辑和出版刊物等前期准备的一系列工作。

The project's interest is not merely in the transition of labour and culture in each individual city. Recognizing that the regional scale has become decisive in the world today, it places methodological emphasis on processes of inter-referencing between the research sites. This website is a principal research instrument for such inter-referencing. Fleeing the self-referential universe of social networking, it provides an environment for collaborative invention and the common production of knowledge. It is at once an open archive of research activities and a means of organizing them.

该项目不仅仅关注劳动力市场和文化领域在各个城市中的变化，更注重在整个研究过程中调研地点之间的相互参照性。在当今世界，对区域范围内的劳动力市场和文化领域之间转变的进一步认知已

成为举足轻重的研究课题，该网站正是为研究此类参照关系所设立的。由于避开了社会网络中的自我参照体系，网站本身不仅提供了一个用于共同认知和协作创造的良好环境，同时也成为了各种研究活动和组织的档案库。

Creative labour refers not only to work in the creative and cultural sectors: music and performing arts; film, television and radio; software development and multimedia; writing, publishing and print media; architecture, design and visual arts. It also encompasses the various forms of service labour that feed into and enable work in these fields. Transit-labour conducts research that tests the boundaries between these forms of work. By tracing conceptual interconnections between the conditions of creative labour in Shanghai, Kolkata and Sydney, the project also aims to rethink how global regions are configured under current economic and social circumstances.

创意领域的劳动力市场不仅仅涉及创新领域和文化领域，如：音乐和表演艺术，电影、电视和广播，软件开发和多媒体，写作，出版、印刷媒体，建筑、设计和视觉艺术，它还包含了在这些领域中以各种形式提供服务的劳动者。劳动力市场变迁研究项目的内容之一，就是考察如何对这些工作形态进行界定。与此同时，通过观察这些创意劳动者在上海、加尔各答和悉尼的现实境况和其之间的内在联系，这个项目也帮助我们重新思考了如何根据目前的经济状态和社会情况，在全球范围内对其进行合理的配置。

At a time when market rights interfere with territorially-based forms of citizenship, the effects of national creative enterprises are by no means confined by national borders. The project explores how changing patterns of economic, geographic and social flexibility (including labour migrations) are generating new forms and practices of governance in the Asian region (and how regionalism is redefined through such transformations). The role of borders, both those that traverse political spaces and those that define their edges, is crucial to understanding the theoretical and practical linkages between labour, mobility and subjectivity.

当市场权一步步影响着那些以地域为基础的公民权时，国家的创新企业并不应被地域所局限。为此，项目探讨了经济、地理和社会的灵活性（包括劳动力迁移模式）的变化模式为亚洲地区政权所带来的新的管理方法（以及在转变中产生的新的区域划分）。无论是跨越的政治空间还是那些已被划分的边界，在帮助我们理解劳动者、流动性和主观性的理论上和实际中的关联时都是至关重要的。

At the regional scale, it is possible to observe the emergence of production regimes that exploit differences between labour conditions in various territorial zones, leading to hierarchically organized regimes of labour mobility and attempts to coordinate and manage these mobilities through market, border and zoning technologies. The analysis of such differentially organized systems of inclusion and mobility is also a part of the project. Set against the rapid expansion of communication and information technologies, the re-ordering of intellectual property and conflicts in the production of knowledge, transit-labour probes these transformations to discern future tendencies of social, economic and political organization.

在区域范围内，通过观察因各个区域劳动条件差异所导致的劳动者流动，以及通过市场、国界和分区技术来协调和管理这些流动所出现的等级差异的体制，来对这种差异性组织的包容性和流动性进行分析，这也正是该项目的一个组成部分。项目同时也致力通过研究时下迅速增长的通讯和信息技术、知识产权的再规划以及其间的分歧，来深入了解未来世界各国的社会、经济和政治组织的发展趋势。

Translation (English > Mandarin) Vivian Yu and Yanchuan Li