

Tami Blumenfield
Helaine Silverman *Editors*

Cultural Heritage Politics in China

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Curtis Ashton is an English teacher, a folklorist, an archivist, and a museum anthropologist. He has worked in university classrooms, libraries, archives, and museums for the past 12 years. He earned his doctorate from Indiana University in 2010. His dissertation research included a year working as a consultant for several museums in Beijing during the build-up and aftermath of the 2008 Summer Olympics. Ashton is currently working with Utah State University's Anthropology Program and the Utah Department of Heritage to develop interdisciplinary distance education programs in museum studies for both traditional students and working professionals. His future plans include forging better partnerships with university museums in China and the US.

Tami Blumenfeld is the James B. Duke Assistant Professor of Asian Studies at Furman University. An anthropologist of China and documentary film producer who earned her doctorate at the University of Washington in 2010, she has spent more than four years conducting fieldwork in ethnically diverse regions of southwest China. Supported in part by a Fulbright fellowship and a grant from the Association for Asian Studies China and Inner Asia Council, she has researched educational practices, cultural heritage politics, and social change. Much of her

research has explored social change in Na villages located in and around tourist zones near Lugu Lake. Her book manuscript *Screening Moso: Communities of Media in Southwest China*, supported by a publication fellowship from the American Association for University Women, discusses a collaboration and participatory media project with the Moso Folk Museum. Blumenfeld has also begun a project examining growing inequality in tourist areas of northwest Yunnan. She is a founding board member of the Cool Mountain Education Fund, an organization that supports students in Liangshan, China.

Jenny Chio is Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Emory University. She received her Ph.D. in Socio-Cultural Anthropology from the University of California, Berkeley. Broadly speaking, her current projects analyze the intersections between mobility, modernity, and media in China's cultural politics. Her research and teaching interests focus on contemporary rural livelihoods and development in China; tourism, identity, and forms of cultural representation; and documentary image studies. Since 2006, she has been conducting fieldwork in two rural, ethnic minority villages in southwestern China, with a particular emphasis on exploring the impact of tourism on intra-village social relations, individual conceptualizations of self, and local understandings of travel and modernity. She is also an ethnographic filmmaker and completed a film that further explores the work of doing tourism in rural, ethnic China, titled 农家乐 *Peasant Family Happiness*.

Stevan Harrell is an anthropologist of China and Taiwan. He has conducted research on ethnic relations and human-environment relations in southwestern Sichuan since 1988. In 1998–2000, he helped establish the Yangjuan Primary School in Yanyuan County, Liangshan Yi Autonomous Prefecture, and he is co-founder and president of the Cool Mountain Education Fund, which supports graduates of that school continuing to high school and college. He is currently writing an ecological history of the People's Republic of China.

Na Li is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Public and Social Administration, City University of Hong Kong. She received her Bachelor's degree in Public Administration, at the Renmin University of China and then continued her academic pursuits in Hong Kong. Her research interests include public administration and governance, nonprofit organizations, and civil society in the Chinese context. Her work is represented in several publications and conference presentations. She is completing her thesis on non-state welfare organizations in China.

Tzu-kai Liu is a postdoctoral researcher at the Research Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences at National Science Council and National Taiwan University in Taiwan. He received his Ph.D. in cultural and linguistic anthropology from University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. He is the author of a book, *Building Wa Thatched House: The Meanings of House Construction in Yunnan*,

China, in Chinese. His research focuses on Chinese minority identity politics in contexts of postsocialist transformation, language shift, religious revival, labor migration, and cyber communication. Since 2010, he has been working on a new research project to investigate how mobile phones and techno-social networking facilitated in cyberspace offer the technological potential for young minority migrant Wa workers to construct their ethnic identities and express their struggle in the class-differentiated labor market in urban China. He is currently working on a co-authored article on the PRC media discourses of Chinese international students' study abroad at American universities in the aftermath of the 2008 global financial crisis. He is also working on the publication of a book manuscript, "Struggles for Cultural Survival: Wa Buddhist Ethno-religious Revival in Postsocialist China."

William Nitzky is a doctoral candidate in sociocultural anthropology at Arizona State University. He has extensive field experience in Guizhou, Guangxi, Yunnan, and Qinghai researching the areas of identity politics, rural development, heritage preservation, and museum development. He taught in the School of Sociology and Ethnology at Minzu University of China in the mid-2000s. Since 2007, he has conducted fieldwork on ten ecomuseum projects in Guizhou and Guangxi to assess how community-based heritage protection practices influence the social and political structures of power and constitution of cultural and place identities and belonging in rural ethnic minority communities. He has also worked closely with Guangxi Museum for Nationalities and the National Committee for Ecomuseums and Community Museums to assist ecomuseum development work. His recent works include articles on the developing ecomuseum movement in China.

Heather Peters (Ph.D., Yale University) is an anthropologist specializing in China with a special focus on the ethnic diversity of Yunnan Province. She serves as a Senior Consultant in the Culture Unit, UNESCO Bangkok. She began consulting for UNESCO in the Phnom Penh office in 1993. She oversees and coordinates a wide range of projects. These projects include the preservation of the World Heritage town of Lijiang, the harmonization of conflicts between economic development (including tourism) and culture preservation. They also include the prevention of trafficking and migration of young ethnic minority women and men from Yunnan, China to Thailand, and the creation of culturally and linguistically appropriate HIV/AIDS, trafficking, and drug prevention radio soap operas in the Jingpo (Kachin), Naxi, Tai Neua, Tai Lue, Wa, and Yi languages. Most recently, she is coordinating six projects aimed at safeguarding the legacy of Tibetan cultures in China as part of a partnership formed between The Bridge Fund and UNESCO.

Gary Sigley is Professor in Chinese Studies at The University of Western Australia and Advisor for the UNESCO Arts in Education Observatory for Research in Local Cultures and Creativity in Education (Hong Kong Institute of Education). His research interests are broadly based within the social sciences and critical cultural studies with a particular focus on government, community, and

cultural heritage in the context of a rapidly changing China. A research project investigating cultural heritage and regional identity in southwest China along the ‘Ancient Tea Horse Road’ (*chama gudaο*) is currently underway. Recent publications include journal articles and book chapters on governmentality, ‘*suzhi*’, culture and globalization, cultural heritage and cultural tourism, community policing in urban environments, and the changing discourse of governance in contemporary China. He also has worked closely with communities, business, and government in Australia and China using ‘tea culture’ as a bridge to mutual understanding and cooperation. He has been awarded an Australian Prime Minister’s Endeavour Research Fellowship for his study of cultural heritage in the context of the Ancient Tea Horse Road of Southwest China and holds an Australia–China Council grant for a project on the tea road and cultural heritage education.

Helaine Silverman is a Professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Illinois and Director of the Collaborative for Cultural Heritage Management and Policy (CHAMP). She is a member of Forum-UNESCO, an Expert Member of ICOMOS’ International Committee on Archaeological Heritage Management (ICAHM), and an affiliate member of ICOMOS’s International Scientific Committee on Cultural Tourism (ICTC). Her current research is a critical analysis of the cooperative and conflictual production of archaeological monuments as cultural heritage sites for visual, performative, economic, and political consumption as undertaken by national governments, regional authorities, local administrations, community stakeholders, and the global tourism industry. Most of her research around these issues is conducted in Peru. In addition to her own authored works on cultural heritage, tourism, and museums, she is the editor of *Archaeological Site Museums in Latin America* (University Press of Florida, 2006), *Cultural Heritage and Human Rights* (Springer, 2007), *Intangible Heritage Embodied* (Springer, 2009) and *Contested Cultural Heritage: Religion, Nationalism, Erasure, and Exclusion in a Global World* (Springer, 2011). She serves on the editorial boards of *American Anthropologist*, *International Journal of Heritage Studies*, *Heritage and Society*, and *World Art*. She currently edits the “Heritage, Tourism, and Community” book series (Left Coast Press) and is a co-editor of ICAHM’s “Multidisciplinary Perspectives in Archaeological Heritage Management” book series (Springer Press).

Xiaobo Su is Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography, University of Oregon. His area of interest covers cultural politics, tourism development, and urban heritage. His current research project investigates the politics of tourism in China’s heritage sites when these sites become increasingly exposed to global capitalistic tendencies arising from tourism. His work focuses on the issues of representation, commodification, nationalism, and spatial inclusion/exclusion in a global–national–local nexus in order to examine the radical transition of China after

1978. He is the author (with Peggy Teo) of *The Politics of Heritage Tourism in China: A View from Lijiang* (Routledge, 2009). His other publications appear in *Tourism Geographies*, *Journal of Contemporary China*, *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, and *Cities*.

Margaret Byrne Swain (Ph.D., University of Washington) recently retired as Director of the Women's Resources and Research Center, and continues as Adjunct Professor in Women and Gender Studies at the University of California, Davis. Her doctoral research was conducted with the Kuna in Panama in the early 1970s. She subsequently expanded her ethnographic focus to indigenous peoples of Southwest China, especially the Sani Yi. Some of her later publications include the co-edited book *Explorers and Scientists in China's Borderlands, 1880–1950* (2011) and articles such as “The Cosmopolitan Hope of Tourism” in *Tourism Geographies* (2009) and the book chapter “Commoditized Ethnicity for Tourism Development in Yunnan” in *Moving Mountains: Ethnicity and Livelihoods in Highland China, Vietnam, and Laos* (UBC Press, 2011).

Zijun Tang is Associate Professor of Law at the Jishou University Law School and a Post-doctoral Research Fellow at the Central University of Finance and Economics in Beijing. He received his M.A. in Law and his Ph.D. in Economics from Hunan Agricultural University. His research and teaching interests focus on the conservation and utilization of World Heritage sites from the perspective of law and economics. He has been in charge of four provincial research projects. He has published some 20 papers. He is currently a Visiting Scholar at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where he is exploring the impact of various legal and economic institutions on the conservation of cultural and natural heritage resources.

Wei Zhao is a doctoral student in the School of Architecture at the University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign. Zhao did her undergraduate study at Tsinghua University, Beijing. She received her Master of Architecture degree from Syracuse University. She became a registered architect and practiced in the United States for many years. Before coming to Illinois, Zhao taught at Iowa State University for 2 years on Chinese vernacular architecture, a topic in which she has significant field experience and in which she also completed a one-year research fellowship at Tsinghua University. Her long-term research focuses on social and cultural impacts on Chinese vernacular architecture. Her doctoral dissertation examines the meaning of home for people living in the vernacular built environment in rural China. Specifically, she is interested in a habitat-oriented approach to Chinese vernacular architecture, in which buildings are studied in the context of the history, custom, and ritual of the family clan alongside the development of the cultural landscape.

Yongming Zhou is a Professor of Anthropology at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He also is affiliated with the Center for Media and Ethnic Studies at Yunnan University in China. Zhou received his doctorate from Duke University in 1997. His research interests include globalization, development, cultural change,