

# Kristof VAN DEN TROOST

*Assistant Professor of Chinese Studies*

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## EDUCATION

- 2011      **PhD in Chinese Studies**  
*Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR*  
Thesis Title: "The Hong Kong Crime Film: Genre and Film Noir from the 1940s to the Present."  
Thesis Supervisor: Ann Huss
- 2005      **MA in Sinology**  
*Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium*
- 2002      **BA in Sinology**  
*Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium*

## EXPERIENCE

- 2017 – present      **Assistant Professor in Chinese Studies**  
*Centre for China Studies, Chinese University of Hong Kong*  
Taught undergraduate and postgraduate courses. Supervised undergraduate, MA and MPhil theses. Served as Director of the MA program (until July 2020).
- 2012 – 2017      **Lecturer in Chinese Studies**  
*Centre for China Studies, Chinese University of Hong Kong*  
Taught undergraduate and postgraduate courses. Supervised MA theses. Served as Deputy Director of the MA program.
- 08/2011 – 12/2011      **Visiting Fellow**  
*Department of Asian and International Studies, City University of Hong Kong*  
Taught undergraduate courses.
- 12/2005 – 07/2006      **Research Assistant**  
*Interdisciplinary Centre for Space Studies, Catholic University of Leuven*  
Researched and co-wrote report titled "The Role of the People's Republic of China as Strategic Partner to Europe for Space Exploration" for the European Space Agency.

## BOOK

- 2023 *Hong Kong Crime Films: Criminal Realism, Censorship and Society 1947-1986*.  
Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press (expected in November 2023)

## JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 06/2022 “Propagandist or Objective Observer? Independent Documentaries in/on Hong Kong’s Recent Social Movements.” *Asian Education and Development Studies* 11, no. 3, pp. 571-580
- 04/2016 “Chinese National Allegory Goes West: *Let the Bullets Fly*.” *Asian Cinema* 27, no. 1, pp. 13-28

## BOOK CHAPTERS

- 2020 “Genre and Censorship: The Crime Film in Late Colonial Hong Kong.” In *Renegotiating Film Genres: East Asian Cinemas and Beyond*, edited by Lin Feng and James Aston, 191-216. London: Palgrave Macmillan
- 2017 “Under Western Eyes? Colonial Bureaucracy, Surveillance and the Birth of the Hong Kong Crime Film.” In *Surveillance in Asian Cinema: Under Eastern Eyes*, edited by Karen Fang, 89-112. London: Routledge
- 2016 “Sword, Fist, or Gun? The 1970s Origins of Contemporary Hong Kong Noir.” In *Hong Kong Neo-Noir Cinema: Capital, Urban Visuality and a Criminal Modernity*, edited by Esther C.M. Yau and Tony Williams. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press
- 2014 “War, Horror and Trauma: Japanese Atrocities on Chinese Screens.” In *Chinese and Japanese Films on the Second World War*, edited by Sandra Wilson, Timothy Tsu and Tam King-fai, 54-66. London: Routledge
- 2014 “Born in an Age of Turbulence: Emergence of the Modern Hong Kong Crime Film.” In *Always in the Dark: A Study of Hong Kong Gangster Films*, edited by Po Fung, 62-77. Hong Kong: Hong Kong Film Archive (published in Chinese and English)
- 2012 (With Wei Ping 魏萍) “Xianggang jilupian fazhan gaikuang 香港纪录片发展概况 (The Development of Documentary Film in Hong Kong).” In *2011 nian Zhongguo jilupian fazhan yanjiu baogao 2011 年中国纪录片发展研究报告 (2011 Research Report on Chinese Documentary Film Development)*, edited by Zhang Tongdao 张同道 and Hu Zhifeng 胡智锋. Beijing: Kexue chubanshe

## TRANSLATIONS

- 2008 "Commercial Media and the Popular Dissemination of Printed Copies of Ming Fiction." By Lin Wenrui. *Frontiers of Literary Studies in China* 2, pp. 436-71
- 2008 "The Sing-song Girls of Shanghai: The Pioneering Work of Modern Popular Fiction." By Fan Boqun. *Frontiers of Literary Studies in China* 2, pp. 472-90
- 2007 (With Ann Huss) "Jin Yong and Twentieth-Century Chinese Literature." By Liu Zaifu. *The Jin Yong Phenomenon: Chinese Martial Arts Fiction and Modern Chinese Literary History*, edited by Ann Huss and Jianmei Liu, 23-38. New York: Cambria Press

## BOOK REVIEWS

- 2023 *Main Melody Films: Hong Kong Directors in Mainland China*, by Chu Yiu-wai (2022). *China Perspectives*, no. 132, pp. 73-4
- 2019 *Tharlo: Short Story and Film Script by Pema Tseden*, edited by Jessica Yeung and Wai-ping Yau (2017). *Hong Kong Review of Books*, January 15
- 2014 "Worldly Desires: Cosmopolitanism and Cinema in Hong Kong and Taiwan (PhD diss., University of California, Los Angeles, 2011)," by Brian Hu. *Dissertation Reviews*, March 3
- 2009 *John Woo's The Killer*, by Kenneth Hall (2009). *China Perspectives* (Autumn), p. 130
- 2009 *Director in Action: Johnnie To and the Hong Kong Action Film*, by Stephen Teo (2007). *China Perspectives*, no. 3, p. 110
- 2007 *China on Screen: Cinema and Nation*, by Chris Berry and Mary Farquhar (2006). *China Perspectives*, no. 4, p. 115

## OTHER PUBLICATION

- 04/2016 "Chinese satires: de (on)macht van de lach [Chinese Satires: The Power(lessness) of Laughter]." *Uit het Erasmushuis* 6: "De Macht van de Lach" [The Power of Laughter], pp. 111-114 (in Dutch)

## CONFERENCE PAPERS

- 06/2023 "Hong Kong Crime Films: Crises and Generic Evolution." The Ninth Interdisciplinary Conference of the International Crime Genre Research Network, Ireland. University of Galway
- 05/2023 "Censorship of Cinematic Sex and Nudity in Hong Kong's Long 1970s." Workshop on "Censorship and Creativity in Hong Kong Cinema". Chinese University of Hong Kong
- 06/2022 "Youth, Crime and Rebellion in Hong Kong Cinema: *The Way We Keep Dancing*." American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting. Taipei (online)
- 05/2022 "The Censorship of Politics in Hong Kong Cinema: Past, Present, and Future." "Unknown Futures: A Seminar on Hong Kong", University of Copenhagen (online)
- 04/2022 "Hong Kong Cinema: Non-National Allegory in the Non-Third World." British Association of Film, Television and Screen Studies (BAFTSS) Annual Conference. University of St Andrews (online)
- 04/2022 "Criminal Realism: Crime Film and Censorship in 1970s Hong Kong." Hong Kong Independent Cinema Workshop, King's College London and Hong Kong Baptist University (online)
- 03/2022 "Criminal Realism: Hong Kong Crime Film, Censorship and Society in the 1960s and 1970s." Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference, Honolulu (online)
- 12/2021 "Youth and Allegory in Hong Kong Cinema, or *The Way We Keep Dancing*." Workshop on "Resistance and the Moving Image in Hong Kong", Chinese University of Hong Kong
- 07/2021 Participant in Roundtable Discussion on "Postcolonial Memories and Protest Movements: East-Central Europe vs. Hong Kong." Memory Studies Association Fifth Annual Conference, Warsaw (online)
- 06/2021 "After 1967: Political Blame, Moral Panic, and the Hong Kong Youth Problem Film Cycle." Society for Hong Kong Studies Annual Conference, Hong Kong (online)
- 05/2021 "Problem Youth Films and the Hong Kong New Wave." 100 Years of Chinese Film & Screen Conference, University of Nottingham Ningbo (online)
- 09/2020 "Reflected in the Rear Window: Hitchcock and Hong Kong." AAS-in-Asia Conference, Kobe (online)

- 07/2019 "Wong Fei-hung Was a Gangster? A Blasphemous Reading of a Kung Fu Film Legend." 11<sup>th</sup> International Convention of Asia Scholars Conference, Leiden University
- 06/2019 "Righteousness, Brotherhood, Justice: Feeling and Affect in 1980s Hong Kong Crime Films." Society for Hong Kong Studies Annual Conference, University of Hong Kong
- 04/2019 "Hong Kong Crime Cinema in the 1980s: Text, Context, Affect." "Chinese Cinema in Global Context" Conference, University of Idaho
- 03/2018 "The Censorship of Violence, or the Violence of Political Censorship: Hong Kong's Illegal Censorship and the 1988 Film Censorship Regulations." Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference, Toronto
- 09/2017 "From Action to Crime, Beyond 1997: Re-Orienting the Study of the Hong Kong Action-Crime Film." "Rethinking Film Genres: East Asian Cinema and Beyond" Conference, University of Hull
- 03/2017 "Cold War Thaw: Changing Film Censorship in 1980s Hong Kong and Its Impact on the Crime Film Genre." Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference, Chicago
- 06/2015 "Jiang Wen's 'Let the Bullets Fly': Horsing Around with Revolution in Post-Socialist China." AAS-in-Asia Conference, Taipei
- 06/2015 "East by Southeast: The Impact and Adaptation of Hitchcock Films in 1950s and 1960s Hong Kong." Association for Chinese and Comparative Literature Conference, Shanghai
- 05/2015 "Representing Crime in 1950s and 1960s Hong Kong Cinema: Colonial Censorship, Social Reality, and International Trends." Conference: "The Turmoil of History: Memories, Narratives, Representation, and Mid-Twentieth Century China", OSU-Academia Sinica, Taipei
- 03/2015 "Hitchcock in Hong Kong: The Impact of the Master of Suspense on 1950s and 1960s Hong Kong Crime Cinema." Conference: "The Translation of Literature and Culture in Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Mainland China during the Cold War Period", Lingnan University (Hong Kong)
- 03/2014 "Postwar Hong Kong Crime Films: Cold War, Popular Culture, and Genre." Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference, Philadelphia
- 06/2013 "The Roaring 1960s: Emergence of the Modern Hong Kong Crime Film." Conference: "Chinese Language Cinema—Text, Context and History", Hong Kong Baptist University
- 03/2012 "Eastern Westerns: Transnational Mutation of an 'American' Genre." Asian Cinema

Studies Society Conference, Hong Kong

- 02/2012 “War, Horror, and Trauma: Japanese Atrocities on Chinese Screens.” (Revised version). International Conference: “Visions of Peace, Memories of War: Filmic Representations of World War II in China, Japan and Korea”, Hong Kong Polytechnic University
- 07/2011 “War, Horror, and Trauma: Japanese Atrocities on Chinese Screens.” Workshop: “Restaging War and Peace—A Comparison of Japanese and Chinese War Movies”, Kyoto University
- 04/2010 “Hong Kong Noir and the Crime Film: Development in the 1980s.” American Comparative Literature Association Conference, New Orleans
- 01/2010 “The 1970s Crime Film: Gangsters as the Pioneers of Hong Kong Cinema’s Indigenization.” Sixth Annual Graduate Seminar on China of the Universities Service Centre for China Studies, Chinese University of Hong Kong
- 10/2009 “Detectives, Cops and Robbers in Hong Kong: Regional and Global Cinematic Flows in the 1950s and 1960s.” Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association Convention, Snowbird (USA)

## TALKS

- 01/2020 “Protesten in Hong Kong: Doelstellingen, Organisatie en Beeldvorming [Protests in Hong Kong: Objectives, Organization and Representation].” Catholic University of Leuven
- 12/2019 “King Hu’s *Dragon Gate Inn* (1967).” Post-screening Discussion. Fresh Wave International Short Film Festival, Hong Kong
- 10/2019 “Old Wine in Old Bottles? 1980s Hong Kong Crime Films Revisited.” Interdisciplinary Lunchtime Seminar, Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Hong Kong
- 02/2018 “Hong Kong Movies, Gangsters, and Other Tales.” Morningside College, Chinese University of Hong Kong
- 08/2015 “Long Live Revolution!: *Let the Bullets Fly* as a Chinese Director’s Discourse on Revolutionary Change.” Young China Watchers, Hong Kong
- 03/2015 “Long Live Revolution!: *Let the Bullets Fly* as a Chinese Director’s Discourse on Revolutionary Change.” Raising the Bar, Hong Kong

## ANONYMOUS REVIEWS

### *Journals*

- Asian Cinemas
- Asian Studies Review
- China Perspectives
- Chinese Cinemas
- Concentric: Literary and Cultural Studies
- Global Storytelling Journal
- Journal of Chinese Cinemas
- Memory Studies
- Modern China
- New Review of Film and Television Studies
- Traduction, Terminologie, Rédaction

### *Books*

- Intellect Books

## COURSES TAUGHT

- China on Screen
- China Seminar I & II
- Chinese Society in Transition
- Chinese Studies Fieldtrip: Taiwanese Cinema
- Chinese Studies Fieldtrip: Hong Kong Cinema
- East Asian Cinema
- East Asian Film Genres in a Globalizing World
- Independent Study Project
- Perspectives on Chinese Studies
- Research Lab
- Trauma and Memory in 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Century China

## GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 01/2023-12/2025      General Research Fund grant from the Research Grants Council (RGC), Hong Kong. Title: "The Hong Kong Crime Film since 1986." (Project Code: 14617322). HK\$467,500.
- 01/2020-03/2022      Early Career Scheme grant from the Research Grants Council (RGC), Hong Kong. Project Title: "The Hong Kong Crime Film." (Project Code: 24604619). HK\$220,000.

- 02/2018-02/2019 Direct Grant for Research from the Faculty of Arts, CUHK. Project title: "Political Censorship of Films in Pre-1997 Hong Kong: The 1988 Film Censorship Ordinance." (Project Code: 4051100). HK\$92,000.
- 10/2009 Nominated for the Charles Davis Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Presentation at the RMMLA Convention, Snowbird (USA)
- 07/2008 Hop Wai Short-Term Research Grant, to attend the Summer Program in Chinese Film History and Criticism at the Beijing Film Academy

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- 2022-present Member, American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA)
- 2022-present Member, British Association for Film, Television and Screen Studies (BAFTSS)
- 2013-present Member, Association for Asian Studies (AAS)
- 2021-2022 Member, Memory Studies Association (MSA)
- 2015-2019 Member, Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS)