



International Conference

Anti-Asian Racism: History, Theory, Cultural Representations and Antiracist Movements

- Venue:** Fürstenzimmer of Schloss Hohentübingen, Burgsteige 11, 72070 Tübingen, Germany
- Date:** Friday, 07.07.2023 – Saturday, 08.07.2023
- Conveners:** Dr. Kien Nghi Ha and Prof. Dr. You Jae Lee
- Registration:** Required for limited seats: Write to koreanistik@uni-tuebingen.de
- Participation:** Access is free of charge
- Website:** <https://uni-tuebingen.de/en/219396>

Program

Friday, 07.07.2023

14:30 – 14:45 Arrival, registration and coffee

14:45 – 15:00 **Welcome and Introduction**
Kien Nghi Ha and You Jae Lee

15:00 – 16:00 **Keynote: History**

Lok Siu, Professor of Asian American Studies, University of California (Berkeley)
Making Asians Foreign: Methods of Exclusion and Contingent Belonging
Chair: Bernd-Stefan Grewe, Professor of History, University of Tübingen

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16:00 – 17:00 **Panel: History**

You Jae Lee, Professor of Korean Studies, University of Tübingen
Discrimination, Resistance, and Meritocracy. Korean Guest Workers in Germany

Kien Nghi Ha, Postdoc Cultural Scientist, University of Tübingen
The Pogrom in Rostock-Lichtenhagen as Institutional Racism

Chair: Jee-Un Kim, Managing Director of “korientation – Network for Asian German Perspectives”

17:00 – 17:30 Coffee Break

17:30 – 18:30 **Keynote: Theory**

Rotem Kowner, Professor of Japanese Studies, University of Haifa
The Intersections between European Racial Constructions and Modern Colonialism: Theoretical Issues and the Place of Asia

Chair: Anthony Pattahu, Habilitation Candidate at the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Tübingen

18:30 – 19:30 **Panel: Theory**

Lucas Poy, Assistant Professor in Global Economic and Social History, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Socialists and Anti-Asian Sentiment in the Era of Mass Migration (1880-1930)

Cuso Ehrich, Graduate Student, Institute of Sociology, Justus Liebig University Gießen

Abolitionist Perspectives on Demands of Asian-German Formations

Chair: Bani Gill, Junior Professor of Sociology, University of Tübingen

Saturday, 08.07.2023

09:00 – 10:00 **Keynote: Cultural Representations**

Qinna Shen, Associate Professor of German Studies, Bryn Mawr College
Racialized Screen in Early German Cinema: What Asian German Studies Can Address

Chair: Fei Huang, Professor of Chinese Studies, University of Tübingen

10:00 – 11:00 **Panel: Cultural Representations**

Feng-Mei Heberer, Assistant Professor for Cinema Studies, New York University
**Anti-Asian Racism and the Politics of Asian Self-Representation in Germany:
the Asian Film Festival Berlin**

Anno Dederichs, Postdoc Sociologist at China Center, University of Tübingen
**Opportunity and Threat: Ambivalent Reporting on China in *Der Spiegel*,
1947-2023**

Chair: Zach Ramon Fitzpatrick, Assistant Professor of German Studies at the
University of Wisconsin-Madison (from fall 2023)

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee Break

11:30 – 12:30 **Panel: Antiracist Movements**

Sara Djahim, Independent Researcher, Asian and International Development
Studies & Tae Jun Kim, Sociologist at German Center for Integration and
Migration Research (DeZIM), Berlin

**“Take Off Your Masks“: The Invisibility and Visibility of Anti-Asian Racism
in Germany**

Ya-han Chuang, Postdoc Sociologist at the Institut national d'études
démographiques (Ined), Sciences Po Paris

**Yellow is the new Black? Emergence and Development of Asian Antiracist
Activism in France**

Chair: Yewon Lee, Junior Professor of Korean Studies, University of Tübingen

12:30 – 13:00 **Round Table: Challenging Anti-Asian Racism in Society and
Academia**

Panelists: Qinna Shen, Lok Siu, Rotem Kowner, You Jae Lee

Chair: *Kien Nghi Ha*



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Abstracts (in order of appearance)

Lok Siu (University of California, Berkeley)

Making Asians Foreign: Methods of Exclusion and Contingent Belonging

Despite 240 years of presence in the United States, Asian American belonging remains a contested terrain. What animates the recurring eruptions of anti-Asianism in the U.S.? How do economic imperatives intersect with political structures to calibrate Asian migration to address domestic labor needs while containing their social-political integration? How do racial ideologies of nationhood and belonging persist despite universalist ideals for citizenship? This presentation draws on U.S. Asian American history to explore these questions and to consider its ripple effects in global context.

You Jae Lee (University of Tübingen)

Discrimination, Resistance, and Meritocracy. Korean Guest Workers in Germany

In the 1960s and 1970s about 20,000 South Korean nurses and miners came to West Germany. The programs through which they came to Germany were discriminatory on several levels. The Koreans resisted very early on in their workplaces against discrimination. But their most famous resistance was the struggle for residency rights in 1977/78 for nurses and 1979/80 for miners to the end of the programs. But less known is their long-term struggle of recognition in German society via meritocracy. From the postmigrant perspective of the 2nd generation, this legacy is questioned.

Kien Nghi Ha (University of Tübingen)

The Pogrom in Rostock-Lichtenhagen as Institutionalized Racism

Institutionalized racism is a decisive factor to understand the pogrom in Rostock-Lichtenhagen (1992) against Roma refugees and Vietnamese contract workers. Reinforced by the social crisis within the German reunification process in the early 1990s discriminatory discourses and practices against racialized immigrants and asylum-seekers played a crucial role in the national political debate. These discourses were amplified in the mediascape and shaped the practices of local administrations and police forces. I argue that the interaction of these institutions created an ideological climate in which racist violence was supported by broad sections of the German society and even enabled pogroms as ultimate form of institutionalized racism. Its powerful effects shaped not only the events before and within the pogrom, but also its aftermaths like the failed police investigations and legal proceedings. Despite the outstanding social and cultural-political importance of this pogrom, the scientific research and cultural examinations are still very much at the beginning. The marginal status is also reflected in the delayed and contested public commemorations. Until recently, the memory work of German institutions at local and national levels were not interested to acknowledge this historical event as pogrom. Also, the affected Communities of Color have been sidelined in order to privilege White perspectives, where these racist attacks has been remembered as so-called riots.

Rotem Kowner (University of Haifa)

The Intersections between European Racial Constructions and Modern Colonialism: Theoretical Issues and the Place of Asia

The emergence of theories of race and racist worldview in early modern and modern Europe coincided with the rise of European colonialism in Asia and beyond. And yet, one wonders whether there are causal relations between these two phenomena. In this presentation, I will argue that there are cases where one may find race theories without colonialism and colonialism without race

theories, at least initially. In reality, nonetheless, we often observe close relation between issues of race and colonialism. Race theories and racism promoted and justified colonialism whereas colonialism boosted the construction of racial theories and the implementation of racism in European colonies and back home. More specifically, I will seek to define the relation between race theories and racism and then show their intricate relations with European colonialism based on various examples from early modern and modern Asia.

Lucas Poy (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)

Socialists and Anti-Asian Sentiment in the Era of Mass Migration (1880-1930)

Over the last 170 years, the famous rallying cry ‘Workers of the world, unite’ remained appealing but elusive, more a vague desire than an actual reality. Class-based loyalties entangled in complicated ways with national, gender, religious, and ethnic identities, and nativist policies towards immigrants, as well as distrust and wariness towards local ethnic minorities, have been present throughout the history of labour and socialist movements, often in tension with their otherwise cosmopolitan and democratic standpoints. We could argue, indeed, that these movements have been characterized by a struggle between solidarity and exclusion of ‘the other,’ with Anti-Asian sentiment often being one of the key factors contributing to this tension. Aiming to tackle these broad and important questions, this paper provides an overview of the stances of socialists towards Asian migration and Asian people in general during the period 1880-1930, an era of intense globalization and movement of capital and labour throughout the world, which coincided with the consolidation of nation-states, imperialist endeavours, and growing nationalism. It will do so by focusing on three specific cases: a) the stances and perspectives of Australian and American socialist groups in the late 19th century, b) the discussions about migration within the Second International in 1904-1907, and c) the debates of the World Migration Congress, convened by Western European social democrats and trade unionists in 1926. Drawing on a variety of primary and secondary sources, the paper explores the ways in which socialist movements negotiated their cosmopolitan and democratic ideals with the nativist and restrictive policies towards Asian migrants that were prevalent at the time. The paper seeks to contribute to the conference’s discussion on Anti-Asian racism by presenting a case study with historical context.

Cuso Ehrich (Justus Liebig University Gießen)

Abolitionist Reflections on Demands of Asian-German Political Formations

After the racist murders in Atlanta, Georgia that specifically targeted Asian-American women in massage parlors on the 16 th of March 2021, various members of Asian-German communities formed an initiative group and articulated anti-racist demands in an open letter in which they draw links between Anti-Asian Racism in the United States and the historical and present Anti-Asian Racism in Germany.

My reflections draw from theories of racial capitalism, focusing on state-produced, state-sanctioned and ongoing colonial violence and the transnational abolitionist social movements seeking to transform the conditions which make these forms of violence possible. I examine the demands of the open letter, which addressed anti-racist institutions and policies of the state, the education system, the politics of remembrance, and institutional and media representation of Asians in Germany. My work reflects on how these demands relate to abolitionist theory and practice. It reveals ways in which the Asian-German demands have the potential to disrupt racism from perspectives of racial capitalism, where these demands fall short in addressing racial capitalism as form of stratification of society, and how they could even become complicit in fostering carceral structures by relying on the false promises of hate crime laws. As part of the initiative group that wrote the open letter, I base my work on a critical self-reflection that analyses the open letter as a communal narrative.

Qinna Shen (Bryn Mawr College)

Racialized Screen in Early German Cinema: What Asian German Studies Can Address

The talk will examine the cultural construction of East Asians in early German cinema from the 1910s to the 1930s. Although most of the early German-Asian films are either lost or not easily accessible, the available features reveal the extent of anti-Chinese and anti-Japanese racism alongside chinoiserie and japonisme images. As effective as mass media are, these early cinematic pictures perpetuated stereotypes such as Madame Butterfly and the “Asian villain” and contributed to anti-Asian racism. This talk will focus on the lesser-known, previously under-researched German films about East Asia to show how Asian German studies can stage a crucial intervention in addressing racialized representations of Asians. It explores the intersection of Asian German film studies and the canon to see how Asian German studies can redress the blind spots and gaps. Whereas well-known directors including Joe May, Ewald André Dupont, Fritz Lang, Lupu Pick, Paul Wegener, Ernst Lubitsch, Richard Eichberg, and Josef von Sternberg have repeatedly featured East Asia in their films, much more research is needed on their films with links to Asia. This kind of effort aims to promote research and teaching of Asian German film studies as a significant field and to discover more archival treasures and have them digitalized and preserved.

Feng-Mei Heberer (New York University)

Anti-Asian Racism and the Politics of Asian Self-Representation in Germany: the Asian Film Festival Berlin

The recent successes of *Everything Everywhere All at Once* (2023) signal a change in Asian representational politics, not only in the United States but globally: finally, Asians get the screen time they deserve. In the context of Europe, and Germany specifically, Asian characters in popular series like *Druck* (2020-2022) or *Kleo* (2022) convey a similar move toward diverse and inclusive representation. Yet we also know that anti-Asian violence, including in Germany, has gained new traction ever since the pandemic. How do we make sense of this apparent disconnect between celebrated Asian media representations and surging anti-Asian racism? What do we not see when looking at Asian onscreen images? This talk explores how Asian diasporic communities, and feminist organizers in particular, have leveraged and mobilized representational politics to educate about and counter anti-Asian sentiment when majoritarian discourse suggests cheerful togetherness in ways that entirely erases the lived experience of Asian “others.” Using the Asian Film Festival Berlin (AFFB) as a case study, I show how Asian diasporic organizers challenge what Grace Kyungwon Hong calls hegemonic “ways of not seeing,” i.e. the pervasive and continued disavowal of Asian presence in German history – despite growing media visibility – which describes itself a form of anti-Asian violence. In this context, I advance the AFFB as part of a longer genealogy of anti-racist Asian diasporic organizing that defies the gendered and racialized abjection of Asianness in Germany, and mobilizes alternative forms of self-representation and “presencing.”

Anno Dederichs (University of Tübingen)

Opportunity and Threat: Ambivalent Reporting on China in *Der Spiegel*, 1947-2023

The public debate about China in Germany fluctuates between the perception of China as an opportunity and a threat. This pattern of perception can be traced back to colonial times and is evident in the media's portrayal of China from the founding of the People's Republic to the present day. Based on an analysis of articles and cover images of *Der Spiegel* from 1947 to 2023, I intend to show the ambivalence of descriptions of China depending on their historical contexts. Topoi and racist bodies of knowledge can be traced and retrieved, but they are not used without adaptation to the respective historical contexts. This explains their different manifestations. Thus, there is both continuity and change in German anti-Asian (anti-Chinese) racism. Stereotypes and racist topoi of

the “Chinese” are adapted to the respective temporal needs and rationalized with various discourses of threat and under consideration of the respective moral narratives. This contribution attempts a systematization of these rationalizations.

Sara Djahim (Independent Researcher) & Tae Jun Kim (German Center for Integration and Migration Research, Berlin)

“Take Off Your Masks: The Invisibility and Visibility of Anti-Asian Racism in Germany”

In January 2023, the German government’s status report on “Racism in Germany” named anti-Asian racism as one of its focal points. This had been unheard of before 2020, when both *Asians* as well as the racism they were affected by were largely invisible to the public eye. The onset of the Covid19-pandemic, however, brought about a hard to ignore, unprecedented rise of racist attacks against people who were perceived as *Asian*. According to the first ever survey to evaluate anti-Asian racism, half of its respondents with a so-called “Asian migration background” experienced racism in 2020, with 11% falling victim to physical violence. Due to the work of activists and against the backdrop of the Black Lives Matter movement during 2020/21, anti-Asian racism as a term found its way into political agendas.

In this paper, we aim to discuss anti-Asian racism as a political term, its usefulness, and limitations for antiracist work. Tracing back its colonial origins, we map out the features specific to anti-Asian racism and examine the *Asian* subject as ‘the signified other’, then and now. In a comparative analysis we illustrate the perception of anti-Asian racism and *Asians* as a real and imagined group in Germany and other countries. Since self-organization was crucial in bringing the issue of anti-Asian racism forward, we explore the dilemma of having to strategically position oneself as the ‘other’ in the fight to overcome the essential imagination of being *Asian*. Considering the current political development, we therefore address the pitfalls of inscribing the term anti-Asian racism into public discourse if disconnected from an analysis that focuses on racism as a construction through societal conditions. In that vein, we also assess the necessity of anti-Asian racism for the formation of an *Asian* identity (in the diaspora) as such, and if the (re-)appropriation of the collective identity *Asian* can truly transcend colonial-racist notions of *Asia*.

Authors’ note: As the meaning of “Asia” and the groups that are denoted as “Asian” are subject to change, depending on international and national (geo)political climate and events, we chose to italicize both terms whenever pertaining to ideas and constructs.

Ya-Han Chuang (Sciences Po Paris)

Yellow is the new Black? Emergence and development of Asian antiracist activism in France

An activism led by Asian youth in France has developed since a decade to denounce the stereotyping of Asian French and their weak representation in public space. Based on a *long durée* ethnography, my presentation will analyze the emergence and development of Asian French activism from the perspective of racial triangulation theory. I address the following questions: how does the particular migration process of East Asian and South-East Asian migrants in France and their social position engender a different narratives and actions repertoire of antiracism from other minorities? How does the movement actors’ perception of inter-minority disparity between Asians and other minority groups in France evolve through the waves of mobilizations? To answer these two questions, I analyze the evolution of Asian French activism since 2010. Three distinct phases can be distinguished according to the claims, means of actions and narratives on inter-group relationships; and in each phase, new actors have emerged and widened the spectrum of Asian French activism. Whereas the sentiment of inequality and relative deprivation between minorities stimulate the initial mobilization of Asians in France, the waves of mobilization also allow actors to dialogue, cooperate, or even create political affinity in their narratives from a decolonial lens. However, the position towards Chinese government and its representation in international relations

create a new division among the Asian minorities and question the frontier between antiracist politics and internationalism.

Short Biographies

Ya-Han Chuang, born in Taiwan, is sociologist and research fellow at CERI (*Centre de Recherches Internationales*) at Sciences Po Paris. She is currently involved in two research projects financed by French National Research Agency (Agence National de Recherche) : the project “ChIPRe (Chinese immigrants in Paris Region)”, the first quantitative survey on Chinese migrants living in Paris region ; and the project “PolAsie (Political Participation of Asian Immigrant Popolarion in France)”. She is also the French coordinator of the project “Anti-Asian Hate Compared: Pattern, Causes and Reponses in the US and France” financed by Alliance of Columbia University. Her articles published in *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, *International Migration*, and has published a “*Une minorité modèle? Chinois de France et racism anti-Asiatiques*” in 2021.

Anno Dederichs is postdoctoral researcher at the China Centre Tübingen at the University of Tübingen. After completing his Magister Artium in sinology and sociology in Tübingen, Beijing and Nanjing, he earned his doctorate in sociology. His dissertation on Cultural Differentiation in Economic Cooperation was published in 2018. His work focuses on diversity and human differentiation, qualitative social research as well as social transformation and its discourses of perception in and about China.

Sara Djahim holds a BA in Asian Studies and an MA in International Development Studies. For the past 10 years, she has worked extensively with migrant women associations and diasporic umbrella organizations. Most recently, she was responsible for community outreach and the participation of migrant organizations within Germany’s first national discrimination and racism monitor at DeZIM. She was also a member of the advisory board of korientation e.V. Research interests: Be/longing, community organizing, and antiracism.

Cuso Ehrich is an activist, facilitator, and educator based in Cologne, Germany. They are organized in post-migrant grassroots movements, conducting workshops on intersections of colonialism and gender constructions for NGOs, as well as providing conflict facilitations for grassroots groups and institutions. They have worked on the ERASMUS+ Project BRIDGES to decolonize Universities and are currently co-creating a project about Anti-Asian racism for the migrant-led organization korientation e.V.. Other Areas of relevant political work include the board of the federal association of trans* people in Germany (2021-present), the DIASPOR.ASIA (2018-2021) and “Hast Du Alles?” (2021-present) podcasts, as well as the appointed work in Colognes official committee to work on the postcolonial heritage of the city. They hold a bachelor's in anthropology from the Goethe University Frankfurt and have submitted their Masters’ thesis on Anti-Asian Racism and Asian-German formations at the Institute of Sociology at the Justus Liebig University Gießen in early 2023.

Zach Ramon Fitzpatrick earned his Ph.D. in Germanic Studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago, where he received the Mellon-CES (Council for European Studies) Dissertation Completion Fellowship. His research on Asian representation in German film and media is featured on korientation's website (2017, 2021), in the edited volume *East Asian-German Cinema: The Transnational Screen, 1919 to the Present* (2021), and in the journal *Feminist German Studies*

(2022). Along with Qinna Shen and Qingyang Freya Zhou, Zach is also currently co-editing a volume tentatively titled *New Narratives of Asian German Film History*. Since 2019, Zach has also been running the Instagram account "Asian German Updates," where he posts about Asian German media, history, people, news, and community events throughout the German-speaking world. In the fall, Zach will begin his new position as assistant professor of German Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Bani Gill is a Junior Professor at the Institute for Sociology, University of Tübingen. She is a qualitative sociologist grounded in ethnographic sensibilities and a regional focus on South Asia and contemporary Africa-India encounters. As chairholder for "Urban Futures in the Global South", her research interests include urbanism, migration, race and racialization, gender, and the sociology of law, bureaucracy, and the state. Her scholarship has examined contemporary patterns of transnational mobility from the African continent, particularly West Africa, to Delhi, India, as an entry point to engage with questions of social difference and identity in relation to urban futures. Her upcoming project examines migrant deportation, infrastructures, and policing by attending to the complex relationship between urban space, identity and identification for different subject populations located in Delhi. Dr. Gill received her PhD from the University of Copenhagen. She is also a Research Affiliate at the Centre on Migration, Policy, and Society, University of Oxford.

Bernd-Stefan Grewe, Prof. Dr., is head of the Institute for History Didactics and Public History at the University of Tübingen since April 2017. He studied history, Romance studies and philosophy at the Universities of Trier and Paris X – Nanterre. Doctorate in 2000 in history on the subject of "*The Locked Forest. Pre-industrial shortage of forest resources using the example of the Bavarian Rhine Palatinate (1815-1870)*". Then for four years he worked as a trainee and teacher at schools (Freiburg, Kaisten (HC), Trier). Head of the junior research group "*Dynamics of Transnational Commerce (18th to 20th Century)*" at the University of Konstanz. 2010 he became Professor of history and its didactics at the University of Education in Freiburg. In his research, he is particularly concerned with global history, for example certain aspects of slavery, colonialism or gold, and historical culture (colonialism in this country). In addition, he uses history didactic questions to research, among other things, (1) how global perspectives on history can be conveyed in the classroom; (2) how digital media can be used successfully in history lessons.

Kien Nghi Ha holds a PhD in Cultural Studies and Political Sciences and works as a Postdoctoral Researcher on Asian German Studies at the University of Tübingen. He was a research fellow at New York University and at the universities of Bremen, Heidelberg, and Bayreuth. In addition to numerous publications on postcolonial criticism, racism, migration, and Asian Diasporic Studies, he edited the expanded new edition *Asiatische Deutsche Extended. Vietnamesische Diaspora and Beyond* (2012; 2021). As a curator, he has realized various projects on Asian diaspora at the Haus der Kulturen der Welt in Berlin and the Hebbel am Ufer Theater, among others. He is currently curating the film series *Asian Presences in the Colonial Metropolis of Berlin. Localizing Decolonialization* at Sinema Transtopia in Berlin and will publish the corresponding anthology in late 2023. His monography *Unrein und vermischt. Postkoloniale Grenzgänge durch die Kulturgeschichte der Hybridität und der kolonialen „Rassenbastarde“* (2010) was awarded with the Augsburg Science Prize for Intercultural Studies. Other publications include *re/visionen. Postkoloniale Perspektiven von People of Color auf Rassismus, Kulturpolitik und Widerstand in Deutschland* (Co-Hg. 2007), *Hype um Hybridität* (2005), *Vietnam Revisited* (2005), *Ethnizität und Migration Reloaded. Identität, Differenz und Hybridität im postkolonialen Diskurs* (1999/2004).

Feng-Mei Heberer is Assistant Professor in Cinema Studies at New York University. Her research spans transnational media, ethnic studies, feminist and queer studies, with particular focus on Asian diasporic media cultures. Her work has appeared, among others, in *Camera Obscura*, *Sexualities*, and the edited volume *Asian Video Cultures*. Her book, *Asians On Demand: Mediating Race in Video Art and Activism*, is forthcoming from the University of Minnesota Press (2023). Complementing her academic work, she has been a programmer for several film festivals, including the Asian Film Festival Berlin.

Fei Huang is W3 chair professor of Chinese History and Society in the University of Tübingen. Her research interests concentrate on the interdisciplinary combination of landscape studies, environmental history, history of the body, cultural geography, historical anthropology, art history and material culture studies on China and the dynamics of globalization between the 16th and 20th centuries. While her research is focused on China-related topics, she has enjoyed a broad academic training and also pursues interdisciplinary studies in comparative research projects internationally. She published her first book *Reshaping the Frontier Landscape: Dongchuan in Eighteenth-century Southwest China* (Brill 2018). In 2020, she finished her Habilitation thesis (second-book project): *Hot Springs and Public Bathing: Transformations within Continuity. Toward a Social-Environmental History of Body and City in China*. Currently, she is working on the final published version of her second book.

Jee-Un Kim is a founding member of *korientation. Network for Asian-German Perspectives e.V.* and managing director of the association and the project *MEGA – Media and Empowerment for German Asians*. She studied law and cultural management and was a research assistant at the Korean Studies department at the University of Tübingen. She is currently particularly interested in the topics of power-critical organizational development in self-organizations, strategies of cultural and media self-representation, development of/access to post-/migrant knowledge bases.

Tae Jun Kim studied sociology at the University of Hamburg and Seoul National University. Afterwards, he worked on the topics of social inequalities in health and health care as well as stigma and discrimination. Tae Jun Kim currently works at the discrimination and racism monitor at the DeZIM. His research interests include stigma, discrimination and the question, how racism can be measured with quantitative methods.

Rotem Kowner is a Professor of Japanese Studies at the University of Haifa, Israel. A founding chair of the Department of Asian Studies at the same university, he has written extensively on the treatment of race and racism in East Asia and on Japan's modern wars. Kowner has led several projects that examine broad themes in Asia within a global context. His ongoing project deals with questions of race and racism and includes *From White to Yellow* (McGill-Queen's, 2014), *From Yellow to Inferior* (McGill-Queen's, forthcoming), and the two co-edited volumes (with Walter Demel) *Race and Racism in Modern East Asia* (Brill, 2013–15). A second project on the Russo–Japanese War yielded several books, most recent are *Historical Dictionary of the Russo-Japanese War* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2017) and *Tsushima* (Oxford, 2022).

Yewon Lee is a Junior Professor at the Department of Korean Studies at University of Tübingen. As a political and labor sociologist and urban ethnographer, Yewon is broadly interested in the areas of urban and labor sociology, social movements, and politics in Korea as well as in Asia. Currently, Yewon is preparing a monograph that examines a fascinating case in which tenant shopkeepers in South Korea are challenging the formidable power of property-ownership-based citizenship.

Yewon's ethnographic work on tenant shopkeepers' activism both reveals the urban inequalities that are driven by rentier capitalism and analyzes the on-the-ground efforts to counter them.

You Jae Lee is Professor of Korean Studies at the University of Tübingen. He studied history, Korean studies, philosophy and political science in Berlin (FU Berlin, HU Berlin), Seoul (SNU) and in Erfurt. His doctoral thesis was devoted to the topic of Christian missions during the colonial period: *Koloniale Zivilgemeinschaft. Alltag und Lebensweise der Christen in Korea (1894-1954)*, Frankfurt a.M.: Campus Verlag 2017. In his second book project he dealt with Korean migration history in Germany. Recently he edited the volume *Glück Auf! Lebensgeschichten koreanischer Bergarbeiter in Deutschland* (2021). His research focuses on German-Korean relations and everyday history. Since September 2021 he has headed the Tübingen Strategic Research Institute, which is funded by the Academy of Korean Studies for 10 years.

Antony Pattathu is a Habilitation Candidate at the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology and a founding member of the Interdisciplinary Center for Global South Studies at the University of Tübingen. He received his PhD from Heidelberg University as a member of the Collaborative Research Center 619 for Ritual Dynamics. His habilitation research focuses on transnationalism, religion, care migration and gender in/ and between India (Kerala) and Germany with a focus on the Syro-Malabar Church. His other research focus is decolonial theory and practice, postcolonialism, colonial history of the University and (anti-)racism. Through workshops, consulting and conferences at universities, in the field of education and in collaboration with different communities, cities and museums, he addresses the question of how the debate on decolonization makes new formats and dialogues on cultures of remembrance, antiracism and the reappraisal of colonial history possible.

Lucas Poy is Assistant Professor in Global Economic and Social History at the Faculty of Humanities of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. His research deals with the history of labour and socialism, with a special focus on the so-called "Global South", transnational connections and the question of global solidarities. Apart from two monographs, dr. Poy has published articles in many scientific journals, in different countries and languages. In the past he was senior researcher of Argentina's National Council for Scientific and Technical Research (CONICET) and lecturer at the University of Buenos Aires. He is affiliated with the International Institute of Social History as coordinator of the International Association of Labour History Institutions and editor of the *Revista Latinoamericana de Trabajo y Trabajadores*.

Qinna Shen is Associate Professor of German at Bryn Mawr College. Her research focuses on twentieth- and twenty-first century German culture, with an emphasis on visual studies and Asian German Studies. She has published numerous articles in peer-reviewed journals and edited volumes. She is the author of *The Politics of Magic: DEFA Fairy-Tale Films* (2015). Her co-edited volume *Beyond Alterity: German Encounters with Modern East Asia* appeared in the series *Spektrum: Publications of the German Studies Association* in 2014 with Berghahn Press. She is currently writing her second monograph *Jiny Lan and the Art of Subversion: Chinese-German Culture and Politics through a Feminist Lens*. She is a member of the *German Studies Review* editorial board and is chairing the German Studies Association (GSA) Seminar Committee. In 2021, she also chaired the DAAD/GSA Article Prize Committee. Together with Qingyang Freya Zhou and Zach Ramon Fitzpatrick, she compiled "Asian German Filmography: A Teaching Guide." With Zach and Freya, she is also co-editing *New Narratives of Asian German Film History: Imagination, Collaboration, and Diasporic Representation*. She is a member of CineGraph Babelsberg and contributes regularly to their journal *Filmblatt* and their Filmreihen.

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