



USC Dornsife

East Asian Studies Center

April 7, 2025



Upcoming Events

Dislocated Blossoming Years: A Talk on Wong Kar-Wai and *In the Mood for Love*

Monday, April 14 | 3:30PM-4:30PM | DML 240 | RSVP

If you are fascinated by **Wong Kar-Wai** (1958–) and his iconic film *In the Mood for Love* (1999), don't miss this insightful discussion on his work and artistic vision! This discussion examines *In the Mood for Love* in light of its recent 4K restoration, exploring its unique narrative structure, visual aesthetics, and thematic depth. Key topics include the film's disjointed sense of time and space, the symbolic meaning of Su Li-zhen's qipao, and the relationship dynamics between the protagonists. The talk will also highlight influential figures in Wong's career, such as actor-producer Alan Tang, art designer Cheung Shu-ping, and cinematographer Christopher Doyle. Through this talk, you will gain a deeper understanding of one of cinema's most visually striking and emotionally evocative works.

This event is co-sponsored by the [East Asian Library](#) and the [Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures](#).



ZERO WASTE Film Screening

Friday, April 18 | 6:00PM-8:00PM | SCA 110

Join us for an evening of discussion about recycling practices in South Korea, with a screening of the eco-documentary *ZERO WASTE* and a conversation with film director, **Danny Kim**. Hosted in conjunction with environmental humanities scholars from across USC, this event aims to bring together all like-minded individuals who are concerned about the future of planet Earth and who want to know more about what human action can be taken to ensure a more sustainable future. Following the stories of artists, activists, and individuals in the South Korean context, *ZERO WASTE* provides a look into the way people are trying to address the waste problem in their national context, and it offers all viewers a chance to contemplate what actions they could be taking in their local communities to join the "zero waste" movement for a greener future.

Organized by the [Korean Studies Institute](#) and co-sponsored by the [Levan Institute for the Humanities](#), [Institute for Ecological Futures](#), and the [Environmental Humanities Working Group](#).

EASC Graduating Student Feature - Ike Tamanaha

EASC wants to highlight **Ike Tamanaha**, a graduating senior in East Asian Area Studies in Dornsife! EASC had the opportunity to ask Ike about his time as an undergraduate, his studies, and what interested him in the major. When Ike first started at USC, he was unsure of what to study, pursuing his interests in business and engineering before a study abroad trip to Japan. After spending some time in Japan, he decided to pursue East Asian Area Studies with a focus on Japan and Okinawa, tying his interest to his cultural heritage. Currently, Ike is researching the US-Japanese Status of Forces Agreements and completing his senior thesis on Okinawa under the U.S. military government after World War II. His most recent article, "[Comparing Medical and Mass Media Discourse on Male Prostitutes in Occupied Japan, 1945-1952](#)," was published in the *Columbia Journal of Asia's*



December 2024 issue. After graduation, Ike will be back at USC to pursue his MA in East Asian Area Studies!

We asked Ike if he had any advice to give to incoming students:

"I guess in a nutshell, do what makes you excited and speaks to you. And find your niche. I think it's okay—in fact, it's healthy and important—to be honest with yourself, wander a little, change your major and direction."

Congratulations Ike! 🎉

[Please see Ike's full feature here ➤](#)

Event Reminders



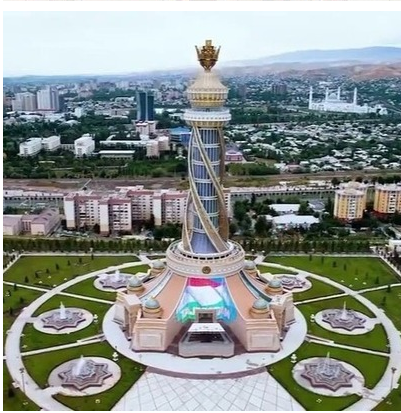
EASC Guest Speaker Series

The Perils and Possibilities of "Speaking Freely" in the People's Republic

Mon, Apr 7 | 1:00PM-2:00PM | SOS 250

Prof. **Joshua Goldstein** invites Prof. **Nicholas Bartlett** (Barnard College) for a talk on the politics of speaking in China through Tavistock tradition Group Relations Conferences. He explores the concept of "speaking freely" and the broader implications of speech in a country often criticized for its restrictions on free expression.

RSVP



EASC Guest Speaker Series

China's Relations with Central Asia: Why Should Americans Care?

Fri, Apr 11 | 4:00PM-5:30PM | THH 202

Prof. **Bettine Birge** invites Prof. **Morris Rossabi** to speak on China's evolving relationship with Central Asia. Drawing on three decades of research and travel, he examines historical ties, China's growing influence since the Soviet Union's collapse, its impact on Xinjiang and Russia, and the significance of these changes for the U.S.

RSVP



Spring 2025 EASC Faculty Luncheon

Tues, Apr 15 | 11:30AM-1:30PM | U Club

Scriptorium

EASC is excited to host our annual Faculty Luncheon meeting this spring! We look forward to having the opportunity to introduce new faculty, share recent developments across campus, and reconnect with each other. *If you are only able to make the first or latter half of the event, please RSVP and join us whenever you can!*

Invitation Only

Events Around USC & LA

Korea's Politics of the Vortex: 2025

Tues, Apr 8 | 1:00PM | The Korea Society | [RSVP](#)

China's Wellness Boom: Healthy Mind, Healthy Spirit
Wed, Apr 9 | 6:00AM-7:00AM | The Asia Society | [RSVP](#)

Balancing Truth and Fairness in Election Journalism
Wed, Apr 9 | 11:00AM-12:00PM | UCLA Center for Korean Studies

JAPAN AND KAMI 1: Kami Worship in Early Japan
Wed, Apr 9 | 7:00PM-8:15PM | Japan Foundation Los Angeles | [RSVP](#)

Three Women Doctors of Late Imperial China
Thurs, Apr 10 | 2:30PM-3:30PM | The Huntington | [RSVP](#) | [Stream](#)

Identities in Motion: Unraveling Social Networks Along the Proto-Silk Road
Thurs, Apr 10 | 3:00PM-4:30PM | UCLA Center for Chinese Studies

Umma: A Korean Mom's Kitchen Wisdom and 100 Family Recipes
Thurs, Apr 10 | 3:30PM | The Korea Society | [RSVP](#)

Extravagant Camp: The Queer Abjection of Asian America
Fri, Apr 11 | 12:00PM-1:30PM | American Studies and Ethnicity | [RSVP](#)

Pushing the Boundaries of Traditional Art Forms: Young Joon Kwak, Rafa Esparza, and Jennifer Ling Datchuk
Fri, Apr 11 | 6:30PM | Pacific Asia Museum | [RSVP](#)

Screening: Barking Dogs Never Bite (플란다스의개)
Mon, Apr 14 | 7:30PM | The Academy Museum of Motion Pictures | [RSVP](#)

Support EASC!



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