

INVITATION

**The China Society, & The Office of Alumni Relations,
Singapore National University of Singapore**

cordially invite you to a Buffet Reception cum Lecture Event

**9 April 2013 Tuesday at 6.00 pm
Auditorium, Shaw Foundation Alumni House, 11 Kent Ridge Drive, Singapore**

PROGRAMME

*** 6.00 - 6.30 pm Buffet Reception**

*** Welcome Remarks**

by

Assoc. Prof. Victor Savage, Acting Director, Office of Alumni Relations, National University of Singapore

&

Ms Aileen Lau Tan, President, The China Society

*** Lecture Presentations by Professor Michel Hockx, Professor of Chinese,
School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London**

chaired by

Dr Prasenjit Duara, Raffles Professor of Humanities & Director of Asia Research Institute

*** Lecture 1: The Expansion of Chinese Studies and the SOAS China Institute**

Dr Hockx will reflect on the remarkable expansion of China Studies that has taken place during these decades, as well as introduce some of the formidable scholars - and personalities - that have played such an important part in shaping such studies. He will also focus on the SOAS China Institute to be launched in 2013 - a major 'China Initiative', designed to place SOAS at the cutting edge of international scholarship on China and make it a pre-eminent knowledge hub serving the global community.

*** Lecture 2: Mo Yan, the Nobel Prize,
and Literary Change in the People's Republic of China**

The award of the 2012 Nobel Prize for Literature to the Chinese author Mo Yan has stirred up much debate. Critics and journalists outside China, especially, openly expressed misgivings about the possibility that the strictly-controlled Chinese literary system might produce excellent literature. However, many of the critics displayed little awareness of how the PRC literary system has changed in recent years. In this talk, Dr Hockx will share his own involvement in last year's "Mo Yan debate" which started when he visited SOAS in Spring 2012 and continued through countless media interviews after he won the Nobel Prize.

Dr Hockx will also give a general overview of the current state of literature in China, with special attention to the remnants of the old socialist system and the emergence of new opportunities for writers, especially on the Internet.

For catering and seating purposes you are kindly requested to register your attendance with the attached Registration Form.

Buffet Reception is without charge.

The Speaker



Michel Hockx is Professor in Chinese, Department of the Languages and Cultures of China and Inner Asia SOAS, University of London. He was Visiting Professor, Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Harvard University (Spring semester 2009) and lectured in modern Chinese literature and language, SOAS, University of London since 2001. He was a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS), Leiden, The Netherlands (1994-1996) and Pre-Doctoral Fellow at Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation (1993-1994). He was Pre-Doctoral Fellow, Research School CNWS, Leiden, The Netherlands (1989-1993).

Michel Hockx obtained his Dr. degree from Leiden University, Faculty of Letters in 1994 and Drs. degree from Leiden University, Department of Chinese Languages and Cultures in 1987. He attended a non-degree programme in modern Chinese language and literature, Liaoning University, Shenyang, People's Republic of China (1986-87). He is President, British Association for Chinese Studies (2011-present). His publications include

Monographs:

(2014) (under contract) *Internet Literature in China*. New York: Columbia University Press.

(2003) *Questions of Style: Literary Societies and Literary Journals in Modern China, 1911- 1937*. Leiden: Brill. Re-published in paperback in 2011. Chinese translation by Chen Taisheng under contract and forthcoming from Peking University Press, 2013.

(1994) *A Snowy Morning: Eight Chinese Poets on the Road to Modernity*. Leiden: CNWS.

Edited volumes:

(2009) *Text, Performance, and Gender in Chinese Literature and Music: Essays in Honor of Wilt Idema*. Leiden: Brill. (Co-edited with Maghiel van Crevel and Tian Yuan Tan)

(2008) *Literary Societies of Republican China*. Lanham: Lexington Books. (Co-edited with Kirk A. Denton)

(2006) *The Global Literary Field*. Newcastle-upon-Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Press. (Co-edited with George Paizis and Anna Guttman)

(2006) *Culture in the Contemporary PRC*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (Co-edited with Julia Strauss. Appeared both as a special issue of *The China Quarterly* and as an edited volume.)

(2003) *Reading East Asian Writing: The Limits of Literary Theory*. London: Routledge Curzon. (Co-edited with Ivo Smits)

(1999) *The Literary Field of Twentieth-Century China*. London: Curzon Press, and Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press.

Book-length translation of scholarly work:

(2011) Chen Pingyuan. *Touches of History: An Entry into 'May Fourth' China*. Translated by Michel Hockx, with Maria af Sandeberg, Uganda Sze Pui Kwan, Christopher Neil Payne, and Christopher Rosenmeier. Leiden: Brill.

Book-length literary translations:

(1998) Hong Ying. *Hongerdochter*. Roman. Vertaald door Michel Hockx en Hong Yu. Amsterdam: Meulenhoff. (1995) Duoduo. Ta-toeages. Korte verhalen. Vertaald door Maghiel van Crevel en Michel Hockx. Amsterdam: Meulenhoff.

(1991) Duoduo. *Bang dat ik verloren raak*. Columns. Vertaald door Michel Hockx. Amsterdam: Meulenhoff.

In the Chair:

Prasenjit Duara is a historian of China and more broadly of Asia in the 20th century. He also writes on historical thought and historiography. Duara was professor and chairman of the History department at the University of Chicago. Since 2008 he has been Director of Research in Humanities and Social Sciences at the National University of Singapore, where he is also the Raffles Professor of Humanities and Director of the Asia Research Institute.

REGISTRATION FORM

I wish to attend the Dinner Lecture on 9 April 2013 at 6.00 pm at Auditorium, Shaw Foundation Alumni House, Kent Ridge, hosted by The China Society and the Office of Alumni Relations, National University of Singapore.

Name (Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms): Organisation/Studies:

Address:

My Guests:

Email Address: Telephone:

Please email your booking to "chinasociety_sec@singnet.com.sg" or mail to: The China Society, Robinson Road P O Box 3738, Singapore 905738. Bookings on a first-come first served basis.