

Locating China

Locating China explores the political economy of space, place and popular culture in contemporary China. This multidisciplinary volume articulates the relations of local culture and consumer culture to the production of diverse new spatial projects engaged by the local “agents.” China’s continuing drive toward urbanization gave rise to not only new cultural imaginaries but also new space and places, and new forms of spatial practices, thus destabilizing the older concepts of the “local” and “locality.”

The international group of scholars incorporate theoretical inquiries of space with grounded empirical work on multiple locales throughout China. Whether the point of interest is village discotheques or tourist villas in Guizhou, teahouses in Hainan or luxury apartments and architectural extravaganzas in Shenzhen, the contributors argue that local places and local cultural practices are not constrained within the local scale. This therefore raises the question – how does meaning transfer between different scales, the local, the national, and the global, as well as the urban and rural?

From the analysis of SARS and Beijing’s vision of rescaling the country’s administrative space, to the discussion of the pornographic city, tabloid papers and other pop cultural forms, this volume delivers ethnographic observations and theoretical speculations essential to our understanding of the link between spatial thinking and the production of consumer culture in China.

Contributors include Helen F. Siu, Peter Perdue, Carolyn Cartier, Tim Oakes, Louisa Schein, Tani E. Barlow, Hans Hendrichske, Wanning Sun, Feng Chongyi, and Jing Wang.

Jing Wang is S. C. Fang Professor of Chinese Language and Culture at MIT and affiliated faculty with Comparative Media Studies. She is the founder and Chair of the MIT International Committee of Critical Policy Studies of China, and the head of Foreign Languages and Literatures at MIT.

RoutledgeCurzon Studies on China in Transition

Series Editor: David S. G. Goodman

	1
	2
	3
	4
	5
	6
	7
	8
	9
	10
	11
	12
1 The Democratisation of China	13
<i>Baogang He</i>	14
	15
2 Beyond Beijing	16
<i>Dali Yang</i>	17
	18
3 China's Enterprise Reform	19
Changing state/society relations after Mao	20
<i>You Ji</i>	21
	22
4 Industrial Change in China	23
Economic restructuring and conflicting interests	24
<i>Kate Hannan</i>	25
	26
5 The Entrepreneurial State in China	27
Real estate and commerce departments in reform era Tianjin	28
<i>Jane Duckett</i>	29
	30
6 Tourism and Modernity in China	31
<i>Tim Oakes</i>	32
	33
7 Cities in Post Mao China	34
Recipes for economic development in the reform era	35
<i>Jae Ho Chung</i>	36
	37
8 China's Spatial Economic Development	38
Regional transformation in the Lower Yangzi Delta	39
<i>Andrew M. Marton</i>	40
	41
9 Regional Development in China	42
States, globalization and inequality	43
<i>Yehua Dennis Wei</i>	44
	45

- 1 **10 Grassroots Charisma**
2 Four local leaders in China
3 *Stephan Feuchtwang and Wang Mingming*
4
- 5 **11 The Chinese Legal System**
6 Globalization and local legal culture
7 *Pitman B. Potter*
8
- 9 **12 Transforming Rural China**
10 How local institutions shape property rights in China
11 *Chi-Jou Jay Chen*
12
- 13 **13 Negotiating Ethnicity in China**
14 Citizenship as a response to the state
15 *Chih-yu Shih*
16
- 17 **14 Manager Empowerment in China**
18 Political implications of rural industrialisation in the reform era
19 *Ray Yep*
20
- 21 **15 Cultural Nationalism in Contemporary China**
22 The search for national identity under reform
23 *Yingjie Guo*
24
- 25 **16 Elite Dualism and Leadership Selection in China**
26 *Xiaowei Zang*
27
- 28 **17 Chinese Intellectuals Between State and Market**
29 *Edward Gu and Merle Goldman*
30
- 31 **18 China, Sex and Prostitution**
32 *Elaine Jeffreys*
33
- 34 **19 The Development of China's Stockmarket, 1984–2002**
35 Equity politics and market institutions
36 *Stephen Green*
37
- 38 **20 China's Rational Entrepreneurs**
39 The development of the new private business sector
40 *Barbara Krug*
41
- 42 **21 China's Scientific Elite**
43 *Cong Cao*
44
- 45 **22 Locating China**
46 *Jing Wang*

PROOF ONLY

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45

Locating China

Space, place, and popular culture

Edited by Jing Wang

PROOF ONLY

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45

First published 2005 by Routledge
2 Park Square, Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 4RN
Simultaneously published in the USA and Canada
by Routledge
270 Madison Ave, New York, NY 10016

Routledge is an imprint of the Taylor & Francis Group

© 2005 Editorial matter and selection, Jing Wang; individual chapters the contributors

Typeset in Times by Wearset Ltd, Boldon, Tyne and Wear
Printed and bound in Great Britain by ????????

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reprinted or reproduced or utilized in any form or by any electronic, mechanical, or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publishers.

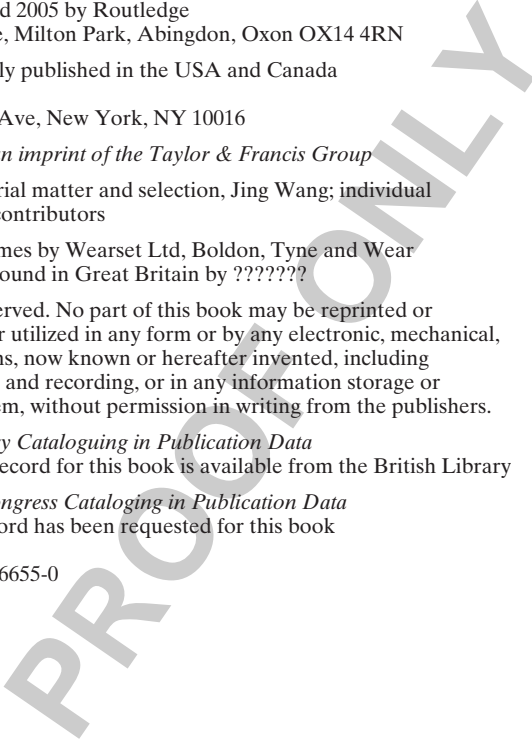
British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

A catalog record has been requested for this book

ISBN 0-415-36655-0



Contents

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45

<i>List of illustrations</i>	ix
<i>List of contributors</i>	x
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xii
Introduction: The politics and production of scales in China: how does geography matter to studies of local, popular culture?	1
JING WANG	
1 Land of living fossils: scaling cultural prestige in China's periphery	31
TIM OAKES	
2 Regional formations and transnational urbanism in south China	52
CAROLYN CARTIER	
3 The cultural landscape of luxury housing in south China: a regional history	72
HELEN F. SIU	
4 Identifying China's Northwest, for nation and empire	94
PETER PERDUE	
5 Popularization and localization: a local tabloid newspaper market in transition	115
HANS HENDRISCHKE	
6 From barrooms to teahouses: commercial nightlife in Hainan since 1988	133
FENG CHONGYI	

viii *Contents*

7 Ethnoconsumerism as cultural production?: making space for Miao style	150	1
LOUISA SCHEIN		2
		3
		4
8 Anhui <i>baomu</i> in Shanghai: Gender, class, and a sense of place	171	5
WANNING SUN		6
		7
		8
9 The pornographic city	190	9
TANI E. BARLOW		10
		11
<i>Bibliography</i>	210	12
<i>Index</i>	232	13
		14
		15
		16
		17
		18
		19
		20
		21
		22
		23
		24
		25
		26
		27
		28
		29
		30
		31
		32
		33
		34
		35
		36
		37
		38
		39
		40
		41
		42
		43
		44
		45

PROOF ONLY

List of illustrations

Figures

- | | | |
|-----|--|-----|
| 3.1 | The CITIC Tower at the new Guangzhou train station | 76 |
| 3.2 | Lan Mei Lou. Unfinished building in the Huiyang area, left from the period of fiscal tightening in the mid-1990s | 81 |
| 9.1 | Knowing woman | 193 |
| 9.2 | Building a community (with eugenic baby) | 193 |

Tables

- | | | |
|-----|---|-----|
| 5.1 | Tabloid newspapers in Guangxi in 2001 | 120 |
| 5.2 | Readership characteristics of the <i>South Country Morning Post</i> | 127 |

Contributors

Tani E. Barlow teaches in the departments of History and Women's Studies at the University of Washington, Seattle. She is the author most recently of *The Question of Women in Chinese Feminism* (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2004) and "Wanting some: social science and the eugenic modern girl," in Mechthild Leutner and Nikola Spakowski (eds) (2005) *Women in Republican China* (Berlin: LIT Verlag). Barlow is the founding senior editor of *positions: east asia cultures critique*, also published by Duke University Press.

Carolyn Cartier is Associate Professor of Geography at the University of Southern California. She is the author of *Globalizing South China* (2001) and co-editor with Laurence J. C. Ma of *The Chinese Diaspora: Place, Space, Mobility and Identity* (2003). Currently she is working on a book about regionalism in China.

Feng Chongyi is Senior Lecturer in China Studies at the Institute for International Studies, University of Technology, Sydney, and adjunct Professor of History, Nankai University, Tianjin. His most recent work includes *From Sinification to Globalisation* (2003); *Breaking out of the Cycle: Peasant Consciousness and China This Century* (1997); and (with David S. G. Goodman) *China's Hainan Province: Economic Development and Investment Environment* (1995).

Hans Hendrichke is Associate Professor and Head of the Department for Chinese and Indonesian Studies at the University of New South Wales, Sydney. His research interests focus on political and social developments in Reform China, Chinese Political Economy and provincial and local economies. His recent publications are on the development of a local private enterprise sector in Chinese provinces.

Tim Oakes teaches cultural geography at the University of Colorado at Boulder. His current research focuses on China's regional cultural economies. He is the author of *Tourism and Modernity in China* (1998) and co-editor (with Louisa Schein) of *Translocal China and Travels in Paradox*.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45

1 **Peter C. Perdue** is the T. T. and Wei Fong Chao Professor of Asian Civi-
2 lizations and Professor of History, Massachusetts Institute of Techno-
3 logy. His new book, *China Marches West: The Qing Conquest of Central*
4 *Eurasia*, will be published by Harvard University Press in 2005. His
5 interests include environmental and frontier history, ethnicity and racial
6 identities in modern China, and comparative study of Chinese and
7 other empires.

8
9 **Louisa Schein** is Associate Professor of Anthropology and Women's and
10 Gender Studies at Rutgers University, New Brunswick. Her research
11 interests include issues of transnationalism, consumption, media and
12 popular culture, sexuality/gender, ethnic politics and diaspora in
13 contemporary China and beyond. She has conducted research in rural
14 and urban China and in the US among Hmong refugees from Laos. She
15 is the author of *Minority Rules: the Miao and the Feminine in China's*
16 *Cultural Politics* (2003), and co-editor with Tim Oakes of *Translocal*
17 *China* (Routledge, forthcoming).

18 **Helen F. Siu** is Professor of Anthropology at Yale University. She has con-
19 ducted fieldwork in south China, exploring the nature of the socialist
20 state and the refashioning of identities through rituals, festivals, com-
21 merce and consumption. Lately, she focuses on the rural-urban divide
22 in Chinese cities, civil society and the middle classes in Hong Kong. Her
23 publications include *Furrows: Peasants, Intellectuals and the State*
24 (1990), a volume on history (co-editor David Faure), *Down to Earth:*
25 *The Territorial Bond in South China* (1995), and *Agents and Victims in*
26 *South China: Accomplices in Rural Revolution* (1989). A forthcoming
27 volume is entitled *Empire at the Margins: Culture, Ethnicity and Fron-*
28 *tier in Early Modern China* (co-editors Pamela Crossley and Donald
29 Sutton).

30 **Wanning Sun** is Senior Lecturer in Media at Curtin University of Techno-
31 logy, Western Australia. She is the author of *Leaving China: Media,*
32 *Migration, and Transnational Imagination* (Rowman & Littlefield,
33 2002), and is currently working on an Australian Research Council
34 funded project "Maid in China: Gendered Mobilities, Internal Migra-
35 tion, and Translocal Imagination" (2004-2006).

36
37 **Jing Wang** is S. C. Fang Professor of Chinese Language and Culture at
38 MIT and affiliated faculty with Comparative Media Studies. She is the
39 founder and organizer of the MIT International Committee of Critical
40 Policy Studies of China. She is the author of *The Story of Stone* (1992)
41 and *High Culture Fever* (1996); the editor of *Chinese Popular Culture*
42 *and the State* (2001); and the co-editor (with Tani Barlow) of *Cinema*
43 *and Desire* (2002). She is completing a book manuscript entitled *Brand*
44 *new China: advertising and the production of commercial culture.*
45

Acknowledgements

This volume grew out of a workshop that bore the same title as this book: “Locating China: Space, Place, and Popular Culture.” Held at Zhejiang University (Hangzhou, China) on June 18–20, 2001, the workshop was co-sponsored by the Centre for Research on Provincial China in Sydney and the Luce Project of Contemporary Chinese Pop Culture based at Duke University.

I am grateful to the Henry Luce Foundation for a grant that enabled me to organize a four-year-long research program on Chinese popular culture. This is the second volume (in English) in sequence produced by the Luce Project. The first volume, titled *Chinese Popular Culture and the State*, was published in 2001 as a special issue in *positions: east asia cultures critique* (no. 1, vol. 9).

I am most indebted to David S. G. Goodman for his role in organizing the Hangzhou workshop, and more importantly for his dedication to the multidisciplinary vision embedded in this project. Without his support and sustained interest, the collaboration between Provincial China and the Duke Luce group could not have taken place. My conversations with him dated far back to the early 2000s on the subject of politics and policies also helped formulate some of the ideas underlying the introduction to this volume.

Stephanie Hemelryk Donald’s generous reading of this volume is greatly appreciated by all the contributors in this volume. Carolyn Cartier and Tim Oakes shared with me their fresh insights on the discipline of critical geography. Michael Dutton read sections of the introduction and offered useful suggestions for revision. My warm thanks also go to the contributors to this volume who worked patiently on several rounds of revision in the last few years. I salute them for their inexhaustible professionalism and intellectual curiosity. Finally, my thanks extend to Kate Barclay at University of Technology in Sydney, and to those present at the Hangzhou workshop other than the contributors included in this volume: Kuan-hsing Chen, Dai Jinhua, John Fitzgerald, David S. G. Goodman, He Guimei, Liz Jacka, Ralph Litzinger, Huang Ping, Wang Xiaoming, Wang Yiyan, and Peter Zarrow. Their feedback to the paper presenters formed

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45

Acknowledgements xiii

1 part of the valuable workshop experience. Mavis Mayer and Mary Moore
2 of the Asian/Pacific Studies Institute at Duke University coordinated the
3 logistical side of the workshop and other seminars related to the Luce
4 Project. My student at MIT, Helen J. Tang, compiled the bibliography and
5 index in the spirit of perfectionism.

6 Frederick Wakerman and Professor Cho-yun Hsu's support of my work
7 over the years has given me a tremendous morale boost. I also wish to
8 thank Don DeSander, Benjamin White, Tani Barlow, Suhui Hsieh,
9 Kyeong-Hee Choi, Leo Ching, Miriam Cooke, Wen Tiejun, Lea Liang,
10 Hsiao-Wei Rupprecht, Peter Perdue, Ian Condry, Qi Wang, and Howard
11 Goldblatt for their encouragement and faith in my aspirations.

12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45

PROOF ONLY

PROOF ONLY

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45