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UNIVERSITY OF  
**TORONTO**

## **Fourth China Made Workshop: From the 'China Model' to 'Global China'**

***University of Toronto, May 20-21, 2022***

*Hosted by the Asian Institute at the Munk School of Global Affairs*

China Made (<https://chinamadeproject.net>) was launched in 2018, with support from The Henry Luce Foundation, as an international research collective exploring infrastructure as both an object of study and an analytical approach for critically engaging with debates on the so-called 'China Model' of development. The project sought to explicitly bring into conversation the interdisciplinary academic fields of infrastructure studies and China studies in a way that did not reduce that conversation to another study of China's Belt & Road Initiative. The project also sought to explicitly link political economies of domestic infrastructure development with initiatives and projects beyond China's borders, particularly in Southeast Asia. The project has held three international workshops in Boulder (2018), Hong Kong (2020), and (virtually) in Singapore (2021). These have been hosted in collaboration with the Hong Kong Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences, the Asia Research Institute at the National University of Singapore, and the Asian Institute at the University of Toronto. China Made has also worked with the Roadwork Asia and the Environing Infrastructure projects to support a workshop in Splügen, Switzerland (2021) on global Chinese infrastructures. A workshop on 'China's Nuclear Belt & Road' was also held in April 2022, with support from the Albert Smith Nuclear Age Fund at the University of Colorado Boulder.

With this final workshop we bring to a close the first iteration of China Made, assess what we have accomplished and created, and explore future directions. The first day will involve presentations and discussion on the developments, ideas, interventions, and surprises emerging out of the key projects undertaken by project core group. The objective will be to explore the conceptual themes, arguments, and key empirical results from these projects and to situate them within the broader conversations that have emerged from the workshops held thus far. After morning presentations, an afternoon roundtable will discuss new ways of thinking about 'global China' that have emerged from the projects. We will also hear about related projects and approaches being pursued by the Asian Research Institute in Singapore.

The second day will involve panel presentations by invited speakers and discussants exploring the next set of pressing issues for critically engaging with global China from a materially grounded, project-based socio-technical perspective. First and foremost, we encourage presenters to consider the meaning of 'global China' itself, as an analytical field of inquiry. Does this term simply refer to Chinese investment abroad? What other dimensions of 'global' and 'China' need to be considered or unpacked? For instance, when did China start becoming 'global'? What (and who) is included in 'global China' and what is excluded?

Additionally, we hope to explore topics through which 'global China' is currently manifest and engaged critically and analytically. These might include critical logistics studies, labor & mobility issues, smart city / safe city / logistics city developments, environmental issues, digital media and surveillance issues, and/or militarization & securitization. We encourage invited speakers to offer provocations and explorations of these issues in an effort to brainstorm the next iteration of the project, with the objective being to identify viable research questions for a new proposal as well as likely sources of funding.

### *Program*

#### **Friday, May 20**

##### 9:00 Welcome

Tim Oakes and Rachel Silvey

##### 9:15 – 12:45 (with a break at 10:45) ChinaMade 1.0: Projects

Presenters: **Darren Byler** (Simon Fraser University), **Max Hirsh** (University of Hong Kong), **Tim Oakes** (University of Colorado Boulder), **Alessandro Rippa** (Tallin University), **Dorothy Tang** (National University of Singapore), **Emily Yeh** (University of Colorado Boulder)

##### 2:00 – 4:00 ChinaMade 1.0: Conclusions / Reflections / Extensions

Roundtable with **morning presenters**, **Yang Yang** (National University of Singapore), and **Juan Du** (University of Toronto)

#### **Saturday, May 21**

##### 9:00 – 12:00 (with break) Panels 1 and 2

###### *Panel 1 Conceiving Global China*

**Ching Kwan Lee** (UCLA) – “What is Global China?”

**Miriam Driessen** (Oxford University) – “Hybridity in Global China”

Discussant: **Diana Fu** (University of Toronto)

###### *Panel 2 Other Chinas*

**Mia Bennett** (University of Washington) – “Global China, Chinese globe: pixelating the celestial empire”

**Julie Klinger** (University of Delaware) – “Subterranean and orbital dimensions of China’s global integration”

**Julie Chu** (University of Chicago) – “Offshore: the chronotope and transnational hauntings of Chinese absent presence”

Discussant: **Deborah Cowen** (University of Toronto)

##### 2:00 – 5:00 (with break) Panels 3 and 4

###### *Panel 3 Extensions*

**Agnieszka Joniak-Lüthi** (University of Bern) – “Maintaining roads and relations in Chinese central Asia”

**Tong Lam** (University of Toronto) – “China in Motion”

Discussant: **Jessica DiCarlo** (University of British Columbia)

*Panel 4 On Global China's Edge: Indonesia*

**AbdouMaliq Simone** (University of Sheffield) – “Facing the Pacific: What it would mean to release Jayapura to this view”

**Rachel Silvey** (University of Toronto) – TBD

**Abidin Kusno** (York University) – “‘Global China’ in and out of place”

**Johan Lindquist** (Stockholm University) – “‘Click Farms’ in Indonesia and beyond: infrastructure, automation, and labor at the edge of the platform economy”

Discussant: **Joshua Barker** (University of Toronto)