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## Visualising Chinese Borders in 21st Century (Manchester, 5-6 Apr 16)

Manchester Business School, All Saints, MMU, Apr 5–06, 2016 Deadline: Feb 15, 2016 visualisingchineseborders.wordpress.com

Beccy Kennedy, Manchester Metropolitan University

Drawing from the fields of art, Visual Culture, Border Studies and arts institutional practices, this is a summative conference based on an AHRC funded international research project - Culture, Capital and Communication: Visualising Chinese Borders in the 21st Century. Led by Dr Beccy Kennedy (Principal Investigator, Manchester School of Art) and Dr Ming Turner (Co-investigator, National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan), in conjunction with Castlefield Gallery, the CFCCA, Community Museum Project and Hong Kong Polytechnic University, the research initiates and aims to consolidate a transnational, interdisciplinary and cross-institutional dialogue on the topic of the economics, politics and cultures of Chinese border crossings in art. It interrogates this timely global topic in relation to art and design practices across the Chinese straits, with a particular focus on the politics of regional identities, through the examination of artworks, exhibitions and protest spaces.

The conference welcomes papers from academics, curators, artists and activists who are dealing with themes which are related but not limited to the following research questions:

-What is the significance of Chinese borders across the straits in terms of the way it impacts upon communities?

What are the constraints or problematics for artists/curators
working under a (partial) Communist economic system in mainland China in terms of ideological, political and practical concerns?
In what ways may the above impact artists/curators working in Taiwan, Macao, Hong Kong and other Chinese-speaking world?
How has the shifting global economic system affected artistic practice under OCTS or across the straits?
In what ways do artists/curators explore possible notions of 'Chinese-ness', 'Taiwanese-ness' and 'Hong Kong-ness' in their artwork and exhibitions in the twenty-first century or are such polemics outdated?

- To what extent is there a Chinese diasporic or transnational community of artists/curators who explore issues of border crossings?

Please email a 300 words abstract with a short biography to the conference conveners by 15th February 2016. The decision for the selected abstracts will be

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announced in early March 2016.

For more information about this AHRC funded project, please check https://visualisingchineseborders.wordpress.com/

Conference Conveners:

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## Reference:

CFP: Visualising Chinese Borders in 21st Century (Manchester, 5-6 Apr 16). In: ArtHist.net, Feb 10, 2016 (accessed Jul 13, 2025), <a href="https://arthist.net/archive/12194">https://arthist.net/archive/12194</a>>.