



How Maoism was Made: Analysing Chinese Communism beyond the Totalitarian Lens, 1949-1965

**Thursday 29 & Friday 30 November 2018
The British Academy, London**

Convenors:

**Dr Aaron Moore, University of Manchester
Dr Jennifer Altehenger, Kings College London**

Day 1: Thursday 29 Nov 2018

08.30 *Registration and refreshments*

09.00 Aaron W Moore and Jennifer Altehenger
Introduction

9.30 **SESSION 1: (Counter-) Revolutionary Foundations (I):
Geography and economics**

CHAIR/ DISCUSSANT: Stephen Lovell (King's College London)

Shellen Xiao Wu (University of Tennessee)

Letters from the Edge: How geography won the war and geographers
lost the struggle

Felix Boecking (University of Edinburgh)

Revolutionising economic planning? PRC economists and economic
planning in the 1940s and 1950s

Discussion

10.30 *Refreshments*

10.45 **SESSION 2: (Counter-) Revolutionary Foundations (II): Business and
welfare**

CHAIR/ DISCUSSANT: Stephen Lovell (King's College London)

Robert Cliver (Humboldt State University)

Institutional Continuities across Wartime, Postwar, and Communist
Regimes - The Case of the China Sericulture Company

Nara Dillon (Harvard University)

On Contradiction: Mobilizing Mao's Welfare State

Discussion

12.15 *Lunch*

13.15 **SESSION 3: Birth of the 'New Man'? Revolutionary subjectivity**

CHAIR/ DISCUSSANT: Jochen Hellbeck (Rutgers University)

Aaron W Moore (University of Edinburgh)

The Final Revolution Is In Our Hearts: Personal Diaries in Former KMT
China, 1949-1965

Aminda Smith (Michigan State University)
The True Story of Zhang Shunyou: Narratives of Political
Consciousness in the early PRC

Discussion

14.15 *Refreshments*

14.30 **SESSION 4: Birth of the 'New Man'? Mobilizing the people**

CHAIR/ DISCUSSANT: Jochen Hellbeck (Rutgers University)

Fabio Lanza (Arizona State University)

*Collective Life, Socialized Labor: Money, Value, and the Everyday in
the Urban Commune Movement*

Covell Meyskens (Naval Postgraduate College)

Maoist Man and its Discontents: The Case of the Third Front

Discussion

16.00 **Roundtable**

Jochen Hellbeck (Rutgers University) and Michael Schoenhals (Lund
University)

17.00 *End of first day of conference*

Day 2: Friday 30 November 2018

- 09.00 *Registration and refreshments*
- 09.30 **SESSION 1: Session 1 - For the People (I): Knowledge and expertise**
CHAIR/ DISCUSSANT: Aaron William Moore (University of Edinburgh)
- Mary Augusta Brazelton (University of Cambridge)
Plagues from the Skies: The 1952 Germ Warfare Allegations and Shifting Definitions of Expertise in Chinese Bacteriology
- Robert Culp (Bard College)
The Politics of Knowledge in Maoist China: The Knowledge Series as a Case of Negotiated Cultural Production
- Discussion
- 10.30 *Refreshments*
- 10.45 **SESSION 2: For the People (II): Transnational networks**
CHAIR/ DISCUSSANT: Aaron William Moore (University of Edinburgh)
- Nicolai Volland (Penn State University)
Soviet Books in Socialist China: The Epoch Press and the Making of Socialist Cosmopolitanism, 1940-1960
- Amanda Shuman (University of Freiburg)
Producing Socialist Bodies: Transnational Sports Networks and Athletes in 1950s China
- Discussion
- 12:15 *Lunch*
- 13.15 **SESSION 3: Culture and Revolution (I): Crime and beliefs**
CHAIR/ DISCUSSANT: Juliane Fürst (University of Bristol)
- Brian DeMare (Tulane University)
Bandits and Bullies: Crime and Punishment in Communist China, 1951
- Xiaoxuan Wang (Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity)
An Unlikely Moment of Revival? The Return of Gods to the Maoist Countryside in Early 1960s

Discussion

14.15 *Refreshments*

14.30 **Session 4: Culture and Revolution (II): Art and design**
CHAIR/ DISCUSSANT: Juliane Fürst (University of Bristol)

Jennifer Altehenger (King's College London)
Maoism by Design: how furniture became a political problem in 1950s
China

Christine Ho (University of Massachusetts, Amherst)
Mass creativity and mass muralism in the Great Leap Forward

16:15 Concluding discussion

17:00 End of Conference