

The Return of Philology

Close Readings of Chinese Texts for the Postmodern Age

An International Workshop, organized by
Mareile Flitsch and Erling von Mende (TU Berlin)

July 19-20, 2007
Harnack-Haus,
Tagungsstätte der Max-Planck-Gesellschaft

In recent decades, a new generation of sinologists has emerged whose research is primarily philological in terms of methodology. At the same time, this new philology is both informed and empowered by the different frameworks and paradigms which have been proposed by theory-oriented scholarship. Through this innovative approach, Chinese texts of different genres and canons have been increasingly exposed to hermeneutical readings which keep moving back and forth between philology and theory. Paradigms are anchored, refined and limited by the textual work of these modern philologists. Texts and genres, on the other hand, are liberated from their positivist confines in order to become the object of complex analyses enriched by intertextual, interdisciplinary and cross-cultural interpretations. This recent and increasingly important trend of sinology shall be exemplified and elaborated upon in the workshop.



Conveners:
Mareile Flitsch TU Berlin
Erling von Mende TU Berlin

For further information, please
email: sinolounge@gmx.de

Thursday, July 19

9:00 am – 10:00 am
Registration

10:00 am – 10:30 am
Welcome and Opening Remarks
Mareile Flitsch and Erling von Mende,
TU Berlin

Day One: The Text as Medium

10:30 am – 1:00 pm
Panel 1: Text and Reality

Enno Giele, University of Münster:
“The Return of the Manuscripts: A Case Study of the
Statutes for Scribes from Zhangjiashan”

Erling von Mende, TU Berlin:
„Zeng Gongs *Yuezhou Zhao gong jiu zai ji*, a crucial text
on catastrophe aid dating from 1075. Fact or Fiction?”

2:30 pm – 5:00 pm
Panel 2: Text and Virtuality

Olga Lomová, Charles University, Prague:
“Intertextual Reading of Wang Wei’s (698 – 759)
Poetry: Sophisticated Simplicity”

Michel Hockx, School of Oriental and African Studies,
London: “Chinese Web Literature:
Strategies for Reading and Interpretation”

Friday, July 20

Day Two: The Text as Message

10:00 am – 1:00 pm
Panel 1: Expanding the Disciplines

Henrique Leitão, University of Lisbon:
“The astronomical treatise *Tianwenlue* by Manuel Dias
in the context of the European *De sphaera*-traditions”

Rui Magone, University of Lisbon:
“Literature in Science, Science in Literature:
Generic Conventions in Manuel Dias’ *Tianwenlue*”

Wolfgang Behr, University of Bochum:
“*Buchstabenschnueffeleien* ---- Liu Xianting (1649–95)
and the Lost Search for Universals”

2:30 pm – 5:00 pm
Panel 2: Disciplining the Expansion

Joachim Kurtz, Emory University:
“Reading Logic into the *Mojing*:
Liang Qichao vs. Zhang Binglin”

Iwo Amelung, University of Frankfurt:
“*Celun* (Policy Questions) und ‚Western Knowledge‘
at the Civil Service Examinations of 1902–1904”

5:00 pm – 5:30 pm Concluding Remarks

7:30 pm – open end Dinner and Discussion