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EDITORIAL

New Views on Visual Materials

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The editorial board are pleased to present volume 3 of the *Journal of the European Association for Chinese Studies*, which opens with a special section on "Visual Materials in Local Gazetteers". Guest edited by Anne Gerritsen and Kenneth Hammond, it has grown from several workshops held between 2018 and 2021 at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science (MPIWG) in Berlin.

本期《歐洲漢學學會學刊》以“中國視覺方志”為主題，由 Anne Gerritsen 和 Kenneth Hammond 客座編輯，延續 2018 至 2021 年間在柏林馬克斯-普朗克科學史研究所（MPIWG）幾次研討會的內容。

Keywords: Editorial, visual materials, Chinese history, Sinology

關鍵詞： 編委，視覺材料，中國歷史，漢學

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The editorial board are pleased to present volume 3 of the *Journal of the European Association for Chinese Studies*, which opens with a special section on “Visual Materials in Local Gazetteers”. Guest edited by **Anne Gerritsen** and **Kenneth Hammond**, it has grown from several workshops held between 2018 and 2021 at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science (MPIWG) in Berlin.¹ It comprises six articles whose contents are detailed in Hammond’s introduction. Each piece deals with the “visual components” (a way to translate the generic term *tu* 圖) one can find in local gazetteers. These are often, but not always, found at the beginning of a gazetteer, and have been somehow ignored by modern scholarship. Therefore, each article seeks to shed light on the importance of these visual materials, whether in relation to the text or not.

Since the local gazetteer genre flourished from the Song dynasty onwards, all six articles focus on the late imperial period, with two articles on the Ming (**Molenaar, Yu**), two on the Ming-Qing period (**Burton-Rose, Gerritsen**), and two on the Qing (**Knorr, Yang**). Geographically speaking, two deal with the whole ecumene (Knorr, Yu), one with the Southern regions (Gerritsen), one with Suzhou (Burton-Rose), one with the Yellow River (Yang), and one with the Southeastern coastal regions (Molenaar). Topically, three concern architectural elements (Burton-Rose, Knorr, Molenaar), one artefacts (Gerritsen), and two natural/scenic views (Yang, Yu). It is worth mentioning that the online publication format chosen by the *JEACS* allows for the inclusion of a high number of illustrations. We would thus like to thank Chen Shih-Pei and Cathleen Päthe from the MPIWG for their help through the editorial process, especially in acquiring the rights for illustrations.

The current volume also marks the beginning of the inclusion of other articles alongside the special section. Based on textual and visual resources, art historian **Fan Lin**’s article explores the shifting memories of the Da Bao’ensi Pagoda of Nanjing, in time (from the Ming onwards) and space (in China and in Europe). It probes the various political, religious, and social discourses that shaped the local and global circulation of knowledge about the pagoda.

Rainier Lanselle’s contribution on the late imperial *huaben* genre is divided into two parts, the first of which appears in the current volume, while the second part will be published in volume 4 (2023). In order to examine the relationship between late imperial vernacular stories and their classical sources, the author delves into questions of diglossia, intralingual translation, and rewriting. By combining linguistic, literary, and social factors, Lanselle offers a new methodological approach to the production process of vernacularity. He shows that the very idea of diglossia is not a historiographical construction but that historical actors were very much aware of it.

The last article takes us to contemporary issues. **Adrian Zenz** came into possession of the “Xinjiang police files”, i.e. leaked classified state documents which record the administration of the Konasheher “re-education” camp (in Kashgar prefecture) up to 2018. They contain both visual and textual elements, which document speeches directed at camp personnel, police operation directives, and personnel registers which detail the clear ethnic profiling targeted at Uyghurs behind the mass internment policies. More than 5,000

¹ A “focus section” on the use of local gazetteers for the history of science, guest edited by Shellen X. Wu, was recently published in *Isis*; it has three articles and an introduction (Wu 2022). For an earlier overview of the potential applications of the Local Gazetteers Research Tools (LoGaRT) developed at the MPIWG, see Chen et al. 2020.

images of prisoners helped Zenz to identify a majority of the people who were imprisoned. All these documents push the author to understand this situation beyond mere propaganda, as he argues that these describe a “crisis mode” of management informed by political paranoia. Although the article contains many illustrations, additional information was uploaded by the author to the University of Vienna Phaidra Open Access repository (links are provided in the bibliography).

Given the political importance of publishing Zenz’s new findings in a timely manner, we inaugurated a faster “first view online” process which allowed us early on to provide readers with a fully edited piece, without of course changing anything in our double-blind peer-review process. We intend to continue using this system, especially for the Young Scholar Award (YSA) laureates: we believe that, as early career scholars, winners of the YSA deserve to have their articles published without unreasonable delays.

The articles are followed by four book reviews on recent monographs written in English, Chinese, and French. Two were provided by **Bart Dessein** (Henrietta Harrison’s *The Perils of Interpreting* and Melissa Macauley’s *Distant Shores*), one by **Imy Schweiger** (Li Shiyong’s *Bainian jiangsheng 1900-2000 Taiwan wenxue gushi* 百年降生 1900-2000 台灣文學故事), and one by **Christian de Pee** (Christian Lamouroux’s *La dynastie des Song*).

This long volume ends with the usual list of PhDs defended in 2021 in European universities. Although the list is by no means exhaustive, we were able to gather twenty-six dissertations. Besides abstracts and general information, links are provided when available to freely downloadable versions from their respective universities. Supervisors and successful doctoral candidates are encouraged to send information about their dissertations to the editorial board at any time, for publication in the next issue.

This volume marks on the one hand the final involvement of Bart Dessein and Alexis Lycas as co-editors of the *JEACS*, to whom we are very grateful for their strong support and service, and on the other hand the arrival of Marie Bizais-Lillig, Laura De Giorgi and Imy Schweiger, whom we warmly welcome to the editorial team.

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