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Professor Superstar Fandom and Anti-Fandom of Academia

Mel Stanfill

The intersection of fandom and academia

Examining celebrity and fan studies together, *Professor Superstar* argues that academia shares key traits with fandom, including collective emotional investment, shared interpretation of texts, and identity formation. Universities are often seen as isolated from everyday life, creating an atmosphere of both fascination and resentment. Some academics even go on to become field-specific microcelebrities. Some celebrate their influence while others resent their prominence, leading to both fandom and anti-fandom and reflecting broader social struggles as universities become battlegrounds for economic and political debates. The audiences engaging with academia extend beyond the students and faculty directly involved, creating multiple and conflicting interpretations of what academia represents. Public perceptions of academia are shaped less by its reality than by competing narratives about its role in society. By taking these dynamics seriously, we can better understand the cultural forces shaping both admiration and hostility toward higher education.

Mel Stanfill is Associate Professor with a joint appointment in the Texts and Technology Program and the Department of English at the University of Central Florida.

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“Professor Superstar takes a unique approach, weaving the interconnectedness between academia and fandom and tracing how we can use one to better understand the other. The book is a fantastic read; it is well-deployed, well-sourced, and well-written for readers both in fan studies and beyond.”—Shira Chess, University of Georgia



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K-Pop Fandom

Performing *Deokhu* from the 1990s to Today

Areum Jeong

An autoethnography of the K-pop fandom and its evolution

K-Pop Fandom insists that K-pop fan practices and activities constitute a central productive force, shaping not only K-pop's explosive global popularity, but also K-pop's cultural impacts, politics, and horizons of possibility. Over the past three decades, the K-pop fandom and its activities have expanded, intensified, and diversified along myriad dimensions, assuming novel social, technological, and economic forms, some of which are unique to K-pop, and some of which reflect broader cultural and industrial logics of globalized mass entertainment culture. Areum Jeong argues that K-pop fans, in performing *deokhu*—a Korean term connoting an “avid fan”—perform a materialization of affective labor that also seeks to produce good relationships between asymmetrically positioned actors in the K-pop ecosystem.

Through an autoethnography of becoming a K-pop *deokhu*, Jeong connects their experiences to generations of K-pop fans, showing simultaneously how fandom practices have shifted over time and the intricacies of fan labor participation. This personal connection paved the way for participant-observation and co-performer witnessing methodologies in the study, which crucially allowed for collaborating with fans whose communal pursuits have been stigmatized by dominant discourses that denigrate their activities as solely addictive, uncritical, and wasteful. Jeong's genre-spanning corpus of fan activities and analyzing its contexts and contents represents an important contribution to the making of a fan archive that is also an archive of affective labor.

Areum Jeong is Assistant Professor of Korean Studies at Arizona State University.

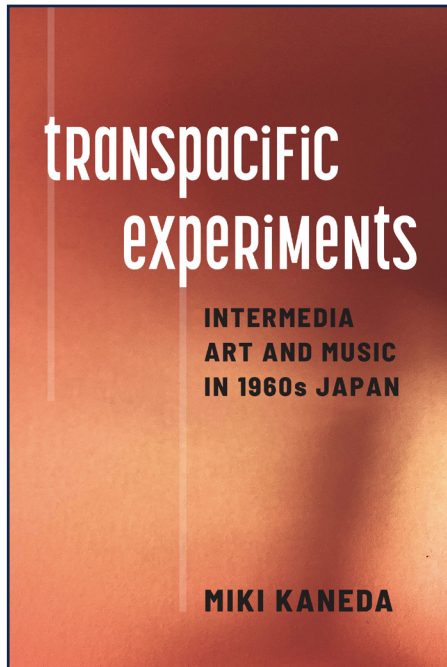
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“By bringing her own extraordinary ethnographic and historical analyses of K-pop into dialogue with existing literature on fandom and performance, Jeong vividly and sensitively communicates the novelty and significance of K-pop in South Korea to the fandom studies literature. This book will be an important text for scholars, educators, and students of Korean media studies. Jeong's book will be a seminal touchstone in the field of K-pop studies for many years to come.”—Thomas Baudinette, Macquarie University



Transpacific Experiments Intermedia Art and Music in 1960s Japan

Miki Kaneda

How intermedia art and everyday life in 1960s Japan shaped an unexpected transcultural avant-garde

Intermedia art—an avant-garde multimedia practice that combines sound and moving images—took root in Japan alongside other places in the 1960s. In *Transpacific Experiments*, Miki Kaneda analyzes intermedia as a practice that gives form to errant possibilities, unfolding in spaces of the everyday, to offer nuanced insights into the global flow of ideas, influence, and discourses of appropriation. The stories of intermedia art throughout the study offer feminist and transnational perspectives on experimental music and art that disorient existing narratives about the experimental and political in unexpected ways.

Transpacific Experiments contends that social, cultural, and political arrangements local to Japan had a greater influence on the transnational experimental music scene than previously acknowledged. Her perspective extends, exceeds, and at times unsettles these frameworks about experimental practices, revealing the limitations of any single political or aesthetic lens.

Miki Kaneda is Associate Director of the Center for the Humanities at New York University.

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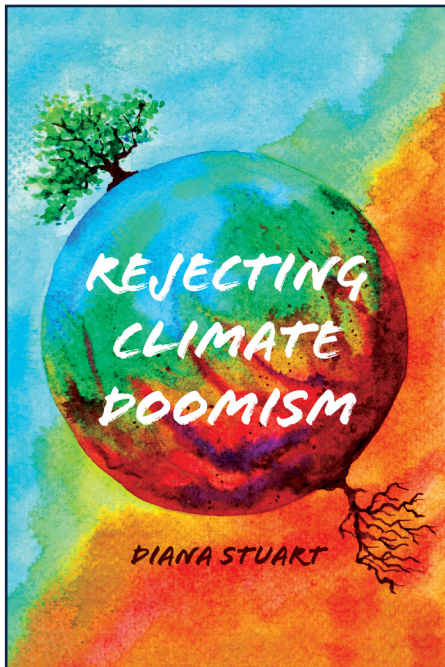
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Rejecting Climate Doomism

Diana Stuart

A strong call to action for the environment and our future

As scientists call for widespread climate action, there has been an alarming rise in climate doomism, the belief that it is too late to do anything about climate change. Many people who struggle to imagine the solutions and social order that would be needed to support more sustainable outcomes instead look away and do nothing, immobilized by defeatist thinking. Yet every fraction of a degree of warming avoided means saving lives and livelihoods in the future.

Drawing from climate science, sociology, psychology, and philosophy, *Rejecting Climate Doomism* outlines the reasons to instead choose action grounded in active hope. It examines how global warming could be effectively limited through specific policy proposals. Despite the many obstacles to achieving some of the policies discussed in this book, they are still possible and worth pursuing. By outlining a positive vision of the far-reaching changes that can be used to minimize warming, the book encourages readers to advocate for the social and economic changes necessary to forge the best path for people and the planet.

Diana Stuart is a Professor in the School of Earth and Sustainability at Northern Arizona University.

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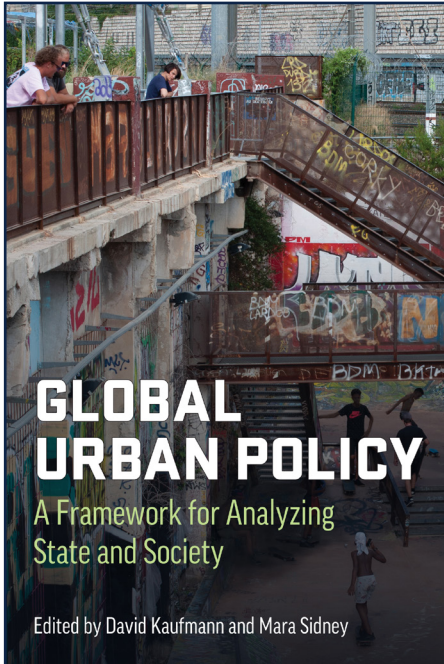
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"In our warming world, doomerism is almost as destructive as denialism, because they both tell us to do nothing about climate change. In fact, as Diana Stuart reminds us, every degree counts—and the right changes, now, can still make an enormous difference. *Rejecting Climate Doomism* is well-researched, eminently readable, and carries an essential message: pragmatic, ethical and, above all, hopeful."—Elizabeth Cripps, University of Edinburgh, and author of *What Climate Justice Means and Why We Should Care*



Global Urban Policy

A Framework for Analyzing State and Society

Edited by David Kaufmann and Mara Sidney

How to see like a city

Cities are active policy innovators of global importance, whether responding to climate change, migration, poverty, or health disparities, or aiming to generate growth. Since cities adapt to the needs and interests of global capital, they may implement policies that slight the well-being of everyday residents and the most vulnerable. How cities choose to contribute to a democratic and sustainable future reveals dimensions of political life playing out in society at large.

Global Urban Policy suggests that to understand contemporary societal transformation—and political and policy processes more generally—we need to study the policies that cities create and implement. Going beyond thinking of “urban” as a physical site, the authors show that an urban mode of life is one marked by diversity, complexity, chaos, flexibility, and ongoing change. With eleven empirical case studies, the authors examine issues including housing and urban development, migration, climate change, and crime in cities as varied as Berlin, Medellín, Chicago, Accra, Guangzhou, São Paulo, Mumbai, and Saint Etienne. The studies show how contemporary confrontations between public and private property, power and justice, participation and exclusion, wealth and poverty, and emerging technology and existing economic, social, and political structures take physical form in cities. *Global Urban Policy* engages with theoretical developments in public policy, urban politics, and urban studies to develop and demonstrate a framework for urban policy analysis.

David Kaufmann is Assistant Professor of Spatial Development and Urban Policy at ETH Zürich.

Mara Sidney is Professor of Political Science at Rutgers University–Newark and Director of the Global Urban Studies PhD program.

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“This book is a welcomed major contribution to a better understanding of the politics of cities, proposing an analytical approach constructed by intellectual bridges between politics and policies, state and civil society actors and institutions. It is attentive to urban conflicts, and fit for studying both global north and south cities.”—Eduardo Cesar Leão Marques, University of São Paulo

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Chapter 4: The Redevelopment of Informal Settlements in China and India: Two Models of Urban Governance Compared

Chapter 5: Digital Underdogs: Postindustrial Policymaking and the ‘Ordinary’ City

Chapter 6: Risk, Capital Accumulation, and Racial Inequality in Detroit: Exploring the Calculus of Emergency Managers during Times of Crisis

Chapter 7: Policies In and of the Urban Everyday

Chapter 8: City-Making in Africa’s Urban Estuaries: Rescaling African Urban Policy Analysis in Era of Mobility

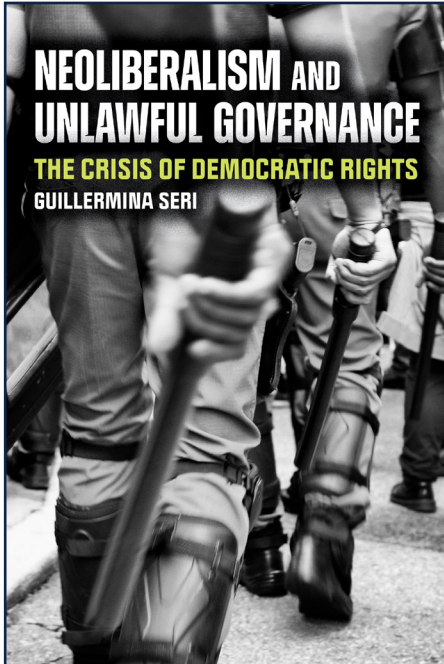
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Neoliberalism and Unlawful Governance The Crisis of Democratic Rights

Guillermina Seri

Fighting for democratic rights despite their neoliberal erosion

Neoliberalism and Unlawful Governance explores how democratic governments continue to exclude and abuse people. It examines the authoritarian roots of neoliberal policies that portray markets as the solution to every single problem and how these policies have been prioritized above democracy, human rights, and even nature. By examining global trends, the book identifies neoliberalism as the current dominant expression of capitalism. Grounded in emergency, security, police mechanisms, and the politics of the spectacular, this framework helps explain the rationale behind the persistence of unlawful governance and its legitimizing strategies.

In looking at the ways in which people resist, the book honors the perspective of the excluded and the voices of those most immediately affected by neoliberal austerity—from activists defending land and rights to communities subjected to various forms of exploitation, extractivism, and displacement. Bringing in these voices and theoretical perspectives, including from beyond the English-speaking world, this book highlights alternative ways of thinking about democracy and rights, drawing from the tradition of the commons. Through its deep analysis of history, theory, and world events, *Neoliberalism and Unlawful Governance* offers fresh insights into how various forms of emergency measures, policing, and security are used to privilege markets over people and the planet, while also emphasizing the crucial role of popular movements in defending and expanding democratic rights and to rebuilding commons.

Guillermina Seri is Professor in the Department of Political Science at Union College.

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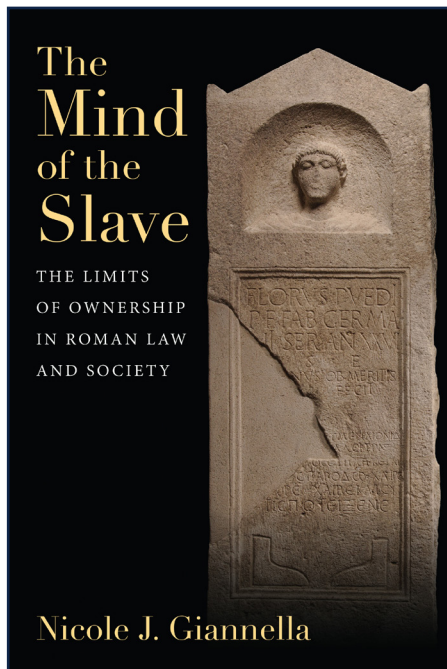
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"The spectre of neoliberalism, taken together with its reactionary offshoot neofascism, haunts all humanity in our time. Perhaps no other work currently available provides as comprehensive a critique of what Guillermina Seri refers to as 'the unhinged form of capitalism known as neoliberalism,' or so clearly presents the way forward: the struggle for universal human rights, substantive democracy, and defense of the earthly commons."—John Bellamy Foster, author of *Trump in the White House*



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The Mind of the Slave

The Limits of Ownership in Roman Law and Society

Nicole J. Giannella

Investigating slave ownership and the limits of ownership in ancient Rome

The Mind of the Slave untangles the double nature of slaves as property and as human beings under the law in the Roman world. As human beings, slaves had free will and legally recognized autonomy while acting for their owner. Although their autonomy was fundamental to the Roman economy, it had the potential to lead to insecurity in the day-to-day experiences of the owner and enslaved person. Will an enslaved agent decide to act in the best interest of their owner? To sell their secrets? To run away? These moments of insecurity are the subject of this book; they reveal an owner's struggle to know the mind of the slave and to reconcile ownership over a reasoning, emotional, and purposive human being. Nicole J. Giannella argues that this reliance on the mind of the slave reveals fault lines in the ownership of the enslaved. This is where we can glimpse beyond the trappings of law and see the need for negotiation, incentives, and ultimately, the trust that the owner puts in their slave.

In order to place Roman jurists in conversation with both technical and literary sources, Giannella grounds this study in philology and argues that conceptions of the mind of the slave were at the heart of legal and cultural debates about the nature of slavery and ownership. It also contributes to a wider debate about selfhood and autonomy, since philosophers often used the figure of the slave as a representation of humanity as its limits.

Nicole J. Giannella is Assistant Professor of Classics at Cornell University.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3998/mpub.14514947>

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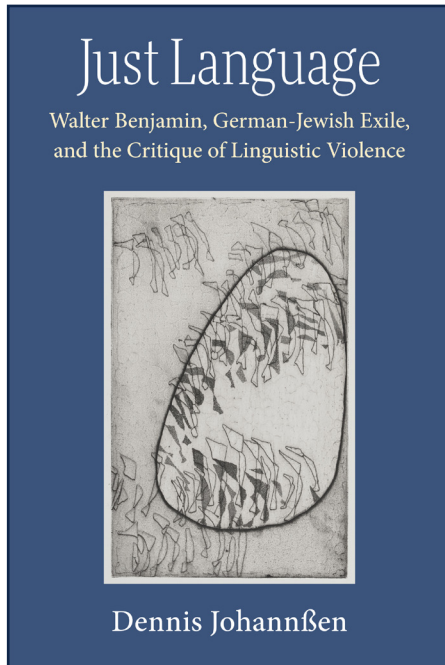
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"The Mind of the Slave is impressive, both in its ambitions and in its results. This will be an important intervention in slavery studies and fits into a rising wave of scholarship aimed at exploring the viewpoint, subjectivity, and agency of the enslaved. The book should have a readership that stretches beyond Classics and ancient history to scholarly readers interested in broader questions of slavery and enslavement."—Noel Lenski, Yale University



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Just Language

Walter Benjamin, German-Jewish Exile, and the Critique of Linguistic Violence

Dennis Johannßen

A new analysis of linguistic violence and resistance in the works of German-Jewish authors

Just Language revisits the Weimar period and its representation in the postwar years to explore narratives of linguistic resistance in the works of Walter Benjamin, Theodor W. Adorno, Hannah Arendt, and Paul Celan. How did this generation of exile writers grapple with their experiences of oppression and persecution? How did they create a language of resistance during the decades that prepared the Third Reich and the Shoah?

Facing the devastations of World War I, the book explores how Walter Benjamin analyzed language's ability to radically break the cyclical violence of war and examines his opposition to expansionism and imperialism in Weimar education and culture. Based on Benjamin's analysis, Johannßen traces the postwar responses of Hannah Arendt and Paul Celan. While Arendt proposed strategies of metaphorical thinking to counteract the formation of totalitarianism, Celan mobilized silence as a poetic counterforce against oppression and erasure. *Just Language* argues that every linguistic act and practice, no matter how small or marginalized, entails the ethical task of opposing the normalization and institutionalization of political violence. By tracing how Benjamin and his interlocutors struggled against German fascism, Johannßen presents a memory-based critique of linguistic violence, opening a dialogue between German-Jewish writers and today's debates on non-discrimination, propaganda, and social justice.

Dennis Johannßen is Assistant Professor of German at Lafayette College.

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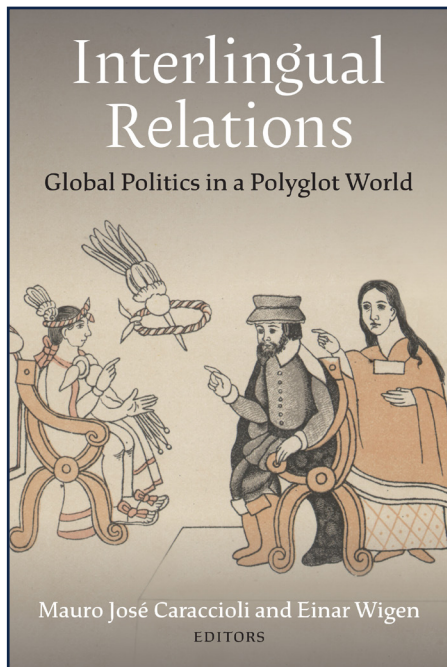
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"Just Language presents a sophisticated and original engagement with German-Jewish thought, centering on Walter Benjamin and situating Arendt, Adorno, and Celan in critical dialogue with his work. The book illuminates the relation between language and justice, offering a powerful reflection on writing as ethical practice and resistance to linguistic violence."—Ilit Ferber, Tel-Aviv University



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Interlingual Relations Global Politics in a Polyglot World

Edited by Mauro José Caraccioli and Einar Wigen

Revealing the translation work underlying politics

International politics is often conducted in two languages or more, and since no two languages are exactly the same, what is possible to say in one language may be impossible to say in another. Translation is at the heart of global politics, and interlingual relations traverse time, space, culture, and state borders. *Interlingual Relations* builds on emergent literature on translation in International Relations (IR) to propose a unique research agenda for scholars of global politics, offering multiple directions and sets of principles for sustained study.

The contributors use various methodologies to explore these interfaces and encounters in different sites, bringing together multiple subfields, approaches, and disciplinary paradigms across IR's history. Together they offer a more truly global perspective on international affairs, going beyond the hegemony of English to demonstrate the interconnectedness between "high" politics and everyday life. They show the role of translation in global politics as one of world-making, whereby social roles, rules, and responsibilities establish the semblance of order despite not sounding or meaning the same to all actors. In establishing *Interlingual Relations* as a foundational part of IR, the book offers another key to studying global interactions and the high political stakes in the theories, methods, and ethics of translation.

Mauro José Caraccioli is Associate Professor of Political Science and Core Faculty in the ASPECT Program at Virginia Tech.

Einar Wigen is Professor of Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Oslo.

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"This extraordinarily rich book does IR the huge favor of revealing what has long remained hidden in plain sight: the world is polyglot—with attendant consequences for global politics. We all owe a debt of gratitude to Caraccioli, Wigen and their contributors for helping us catch up with reality."
 —Vincent Pouliot, Professor and Chair of International Studies, Université de Montréal

Edited by **Charles A. Laughlin** and **Li Guo**

Reportage in the Chinese- Speaking World



Reportage in the Chinese-Speaking World

Edited by Charles A. Laughlin and Li Guo

An exploration of the ethico-aesthetic genre in the Sinophone world

Reportage in the Chinese-Speaking World examines reportage as an important aesthetic form of cultural production in the Sinophone world. Originating as a proletarian fiction in interwar Europe, reportage spread around the world, coming into its own in the Sinophone world from the 1930s to today. Going beyond fact-based journalism, reportage is pursued through a variety of artistic forms and media, from nonfiction writing to photography to documentary film. Reportage's plurimedial representations facilitate and amplify intersectional struggles against multiple forms of social and political oppression. Engaging its audiences in affective ethico-political exchanges with (human or nonhuman) subjects, reportage promotes audiences' empathetic responses to the democratic appeals of marginalized groups whose status, identity, or situation manifest emergent ethical challenges in the society of their time.

This work offers new understandings of reportage's dialectical relationship with its readership by evoking sympathetic identifications with personal contemplations of place, hearth, and senses of belonging. Covering a breadth of media across mainland China, Taiwan, and the Sinophone diaspora in the United States and Japan, this book examines how intermediality cultivates distinctive expressions in reportage, cross-cultural empathy, and ethico-political relationships between the reporter, photographer, filmmaker, and their surroundings.

Charles A. Laughlin is Ellen Bayard Weedon Professor of East Asian Studies at the University of Virginia.

Li Guo is Professor of Chinese and Asian Studies at Utah State University.

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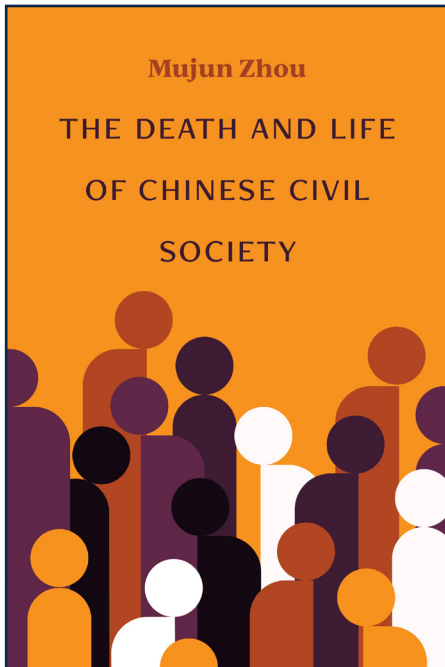


"Reportage in the Chinese-Speaking World challenges the Western-oriented definition of 'reportage' as a fixed genre by drawing on diverse literary and artistic materials from the Chinese-speaking world across various moments in Chinese and Sinophone modernity."—Hang Tu, National University of Singapore

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 9. "Chinese-in-Japan Documentary and Media Reportage in the New Millennium: Toward a Disjunctive History of Transnational Affectivity"
- Epilogue: "The Rebirth of Reportage in the New Age"



The Death and Life of Chinese Civil Society

Mujun Zhou

How the Chinese liberal intellectuals launched the civil society movement and its later disintegration

The Death and Life of Chinese Civil Society examines how a group of Chinese intellectual elites referred to as the liberals or *zìyóu pài* edified the civil society project beginning in the 1990s to build an independent space to constrain state power, increase political participation, and promote China's democratization. In the early 2000s, activists in movements such as the environmental and the AIDS movements identified with the liberals and regarded their activism as part of the project of building civil society. However, since the late 2000s the liberals' influence has gradually declined. In prominent social movements in the 2010s such as the labor and feminist movements, activists have openly criticized the liberal interpretation of civil society and regarded liberals' civil society agenda as irrelevant.

Mujun Zhou employs the concept of interstitial space, or the space where the exercise of power has not been fully institutionalized, to examine the history of the civil society project over the past three decades and its changing relationship with other social movements. Zhou suggests that by advocating for civil society the liberals gained allies and thematized many social problems rising during China's economic reform; however, liberals' activism also produced new forms of power inequalities.

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