

# Voicing Gender in China

## Fourth Conference of the China Academic Network on Gender

Dates: 17-18 June 2025

Location: Université Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris (France)

Deadline for abstracts (300 words): 1 February 2025

Send to: [voicinggenderinchina@gmail.com](mailto:voicinggenderinchina@gmail.com)

We are pleased to announce that the Fourth Conference of the China Academic Network on Gender will be hosted by the Université Sorbonne Nouvelle on 17-18 June 2025. Titled 'Voicing Gender in China,' the conference seeks to explore the multiple sites of intersection between voice and gender in Chinese society, past and present.

Within Chinese studies, fruitful articulations between voice and gender studies have drawn from studies of women's political activism in history and sociology, exploring the ways in which activists and organisers have articulated new political identities in rallying cries and everyday protest. Literary scholars have looked at the shaping of gendered subjectivities through self-narratives and autobiographies, paying close attention to dialogue, orality and the mechanisms of silencing within literary establishments. In recent years, an explosion of sensory histories have explored how gender is enacted and defined through music, opera, dance and song. In parallel, sound studies scholars have brought to life the gendered soundscapes of modern and contemporary China in considering, for instance, the production of socialist state-sponsored music as well as the aural experiences of everyday life. Drawing from these multivocal approaches, this conference seeks to explore ways of rewriting into academic scholarship previously silenced minority voices, paying attention to the affective and political resonances of voicing out gender issues in different spaces, academic and public-facing.

Interdisciplinary at heart, the conference aims to bring together scholars (including doctoral, postdoctoral, early, mid and advanced career researchers) from the humanities and social sciences working on gender and China. We seek proposals that articulate issues of gender in relation to voice broadly construed, in a range of disciplines including but not limited to: gender studies, media studies, cultural studies, film studies, literature, history, sociology, anthropology, queer studies.

During the workshop participants will be encouraged to frame their own work in discussion with other researchers' papers. They will also have the chance to gain feedback on their research from leading scholars in the field who will act

as discussants in each panel session. Outstanding papers will be considered for publication in an edited volume.

### Participating scholars

The opening keynote speaker, **Prof. Howard Chiang** (University of California, Santa Barbara), is a historian of queer Asian Pacific history, the author of several books, including *After Eunuchs: Science, Medicine, and the Transformation of Sex in Modern China* (Columbia UP, 2018) and *Transtopia in the Sinophone Pacific* (2021). **Prof. Rachel Harris** (SOAS), who is an ethnomusicologist and has worked extensively on the soundscapes of Uyghur Islam in China, will also present her latest research in the closing keynote. **Dr Jennifer Bond** (University College London), **Dr. Chang Liu** (Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen), **Dr Coraline Jortay** (CNRS UMR 7172 Thalim Sorbonne Nouvelle/ENS), **Dr. Beatrice Zani** (CNRS, LISE UMR 3302) will also participate as panel discussants.

### Submission

Please send a 300 word abstract to [voicinggenderinchina@gmail.com](mailto:voicinggenderinchina@gmail.com), including your full name, institutional affiliation, email address, and a short bio before **1 February 2025**. Applicants will be notified of the outcome by **mid-February 2025**, and successful applicants will need to submit full papers two weeks prior to the conference (**1 June 2025**). We are currently in the process of exploring options for providing funded on-site childcare for conference participants. If you would be interested in this option, please indicate the age, languages spoken, and specific needs (if applicable) of any children travelling with you in your submission email.

For further information, please contact the workshop committee at the above email address.

### Calendar

- Deadline for abstract: 1 February 2025
- Notification of acceptance: mid-February 2025
- Deadline for full submission: 1 June 2025

### Organisers

China Academic Network on Gender & Université Sorbonne Nouvelle

**Organising committee:** Jennifer Bond (UCL), Chang Liu (CUHK Shenzhen), Coraline Jortay (CNRS)

**Scientific committee:** Jennifer Bond (University College London), Aoife Cantrill (University of Oxford), Coraline Jortay (CNRS UMR 7172 Thalim Sorbonne Nouvelle/ENS), Chang Liu (Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen), Béatrice Zani (CNRS, LISE UMR 3302)