Local Sex on Global Screens?

Reflections on the New Queer Asian Cinema

a talk by Professor Helen Hok-Sze Leung

There has been much talk, in film festivals and academic conferences alike, of an emergent New Queer Asian Cinema. Yet, despite the designation, queer trends in the diverse Asian cinema scenes do not readily cohere into a distinctive aesthetic or politics. At the same time, recent theoretical efforts in articulating “Queer Asia” as a community and cultural formation have provided film scholars as well as film audiences with a framework (perhaps also the impetus) to approach these unruly films as local forms of queer expressions. I will offer some thoughts on these dynamics, accompanied by stills and clips from some recent films.

March 13th.
12.15–1.30PM
Scarfe 310
2125 Main Mall
UBC
Lunch provided, RSVP
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Helen Hok-Sze Leung is Assistant Professor in the Department of Women’s Studies at Simon Fraser University. She has published widely on queer cinema and queer cultural politics in Asia, particularly Hong Kong. Her first book Undercurrents: Queer Culture and Postcolonial Hong Kong is forthcoming in 2008 from the University of British Columbia Press. She has also been involved with Out On Screen: Vancouver’s Queer Film Festival in various capacities over the years as panel organizer, community programmer, and jury member. She is currently developing a new project on cinematic violence and intimacy in "body genres."


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