

27 Nov, 2013 (Wed) 4:30-6:00pm CPD-2.16, Run Run Shaw Tower, Centennial Campus, HKU

Mark Twain had an intriguing relationship with China that is not as widely known as it should be. Although he never visited the country, he had played a significant role speaking for the Chinese at home and abroad. After his death, his body of works is widely studied and translated in China; Adventures of Huckleberry Finn alone has gone through no less than ninety different Chinese translations. Looking at Twain in various Chinese contexts, my work points to the repercussions of Twain in a global theater. It highlights the cultural specificity of concepts such as "race," "nation," and "empire" in countries that have dramatically different dynamics of race and culture from that of the US.



Selina Lai recently obtained her Ph.D. in American Studies from HKU, where she is teaching American literature and cultures. She was just offered an advanced book contract by Stanford University Press to complete her manuscript, *Mark Twain in China*.