Korean Studies Public Lecture Series

- 8 March 1994, Dr. Lew Seok-Choon, professor in the Department of Sociology of Yonsei University and Inchon Fellow at St. Antony's College, spoke on "Domination structure and capital accumulation in contemporary Korea".
- 3 April 1994, Dr. Lew Seok-Choon, professor in the Department of Sociology of Yonsei University and Inchon Fellow at St. Antony's College, and Professor Kim Chun-han, visiting researcher from Aju University, gave a joint paper entitled "Regime transition and political succession in South Korea".
- 22 June 1994, The Republic of Korea Ambassador to the United Kingdom, the Honorable No Chang-hoe, spoke on "The current state of the North Korean nuclear crisis".
- 25 January 1995, Dr. James Grayson, Director of Korean Studies of the School of East Asian Studies of the University of Sheffield, spoke on "Dynamic complementarity: the relationship between Confucianism and Protestant Christianity".
- 28 February 1995, Dr. Pak Young-sook, Senior Lecturer in Korean Art History of the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, spoke on "The ancient culture and art of the Silla kingdom".
- 4 May 1995, Dr. Gina L. Barnes, Senior Researcher and Lecturer in East Asian Archaeology at St. John's College, Cambridge, lectured on "Iron-clad men of Kaya and Yamato: Early state relations between the Korean peninsula and the Japanese islands".
- 12 May 1995, the following seminar was conducted in collaboration with the Centre for Asian Studies at St. Antony's College.
  Title: "The political economy of inclusion: Cooperative prospects for Korean reunification"
  Aidan Foster-Carter, University of Leeds, on "Korean reunification: the role of civil society".
  Kim Yeon-Hak, University of Manchester Business School, on "Prospects for economic cooperation between South and North Korea".
- Gaye Christofferson, East-West Center, Hawaii, on "Tokyo, Moscow, Beijing, and Vladivostok's views on North East Asian economic cooperation and the Tumen River Project".
- 25 May 1995, Mrs. Hyun-Key Kim Hogarth, Ph.D. candidate in Social Anthropology at the University of Kent at Canterbury, spoke on "Reciprocity, status and the Korean shamanistic ritual".
- 8 June 1995, Dr. Martina Deuchler, Senior Lecturer in Korean History and Language at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, spoke on "Status re-production in Chosön Korea: the cases of Yangban and slaves".
- 14 November 1995, Ms. Beth McKillop, Librarian in the Oriental and India Office Collections of the British Library, spoke on "Cast type and carved blocks: Early printed books from Korea in the British Library".
- 7 December 1995, Dr. Keith David Howard, anthropologist in the Centre of Korean Studies, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, spoke on "The coercion and survival of Korean 'comfort women': memories and contemporary issues".
- 6 February 1996, Dr. Kevin O'Rourke, Professor of Literature, Kyunghee University, spoke on "Moments of vision in the poems of Midang Sŏ Ch'ŏng-ju".
- 28 May 1996, Dr. Laurel Kendall, Curator of the Asian Ethnographic Collections at the American Museum of Natural History, New York City, spoke on "Getting married in Korea: of gender, morality, and modernity".
- 6 May 1996, Professor Song Nam-Sun, Osaka University of Economics and Law, spoke on "Causal relations and the passive in Korean, Japanese, and English".
- 8 June 1996, Professor Chong-keun Wŏn, of Hanguk University of Foreign Studies, Seoul, spoke on "Korean investment in the United Kingdom".
- 6 June 1996, Ms. Yuri Nakagawa, a D.Phil. candidate in the Faculty of Social and Cultural Anthropology, Oxford, spoke on "A study of chokpo: how Koreans negotiate their written genealogy".
- 26 November 1996, Dr. Andre Schmid, Department of East Asian Studies, University of Toronto, spoke on "Re-discovering Manchuria: Space and nation in Korea, 1713-1909".
- 5 June 1997, Dr. Laurel Kendall, Curator of the Asian Ethnographic Collections at the American Museum of Natural History, New York City, spoke on "The cultural politics of superstition" in the Republic of Korea.
- 12 June 1997, Dr. Hae-Kyung Um, Research Fellow, Department of Social Anthropology and Ethnomusicology, The Queen's University of Belfast, spoke on "The Korean diaspora in the former Soviet Union: Social change and the construction of identity".
- 10 December 1997, Dr. David McCann, Professor of Korean Literature, Harvard University, spoke on "The disappearing lady: A Korean literary mystery".
- 7-8 April 1998, "10th Biennial Meeting of the British Association for Korean Studies held at Oxford"
- 12 May 1998, Dr. Kenneth Wells, Professor of Korean History, Australia National University, spoke on "Provvidence and power: Korean Protestant responses to Japanese colonialism".
- 10 May 2000, Professor Byong Won Lee, Professor of Music, University of Hawai'i, gave an illustrated lecture on "Styles and Aesthetics in Korean Traditional Music".
- 7 November 2000, Professor Sungwoo Kim, Professor of Architecture, Yonsei University, gave an illustrated lecture on "Design and Meaning on the Traditional Korean Yangban House".
- 2 March 2001, Professor Hiroshi Honda, Professor of Anthropology, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, spoke on "Between elite and commoners: hyangri or rijok in Namwon, Korea".

26 April 2001, Dr. Laurel Kendall, Curator, the New York Metropolitan Museum, USA, gave a lecture on “Spiritual consumption: gods and goods in the Korean shaman world”.


28 November 2001, Mr. Han Chang Gyu, Director of the National Gallery, Pyongyang, DPRK, on “Art and mural painting in the Koguryo period.” For an essay on the visit, see “Contact Across Chasms”.

27 January 2003, Dr. James Hoare, former British Chargé d’Affaires in Pyongyang, lectured on “From crisis to crisis – two years in North Korea”.

31 January 2003, Dr. Hyangjin Lee, Lecturer in Korean Studies at the School of East Asian Studies, University of Sheffield, lectured “Globalisation and Isolationism: National Cinemas in the Two Koreas”.

5 December 2003, Dr. Milan Hejtmanek, Korea Foundation Assistant Professor of History, University of Pennsylvania, lectured on “The Talented, the Crafty, and the Well-bred: New Research on Korean State Examination Passers in the Choson Period”.

3 May 2005, Mr. Kangchan Jeong, Seoul District Court Judge, Republic of Korea, lectured on “Stem Cell Research in Korea: a comparison of the regulatory environment with the UK—ethics and the law”.

12 May 2005, Dr John Swenson-Wright, Lecturer in Modern Japanese Politics & International Relations, Cambridge University, lectured on “Frustrated Trilateralism? Japan’s relations with South Korea and the United States in the context of the North Korean Nuclear Crisis”.

20 May 2005, Korean Breeze: A Unique Occasion to Experience Korean Traditional Performing Arts (20 May 7pm, Holywell Music Room, Adults £5 and Students £3)

26 May 2005, Dr Soyang Park, Junior Research Fellow, Wolfson College, lectured on “Forgetting and Remembering in Post-Colonial South Korea: the minjung politics and art of the 1980s and early 1990s”.

11 May 2006, Dr Sowon Park, Lecturer in English at Corpus Christi College, lectured on “Metempsychosis and Chiasmic Encounters: On Margaret Drabble’s The Red Queen”.

22 May 2006, Dano: 2006 Korean Breeze: Master of traditional Korean music in concert (22 May 7.30pm, Holywell Music Room, Adults £7, Concessions £5)

1 December 2006, Mr. Samuel Adamson, Finalist in Japanese, gave an illustrated lecture on " Holiday in the Axis of Evil: A Tourist's View of the DPRK”.

23 April 2007, Dr. Kyung Moon Hwang, Associate Professor, Department of History, University of California, lectured on "State, Religion, and the Notion of Secularisation in Early Modern Korea”.

30 April 2009, Professor Lee Young-jo, Standing Commissioner (vice-minister level) of the (South Korean) Truth and Reconciliation Commission, lectured on “Democratisation and Transitional Justice in the Republic of Korea: A Comparative Perspective”. This lecture was co-sponsored with the Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, Oxford Transitional Justice Research unit.

4 November 2009, Professor Stephen Epstein, Senior Lecturer, School of Languages and Cultures, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, lectured on “Between Some (Korean!) Rocks and a Large Place: Japan, China, and South Korean Popular Media”.

30 November 2009, Professor Ik-doo Kim, Professor in the Department of Korean and Korean Literature, Chônbuk National University, and Visiting Scholar in the Oriental Institute and Wolfson College delivered an illustrated lecture on “New directions in World Theatre in the 21st century through the lens of Korean p’ansori: A harmonious fusion of two modes of audience communication ‘mirroring’ and ‘relating’”. This lecture was co-sponsored with the Pitt Rivers Museum and held in the Museum. Professor Kim also presented a lavish gift of traditional percussion instruments to the Museum on behalf of the President of Chônbuk National University.

18 February 2010, Dr. Daniel Schwekendiek of the Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology and the Unit for Biocultural Variation and Obesity, University of Oxford, delivered a lecture on the ‘Economic and Social History of North Korea’.


21 May 2010, Dr. Remco Breuker of the University of Leiden, the Netherlands, delivered a lecture on ‘Narratives of inauthenticity, impurity, and disorder. Or, how forgeries, half-castes, and hooligans shaped premodern Korean history’.

27 May 2010, Dr. Alain Delissen, Professor of Korean Modern History at EHESS (École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales), Paris, delivered a lecture on ‘Towards annexing Japan, the Orient, and the World: three Geograms by Ch’oe Namsŏn (1890-1957)”.

1 June 2010, Dr. Dr. Tomas Horak, Assistant Professor of Korean Studies at Charles University of Prague, delivered a lecture on ‘Explaining some aspects of the Korean language structure from a functional perspective’.

15 February 2012, Dr. Andrew Jackson, Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, Korean Studies, Oriental Institute, delivered a lecture on ‘Regional Discrimination and rebellion: The case of the 1728 Musin rebellion’.

23 May 2012, Dr. Andrew Jackson, Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, Korean Studies, Oriental Institute, delivered a lecture on ‘Cinematic representations of the Korean War in Pak Kwangsu’s To the Starrry Island and Yi Kwangmo’s Spring in my Hometown: A re-evaluation’.

6 November 2012, Mr. Kô Un read selections of his poetry in the Haldane Room, Wolfson College.

7 November 2012, the entertainer Psy delivered a lecture in the Oxford Union.
21 February 2013, Dr. Sunghee Park, Korea Foundation Post-Doctoral Researcher in Korean Studies delivered a lecture on The way of p’ungnyu (wind flow): musical interactions at private venues in Seoul, from the late 18th to late 19th centuries.

25 February 2013, Dr. David Hundt, Senior Lecturer in International Relations, Deakin University, Australia, delivered a lecture on Neo-Liberalism and the Strengthening of the Korean State.


28 November 2013, Dr. Kevin Cawley, Director of the Irish Institute of Korean Studies at University College Cork, Ireland, delivered a lecture on Bringing the name(s) of God to East Asia: Missions and (Mis)adventures in Translation.

13 February 2014, Dr. Kim Jongmyung, Professor of Korean Religion at the Academy of Korean Studies, delivered a lecture on Korean Kings’ Views on Buddhism and Statecraft.

3 June 2014, Mr. Yun Suk-ho, KBS Director and President of Yoon’s Color Ltd., delivered a lecture on Drama-making in Korean Culture.

5 June 2014, Mr. Yun Suk-ho, KBS Director and President of Yoon’s Color Ltd., delivered a lecture on Korean Dramas and Hallyu’ in Wolfson College.

20 October 2015, Ms. Deborah Smith, PhD. in Korean Studies candidate at SOAS, University of London, delivered a lecture on Translating The Vegetarian.

3 November 2015, Ms. Jessica Morgan, MSt. in Korean Studies candidate at the University of Oxford, delivered a lecture on Comparative Language Change in North and South Korea.

10 November 2015, Ms. Glenna De Bosco (London Metropolitan Police Community Liaison Officer) and Ms. Bona Shin (Community Organiser), delivered a lecture on How community Interpretation works amongst Koreans in South London.

26 January 2016, Ms. Anna Yates, PhD. in Ethnomusicology candidate at SOAS, University of London, delivered a lecture a performance on P’ansori Today: Reconciling Tradition and Creativity in Modern Society.

9 February 2016, Dr. Myung-Ae Choi, DPhil from the School of Geography and the Environment, University of Oxford, delivered a lecture on Whale Tourism in South Korea.

1 March 2016, Dr. Young-mee Yu Cho, Professor of Korean Language and Culture, Rutgers University, USA, delivered a lecture on K-Pop Lyrics and the New Linguistic Landscape.

27 May 2016, Mr. Kim Young-jae (Intangible Cultural Heritage of Korea, No. 16), Mr. Quan Min, and Ms. Lee Young-shin (Intangible Cultural Heritage of Korea, No. 23), performed traditional Korean music repertoires for the Korean haegeum and Chinese erhu, as well as Korean p’ansori, at Wolfson College.

26 September 2016, Inaugural Book Club held to discuss The Vegetarian by Han Kang and led by Deborah Smith. Sponsorship was supplied by the National Library of Korea and by the Korean Cultural Centre in London.

23 November 2016, The second Book Club held to discuss The Hen Who Dreamed She Could Fly by Sun-Mi Hwang and led by Daniel Hahn. Sponsorship was supplied by the National Library of Korea and by the Korean Cultural Centre in London.