

CFP for *Verge*-sponsored panel for the 2023 Association of Asian American Studies conference, April 6–9, 2023, Long Beach, CA

Submission deadline: September 19

The Orientalist Complex and Public Imagination in the Age of Global Contemporary Art

Organizers: Nina Horisaki-Christens (Columbia University), Chaeun Lee (CUNY Graduate Center)

Even as the orientalist and colonialist roots of institutional art continue to inform how museums, biennials, and art markets frame cultural production, theoretical tools for addressing contemporary dynamics of orientalism have multiplied in recent years: techno-orientalism, re-orientalization, transorientalism, afro-orientalism, ornamentalism, and glorientalism. As events like Documenta 15 and The Asia Forum for Contemporary Art launch in Venice demonstrate, contemporary art discourse is beginning to engage deeply with the ways such orientalist complexes structure our institutional forms and the publics they engender.

Reckoning with the historical and contemporary forms of orientalism remains critical given the proliferation of Asian diasporic communities in the wake of WWII and Cold War violence, as well as the economic power of East Asia post-1980. Furthermore, the rise in anti-Asian hate in response to the COVID-19 crisis shows how its impact continues to shape public consciousness in our so-called global era. Using a Global Asias approach that brings area and ethnic studies into dialogue to examine the “global” aspirations of contemporary art, this panel seeks presentations addressing the dynamics and complexities of orientalism in art and art institutions. We welcome papers that address the following questions: How do shifting forms of orientalism color the way that art from Asia and the Asian diaspora is analyzed, juxtaposed, and presented? How have individual artists and communities navigated orientalist paradigms? And how does an in-depth consideration of social transformations in Asian countries and diasporic communities, including inter-racial, international, gendered, and queer formations, complicate the discourse of orientalism in art?

This panel is sponsored by Verge: Studies in Global Asias and is to be submitted for the in-person AAAS conference in Long Beach, CA, April 6–9, 2023. For more information, see <https://sites.psu.edu/vergegloaliasias/2022/08/24/2023-aaas-verge-sponsored-panel-cfps/>.

*Please submit a **250-word abstract** and **2-page CV** to Nina Horisaki-Christens (ajh2187@columbia.edu) & Chaeun Lee (clee4@gradcenter.cuny.edu) by **September 19, 2022**.*