

INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE BETWEEN CHINESE AND AUSTRIAN GERMANISTS AND FILM SCHOLARS

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The project was initiated to intensify the intercultural dialogue between Chinese and Austrian Germanists and film scholars and to present a retrospective of Austrian films to the Chinese audience: masterpieces of Austrian female directors and film adaptations of Austrian Literature written by female authors. By focusing on female artists the project intended to accentuate gender relevance in art and science. The cooperations among Chinese and Austrian institutions continued already existing connections between Filmarchiv Austria and China Film Archive, at the same time the project provided the opportunity to deepen scientific exchange between Austrian and Chinese German Studies that started in the year 2012 with the Conference "FRAUEN.SCHREIBEN" at Fudan University in Shanghai.

Therefore a team of Austrian experts in collaboration with China Film Archive and Beijing Foreign Studies University (BFSU) organized a symposium accompanied by an Austrian film-retrospective. The Austrian team included Pia Janke, head of Forschungsplattform Elfriede Jelinek, her colleagues Christian Schenkermayr and Susanne Teutsch, furthermore Claudia Walkensteiner-Preschl, head of Vienna Film Academy and Isabel Wolte, head of Chinese Film Consult, Chinese Film expert and also initiator of the current project.

The symposium started at China Film Archive with presentations about Chinese and Austrian film and literature and a screening of "Die Geträumten"/"The Dreamed Ones" by director Ruth Beckermann that also included an introduction by the filmmaker, Pia Janke and Prof. JIANG Li, vice dean of the School of Foreign Studies from the University of International Business and Economics Beijing and a Q&A-session after the film. The next day took place at the German Department of BFSU and focused on film adaptations of literature by Ingeborg Bachmann, Elfriede Jelinek and Marlen Haushofer. In addition to academic lectures, the program specifically included discussion and talks between the participants so that there was enough room to exchange ideas and opinions and to promote intercultural scientific transfer. The day was closed by a discussion presented by Pia Janke with CHEN Zhuangying, dean of the German Faculty of Shanghai International Studies University, Prof. HAN Ruixiang, BFSU, Prof. YANG Hui of Beijing Film Academy and Isabel Wolte. In the evening the program continued with the film adaptation "Chucks" by directors Sabine Hiebler and Gerhard Ertl based on the novel by Cornelia Travnicek who was also present and introduced the screening. On the following days selected films were shown during the seminars of German Studies at BFSU introduced and presented by the Austrian experts.

The project was in many regards successful: Both Austrian and Chinese experts as well as the public benefited from the lively discussions and scientific exchange during the symposium and the screenings of Austrian films of which most of them had never been shown to the public in China before. The detailed program and a current documentation of the project is published on the website of Forschungsplattform Elfriede Jelinek: <https://fpjelinek.univie.ac.at/veranstaltungen/symposium-china-2017/>, a profound analysis by Austrian and Chinese participants will furthermore be published 2019 in the next yearbook by Elfriede Jelinek-Forschungszentrum. Selected lectures from the symposium will be included in a special issue on Austrian cinema of the Chinese language publication Shijie Dianying (World Cinema) in 2018. To be continued.

