

Vienna Taiwan Lecture Series

The Department of East Asian Studies/Sinology and
the Vienna Center for Taiwan Studies are pleased to announce a lecture by

YA-HUEI LIN
National University of Kaohsiung

TSC
台灣研究中心

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Institut für Ostasienwissenschaften der Universität Wien
Sinologie · Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft

“Stepping to the Music of a Different Drummer” from Walden to Beyond Beauty: Taiwan from Above

ABSTRACT

How can we imagine a more “ecocentric” way of being in this disastrous age of global warming? What do we have to “see” truly in man’s relation to the environment to maintain the delicate but crucial natural balance between all organisms and the Earth? How can textual and visual works of art help with that awaking act of “seeing”? In response to the above questions, this seminar seeks inspirations from Henry D. Thoreau’s Walden and Chi Po-lin’s Beyond Beauty: Taiwan from Above, a 2013 film which documents Taiwan in aerial photography to underscore the need for environmental reforms. This seminar, on the one hand, investigates what Thoreau has seen through his observations on the environment of Walden in the mid 19th Century. It brings to the fore the rich nourishment of Thoreau’s insights of man’s relation to nature. In light of “the transparent eye-ball” in R. W. Emerson’s Nature, it further examines how Thoreau puts into practice Emerson’s transcendentalism—mostly to regard man, not as a ruler, but as an inhabitant, or a part and parcel of Nature.



YA-HUEI LIN teaches US-American literature at Department of Western Languages and Literature, the National University of Kaohsiung. Her interests in research include US-American literature, African American women writers, children’s literature, feminism, and ecocriticism.

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Date: Wednesday, 12. December 2018

Time: 18:30 - 20:00

Location: SIN1, entrance 2.3, Altes AKH, Campus, Spitalgasse 2
<http://bit.ly/2DftNfE>

Introduction and Moderation led by Astrid Lipinsky, University of Vienna
The lecture is open to the public without charge or prior registration

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