

DAS INSTITUT FÜR OSTASIENWISSENSCHAFTEN / SINOLOGIE

Guest lecture organised by the Institute of East Asian Studies/Chinese Studies department



Prof. Dr. Valentina Pedone
University of Florence

Ethnicity representation in Sino-Italian Cultural Production



維也納大學漢學系

Cultural production is a crucial means in the process of identity construction and expression of individuals belonging to minorities. In the case of people of Chinese origin living in Europe, while other contexts of identity shaping have been extensively researched (i.e., education, family, and work contexts), their creative articulations have not received as much attention. Despite the fact that Chinese minorities in Europe are often perceived as very work-oriented and lacking interest in cultural production and consumption, a growing number of amateur writers, artists, musicians, and performers of Chinese origin have been animating the contemporary European cultural scene with their works, often struggling to overcome cultural marginalization.

With the definition Sino-Italian literature, I refer to literature written both in Chinese and European languages by people of Chinese origin regardless of their place of birth, be it Europe or Chinese speaking areas. After providing some context on the historical development of the broader literary field, I will present the Sino-Italian case study by surveying the main works of this sub-field. The talk concludes with a discussion of ethnicity representation and performance through a series of interviews with contemporary authors of this rich and expanding repertoire of Sino-Italian mobility literature.

Dr. Valentina Pedone is an associate professor of Chinese Studies at the University of Florence. She is the co-editor of the peer reviewed book series on Chinese and Japanese studies “Florientalia” and coordinator of the research unit SILC (Sino-Italian Links & Crossroads). In 2013, she published the book *A Journey to the West: Observations on the Chinese Migration to Italy* (Firenze University Press). Winner of the 2021 Canada Italy Innovation Award for *VulCa2021*, a project about Covid-19-triggered Sinophobia in Canada and Italy, she is currently working on her second book project, a study of literary works published in both Italian and Chinese, by people of Chinese origins living in Italy that span different textual typologies, linguistic varieties, and genres.

DATE: Thursday, May 11, 2023

TIME: 16:45

LOCATION: **SIN 1**, at the Department for East Asian Studies/Chinese Studies,
Altes AKH, Campus, Spitalgasse 2, Yard 2, Entrance 2.3