



Jiang Sanshi / 蔣三石, Conversation/對話 (2009, 128x66cm)

With/out and Use/Uselessness in Chinese aesthetics

Workshop with **Fabian Heubel**. Respondent **Marita Tatari**
7th-9th October 2024, 15:00-18:00
University of Patras, University Campus, Rio GR 26504
Building II, Philosophy



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Focusing on the concepts of With/Out and Use/Uselessness, Fabian Heubel will explore three important aspects of Chinese aesthetics on three afternoons between October 7 and 9, 2024: Use, Way and Water. The workshop will address the relation between an aesthetic ontology of Without and With (or being-without and being-with) as entailed in the Daoist classic *Laozi* (or *Daodejing*) and aesthetic practices in the culture of tea, ink painting, and calligraphy.

His presentations will be followed by a discussion with Marita Tatari on the resonance of such aesthetics with practices and discourses coming from the field of Western contemporary art.

Fabian Heubel is a research fellow at the Institute of Chinese Literature and Philosophy at Academia Sinica in Taipei and a visiting professor at the Institute of Philosophy at Freie Universität Berlin (DAAD-Gastdozentur). Heubel holds an M.A. in Sinology from the Goethe University in Frankfurt am Main (1995) and a Ph.D. in Philosophy from the Technische Universität Darmstadt (2000). He held a Research Fellowship for Experienced Researchers (Alexander von Humboldt Foundation) at the Institute for Social Research and the Department of Sinology at the Goethe University Frankfurt (2012-2013, 2017). In 2023, he received the Outstanding Research Award from the Council for Science and Technology, Taiwan (Republic of China).

Heubel has published widely in German, Chinese, and English on classical and modern Chinese philosophy, aesthetics, and critical theory, as well as on contemporary German and French thought. His books include *Das Dispositiv der Kreativität*, WBG 2002, *Chinesische Gegenwartsphilosophie*, Junius 2016, *Gewundene Wege nach China. Heidegger-Daoismus-Adorno*, Klostermann 2020, *Was ist chinesische Philosophie? Kritische Perspektiven*, Meiner 2021, and *Self-Cultivation and Critique: The Late Foucault in Transcultural Perspective*, Linking 2021 (in Chinese). Heubel is interested in the dynamic interaction between Old and New, East and West in a way that is critical of a comparative approach based on more or less stable identities—national, cultural, linguistic—and tries to elaborate alternative, transcultural perspectives.

Marita Tatari is Professor for Philosophy of Art and Culture at the University of Art and Design Burg Giebichenstein in Halle, Germany. She earned her PhD at the University of Marc Bloch in Strasbourg, France, and her habilitation at the Ruhr University Bochum in Germany. She was a Humboldt-Fellow at UC Berkeley and at ZfL Berlin. Among her publications are the books: *Thinking With – Jean-Luc Nancy* (Coed.), diaphanes 2023, *Kunstwerk als Handlung*, Fink 2017, *Orte des Unermesslichen* (Ed.), diaphanes 2014, *Heidegger et Rilke*, L'Harmattan 2013, *Hannah Arendt and the worldliness of the arts* (Coed.), Metzler 2024 (forthcoming).

Participation is open to all, please contact: marita.tatari@gmail.com

PROGRAM

Monday, 7th October, 15:00-18:00

Fabian Heubel, respondent Marita Tatari:

Tea (茶):

The Use of Without (用無) in Chinese Tea Culture

(Reading: *Laozi* 11)

Tuesday, 8th October, 15:00-18:00

Fabian Heubel, respondent Marita Tatari:

Way (道):

Without and With (無有) in Chinese Mountain-Water Painting

(Reading: *Laozi* 40)

Wednesday, 9th October, 15:00-18:00

Fabian Heubel, respondent Marita Tatari:

Water (水):

The Cultivation of Softness and Touch in Chinese Painting and Calligraphy

(Reading: *Laozi* 8, 76)