

# EXPLORATION OF CULTURAL IDENTITY ALONG THE SILK ROAD NOVEMBER 2016 - APRIL 2017

Sponsored by the Center for Russian & East European Studies and the Asian Studies Center



## FILM SCREENING: Director Lauren Knapp, *Live From UB* (2015)

Thursday, November 3, 2016 | 6:00pm - 8:30pm | 232 Cathedral of Learning

Director Lauren Knapp will present her documentary film, which shows Mongolia's capital city, Ulaanbaatar (UB), through the eyes of its boldest musicians. Beginning in the 1970s, rock music was the catalyst for freedom, the vehicle for international curiosity, and now, the medium for Mongolian nationalism. It follows the story of Mohanik, one of today's most promising independent bands, as they create a new sound for their country and discover what it means to be Mongolian today.



## LECTURE: Dr. James Millward, "Silk Road Journeys of the Eurasian Lute"

Thursday, January 12, 2017 | 4:00pm - 6:00pm | 125 Frick Fine Arts Auditorium

Georgetown University professor, Dr. James Millward, discusses the ancestors of the guitar, viola, mandolin and other members of the stringed instrument family that hail from Central Eurasia and traveled both east and west along what we call the "Silk Road." Silk Road interactions involved more than the conveyance of a thing from point A to point B; these conversations laid the shared substratum of old world civilization and continue to resonate today.



## LECTURE: Dr. Morgan Liu, "How to Misunderstand Central Asian Islam (and How to Do Better)"

Friday, February 10, 2017 | 12:00pm - 1:30pm | 4130 Wesley W. Posvar Hall

Cultural Anthropologist, Dr. Morgan Liu, is a cultural anthropologist studying Islamic knowledge and practice in post-Soviet Central Asia, focusing on Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. He is interested in ethnographic approaches to the state, postsocialism, space, and agency. Liu takes a comparative look at notions of just society across the Middle East, Russia, and Asia.



## FILM SCREENING: *The Music of Strangers: Yo-Yo Ma & The Silk Road Ensemble*

Tuesday, March 21, 2017 | 5:00pm - 7:30pm | Location TBD

Blending performance footage, personal interviews and archival film, director Morgan Neville and producer Caitrin Rogers focus on the journeys of a small group of Silk Road Ensemble mainstays from across the globe to create an intensely personal chronicle of passion, talent and sacrifice. Through these moving individual stories, the filmmakers paint a vivid portrait of a bold musical experiment and a global search for the ties that bind.



## LECTURE: Dr. Rian Thum, "The Islamic Practices that Shape Uyghur Nationalism"

Friday, April 14, 2017 | 3:00pm - 4:30pm | 4130 Wesley W. Posvar Hall

Associate Professor of History, Dr. Rian Thum's research and teaching are generally concerned with the overlap of China and the Muslim World. He argues that the Uyghurs - and their place in China today - can only be understood in the light of longstanding traditions of local pilgrimage and manuscript culture.



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