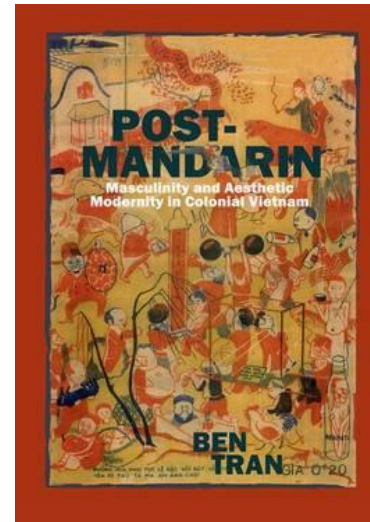




Vertigo

Bodily reflections of
disorder & disruption

June 20, 2018 – Room 35.3.2



Vertigo, defined as “a disordered state of mind, or of things, comparable to giddiness,” hones particularly in on the individual and human experience. In French, *avoir le vertige* can mean a fear for heights, while being *pris de vertige* implies a dizziness, or having one’s head spin. This panel engages with the human body in singular and plural form, the movement of body/bodies, and the body as a physical and psychological canvas that reflects or represents disorder. It examines the social and political transitions in twentieth century Asia (China, Japan, Vietnam) as formative moments in history and literature, with attention to how these transitions manifest in the recognition and understanding of the modern self, from “self-remaking” to the language one chooses to use and write. Moreover, the body becomes a site of political and social contestation and invites reflection on the value of human – corporeal, subjective, intellectual – experience.

Session 1 (9:00 -11:00 am) reversing one’s world

Vertigo, Shame, and Self-Remaking: The Political Thought of Nguyễn An Ninh

Kevin Pham, Political Theory, University of California, Riverside

Off a Cliff with Nowhere to Fall: Looking at Language and Historical Continuity Beyond Colonial Vietnam

Vinh Pham, Comparative Literature, Cornell University

Ethics and aesthetics of nausea in overseas colonial travel

Yen Vu, Romance Studies, Cornell University

Session 2 (11:15 -12:45 pm) examining the body

Crossroads and Lampposts: A case of *surveiller de près* in a transitioning society

Uyen Nguyen, History, University of California, Berkeley

Bio-economics in *A Leaf in the Storm*

Li Zou, Comparative Literature, University of Edinburg

The use of torture by Japanese troops during the military occupation of French Indochina (March- August 1945)

Leszek Sobolewski, Independent Scholar

