

MAKING THE INVISIBLE VISIBLE *Chinese immigrant culture beyond the marketplace*

Chinese migration is "visible" in its economic aspects, but almost completely invisible in its cultural traits: values, habits, patterns of social relations, and interaction among individuals. Forms of spirituality appear neither as phenomena integrated in the societies of the regions where the immigrant Chinese families live nor as themes in the discourse or identity development within their groups. On the other hand, the Chinese presence within socio-economic dynamics is becoming increasingly significant in Italy and elsewhere. It appears to be exceedingly competitive in some commercial sectors.

The culture on which this success is built remains almost completely unknown. If the market model is "visible and winning", the Chinese culture, apart from a few exceptions linked to events of a folkloric character, are unable to emerge and to get in touch with the host culture. The residence of Chinese people in Italy seems to be linked to a rather intense work life, often characterized by high mobility in the territory and by a certain precariousness. This situation does not facilitate the integration of Chinese people, especially of those belonging to the first migrant generation. Acquiring the control of such a different and difficult language as Italian requires a kind of labor and attention that is seldom dedicated to this kind of effort. The poor knowledge of Italian then becomes an obstacle to social interaction with Italians and it generally makes integration problematic, but just for this reason it appears to be one of the most important themes for reflection. The opportunities for understanding and communicating are some of the fundamental aspects that must be considered in order to promote authentic relations between individuals of different cultures. The intercultural horizon, meant as the interaction of the dynamics transforming the cultures and the people living and embodying them, appears to be the most appropriate framework for the several interwoven disciplines of philosophy, sociology, economics and anthropology.

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*Dipartimento di Filosofia, Sociologia,
Pedagogia, Psicologia applicata (FISPPA)
Istituto Confucio di Padova - Laboratorio Religioni (LABREL)*

International Conference

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beyond the marketplace***

October 7-9, 2013
University of Padua, Italy
*Sala delle Edicole - Palazzo Capitanio
Piazza Capitanio, 3*

International Conference

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 7

Sala delle Edicole - Palazzo Capitanio
Piazza Capitanio, 3

15:30-18:00

Welcome

Giuseppe Zaccaria

Rector of the University of Padova

Vincenzo Milanese

Head, Department of Philosophy, Sociology,
Education, Applied Psychology

Xu Guanglie

Director, Padova Confucius Institute

Making the Invisible Visible

Chair: **Vincenzo Milanese**, University of Padova

Fenggang Yang, Purdue University

*Reframing Chinese Cultural, Political and Religious
Identity in the United States of America*

Amina Crisma, University of Bologna

*Western Images of China and Chinese Migration:
for a Pluralistic Approach*

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8

Sala delle Edicole - Palazzo Capitanio
Piazza Capitanio, 3

9:00-10:30

Cross-cultural Interpretations

Chair: **Fenggang Yang**, Purdue University

Enzo Pace, University of Padova

Crossborder Religions

Nanlai Cao, Renmin University

*China's Private Commercial Engagement in Europe:
Christian Agency and the Making
of a Chinese Merchant Diaspora*

Roberta Ricucci, University of Torino

A Journey in the Chinese Diaspora:

New Challenges in the Italian Scenario

11:00-12:30

Culture, Religion, Spirituality

Chair: **Marcello Ghilardi**, University of Padova

Wei Dedong, Renmin University

The Structure of the Traditional Chinese Spirituality

Giuseppe Giordan, University of Padova

*Distinguishing Religion and Spirituality
in Chinese Culture*

Zhe Ji, INALCO, Paris

Relocated Worship: Chinese "Buddha Halls" in Paris

15:00-16:30

What do You Mean When You Say "Dialogue Among Cultures"?

Chair: **Enzo Pace**, University of Padova

Marcello Ghilardi, University of Padova

Making the Dialogue Possible

Paulos Zhan Zhu Huang, University of Helsinki

*Christianity and Chinese Culture:
Challenges and Opportunity*

17:00-18:30

Field Research

Chair: **Giuseppe Giordan**, University of Padova

Valter Zanin, University of Padova

*Competition and Working Condition of Chinese
in the Italian Garment Sector*

Nicoletta Bressan, CIT NETWORK, Milano

*Chinese Entrepreneurship in Italy:
Local and Transnational Development*

Sara Iacopini, Middlesex University

*The Religious Diversification
of Wenzhouese Migrants in Prato*

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9

Sala Specchi, FISPPA-Section on Sociology
via Cesarotti 10-12

9:30-12:00

Consultative Workshop: Planning a Research on Chinese Migration in Italy/Europe



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