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The Hopkins China Forum

cordially invites you to:

What's The Big Idea? Rising China's Cultural Message

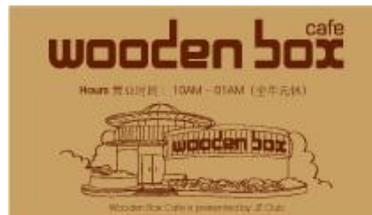
Professor Bai Tongdong (白彤东)

Department of Philosophy

Fudan University

Thursday, September 8th, 2011

19:00pm – 20:15pm



The Wooden Box

9 Qinghai Lu (just to the South of Nanjing West Road)

青海路 9 号, 近南京西路, 地铁二号线南京西路站

19:00 – 19:45 Presentation

19:45 – 20:15 Q&A

20:15 – Mixer/Drinks/Dinner

21:30 – Live Jazz/Folk at the Wooden Box

RSVP: Kindly write to Frank Tsai (Hopkins-Nanjing Center '03): franktsai@technomicasia.com.

With China's economic rise, China is in a position to make a contribution to world culture, integrating its traditional philosophy with contemporary moral and political concerns in dialogue with Western liberalism. In his talk, Professor Bai will first provide historical and philosophical background, e.g. the road from May 4th to Communism to the Confucian revival, while also discussing the ways that Western intellectuals have understood China's modernization, e.g. whether Confucian values aid or hinder capitalism, and whether "Asian Values" can be an alternative for Western individualism. Professor Bai will then discuss his own concerns and philosophical project for China – Confucianism as a cultural and political message for the world. In particular, he will address the compatibility between Confucianism and liberal democracy and Confucian views on human rights and international relations, drawing on Confucian precepts that can be adopted by other cultures.

Bai Tongdong is a Professor of Philosophy at Fudan University. Previously a tenured associate professor at Xavier University in Cincinnati, he was the first, and so far only, tenured Chinese philosopher from the U.S. who has returned to China as a full-time faculty member. Professor Bai's research interests include Chinese philosophy and political philosophy, especially the comparative and contemporary relevance of classical Chinese political philosophy. Professor Bai has written A New Mission of an Old State: The Comparative and Contemporary Relevance of Classical Confucian Philosophy 《舊邦新命:古今中西參照下的古典儒家政治哲學》 published by the Peking University Press in 2009, and is now working on an English version of this book for publication, as well as an English book that offers an introduction to Chinese political philosophy. At Fudan University, Professor Bai is the founder and head administrator of an M.A. program in Chinese Philosophy suitable for non-Chinese (in which courses are taught in English). Professor Bai holds a B.S. in Nuclear Physics and an M.A. in Philosophy of Science from Peking University, and obtained his Ph.D. in Philosophy at Boston University. To contact Professor Bai and/or learn more about his M.A. program in Chinese Philosophy, email him at baitongdong@gmail.com.

About Hopkins China Forum: Hopkins China Forum events are organized by The Johns Hopkins University and its affiliated alumni associations worldwide. For more information on events in Shanghai, contact the Johns Hopkins University Alumni Association – Shanghai at franktsai@technomicasia.com.