



**The Hopkins China Forum
and
Young China Watchers**

cordially invite you to

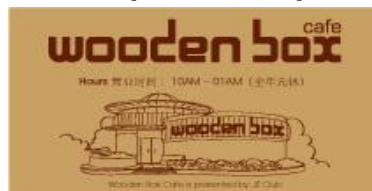
***European Imperialism in China:
Forgetting History and
Recalibrating the World***

Professor Erik Ringmar

**Zhi Yuan Chair Professor of International Relations
Jiaotong University**

Tuesday, February 28th, 2012

19:00pm –20:15 pm



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

21:00 – Live Jazz/Folk at the Wooden Box

Please RSVP to Frank Tsai (Hopkins-Nanjing Center '03) at editor@shanghai-review.org.

In today's talk, Professor Ringmar will challenge us to see the European destruction of Beijing's *Yuanmingyuan* (Old Summer Palace) in new ways. How do Chinese and Westerners feel about this act of imperialism? Are Chinese feelings of humiliation balanced by Western contrition? And how can we overcome perceptions of inferiority and superiority this watershed event has imposed on subsequent history to create a more equal relationship between China and the West? Can history be forgotten? Professor Ringmar will offer us historical insights transposed onto today's situation to help us understand better the current state of China's relations with the West.

Erik Ringmar is Zhi Yuan Chair Professor at Shanghai Jiaotong University in the department of International Relations. He holds a PhD in Political Science from Yale University and taught for twelve years in the Government Department at the London School of Economics. Professor Ringmar has written about state-making in the 17th century, economic history and sociology, and relations between Europe and East Asia. His books include [Why Europe Was First: Social Change and Economic Growth in Europe and East Asia 1500-2050](#) (2007) and [Surviving Capitalism: How We Learned to Live with the Market and Remained Almost Human](#) (2005). His upcoming book, [Liberal Barbarism](#), deals with the Anglo-French destruction of Yuanmingyuan. Professor Ringmar may be contacted at his blog, www.ringmar.net.

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 fgt200@gmail.com.

About Young China Watchers: Young China Watchers is an informal group of young professionals living in and working on China. Through regular roundtables and talks, it provides a chance for dynamic individuals - of all nationalities and from all employment backgrounds - to interact, broaden their professional networks, and discuss the most pressing political, economic, and foreign policy issues of relevance to China today. For more information, please write to: youngchinawatchers@gmail.com.