



**JOHNS HOPKINS**  
SCHOOL *of* ADVANCED  
INTERNATIONAL STUDIES



## The Hopkins China Forum

cordially invites you to:

### *Chinese Characters and Modern Design: The Avant-Garde in the Republican Era*

**Karolina Pawlik**

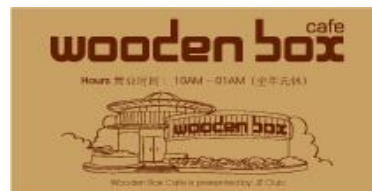
Postdoctoral Fellow

Institute of Cultural and Creative Industry

Jiaotong University and University of Southern California

Thursday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018

19:00pm –20:15 pm



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

18:45 – Doors Open

19:00 – Lecture

19:45 – Q&A

20:15 – Mixer

RSVP to Frank Tsai of [Hopkins China Forum](http://Hopkins China Forum) at [editor@shanghai-review.org](mailto:editor@shanghai-review.org).



**Tonight's speaker has for many years studied Shanghai graphic design of the Republican era in relation to the avant-garde experiments abroad, as well as the arts and crafts of the imperial China. In this talk she will discuss a selection of designs created in the aesthetic inspired by abstract art and the fast life of a modern metropolis. She will take us on a richly-illustrated journey involving different scripts and cities, including Shanghai, Kazan, Warsaw, and Tokyo, revealing new ways of appreciating Chinese characters and the cultural diversity of scripts in general. How can transcultural interactions become reflected in writing? How did great dreams of a transnational aesthetic emerging beyond the particularities of Chinese, Hebrew or Cyrillic script come true? This talk is meant as an overview of a significant global phenomenon in visual culture of the 1920s and 1930s, which may inspire contemporary graphic designers and publishers.**

**[Karolina Pawlik](#)** is an anthropologist, art historian and a poet, who is currently Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Southern California's and Jiaotong University's joint Institute of Cultural and Creative Industry. She has been based in Shanghai since 2012, teaching at L'école de design Nantes-Atlantique, Jiaotong University, the ESSCA School of Management, and L'école de Communication Visuelle. Main areas of research and interest include: visual modernism in Shanghai, evolution of writing practices in the 20th and 21st centuries, and transcultural design. She holds a PhD in Cultural Studies from the University of Silesia.