

CHINA CROSSROADS

Saturday, March 2nd, 2019, 16:15 – 17:30

The Story of China's Economy as Told
through the World's Biggest Building

Simon Rabinovitch

Asia Economics Editor

The Economist



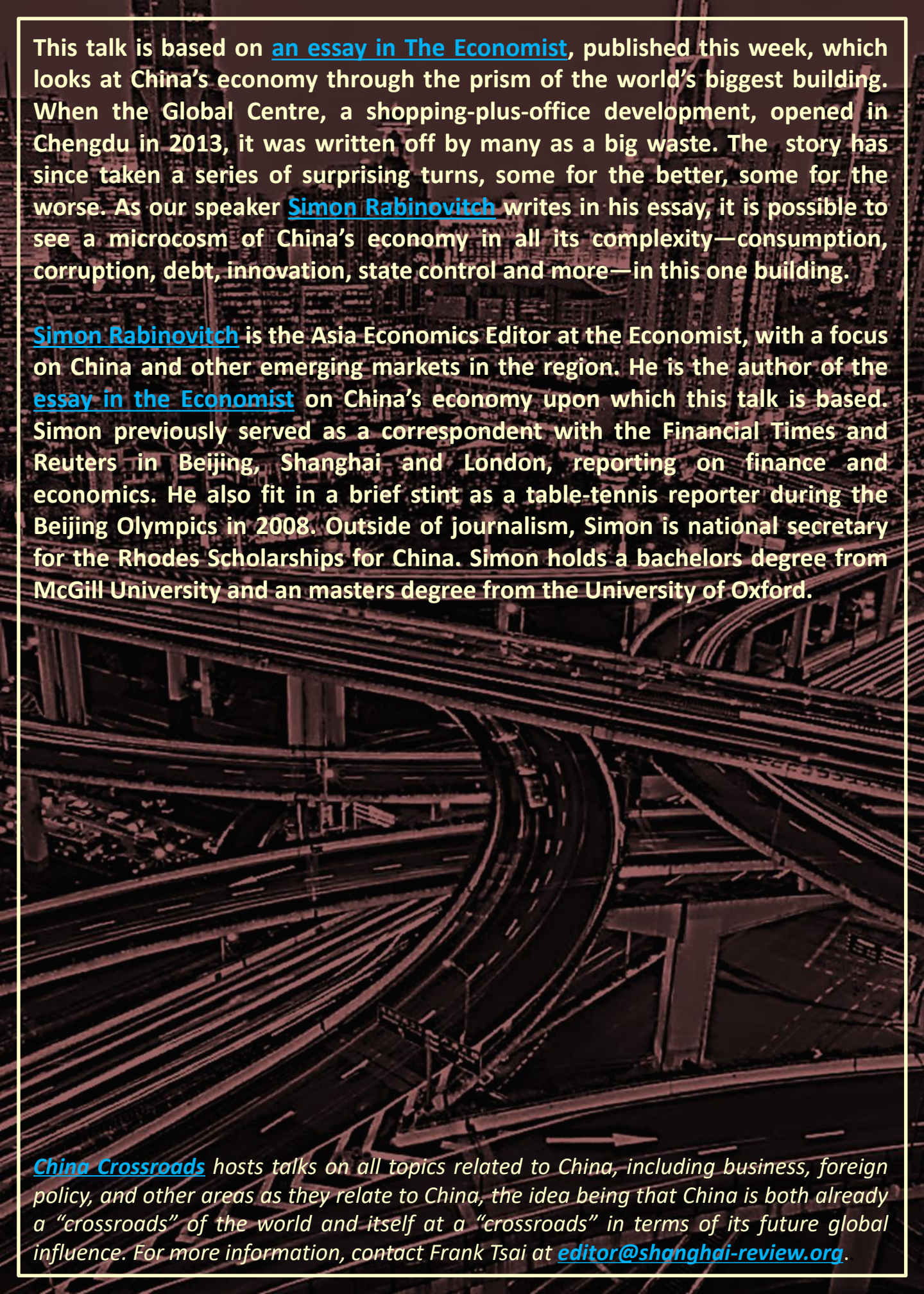
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Admission: 100 RMB / One Drink
RSVP to Frank Tsai at editor@shanghai-review.org.





This talk is based on [an essay in The Economist](#), published this week, which looks at China's economy through the prism of the world's biggest building. When the Global Centre, a shopping-plus-office development, opened in Chengdu in 2013, it was written off by many as a big waste. The story has since taken a series of surprising turns, some for the better, some for the worse. As our speaker [Simon Rabinovitch](#) writes in his essay, it is possible to see a microcosm of China's economy in all its complexity—consumption, corruption, debt, innovation, state control and more—in this one building.

[Simon Rabinovitch](#) is the Asia Economics Editor at the Economist, with a focus on China and other emerging markets in the region. He is the author of the [essay in the Economist](#) on China's economy upon which this talk is based. Simon previously served as a correspondent with the Financial Times and Reuters in Beijing, Shanghai and London, reporting on finance and economics. He also fit in a brief stint as a table-tennis reporter during the Beijing Olympics in 2008. Outside of journalism, Simon is national secretary for the Rhodes Scholarships for China. Simon holds a bachelors degree from McGill University and an masters degree from the University of Oxford.

[China Crossroads](#) hosts talks on all topics related to China, including business, foreign policy, and other areas as they relate to China, the idea being that China is both already a “crossroads” of the world and itself at a “crossroads” in terms of its future global influence. For more information, contact Frank Tsai at editor@shanghai-review.org.