

# CHINA CROSSROADS

Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021, 16:30 – 18:00

## Fortress Europe: Contemporary Art and its Representations of Borders

**Noit Banai**

Visiting Professor of Art History

NYU Shanghai

Author of [Yves Klein](#)

---

Wooden Box | 9 Qinghai Lu close to Nanjing Xi Lu  
100rmb including drink ticket | FREE for members  
RSVP to Frank Tsai at [editor@shanghai-review.org](mailto:editor@shanghai-review.org)



With “Fortress Europe” as a territory, administrative structure, and concept, this talk focuses on the representations and negotiations of European borders in contemporary artistic practices. Specifically, it examines the links between neoliberal global capitalism, tensions between supra-national and national models of belonging, and the production of racialized, classed, and gendered mechanisms of inclusion and exclusion. What can artists teach us about imagining other ways of living in a world of increasingly reinforced borders?

[Noit Banai](#) is Visiting Professor of Art History at NYU Shanghai. Art historian and critic, she received her Ph.D. in Art History at Columbia University and specializes in modern and contemporary art in a global context. Engaging the intertwinement of aesthetic, visual, and material practices, political forces, and commercial mechanisms, she opens up both the critical ‘potentialities’ and historical ‘blind spots’ of diverse propositions in a trans-cultural and trans-disciplinary perspective that challenge both traditional geographical limitations and disciplinary boundaries. She has previously served as Professor of Contemporary Art at University of Vienna and Lecturer in Modern and Contemporary Art at Tufts University / School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. She has held visiting positions in Art History at Lesley University in Boston, Singidunum University in Belgrade, and the University of Applied Arts in Vienna. Her book [Yves Klein](#) (2014) appeared in Reaktion’s Critical Lives series, and she is now finishing a book titled *Between Nation State and Border State: Modernism from Universal to Global Subject*, which examines the particular artistic strategies and structures that have complicated the universal model of the European public sphere from 1938 to the present.

[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](mailto:editor@shanghai-review.org).