

# CHINA CROSSROADS

Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 16:00 – 18:00

## Understanding Cosmopolitan Shanghai: From Paris of the Orient to Post-Covid City

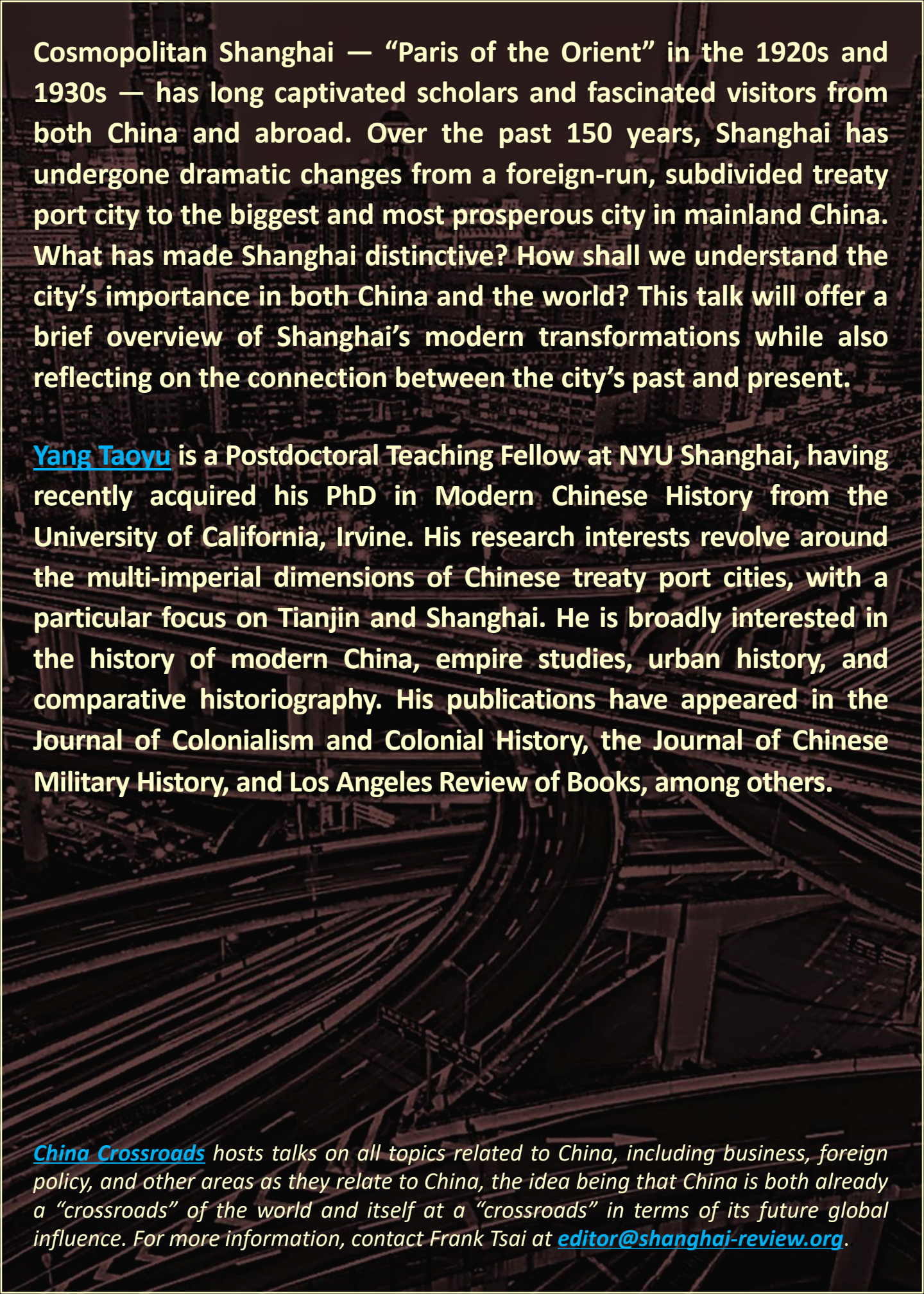
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Cosmopolitan Shanghai — “Paris of the Orient” in the 1920s and 1930s — has long captivated scholars and fascinated visitors from both China and abroad. Over the past 150 years, Shanghai has undergone dramatic changes from a foreign-run, subdivided treaty port city to the biggest and most prosperous city in mainland China. What has made Shanghai distinctive? How shall we understand the city’s importance in both China and the world? This talk will offer a brief overview of Shanghai’s modern transformations while also reflecting on the connection between the city’s past and present.

[Yang Taoyu](#) is a Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow at NYU Shanghai, having recently acquired his PhD in Modern Chinese History from the University of California, Irvine. His research interests revolve around the multi-imperial dimensions of Chinese treaty port cities, with a particular focus on Tianjin and Shanghai. He is broadly interested in the history of modern China, empire studies, urban history, and comparative historiography. His publications have appeared in the *Journal of Colonialism and Colonial History*, the *Journal of Chinese Military History*, and *Los Angeles Review of Books*, among others.

[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).