

# CHINA CROSSROADS

Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 19:30 – 21:00

## Book Talk: Nostalgia in China for the Lost Dream of Global Village

**Alessandro Ceschi**

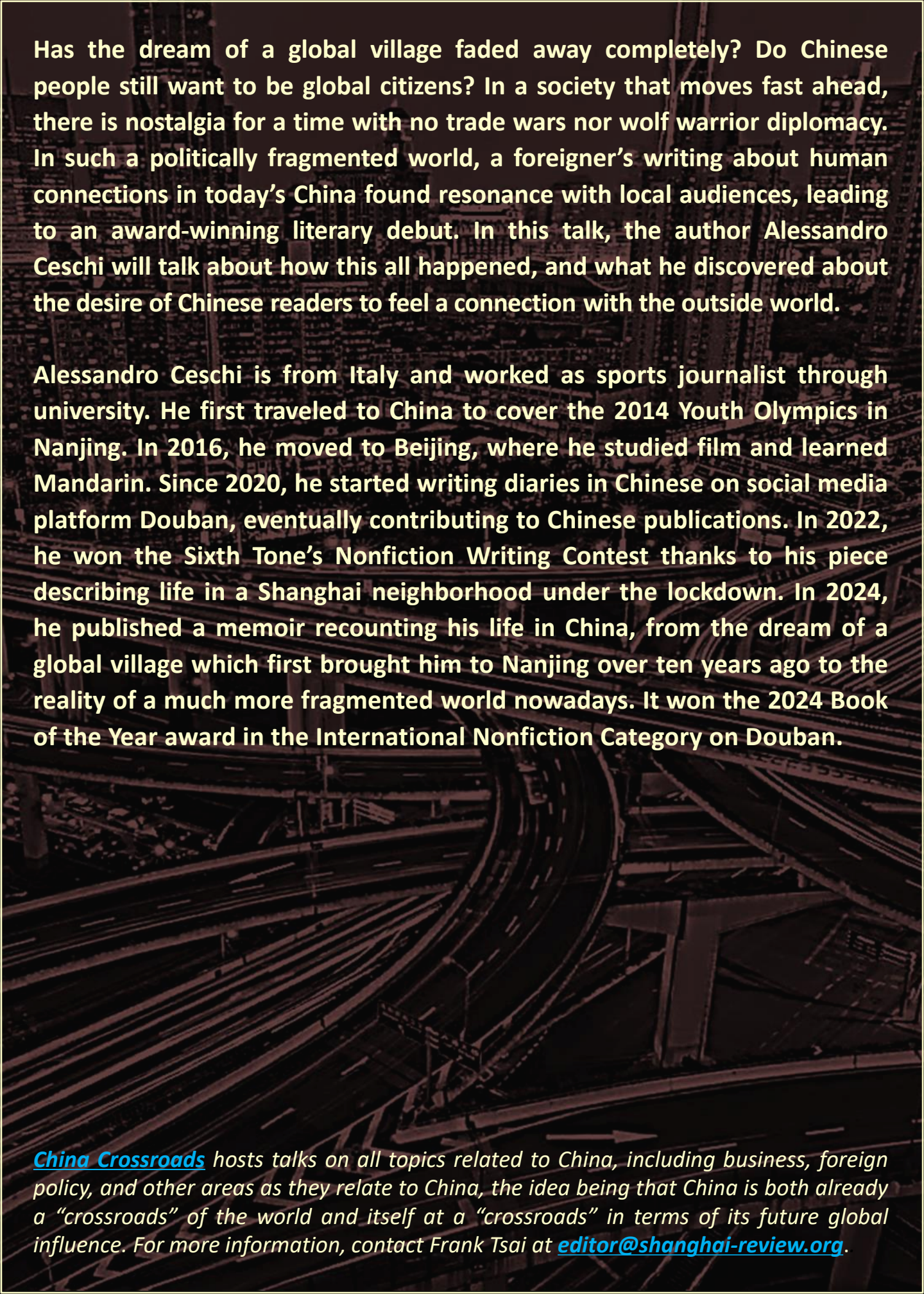
Author of [我用中文做了场梦](#) (2024)

Douban International Non-Fiction Book of the Year

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Has the dream of a global village faded away completely? Do Chinese people still want to be global citizens? In a society that moves fast ahead, there is nostalgia for a time with no trade wars nor wolf warrior diplomacy. In such a politically fragmented world, a foreigner's writing about human connections in today's China found resonance with local audiences, leading to an award-winning literary debut. In this talk, the author Alessandro Ceschi will talk about how this all happened, and what he discovered about the desire of Chinese readers to feel a connection with the outside world.

Alessandro Ceschi is from Italy and worked as sports journalist through university. He first traveled to China to cover the 2014 Youth Olympics in Nanjing. In 2016, he moved to Beijing, where he studied film and learned Mandarin. Since 2020, he started writing diaries in Chinese on social media platform Douban, eventually contributing to Chinese publications. In 2022, he won the Sixth Tone's Nonfiction Writing Contest thanks to his piece describing life in a Shanghai neighborhood under the lockdown. In 2024, he published a memoir recounting his life in China, from the dream of a global village which first brought him to Nanjing over ten years ago to the reality of a much more fragmented world nowadays. It won the 2024 Book of the Year award in the International Nonfiction Category on Douban.

***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).*