

*Dr. David Chu Distinguished Visitor Lecture*  
**Shadows of Universalism: The Untold  
Story of Human Rights Around 1948**

**Lydia H. Liu**

Wun Tsun Tam Professor, Department of Arts  
and Humanities; Director, Institute for comparative  
Literature and Society, Columbia University

**Wednesday, April 13, 2016**

4:00 PM – 6:00 PM, reception to follow

Innis Town Hall  
2 Sussex Ave

How did self-determination get written into human rights? And by whom? In her lecture, Lydia Liu reopens the story of how the postwar norms of human rights were radically transformed by unexpected clashes with the classical standard of civilization in international law. She analyzes the drafting of the document of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as well as the UN debates surrounding it to explore the translingual forging of universalism in the multiple temporalities of global history.



**Lydia H. Liu** is the Wun Tsun Tam Professor in the Humanities and Director of the Institute for Comparative Literature and Society at Columbia University. She was a Guggenheim Fellow in 1997 and a Fellow at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin in 2004–05. Her publications include *The Freudian Robot: Digital Media and the Future of the Unconscious* (2010), *The Clash of Empires: The Invention of China in Modern World Making* (2004), and *Translingual Practice: Literature, National Culture, and Translated Modernity* (1995). Recently, she published a co-edited volume called *The Birth of Chinese Feminism: Essential Texts in Transnational Theory* (2013) with Rebecca Karl and Dorothy Ko.

» Registration: <http://uoft.me/LydiaLiu>

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