“FURTHER DESIRE: ASIAN & ASIAN AMERICAN SEXUALITIES”

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RELEVANT FIELDS OF STUDY
Asian American Sexualities Queer Film Studies Sexuality & Gender Studies
Media Studies Transnational Law Race and Sexuality
Comparative Asian and Asian American Sexualities

PRIMARY CONCEPTS
Sexual Identity Politics Heteronormativity Racial Castration
Asian American Sexuality Studies as Multidisciplinary Sexuality, Gender and Social Justice Issues

ISSUE SUMMARY
This volume is a sustained examination of Asian and Asian American sexualities with an emphasis on the transnational, multiethnic, and comparative nature of the subject. It looks at how new technologies can impact representation and how emergent forms in India, China, Hong Kong and elsewhere can give voice to long-silenced identities. It covers contemporary sexual identity politics by looking at primarily gay and lesbian articulations in India, China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Malaysia, and the United States. It addresses issues such as the comparison of sexual values, the formation of sexual categorizations, how emergent cultural forms give voice to long-silenced sexual identities, and how states interpret sexual ideologies and practices (See article by Stewart Chang on Edison Chen Sex Scandal, 28-56).

ESSENTIAL READING
See the introductory essays by Ramon A. Gutierrez (“Resisting Sexual Identities in Asia,” xi-xix).

KEY QUESTIONS FOR ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION
a. How do Asian American writers, filmmakers, and cultural producers “further” notions of sexualized desire through their productions? And what are the linkages between Asian American and Asia-based producers of queer culture?

b. Is China increasingly facing the West in terms of its sexual values?
See translation of “Beijing Comrades” by Bei Tong, translated with an introduction by Scott E. Myers (75-94) and article by Stewart Chang on Edison Chen Sex Scandal (28-56).

c. Why should Asian American scholars study Yone Noguchi and his work, written at the end of the 19th century? Amy Sueyoshi believes Noguchi produced one of the first Asian American queer texts in his book, “Miss Morning Glory.”
See “Miss Morning Glory: Orientalism and Misogyny in the Queer Writings of Yone Noguchi” by Amy Sueyoshi (2-27).

d. How is lesbian identity in modern India recognized or suppressed in terms of sexual categories of “homo, bi, or hetero” or are these Western categories useful?
See “A Record of Our Lives: Anthologizing the Lesbian in India” by Sridevi Nair (57-71).

RELATED CENTER PUBLICATIONS

OTHER SUGGESTED MATERIALS
Margaret Cho. I’m the One that I Want (Ballantine Books, 2001).