

CEAS Author Talks

East Asia by the Book

Revolutionary Waves: The Crowd in Modern China

By Tie Xiao

Tie Xiao (PhD, 2011, University of Chicago) is Associate Professor in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures at Indiana University. He is also an awarding-winning fiction writer in Chinese.

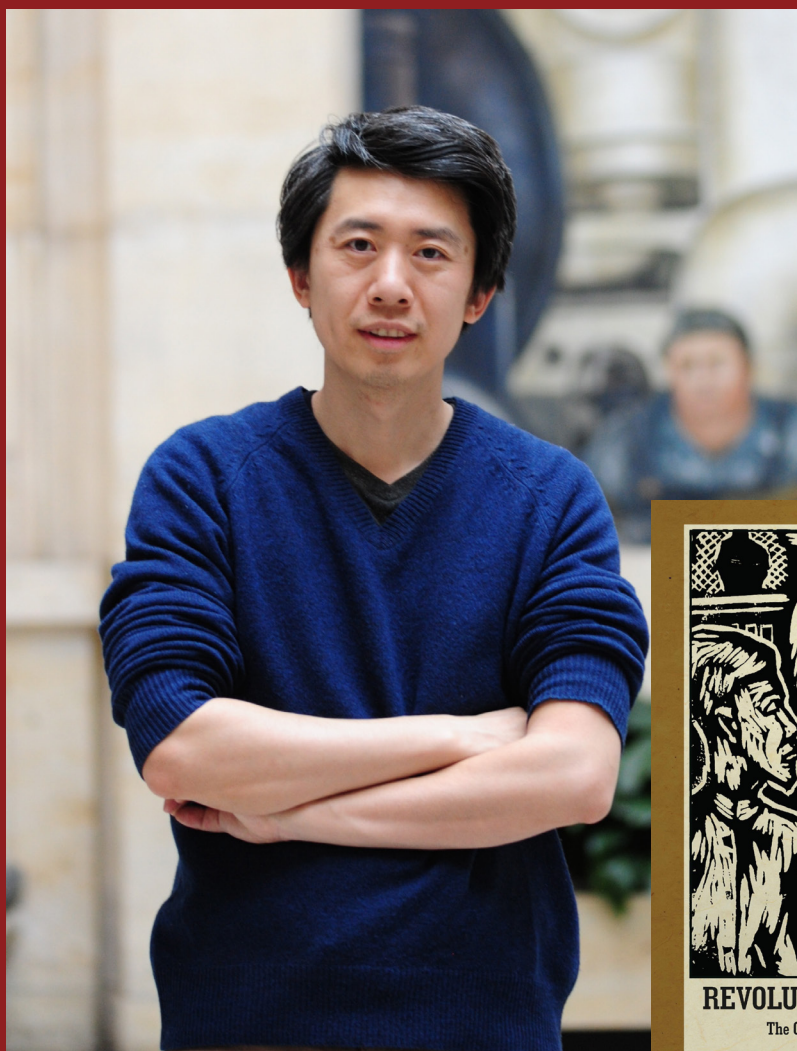
Revolutionary Waves analyzes the centrality of the crowd in the Chinese cultural and political imaginary and its global resonances by delving into a wide range of fiction, philosophy, poetry, and psychological studies. This interdisciplinary study highlights unexplored interactions between emerging social-scientific forms of knowledge, new aesthetic modes of representation, and changing political imperatives. It brings into relief the complexities of the modern Chinese crowd discourse that generated subjectivities and oriented actions, enabled as well as constrained the expression of togetherness, and thus both expanded and limited the horizon of political possibilities in the emerging age of mass politics. The first in-depth examination of the aesthetics and politics of the crowd in modern Chinese literature and thought, *Revolutionary Waves* raises questions about the promise and peril of community as communion and opens ground for a reimagining of collective life in China's postsocialist present.

FRIDAY
JANUARY 25

5:00PM

Discussant:

Robert Bird, Department
of Slavic Languages
& Literatures



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