



THE DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY
THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

PRESENTS A SEMINAR
BY

PENG PENG

CULTURAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME
THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

ON

**THE LOST-WAX CASTING RE-EXAMINED:
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCES FROM
EARLY CHINA AND ITS BORDERLANDS**

FRIDAY, 16 OCTOBER 2020

1:00 - 2:30 PM

ZOOM LINK [HTTPS://CUHK.ZOOM.US/J/93022417926](https://cuhk.zoom.us/j/93022417926)

MEETING ID: 930 2241 7926 PASSCODE: 296153



Abstract

Recently it is hotly debated whether the lost-wax casting really existed during Bronze Age China, leading to the following four interconnected topics: 1: Was the lost-wax process ever practiced in the Bronze Age China? 2: If so, how many technical styles do the lost-wax castings have? 3: What were the social contexts and dynamics for the confirmed lost-wax castings? 4: Was the lost-wax process independently developed in China, or stimulated from outside? This talk, based on the speaker's new book, *Metalworking in Bronze Age China: The Lost-Wax Process*, will explore the topics above. It will first present a case study of the zun-pan set from the tomb of Marquis Yi of Zeng, replying to the recent debate. Confirming that the lost-wax technique emerged in China no later than the Eastern Zhou period, the speaker will analyze how the lost-wax process was adopted in each casting of Bronze Age China. Examining the social agency behind, this talk will further discuss the technical origin and artistic driving force of early Chinese lost-wax casting especially with archaeometallurgical evidences from its borderlands.

Short Bio

Peng Peng (PhD, M.A., Princeton University; M.A., B.A., Peking University) is an assistant professor at CUHK. His research centers on the art, archaeology, visual and material cultures of ancient East Asia. His first book, *Metalworking in Bronze Age China: The Lost-Wax Process* (Amherst, New York: Cambria Press, 2020) is well received in the academic world. He is now working on his second book, *Bronze Casting in Early China* (under contract with Amsterdam University Press), in addition to several other research projects.

ALL INTERESTED ARE WELCOME