



The Department of Anthropology
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presents a seminar

by

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on

Interwoven: Contamination, Risk and Cleaning-up in a Chinese Textile Cluster

Friday, 23 March 2018

1:00 – 2:30 pm

Room 115 Humanities Building

New Asia College, CUHK

A light lunch will be served at 12:30 pm. First come first served.

After three decades of a “pollute first clean-up later” approach, the Chinese textile industry is finally on its cleaning up phase. Contaminated villages are being relocated, laws are more strictly enforced and small polluters are getting shut down; in the process, pollution victims have turned into urban citizens. Drawing on ethnographic fieldwork within one Chinese textile cluster, this talk will argue that uncertainty about and habituation to pollution, stigma and silence make it difficult to initiate change at the local level, and that change is coming mostly because of larger economic and political forces.

Elena Nichini is a PhD candidate in anthropology at The Chinese University of Hong Kong. She conducted her fieldwork within a Chinese textile cluster in Zhejiang province, where she worked closely with a local environmental NGO to study environmental health risk as locally experienced.

ALL INTERESTED ARE WELCOME