

CALL FOR PAPERS

War Memories: The Third International Conference on Asian British and Asian American Literatures

Institute of European and American Studies, Academia Sinica, Taiwan
9-10 December 2011

A few months after the outbreak of the First World War, Sigmund Freud wrote that “no event has ever destroyed so much that is precious in the common possessions of humanity, confused so many of the clearest intelligences, or so thoroughly debased what is highest.” He was referring to the loss and devastation caused by the war; however, he was also prepared to accept that wars “would occupy mankind for some time to come.” Indeed, wars have continued to afflict humanity since Freud made these remarks nearly a hundred years ago, many of them fought in Asia: the Second Sino-Japanese War, the Pacific War, the Korean War, the War in Vietnam, the Gulf War, in addition to those wars of liberation and anti-colonization which led to the independence of various countries. Most recently, there was the invasion of Iraq, and War in Afghanistan has been in process for nearly a decade and seems unlikely to end in the near future. We observe the unfathomable loss and total waste of lives and resources. These wars have left generations with traumatic memories after suffering, directly or indirectly, from the conflicts and are remembered in various ways by different individuals and nations. One of the ways is literary production.

In view of the profound significance of war memories in the production of Asian British and Asian American literatures, the Institute of European and American Studies, Academia Sinica, Taiwan, invites submissions of original papers on the theme of “War Memories” for its third international conference on Asian British and Asian American literatures, to be held in Taipei on 9th and 10th December 2011. We welcome contributions on Asian British and Asian American literatures that bring into focus the general theme of the conference. Please send your proposals (300-400 words) and brief biographies (c. 200 words) to the e-mail address at yclee@sinica.edu.tw before 31st May 2011. The working language of the conference is English. Further information of the conference will be announced at our website address: <http://www.ea.sinica.edu.tw>

Prof. Yu-cheng Lee
Institute of European and American Studies
Academia Sinica
128, Section 2, Academia Road
Nangang, Taipei
Taiwan, ROC
E-mail: yclee@sinica.edu.tw