

Making Things: The Knowledge of Production and the Production of Knowledge

製造:全球視野下近代早期生產的知識與知識的生產

March 25-26, 2022

National Tsing Hua University

Call for paper deadline: December 15, 2021

In the last decades, the material culture studies drew the attention of numerous scholars. The studied topics included production of materials as well as the knowledge and skills related to their production. With the aim of providing scholars a platform for further discussions and exchanges, the Republic of China National Committee for Division of History of Science of the International Union of History and Philosophy of Science (Committee for the History of Science, Academia Sinica) organises, with the support of Institute of Modern History (Academia Sinica) and the Institute of History (National Tsing Hua University), an International Workshop entitled “Making Things: The Knowledge of Production and the Production of Knowledge” that will take place on the 25th and 26th March, 2022, at the National Tsing Hua University (Hsinchu, Taiwan). In doing so, the Organizers hope that the Workshop will offer favourable conditions for a productive dialogue among scholars of different domains and for encouraging further studies of the related topics.

The Organizers expect that the participants of the Workshop will especially focus on the close connections between the production of objects and construction of knowledge related to this production. Historically, some Chinese authors, for example, Song Yingxing 宋應星 (1587 - ca 1666), the author of the *Tiangong kaiwu* 天工開物 (*The Works of Heaven and the Inception of Things*, 1637), claimed that traditionally the Chinese scholars paid more attention to the studies related to the Imperial examinations and neglected the “arts of making things”; this opinion is shared by a number of modern historians. However, there exist numerous ancient, medieval and pre-modern Chinese treatises related to these “arts”: they include the *Kao gong ji* 考工記 (*The Artificers Record*, the late 1st millennium BC) and *Ziren yizhi* 梓人遺制 (*Carpenter's Customs, Handed Down from the Past*, ca 1264). There exists even larger number of treatises related to agriculture, since this field was directly related to governmental policy of practically all the Chinese dynasties, and agriculture remained one of the topics attracting numerous scholars. A large number of images as well as regulations related to the production of various objects can be found in the archives of the Imperial Court of the Qing dynasty; a part of these materials are directly related to the activities of the workshops located inside the

Forbidden City. Also, some Chinese trade paintings produced in Guangzhou featured the production of various objects as well as the new objects and new techniques imported from Western countries.

The Workshop will focus not only on the tradition of production of objects but also on the process of appropriation of the new knowledge and techniques by local craftsmen, in particular, on the way in which they introduced and “localized” the know-how coming from other regions and countries. The temporal framework of the Workshop includes the events that took place in the age of “globalisation” understood as stretching from the era of great geographic discoveries to the early 20th century. The questions that can be asked here are as follows: What were the relations between know-how and practice, as well as the construction of theoretical knowledge related to both of them? Was the new knowledge created in the process of production of objects? How the knowledge circulated between people living in different regions? How certain skills later became parts of traditions in particular regions? Was a new “local knowledge” produced in this process of appropriation of techniques coming from other regions or countries? The Organizers of the projected Workshop invite the scholars working on the history of science and technology, cultural history, history of arts, and scientific analysis of cultural relics to explore these questions.

Because of the COVID-19 epidemics, in order to diminish the risk of contamination, the Workshop will be held in “mixed” (on-line and off-line) format. The Organizers invite all interested scholars to send them the title of the projected paper, a short abstract (no more than 400 English words or 800 Chinese characters), and a short CV to the Organizers. These materials are to be sent by email at A606.Histoire.NTHU@gmail.com. The results of selection will be announced by January 15, 2022.

The Organizing Committee

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製造:全球視野下近代早期生產的知識與知識的生產

國際學術會議徵稿

會議時間: 2022年03月25日至26日

地點: 國立清華大學

徵稿截止日期: 2021年12月15日

近年來物質文化研究的各種相關議題受到學者們的矚目，物質生產與知識建構間的關係亦引起學界的注意，為促進相關領域學者間的深度討論及交流，國際科學史與科學哲學聯合會科學史組中華民國委員會（簡稱中央研究院科學史委員會）、中央研究院近代史研究所與國立清華大學歷史研究所合作籌備，計畫於2022年03月25日至26日舉辦「製造：生產的知識與知識的生產國際研討會」，提供學者們跨學科、跨領域的對話，推動相關研究的深化與領域的擴充。

此次會議主題以「製造」為主題，探討實質的物質生產與抽象的知識建構間的密切關係。中國文人重科舉、輕工藝的論點，歷來即受到一些士人，如《天工開物》(1637)作者宋應星(1587-ca 1666)，以及當代學者的支持。然而不可否認的，中國文獻中亦不乏與製造技藝相關的典籍流傳下來，如《考工記》、薛景石的《梓人遺制》(ca 1264)等；至於農業生產技術的典籍，因與歷朝推行的農桑政策密切相關，為數更為可觀，長期以來即受到學者們的關注與深入的研究探討。目前保存完善且豐富的清宮檔案中，更留有大量有關各種生產的圖像、規範工程細則的則例、以及記錄各種製作流程的宮中作坊紀錄；此外，清代中國廣州以外銷為主的商品畫也描繪各種行業的生產與營生，除了勾勒傳統物件的生產形象、甚至流程之外，也呈現了許多外來新技術與新品類物品的製作。

本會議關心傳統製造知識的延續，同時也關注在地的工匠如何接受與學習新品類物件的生產，以及外來技術的引進及其在地化等議題：製作與相關知識的累積之間有何關聯？如何將生產技術轉化為理論性的知識？製作的過程中是否可能萌生新的知識？不同區域間有關生產的知識如何流通？如何成為在地的特有技藝與知識傳統？在地化的過程中，除了外來知識的引進以外，是否也形成新的在地知識？會議將以近代全球史為範疇，結合科技史、文化史、美術史，以及科學分析等領域的研究者，探討全球化歷程中，「知識」與「操作」之間的關聯性，以及「知識建構」與二者之間的關係。

新冠肺炎疫情雖然在各國防疫措施下稍有緩解，但仍不可大意，為避免海外學者因長途旅行而提高感染的風險以及隔離的時間，本研討會將採取線上與實體同步的方式進行，歡迎對此議題感興趣的學者前來分享最新的研究成果，請於 2021 年 12 月 15 日以前，將題目、摘要(中文 800 字內)和個人履歷(500 字內)寄到籌備處信箱：A606.Histoire.NTHU@gmail.com。審查結果將於 2022 年 01 月 15 日以前公告。

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