

Grégoire ESPESSET

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Independent Scholar – Critical Historiography of Modern and Contemporary Sinology

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Curriculum Vitae

Postgraduate Education:

- 1996–2002 Doctorate (Ph.D.) in Far Eastern Studies, Université Paris Diderot, France.
Awarded 28 May 2002.
– Thesis: “Cosmologie et trifonctionnalité dans l’idéologie du *Livre de la Grande paix* (*Taiping jing*)”. Supervised by I. Robinet / J. Lagerwey.
- 1995–1996 Master of Advanced Studies in Comparative History, Institut d’Histoire Comparée des Civilisations, Aix-en-Provence, France. Awarded 25 June 1996.
– Dissertation: “Cosmologie, idéologie et politique dans la Chine ancienne: Une introduction critique au *Taiping jing*”. Supervised by I. Robinet / J.-L. Triaud.
- 1993–1994 M.A. in Chinese Studies, Université de Provence, France. Awarded September 1994.
– Thesis: “Une étude philosophique et littéraire du *Sunzi*: Pour une nouvelle approche de l’*Art de la Guerre* de Sun Wu”. Supervised by I. Robinet.

Academic Professional Experience:

- 2016/04–10 Research Associate (salaried). Käte Hamburger College, Ruhr University, Bochum, Germany.
- 2014–2015 Visiting Research Fellow (invited). Käte Hamburger College, Ruhr University, Bochum, Germany, 12 months.
- 2012–2013 Visiting Fellow (invited). International Consortium for Research in the Humanities, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany, 12 months.
- 2011–2012 Associate Research Fellow (invited). Institute for History and Philology, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan, 12 months.
- 2008–2010 Substitute for the chair Histoire du Taoïsme et des Religions Chinoises (salaried). École Pratique des Hautes Études, Section des Sciences Religieuses, Paris, France, 2 years.
– Courses taught: Postgraduate seminar (100 hours) and Master 1 “Sciences Historiques, Philologiques et Religieuses/Études Asiatiques” (50 hours).
- 2006–2008 Postdoctoral Fellow (invited). Institute for Research in Humanities, Kyoto University, Japan, 24 months.
- 2003–2005 Distinguished Postdoctoral Fellow (salaried). Institute for History and Philology, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan, 24 months.
- 2003/03–06 Analyst of Sources (salaried). Research Unit “UMR 8583/Civilisation Chinoise”, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Paris, France.

Other Professional Experience:

- 2006/02 Translated into French a 55,000-word booklet in Chinese on digital humanities for the Institute for History and Philology, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan (paid contract).
- 2005/11 Translated into French two scientific papers in Chinese on book and printing history for the École Pratique des Hautes Études, Paris, France (salaried contract).
- 1997–2000 Wrote dictionary entries, performed desktop publishing duties and proofread bilingual (Chinese/French) lexicographic proofs for Association Ricci pour le Grand Dictionnaire Français de la Langue Chinoise, Paris, France.
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Appendix 1: Academic Record

Research Activities:

- 2015–2017 Participated in the project “Histoire et historiens de la Chine classique”, Centre de Recherche sur les Civilisations de l’Asie Orientale, Paris, France.
- 2014–2017 Research Partner. International Consortium for Research in the Humanities, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany.
- 2014–2016 Participated in the project “Dynamics in the History of Religions between Asia and Europe”, Käte Hamburger College, Ruhr University, Bochum, Germany.
- 2012–2017 Participated in the project “Fate, Freedom and Prognostication: Strategies for Coping with the Future in East Asia and Europe”, International Consortium for Research in the Humanities, Erlangen, Germany.
- 2010–2017 Participated in the project “The *Daozang Jiyao* Project”, Kyoto University, Japan / Chinese University of Hong Kong, China.
- 2010–2016 Participated in the project “Individus, groupes humains et société dans le haut Moyen-Âge chinois”, Centre de Recherche sur les Civilisations de l’Asie Orientale, Paris, France.
- 2008–2017 Associate Member. Centre de Recherche sur les Civilisations de l’Asie Orientale, Paris, France.
- 2006–2008 Participated in the project “三教交渉の研究” [Studies on the Interaction between the Three Teachings], Kyoto University, Japan.
- 2005/03 Morphological analysis, dating, contents transcription and French translation of a medieval manuscript in Chinese, British Library, London.
- 2003–2005 Participated in the project “宗教與醫療” [Religion and Healing], Academia Sinica, Institute for History and Philology, Taipei, Taiwan.
- 2002–2006 Participated in the project “Rituels, panthéons et techniques: Histoire de la religion chinoise avant les Tang”, Ministère de la Recherche, Paris, France.
- 2002/06 Performed fieldwork duties (conducting interviews, photographing lineage registers) with J. Lagerwey in Guangdong, Fujian and Jiangxi Provinces, China, within the framework of the project “Religion, Architecture, and the Economy in South-West China”, École Française d’Extrême-Orient, Paris, France.

Service to Profession:

- 2016–2017 Sub-Editor (Section East Asia/China) for:
– Religious Studies Review (Rice University, USA).
- 2002–2017 Occasional Peer Reviewer/Referee for:
– Daoism: Religion, History and Society (Hong Kong / Paris).
– Early China (The Society for the Study of Early China, USA).
– East Asian History (Canberra / Leiden).
– Journal of the American Oriental Society (The American Oriental Society, USA).

Fellowships and Grants:

- 2014–2015 12-month Visiting Research Fellowship, Käte Hamburger College, Bochum, Germany.
- 2012–2013 12-month Visiting Fellowship, International Consortium for Research in the Humanities, Erlangen, Germany.
- 2011–2012 12-month “Taiwan Fellowship Programme” Associate Research Fellow Grant, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of China, Taiwan.
- 2011/07–09 Research Grant for Foreign Scholars in Chinese Studies, Centre for Chinese Studies, Taipei, Taiwan.
- 2006–2008 24-month Postdoctoral Fellowship, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science.
- 2001–2002 12-month Ph.D. Dissertation Fellowship (Europe), Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange, Taiwan.
- 2001/01–06 Ph.D. Candidate Research Grant, Centre for Chinese Studies, Taipei, Taiwan.
- 1995–1996 French Higher Education Scholarship, Académie d’Aix-Marseille, France.
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Appendix 2: Conference Activities and Talks

Conference Papers:

“L’hagiographie taoïste et ses sources biographiques officielles: L’exemple du narratif de Chu Boyu”. Journée d’Études: Les Genres de l’Historiographie Chinoise (I), Université Paris Diderot, France, 25/02/2017.

“Scripturality and Revelation Media in Early Medieval Chinese Religions”. Workshop: Media of Scripture, Scripture as Media, Käte Hamburger College, Bochum, Germany, 10–11/12/2015.

“Portents in Han China and Some Weft (*wei*) Observational Patterns: An Experiment”. Workshop: Divination and the Strange in Pre- and Early Modern East Asia and Europe, International Consortium for Research in the Humanities, Erlangen, Germany, 27–28/10/2015.

“Orally Ingesting Official Documents for Internal Divine Petitioning in Pre-Modern Taoist Liturgy”. Workshop: Books as Material and Symbolic Artefacts in Religious Book Cultures, Käte Hamburger College, Bochum, Germany, 28–29/05/2015.

“Chinese ‘Great Peace Symbols’ from Talismanic Paraphernalia to Taoist Liturgy, Fourth–Fourteenth Centuries”. Forty-Eighth International Congress on Medieval Studies, West Michigan University, Kalamazoo, USA, 09–12/05/2013.

“Procreation, Life Cycles, and Prenatal Infancy Regained in Great Peace Beliefs”. International Symposium: Imagining the Feminine in East Asian Religions and Medicine, Cluster of Excellence Asia and Europe in a Global Context, Heidelberg, Germany, 05–07/11/2010.

“Later Han Taoist Movements and Their Sources”. International Conference: Rituals, Pantheons and Techniques: A History of Chinese Religion before the Tang (Part 1: Early China), École Normale Supérieure, Paris, France, 14–16/12/2006.

Discussant:

J. Gentz, “Falling Stones: Five. Six: Fish-Hawks Flying Backwards. Readings of a Strange Record”. Workshop: Divination and the Strange in Pre- and Early Modern East Asia and Europe, International Consortium for Research in the Humanities, Erlangen, Germany, 27–28/10/2015.

M. Bujard, “State Cults and Local Cults in the Religion of the Han”. International Conference: Rituals, Pantheons and Techniques: A History of Chinese Religion before the Tang (Part 1: Early China), École Normale Supérieure, Paris, France, 14–16/12/2006.

Talks, Seminars, Presentations:

“A Rudimentary Sketch of Taoist Denominations and Religious Interplay in Early Medieval China”. Käte Hamburger College, Bochum, Germany, 29/06/2015.

“Notes on Chinese Portent Phenomenology and Classification in the Monographs of Han Dynasty Historiography”. Invited talk. Faculty of East Asian Studies, Ruhr University, Bochum, Germany, 29/04/2015.

“What Does “Buddho-Taoism” Mean? Vicissitudes in Print of a Twentieth-Century Western Neologism”. Käte Hamburger College, Bochum, Germany, 01/12/2014.

“Knowledge and Foreknowledge Extrapolation in First–Second Century China: Remnants of the *Spring & Autumn* Weft *Profundity and Remoteness*”. IKGf Lecture. International Consortium for Research in the Humanities, Erlangen, Germany, 22/10/2013.

“Emulating Sinology: Methodology and Exoticism in Two Recent European Publications on Asian History”. Invited talk. National Dong Hwa University, Hualien, Taiwan, 12/06/2012.

“Early Daoist Ritual Texts” (with J. Lagerwey). Cluster of Excellence Asia and Europe in a Global Context, Heidelberg, Germany, 27/05/2011.

“Le corpus des citations du *Livre de la Grande paix* du V^e au XV^e siècle”. Weekly postgraduate seminar. Chair Histoire du Taoïsme et des Religions Chinoises, École Pratique des Hautes Études, Paris, France, 2008–2009 (25 weeks).

“*Le Livre de la Grande paix* et son corpus: Histoire et structure littéraires, idéologie”. Weekly postgraduate seminar. Chair Histoire du Taoïsme et des Religions Chinoises, École Pratique des Hautes Études, Paris, France, 2008–2009 (25 weeks).

“略論太平經系中有關史實性與年代推定的幾個問題” [Some Problems Concerning Historicity and Dating in the Great Peace Scriptural Corpus]. Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan, 25/05/2004.

“Les premiers mouvements taoïstes et le *Taiping jing*”. Ph.D. student presentation. Chair Histoire du Taoïsme et des Religions Chinoises, École Pratique des Hautes Études, Paris, France, 18/02/2002.

“Les enjeux de l’étude du *Livre de la Grande paix* du point de vue de la méthodologie historique”. Master of Advanced Studies student presentation. Institut d’Histoire Comparée des Civilisations, Aix-en-Provence, France, 17/04/1996.

Appendix 3: Publications Record

Refereed Journal Articles:

“The Invention of Buddho-Taoism: Critical Historiography of a Western Neologism, 1940s–2010s”. Asiatische Studien/Études asiatiques, 72 (2018) (forthcoming online and in print).

“Sketching out Portents Classification and Logic in the Monographs of Han Official Historiography”. Bochumer Jahrbuch zur Ostasienforschung/Bochum Yearbook of East Asian Studies, 39 (2016): 5–38.

“A Case Study on the Evolution of Chinese Religious Symbols from Talismanic Paraphernalia to Taoist Liturgy”. Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies, 78/3 (2015): 493–514.

“Epiphanies of Sovereignty and the Rite of Jade Disc Immersion in Weft Narratives”. Early China, 37 (2014): 393–443.

“Local Resistance in Early Medieval Chinese Historiography and the Problem of Religious Overinterpretation”. The Literary Subversive: Writings of Resistance in East Asian History. Edited by D. Steavu. Special issue of The Medieval History Journal, 17/2 (2014): 379–406.

“The Date, Authorship, and Literary Structure of the *Great Peace Scripture Digest*”. Journal of the American Oriental Society, 133/2 (2013): 321–351.

“Les Directives secrètes du Saint Seigneur du Livre de la Grande paix et la préservation de l’unité”. T’oung Pao, 95/1–3 (2009): 1–50.

“À vau-l’eau, à rebours ou l’ambivalence de la logique triadique dans l’idéologie du *Taiping jing*”. In Memoriam Isabelle Robinet (1932–2000). Edited by M. Esposito / H. Durt. Special issue of Cahiers d’Extrême-Asie, 14 (2004): 61–95.

“Criminalized Abnormality, Moral Etiology, and Redemptive Suffering in the Secondary Strata of the *Taiping jing*”. Asia Major, Third Series, 15/2 (2002): 1–50.

“Revelation between Orality and Writing in Early Imperial China: The Epistemology of the *Taiping jing*”. Bulletin of the Museum of Far Eastern Antiquities, 74 (2002): 66–100.

Book Chapters:

“Portents in Early Imperial China: Observational Patterns from the ‘Spring and Autumn’ Weft *Profoundly Immersed Herptile*”. In: Divination and the Strange: Constructing Fate in Pre- and Early Modern East Asia and Europe. Edited by S. Katz (forthcoming).

“Prenatal Infancy Regained: Great Peace (*Taiping*) Views on Procreation and Life Cycles”. In: Transforming the Void: Embryological Discourse and Reproductive Imagery in East Asian Religions. Edited by A. Andreeva / D. Steavu. (Sir Henry Wellcome Asian Series, vol. 16). Leiden: Brill, 2015. Pages 53–86.

“Latter Han Religious Mass Movements and the Early Daoist Church”. In: Early Chinese Religion, Part One: Shang through Han (1250 BC–220 AD). Edited by J. Lagerwey / M. Kalinowski. (Handbook of Oriental Studies, Section 4 China, vol. 21/1). Leiden: Brill, 2009. Pages 1061–1102.

“Le manuscrit Stein 4226 *Taiping bu jian di er* dans l’histoire du taoïsme médiéval”. In: Études de Dunhuang et Turfan. Edited by J.-P. Drège / O. Venture. (Hautes Études Orientales, Extrême-Orient, vol. 41/6). Geneva: Droz, 2007. Pages 189–256.

Lexicography and Research Notes:

“Sources pour l’histoire du taoïsme”. In: L’Encyclopédie des historiographies (Afrique, Amérique, Asie). OpenEdition eBook printable on demand. Paris: Presses de l’INALCO (forthcoming).

A hundred biographical notes on Taoists (in French). In: Dictionnaire biographique du haut Moyen-Âge chinois. Edited by F. Martin / D. Chaussende. Paris: Les Belles Lettres, 2017 (forthcoming).

“Yuanshi shuo xiantian daode jing zhujie”, “Yuanshi tianzun shuo yaowang jiu bashiyi nan zhenjing”, “Taishang zhongdao miaofa lianhua jing”, “Taishang miaoshi jing”, “Zhenzhong jing”, “Taishang dongzhen xianmen jing”, “Zhongtian ziwei xingzhen baochan”, “Huangshi gong sushu” (in English). In: 道藏輯要と明清時代の宗教文化 [The *Daozang Jiyao* and Religious Culture in the Ming-Qing Dynasties]. Research report edited by K. Mugitani. Institute for Research in Humanities, Kyoto University, 2012. Pages 3–6, 14–16, 20–24, 42–45, 45–48, 56–59, 76–79.

“Bao Jing”, “Dong Sijing”, “Dongfang Shuo”, “Du Daojian”, “Nie Shidao”, “Ning Benli”, “Sun En”, “Tao Hongjing”, “Wang Wenqing”, “Yang Xi”, “Zheng Yin”. In: The Encyclopedia of Taoism. Edited by F. Pregadio. London: Routledge, 2008. Pages 211–212, 365–367, 383–384, 773–774, 924–925, 968–971, 1017, 1147–1148, 1250–1251.

Four hundred entries (unsigned) on Taoism (in French). In: Grand Dictionnaire Ricci de la langue chinoise. Edited by Les Instituts Ricci de Paris et de Taipei. Paris: Desclée de Brouwer, 2001. 7 volumes.

Review Articles:

“Traditional Chinese Knowledge before the Japanese Discovery of Western Science in Gabor Lukacs’ *Kaitai Shinsho & Geka Sōden*”. East Asian Science, Technology, and Medicine, 40 (2014): 113–128.

“Editing and Translating the *Taiping Jing* and the Great Peace Textual Corpus”. Journal of Chinese Studies/中國文化研究所學報, 48 (2008): 469–486.

Book Reviews:

J. Robson (ed.), *The Norton Anthology of World Religions: Daoism*. Religious Studies Review, 43/1 (2017): 33–37.

T. F. Kleeman, *Celestial Masters: History and Ritual in Early Daoist Communities*. Religious Studies Review, 42/4 (2016): 259–265.

L. Di Giacinto, *The Chenwei Riddle: Time, Stars, and Heroes in the Apocrypha*. T’oung Pao, 100/4–5 (2014): 505–511.

F. C. Reiter (ed.), *Affiliation and Transmission in Daoism: A Berlin Symposium*. Journal of Chinese Religions, 41/2 (2013): 180–185.

G. Raz, *The Emergence of Daoism: Creation of Tradition*. Journal of Chinese Religions, 40 (2012): 136–142.

R. F. Campany, *Making Transcendents: Ascetics and Social Memory in Early Medieval China*. Études chinoises, 28 (2009): 279–284.

B. Hendrichske, *The Scripture on Great Peace: The Taiping jing and the Beginnings of Daoism*. Études chinoises, 26 (2007): 327–336.

Ph. Ménard, “L’itinéraire de Marco Polo dans sa traversée de la Chine”. Bulletin de l’École Française d’Extrême-Orient, 93 (2006): 517–522.

Book Notes:

J.-P. Drège / C. Moretti (ed.), *La Fabrique du lisible: La mise en texte des manuscrits de la Chine ancienne et médiévale*. Religious Studies Review, 42/2 (2016): 134–135.

Y. Tang, *Confucianism, Buddhism, Daoism, Christianity and Chinese Culture*. Religious Studies Review, 41/4 (2015): 211–212.

M. Strickmann, *Chinese Magical Medicine*. Revue Bibliographique de Sinologie, Nouvelle Série, 20 (2002): 443–444.

L. Yu, *Taiping jing zhengdu* [Correct Reading of the *Great Peace Scripture*]. Revue Bibliographique de Sinologie, Nouvelle Série, 20 (2002): 361–362.

D. C. Lau (ed.), *A Concordance to the Taipingjing*. Revue Bibliographique de Sinologie, Nouvelle Série, 20 (2002): 360–361.

Seminar Abstracts:

“Le corpus des citations du *Livre de la Grande paix* du V^e au XV^e siècle”. Annuaire de l’École Pratique des Hautes Études, Section des Sciences Religieuses, 118 (2009–2010): 35–43.

“Le *Livre de la Grande paix* et son corpus: Histoire et structure littéraires, idéologie”. Annuaire de l’École Pratique des Hautes Études, Section des Sciences Religieuses, 117 (2008–2009): 39–47.

Credited Translations (from Chinese into French):

Various Chinese and Sino-Japanese sources. In: G. Lukacs, *Kaitai Shinsho: The Single Most Famous Japanese Book of Medicine & Geka Sōden: An Early Very Important Manuscript on Surgery*. Utrecht: Hes & De Graaf, 2008. Chapter 11, pages 119–164.

Q. Han, “Le début de la diffusion des techniques d’imprimerie occidentales en Chine à la fin des Qing: L’exemple de l’introduction du procédé lithographique”. Histoire et Civilisation du Livre: Revue Internationale, 3 (2007): 135–152.

D.-T. Lee (ed.), Programme national des archives numériques 2005. Taipei: Taiwan National Science Council, 2006. 48 pages.

D. Xiao / H. Yang, “Caractéristiques et fonctions du livre chinois ancien d’après les principales catégories d’ouvrages traditionnels”. In: Actes du Colloque franco-chinois Chine-Europe: Histoires de livres (VIII^e/XV^e-XX^e s.). National Library of China, Beijing, 2005. Pages 28–41.

Online Resources:

French translation of a medieval manuscript in Chinese and compilation of a bibliography for the International Dunhuang Project website: http://idp.bl.uk/database/oo_cat.a4d?shortref=Espeset_2005.