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Re-/Imagining the Self and the City: A Look at *Jianghu* and its Recontextualizations in Urban Space

This paper focuses on the modern manifestations of *jianghu* within the urban city. I will look at how *jianghu* is re/contextualized in the urban space and how its re-/emergence can be treated as a reaction towards urbanity and modernity. I intend to talk about the possibility of extending one's family in the city regarding the formation of sworn familial relationship especially among the gangster and see how different forces are putting the city and one's home at stake. I will also discuss how history and memory help to deal with a shared past in the *jianghu* –gangster/police-community and how such entity is able to sustain through times. The phenomenon of *jianghu* as a form of cultural production would be compared to Charles Taylor's idea of "social imaginary" and Benedict Anderson's "imagined community".

Films for discussion:

Fruit Chan's *The Longest Summer* (1998) Johnnie To's *Mission* (1999), *Exiled* (2006), *Election* series (2004, 2006) Yip Kam-tim's *Metade Fumaca* (1999) Dante Lam's *Jianghu: The Triad Zone* (2000)