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Problematizing National Borders – East-Asian Cinema

This panel will examine the ways in which East-Asian cinemas have been negotiating national borders both in terms of production and representation. Whereas concerns about the national border and identity were particularly evident in wartime propaganda films, contemporary films have addressed war memory, post-colonial conditions and globalization. The notion of the national border and of national cinema is also questioned when films are produced through transnational collaboration. The papers in this panel will address films that, in one way or another, problematize the question of national borders and identity and examine, for instance, the ambivalence of colonial and post-colonial identity in Japanese and Korean cinema, the collaboration networks amongst Japanese and Chinese filmmakers, the representation of foreigners in Japanese cinema and the (dis)-continuity in representing war and ‘others’ in Japanese animation.