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Identity Representations Across the Taiwan Strait in Film and the Internet

The papers in this session discuss the production of various discourses through film and the Internet that reflect the contested notions of national identity and female subjectivity in China and Taiwan. Representations of identities in the People's Republic of China (PRC) and Republic of China (ROC) are marked by differences in political ideologies and different trajectories in social and economic development. At the same time, people on both sides of the Taiwan Strait continue to grapple with and 'haggle' over the cultural similarities and shared histories that are inscribed in the two societies. The first paper explores how Hong Kong gambling films highlight the provisionality of national identities surrounding China and Taiwan. The second paper examines the debates on postcolonialism and national identity engendered by the Taiwanese film *Cape No. 7*, while the third paper compares images of the 'ideal wife' constructed by women participating in Internet dating websites in China and Taiwan.