



Prof. Dr. Yinan Li

Central Academy of Drama, Beijing

The Teaching and practice of *Juchang* 剧场 in Beijing

Li Yinan has developed *Juchang* as an original analytic category in connection with her translation of Hans Thies Lehmann's *Postdramatic Theatre* (1999) from German to Chinese. In her definition of the concept of *Juchang*, Li takes inspiration from and draws upon sociological theory, particularly the concept of *champ* (field) as defined by Pierre Bourdieu. Beyond the narrow definition of "theatre", *Juchang* is better understood as a macrocosm, not only referring to the artistic practices of performance per se, but also including the social context from which they stem. *Juchang* is a vast field, and its primary significance is to break down the fixed boundaries of *Xiju* (or "drama"). In 2015 Li Yinan established the Faculty of Dramaturgy and Applied Theatre Studies – the first study program in Dramaturgy in Asia. Alongside her students Li combines teaching, research and theatrical practice together, including the ideation and production of documentary theatre projects that deal with, and reflect, contemporary Chinese society. In this lecture, Li Yinan will explain the concept of *Juchang* and introduce her teaching/practice at the Central Academy of Drama, Beijing.

Li Yinan is Professor of Theatre Studies and Dramaturgy at the Central Academy of Drama in Beijing, China. She studied German Language and Literature, Theatre Arts and Sinology in Beijing, New York, Hamburg and Munich. In 2015, she established the Faculty of Dramaturgy and Applied Theatre Studies (the first study program of its kind in Asia) at the Central Academy of Drama, Beijing. Her research focuses on various aspects of new dramaturgy (including dramaturgy for documentary theatre, dance and new media art). As a documentary theatre practitioner, she directed *You/Mou* (Have/Have Not, 2016), *Jia/Home* (2017), *In the Dreamland* (Meng Guo Zhong, 2017), *Heisi* (The Black Temple, 2017), *Shuihu* (The Water's Margin, 2017) and *Beijing Topography* (2019-2021).

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