

**Five Cycles of Lothar:
Generations Gather to Honor the Sixtieth Birthday of Professor von Falkenhausen**

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Anniversaries of eminent scholars are great opportunities for reassessing the state of the field and pushing forward into new realms of discussion. On June 5–6, 2019 dozens of scholars from all over the world gathered at UCLA to honor one such eminent scholar, Lothar von Falkenhausen, for a workshop and symposium named *The Art and Archaeology of Ritual and Economy in East Asia*. As technology disseminates and inspires further innovations on increasingly global scales, so has the influence of von Falkenhausen advanced the fields of archaeology and East Asian studies, and furthered the careers and lives of the people who are fortunate to be his students, colleagues, and friends. Acknowledging this legacy and using it to reach new heights was the aim of the event organized in honor of von Falkenhausen's sixtieth birthday. Sixtieth anniversaries are of course significant, particularly in East Asian contexts where they mark the completion of a sixth cycle of a twelve-year zodiac. This event, therefore, celebrated that we returned to the year of von Falkenhausen's birth for the sixth time.

The title of the event highlighted the multiple disciplines and topics that von Falkenhausen's broad career embodies. He is both professor in the department of Art History and core faculty member in the Cotsen Institute. From bells for ceremonial music to the production of salt, he has grappled with numerous inquiries into ritual and economy, as well as the intersection of the two, in early East Asia. Wu Hung (University of Chicago) likened von Falkenhausen's research approach to that of the seminal historian of early China, Wang Guowei (1877–1927), who pioneered the dual evidence method of analysis which gave full weight to both traditional historical documents preserved at court and the growing body of excavated texts that were appearing in graves and pits; the same inscribed artifacts that were to engender the field of Chinese archaeology. Von Falkenhausen, Hung explained, embraces not just a dual approach but a multi-evidence approach; one which treats artifacts not just as materials but as evidence and that incorporates numerous sources of evidence, from historical records to buried artifacts. This

approach is exemplified best by his award-winning book *Chinese Society in the Age of Confucius* (2006). Kazuo Miyamoto (Kyushu University, Japan) and Alain Thote (École pratique des hautes études, France), long-time colleagues of von Falkenhausen, both praised its interdisciplinary examinations and reflected on the broad impact of the book.

The more than two dozen talks given during the two-day event presented, as von Falkenhausen observed, a whole range of counter-narratives that pushed beyond the boundaries of accepted models and their respective disciplines. As David Schaberg, Dean of Humanities, remarked, much of this work by von Falkenhausen's students and colleagues is a reflection of how he has continually crossed borders in order to break borders. Miao Zhe (Zhejiang University, China), who had long been a journalist before becoming an academic, admitted that he divides his career into pre- and post-Lothar periods according to the time that they first interacted in 2012. "My scholarship tended to concentrate on events and individuals, but Lothar pushed me beyond such historical approaches to use material culture and anthropological structuralist approaches to art history and analyses of Chinese pictorial art."

Studies by participating scholars covered materials not only from China but also from Japan, Korea, Mongolia, Central Asia, and Southeast Asia. They addressed modes of the transmission of technologies and ideologies, and how societies react to and engage with them; the roles of belief systems and social politics entwined in ritual practices; and the multi-faceted landscapes of communities, manifested physically as well as through practice. The collection of research and researchers was indeed a representation of von Falkenhausen's community of practice. Yet, his commitment to rigor and care covers more than sources and analyses of evidence. It also extends to the people with whom he interacts in his intellectual endeavors. Yan Yunxiang, director of the Center for Chinese Studies at UCLA, portrayed von Falkenhausen as one who epitomized authenticity, in his research and in his personality. "He is honest, he is blunt, he is reliable." From his time as a student—at institutions in Japan, China, Korea, and in the United States—to his time of having students of his own, he has generated a community of critical introspection and unfailing support.

"What was clear from all the talks," remarked Hein, "is how many people Lothar has touched, not only academically and professionally, but how they feel close to him, with a connection that

goes beyond the academic.” Those he has advised, students and others, have gone on to research and teaching all over the world, attesting to his global influence. The community associated with and surrounding von Falkenhausen has vast extensions and has many homes, most especially his own. What Schaberg referred to as the Southern California salon was instantly recognized by all in attendance. At his own home, amidst an unparalleled collection of publications on Early China, von Falkenhausen has doled out open invitations to established professors and aspiring students alike, recurrently facilitating connections among people, sometimes for wine and hors d’oeuvres, sometimes for Trader Joe’s inspired meals, and often for Lothar’s own cooking which has ranged over the years from traditional German dishes to tofu turkey on Thanksgiving. Another of his colleagues, Rhi Juhyuang (Seoul National University, Korea) compared entering the library living room to entering that of the brilliant busy Sherlock Holmes. “He had a violin (and not a radio) in his parlor.” Through large dinners and small gatherings alike, Schaberg continued, von Falkenhausen offers a grand experience, both intellectual and social. The so-called salon has been but one center of inspiration and support—a library, a refuge, a home—through which von Falkenhausen has touched the lives of so many scholars. It was thus fitting that, in the spirit of his continued giving, von Falkenhausen gave away some pieces of art, including ceramic sculptures and scroll paintings, at the dinner in his honor.

Lothar von Falkenhausen continues to make enormous contributions to the many scholarly fields with which he engages. He has influenced and continues to influence a great number of people in both scholarly and wider societal circles. This influence is felt and appreciated most immensely by his ever-growing circles of colleagues and students. Hence, a good way to honor and celebrate this is to continue to push archaeological, historical, and art historical research to new heights by standing on the shoulders of this giant. After all, we are like dwarfs sitting on the shoulders of giants, able to see further only because they lift us to new heights. In order to continue to honor him, most of those gathered at the event will contribute to a collective publication to produce a *Festschrift* that will examine the intersections of ritual and economy in various cases of East Asia. As von Falkenhausen astutely reminded those in attendance, we must avoid temptations of particularizing situations, even if there are particularizing historical events at times. This sentiment is manifest in his own research which has focused on rigorously examining local case studies in considering broader questions, not with the intention of constructing universal models, but rather in an effort to illustrate and make sense of the broader patterns of practice in early

China. By embracing von Falkenhausen's implied realities of comparisons the *Festschrift* resulting from the workshop will provide a trove of contributions to world art and archaeology executed through East Asian case studies.

Willeke Wendrich, director of the Cotsen Institute, drew upon Chinese and other cultural traditions that emphasized 60 years as a fullness of life to highlight the fullness of von Falkenhausen's own and of the lives he imbues. Von Falkenhausen summed his gratitude with the statement to all those gathered: "thank you for your presence in my life." We thank him for his immeasurable presence and continued influence in ours. The event was spearheaded by his former students Rowan Flad (Harvard University), Anke Hein (University of Oxford) and Bryan Miller (University of Michigan), who were joined by professors Lee Hui-shu, Li Min, and Yan Yunxiang at UCLA for fund-raising and orchestration of the two-day event, assisted by current UCLA undergraduate and graduate students. Extensive support came from the Henry Luce Foundation and Chiang Ching-Kou Foundation, as well as from the College of Humanities, the Center for Chinese Studies, the East Asian Library, and the Cotsen Institute of Archaeology—a testament to the broad influence and impact of the intellectual endeavors of von Falkenhausen.

Captions to the Figures

Figure 1. Group photograph of the participants in the workshop. Left to right: Wen Chenghao, Lin Kueichen, Li Shuicheng, Ellen Hsieh, Rowan Flad, 6. , 7. , David Schaberg, Jaang Li, 10. , Wang Mingke, Enno Giele, 13. , 14. , Agnes Lin, Lai Guolong, Li Min, Alain Thote, Ye Wa, Wu Hung, Kristine Martirosyan-Olshansky, Ran Boytner, Willeke Wendrich, Lothar von Falkenhausen, Jack Davey, Kazuo Miyamoto, Bryan Miller, Yangjin Pak, Minku Kim, Richard Ehrich, Katherine Brunson, 32. , Zhang Hanmo, Kirie Stromberg, Rhi Juhyuang, Rahim Shayegan, 37. , 38. , Miao Zhe, Jill Siltan, Monica Smith, and Steven Ammerman.

Figure 2. Von Falkenhausen in his early days of Chinese archaeology, on excavation in China 1979. 1: Xiao Shixing 肖世星 (Liaoyang Museum, Liaoning); 3: Han Gang 韩刚 (Zhucheng County Museum); 4: Zhang Xiucheng 张秀成 (Beijing University Foreign Affairs Office); 6: Li Shuicheng 李水城 (Beijing University College of Archaeology and Culture); 7: Xia Jingfeng 夏

竟峰 (New Jersey, USA); 8: Yang Yang 杨阳 (Lu Xun Museum); 9: Meng Xianyu 孟宪珉 (National Cultural Relics Bureau); 10: An Jiayao 安家瑶 (Institute of Archaeology, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences); 11: Chen Ren 陈韧 (Beijing University School Branch); 12: Lorraine Spiess (Canada); 13: Li Yangsong 李仰松 (Beijing University History Department); 14: Zhao Chaohong 赵朝红 (Beijing University Archaeology Department and History Department); 15: Zhang Xin 张辛 (Beijing University College of Archaeology and Culture); 16: Tong Weihua 佟伟华 (National Museum of China); 17: Jeffrey YT Kao (USA); 18: Ma Jianhua 马建华 (Jilin Provincial Cultural Relics Bureau); 19: Yin Jinan 尹吉男 (Central Academy of Fine Arts); 20: Nie Xinmin 聂新民 (First Emperor of Qin Terracotta Warriors Museum); 21: Wang Qing 王青 (Economic Daily News); 22: Guan Xuejun 关学军 (Atlanta, USA); 24: Xia Chaoxiong 夏朝雄 (Beijing University, History Department); 28: Bo Xiaoying 薄小莹 (Beijing University, History Department); 29: Francoise Vaucamps (Canada); 30: Aurora Testa (Italy); 31: Lothar von Falkenhausen (University of California–Los Angeles); 32: Yang Xiaoneng 杨小能 (USA); 33: Zhou Qingming 周庆明 (Washington D. C., USA); 35: Feng Shi 冯时 (Institute of Archaeology, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences); 36: Wang Xun 王迅 (Beijing University College of Archaeology and Culture); 37: Nan Yuquan 南玉泉 (Chinese University of Government and Law); 38: Sagawa Masahiro 佐川正敏 (Japan); and 39: Gu Fengxin 谷丰信 (Japan). (Photograph and caption courtesy of Li Shuicheng)

Figure 3. Von Falkenhausen in 1999 with students in the field at the Zhongba dragon kiln site (Ganjingzhen, Zhong County, Chongqing). Left to right: Rowan Flad, Li Xiaobo 李小波, Lothar von Falkenhausen, Chen Pochan 陈伯镇, a local villager and potter, and Li Shuicheng 李水城. (Photograph by Rowan Flad).

Figure 4. Scholars at the symposium while Miao Zhe poses a question.

Figure 5. Lothar von Falkenhausen and some of his academic progeny at the event dinner in Napa Valley Grille (Westwood, Los Angeles). Left to right: Lai Guolong, Ye Wa, Lothar von Falkenhausen, Rowan Flad, and Bryan Miller.

Figure 6. A flying dragon calligraphy scroll from the Lothar von Falkenhausen salon, given away as a gift during the event dinner.