

42+ YEARS OF STIMULATING DISCUSSION & CRITICAL THINKING

CHINA SEMINAR 42nd Year

as of 2009 a forum of *FRIENDS OF EAST-WEST CENTER*

Founding convener: D. W. Y. Kwok

a 501C non-profit organization



Friends of East-West Center cordially invites you to the fall 2019 sessions of the



CHINA SEMINAR

Thursday, 14 November, 2019, 12 noon

at

Maple Garden Restaurant, 909 Isenberg Street, Honolulu

Topic:

Remembering Shanghai

– A Memoir of Socialites, Scholars and Scoundrels

By

Claire Chao

Claire Chao presents *Remembering Shanghai*, a memoir that she co-wrote with her mother Isabel Sun Chao. To date the book has won 17 literary awards, including the prestigious Rubery Prize Book of the Year. The story follows five generations from imperial China to modern-day Hong Kong, and is accompanied by evocative period illustrations and photographs. Isabel grows up in the wealthy Sun family in glamorous 1930s Shanghai. When Mao comes to power, she journeys to Hong Kong, unaware that she will never see her father again. She and daughter Claire return to Shanghai six decades later to confront their complex past – one they discover is filled with love and betrayal, kidnapers and concubines, glittering pleasure palaces and underworld crime bosses. By turns harrowing and heartwarming, the memoir explores identity, loss and redemption against an epic backdrop of a country in turmoil.

Claire was born and raised in Hong Kong. As a youth she continually, yet unknowingly sought connections to her parents' Shanghai homeland. She spent a decade creating *Remembering Shanghai* after thirty years in luxury brand management. While researching her family stories, she uncovered an uncanny link with the grandfather she'd never met. She graduated with highest honors from Princeton University and was named to Avenue magazine's "500 Most Influential Asian Americans" and Hong Kong Tatler's "Who's Who in Hong Kong".

• The seminar is **\$20.00** for *Friends of the East-West Center* members, **EWC and UH students** and **\$25.00** for **non-members** with luncheon served after the talk. Payment may be made in advance or at the door. Checks should be made payable to *Friends of the East-West Center*. Seating is first-come, first-served at the Maple Garden Restaurant. No recording of any kind please.

• Please return the form below by mail or email. Reservations must reach us by noon of the day before (Nov 13). Changes cannot be accommodated thereafter.

• **No-shows please honor your reservation with payment.**

----- Please cut along dotted line if mailing in RSVP -----

Please reserve _____ place(s) for the Nov 14, 2019 meeting.

Your name: _____

Return this form to:

China Seminar, Friends of the East-West Center

1601 East-West Road, Honolulu, HI 96848

E-mail: friends@eastwestcenter.org

For more information, call 944-7691 & speak w/ Ms. Deanna O'Brien

Guests: _____

Vegetarian? ___ Please reserve ___ seat(s) @ the veggie table.

Wheelchair or walker? ___ Other handicap? _____

Please provide email address for future notices if desired. _____@_____