

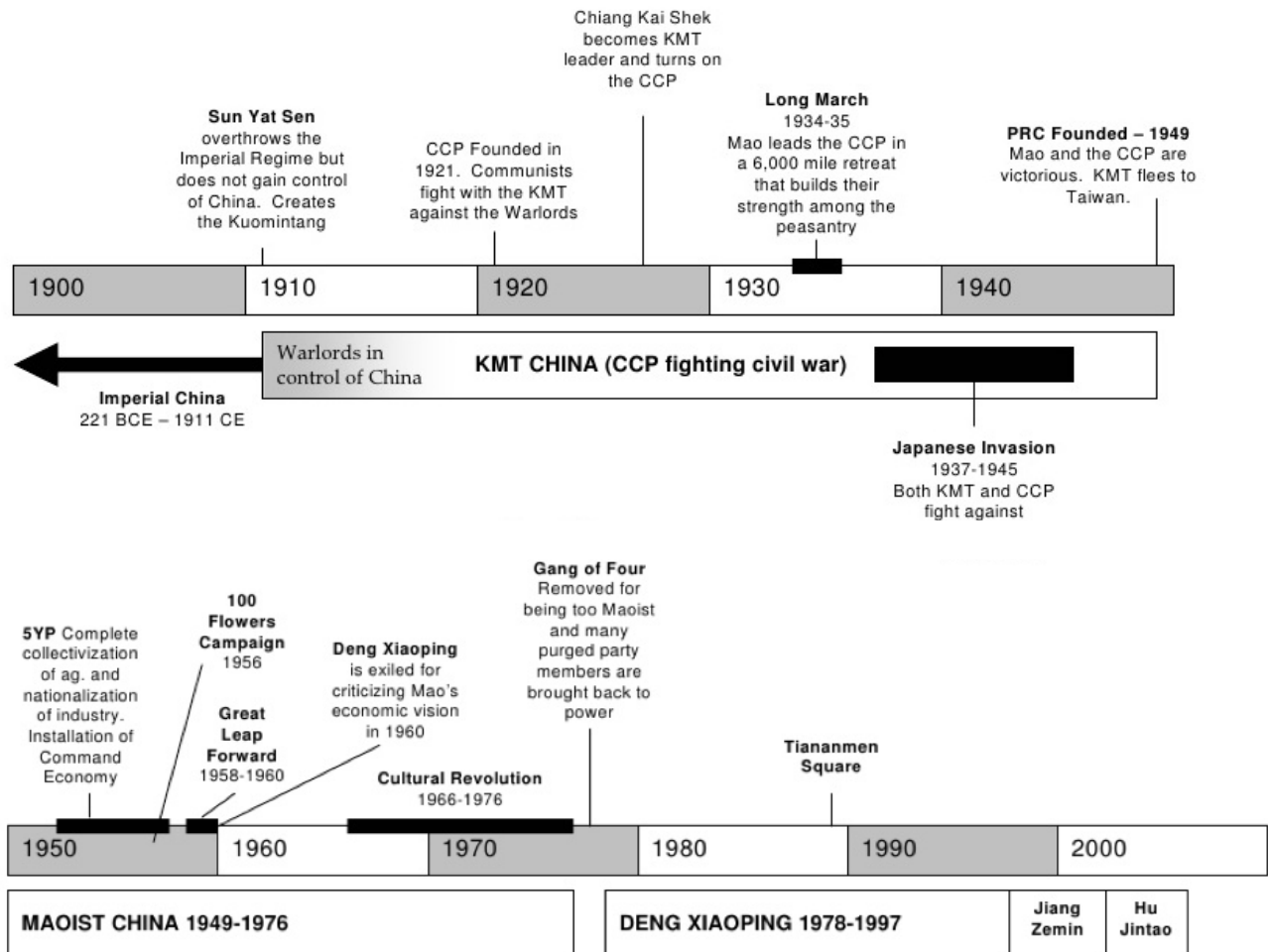
Fall 2020 Arts of Asia Lecture Series
 Heroes & Villains in Asian Art and Culture
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Red Media: Tempering Hearts with Mao Zedong

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Twentieth Century China Timeline



Key Names & Terms

Communist Party of China (CCP) *gongchandang* 共产党

Also initialed as CPC. Founded in 1921. The political party that governs China today.

Kuomintang (KMT) or Guomindang (GMD) *Zhongguo guomindang* 中國國民黨

Formed in 1919, this Nationalist Party of China warred with the CCP until 1949.

Maintains disputed political leadership role in the Republic of China in Taiwan today.

Mao Zedong (also commonly Romanized as Mao Tse-tung) 毛泽东 (1893-1976)

Son of a land-owning farmer, founder of the PRC, chairman of the CCP from 1949 until his death in 1976.

Chiang Kai-shek 蔣介石 (1887-1975)

Known as the Generalissimo. Head of the KMT. Waged civil war with the CCP. Led the KMT in Taiwan until his death.

People's Republic of China (PRC) *Zhonghua renmin gongheguo* 中华人民共和国

Jiang Qing 江青 (1914-1991)

Shanghai silver screen actress, CCP revolutionary, Mao's fourth wife, PRC's first lady.

Zhou Enlai 周恩来 (1898-1976)

First Premier of the PRC.

Liu Shaoqi 刘少奇 (1898-1969)

CCP Vice Chairman, Mao's right hand, repudiated and killed in the Cultural Revolution.

'worker-peasant-soldiers' *gongnongbing* 工农兵

A popular term for the masses of the people in Chinese socialism under Mao.

Yan'an 延安

Today a city in Shaanxi, China. The site for the consolidation of CCP power from the late 1930s. Where Mao wrote crucial treatises on contradiction, practice, and other matters.

'socialist realism' *shehui xianshi zhuyi* 社会主义现实主义

Art style and technique originating from the Soviet Union, adapted by the PRC in the 1950s.

'revolutionary realism & revolutionary romanticism' *geming xianshizhuyi yu geming langmanzhuyi* 革命现实主义与革命浪漫主义

Coined by Mao. An attempt to further specify the place of realism in Chinese revolutionary art policy, and to negotiate socialist realism for China.

‘dazibao’ 大字报 big-character posters

Posters, usually handwritten with large characters and posted to public spaces.

Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution *wuchan jieji wenhua da geming* 无产阶级文化大革命

Also known as the Cultural Revolution *wenge* 文革. A revolutionary intervention into the bureaucratic workings of the PRC. A power-play by Mao. Initiated by the Red Guard Movement in 1966. Officially concluded in 1976.

Red Guards *hong weibing* 红卫兵

An arm of the Cultural Revolution and, by extension, of Mao. Composed of children and teenagers.

‘model works’ *yangbanxi* 样板戏

Also known as the ‘8 model operas’. The dominant form of mass entertainment during the Cultural Revolution. Combined traditional Chinese and modern Western elements. Overseen by Jiang Qing.

Suggested Reading

Julia F. Andrews and Kuiyi Shen, eds., *A Century in Crisis: Modernity and Tradition in the Art of Twentieth-Century China* (New York: Guggenheim Museum Publications, 1998).

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Lincoln Cushing and Ann Tompkins, *Chinese Posters: Art from the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution* (San Francisco, CA: Chronicle Books, 2007), pp. 7-23.

Harriet Evans and Stephanie Donald, eds., *Picturing Power in the People’s Republic of China: Posters of the Cultural Revolution* (Lanham, Boulder, New York, and Oxford: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 1999), pp. 1-26.

Rebecca E. Karl, *Mao Zedong and China in the Twentieth-Century World: A Concise History*, (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2010).

Richard King, ed., *Art in Turmoil: The Chinese Cultural Revolution, 1966-1976* (Vancouver and Toronto: UBC Press, 2010), pp. 93-106.

Mao Zedong, “Talks at the Yanan Forum on Literature and Art (1942),” in Mao Tse-Tung, *Selected Works* (Beijing: Foreign Languages Press, 1965), Vol. III. Also available [online](#).

Maurice Meisner, *Mao’s China and After: A History of the People’s Republic* (New York: Free Press, 1977).