

The LRC Language of Literature Speaker Series presents

The Art of Ingenuity: A Brief History of the Chinese Swindle Story

Why have authors and editors felt compelled to compile collections of swindle stories at certain times and places? In China, for example, the swindle story, though not been regarded as a formal genre, has enjoyed renaissances in the 17th century, the early 20th century, and during the last 20 years. The existence of comparable works around the world begs a broader set of questions about history and narrative. Focusing on the example of China, this talk highlights an enduring thread running through this literary history: connoisseurship of the swindler's ingenuity.

Friday, September 30, 2016
3 – 4 pm | CHD 420

Questions? E-mail lrc@ucalgary.ca
Or visit <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/lrc/>



Christopher Rea is Associate Professor of Asian Studies at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver. He is author of *The Age of Irreverence: A New History of Laughter in China* (California, 2015) and is currently co-translating a Ming dynasty story collection called *The Book of Swindles*.