

Zeitverschiebung [Jetlag]

Many Lay-Overs of Lost Futures

Hong Kong is six hours ahead of Zurich, and already lost to history.

Seen from the misty jungle of the peak, the crystal towers continue to glitter. Traffic remains busy on its roads, and in its ports containers continue to be loaded on vast ships by giant robotic gantries 24 hours a day. The giant video screen of the M+ museum continues to beam cultural content into the wine-dark water of Victoria Harbour.

But the city is adrift. Unable to deliver sovereignty to its citizens, nor even to ensure the victory of globalisation over nationalism, its resources are now dedicated to damage control, to appeasement rather than conviction. Hong Kong remains one of the most interesting places on earth, a small territory whose identity is made up of resonating culture shock.

We visit the city, recognising its varied realities as an archipelago, as a retreat for pirates and smugglers, as a drug dealer's paradise, a refugee camp and a miracle of human ingenuity.

Team: Dr. Tairan An, Josephine Baan, Dr. Paola De Martin, Samuel Fuchs, Dr. Eric Häusler, Dr. Da Hyung Jeong, Tim Klausner, Sabine Sarwa, Prof. Philip Ursprung, Tobias Wootton
Special guests: San Keller, Isabel Nolan
Image: Samuel Fuchs

Even more complex are its disparate lost futures:

Hong Kong proposed unique solutions for everything from public housing to gambling, from drinking water to cemeteries. All of them jostle together, ideas from disparate times co-existing in a very narrow space.

We will not move through the city as tourists do.

Our Hong Kong will be salty and muddy, sandy and drunk.

We will visit places even locals rarely see.

We will stay up late.

We will at times certainly become as lost as the city itself.

Individual travel to and from Hong Kong

Meeting point: Saturday 18.10. (evening), time and place TBD

Category: D