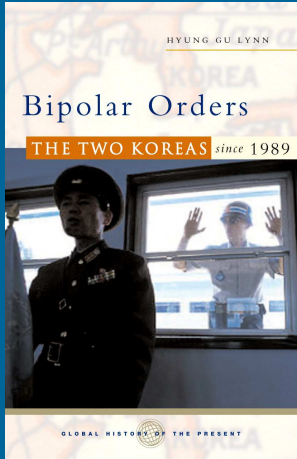




Embracing the Doppelganger: North Korea in Recent South Korean Films

The Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies,
University of Washington



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This talk deals with representations of North Korea in several South Korean films of the 1990s and the 2000s. Focusing on one film and general selection bias have led to claims that depictions of North Korea and North Koreans have improved or that there continue to be demonizing portrayals of North Koreans in South Korean films. I argue that an analysis of several films reveals that contrary to such unidirectional trajectories, there have been at least three distinct types of representations of North Korea since the 1990s, only one of which might be deemed the product of the 1990s detente fueled by the Sunshine Policy.

Hyung-Gu Lynn is the AECL/KEPCO Chair in Korean Research at the Institute of Asian Research (IAR), University of British Columbia. He is also the Editor for the journal [Pacific Affairs](#), an independent, interdisciplinary, peer-reviewed journal of contemporary Asia that has been published continuously since 1928. Among his publications are *Bipolar Orders: Two Koreas Since 1989* (Zed, 2007) and articles on various aspects of modern and contemporary Korea and Japan, including state-society relations, migration, media, epistemology, and visual culture. Prior to joining UBC in 2002, he held positions in the Institute of Economic Research, Hitotsubashi University (Tokyo, Japan), and the English Literature Department, Hanyang University (Seoul, Korea).

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