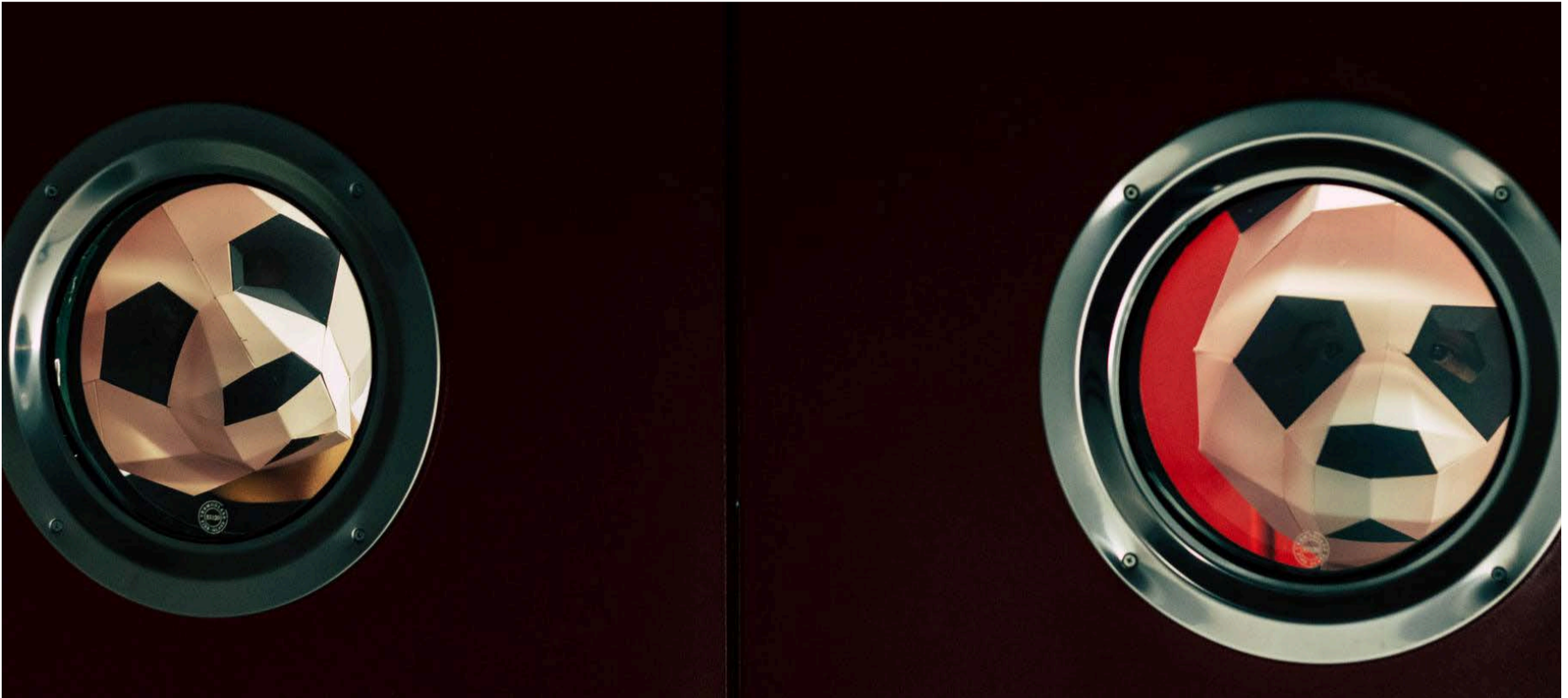


Full Disclosure: Truth and Fakery in Australian Public Commentary on China



Is China an authoritarian state with a zero-tolerance for public criticism? Is it conceivable that China's rising influence in global affairs and its increasing regional assertiveness are being misinterpreted and misrepresented? A particular view of Beijing's ambitions is consistently foregrounded in the mainstream Australian media, one that is not shared by all. Former Prime Minister, Paul Keating, advises Australians to not become "too hung up on the words *democrat* or *democracy*" and asserts that "China is not an ideological state". There are many more alternative and nuanced impressions, especially amongst members of Australia's diverse Chinese communities who have little or no voice in this national conversation. All the while, malicious and inflammatory gossip pollutes social media with exaggerations and falsehoods, to the detriment of informed debate about Australia's national interests and China's 'true' intentions.

This public seminar brings together experts in media and global affairs to discuss these questions and to create a space in which contrary opinions can be respectfully aired, in the interests of a more inclusive national dialogue.



Chair:

Associate Professor Paul Battersby (RMIT), Associate Dean, Global and Language Studies, School of Global, Urban and Social Studies, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology University.

Panellists:

Dr Stanley Chiang (GP and Former Lord Mayor of Darebin City)

Mr Baoming Shan (Chair of the Board, United Times Media Group)

Mr Jieh-Yung Lo (Chinese-Australian Writer and Commentator)

A light lunch and refreshments will be available from 12 pm.

Full Disclosure: Truth and Fakery in Australian Public Commentary on China is presented by the Australia-China Studies Forum at the Social and Global Studies Centre, RMIT.