



EARLY CHINA SEMINAR  
LECTURE SERIES

## Remembrance in Clay and Stone: Early Memorial and Funerary Art of Southwest China

Hajni Elias · University of Cambridge



Decorated stone sarcophagus, Pi county, Sichuan

This talk, based on my manuscript of the same title, examines the artistic tradition of Southwest China in the Eastern Han dynasty (25-220 C.E.), with a focus on the geographical area of present-day Sichuan province. The ‘ancient art of Sichuan’ exhibits notable differences from the artistic traditions in other parts of the Han Empire. Pictorial brick tiles, decorated stone sarcophagi and memorial stelae are introduced in the talk to highlight some of the socio-economic, political and cultural influences that illustrate how the Southwest, which, far from being a ‘barbarian’ uncivilized border region as early historiography largely suggests, had a distinct, vibrant and sophisticated regional heritage visibly reflected in its art.

**April 19, 2024, 4:30–6:30 pm**

**Faculty House, 64 Morningside Drive, Columbia University**

\*Please check the announcement board in the first-floor lobby for room information

### **Seminar Co-Chairs:**

Glenda Chao, Ursinus College

Ethan Harkness, New York University

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