

THE **HITCHCOCK** INSTITUTE FOR **STUDIES** IN **AMERICAN** **MUSIC**

presents, in collaboration with the Ethyle R. Wolfe Institute for the Humanities
and the Conservatory of Music at Brooklyn College:

MUSIC IN POLYCULTURAL AMERICA

fall 2021 virtual speaker series

A Transpacific History of American Music

NANCY YUNHWA RAO

The Pacific Rim region has significantly impacted United States nation building and the development of its modernity. At the same time, Asian Americans have suffered from various forms of racial discrimination and violence throughout American history. This talk examines a particular transpacific history of American music: the history of Chinese opera theater in America. The presentation traces Chinese opera theater's beginning and development in the US, interrogates the notion of its strangeness and the incarnation of racialized sonic images, examines archival issues, and considers the possibilities and challenges of assembling a transpacific history of American music.

Nancy Yunhwa Rao is Head of Music Theory and Professor at Rutgers University. Her multifaceted work connects musicology, music theory, and scholarship on Chinese opera with gender and ethnic studies. She has published extensively in music journals and her 2007 study of Ruth Crawford won the Irving Lowens Article Award from the Society for American Music. Rao's book, *Chinatown Opera Theater in North America*, was supported by ACLS and NEH fellowships and received book awards from the American Musicological Society, the Society for American Music, and the Association for Asian American Studies.



THURSDAY, 2 DECEMBER, 9:30AM

register here for Zoom link: <https://tinyurl.com/2he8t38n>

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