THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY



THE INSTITUTE FOR CHINESE STUDIES, CENTER FOR HISTORICAL RESEARCH, AND CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF RELIGION PRESENT:

"THE EFFICACY OF RAGE IN CHINESE RELIGION"

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Rage is often thought of as difficult to control, as something that wells up and foments instability and violence both public and private. The history of religions is replete with episodes in which holy wrath has led to riots, revolutions, melees, and massacres. But rage has also been imagined as productive, even essential, for deeply spiritual pursuits. This presentation explores how rage has been a crucial aspect of Daoist liturgy as practiced in China today and yesterday. It examines how rage, while still remaining dangerous and potentially self-destructive, has been a catalyst forming a deep connection between human and divine and so providing efficacy in rituals designed to protect and heal.





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