



CENTRE FOR ASIAN AND
TRANSCULTURAL STUDIES

INSTITUTE OF
EAST ASIAN ART HISTORY



UNIVERSITÄT
HEIDELBERG
ZUKUNFT
SEIT 1386



ONLINE TALK

Dr. Francesca Monteith

School of Cultural Heritage, Northwest University, Xi'an, Shaanxi Province

Location, Setting and Structure

The Landscape Archaeology of Religious Rock
Carvings and Cave Temples

Monday, 06/02/2023 | 14:15–16:00

Cave temples and religious rock carvings provide key insight into Buddhist practice and its evolution in early Medieval China (ca. 360-1279 CE). Although some sites appear in historical records and contain inscriptions, the majority of cave temples do not. Many religious rock carvings are poorly preserved, dispersed and essentially hidden within the landscape. This talk aims to highlight how geospatial and archaeological methods can be used alongside art historical methods to allow us to further interpret sites with lost paintings or eroded statuary. In so doing, the varied roles of cave temples and religious rock carving sites demonstrate their functions.

Presented in Seminar:
Contested Spaces, Grey Areas, WiSe 22/23
taught by Prof. Dr. Sarah E. Fraser,
Institute for East Asian Art History (IKO)



[Click to register via Zoom](#)



iko.uni-hd.de