Notice of the Final Oral Examination
for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

of

YANG LIU

MFA (University of Victoria, 2013)
BA (University of Saskatchewan, 2009)

“Human, Nature and Beyond:
The Transformation of Chinese Landscape Representation since
the Founding of the People's Republic of China”

Interdisciplinary Studies

Wednesday, March 31, 2021
9:00 am PDT
Remote Defence

Supervisory Committee:
Dr. Astri Wright, Department of Art History and Visual Studies, University of Victoria (Supervisor)
Dr. Richard King, Department of Pacific and Asian Studies, UVic (Co-Supervisor)
Prof. Lynda Gammon, Department of Visual Arts, UVic (Outside Member)

External Examiner:
Dr. Jiehong Jiang, Department of Art, Birmingham City University

Chair of Oral Examination:
Dr. Jutta Gutberlet, Department of Geography, UVic

Dr. Stephen Evans, Acting Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies
Abstract

The continuous innovation of Chinese landscape presentation demonstrates that a long-standing Chinese cultural tradition, which has been enshrined in art historical discourse both Chinese and foreign, is alterable. Through the examination of landscape transformation in Chinese art this dissertation seeks to analyze how it reflects on China’s political issues, environmental problems, historical and cultural traditions, and national identity. This study argues that Chinese landscape presentation is and has always been a dynamic and fluid visual form with the potential to respond to new experiences of both temporal and spiritual kinds, as related to perceptions of nature, all of which are based on the humanist philosophies unique to Chinese civilization.