



– Institute's Colloquium –

**Joseba Estevez
(WWU Münster)**

The Lanten manuscripts: Intergenerational ritual transmission and the dynamics of knowledge reproduction among the Lanten - Yao Mun - in northern Laos

The Lanten, a population also known as Lao Huay or Yao Mun and living in the highlands of continental Southeast Asia, have been exposed for centuries to conflicts and processes of marginalisation, ranging from clashes with the Chinese Dynasties from the 12th Century onwards to their involvement in the Indochina Wars from the 1950s to the 1970s. These forced them to undertake long migrations that brought them from their native land in China to Vietnam and Laos. In the face of these vicissitudes, the Lanten society has displayed an extraordinary resilience. In this respect, the Lanten belief system and particularly the roles performed by the Lanten ritual experts and their Daoist manuscripts are of essential importance. Mr Joseba Estevez will present the socio-historical background of these manuscripts, some of them dating back to the 17th century, their means of production and transmission, and their current ritual use. Furthermore, it will be introduced the project funded by the British Library to digitalise a selection of Lanten manuscripts (Endangered Archives Programme, projects EAP791 and EAP1126)

Wednesday, October 24th 2018

4-6 p.m.

Institute of Ethnology

Stuttstraße 21, Raum STU 105 (2.10)

Everybody is welcome!