**The Voice of the Fans in the Digital Era:**

**Fan Translation and Film Criticism in China**

Film criticism in China has been changing due to a growing fan community and their active participation in online film reviewing. While social media has democratized who can write reviews, there remain distinct hierarchies of professional and amateur reviewers. Drawing upon Henry Jenkins’ concept of “knowledge community” (2006) and recent studies on amateur translation by scholars such as Luis Pérez-González (2014) and Tessa Dwyer (2018), this talk explores how translation has been used by Chinese film fans to challenge the existing film reviewing system in China and participate in the debate over the nature of film criticism in the digital age. Through a case study of the fan translation and dissemination of an English review of the recent Chinese blockbuster *The Wandering Earth* (2019), it argues that translation, as an alternative form of self-expression, constitutes both an important cinematic experience for fans and an attempt by grassroots consumers to disrupt existing knowledge systems and power structures.

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