

Media Release



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Chinese media and internet trends at the Wheeler Centre Kaiser Kuo visits Australia to discuss the Chinese internet, censorship and the West

Kaiser Kuo hails from the US but, for over a decade, has been living and working in Beijing as writer, rock musician and commentator on technology and politics. From this vantage point, he offers a fascinating view of the Chinese internet, technological innovation, media and youth culture.

For one night only, he visits Melbourne to discuss the “ecosystem” that is the evolving Chinese internet. He will examine how the internet in China has become a rare, public sphere and how the public opinion expressed there is an obsession for decision-makers in China. He looks at the intersection and divergence of two different internets – the West and China – and argues there is more to the story than just censorship.

Thursday 13 May 2010, 6:30PM - 7:30PM

The Great Firewall of China: Kaiser Kuo on the Internet, Censorship and the West

The Wheeler Centre Auditorium, 176 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne

FREE, bookings through wheelercentre.com

Kaiser Kuo in conversation with Catharine Lumby

About Kaiser Kuo:

Kuo currently serves as a consultant for international business and media relations for Youku.com, China's leading internet video site, as well as an advisory board member to several internet-related start-up companies. He is a frequent guest on China Central Television's premier English-language news talk show, *Dialogue*, and speaks frequently on topics related to the Chinese internet. His monthly column in Beijing's premiere English-language magazine, *The Beijinger*, has run for over eight years, and an anthology of columns titled *Ich Bin Ein Beijinger* was published in June 2009. He was named one of the global top 100 Twitter users by *Foreign Policy* magazine.

Kuo is also co-founder and lead guitarist of one of China's most successful rock bands, Tang Dynasty and continues to be active in Beijing's rock scene as lead guitarist of Chunqiu. He lives in Beijing with his wife and two young children. He is currently working on a new book on Sino-American relations at a people-to-people level.

For interviews and media enquiries contact Anna Lensky

t: +61 3 9094 7806 m: +61 (0)425 766 780 e: anna.lensky@wheelercentre.com

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A Victorian Government initiative and the centrepiece of Melbourne's designation as a UNESCO City of Literature.