



Lectures in China



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China**

I am Mark Levine

I am an American sociologist whose as an academic sociologist focused on social inequality, social movements and popular culture.

Leaving the academic world in 1976 after completing my doctoral dissertation (from Bowling Green State University) on the rise of the Nazis in Germany in 1928, I became a “public sociologist.”

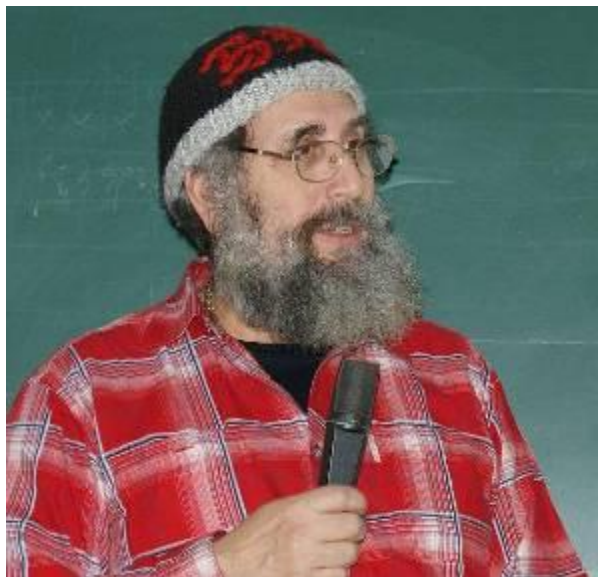
From 1976-2005 I worked as a full-time volunteer labor and community organizer for organizations of poor workers struggling to change the conditions that made them poor.

The combination of my academic background and my work as an organizer gave me a unique understanding the politics and economics of the United States, particularly as it relates to the American poor and working class.

Teaching in China since 2005

After first going to Huai'an in Jiangsu Province, because it was the home of Zhou Enlai, in 2007 I came to Beijing where I still teach at Minzu University of China in the School of Foreign Studies.

In addition to Minzu University I have taught at ...



*Huaiyin Teachers College
Renmin University
The Graduate School of the Chinese
Academy of Social Sciences
Beijing Dance Academy,
Beijing Foreign Studies University
as well as a number of primary, middle,
high schools and training centers.*

In my three decades as an organizer in the US, I was an invited lecturer at ...

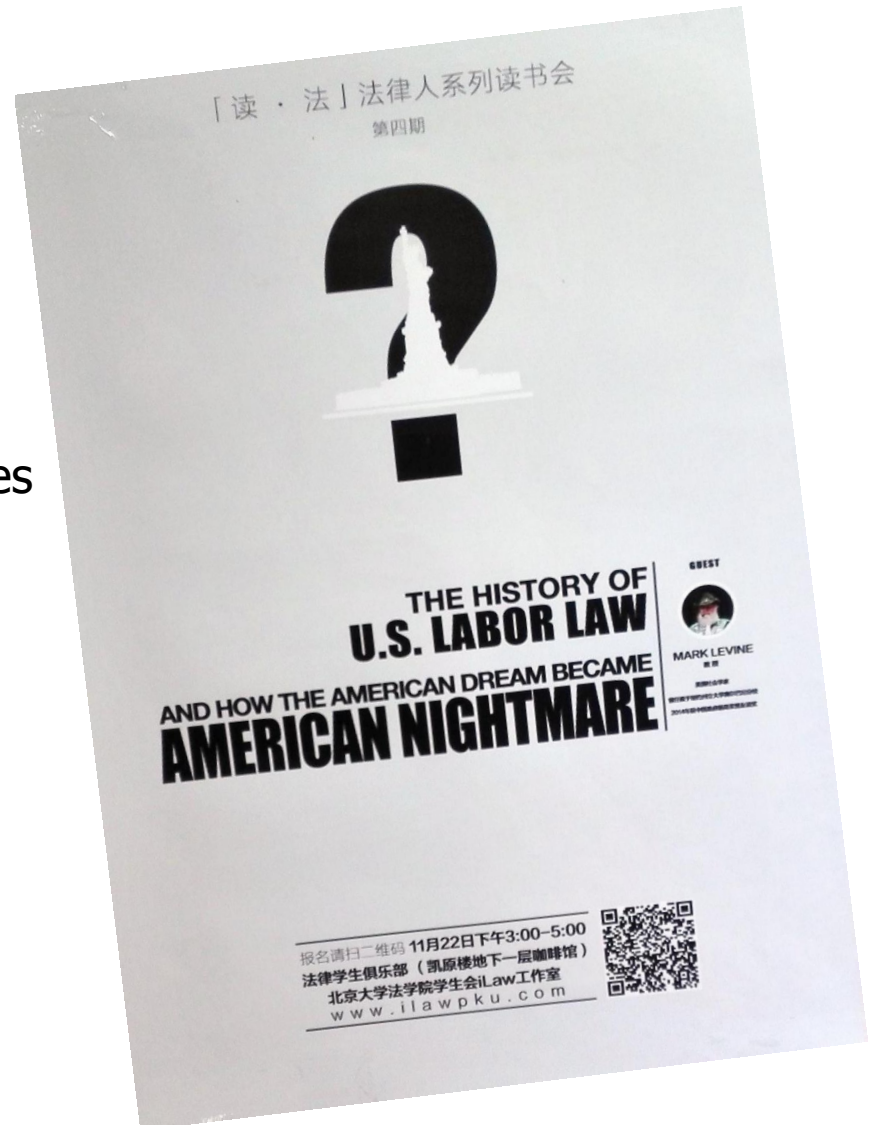
Bowling Green State University (Bowling Green, OH)
California State University – Fullerton
California State University – Sacramento
DePaul University Law School (Chicago, IL)
Loyola University (Chicago, IL)
New College of Law (San Francisco, CA)
San Francisco State University (San Francisco, CA)
Southern Oregon State University (Ashland, OR)
University at Albany (Albany, NY)
University of California – Davis
University of California - Los Angeles
University of California - San Francisco
University of Chicago (Chicago, IL)
University of San Diego (San Diego, CA)
Whittier College (Whittier, CA)

Brooklyn College (Brooklyn, NY)
California State University - Los Angeles
Columbia College (Chicago, IL)
Hastings Law School (San Francisco, CA)
New College (San Francisco, CA)
San Diego State University (San Diego, CA)
San Jose State University (San Jose, CA)
State University of New York – Stonybrook
University of California – Berkeley
University of California - Irvine
University of California - San Diego
University of California - Santa Cruz
University of the Pacific (Stockton, CA)
University of San Francisco
Williams College (Williamstown, MA)

In addition to these universities, I also gave thousands of formal and informal presentations to academic conferences, community and charity groups, volunteer associations, business and service organizations as well as churches and synagogues.

In China I have been an invited lecturer at ...

Beihang University
Beijing Jiatong University
Beijing Union University
Capital Normal University
Central University of Finance
and Economics
China Foreign Affairs University
Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
Dong Hua University
Hunan Normal University
Peking University
Qingdao University
Shandong University
Shanghai International Studies
University
Suzhou University
Tsinghua University



Speaking and debating Coach and Judge

Since coming to Beijing in 2007 I have served as both a **speaking** and **debating** coach for MUC participants in both local and national competitions.



I have been a judge for the FLTRP-Cup Debating Competition since 2009 and served as the host for the semi-final rounds from 2011-2013.

I have served as a question master for the finals of the FLTRP, the 21st Century and the New Concept English speaking competitions. I have also served as a judge for more than a dozen others with participants aged from 4-54.



Songwriter and Musician

Having played guitar since childhood, since coming to China I have written more than 60 songs about my life and experiences here and call

them my *Stories from a Life in China*.

Since 2008 I have had more than 300 musical performances before live audiences, on TV and radio performing my own songs and many Chinese songs.



My music, teaching and life in China have been reported on in ...



NEWSPAPERS: *Renmin Ribao, Global Times, Beijing Today, China Daily,* and numerous local papers in Beijing, Hunan, Jiangsu and elsewhere in China.

MAGAZINES: *International Talent, China Today Beijing This Month, Life Element, Overseas Educated Scholars, Tianjin Plus.*

RADIO: China Radio International, Beijing Radio, Tianjin Radio

TELEVISION: CCTV 3, CCTV 4, CCTV 13, CCTV News, Beijing TV, Hunan TV, Blue Ocean Network, Jiangsu Broadcasting, CETV and many other provincial and local TV stations.

INTERNET WEBSITES: www.china.org.cn, www.sina.com, www.eBeijing.gov.cn, and others

马克·方文: 唱响中国

马克·方文，一位来自美国的音乐人，他的音乐在中国各地广受欢迎。他不仅是一位优秀的歌手，还是一位才华横溢的吉他手。他的音乐风格独特，深受中国听众的喜爱。他的音乐作品不仅在中国各大音乐平台上线，还被收录在多本音乐杂志中。他的音乐之旅充满了挑战，但他始终保持着对音乐的热爱和追求。他的音乐不仅是一种艺术表达，更是一种文化交流的桥梁。他的音乐作品在中国各地引起了广泛的关注和讨论，成为许多音乐爱好者的首选。他的音乐之旅充满了挑战，但他始终保持着对音乐的热爱和追求。他的音乐不仅是一种艺术表达，更是一种文化交流的桥梁。



Expats infuse Chinese folk songs with personal interpretation

By Wu Han
Two weeks ago, a music video appeared on Weibo called "Foreigner in Beijing," showing an expat's rendition of folk music and modern pop of Beijing. It quickly went viral, it wasn't the first time that foreign, the singing foreigner in the video, who the focus of Chinese viewers through song.

And he isn't alone.
Despite all the globalization fan-fare for Beijing and China, expats still seem to be drawn to traditional folk music. They also realize what is almost Chinese folk music, especially the "old" ones that were intended to be a kind of music.



TV and Internet Video Documentaries

I have been the subject of the many video documentaries in China

Jiangsu Broadcasting: "An Old American in the Hometown of Zhou Enlai"

CRI (English-service website): "Mark Levine – Love China, Love Red Songs"

CCTV News (China 24): "Story of an American Living in Beijing"

Blue Ocean Network (BON): "American Mark Levine Sings 'Red Songs'"

CCTV 4: "Lei Feng Knows No Boundaries"

eBeijing.gov.cn: "I don't speak Chinese but I sing Chinese Songs very well."

CCTV 4 (Foreigners in China): "Mark's Summer"

CCTV 13: "Ai Zai Zhong Guo"

CRI (Spanish-service website): "In Side Out –
Dos Culturas, Un Mundo"

BON: "Beipiao," "My Chinese Journey"

China.org.cn: "Mark Levine blends Western and Chinese Culture"

BON: "Mark Levine: A Foreigner's Dream About China"

BON: "Mark Levine: Teaching Communication Between
Chinese and the West"

BON: "Mark Levine: American Musician Gives China a Voice"



I have published 14 articles in Chinese magazines about my life in China

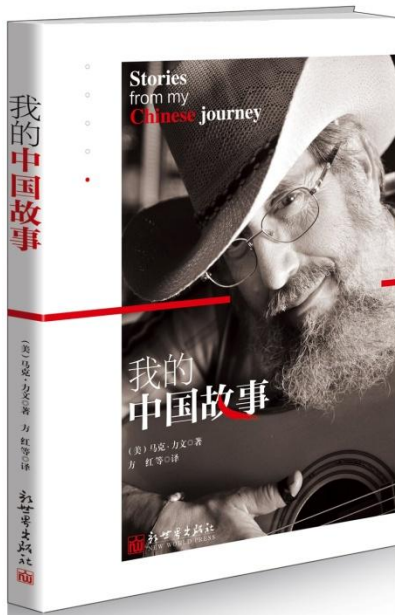


China's Ethnic Groups
International Talent
Global Charity
China Reading Monthly
English Salon
Speak Out

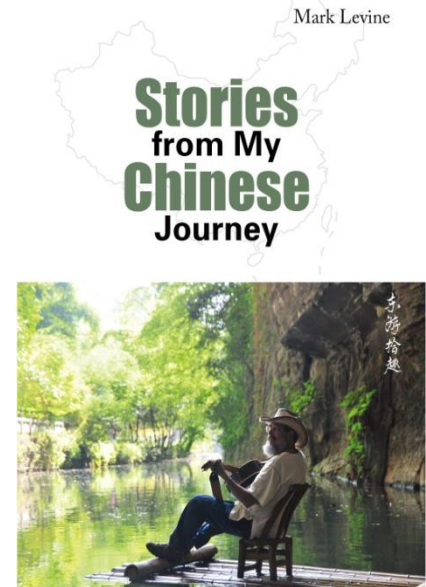


Stories from My Chinese Journey

My book, Stories from my Chinese Journey, was published by New World Press, in April, 2014. Professor Guo Yingjian, former Dean of the School of Foreign Studies at Minzu University of China wrote in his foreward ...



“This is an extraordinary book, with its insight, different perspectives and real life experience. In some sense, it will dispel the still pervasive myths about China and Chinese. ... To me, this book is a bridge. It will greatly help Chinese people to become acquainted with a nice American man and to know how he perceives China and Chinese. And I am also convinced that the interesting stories here will make an important contribution to the image of real China, real Chinese and their lives in today’s world for more American people through the eyes of an American person. It is an extraordinarily timely book, at a time when communication in a global context has become increasingly important for China and US, and for the people of two great countries.”



"They helped build New China and "Red Dream Catchers"



I am the organizer and host of a special series of lectures entitled "They Helped Build New China." In these presentations the children and grandchildren of the "Old Foreign Experts" who came to China between the 1920's and 1960's tell the stories of their relatives contributions to the founding and building of the PRC. This series was first presented at Minzu University and was then at Peking University.

As a result of this work, I was invited by CCTV 9 to serve as a special advisor on their "Red Dream Catchers" documentary series about foreigners who were in China during the War of Resistance to Japanese Aggression.

I am a Board Member of the Edgar Snow Research Center at Peking University and a Counsel

Member of the China Society for People's Friendship Studies.

Presentations Currently Available

American History & Culture lectures

1. *The Sounds of Social Change*
2. *How the American Dream became the American Nightmare: What gave rise to Occupy Wall Street?*
3. *History of US Labor Law and How the American Dream Became the American Nightmare.*
4. *Christmas Songs*
(After Thanksgiving, Before Christmas)

They Helped Build New China lectures

1. *They Helped Build New China (overview of the contributions of foreigners to building the PRC)*
2. *Toller of the Bell of Truth: Israel Epstein*

Presentations Currently Available

Public Speaking lectures

- 1. Writing a successful Speech*
- 2. Tips on Public Speaking Delivery*
- 3. Listen to the Judge: Tips from an Experienced Public Speaking Judge*

Translation lectures

- 1. Changing Roles, From Translator to Reader*
- 2. Culture and Translation*

Stories from my Chinese Journey

The Sounds of Social Change

In modern societies, while music is often a form of entertainment it can also be more. It can pass from one generation to another and teach lessons of the past; convey spiritual or religious feelings; help unify those who share it and can even communicate messages of protest against specific policies, laws or institutions within a society.



THE SOUNDS OF SOCIAL CHANGE focuses on several different periods of US history and discusses not only the events, but also the accompanying music that derived from the social movements that developed during those periods: songs from the abolitionist movement of the 1800's against slavery, songs from the Great Depression, songs telling of the struggles for workers and civil rights and songs opposition to the war in Vietnam. The presentation also includes a discussion and performance of selected songs from each of these categories, locating them in the struggles of the day. It also includes perspectives on the role of such music from both academics and political figures.

Stories from my Chinese Journey

My background as a sociologist and a community organizer, my travels to 20 Chinese provinces, my contact with many people in large and small Chinese cities as well as the countryside, my life as a teacher, speaker, musician and writer has given me a unique vantage point from which to see and understand China. This presentation takes both the title and stories from my upcoming book, music from my CDs, “A Chinese Musical Journey” and “In Side Out” as well as video footage from TV and internet appearances to give audiences a taste of what I have seen, felt and learned in China.



How the American Dream Became the American Nightmare: What Gave Rise to the Occupy Wall Street Movement?



For many months during late 2011 and early 2012, the Occupy Wall Street Movement was daily news. Most explanations focused on the short-term, failing to consider the long history of economic and political factors that gave rise to this phenomena, the likes of which had not been seen in the US for many decades.



In the political realm, this began with the legal constraints places on the labor movement beginning in the 1930's. In the economic realm, one must begin with US-based international monopoly capital "coming back home" to the US beginning in the final days of war in Vietnam. With a background both in the sociology of social movements and three decades of practice as a participant and leader in labor and community organizations, this lecture is rooted in a unique perspective toward this topic.

They Helped Build New China

There are two presentations available under this title:

“Toller of the Bell of Truth: Israel Epstein” (see next page)

“They Helped Build New China” – Provides an overview of a number of foreigners who contributed to the founding and building of the PRC. Some will be touched on briefly – Agnes Smedley, Dr. George Hatem, Rewi Alley, Isabel and David Crook, Eugene Chen, Elisabeth Kushkina – while somewhat more in detailed discussions are included on Edgar Snow, Dr. Norman Bethune, Israel Epstein and Ruth Weiss.

Toller of the Bell of Truth: Israel Epstein

In a 1947 letter about the then-recently published *The Unfinished Revolution in China*, Soong Qing Ling wrote that Israel Epstein's book has the "resounding ring of truth."

During her lifetime many writers expressed interest in writing the biography of Soong Qing Ling. She always gave the same answer. First, she wanted no biography to be written until after her death. Second, there was only one person she wanted to write her biography and that person was Israel Epstein.



Epstein, a Polish-born Jew whose parents brought him to China at the age of two in 1917, later became a Chinese citizen, joined the Communist Party of China and served on the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC). He authored a total of eight books about China. He also served as Editor-in-Chief of *China Reconstructs* (later renamed *China Today*) from its founding in 1951 until his retirement at the age of 70 in 1985.

This presentation speaks of some of the highlights of Epstein's life, his contributions to China and the relevance of his writings today.

Successful Public Speaking

While useful for public speaking in any language, this trio of presentations are particularly beneficial for those learning to address western audiences in English or participate in speaking competitions.

1. **Writing a Successful Speech** – how to identify the goals of your presentation and organize your speech to best accomplish these goals. Particular emphasis is given to the preparation of persuasive speeches.
2. **Tips on Speech Delivery** – beginning with guidelines on how to build a relationship with an audience, this lecture offers guidelines on how to expand that relationship through the process of the presentation.
3. **"Listen to the Judge"** – *tips from an experienced public speaking competition Judge*

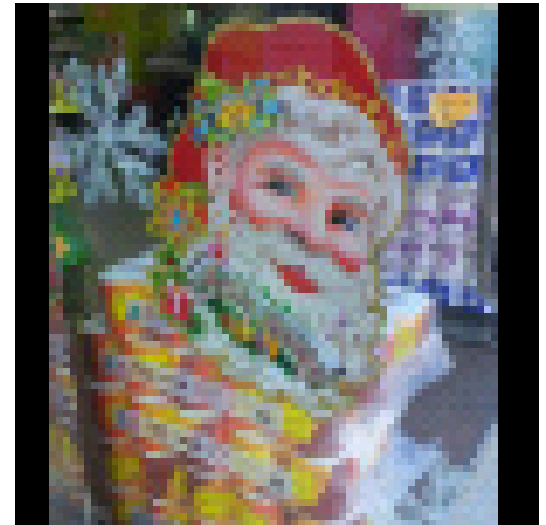
***Demystifying Impromptu Speech* (with Dr. Yang Lifang of BFSU) was published by Foreign Language Teaching and Research Press in May 2015)**



Christmas Songs

As in many parts of the world, the Christmas season in China has become a time to celebrate with friends, food, gifts without any particular connection to the religious origins of the holiday. Music is an important part of the Celebratory spirit and an untold number of songs have been written to maintain that spirit. This presentation introduces a wide variety of Christmas songs, provides an explanation their meaning and teaches the audiences to sing some of them.

This presentation is reserved for what we in the US refer to as the Christmas season, beginning right after Thanksgiving and ending with New Year's and, in Addition to songs, also includes some discussion of US traditions around these holidays as well as other social phenomena they give rise to.



Awards Received in China

2015 – Named Honorary Citizen of the City of Huai’an, Jiangsu by the 25th Party Congress of Huai’an

2014 – National Friendship Award – by State Administration of Foreign Experts Affairs)

2014 – “Most Favorite Foreign Teacher of Chinese Students” – by International Talent Magazine (State Administration of Foreign Experts Affairs)

2011-2013 – “Great Wall Friendship Award” – by Beijing Municipal Government

2013 – “Certificate of Honor” Beijing Youth Camp International

2011 – “Special Award for Service,” by Organizing Committee of the 2011 Zhangjiajie International Country Music Week.

2009 – “Special Award for Service,” by Organizing Committee of the 2009 Zhangjiajie International Country Music Week.

**For more information or to schedule lectures
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