

The Emory Department of Anthropology and the
Confucius Institute in Atlanta present

Some Na Ceremonies (2012, digital video, 30 minutes)

created by Na directors Onci Archei and Ruheng Duoji and produced by Tami Blumenfield

Monday, October 7, 2013 / ANT 206

11:30-12:30 Film screening and discussion

12:30-1:30 Graduate luncheon (by invitation only)

***Some Na Ceremonies* is a montage of five short pieces. Representations of Na people (a.k.a. Moso) usually center on their matrilineal kinship system, overlooking religion, a central aspect in the lives of Na people. This film's directors decided to intervene in this omission, capturing important ceremonies on digital video. Ranging from a film festival, to a pig-sacrifice ceremony, to a three-day funerary ceremony, the ceremonies presented here are rivetingly elaborate and spiritually meaningful. By avoiding interpretation or voice-over narration but using carefully crafted visual images, the film emphasizes the partiality of any representational attempt. The ceremonies presented are but a glimpse of a much larger ceremonial and spiritual world.**

View the trailer at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YCbt2b7qx_w

Tami Blumenfield is James B. Duke Assistant Professor of Asian Studies at Furman University. She is an anthropologist of China and documentary film producer who earned her doctorate at the University of Washington in 2010. While a college sophomore studying Chinese at Yunnan University, she took a short-term leave of absence to act in a Yunnan Minority Film Studios feature film, 幸福花园 (Garden of Happiness). Dr. Blumenfield has since spent more than four years conducting fieldwork in ethnically diverse regions of southwest China on educational practices, cultural heritage politics, social change and media production. Much of her research has explored social change in Na villages located in and around tourist zones near Lugu Lake. Her book manuscript *Screening Moso: Communities of Media in Southwest China*, supported by a publication fellowship from the American Association for University Women, discusses a collaboration and participatory media project with the Moso Folk Museum. Dr. Blumenfield continues to collaborate with Moso Folk Museum directors **Onci Archei** and **Ruheng Duoji**.