

Constructing Space: Ecclesiastical Architecture in Macao, Beijing, Nagasaki, and Manila from the mid-sixteenth century to the early eighteenth century

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Intake Year: 2019

Research Track: History and Theory of Architecture and Urbanism

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Dissertation Abstract

My research examines the physical and the metaphysical spaces embodied by Jesuit-produced ecclesiastical architecture in the context of the mid-sixteenth and early eighteenth centuries, and the broader role of design and the built environment in Sino-European encounters. I look specifically at church buildings in four Asian cities—Macao, Beijing, Nagasaki, and Manila—and their contributions both to competing imperial formations in Asia and, by extension, shifts in the nature of global diplomacy, trade, politics, and power.