Topics on Globalization and Culture

Global City and Cosmopolitanism I

Lecturer: Ma Ran

Tokyo has no nationality.

prelude
NOTEBOOK ON CITIES AND CLOTHES
1989, Director: Wim Wenders

ideals on autuer/authorship (either for film art/industry or for fashion design/industry);
individual artist vis-a-vis the collective

fashion-making as the expression of identity

identity (national identities, gender identities etc.);
conflicts of ideas about identities

vision of cosmopolitanism
"Tokyo has no nationality"

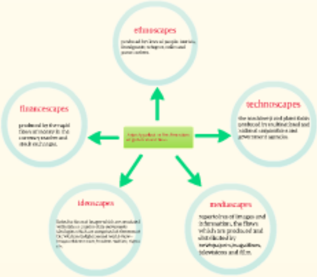
Yamamoto is often quoted as saying that he designed for women that were powerful in the sense that they didn't have to rely on their appearance or flaunt their femininity. Instead, they could take loose, draped garments and be confident enough to make them look as chic as a YSL gown.

He also pushed against concepts of perfection, and this is because his work was based on the Japanese principle of 'wabi-sabi', a concept which believes that beauty lies in imperfection.

Global Culture & Global City

Gangnam for Freedom - Ai Wei Wei and Friends

by Amnesty International


ethnoscapes
produced by flows of people: tourists, immigrants, refugees, exiles and guest workers.
technoscapes
the machinery and plant flows produced by multinational and national corporations and government agencies.
mediascapes
repertoires of images and information, the flows which are produced and distributed by newspapers, magazines, television and film.
ideoscapes
financescapes
produced by the rapid flows of money in the currency market and stock exchanges.

global/world cities

Saskia Sassen

cosmopolitanism in context

varieties of mobility

cosmopolitans tend to immerse themselves in other cultures; they want to be participants; they want to be able to sneak backstage rather than being confined to the frontstage areas.

cosmopolitanism & power

But what about a situation where these conditions are not available—a situation where "divergent cultural experiences" are not freely chosen but forced on us, as they are under colonialism? What form of "openness" should we cultivate then, and would this constitute a cosmopolitan stance or a comprador-ist one? Could cosmopolitanism be one version of "cultural imperialism"?

comprador

A native-born agent in China and certain other Asian countries formerly employed by a foreign business to serve as a collaborator or intermediary in commercial transactions.

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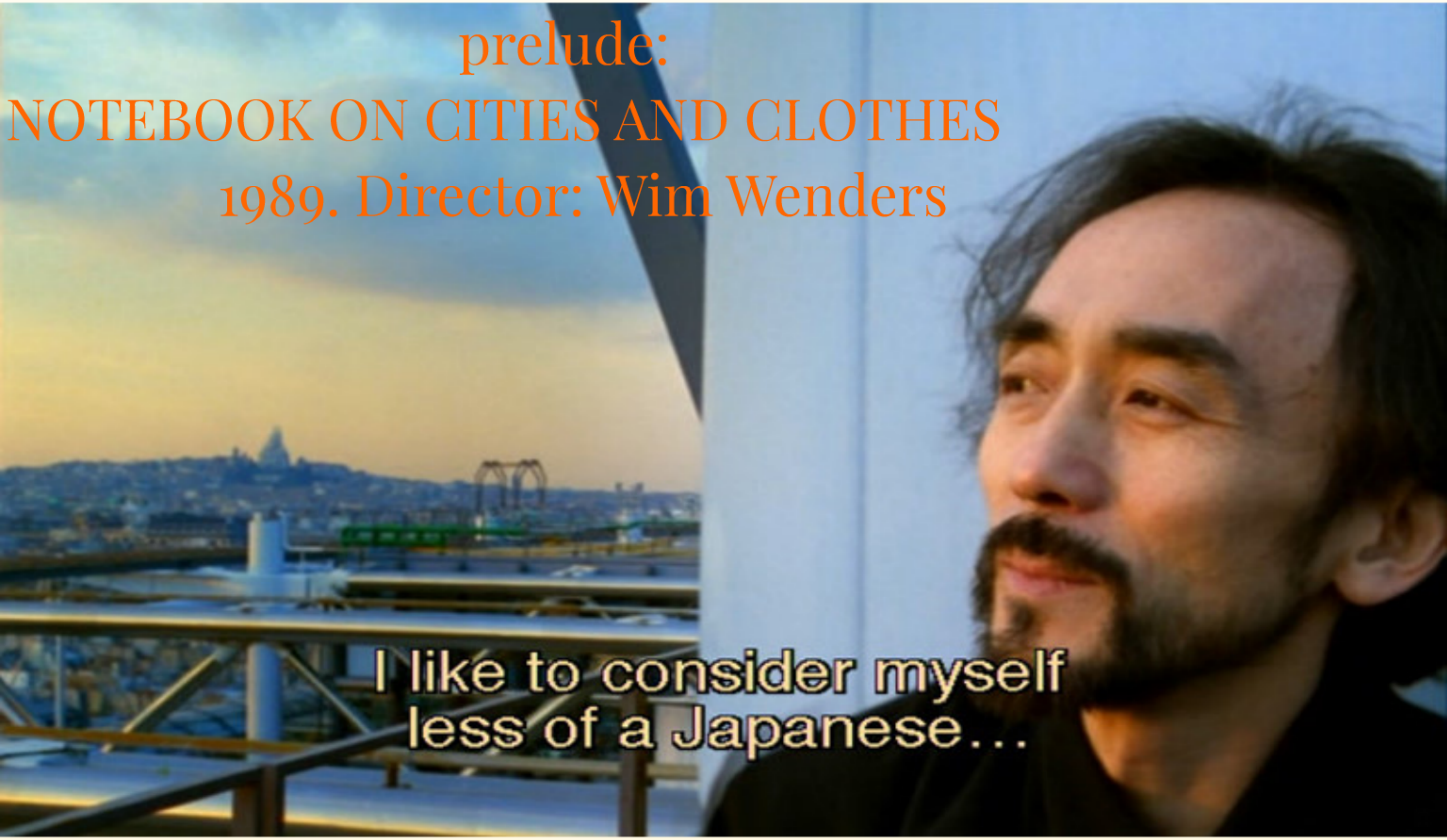
Notebook on Cities 2nd Clothes(1989)

prelude:
NOTEBOOK ON CITIES AND CLOTHES
1989. Director: Wim Wenders


I like to consider myself
less of a Japanese...

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Global Culture & Global City

Featherstone, Mike. "Global Culture: An Introduction", Theory, Culture & Society, June 1990, No.7: 1-14

According to Featherstone, "global culture" should be approached in terms of processes, as "the globalization of culture":

1) cultural integration & cultural disintegration processes taking place not only on an inter-state level but processes which transcend the state-society unit and can therefore be held to occur on a trans-national or trans-society level---"third cultures"

2) postmodernism: defining global culture less in terms of alleged homogenizing processes (Americanization, mass consumer culture etc.) and more in terms of the diversity, variety and richness of popular and local discourses, codes and practices which resist and play-back systemicity and order.

Since the 1960s, understandings of globalization have highlighted asymmetry

center-periphery/metropolis-satellites model ?

Arjun Appadurai on five dimensions of global cultural flows

Arjun Appadurai on five dimensions of global cultural flows

ethnoscapes

produced by flows of people: tourists, immigrants, refugees, exiles and guestworkers.

technoscapes

the machinery and plant flows produced by multinational and national corporations and government agencies.

mediascapes

repertoires of images and information, the flows which are produced and distributed by newspapers,magazines, televisions and film.

ideoscapes

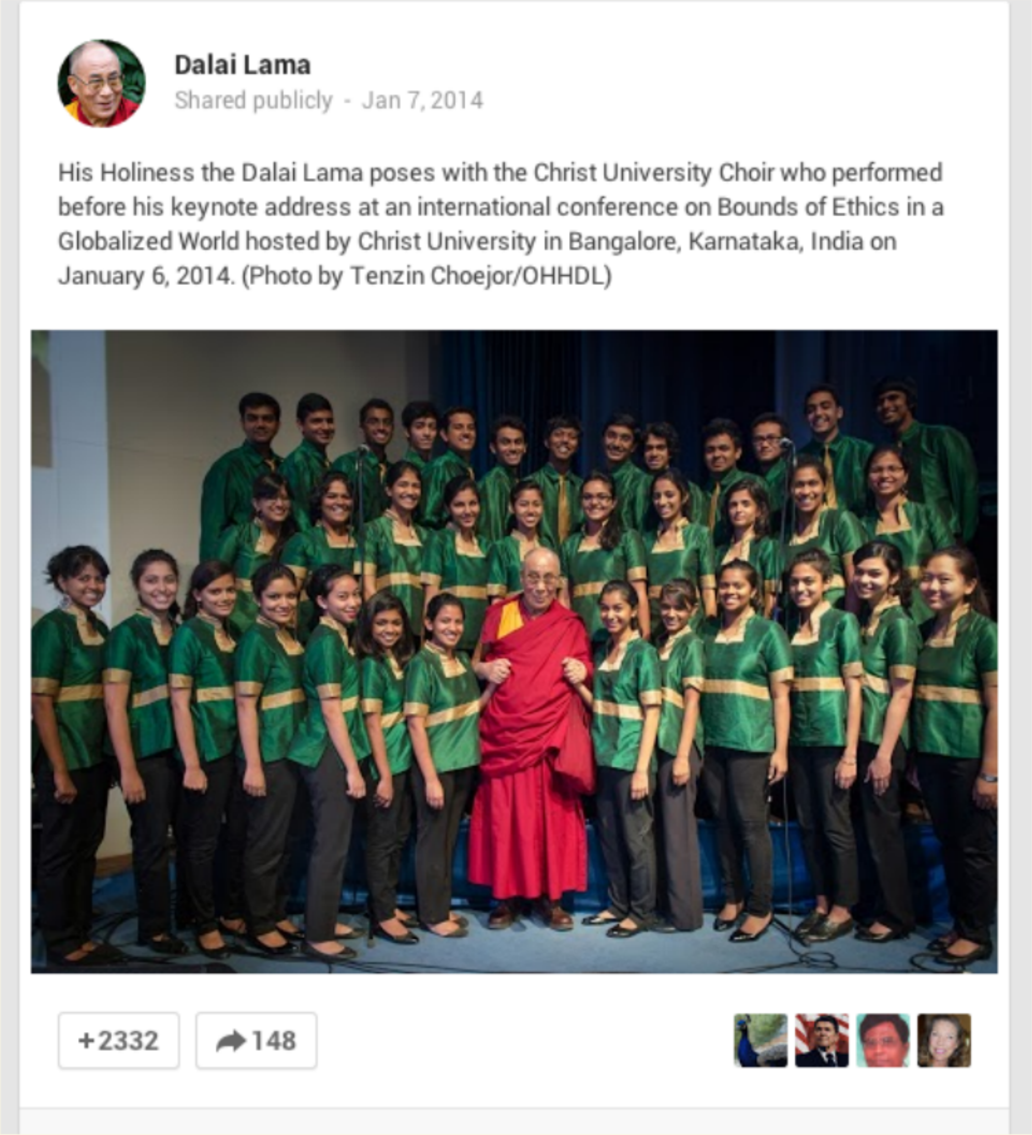
linked to flows of images which are associated with state or counter-state movements ideologies which are comprised of elements of the Western Enlightenment world-view--images of democracy, freedom, welfare, rights etc.

financescapes

produced by the rapid flows of money in the currency market and stock exchanges.

Google + of Dalai Lama

Dalai Lama
Lives in Dharamsala
Following
4,631,827 have him in circles

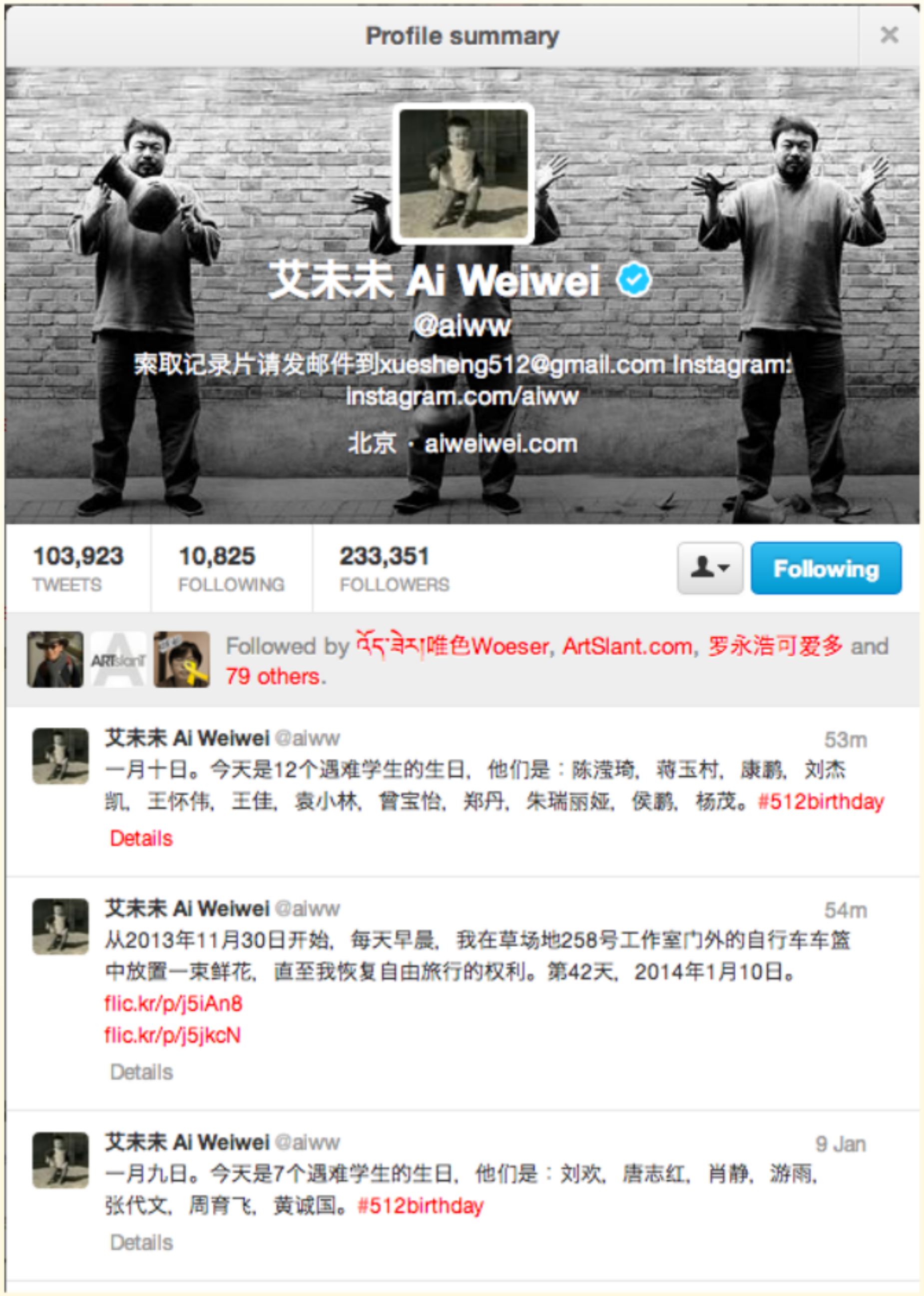


Dalai Lama

Shared publicly - Jan 7, 2014

His Holiness the Dalai Lama poses with the Christ University Choir who performed before his keynote address at an international conference on Bounds of Ethics in a Globalized World hosted by Christ University in Bangalore, Karnataka, India on January 6, 2014. (Photo by Tenzin Choejor/OHHDL)

Twitter of Aiweiwei



Profile summary

艾未未 Ai Weiwei

@aiww

索取记录片请发邮件到xuesheng512@gmail.com Instagram: instagram.com/aiww

北京 · aiweiwei.com

103,923	10,825	233,351
TWEETS	FOLLOWING	FOLLOWERS

Followed by འོད་ཟེར།唯色Woeser, ArtSlant.com, 罗永浩可爱多 and 79 others.

艾未未 Ai Weiwei @aiww 53m

一月十日。今天是12个遇难学生的生日，他们是：陈滢琦，蒋玉村，康鹏，刘杰凯，王怀伟，王佳，袁小林，曾宝怡，郑丹，朱瑞丽娅，侯鹏，杨茂。#512birthday

Details

艾未未 Ai Weiwei @aiww 54m

从2013年11月30日开始，每天早晨，我在草场地258号工作室门外的自行车车篮中放置一束鲜花，直至我恢复自由旅行的权利。第42天，2014年1月10日。

flic.kr/p/j5iAn8

flic.kr/p/j5jkcN

Details

艾未未 Ai Weiwei @aiww 9 Jan

一月九日。今天是7个遇难学生的生日，他们是：刘欢，唐志红，肖静，游雨，张代文，周育飞，黄诚国。#512birthday

Details

3) global ecumene :

ecumene:
the inhabited or civilized world
[OED]

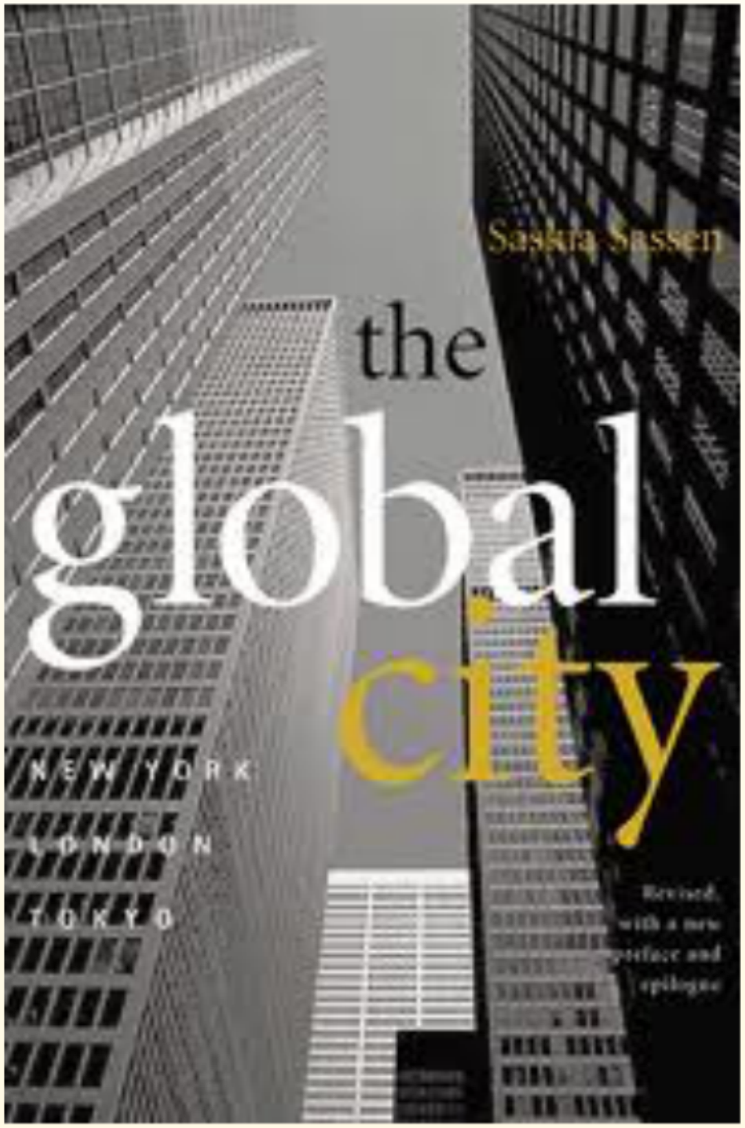
Globalization has created a global ecumene – a global commons

[Excerpted from Hannerz, “The Global Ecumene,” in Cultural Complexity: Studies in the Social Organization of Meaning, Columbia, 1992] "a region of persistent culture interaction and exchange"; a process whereby a series of cultural flows produce a) both "cultural homogeneity and cultural disorder"; and b) transnational cultures as genuine "third cultures" (Featherstone)

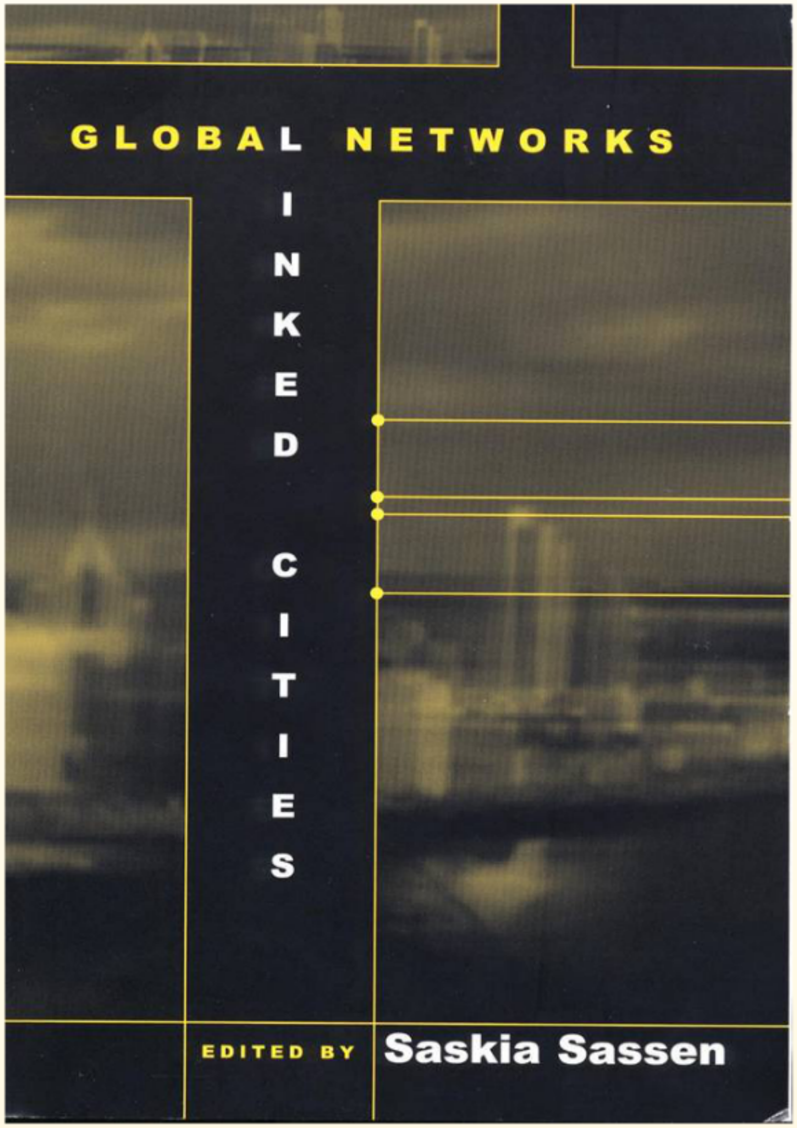
global/world cities

cities in which the global financial and banking services and culture industries are concentrated. But global cultural centres whether of the traditional type or new forms of popular culture industries do not necessarily correspond to economic and political centres. (Hannerz)

Saskia Sassen


Saskia Sassen
the
global
city
NEW YORK
LONDON
TOKYO
Revised, with a new preface and epilogue

2001


GLOBAL NETWORKS
LINKED CITIES
EDITED BY Saskia Sassen

2002

Context for the emergence of Global Cities:

With the partial unbundling or at least weakening of the national as a spatial unit due to privatization and deregulation and the associated strengthening of globalization come conditions for the ascendance of other spatial units or scales. Among these are the sub-national, notably cities and regions; crossborder regions encompassing two or more sub-national entities; and supra-national entities, i.e. global digitalized markets and free trade blocs. The dynamics and processes that get terrritorialized at these diverse scales can in principle be regional, national or global.

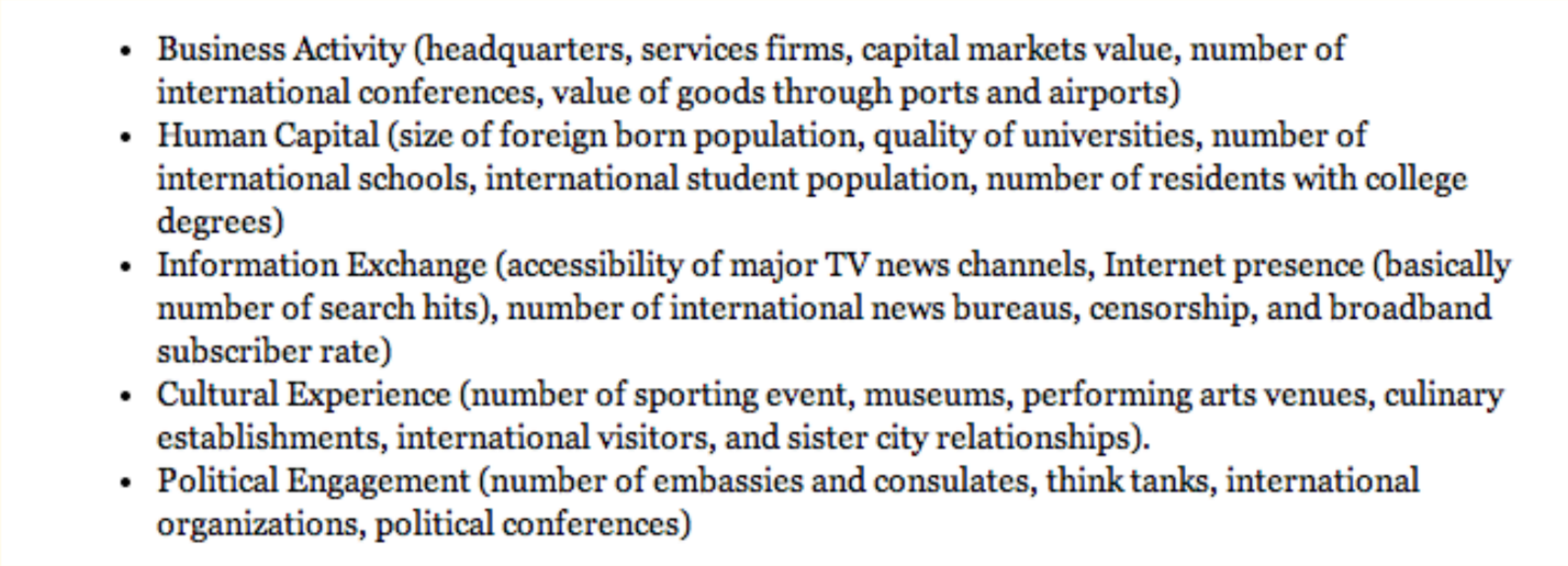
a single global city is unimaginable; there exists a series of transnational networks of cities

"The growth of networked cross-border dynamics among global cities includes a broad range of domains: political, cultural, social, and criminal."

world city (a type of city we have seen for centuries; old colonial centers) is not necessarily global city
(Sassen)

by AT Kearney + Chicago Council on Global Affairs

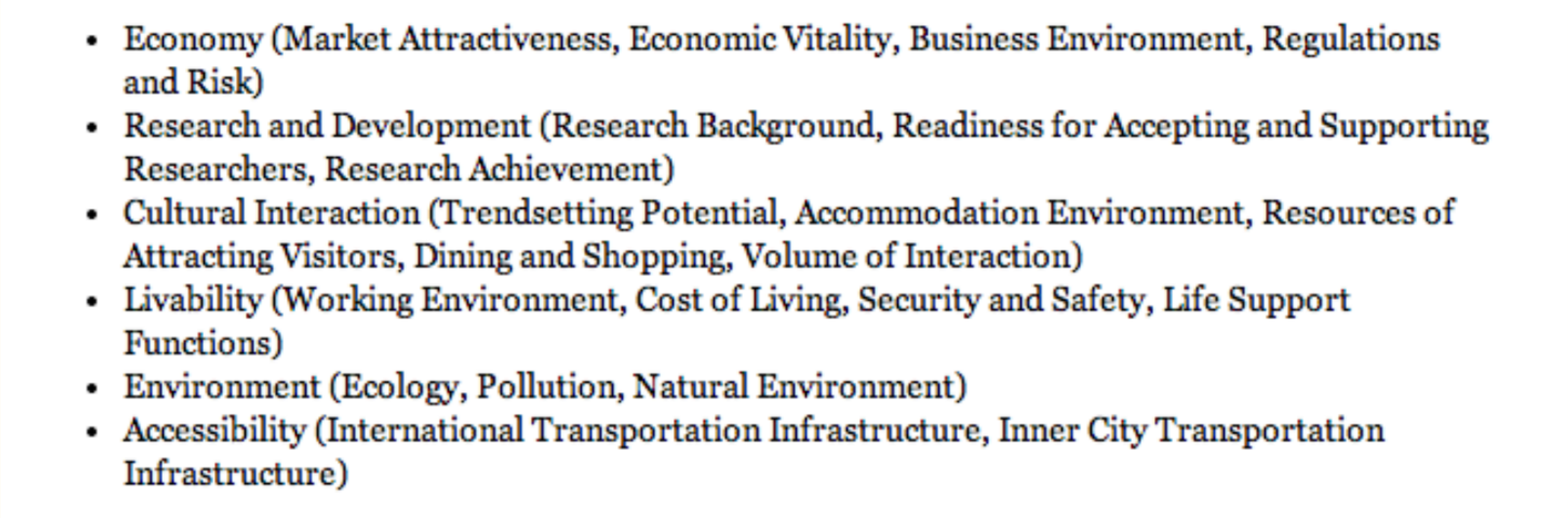
Global Cities Index,2012



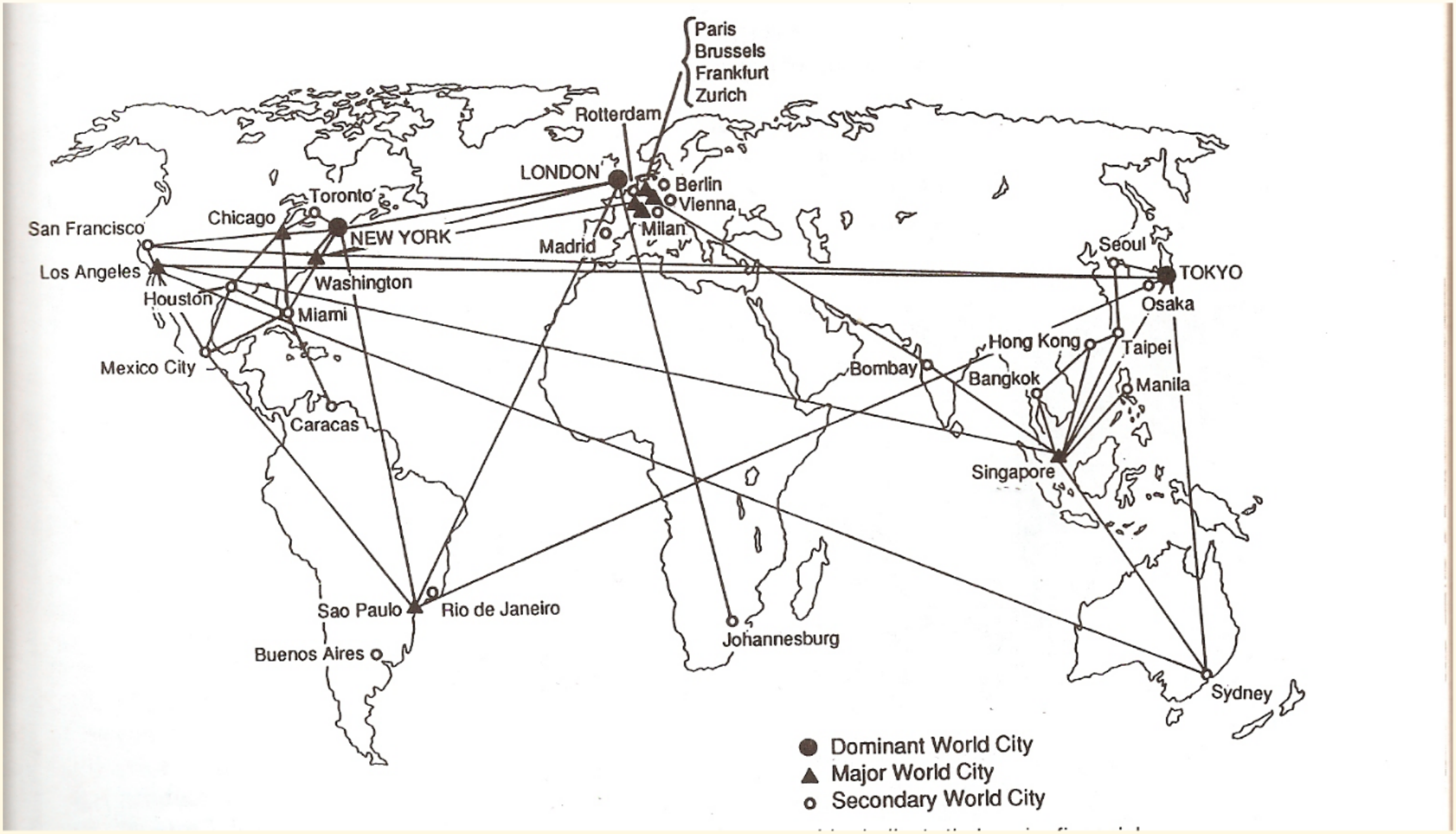
- Business Activity (headquarters, services firms, capital markets value, number of international conferences, value of goods through ports and airports)
- Human Capital (size of foreign born population, quality of universities, number of international schools, international student population, number of residents with college degrees)
- Information Exchange (accessibility of major TV news channels, Internet presence (basically number of search hits), number of international news bureaus, censorship, and broadband subscriber rate)
- Cultural Experience (number of sporting event, museums, performing arts venues, culinary establishments, international visitors, and sister city relationships).
- Political Engagement (number of embassies and consulates, think tanks, international organizations, political conferences)

Institute for Urban Strategies

Global Power City Index,2011



- Economy (Market Attractiveness, Economic Vitality, Business Environment, Regulations and Risk)
- Research and Development (Research Background, Readiness for Accepting and Supporting Researchers, Research Achievement)
- Cultural Interaction (Trendsetting Potential, Accommodation Environment, Resources of Attracting Visitors, Dining and Shopping, Volume of Interaction)
- Livability (Working Environment, Cost of Living, Security and Safety, Life Support Functions)
- Environment (Ecology, Pollution, Natural Environment)
- Accessibility (International Transportation Infrastructure, Inner City Transportation Infrastructure)


Paris
Brussels
Frankfurt
Zurich
Rotterdam
LONDON
Berlin
Vienna
Milan
Madrid
Toronto
Chicago
San Francisco
NEW YORK
Los Angeles
Washington
Houston
Miami
Mexico City
Caracas
Sao Paulo
Rio de Janeiro
Buenos Aires
Johannesburg
Bombay
Seoul
TOKYO
Osaka
Hong Kong
Taipei
Bangkok
Manila
Singapore
Sydney
● Dominant World City
▲ Major World City
o Secondary World City

Map of the interconnectedness of World (global) Cities- courtesy Knox

http://archiveds.wordpress.com/2012/10/15/where-we-are-now-where-are-we-now/

[cosmopolitanism in context]

Hannerz, Ulf. "Cosmopolitans and Locals in World Culture". In Global Culture: Nationalism, Globalization, and Modernity: a Theory, Culture & Society Special Issue, Mike Featherstone ed. London: Sage Publications, 1990.

cosmopolitan-local distinction

cosmopolitanism vis-a-vis localism

cosmopolitanism as "a perspective, a state of mind, or---to take a more precessual view--a mode of managing meaning" an orientation, a willingness to engage with the Other. It is an intellectual and aesthetic stance of openness toward divergent cultural experiences, a search for contrasts rather than uniformity.

a matter of competence, of both a generalized and a more specialized kind. There is the aspect of a state of readiness, a personal ability to make one's way into other cultures, through listening, looking, intuiting and reflecting. "a built-up skill" in manoeuvring more or less expertly with a particular system of meanings and meaningful forms.

play of mastery and surrender:
the cosmopolitan's surrender to the alien culture implies personal autonomy vis-a-vis the culture where he originated.
"He possesses it, it does not possess him"

varieties of mobility

varieties of mobility

"being on the move" is not enough to turn one into a cosmopolitan: are travelers ("home-plus"), exiles (experience forced upon him/her), labour migrants, expatriates cosmopolitans (more related to the transnational cultures)?

cosmopolitans tend to immerse themselves in other cultures; they want to be participants; they want to be able to sneak backstage rather than being confined to the frontstage areas.

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