My new film The Lotus and the Red Star: Conversations with Chinese Artists (February 14, 2018) has just been released on Youtube. There are four separate videos. Each lasts about 20 minutes.

The four-part film is a companion piece to my book, The Art of Resistance: Painting by Candlelight in Mao’s China (University of Washington Press, November 2017). I collaborated with photographer Jon Burris and video editor David Sharp to produce The Lotus and the Red Star based on interviews with Chinese artists and art historians in 2016. My narration is in English but most of the artists speak in Chinese, so I've provided English subtitles for those sequences.

I hope you enjoy the film and the book!

-Shelley Drake Hawks, Ph.D.

The Lotus and the Red Star: Conversations with Chinese Artists, a film by Shelley Drake Hawks

Part One on Li Kuchan:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y1VBPAqGDbE&t=56s

Part One focuses on bird-and-flower painter Li Kuchan (1898-1983) and features interviews with the artist’s son, painter Li Yan (b. 1943), and art historian Wan Qingli (1945-2017).

Part Two on Li Keran:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=avcJVw0uxMI&t=80s

Part Two focuses on landscape painter and figure painter Li Keran (1907-1989) and features interviews with the artist’s son, painter Li Geng (b. 1950), and art historians, Sun Meilan and Wan Qingli.

Part Three on Lin Fengmian, Huang Yongyu, and Shi Lu:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BEIABgnyhM

Part Three focuses on three painters: Lin Fengmian (1900-1991), Huang Yongyu (b. 1924) and Shi Lu (1919-1982). It features interviews with art historian Wan Qingli (1945-2017), painter Yang Mingyi (b. 1943) and Shi Lu’s daughter, painter Shi Dan (b. 1956).

Part Four: Beyond the Cultural Revolution:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=87VRQ8Uk9_o&t=342s

Part Four features interviews with painter Wang Huaiqing (b. 1944) and his daughter, painter Wang Tiantian (b. 1974) and concludes with a discussion of painter Pan Tianshou (1897-1971) and his son painter Pan Gongkai (b. 1947).