

## Key-note Lecture

# Several Indian contexts for buddha-nature (*tathāgatagarbha*)

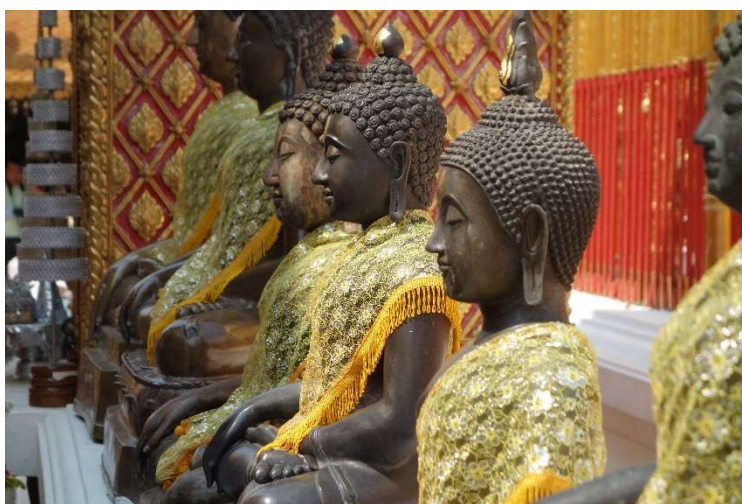
**Prof. Dr. Michael Radich**

(Heidelberg Centre for Transcultural Studies, University of Heidelberg)

**July 11, 2019, 18:15–19:45h**

**Universität Hamburg, Edmund-Siemers-Allee 1, Ostflügel (East Wing), Room 221**

In this talk, I will place *tathāgatagarbha* in relation to several contexts in Indian Buddhism and religion. I will attempt to trace an “imaginative logic” linking *tathāgatagarbha* to these contexts, and accounting (in part) for the emergence of *tathāgatagarbha* thought and literature. I will attempt thereby to argue that the rigorous and disciplined consideration of the logic behind imagery and terminology can be a useful part of our method in studying the history of Buddhist ideas and practices.



**Michael Radich** is Professor of Buddhist Studies in the Heidelberg Centre for Transcultural Studies at the University of Heidelberg. He received his PhD from Harvard University in 2008, and then taught and researched for twelve years at Victoria University in Wellington, in his native New Zealand. His research to date has been almost equally devoted to Indian and Chinese Buddhism, with a focus on the Mahāyāna. Topics to which he has devoted special attention include: the bodies of Buddhas; textual history; theories about “consciousness”; *tathāgatagarbha* doctrine; transformations of Buddhism as it took root in China; and the use of computational philological techniques in application to Buddhist materials.

