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R.I.P. China Blogs?

July 24, 2010 in blogging by The China Beat | 4 comments

We were amused to see that the most recent <u>Sinica podcast</u> was ominously titled "Death of the China Blog," since here at *China Beat* we feel very much alive. To our relief, however, the discussion (among host <u>Kaiser Kuo</u>, <u>Imagethief's</u> Will Moss, and <u>Danwei</u>'s Jeremy Goldkorn — who was good enough to do <u>an interview</u> with us last month) ended with the happy conclusion that while the China blogosphere has changed quite a bit in the past few years, it's still going strong. We heartily agree.

We are sad to see one blog we've grown quite attached to go on hiatus for a bit: over at *Six*, Alec Ash has <u>announced</u> that he's taking a break and will reinvent and relaunch his site in the coming months. Fortunately, we can still follow Alec's writings in other venues, as he has a piece on China's young climate-change activists at <u>The Economist</u>, as well as an article in <u>Prospect</u> magazine about foreign students in China (available to subscribers only).

Though the Sinica podcasters discussed only the English-language China blog scene, we've also become aware of a couple non-English blogs that we've begun following, and with the improved quality of Google Translate, fluency in a foreign language isn't required to read them. In Italian, check out <u>Cineresie</u>; for Spanish-language China news, head over to <u>ZaiChina</u>.

So, it doesn't seem that the time has come yet to proclaim the death of the China blog, but tune in to the Sinica podcast for a lively and well-informed discussion of the great China blogs on the web today. We're happy to say that we heard some kind words about *China Beat*, and very much return the sentiment — these Sinica podcasts have guickly become one of our weekly "must-listens."

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