Pornography has become an aspect of urban entertainment and popular culture while mainstream media texts and cultural practices are incorporating sexualized styles, gestures and aesthetics. The talk presents proliferating pornographies and an expanding pornosphere in Chinese and East Asian cultures. While pornography is often thought of as a hollow male domain, Chinese women and queers are contributing greatly to its status and feelings of sophistication. I will argue that pornography produces a unique kind of “afterglow,” a corporeal state of feeling and reflection that can be experienced and studied differently from the social sciences tradition of media effects. Pornography does not bombard nor subjugate its users but produces feminist agency and ideology. The talk will focus on Hong Kong and mainland Chinese women’s pornographic (dis) pleasures as well as a new wave of Boys’ Love fictions.

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