

JRC news

Newsletter of the
Japan Research Centre



January 2006



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Dr P. Ellis Tinios

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Dear JRC Members,

It is with great pleasure that I take back the Chair and can formally announce to everyone the return to service of the JRC. As you all know, in common with the three other East Asian centres, the JRC put itself into abeyance last term in protest at what we considered to be ill-considered and unilateral changes made to the structure of the SOAS Library. We deplored in particular what we felt would amount to the abolition of research-level provision in Chinese, Japanese and Korean, and we were supported by many people worldwide. It was a hard fight, but when faced with an AUT strike (which had been balloted for and which had won the support of staff and students alike), the management has reopened the issue. We are delighted to welcome back Fujiko Kobayashi, the Japan and Korean Librarian. For those who do not know Fujiko, there is a short profile of her in this newsletter. I would like to express thanks to all within and outside SOAS who gave their time and energy to the campaign.

These actions negatively affected us all, but it achieved its desired - and necessary - objective. I regret that it will have particularly adversely coloured the experiences of those who arrived in SOAS only for the 2005-6 session. But I hope you will all enjoy the return to conviviality and academic exchange that the weekly seminars, and other JRC events, foster. Since I could not do so in October, I would like to welcome all arrivals, now not so new, especially visitors from Japan and research students. A list of the former is contained in this newsletter. I also welcome our new Executive Officer Sara Hamza, who now takes over from our long-standing Barbara Lazoi, and whose profile is included.

This term will begin with two weeks of seminars shared with other SOAS bodies, and we will then begin on our own from week three. The annual party, normally held in October, will be held this term. Also, as normal, this term will see the Annual JRC Lecture, and our speaker is Professor Josef Kreiner from Bonn University, Germany. Details of his talk are also inside. Please all attend and please note that the venue is in the Sackler Room of the British Museum (easily finable under the Great Court). Please also note that from now on all JRC seminars will be held in B111 (Brunei Gallery, 1st Floor).

I also would like to remind everyone that the JRC is a corporate member of the Japan Society, and as such all SOAS people are welcome to attend its events. Details of their activities are on their website. Their annual Cortazzi Lecture falls on a Wednesday this year, and so the JRC will co-host that event, and hold no seminar of its own that week. Details and theme and venue are below.

This is the last letter I shall write as JRC Chair, at least for a while. Following a somewhat anomalous arrangement (but one endorsed by the JRC AGM last session), John Breen will take back the chair this coming summer for a single year (which will be his third), and I will then return in summer 2007, for my third year. Thereafter, a proper election for a new three-year chair will be held. Before the handover, we will hold the 2005-6 AGM, and please note this will take place on the first Wednesday of term three, April 26, 3-5pm, immediately before the seminar.

Best wishes for 2006, the Year of the Dog.

Timon Screech



JAPAN RESEARCH CENTRE SEMINARS

Wednesdays, 5pm

Room B111, SOAS

(Except where otherwise stated)

12 January

Joint CSJR & JRC Research Seminar

Stephen Addiss, University of Richmond

Zenga: Japanese Zen Painting and Calligraphy

18 January

The SOAS Centre of Buddhist Studies

Professor Masahiro Shimoda, University of Tokyo

Inaugural Lecture followed by a reception SOAS, KLT,
5.30-7.00pm

*Revival of The Buddha in Narratives: Conflict Between
Philology and Historical Science*

25 January

(Co-sponsored by the Department of Art and
Archaeology)

Dr Alicia Volk, SOAS/Sainsbury Fellow

*Subjects in Japanese Art History: Reading and Writing
the Modern*

1 February

(Co-sponsored by the Department of Art and
Archaeology)

Dr Masaaki Morishita, SOAS/Handa Fellow

*Empty Museums: Transculturation and the
Development of Public Art Museums in Japan*

8 February

JRC Party, Brunei Gallery Café, 6pm

22 February

The Japan Society's annual Cortazzi Lecture Co-hosted
by the JRC

Professor Geoffrey Till, Kings College

Trafalgar and Tsushima: Two Defining Battles (at The
Royal United Services Institute for Defence & Security
Studies 6.30pm)

1 March

Joint JRC/Japan Society/Sainsbury Institute Seminar
Dr Simon Kaner, Assistant Director for the Sainsbury
Institute

*William Gowland and the Early Investigation of Burial
mounds from Ancient Japan* (SOAS, KLT, 6.45pm)

8 March

Dr Stephen Dodd, SOAS

*Darkness Transformed: Illness in the Work of Kajii
Motojiro*

15 March

JRC Annual Lecture - Professor Josef Kreiner, Bonn
University

*Tamino's Japanese Hunting Coat or, What Mozart
might have known about Japan*

Sackler Rooms, Clore Education Centre, British
Museum, 6pm - all welcome.

22 March

(Co-sponsored by the Department of Art and
Archaeology)

Dr Alfred Haft, SOAS

*Ukiyo-e and Noh: The Example of Suzuki Harunobu
(1725-1770)*

JRC ANNUAL LECTURE

15 March

Joseph Kreiner (JRC Annual Lecture)

'Tamino's Japanese Hunting Coat or, What Mozart might have known about Japan.'

Sackler Rooms, Clore Education Centre, British Museum,
6pm - all welcome.

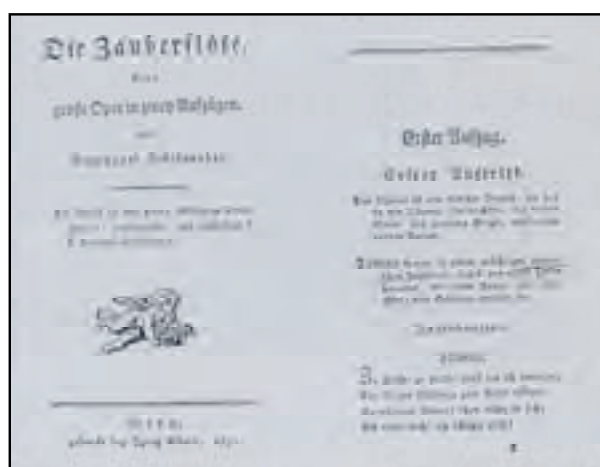
The lecture will look widely at elements of Euro-Japanese cultural relations during the period of so-called national isolation (sakoku) under the Tokugawa Shoguns (1603-1868). Among other exchanges, the kimono arrived in the Netherlands, and caused a boom in the 18th century. Jesuit dramas of the late-17th to early-18th centuries could have exposed Mozart to elements of Japanese culture, and he is also likely to have had personal contacts with members of the Dutch East India Company, or the VOC.



The JRC is delighted and honoured to welcome Professor Josef Kreiner to be its Third Annual Lecturer. Professor Kreiner studied Ethnology (Cultural Anthropology) and Japanese studies at the University of Vienna, and then at the University of Tokyo receiving his D.Phil from the former in 1964. He served as Assistant then Associate Professor in Japanese studies at the University of Vienna (1964-1968) and then at Bonn (1969-1971), taking his Habilitation at Vienna in 1968. He became Professor and Chair of Japanese studies at Vienna in 1971 and in 1977 moved permanently to Bonn where he is now Director of the Institute for Japanese Studies. Between 1988 and 1996 he was Founding Director of the German Institute for Japanese Studies in Tokyo. He is the author of numerous scholarly works on Japan's peripheries and external relations in the Edo Period, and is the holder of many awards and prizes.



Joseph Vivien, 'The Elector Clemens August of Cologne', 1725, Falkenlust Castle, Brühl (near Cologne). The Elector wears a 'Japon'sche Rock', or kimono, as he sips green tea from a lacquered Meissen cup, modelled after Japanese tea bowl.



Text of Mozart's magic flute with the mention of a Japanese hunting coat to be used by Tamino.

TALKS AND LECTURES



THE CORTAZZI LECTURE 2006

Trafalgar and Tsushima: Two Defining Battles

Wednesday 22nd February

Professor Geoffrey Till

At The Royal United Services Institute
for Defence & Security Studies (RUSI)
6.30pm



This lecture will be about the effects of the two battles on the strategies and politics of, and power in, their regions. By defeating the French at Trafalgar, the British ensured their maritime supremacy for the next century and arguably sealed the eventual fate of Napoleon's Empire. The Japanese victory at Tsushima ensured the withdrawal of Russian Maritime power which created a vacuum which was filled eventually by the United States.

As well as helping run the Defence Studies Department at Kings College London, Professor Geoffrey Till is Dean of Academic Studies at the Joint Services Command and Staff College. Before that he was Professor of History at the Royal Naval College Greenwich. He has taught at the Britannia Royal Naval College Dartmouth, in the Department of Systems Science at the City University, in the Department of War Studies, King's College London, where he completed his MA and PhD. He is also currently Visiting Professor at the Armed Forces University, Taiwan.

TICKETS

Tickets are required for this lecture. Please apply by email at culture@japansociety.org.uk or by fax or post with your Name, address and Telephone number stating the event you would like to attend and the number of tickets required.

SPONSOR



The Japan Society Lectures Programme is sponsored by ANA, All Nippon Airways, which is supporting our programme of lectures this year and to whom we are most grateful.



Lecture Series: Reconsidering The Methodology Of Buddhist Studies in Japan

The SOAS Centre of Buddhist Studies is pleased to present: The Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai Visiting Professorship in Buddhist Studies 2006 from 18 January to 17 March at the School of Oriental and African Studies, London.

Professor Masahiro Shimoda, University of Tokyo

Inaugural Lecture followed by a reception Wed 18 January, 5.30-7.00 pm, Khalili Lecture Theatre, School of Oriental and African Studies, London.

Revival of The Buddha In Narratives: Conflict Between Philology And Historical Science

Lecture Series 5-6.30pm, Room G3, SOAS College Building

Reconsidering the Methodology of Buddhist Studies in Japan: Understandings of the Formation Process of Buddhist Scriptures in India

20 January

Enlightenment and Salvation: A Review of Typology of Indian Buddhism

27 January

The Lotus Sutra and the Episode of The God Brahma Entreaty to the Buddha to Teach

3 February

Reconsidering Bodhisattva in the Light of Recently Developed Studies

10 February

Mahayanasutra As Auto-Commentary: As Evidenced in the Mahaparinirvanasutra

17 February

Liberating Ourselves from Modernity: Buddhist Studies and Zeitgeist in Japan

24 February

The Taisho Tripitaka: Japanese Scholars Contribution To Modern Buddhist Studies

3 March

Some Reflections on Oral Transmission in Buddhist Scriptures

10 March

Topics Essential to the Study of Mahayana Buddhism

17 March

The Formation Process of Buddhist Scriptures in Ancient India Seminars: Reading the Mahayana Mahaparinirvanasutra and its Related Texts

Overview of Seminars: The Mahayana Mahaparinirvanasutra, which has been proven to consist of three layers of compilation and contains various citations from other Buddhist texts, is an ideal model for the study of Mahayana sutras, especially in elucidating the formation process of a sutra. This seminar will deal with selected discourses of the sutra, mainly using Tibetan and Chinese versions, together with related materials in Sanskrit, Pali, Tibetan and Chinese.



William Gowland and the Early Investigation of Burial mounds from Ancient Japan

by Dr Simon Kaner

Wednesday 1st March 6.45pm

At the Khalili Theatre, SOAS

William Gowland was born in Sunderland and obtained first class certificates in Metallurgy and Mining at the RSM in 1870. His career was distinguished by prizes and scholarships and he won both the Murchison and the de la Beche medals. In those formal days he wore a frock coat and silk hat even when tapping a blast furnace in the laboratory.

He worked for ten years in Japan as a chemist and metallurgist to the Imperial Japanese mint and then became assayer and technical adviser. He was awarded the Star of the Imperial Order of the Rising Sun by the Emperor of Japan. He became Head of the Metallurgy Department of Imperial College in 1902 and did a great deal of valuable research into the metallurgy of non-ferrous metals.



Dr Simon Kaner is Assistant Director, Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures. He is an archaeologist specialising in the prehistory of Japan. He has taught and published on many aspects of East Asian and European archaeology and has undertaken archaeological research in Japan, the UK, Denmark and France. Most recently he has established the Jomon Project, designed to realise the potential of Japanese prehistory for world archaeology. He is on the committee of the Society for East Asian Archaeology and is a regular contributor to the journal *Antiquity*. He has recently translated and adapted with the assistance of Oki Nakamura *Jomon Reflections: Forager Life and Culture in the Prehistoric Japanese Archipelago* by Kobayashi Tatsuo (Oxford, Oxbow Books, sponsored by the Japan Foundation). He also teaches an MA course at SOAS in archaeology of the Japanese archipelago. His research interests include: Japanese prehistory and the history of archaeology in Japan; Japanese cultural heritage and the international role of Japanese heritage management.

This Lecture is in association with, SOAS, The Japan Research Centre & The Sainsbury Institute

MAJOR PUBLICATIONS

A New History of Japanese Cinema: A Century of Narrative Film
Isolde Standish (Continuum International Publishing Group, 2005)

“These films, in a language we do not know, presenting stories totally foreign to our customs and habits, in fact speak to us in a very familiar language. Which one? The only one to which a director must aspire: that of *mise en scène*.” Jacques Rivette, in *Cahiers du Cinéma*, 1958.”

Cinema, which first arrived in Japan in 1896 with the Kinetoscope prototype, came at the very time that Japan was transforming its economic base and society into that of a major international power. The first cinema, the Asakusa Denkikan, was opened in Tokyo in 1903 and within thirteen years three hundred cinemas had sprung up throughout the country.

In *A New History of Japanese Cinema: A Century of Narrative Film*, Isolde Standish focuses on the historical development of Japanese film. She details an industry and an art form shaped by the competing and merging forces of traditional culture and of economic and technological innovation. Adopting a thematic, exploratory approach, Standish links the concept of Japanese cinema as a system of communication with some of the central discourses of the twentieth century: modernism, nationalism, humanism, resistance, and gender.

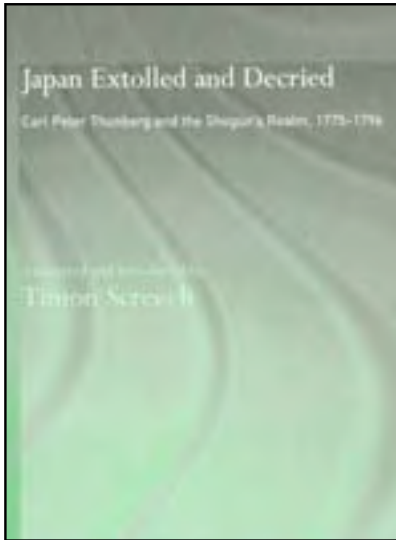
After an introduction outlining the earliest years of cinema in Japan, Standish demonstrates cinema's symbolic position in Japanese society in the 1930s - as both a metaphor and a motor of modernity. Moving into the late thirties and early forties, Standish analyses cinema's relationship to nationalism and empire building. She then expands upon this theme by examining cinema's relationship with the state - focusing in particular on the war and occupation periods. The book's coverage of the post-occupation period looks at “romance” films in particular. Avant-garde directors came to the fore during the 1960s and early seventies, and their work is discussed in depth. The book concludes with an investigation of genre and gender in mainstream films of recent years.

In grappling with Japanese film history and criticism, most western commentators have concentrated on offering interpretations of what have come to be considered “classic” films. *A New History of Japanese Cinema* takes a genuinely innovative approach to the subject, and should prove an essential resource for many years to come.



Edo no igirisu netsu [The Edo View of England]
Timon Screech (Tokyo: Kodansha, 2006)

It is well known that the English East India Company had a trading station (or factory) in Japan from 1613–23. It is also well known that from the close of the eighteenth century, the British made their presence increasingly felt off the coast of Japan, culminating with their attempt to take over the Dutch factory in Nagasaki in 1813. Both these periods of engagement have been well studied. This book is the first, however, in any language, to consider the 'blank' period between those moments of direct encounter. It considers how Japanese people constructed their own view of England (or, from 1707, after the Act of Union, of Great Britain). Far from fading from memory, there are copious writings on the subject, and these increase to a very large volume during the Rangaku Period. In fact, much Rangaku scholarship was not on Holland, but on Britain. The data has never before been brought together and analysed.



***Japan Extolled and Decried: Carl Peter Thunberg and the Shogun's Realm, 1775-1796* Annotated and Introduced by Timon Screech (London: Routledge, 2005)**

This edition makes available once again Thunberg's extraordinary writings on Japan, complete with illustrations, a full introduction and annotations. Carl Peter Thunberg, a pupil and successor of Linnaeus - one of the fathers of modern science - spent 19 fascinating months in the notoriously inaccessible Japan in 1775-76. This is his story.

Thunberg studied at Uppsala University in Sweden, where he was a favourite student of Linnaeus, formulator of modern scientific classification. He determined to travel the world, and enlisted as a physician with the Dutch East India Company. He arrived in Japan in the summer of 1775. Thunberg observed Japan widely, and visited Edo, where he became friends with the shogun's private physician, Katsuragawa Hoshû, a fine scholar, but a notorious rake. They maintained a correspondence even after Thunberg returned to his homeland. Thunberg's *Travels*, written in Swedish, appeared in English in 1795, and until now has never been reprinted.

***Secret Memoirs of the Shoguns: Isaac Titsingh and Japan, 1779-1822* Annotated and Introduced by Timon Screech (London: Routledge, 2005)**

Isaac Titsingh was intermittently head of the Japan factory of the Dutch East India Company from 1779 to 1784. He was a career merchant but unusual in having a classical education and a training as a physician. His impact on Japan was enormous, but he left disappointed in the ability of the country to embrace change. After many years in Java, India and China, he came to London, then settled in Paris, where he devoted himself to compiling translations of prime Japanese texts. His is one of the most exciting anthologies of the period, and reveals the little known worlds of eighteenth-century Japan, discussing politics, history, poetry and rituals. Titsingh's *Illustrations of Japan* appeared posthumously in 1820-22 in English, French, and Dutch. This fully annotated edition makes selections from the original English version available for the first time in nearly two centuries.



Hokusai and His Age: Ukiyo-e Painting, Printmaking and Book Illustration in Late Edo Japan, Edited by John T. Carpenter

With over 300 illustrations, mostly in colour this profusely illustrated volume, which collects essays by a distinguished roster of specialists in Japanese art, presents a wide range of current scholarship on the Edo artist Katsushika Hokusai (1760-1849) and his immediate artistic and literary circles.

Achieving worldwide renown for his dramatic landscape print series such as the Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji, Hokusai also excelled in book illustration, erotica, and privately commissioned woodcuts called surimono. Less well known, Hokusai was a highly accomplished and prolific painter who produced not only pictures of courtesans of the pleasure quarters, the normal stock-in-trade of an ukiyo-e artist, but a prodigious output on historical and legendary themes. This volume provides new insights into all these diverse aspects of the polyvalent artist's corpus.



Part I of the volume focuses on Hokusai the painter and some of his closest pupils. Essays by Roger Keyes, John T. Carpenter, Naitô Masato, and Timothy Clark trace the evolution of Hokusai's depictions of female subjects, including discussions of several of the master's closest pupils, including those who adopted one of his art-names. Kobayashi Tadashi and Julie Nelson Davis discuss the career of Katsushika Ôi, Hokusai's daughter, who created a distinctive style of her own using Western-style shading techniques.

As a means to systemizing the study of the surviving corpus of paintings by Hokusai, Asano Shûgô provides an overview of fifteen of the seals that appear on Hokusai's paintings, and makes observations about their periods of use. The final chapter of part I, by Gian Carlo Calza, Director of the International Hokusai Research Centre, introduces broader issues of connoisseurship in the study of Hokusai's paintings and provides several case studies of the types of problems encountered when studying the artist's surviving corpus.

Part II of the volume examines aspects of Hokusai's accomplishments as an innovator in the design of prints, surimono, and illustrated books. Essays by Kobayashi Fumiko and Kubota Kazuhiro introduce a number of rare early surimono by the artist while investigating his connections to poetry clubs in Edo. Doris Croissant looks at still-life surimono from a broader chronological perspective by making comparisons with paintings by the Meiji artist Takahashi Yuichi. Henry D. Smith, re-examining documentary evidence and taking into account recent scientific discoveries, explores the introduction of Berlin blue into the production of surimono and commercial prints.

David Pollack guides the reader through the twists and turns of the plot of an erotic illustrated novel by Hokusai, while John M. Rosenfield investigates a tamer form of humour as found in the master's illustrated drawing manuals. The essays by Timon Screech and Tsuji Nobuo, investigate how Rangaku, or Western-oriented discourse, informed and inspired Hokusai's print and book illustrations.



JRC MEMBERS' PUBLICATIONS

Dr John Breen, Department of the Languages and Cultures of Japan and Korea

'Meiji tenno no Ise sangu: sono sozosei to hiteisei' [The Meiji emperor's pilgrimage to the Ise shrines: invention and denial] in Shinto kokusai gakkai (ed.), *Koshitsu to Ise Jingu* [The imperial court and the Ise shrines], (Tachibana shuppan, 2003), and 'Juyondai shogun Iemochi no joraku' ('The Kyoto progress of the 14th shogun Iemochi') in Meiji ishinshi gakkai ed., *Meiji ishin to Bunka*, Yoshikawa kobunkan, 2005. 'Yasukuni Shrine: Ritual and Memory,' *Japan Focus*, 293 (2005).

Dr John Carpenter, Department of Art and Archaeology

John T. Carpenter, ed. *Hokusai and His Age: Ukiyo-e Painting, Printmaking and Book Illustration in Late Edo Japan* (Amsterdam: KIT [Royal Tropical Institute]/Hotei Publishing, 2005), 357pp. 'Painting and Calligraphy of the Pleasure Quarters: Interaction of Image and Text in Hokusai's Early Bijinga,' *ibid*, pp. 31-61. trans., Kubota Kazuhiro, 'The "Surimono Artist" Hokusai in the Society of Edo Kyôka Poets', *ibid*. pp. 179-216. 'The Poetic Picture: Literary Dimensions of Ukiyo-e', in Gian Carlo Calza, ed., *Ukiyo-e*, (London: Phaidon, 2005).

Dr Lucia Dolce, Department of the Study of Religions

The Worship of Stars in Japanese Religious Practice, guest editor, special issue of *Culture and Cosmos: A Journal of the History of Astrology and Cultural Astronomy*, Vol. 9 no 2, Autumn/Winter 2005 (forthcoming).

"Reconsidering the Taxonomy of the 'Esoteric': Taimitsu Hermeneutical and Ritual Practices," in Mark Teeuwen and Bernard Scheid, eds., *The Culture of Secrecy in Pre-modern Japan*, London: Routledge Curzon (forthcoming).

Dr Timon Screech, Department of Art and Archaeology

Edo no Igirisu netsu [The Edo Image of England] (trans. Murayama K.) (Tokyo: Kôdansha, 2006). 'Shunga in the Edo Period', in Amy Newland (ed.), *The Hotei Encyclopaedia of Ukiyo-e* (Leiden: Hotei, 2006). *Secret Memoirs of the Shoguns: Isaac Titsingh and Japan 1785-1821* (London: Routledge, 2005). *Japan Extolled and Decried: Carl Peter Thunberg and the Shogun's Realm, 1775-1796* (London: Routledge, 2005). 'Hokusai and the Microscope', in John T. Carpenter (ed.), *Hokusai and his Age*, (Hotei, 2005). *Shunga: Erotica of Edo Period Japan*, in Gian Carlo Calza, ed., *Ukiyo-e*, (London: Phaidon, 2005).

JRC MEMBERS' TALKS, RESEARCH AND TRAVEL

TALKS

Dr John Breen, Senior Lecturer in Japanese, Department of the Languages and Cultures of Japan and Korea, 2005

January 20

'*Tokugawa Calendars and How to Read Them*,' SISJAC Norwich

March 7

'*The Problem of Yasukuni*,' Eton Japan Society, Eton

March 25

'*Shinto no Kingendai ni Okeru Jidaikubun*,' (Problems of Periodisation in the Modern History of MShinto' at Panel 'Shinto No Jidai Kubun O Kangaeru' (Rethinking Periodisation in Shinto Studies), IAHR Conference, Tokyo

March 27

'*Kingendai no Shinto*,' (Prewar and Post War Shinto), ISF Shinto Zemi, Kokugakuin University, Tokyo

April 29

'*The Emperor and Politics in Early Meiji Japan*,' JRC Emperor Workshop, SOAS

June 9

'*Foundation Myths in Japan*,' Panel Chair at the CSJR Symposium, SOAS

July 2

'*Komei Seiken No Kakuritsu to Tenkai*,' (The Komei Administration: Establishment and Development'), Keynote Lecture, Chuo Shigakkai 50th Anniversary Conference, Chuo University, Tokyo

July 4

'*Komei Seiken Ron; 1863-66*,' (On the Komei Administration: 1863-66), Sakamoto Zemi, Kokugakuin University, Tokyo

July 6

'*Yasukuni Shiron*,' (on Yasukuni), Matsuo Zemi, Chuo University, Tokyo

November 12

'*Yasukuni: Senso Kioku No Soshitsu*,' (Yasukuni and the Loss of Historical Memory)

November 16

'*Yasukuni: The Loss of Historical Memory*,' and, '*The Yasukuni Shrine: Religion, Politics and the Legacy of War*,' at the Daiwa Seminar, Daiwa House, London

Dr John Carpenter, Donald Keene Lecturer in Japanese Art, Department of Art and Archaeology 2005

2 February

'*Rewriting the History of Heian Court Calligraphy: Fushimi Tennô (1265-1317) as Collector and Copyist*,' Japan Research Centre, SOAS

15 June

'*Poetry Prints to Celebrate the New Year: Surimono by Hokusai and his Pupils*,' Rietberg Museum, Zurich

June - July

Postgraduate seminars conducted as Visiting Associate Professor at the University of Heidelberg

28 June

'*Calligraphy of the Pleasure Quarters: Poetic Inscriptions by and about Courtesans on Ukiyo-e Paintings*,' University of Heidelberg

7 November

'*Hokusai: Text - Image Interaction in Ukiyo-e Paintings and Surimono*,' Japan Society/ Sotheby's, London

December

'*Calligraphy by Emperors of Premodern Japan: Scribal Conventions and Individual Style*,' Art Research Center, Ritsumeikan University, Kyoto

Dr Philip Deans, Lecturer in Chinese Politics, Department of Politics and International Studies 2005

14 December

'*Diminishing Returns? Prime Minister Koizumi's Yasukuni Shrine Visits in the Context of East Asian nationalisms*' (The paper will be published in Japanese in April 2006, with an English version to follow) Global Eye on Yasukuni Symposium, ALGOS Programme at Sophia University, Tokyo,

**Dr Lucia Dolce, Lecturer in Japanese Religions,
Department of the Study of Religions, 2005**

24 March - 30 March 2005

'Localizing Buddhism in The Japanese Cultic Context - A Ritual Approach' in the panel Buddhism in West/West in Buddhism, IAHR, Tokyo

22 May

'Ritual in Japanese Religion' in the occasion of the Kagura Performance at Bath International Music Festival

9-10 June

A discussant at the CSJR International Symposium *'Foundation Myths in Japan,'* London

16 June

'Esoteric Turns: Ritual Appropriations and the Creation of New Buddhist Icons in Medieval Japan,' at the Sainsbury Institute, Norwich

29 August-3 Sept

Chaired the Session *'Buddhism in Japan'* at the 14th IABS Conference, London

22 October

'Reconstructing the End of The Dharma in Medieval Japan' at the Institute of Oriental Philosophy European Centre, Taplow

7 December

Participated in the panel *'Life Sex and Death: Araki and Japanese Culture'* at Barbican Art Gallery

8-10 December

'Icons, Scriptures, and their Ritual Use: Reflections on Nineteenth-Century European Understandings of Japanese Buddhism,' at the Centre Européen D'études Japonaises d'Alsace, Strasbourg and Colmar

**Dr Timon Screech, Centre Chair, Department of Art
and Archaeology, 2005**

October- December

Japan Foundation Short-term Fellowship to undertake research at Gakushuin University, Tokyo

November

Discussant at Nichibunken Conference on Traditional Arts in the Modern Age

December

Delivered keynote address at Waseda University Conference on Osaka Actor Prints



RESEARCH AND TRAVEL

**Dr Philip Deans, Lecturer in Chinese Politics,
Department of Politics and International Studies**

Philip is currently on sabbatical in Japan and is based at Sophia University's Institute of Comparative Culture. He is researching the politics of rising anti-Chinese sentiment in Japan and its possible impacts on relations between Japan and the PRC. The research is funded by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS).

**Dr Stephen Dodd, Senior Lecturer in Japanese,
Department of the Languages and Cultures of
Japan and Korea**

Steve had a one year sabbatical during the academic year 04-05 and was based in Waseda, Tokyo. Having just completed one book, this gave him the opportunity to really get to work on his next book project, the writing of the early Showa writer Kajii Motojiro. He completed draft translations of 17 of his short stories and managed to read a large part of the available English and Japanese language critical material on him. He finished an essay on Kajii, entitled, "*Darkness Transformed: Illness in the Work of Kajii Motojiro*." This essay has been accepted for publication in *The Journal of Japanese Studies* and is due to come out in February 2007 however he has been unable to do any work on the project since returning to SOAS. At the end of last year - Dec 8-11th, Stephen also attended a conference on the relationship between the West and Japan held by the European Center for Japanese Studies in Alsace (CEEJA). The first half of the conference took place in Strasbourg and the second half in Colmar. The CEEJA were extremely efficient in organizing the event that attracted around 20 paper participants covering a wide range of subjects. The schedule was quite gruelling, but he and some other participants did manage to visit the sights in both locations, in particular the medieval altar paintings in Colmar which are outstanding. It was a great opportunity to meet colleagues from a wide range of European countries.

**Dr Angus Lockyer, Lecturer in the History of
Japan, Department of History**

Angus spent much of the autumn coordinating and writing a consortium bid for an Inter-University Japan Centre. He also gave two talks: 'Exhibiting Japan, 1862-2005,' as part of the Sainsbury Institute's Third Thursday Lecture Series in Norwich; and 'The Ends of Development: The Uses of Expos,' at the University of Cambridge Japan Centre.

**Dr Barbara Pizziconi, Lecturer in Applied
Japanese Linguistics, Department of the
Languages and Cultures of Japan and Korea**

Barbara returned from sabbatical leave at the end of December, completing a four-month fieldwork period on Japanese Politeness. She was based at Waseda University, where she also delivered a talk on the subject of post-pragmatic politeness paradigms.

**Dr Timon Screech, Centre Chair, Department of
Art and Archaeology**

In June 2005, Timon Screech visited Tama Art University for the first time in his capacity of Permanent Visiting Professor. This post (which does not affect his duties at SOAS) is for an initial three years, and involves giving four lectures annually (in Japanese) normally in two blocks of two. He delivered his second set of lectures in October.

NEW FACES

JRC Post Doctoral Fellow
Dr Alfred Haft



Having completed an MA in Art and Archaeology at SOAS, with a thesis addressing the commemorative function of classical themes in Japanese portraiture, Alfred continued at SOAS to research a PhD examining three terms that feature in the titles of ukiyo-e prints: *mitate*, *yatsushi* and *fûryû*. Completed in 2005, the thesis clarifies the historical difference between the three terms, and contributes to an understanding of the role that classical themes served in the popular culture of the Edo period. He conducted a portion of the research at Keiô University, Tokyo, having received a fellowship from the Heiwa Nakajima Foundation. He received his Japanese language training at the Middlebury Summer Language School, and his BA in modern Asian History from Williams College (Massachusetts). He is currently preparing the doctoral thesis for publication.

New Staff Members at the Centres & Programmes Office

Re-Instated Librarian

Fujiko Kobayashi

It is with great pleasure that the JRC welcomes back our reinstated specialist librarian in Japanese/Korean Studies, Fujiko Kobayashi. Fujiko's role is essential in the establishment and development of the Japan and Korea collections, and SOAS's research capacity as a Centre of Excellence depends on her.

Fujiko began her academic career at Gakushuin University, Tokyo, where she majored in Japanese Literature and Language, and also achieved certificates for Junior High School and High School Japanese teaching. She first worked as a Junior High Japanese language teacher in Nagano, from 1985 to 1990, then took up government-assigned post as a Japanese language teacher in Malaysia, where she worked on local curriculum development in Japanese and participated in the preparation of a Japanese language textbook for beginners.

Fujiko then went and took advantage of the chance to study at the School of Library and information

Science at Bloomington, Indiana, where she completed her Masters in Library Science in 1993, and continued with a specialist course in East Asian Studies in 1995. During her stay at Bloomington, she worked as student assistant in the Cataloguing Department, inputting original catalogues of Japanese materials into the Library catalogue, and in the Monographic Processing Services Department, ordering material from publishers in Japan, as well as assisting in the cataloguing and acquisition services.

In 1995, Fujiko joined us at SOAS, taking charge of the Japan/Korea collections, after the death of Brian Hickman. She has developed the collections in Japanese, Korean and English, and other European languages, and much of her work has also involved guiding students and academics in the use of the Japan and Korea collections, running presentations on finding Japanese resources in the Library and on the Internet, and conducting Library orientation courses.

Fujiko works closely with the China and Inner East Asia Librarian, Mrs. Sue Small, along with two assistants and a student assistant, to improve and develop the East Asia collection. She also has obtained specialist training in Japanese Studies at the National Diet Library, and at the Library of Congress in Washington DC, and she is an active member of the UK Japan Library Group, the European Association of Japanese Resource Specialists and the UK Korea Library Group.

It is clear that Japanese and Korean Studies would not have survived the loss of such a highly-qualified and internationally renowned professional, and we are delighted by her return.

Sara Hamza

Sara took up the post of Executive Officer in the Centres & Programmes Office on 19th September 2005 and is responsible for the administration of three research centres namely the Centre of Korean Studies, the Centre of Chinese Studies, and the Japan Research Centre. For the past four years Sara has been a student of SOAS completing her BA Honours Degree in Development and African Studies in 2004, following this with an MSc in African Politics in 2005. In the last four years she has also worked within the NGO sector. Prior to this she spent time living and traveling around Africa and the Middle East. Contact Details: Email sh87@soas.ac.uk Tel: 0207-898-4893

Jane Savory

Jane took up the post of Office Manager, Centres & Programmes Office on 5 September 2005 and is responsible for the administration of three research centres namely the Centre of Contemporary Central Asia and the Caucasus, Centre of South Asian Studies and the Centre of South East Asian Studies. Jane joins us from the United Nations High Commission of Refugees (UNHCR) where she worked in the Finance and Administration Department. Jane has worked in the field of asylum for over 5 years; coordinating the Asylum Caseworker Training Project at the Immigration Law Practitioners' Association (ILPA) before moving to the College of Law in 2002. Jane spent her early twenties living and traveling abroad before returning to the UK to complete a joint BSc Honours degree in Information Technology and Third World Studies at Middlesex University.

Contact details: Email js64@soas.ac.uk \Tel: 020 7898 4892

JRC ACADEMIC VISITORS

Dr Tadamasa Aoyama, Faculty of Letters, Bukkyo University, Kyoto, Japan
Academic Hospitality from April 2006 to September 2006.

Professor Akihiko Eto, Faculty of Economics, Kurume University, Fukuoka, Japan
Academic Hospitality from September 2005 to September 2006.

Professor Makiko Hayashi, Kamigobyo-cho, Misasagi, Kyoto, Japan
Academic Hospitality from April 2005 to September 2005.

Dr Yoko Hirata, Chuo University, Tokyo
Academic Hospitality from September 2006 to December 2006

Dr Takashi Hirota, Faculty of Home Economy, Kyoto Women's University,
Kyoto Prefecture, Japan
Academic Hospitality from April 2006 to March 2007.

Professor Tsuruo Hisaizumi, Department of English, Kanda University
of International Studies, Wakaba, Japan
Academic Hospitality from April 2006 to March 2007.

Professor Ichiro Ikezawa, Meiji University, Chofu City, Tokyo, Japan
Academic Hospitality from March 2006 to March 2007.

Professor Masazumi Kashihara, Department of Agricultural Economics,
Kansai University, Osaka, Japan
Academic Hospitality from April 2006 to September 2006.

Professor Koichi Kimura, School of International Liberal Studies,
Waseda University, Sinjuku-ku, Tokyo, Japan
Academic Hospitality from April 2006 to September 2006.

Dr Takashi Nishimura, Faculty of Economics, Doshisha University, Kyoto, Japan
Academic Hospitality from April 2006 to March 2007.

Dr Anono Soh, Tama Art University, Setagaku, Tokyo, Japan
Academic Hospitality from April 2005 to March 2006.



BID FOR INTER-UNIVERSITY JAPAN CENTRE

SOAS is the lead institution in a consortium, together with Oxford, Oxford Brookes, Cardiff, and Birkbeck, which has recently submitted a bid to a language-based area studies initiative sponsored by HEFCE, the ESRC, and AHRC. Japan is one of four designated areas under the initiative, which also includes the Arabic-speaking world, China, and Eastern Europe.

The consortium has asked for just over £5 million over five years for an Inter-University Japan Centre, to be based at SOAS. The core of the proposal is a five-year postgraduate training programme, with half of the budget devoted to studentships. The first year would be based at SOAS and comprise an intensive year-long language programme, together with a new core course, Introduction to Japanese Studies, which would include staff from all consortium institutions and might also be made available to students on other MA courses. The second year would be spent on one of a number of existing MA programme at the consortium institutions, to include training in research methods, continued language study, and a thesis. The last three years would be the standard PhD programme at the consortium institutions, to be supplemented by additional area studies and language training, a monthly faculty-research student source-based seminar, and annual workshops for students on the programme to discuss research proposals, fieldwork, and research findings.

The Centre's programme will be supported and supplemented by the appointment of additional language teachers and postdoctoral fellowships at SOAS and Oxford, and the Centre will make advanced language training available to staff and other students at the consortium institutions. It will sponsor an annual public lecture by a leading European, North American, or Japanese academic, organize an annual discipline-based conference directed at non-Japanese Studies academics, and host two additional annual outreach events, one directed at secondary school teachers and a "State of Japan" afternoon seminar directed at the government, business, and cultural sectors. Competition for the funding is expected to be highly competitive. A shortlist of candidates will be interviewed in early April, with final decisions announced in May. Any questions should be directed to Dr Angus Lockyer:
al21@soas.ac.uk

**Centre for the Study of Japanese Religions
Seminars and Postgraduate Fora 2006
SOAS, Room G3, 5-6.30pm**

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 12 January | Zenga: Japanese Zen Painting and Calligraphy
Stephen Addiss (University of Richmond) |
| 26 January | Writing on Japanese Religion Today
Richard Bowring (University of Cambridge) |
| 9 February | The Stanza of the Bell in the Wind: Zen and <i>Nenbutsu</i>
in the Early Kamakura Period
Frédéric Girard (Ecole Française d'Extrême-Orient) |
| 23 February | The Daruma School and Japanese Zen
Vincent Breugem (Leiden University), Postgraduate Forum |
| 2 March | The Japanese Pantheon on Paper Charms
Josef Kyburz (Collège de France) |
| 9 March | The Religious Significance of Settlement Enclosures
in the Yayoi Period
Jane Oksbjerg (SOAS), Postgraduate Forum |
| 16 March | Pure Land Buddhism in Europe
Louella Matsunaga (SOAS) |
| 23 March | Batô Kannon: Practising a Ritual Image
Benedetta Lomi (SOAS), Postgraduate Forum |

For more information please contact the convener Dr Lucia Dolce (ld16@soas.ac.uk)

**First SOAS Conference in Japanese Linguistics:
Revisiting Japanese Modality**

Dr. Mika Kizu and Dr. Barbara Pizziconi announce the “First SOAS conference in Japanese Linguistics: Revisiting Japanese Modality.”

The conference will be held at SOAS on Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th June, 2005.

The invited plenary speakers are: Professor Masuoka Takashi (Kobe City University of Foreign Studies) and Professor Yukinori Takubo (Kyoto University). The conference welcomes contributions from all theoretical perspectives and aims at promoting interdisciplinary dialogue. It intends to generate a discussion about the scope, content, and linguistic manifestations of Modality in Japanese. Papers will deal with aspects such as epistemic, deontic or interpersonal modality, from a linguistic or applied linguistic perspective.

A programme will shortly be available on the SOAS website; further information can be obtained by contacting either Dr. Kizu (mk89@soas.ac.uk) or Dr Pizziconi (bp3@soas.ac.uk)



Report of the London Office of the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures (SISJAC)

The Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures

2005 saw a number of important projects for the Sainsbury Institute, in line with the approval of our five-year plan re-iterating our strong links with SOAS, in particular through the Department of Art and Archaeology. In May, a seminar on the interdisciplinary origins of art history, architectural history and archaeology, organised jointly by then Robert and Lisa Sainsbury Fellow Dr Ken Oshima and Professor Toshio Watanabe of the Train centre at the Chelsea College of Art and Design brought together colleagues from SISJAC, SOAS, the British Museum, Chelsea and elsewhere. November was a particularly busy month with the Toshiba Lectures in Japanese Arts given by Louise Allison Cort of the Smithsonian Institution, and a day workshop on the theme of Displaying Korea and Japan at the British Museum. Louise Cort's lectures will be published in due course and a summary is provided below. Abstracts for the workshop at the British Museum are available on the SISJAC website.

The Lisa Sainsbury Library continues to thrive under its Librarian Akira Hirano. A new Library Store near the Institute's headquarters in Norwich has been prepared ready to receive a major donation of books on Japanese archaeology and, under the auspices of Professor Masatomo Kawai of Keio University, we have recently taken delivery of a large part of the library of the late Professor Yanagisawa of Tobunken, one of the leading specialists on Japanese Buddhist art. Sir Hugh Cortazzi has this year added to the valuable early books and maps on Japan placed on long term loan with the Lisa Sainsbury Library.

The Institute continues to foster good relations between SOAS and the British Museum. With the invaluable support of the Embassy of Japan, in particular His Excellency Ambassador Yoshiji Nogami, we have secured funding from corporate members of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry to continue the secondment of Ms Hiromi Uchida to the Japan Section at the British Museum, where she is developing and implementing a programme of outreach and education activities. To celebrate these new relationships an Open Day for the JCCI was held at the Norwich headquarters of the Institute in November. Ms Uchida is replaced as Administrator of the Institute by Ms Cassy Payne, supported by our Office Coordinator, Ms Alice Livingstone.

The year in Norwich came to an end with the 50th in our very popular Third Thursday Lecture series, sponsored by the Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation and the Robert and Lisa Sainsbury Charitable Foundation. The lecture was given by the Director of the Institute, Dr Nicole Rousmaniere, to a packed audience in the historic surroundings of the thirteenth century Great Hospital in Norwich. 2006 will be an equally busy year for the Institute, with the continuation of the Third Thursday lectures. One especially notable highlight will be the Postgraduate Workshop for Japanese Art History, to be held in June, details of which are provided elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Japanese Archaeology and Cultural Heritage at the Sainsbury Institute

The Sainsbury Institute continues to develop an active programme for Japanese archaeology and cultural heritage. In spring 2005 an agreement of research cooperation was signed with the Kyushu University COE programme investigating transitions and interactions in East Asian history and archaeology. In May Simon Kaner (Assistant Director of SISJAC and JRC Associate) and SOAS PhD student Jane Oksbjerg spent a week at Kyushu University as part of this agreement, giving lectures and participating in seminars on the new dating of the beginning of the Yayoi period, now thought to start as early as 2900 years ago in Kyushu. In October, Professor Koji Mizoguchi of the Graduate School of Humanities and Society at Kyushu University made a return visit to UK and gave lectures at SOAS (in the Art and Archaeology Department Research Seminar), as well as at SISJAC and the University of East Anglia in Norwich, the Department of Archaeology, University of Cambridge, and at the Institute of Archaeology, UCL. In September Professor Mizoguchi also participated in a

seminar at the Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation on the topic of Does Heritage Matter? This seminar formed on of the 2005 joint Daiwa Foundation and Japan Society series, this year on public funding of the arts. The seminar was chaired by Simon Kaner and other speakers included Professors Richard Hodges and John Mack of the University of East Anglia, and Lord Rupert Redesdale (great-grandson of the Lord Redesdale who was in Japan in the 1860s), Secretary of the All Party Parliamentary Archaeology Group. Simon Kaner continues to teach a Japanese archaeology module as part of the MA in Japanese Art at SOAS.

In 2005 students on the course visited the largest-ever exhibition of Japanese archaeology held outside Japan at the Martin Gropius Bau in Berlin. Just before Christmas, SISJAC was delighted to welcome the library of the Norfolk and Norwich Archaeology Society, which has been placed on long-term loan with the Lisa Sainsbury Library. This extensive collection of works on archaeological method and theory, as well as an unsurpassed repository of books on Norfolk archaeology will be of great interest to visiting Japanese archaeologists at the Institute, all of whom want to know about the archaeology of the area where the Institute is based, and will also help foster a broader interest in Japanese archaeology and cultural heritage among the users of the library.

In October Simon Kaner participated in a pre-symposium at the new Research Institute for Humanities and Nature in Kyoto and has been invited to become a core member of a major new research project on landscape archaeology along the Japan Sea coast. This complements his existing field project investigating the development of the historic environment of the Shinano and Chikuma River drainage in central Japan, a project funded by the British Academy and supported by the Niigata Prefectural Museum of History. He begins 2006 by organising a session at the World Archaeology Congress Intercongress in Osaka, the first major international archaeology conference in Japan for over twenty years, on 'Transcendental Representations: Tradition, iconoclasm and symbiosis in representations of human and animal forms. This marks the start of a new SISJAC research project focusing on Jomon figurines and their counterparts in other parts of the world, notably south-eastern Europe. Papers from the session will be available via the SISJAC website.

Towards a Better Tea Bowl: A report on the Third Series of Toshiba Lectures in Japanese Arts, sponsored by the Toshiba International Foundation

From 1678 to 1679, Morita Kyuemon, a potter employed by the Tosa domain in modern-day Kochi prefecture, made a trip to Edo to research tea ceramics and cultivate an audience for the products of the Odo kiln, established in 1653 by the second lord of Tosa, Yamauchi Tadayoshi. Morita kept a diary of his trip, carefully recording all the details of where he went and who he met, what he was shown and the advice he received. This notebook of handmade Tosa paper has survived until the present day and has been translated by Louise Allison Cort, Curator of Ceramics at the Sackler Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution. The diary provides a fascinating insight into the complex world of the production, consumption and aesthetics of tea ceramics in the later seventeenth century, and provided the basis for the 2005 Toshiba Lectures in Japanese Arts, delivered by Louise Cort in November 2005 at the British Museum, SOAS and in Norwich.

The overarching theme of the three Toshiba lecture series to date has been the illumination of a particular period in Japanese art through the eyes of an individual artist of the time. Louise Cort continued in this vein, following Donald Keene's account of Watanabe Kazan in 2003 and John Rosenfield's discussion of Chogen in 2004. With the 2005 lectures focusing on ceramics, the Institute was honoured to be able to dedicate the series to the memory of Oliver Impey, former Keeper of Japanese Art at the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford, who passed away in September 2005. The first lecture in the series was accordingly prefaced by a moving statement by Menno Fitski, Oliver Impey's son-in-law and we were grateful to Oliver's widow, Jane Impey, for attending the lecture.

In the course of Louise Cort's lectures, capacity audiences were treated to a rich array of tea ceramics accompanied by lucid and engaging explanations as to how these objects captured the changing aesthetics and taste of the period. The products of the Odo kilns were set in the context of the development of domestic Japanese ceramic manufacture and the influences from Korea and China. Fulsomely supported by historical documents and illustrations, the talks cast light on the intricacies of the gift exchange system, so important in sealing the

bonds of daimyo and warrior life, and the role played by influential figures such as Koguri Enshu and Kanemori Sowa in the formation of taste in the Edo period.

The first lecture was given at the BP Lecture Theatre in the British Museum. The series was introduced by Tim Clark, Head of the Japanese Section in the Department of Asia at the British Museum, and Mr Masahiro Ogura of Toshiba Europe Ltd. The second lecture, on 14 November, was introduced by Professor Craig Clunas, Percival David Professor of Chinese Art and Head of Department of Art and Archaeology at SOAS, and Dr John Carpenter, Donald Keene Lecturer in Japanese Art at SOAS and Head of the London Office of SISJAC. The third lecture, held in conjunction with the Sainsbury Institute Third Thursday Lectures supported by the Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation and the Robert and Lisa Sainsbury Charitable Foundation, was given in Blackfriars' Hall in Norwich. It was introduced by Professor David Eastwood, Vice-Chancellor of the University of East Anglia and Chair of the Board of Management of SISJAC, and Dr Nicole Rousmaniere, Director of the Sainsbury Institute. All three lectures were very well attended, the audience including representatives from the Embassy of Japan, Toshiba Europe and many members of the Japan Society. The Sainsbury Institute is grateful to the Toshiba International Foundation for their generous sponsorship of the lecture series, to the Japan Society for their assistance with promoting the lectures, and to the British Museum and the SOAS for making lecture facilities available. Lady Sainsbury generously sponsored the reception following the first lecture at the British Museum.

Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures Staff Activities

Sachiko Idemitsu

(Handa Research Fellow 2005-2006), PhD candidate of Keio University, Specialist in Japanese Literati paintings in 18th century, Assistant at the Japanese section in the British Museum.

'*Mt. Fuji in China?: Ike no Taiga's Innovative Views of Japanese Landscape*,' Third Thursday Lecture Series, 15th September, 2005, The Sainsbury Institute for the study of Japanese Arts and Cultures, Norwich, UK.

'Ike no Taiga hitsu "Seiko Shunkei Sento Kancho-zu Byobu" no Shudai Kosatsu: Zuyo to Bungaku teki Tenkyo wo Saguru' [Spring Views of the West Lake and Tidal Bore on the Qiantang River by Ike no Taiga: Pictorial Motifs and Literary Sources], in *Museum No.599* (2005).

'The Birth of True Views in Nanga School: "Hyakusetsu Genyo's Wondrous Scenery of Kinosaki" in Kashima Bijutsu Kenkyu Nenpo No.22 (2005).

Dr Masaaki Morishita



Masaaki Morishita completed his two-year Postdoctoral Fellowship in the Sociology Discipline at the Open University, where he further expanded the empirical and theoretical concerns of his PhD thesis. The thesis, "Empty Museums: Transculturation and the Development of Public Art Museums in Japan", examines the phenomenon of the so-called 'empty museums' in post-war Japan which are characterised by their 'emptiness' - i.e. they have no collection, no permanent display, and no curator. Instead of criticising this feature in comparison to the Western institutions, he discussed this phenomenon as a result of cultural interactions between Japan and the West. As a Handa fellow, Dr Morishita is working on a monograph publication based on his thesis and developing a new research project on the positioning of contemporary Japanese artists in British museums and galleries after the 1990s. He is a member of editorial board of *Museums and Society*, and recent publications include

"The iemoto system and the avant-gardes in the Japanese artistic field: Bourdieu's field theory in comparative perspective" (*Sociological Review*, forthcoming). mm94@soas.ac.uk

Dr Nicole Rousmaniere

Nicole has given a series of lectures in Japan in October and November for the World Cultural Forum, Kyoto University of Arts and Design and for Nichibunken on the state of Japanese art studies in Europe and on 20th-century craft and its possibilities for the future. In addition, she gave a paper at the CEEJA conference celebrat-

ing EU-Japan year in Strasbourg in December on collecting Japan in the British Museum. She has just finished the manuscript for *Vessels of Influence: Chinese porcelain in Japan* for the Duckworth Archaeological Debates Series, to be published this Autumn. She is currently working on a book called *400-years of Japanese Porcelain* for the British Museum Press (for March 2007).

Dr Alicia Volk



Alicia Volk received her PhD from Yale University in 2005 and specializes in the fine art of modern and contemporary Japan. Her dissertation, 'The Japanese Expressionist: Yorozu Tetsugorô (1885-1927) and the Language of Modern Art,' examines issues in Japanese artistic modernism between 1900 and 1930; she analyses Yorozu's oeuvre in relation to the artist's theory of a universal modern art that would fuse and transcend the Eastern and Western traditions. In 2005 she curated an exhibition titled *Made in Japan: The Postwar Creative Print Movement* for the Milwaukee Art Museum and authored its catalogue for the University of Washington Press; this project examined developments in Japanese prints between 1945 and 1970 in relation to foreign patronage and Cold War geopolitics. In October she delivered a paper entitled 'The Expressionist Aesthetics of Taishô Modernism--In Pursuit of Universalism' at the conference *The Space Between: The Cartographic Imagination of Japanese*

Modernism, sponsored by the University of California, Berkeley. In December she received a Japan Research Award from the Center for Historical Studies at the University of Maryland to conduct research at the Prange Collection towards her project 'Democratizing Japanese Art, 1945-1960.'

As a Sainsbury fellow, Dr. Volk is busy revising her dissertation for publication, while also preparing an essay 'The Problem of the Print in Postwar Japanese Art' for an edited volume. Other recent publications include *Japan and Paris: Impressionism, Post-Impressionism and the Modern Era* (co-authored with Christine Guth and Yamanashi Emiko, Honolulu Academy of Arts, 2004), which addresses artistic exchanges between Japanese and European artists in the late 19th and early 20th centuries; 'Yorozu Tetsugorô and Taishô-period Creative Prints: When the Japanese Print Became Avant-garde' (*Impressions*, 26, 2004), which examines the emergence of printmaking as a field of avant-garde practice circa 1910; and 'Katsura Yuki and the Japanese Avant-garde' (*Woman's Art Journal* 24, no. 2, 2003), a study of gender issues in the work and career of a female painter active between 1930 and 1990. She has also published on Japanese photography and contemporary art.

Dr Gennifer Weisenfeld

Gennifer Weisenfeld is Associate Professor of Art History at Duke University and received her Ph.D. from Princeton University in 1997. Her main field of research is nineteenth and twentieth century Japanese visual culture, particularly the impact of Japan's modern sociopolitical transformations on artistic production and practice. Her book *Mavo: Japanese Artists and the Avant-Garde, 1905-1931* (University of California Press, 2002) addresses the relationship between high art and mass culture in the aesthetic politics of the avant-garde in 1920s Japan. She guest edited the journal positions special issue "Visual Cultures of Japanese Imperialism" (Winter 2001) and recently published the article "From Baby's First Bath': Kaô Soap and Modern Japanese Commercial Design" in *The Art Bulletin* (September 2004). She is currently working on two book projects: one on modern Japanese commercial design; and the other on cultural responses to the Great Kantô Earthquake of 1923. gennifer.weisenfeld@duke.edu





SAINSBURY INSTITUTE LECTURE SERIES

Third Thursday Lecture Series 2006
(64 The Close, Norwich, NR1 4DH, 6pm)

19 January

Dr. Simon Kaner, Assistant Director, Sainsbury Institute
The Painted Tombs of the Early Japanese State

16 February

Dr. Gennifer Weisenfeld, Robert and Lisa Sainsbury Fellow 2005-2006
From Baby's First Bath: Kao Soap and Japanese Modern Commercial Design

16 March

Professor Josef Kreiner, Director, Institute of Japanese Studies, University of Bonn

20 April

Filip Schomel, The Moravian Gallery, Brno

8th JAWS - Postgraduate Workshop of Japanese Art History (PWJAH)

The PWJAH Organising Committee is pleased to announce the 8th workshop for advanced postgraduate students in Japanese Art History. This event will be hosted by the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures, from 18th to 25th June, 2006. Since its inception in 1987, the event has taken place under the title of JAWS (Japanese-American Art Workshop), and the new name indicates an expansion to include Europe. The purpose remains the fostering of research skills and exchange of information among postgraduate students of Japanese art. Approximately 20 students who are currently conducting research into the history of Japanese art will be selected for this intensive three-day series of presentations and discussions, to be held in the presence of with senior scholars from Japan and Britain. The programme will also include visits to local collections. The deadline for application is now passed, and the selection will shortly be made. Of course, we hope for representation from SOAS.

THE JAPAN ANTHROPOLOGY WORKSHOP (JAWS)

18th Conference, University of Oslo, Museum of Cultural History, March 11-24, 2007

CALL FOR PAPERS

The organizing committee welcomes panel and paper proposals for the 2007 JAWS conference. The conference theme is "Japan and materiality in a broader perspective." A "broader perspective" may include any aspect of what is tangible or physical, but proposal topics are not limited to it. The organizers call for panel and individual paper proposals which lay out Japanese contexts within the general scope of anthropological portrayal. Participation is open to scholars and students from all over the world.

Please observe the following items when submitting the proposal:

- o Panel Theme Description/Abstract Of Paper;
- o Name of Panel Chair and Individual Presenters;
- o Contact Information Including Institutional Affiliation.

Panel proposals must be received no later than March 21, 2006. Presentation abstracts must be received no later than September 21, 2006. If possible, kindly provide a link for document download. Otherwise, send it as an e-mail attachment to: jaws-2007@khm.uio.no

The Oslo conference home page:

<http://www.khm.uio.no/jaws-2007/>

Additional contact information:

JAWS 2007 c/o Dept. of Ethnography / Museum of Cultural History Univ. of Oslo

P.O. Box 6762 St. Olavs plass / NO-0130 Oslo, Norway, Phone: +47-22859965 [64] Fax: + 47-22859960

http://www.khm.uio.no/english/hist_museum/index.shtml

The Oslo University organizing committee for the 2007 JAWS conference:

Arne Røkkum (Department of Ethnography, Museum of Cultural History)

Arne Kalland (Department of Social Anthropology, Faculty of Social Sciences)

Mark J. Teeuwen (Department of Culture Studies and Oriental Languages, Faculty of Humanities)



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JRC News Mailing List Update

To assist us in keeping the JRC mailing lists (postal and electronic) up-to-date, please send any address changes to the JRC or email details to the JRC Executive Officer: sh87@soas.ac.uk Lastly, if you would like us to carry out any of the following requests listed below, please indicate this in your correspondence:-

- o I wish to de-subscribe from the postal mailing list and be included on the email list.
- o Include my new address on the postal mailing list.
- o Include my address on the email list.
- o I wish to be de-subscribed from the JRC mailing list.

We would like to thank readers who have already sent in contributions.

ARTICLES FOR CONSIDERATION IN THE NEXT EDITION OF THE NEWSLETTER

If you would like to submit materials or announcements for the next edition of the JRC Newsletter please contact Sara Hamza (sh87@soas.ac.uk). The Centre Chair will have the final say on which materials appear in the Newsletter.

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