



SOAS Japan Research Centre

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SOAS
University of London



“Our Wednesday evening seminar series will run virtually for the first time in its 42 year history and provides us with the opportunity to invite speakers and colleagues from further afield. We look forward to this exciting challenge as we work with new technologies and media to host the seminar series and other activities. ”

As we begin a new academic year I take this opportunity to thank all our JRC Members, Associates, Visiting Scholars, funding bodies, and followers of our JRC social media sites for helping to ensure the JRC remains an engaging and dynamic space for the study of Japan here at SOAS.

As I write, we are amidst a global coronavirus pandemic. For the past six months the JRC and SOAS have – along with many other higher education institutions around the world – needed to adapt and respond to an uncertain and challenging environment. It is therefore with mixed feelings that I look back on both the vibrancy and ‘normality’ of JRC activities over the past academic year captured in this annual review of 2019-20.

As usual, we began the year with an action packed series of events, which included our Wednesday Seminar Series (now in its 41st year) as well as the hosting of our 12th Annual Meiji Jingu Autumn Lecture with guest speaker Professor Peter Kornicki, and our 7th W.G. Beasley Memorial Lecture with guest speaker Professor Naofumi Nakamura accompanied by a music performance from Dr David Hughes. You can read the write-up of these events in the following pages, and catch up on the full live recordings on our JRC web

pages. As the following pages in this Annual Review will testify to, Japanese Studies learning, teaching and research continues at pace. Our academic members continue to work at the forefront of research, publishing an array of topics and pursuing a range of scholarly and media activities across the fields of Japanese Studies. In 2019-20 we continued to welcome Visiting Scholars from Japanese universities who make a vital contribution to academic networking within the JRC activities.

The JRC continues as the institutional host for the British Association for Japanese Studies, offering the space to collaborate with the Japanese Embassy to host the Japan English Teaching (JET) departure meetings, as well as host workshops for postgraduate students of Japanese Studies across the UK, funded by the Japan Foundation London and the Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation. The JRC’s publishing activities also continue to thrive. The editorial team of Japan Forum entered their 7th year at the helm of the BAJS journal, producing quarterly issues that reflect cutting edge research from international Japanese Studies scholars. And, the research monograph series SOAS Studies in Modern and Contemporary Japan, in association with Bloomsbury, continues to publish several books annually reflecting the strength and



Japan
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diversity of Japanese Studies scholarship. I am also pleased to report that the JRC accounts and funding activities continue to show a surplus, thanks to the generous contribution of key supporters, in particular the Meiji Jingu Intercultural Research Institute and the Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation.

Unfortunately, several events scheduled near the end of the 2019-20 academic year had to be postponed or cancelled due to the global pandemic, and as we move into 2020-21 we will host a series of virtual events while we await a full opening of our campus. Our Wednesday evening seminar series will run virtually for the first time in its 42 year history and provides us with the opportunity to invite speakers and colleagues from further afield. We look forward to this exciting challenge as we work with new technologies and media to host the seminar series and other activities. I am immensely proud of how JRC colleagues and supporters have adapted to these challenging circumstances. I am particularly grateful to all those who continue to generously support our activities and for the fabulous collegiality and hard work of the JRC Steering Committee throughout 2019-20 (Fabio Gygi, Griseldis Kirsch, Lucia Dolce and Alan Cummings). I’m also indebted to Charles Taillandier-Ubsdell and Angelica Baschiera in the SOAS Centres & Institutes

Office without whom our JRC activities would not run as smoothly as they do.

We continue to encourage financial support for our activities through our JRC Fuwaku Fund initiative, and remain grateful to all those who support our Fuwaku Fund. All our events are open to SOAS students, staff and members of the public, and I look forward to seeing you at JRC events this year (both virtually and on campus) and hope they will contribute to your study and research in the various fields of Japanese Studies here at SOAS and beyond. In this uncertain environment, it remains important now more than ever to stay connected, and I encourage you to keep in touch with us – to sign up for our regular e-bulletins and keep an eye on our forthcoming events.

JRCは、日本国外における日本学専門家の最大規模の組織の一つであり、会員の研究専門分野は人類学、芸術、経済学、地理学、歴史学、文学、法学、メディア学、音楽、言語学、政治学、社会学、と多岐にわたる。

ANTHROPOLOGY

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One of the largest concentrations of Japan specialists outside Japan

HISTORY OF ART & ARCHAEOLOGY

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JAPAN & KOREA: EAST ASIAN LANGUAGES & CULTURES

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LINGUISTICS

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POLITICS & INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

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RELIGIONS & PHILOSOPHIES

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JRC Steering Committee Members

- Dr Filippo Cervelli, Senior Teaching Fellow in Japanese literature
- Dr Alan Cummings, Senior Lecturer in Japanese Studies
- Dr Lucia Dolce, Numata Reader in Japanese Buddhism
- Dr Fabio Gygi, Lecturer in Anthropology
- Dr Griseldis Kirsch, Senior Lecturer in Contemporary Japanese Culture
- Dr Helen Macnaughtan, Senior Lecturer in International Business and Management (Japan)/ Chair, Japan Research Centre
- Dr Satona Suzuki, Senior Teaching Fellow in Japanese
- Charles Taillandier-Ubsdell, Executive Officer, Centres and Institutes



LAUNCH OF 40-40 FUWAKU (不惑) FUND



In 2018, to mark its 40th year since establishment, the JRC launched the "40-40 Fuwaku Fund". The meaning of Fuwaku (不惑) is to 'follow the right course past the age of 40'. The goal of the 40-40 Fuwaku Fund is to sustain the JRC through its next 40 years of activities (2018-2058), with a minimum target of 40 major gifts over 40 years contributing toward core JRC research activities.

The JRC welcomes donations from corporate, institutional and individual donors to sustain JRC research activities within the spirit of Fuwaku (不惑). All donations over £100 are acknowledged on the JRC website and larger donations can have the donor name branded to the research activity.

Sponsor information: how you can get involved

Make a Gift: There are several ways in which you can support the JRC 40-40 Fuwaku Fund. You can make a donation through our secure online account. If you wish to make a donation by cheque or by Direct Debit you can do so by following the instructions on the 'SOAS Questions worth asking page'.

Gift range: examples of how funds are distributed

- £10,000 Annual postgraduate studentship in Japanese studies
- £3,000 Support of annual lecture or symposium
- £2,000 Support of annual JRC research seminars
- £1,500 Academic research fieldwork travel grant
- £500 Support of JRC outreach and networking activities
- £100 Small grant for academic research materials



For more information visit:
www.soas.ac.uk/jrc/40-40_fuwaku_fund/

DONATION FROM MR ICHIKAWA TO SUPPORT AND PROMOTE JAPANESE STUDIES RESEARCH AT SOAS

The SOAS Japan Research Centre has received a donation from Mr Makoto Ichikawa to support and promote Japanese Studies research at SOAS and to further develop the friendship between the UK and Japan.

The donation will support the JRC Seminar Series for 2018-19. The Series has been running for 40 years since its establishment in the Autumn term of 1978. It contributes to SOAS's specialist teaching and learning environment for students undertaking BA/MA/PhD Japanese Studies degrees, and provides a regional focus for students combining an element of Japan-focused study within other discipline-based degrees offered across SOAS.

The public seminars are delivered by established Japanese Studies scholars from the UK, Europe and beyond, providing opportunity for wide debate on a diverse range of research issues within the field of Japanese Studies. The JRC Seminar Series has a positive effect on the Japanese Studies research community within SOAS, and extends to a broader community with external visitors comprising half the audience at weekly seminars.

Mr Makoto Ichikawa is the President of Ichikawa Jin Company Limited, a customer relations and advertising company based in Kyoto and Tokyo, first established in 1945. The donation was inspired by the long friendship of 45 years between Mr Ichikawa and Mr Stephen McEnally, JRC Senior Fellow, the wish to promote an enhanced understanding of Japan in the UK, and to further develop the friendship and close ties that exist between the two countries.



DONATION FROM MR STEPHEN MCENALLY SUPPORTS THE 2019 W.G. BEASLEY MEMORIAL LECTURE



We are very grateful to the generous support of Mr Stephen McEnally, which makes the 2019 W.G. Beasley Memorial Lecture possible. This annual lecture, created in 2013, provides an opportunity to commemorate the life and writings of SOAS historian Professor William G Beasley (1919-2006). Professor Beasley was not only a leading figure in the development of Japanese Studies in Britain, he also had strong links with SOAS. During his tenure at SOAS, Professor Beasley headed the History and Far East departments and was the founding Chair of the Japanese Research Centre (1978-83).

DONATION FROM PROFESSOR PETER FRANCIS KORNICKI FBA

The SOAS Japan Research Centre (JRC) has received a gift from Peter Francis Kornicki FBA, Emeritus Professor of Japanese Studies at the University of Cambridge and Professorial Research Associate of the JRC.



Peter hopes that Japanese studies at SOAS continues to flourish and was encouraged to make the donation because of his frequent use of the SOAS library and regular attendance at the JRC seminars.

DONATION FROM DR JAMES HOARE TO SUPPORT ACADEMIC RESEARCH MATERIALS



The SOAS Japan Research Centre has received a donation from Dr James Hoare to support a small grant for academic research materials.

Dr Hoare, Research Associate, SOAS Centre of Korean Studies has a PhD in Japanese history from SOAS University of London. He has long been a member of the Anglo-Korean Society, the Korean Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society and President of the British Association of Korean Studies (BAKS) in 2006. James is a regular contributor to the UK and global media and participants in conferences, briefings and talks around the world. His latest book, published this year, is *J E Hoare, Ed., Culture, Power and Politics in Treaty-Port Japan, 1854-1899*. This two-volume collection, supported by an in-depth introduction that addresses origins, actuality, endgame and afterlife, brings together for the first time contemporary documentation and more recent scholarship to give a broad picture of Japan's Treaty Ports and their inhabitants at work and play in the second half of the nineteenth century.

Christopher GERTEIS
Senior Lecturer in History
of Contemporary Japan



Dr Christopher Gerteis is an Associate Professor of Modern and Contemporary Japanese History at SOAS University of London. He is Founding Series Editor of the scholarly monograph series SOAS Studies in Modern and Contemporary Japan, published in association with the UK publisher Bloomsbury (<https://tinyurl.com/repqm22>).

From 2014 to 2019 he was Chief Editor of Japan Forum, the journal of the British Association for Japanese Studies (<https://tinyurl.com/yx7tw7se>). He is currently in five-year residence as Associate Professor and Academic Editor for the International Publishing Initiative in Humanities and Area Studies at the Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia, The University of Tokyo.

Gerteis' first book, *Gender Struggles: Wage-earning Women and Male-Dominated Unions in Postwar Japan* (Harvard, 2010), is an interdisciplinary study of the forgotten history of wage-earning Japanese women who during the 1950s militantly contested the socialist labor movement's revival of many prewar notions of normative gender roles. By showing how unions raised the wages of male workers in part by transforming working-class women into middle-class housewives, *Gender Struggles* demonstrates that organized labor's discourse on womanhood not only undermined women's status within the labor movement but also prevented unions from linking with the emerging woman-led, neighborhood-centered organizations that typified social movements in the 1960s—a misstep that contributed to the decline of the socialist labor movement in subsequent decades.

His second book, *Mobilizing Japanese Youth: The Cold War and the Making of the Sixties Generation* (forthcoming from Cornell University Press in 2020), examines the forces that shaped the political consciousness of Japanese youth who chose to engage in political violence during the 1960s and 1970s. *Mobilizing Japanese Youth* unpacks how notions of class and gender shaped the discourses produced by, and for, young men and women of the 'Sixties Generation'. It argues that intertwined by their similar uses of class and gender

in political rhetoric, the machinations of both the far-left and far-right precipitated further levels of social alienation and helped to define the political consciousness of the 'Sixties Generation' well into the twenty-first century.

A third book project examines the impact of celebratory histories of industrialization formulated by multinational corporations in Japan. *Manufacturing Memory: Marketing Modern Heritage in Contemporary East Asia* investigates how corporate managers recast public memory of their companies' support for Japanese imperialism through the acquisition of UNESCO World Heritage status for so-called 'industrial heritage' sites implicated in the use of forced laborers before and during World War II. The project is an examination of how managers and politicians have used UNESCO status to deflect the diplomatic blowback, and fiduciary risk, associated with public memory of the darker history of Imperial Japan.

BOOKS

Gerteis, Christopher. *Mobilizing Japanese Youth: The Cold War and the Making of the Sixties Generation*. Forthcoming from Cornell University Press in 2020.



The shogun's grave (originally 1617, but as rebuilt c. 1670) [photo by Timon Screech]

Barbara PIZZICONI
Reader in Applied
Japanese Linguistics



Various conferences Barbara had planned to present at in the summer 2020 were postponed to indefinite future times, but some research networking was able to continue in the cybersphere.

The Research Network on Intercultural Mediation had a productive online meeting, in which planning for a joint publication was taken forward. Two papers are in the pipeline for this joint project, which report on the experiences of interculturality of SOAS students during study abroad, and which will hopefully see publication in the course of the next academic year.

Timon SCREECH
Professor of the
History of Art



Professor Screech has been away from SOAS this whole academic year, firstly on sabbatical at UCLA, then from New Year in Japan, attached to Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, thanks to its link with the JRC.

In the USA he participated at many events and delivered special lectures at UC Berkeley and UA Tucson. Mostly, however, he completed his book manuscript of the history of the East India Company's sailings to Japan, that Oxford will publish this autumn.

In Japan, all expected events have been cancelled or postponed, which is a pity, but it leave Professor Screech full time to concentrate of his new topic, which is the apotheosis of Tokugawa Ieyasu.

Griseldis KIRSCH
Senior Lecturer in
Contemporary Japanese
Culture



As of 1 August 2019, Dr Kirsch became Head of Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. Nonetheless, She still attended a conference on the Anthropocene at the University of Vienna, Austria in November 2029, presenting on Higuchi Shinji's 2005 adaptation of Sinking of Japan. In February, she was invited to University College Cork, presenting a seminar on the representation of immigrants from other East Asian countries to Japan in Japanese media. Ever since March, Dr Kirsch has been stuck in lockdown like everybody else, which thwarted plans to attend the AAS and EAJS conferences respectively!

ARTICLES

- Kirsch, G. (2019). *Gendering the Japanese Empire: Ri Kōran as 'Transnational' Star?* Arts, 8(4), pp 1-8.
- Kirsch, G. (2019). *Whose Choice? Watching non-English language Films in the UK*. Multilingua, 38(5), pp 619-624.

CHAPTER IN EDITED BOOK

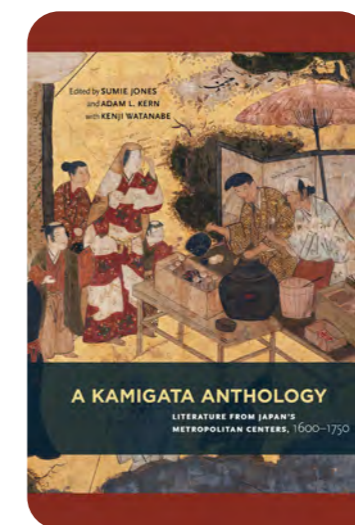
- Kirsch, G. (2019) *Recreating Memory? The Drama Watashi wa Kai ni Naritai and Its Remakes*. In: B. Guarné, A. Lozano-Méndez, Artur D. Martinez eds., *Persistently Postwar: Media and the Politics of Memory in Japan*. Oxford: Berghahn Books, pp 85-102.

Alan CUMMINGS
Senior Lecturer in
Japanese Studies



Looking back from the vantage point of this summer across an academic year so disrupted by first the UCU strikes and then by the COVID-19 pandemic, the very idea of conferences feels like something from a very alien world. However, back in October Dr Cummings had the immense pleasure to participate in a symposium on the teaching of traditional Japanese culture at Kokugakuin University in Tokyo alongside Dr. Hirafuji Kikuko and the kabuki actor Matsumoto Kōshirō X.

CHAPTER IN EDITED BOOK



- Cummings, A (2020). *Kagekiyo, 1732, A Kabuki play*. In S. Jones, A. Kern, K. Watanabe, ed., *A Kamigata Anthology: Literature from Japan's Metropolitan Centers, 1600-1750*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 239-260.

Yoshiko JONES
Senior Teaching Fellow in
Japanese Language



In February 2020 Yoshiko Jones once again organised the Sir Peter Parker Awards for Spoken Business Japanese in collaboration with JETRO (The Japan External Trade Organisation).



It was the 30th anniversary of the event and the Japanese Ambassador H.E. Yasumasa Nagamine and Sir Alan Parker, Sir Peter's son both attended. Hosted by Pro director (then) Professor Stephen Hoggood. About 160 Anglo Japanese related people attended the event.

The Awards were suggested by the late Sir Peter Parker who was one of the Dulwich Boys to promote and encourage Japanese language study in the UK. Addition to this the late Sir Hugh Cortazzi, another Dulwich boy was also heavily involved as the chair of Judges for many years.

This year attracted 30 candidates and the finalists all gave excellent speeches. Although it is intended for business persons, postgraduate students who are interested in the business world may enter the competition.

One of the post graduate students won the first prize this year.

At this year's reception Yoshiko Jones was awarded the Ambassador's Commendation for her contribution to closer links between the UK and Japan. The organisers are hoping to continue the event in 2021 and beyond.



Dr Alan Cummings, Matsumoto Koshiro X, and Dr. Hirafuji Kikuko.



Helen MACNAUGHTAN
Senior Lecturer in International
Business & Management



Helen Macnaughtan continued as Chair of the Japan Research Centre, a role she has been proud to hold since 2016-17. As part of her ongoing research into the history and development of rugby in Japan and the hosting of sport mega-events, she was delighted to visit for several weeks in Autumn 2019 to observe Japan's hosting of the Rugby World Cup and to attend some of the matches. During that event she commented on Japanese rugby in several media articles including for the Guardian and for CNN.

ARTICLES

- Macnaughtan, Helen (2019) 'Can Sporting Mega-Events bring change to Japan?'. East Asia Forum, 25 April 2019
- Macnaughtan, Helen (2020) 'From the Witches of the Orient to the Blossoming Sevens: Volleyball and Rugby at the Tokyo Olympics'. Japan Focus: The Asia Pacific Journal, (18) 4.
- Macnaughtan, Helen (2020) Japan, the Olympics and the COVID-19 pandemic. East Asia Forum, 23 June 2020.

BOOK CHAPTERS

The Routledge Companion to
Gender and Japanese Culture



Edited by Jennifer Coates, Lucy Fraser, and Mark Pendleton

- Macnaughtan, Helen (2019) 'Gender and the Workplace'. In: Coates, Jennifer and Fraser, Lucy and Pendleton, Mark, (eds.), The Routledge Companion to Gender and Japanese Culture. London: Routledge.

SOAS Centre for the Study of Japanese Religions and
Faculdade de Ciências Sociais e Humanas, New University of Lisbon
Research Project PTDC/HIS-HIS/118404/2010

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**Interactions between Rivals:
The Christian Mission and Buddhist
Sects in Japan during the
Portuguese presence (c.1549-c.1647)**

Thursday, March 6 2014
2:00 PM – 7:00PM Room 116, SOAS

Lucia DOLCE
Numata Reader in Japanese
Buddhism



Lucia spent the first term of the year as a visiting professor at the Graduate School of Letters of Sōka University, Japan, where she taught a seminar on medieval Buddhism. This period in Japan gave her the opportunity to do extensive fieldwork on Buddhist rituals at several temples in the Kanto area and to continue her archival research on yogic practices.

Through the year Lucia delivered guest lectures at various venues, including Rishō University and Minobu-san University in Japan and Ca' Foscari University of Venice, and was invited to speak at a number of international conferences, including a symposium on "Paintings of the Lotus Sutra from Honpōji" at Kyoto City University; a Symposium to commemorate the 70th Birthday of Professor Sueki Fumihiko at Aoyama gakuin in Tokyo; a conference on "Object and Performance in Asia" at Kyushu University and a conference on "Esoteric Buddhism in East Asia" at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver.

In London she was co-organiser and speaker also at the conference "Unlocking Buddhist Writing Heritage" held at the British Library (podcasts of the conference available at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLVRvouzCZmFdLSa6qiQTi5ZZCnRGU1Qh4>)

Lucia continues to act as the Chair of the SOAS Centre of Buddhist Studies and of the SOAS Centre for Japanese Religions. In this capacity she has organised the Ho Foundation lectures series in Chinese Buddhism and the Japanese religions Forum. She has also welcomed two postdoctoral fellows, who will work at SOAS under her mentorship for the next two years: Dr Zijie Li (ACLS/ Ho Foundation), working on Buddhist ideas in early Japanese texts; and Dr Aiko Nishimura (Japan Society for the Promotion of Science), working on the art of the Lotus Sutra.

CHAPTER IN EDITED BOOK

Dolce, Lucia. "Saints, Sects, and (holy) Sites: The Jesuit Mapping of Japanese Buddhism," in Interactions Between Rivals: The Christian Mission and Buddhist Sects in Japan (c.1549-c.1647), Alexandra Curvelo and Angelo Cattaneo eds., Peter Lang (2020) (with Ana Pinto and Linda Zampol).

Fabio GYGI
Lecturer in Anthropology



Fabio Gygi has spent a blissful autumn and winter on research leave at the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies (TUFS), where he taught a course on Comparative Medical Anthropology. He has used the time in Japan to undertake intensive fieldwork on "memorial services for dolls" 人形供養. This culminated in a workshop in January 2020 with the title 媒図としてのヒトガター—現代日本における人形の生産消費図分 (The Doll as Medium: Production, Consumption and Disposal of Dolls in Contemporary Japan) with the historian Okamoto Makiko, the theatre researcher Kikuchi Kohei, the critic Sakakiyama Yūko, the psychoanalyst Fujita Hiroshi and the anthropologist Ksenia Golovina.

At TUFS he also taught an intensive one-week course on the social science of dreams. This new and experimental course used the method of social dreaming to elicit dream narratives that were then analysed by students with different hermeneutic methods.

ARTICLES

- Gygi, F. (2019). Hôtes et otages: Entasser des objets chez soi dans le Japon contemporain, L'homme 231-232, 151-172
- Gygi, F. (2019) Things that Believe: Talismans, Amulets, Dolls, and How to Get Rid of Them. Japanese Journal of Religious Studies, 45(2), 423-452

Ulrich VOLZ
Reader in Economics



ARTICLES

- Schumacher, K., H. Chenet and U. Volz (2020) 'Sustainable Finance in Japan'. Journal of Sustainable Finance and Investment 10(2), pp 213-246.
- Belke, A.H. and U. Volz (2020) 'The Yen Exchange Rate and the Hollowing Out of the Japanese Industry'. Open Economies Review 31(2), pp 371-406.
- Montgomery, H. and U. Volz (2019) 'The Effectiveness of Unconventional Monetary Policy in Japan'. Journal of Economic Issues 53(2), pp 411-416.



Ningyō kuyō at the Tengakuji in Saitama (Photo by Fabio Gygi)

Stephen DODD

Emeritus Research Associate



Prof Stephen Dodd was supposed to start a one-year Visiting Fellowship at Nichibunken, Kyoto, from this April, but due to Covid-19 he will now begin in April 2022. During the past year, he has completed a paper on Mishima, and he continues with his translation of Mishima's novel, Beautiful Star (Utsukushii hoshi). He is presently working on a range of other research projects. He also participated recently in a Webinar, entitled, 'How Do They Read?: Voices and Practices of Japanese Literature Translators,' 22 June 2020, in which he conversed with two eminent translators, Ginny Tapley Takemori and Polly Barton. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LsyPT0d1e8I>).

In March this year, the US version of his translation of Mishima's Life for Sale came out with Vintage Books.

ARTICLES

- Dodd, Stephen. (2020). "Review Essay: The Transformation of Identity in Contemporary Japanese Fiction." Wasafiri 102 (Summer, 2020): pp. 87-91.

CHAPTERS IN EDITED BOOKS

- Dodd, Stephen. (2020). "Kage' no fuhenteki na jūyōsei: Nagai Kafū 'Sumidagawa' kara Murakami Haruki 'Sekai no owari to hādo boirudo wandārando' made." In H. Ishida, and A. Bechler, (eds.), Bunka hyōshō toshite no Murakami Haruki. Tokyo: Seikyūsha, 24-34.



- Dodd, Stephen. (2019). "Furantsu Kafuka no 'Henshin' to Uno Kōji 'Yume miru heya' to iu modanīsuto no heya." In: M. Naomi, (ed.), Sekai bungaku to Nihon kindai bungaku. Tokyo: Tōkyō daigaku shuppan kai, 169-183.
- Dodd, Stephen. (2019). "Undō toshite no modanizumu: Nikaragua kara Nihon e." In M. Naomi, (ed.), Sekai bungaku to Nihon kindai bungaku. Tokyo: Tōkyō daigaku shuppan kai, 63-83.
- Dodd, Stephen. (2019). "Kuro tokage' ni okeru tōsaku no keifu." In: T. Ishikawa, T. Ochiai, A. Kaneko, and K. Kawasaki, (eds.), Edogawa Ranpo shin seiki: ekkyō suru tantei shōsetsu. Tokyo: Hitsuji shobō, 97-102.

Bill MIHALOPOULOS

Research Associate

Bill continued with his role as Chief Editor for Japan Forum, the official journal for the British Association of Asian Studies. In this capacity he also produced five podcasts talking with newly published authors about their work. They can be found on the JRC webpage devoted to Japan Forum.

Bill presented "Slavery and Consent in Meiji Japan" in the JRC seminar series (16 October 2019) The talk was based on a chapter published in 2020: "Rethinking the Maria Luz Incident: Methodological Cosmopolitanism and Meiji Japan" in P. Seaton & A. Ogawa (eds.), New Frontiers in Japanese Studies, Routledge (2020): 21-33.

Andrew GERSTLE

Emeritus Research Associate



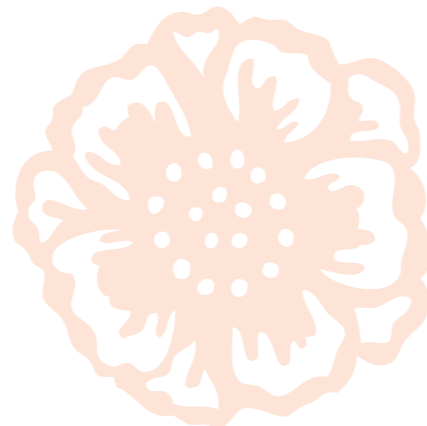
Memorial for Mimasu Daigorō V Kabuki actor lineage. Artist: Gyokuen, date 1865, Geneva Museum of Art and History

Andrew Gerstle organized two workshops in August 2019 in Kyoto at Ritsumeikan University and in Osaka at Kansai University, supported by an EHRC small grant for a project on 'Salon Culture in Kyoto and Osaka: 1750-1900 in collaboration with these universities and the British Museum.

Gerstle is also working a surimono collection at the Geneva Museum of Art and History together with Hideyuki Iwawa. This collection of about 100 prints is almost entirely focused on performing artists, such as Kabuki and Bunraku memorials and name-taking ceremonies, as well as those of geisha and rakugo performers. The prints contain important information and haiku poems by the participants.

CHAPTERS IN EDITED BOOK

Translation: Gerstle, C. A, 'A Courtesan's Soul within Incense Smoke' 'Matabei the Stutterer', In: Jones, S., ed., A Kamigata Anthology: Literature from Japan's Metropolitan Centers, 1600-1750, Honolulu, University of Hawaii Press, 2020, pp. 221-39



David HUGHES

Emeritus Research Associate



ACTIVITIES

- SOAS Min'yō Group: Manchester DokiDoki (performances, interview, workshop); London's Japan Matsuri; Daiwa House (Iwate songs, for JRC's Beasley Memorial talk on 2011 tsunami disaster); teach Texas A&M students; folk-musical "Women of Ishikawa" (with Doubtful Sound theatre troupe).

- London Okinawa Sanshinkai: Japan Matsuri; workshops at SOAS & U East Anglia; on Okinawan TV, Feb'20; etc.

- Visiting Noh performers' rehearsals, SOAS, for English-language Noh "Between the Stones", Purcell Room.

- Min'yō Crusaders (min'yō fused with Latin American music style), Jazz Café, Nov'19: interview musicians on-stage.



- Zoom activities since March: music lecture, Keio U; external examiner, U Limerick (Irish/World Music, including Japan); European Shakuhachi Society summer school; etc.

- Many requests for advice/ comments: advise producers of new "Madame Butterfly" musical (for Stratford Circus, Feb'20); advise leaders of wonderful Extant theatre company re blind Japanese musicians; vet journal submissions; etc etc.

- Aug'20: NHK radio features 1980 recording of David singing Japanese song (Gina Barnes on shinobue), and describes his career.

- Examine PhDs, Paris & Australia.
- Paper on Japan's national music curriculum, City U.
- Host/chair other events by visiting Japanese musicians & scholars.
- Invited lectures/ performances cancelled due to COVID shutdowns: Thailand, Finland, Ireland, Wales....

Sarah TEASLEY

Research Associate



Sarah Teasley had a busy year writing, speaking and teaching. Scholarly talks included a JRC seminar in January 2020, 'Waste knot: Materials, waste and productivity in postwar Japan' and a presentation for the 'Animal Materialities: Compositions and Practices in the History of Science' workshop at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin in December 2019. While several keynotes, talks and a research trip to Japan were postponed due to coronavirus, she was visiting professor at the China Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing in September 2019, where she gave public lectures on design history methods and futures, and she participated in live online discussions about emergent design practices in Tokyo and Hong Kong in summer 2020, with the RCA-IIS Tokyo Design Lab and the Enable Foundation respectively. 2019-20 was her last year at the Royal College of Art. In late 2020, she will take up a new position as Professor of Design at RMIT University in Melbourne, Australia. She has a number of publications forthcoming in 2021-22, on knowledge networks around design, craft and making, the history of design industries, and new materials research, all in modern Japan.

Monika HINKEL

Research Associate



In the academic year 2019/20 Monika taught for Professor Timon Screech the postgraduate module "Shogunal Iconography in Edo Period Japan" and the undergraduate module "Japanese Art." She also contributed two lectures to the module "Themes in Asian Art" on "Early Japanese Buddhist Art" and "Japanese Modernity."

In October 2019 Monika was invited to contribute a paper to the symposium "KNIFEWORK - TRACES ON THE ARTIST'S BLOCK - Modern and Contemporary Woodblock Prints from China and Japan" at the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford. Her paper was titled "The transition from Ukiyo-e to Sōsaku hanga."

At the end of October 2019 Monika gave a talk for the Circle of Japanese Art London at Daiwa House, London. Her presentation was on the topic "Beyond Hokusai and Hiroshige: Late Edo and Meiji period prints in Vincent van Gogh's collection."

In January 2020 she was a guest speaker at the Embassy of Japan London. For the event "Edo Tokyo Kirari", organised by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government, Monika presented a talk titled "Tokyo jiman - Tokyo's pride and its crafts."

Moreover, Monika continued her teaching at the V&A and Morley College with courses on Nanban Art, Japonism and Japan's Courty Culture.

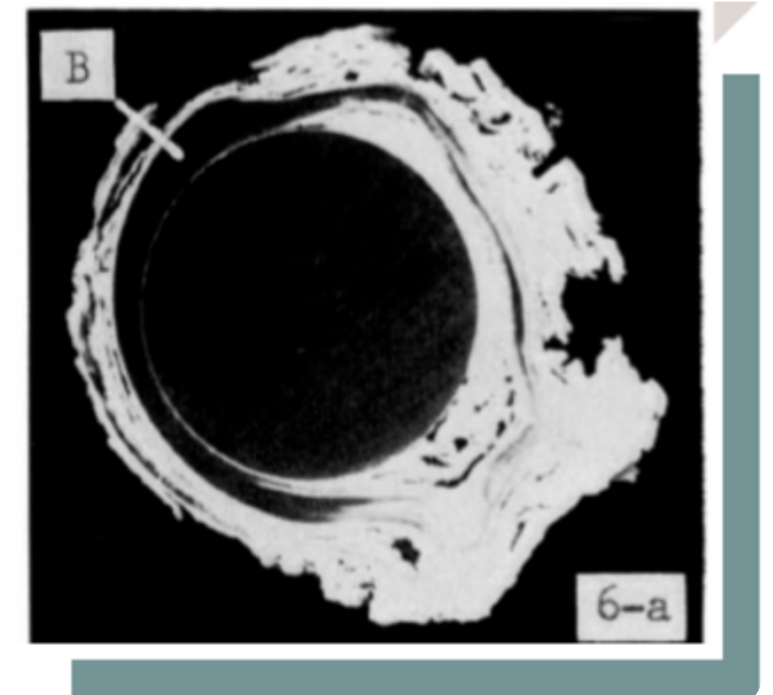


Image from the Workshop 'Animal materialities Compositions and Practices in the History of Science', attended by Sarah Teasley

Hush-hush: Japanese studies in wartime Britain and Bletchley Park

2 OCTOBER 2019

This year's Meiji Jingu Autumn Lecture was delivered by Professor Peter Kornicki (Robinson College, Cambridge).

From 1939 onwards, SOAS had tried to alert the British government to the need for Japanese courses in case war should break out, but the government wasn't listening. The attack on Malaya and then Pearl Harbor in December 1941 caught Britain linguistically unprepared for war and there was an urgent need to make good the deficiency. Early in 1942 SOAS began a series of Japanese courses designed to produce interpreters, translators, interrogators and radio eavesdroppers, but this was no secret: advertisements for the courses even appeared in the newspapers. At the same time, however, a much more secret course was launched in Bedford to train men and women for intelligence work at Bletchley Park. They could not even tell their parents what they were doing, for they all had to sign the Official Secrets Act and were only released from that obligation in 1978. After finishing their courses most went to Bletchley Park but subsequently many were sent to India, Kenya, Ceylon, Australia and Mauritius to monitor, decode and translate Japanese wireless communications. GCHQ has not yet released all the records but some are available in the USA and elsewhere, and a handful of those intrepid men and women are still alive and eager to be interviewed: their story deserves to be told, for their contribution to the war effort may have been hidden but it was highly esteemed at the time. In particular, their work on the Japanese diplomatic codes provided access to the messages sent from the Japanese embassy in Berlin: since the ambassador had a good relationship with Hitler, these messages provided invaluable intelligence about the war in Europe.



Speaker Biography

The son of a Polish wartime Spitfire pilot, Professor Kornicki was educated at Oxford and then taught at the University of Tasmania and Kyoto University before taking up a lectureship in Japanese at the University of Cambridge in 1985. In 2001 he became a professor at Cambridge; he took early retirement in 2014, but continued in his other role as Deputy Warden of Robinson College, Cambridge, until 2016. He was President of the European Association for European Studies from 1997 to 2000, was elected a fellow of the British Academy in 2000, received the Yamagata Banto Prize in 2013 and was awarded the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon in 2017. His most recent publications are: Languages, scripts, and Chinese texts in East Asia (2018), British Royal and Japanese Imperial relations, 1868-2018: 150 years of association, engagement and celebration. (2019, with the late Sir Hugh Cortazzi and Antony Best) and Captain Oswald Tuck and the Bedford Japanese School, 1942-1945 (2019).

The Japan Research Centre Meiji Jingu Autumn Lecture is sponsored through the generosity of the Meiji Jingu-Intercultural Research Institute



Crisis thinking in regional Japan – the case study of Kamaishi City

The Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation, 4 March 2020

Prof Naofumi Nakamura (University of Tokyo) presented 'Crisis thinking in regional Japan: Responses to Depopulation, Industrial Restructuring and Natural Disasters in Post-war Era – the case study of Kamaishi City, Iwate Prefecture'

This lecture examined the crises facing post-war regional Japan, taking Kamaishi City in Iwate Prefecture as a case study. It goes without saying that Kamaishi City faced a series of watershed movements historical specific to the locality. However, Kamaishi city also had to deal with a strata of crises common to all provincial cities in postwar Japan: depopulation, decline of key industries, and emergencies precipitated by natural disasters and wars. The amalgam of the different crises strata complicated and hindered the response of regional communities to the changing economic and political landscape of post-high growth Japan.

In the 1960s and 70s, Kamaishi was as a thriving city boasting a population of around 80,000 people—home to the Kamaishi Steel Works, deep-sea fishing operations, and Japan's strongest rugby team. However, the subsequent contraction of the steel works and waning of the deep-sea fishing industry led to a steep decline in population. It should be noted that population decline has persisted since the closure of the steel work's foundry in 1989. Today, Kamaishi is a small rural city with a population of 36,000 facing a chronic crisis of depopulation.



Kamaishi in the 2000s



Kamaishi in the 1930s

The March 2011 tsunami and Great East Japan Earthquake brought new urgency to the issues of chronic depopulation and economic restructuring to Kamaishi and the surrounding areas. Kamaishi provides us with an appropriate case study for examining how regional communities have attempted to respond to the key crises facing all of regional post-war Japan: depopulation, industrial restructuring and natural disasters. In this

lecture, I take Kamaishi as a case study to investigate crisis thinking in post-war regional Japan – the policies and actions of both the public and private sectors in their pursuit to find solutions to depopulation, economic restructuring, and disaster readiness.

Speaker Biography

Naofumi Nakamura is Professor in Business and Economic History at the Institute of Social Science, the University of Tokyo. He obtained a Ph.D. in history from Kyushu University in 1997. He has been conducting a general community survey at Kamaishi City, Iwate Prefecture, from 2006 to present.

Music Performance

Professor Nakamura's focus on Kamaishi City has led members of the SOAS Min'yō Group to learn two folk songs from that town, which they performed at this event: "Kamaishi Hama Uta" and "Kamaishi Jinku".

The group's founder, David Hughes (JRC Research Associate), has often researched traditional music in Iwate, and since the 3/11 disaster he has visited Kamaishi twice, delighted to see some positive developments.

Both songs, which pre-date the disaster, focus on the town's importance as a fishing port. We hope, of course, that its fishing industry can fully recover.

You can rewatch the full lecture here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gl5uFXqRMvQ>



Three members of SOAS Min'yō Group: Akari Mochizuki, Orlando Byron and Hibiki Ichikawa



Since September 2017 SOAS has become the institutional home of the British Association for Japanese Studies (BAJS) which was formed in 1974 with the aim to encourage Japanese studies in the UK, in particular by stimulating teaching and research, and has a membership of over five hundred. It is administered by a Council, which is elected at the BAJS Conference. It is funded by an annual subscription from the membership, and all activities (including the Conference) are self-financing. The Association's first Conference was convened in 1975, and following that the BAJS Conference was an annual event. From 2010, the BAJS Conference has been held on a tri-annual basis, alternating with the European Association for Japanese Studies and the Joint East Asian Studies Conferences, with an annual workshop held during the other two years.

If you want more information about BAJS work please contact the Association's secretary, Mara Patessio: bajs@bajs.org.uk or visit www.bajs.org.uk

Dr Mara Patessio, Mara has a Ph.D. from Cambridge University in Japanese modern history and has taught Japanese history in London and Manchester before being hired by BAJS and joining SOAS in September 2017.

EVENTS SUMMARY

The Japan Foundation / BAJS Postgraduate Japanese Studies Workshop returned for its 8th year and it was held at SOAS, University of London.

The theme for this year was 'Publishing Your Research' and focussed on helping participants navigate the world of academic publishing. Throughout the student-focused workshop, participants were guided both by leading scholars and those with insider knowledge of the academic publishing industry. The workshop also provided an excellent opportunity for networking among PhD students and academics, as well as a forum to discuss future collaborations. Organisations also presented their funding programmes and gave details of how they can help.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

BAJS also has funding available for students in Japanese Studies, in particular the John Crump studentship (www.bajs.org.uk/funding-and-prizes/john-crump-studentship/) for final-stage PhD students, and conference support grants for students presenting their work in the UK and abroad (www.bajs.org.uk/funding-and-prizes/conference-support/).



Japan Foundation/BAJS Postgraduate Japanese Studies Workshop 2020



SOAS, University of London
February 13th 2020

JAPAN FOUNDATION

BAJS British Association for Japanese Studies

Japan Forum is the official journal of the British Association of Japanese Studies and the leading European journal in the multidisciplinary field of Japanese Studies. Since its first issue in 1989, Japan Forum's primary objective has been to publish original research in the field of Japanese Studies, making scholarship on Japan available to a global readership of specialists and non-specialists. From 1996 the journal has been published by Taylor & Francis, a major publisher in the area of Japanese Studies.

Cementing the place of Japan Forum in the field, every three years responsibility of the Editorial Board is awarded to a different UK Institution including a PhD Studentship alongside the role of Managing Editor.

In 2019, Bill Mihalopoulos took on the role of Chief Editor. Helen Macnaughtan and Christopher Gerteis continue

as Co-editors, and Laurence Green as Managing Editor. Steve Dodd and Griseldis Kirsch stepped down from the team.'

SUBMITTING TO JAPAN FORUM

If you are interested in submitting to Japan Forum, our Instructions for Authors can be found in detail on the T&F website, but in brief, we ask that manuscripts are submitted in English, are no longer 10,000 words (inclusive of footnotes and references), cite both primary and secondary Japanese-language sources use the Harvard Referencing style.

Please contact our Managing Editor with any questions, comments or feedback japanforum@soas.ac.uk

www.soas.ac.uk/jrc/publications/japan-forum/

ジャパンフォーラム

英国日本研究学会の学術雑誌『ジャパン・フォーラム』は、アカデミーの発行するオフィシャルな日本学に関する学際的な専門雑誌としては、ヨーロッパ屈指のものとなっています。編集メンバーは、ジャパン・リサーチ・センターのステイブン・ドット、クリストファー・ガーティス、グリセルディス・キルシュ、ヘレン・マクノートン(敬称略)の4名に、編集長のエミリー・チャブマン(SOAS博士課程、史学専攻)が加わり、2014年9月から編集を担当しています。

本学術雑誌の強みとしては、その理論と実践のバランスが取れた学際性があげられます。また、各号への応募件数の数量もさることながら、その掲載への採択決定には、年齢や社会的な立場を問うことなく、内容を重視する厳選な審査を実施しており、選りすぐりの質の高い秀逸な内容の論文が掲載されています。芸術、人文学、社会学はもとより幅広い分野からの応募をお待ちしています。

The strength of the Journal in theory and in practice is undoubtedly its multidisciplinary nature and the rate and quality of submissions assures us the Field is thriving.



英国日本研究学会

2017年9月にSOASは英国日本研究学会のホストになりました。英国日本研究学会はイギリスでの日本学を促すという目的で1974年に創立しました。現在、500人以上のメンバーがいます。評議会は英国日本研究学会の会議で選ばれています。英国日本研究学会はメンバーの年間購読料でまかなわれ、全部の活動は自己金融です。

英国日本研究学会に関するお問い合わせは下記までお願いいたします。

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ウェブサイト www.bajs.org.uk

BAJS British Association for Japanese Studies 英国日本研究学会



Find out more at [bit.ly/2E\[e\]UME](http://bit.ly/2E[e]UME)
 Japan Forum is the official journal of the British Association for Japanese Studies. Its primary objective is to publish original research in the field of Japanese Studies, making available scholarship on Japan to an international readership of specialists and non-specialists. From 1996 Japan Forum has been published by Taylor and Francis, a major publisher in the area of Japanese Studies.

Japan Forum is multidisciplinary, publishing contributions from across the arts and humanities and social sciences. Articles range from archaeology, language, literature, philosophy and culture to history.

SOAS Podcasts

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- 2 Japan Forum Podcast 2 With Miki Dezaki Director Of Shusenjo The Main Battleg... 8:33
- 3 Japan Forum Podcast 3 With Justin Jesty - Author Of 'Art And Engagement In E... 2:48
- 4 Japan Podcast 4: Oleg Benesch coauthor of 'Japan's Castles: Citadels of Modern... 1:54
- 5 Japan Forum Podcast 5 with Patrick W. Galbraith - Otaku and the Struggle for L... 2:00
- 6 Japan Forum Podcast 6 with Franz Prichard - Residual Futures 2:35

Listen to the Japan Forum Podcast episodes on <https://soundcloud.com/soas-university-of-london/sets/japan-forum>



Japan Research Centre

You can watch and listen to many JRC past events from the youtube playlist or the soundcloud playlist
 You can keep an eye on the most recent upload on the JRC media gallery page here: www.soas.ac.uk/jrc/podcasts/

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Recordings from Japan Research Centre events.

Video Recordings

Crisis thinking in regional J...

JRC Youtube Playlist
www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL1z_PGhPjwcorHAAotWH_NRXz0i8oz-Je

Audio Recordings

SOAS Podcasts
 Professor Hugo Dobson: W...

SOAS Centenary Lectures

- SOAS Podcasts - Professor Hugo Dobson: Who's Sori Now? The alternatives of... 2:02
- SOAS Podcasts - Reckoning with the 20th Century: 60 Years of Tomiyama Tan... 6:55
- SOAS Podcasts - 'Japan' in the Western Imagination: A Voyage of Ideas into E... 1:14
- SOAS Podcasts - 'Give me Some Skin': The Cult of Datsueba in Medieval Japa... 1:53
- SOAS Podcasts - 'Bad Practices' and 'Fraudulent Means': Japan and Internatio... 5:11
- SOAS Podcasts - Timely and Untimely Politics: Art and Protest in Early 1960s... 3:33
- SOAS Podcasts - Prewar revolutionary culture and the Fukushima Catastrophe... 4:10

JRC Soundcloud Playlist
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FORTHCOMING EVENTS IN JRC SEMINAR SERIES 2020-2021

The Cat and The City: Creative Writing and Japan
 14 OCTOBER 2020

The Business Reinvention of Japan: What has changed since we last looked
 28 OCTOBER 2020

See all the upcoming events in the series here: www.soas.ac.uk/jrc/events/seminar-and-events/

SEMINAR SERIES

AUTUMN TERM

9 OCTOBER 2019
Dr Rayna Denison (University of East Anglia)
 A Disappearing Kingdom: Studio Ghibli's Legacy in the Ni no Kuni Franchise

16 OCTOBER 2019
Dr Bill Mihalopoulos (School of Languages and Global Studies, UCLAN)
 Slavery and Consent in Meiji Japan

23 OCTOBER 2019
Prof Allan Marett FAHA (University of Sydney)
 Oppenheimer: a modern Noh play (2015) about karma, suffering and liberation

30 OCTOBER 2019
Dr Mateja Kovacic (Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies, University of Oxford)
 Japanese Mermaids in Darwin's West

13 NOVEMBER 2019
PD Dr Christian Tagsold (Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf, Germany)
 "Marriage? I'm too busy for that...": Japan's Volleyball Women of 1968 and Overcoming Gender Norms

27 NOVEMBER 2019
Dr Filippo Cervelli (SOAS)
 Overcome by the Present: The Tyranny of the Immediate in the Literature of Takahashi Gen'ichirō

27 NOVEMBER 2019
Kirsten Irving (Editor at Sidekick Books) and Renee O'Drobinak (Co-founder at Ladies of the Press)
 Kumo (work in progress): sci-fi, folklore and disaster in future Japan

4 DECEMBER 2019
Assoc. Prof. Justin Jesty (University of Washington)
 Art and Engagement in Early Postwar Japan

WINTER TERM

22 January 2020
Dr Sarah Teasley (Royal College of Art)
 Waste knot: Materials, waste and productivity in postwar Japan

29 JANUARY 2020
Dr Martyn Smith (University of Sheffield)
 What should I wear with my tape-recorder? Aurality, mobility and sound technology in postwar Japan

5 FEBRUARY 2020
Maria Roemer (Newcastle University)
 Between Men: Homosocial Desire in Abe Kazushige's Early Fiction

19 FEBRUARY 2020
Dr Halle O'Neal (University of Edinburgh)
 Stamping out Death in Japanese Buddhist Palimpsests

26 FEBRUARY 2020
Prof Jun Imai (Sophia University, Tokyo)
 Diversification as stratification - Work-style reform and its consequences on inequality in Japan

先に触れたJRC主催の講演会は、毎週40名を超す出席者に恵まれた。参加者には専門分野の知識を深めるだけでなく、日本についての全く新しい見識を得る機会を提供してきた。多岐にわたる本講演の主題は、学際的な日本関連研究のテーマが驚くほど幅広いことを示唆している。

The SOAS Studies in Modern and Contemporary Japan series features new research monographs as well as translations of scholarship not previously available in English. This year's publications were:

GENDER, CULTURE, AND DISASTER IN POST-3.11 JAPAN

By: Mire Koikari



The Great East Japan Disaster – a compound catastrophe of earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear meltdown that began on March 11, 2011 – has ushered in a new era of cultural production dominated by discussions on safety and security, risk and vulnerability, and recovery and reformation. Gender, Culture, and Disaster in Post-3.11 Japan re-frames post-disaster national reconstruction as a social project imbued with dynamics of gender, race, and empire and in doing so Mire Koikari offers an innovative approach to resilience building in contemporary Japan.

From juvenile literature to civic manuals to policy statements, Koikari examines a vast array of primary sources to demonstrate how femininity and masculinity, readiness and preparedness, militarism and humanitarianism, and nationalism and transnationalism inform cultural formation and transformation triggered by the unprecedented crisis. Interdisciplinary in its orientation, the book reveals how militarism, neoliberalism, and neoconservatism drive Japan's resilience building while calling attention to historical precedents and transnational connections that animate the ongoing mobilization toward safety and security.

An important contribution to studies of gender and Japan, the book is essential reading for all those wishing to understand local and global politics of precarity and its proposed solutions amid the rising tide of pandemics, ecological hazards, industrial disasters, and humanitarian crises.

About the author: Mire Koikari is Professor of Women's Studies at University of Hawaii, USA. She is the author of Cold War Encounters in US-Occupied Okinawa: Women, Militarized Domesticity, and Transnationalism in East Asia (2015) and Pedagogy of Democracy: Feminism and the Cold War in the US Occupation of Japan (2009).

JAPAN AS A MARITIME POWER

By: Masataka Kousaka Translator: Paul Midford

About the author: Masataka Kousaka was a leading Cold-War era Japanese scholar, comentator, and political advisor.

FORTHCOMING

Editorial Team

Series Editor
Christopher Gerteis (SOAS, University of London)

- Editorial Board**
- Stephen Dodd (SOAS University of London)
 - Andrew Gerstle (SOAS University of London)
 - Janet Hunter (London School of Economics)
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www.soas.ac.uk/jrc/moderncontemporary-japan/

SOASの日本近現代研究シリーズ

SOASの日本近現代研究シリーズでは、新しい研究論文の発表やこれまで英語になっていない学術論文などの翻訳活動を行っています。私たちの目標は、日本の歴史や政治、文化に関する優れた論文、更に審査をパスした学術論文等を活字化することです。詳細はこちら：
www.bloomsbury.com/soasstudies/

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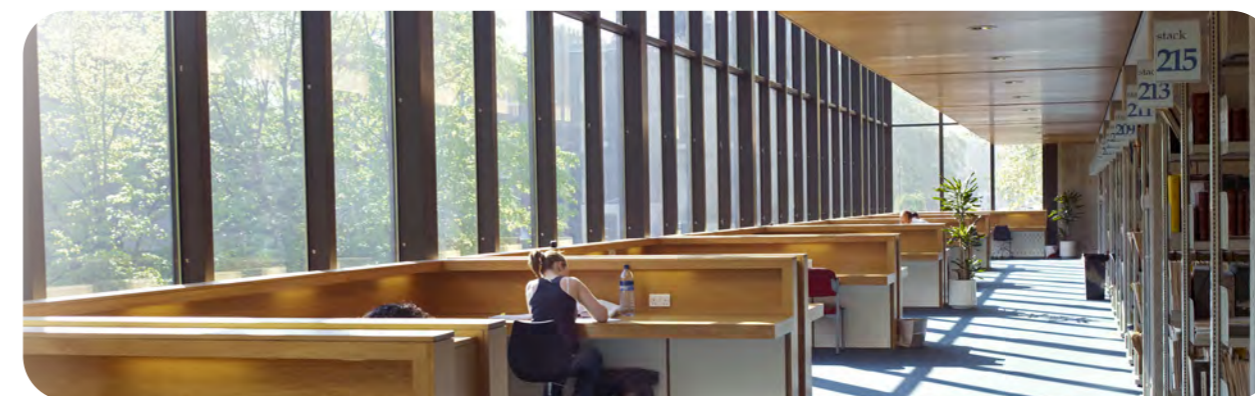
After the OPS restructuring in Summer 2019, Jiyeon Wood (formerly, the Arts Librarian) succeeded Fujiko Kobayashi as the Japan and Korea Librarian.

In December 2019, SOAS Library applied for the Metropolitan Center for Far Eastern Art Studies Library grant 2020/21 and received USD \$5,000. SOAS Library has been fortunate to receive the Metropolitan Center for Far Eastern Art Studies Library grant twice before, in 2015/16 and 2018/19. With the grant support, the Library has acquired a digital version of Fuzoku gaho [風俗画報], known as Japan's first graphic magazine (518 volumes were published from February 1889 (Meiji 22) to March 1916 (Taisho 5)). The contents cover many aspects, such as Edo, Meiji and Taisho's social aspects, customs, history, literature, geography, wars and disasters.



Another important acquisition was made via the SISJAC Library grant (£6,000). SOAS has had a close collaborative relationship with SISJAC (Sainsbury Institute of Japanese Art & Culture) and over the past few years has received the Library grant annually. A digitised journal of "Gakuto [学燈]" (1897-2018) and 20 volume set of Ryūkyū Ōkoku Hyōjōsho monjo [琉球王国評定所文書] were added to the Library collection. Due to the global pandemic, the Library's acquisitions have shifted to electronic resources. This year's exciting acquisition is the Meiji Japan database which is a collection of manuscripts and papers of Edward Sylvester Morse (1838-1925) who, while teaching science at the Imperial University of Tokyo, devoted much of his time to documenting life in Japan before the modernization.

Due to Covid-19, the physical library was closed on 17th March, but from July the Library has offered various services including 'Click and collect' and 'Book returns' for SOAS students and staff. In June, Subject Librarians offered a series of Information Skills sessions focussing on electronic resources to support PG students who were working on their dissertations remotely. The Library is currently working on developing services on-campus to prepare for the new academic year.



ABOUT SOAS LIBRARY JAPAN COLLECTION

The Library holds some 160,000 monographs for Japanese studies. In addition, there are over 1,000 Japanese language periodicals, some 300 western language periodicals, and over 300 audio-visual materials for teaching and research in Japanese studies. The main focus is on the humanities & social sciences.

The Japan Collection (Level C) holds books on Japan in western and Japanese languages. Materials on Japanese art and archaeology are located in the Art Section (Level D) and the Law Collection (Level D) holds western language books on Japanese law.

The Library includes an extensive collection of pre-modern texts and prints including some 300 woodblock print books; over 500 prints are held in the collections, and some Japanese manuscripts are held in the Archive section. Details can be found in A descriptive catalogue of the pre-1868 Japanese Books in the SOAS Library (Chibbett, 1975, Ref.D010/348099) and Catalogue of Japanese Manuscripts in the SOAS Library (Yasumura, 1979, Ref. D010/462453).

Databases on Japan

The Library subscribes to major research databases including major Japanese language databases. The details are available at the Library's databases list. The databases on subscription can be accessed from the SOAS Library webpage: www.soas.ac.uk/library/subjects/japkor/databases-on-japan/

The Library has received more reading lists this academic year in comparison to previous years. The lists are helpful in identifying the needs for additional copies and e-books. The Library aims to replace paper copies with e-books for core reading titles.

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Professor Evgeny STEINER
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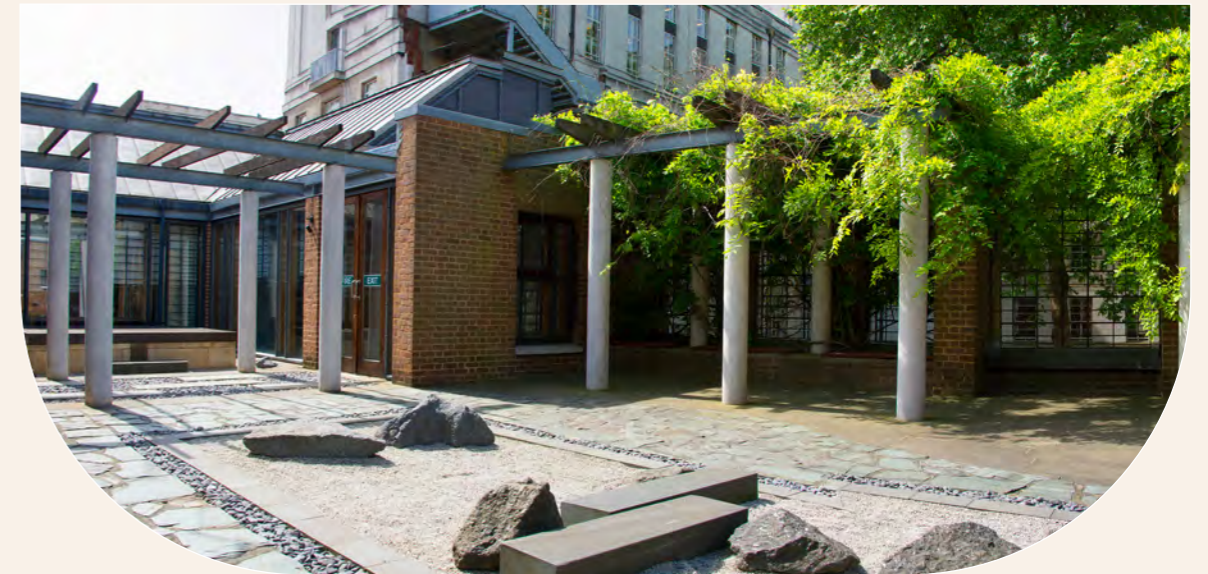
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The Japanese-inspired roof garden at SOAS, University of London was built during the Japan 2001 celebrations and was officially opened by the sponsor, Mr Haruhisa Handa (Toshu Fukami), an Honorary Fellow of the School, on 13 November 2001. It provides an area away from the noise and bustle of London streets, where visitors can relax and meditate.

The garden is dedicated to Forgiveness, which is the meaning of the Kanji character engraved on the garden's granite water basin. Peter Swift, a designer with experience of adapting Japanese garden design principles to the British environment and climate, conceived the garden as a place of quiet contemplation and meditation as well as a functional space complementary to the Gallery and its artistic activities.

In 2000 Mr Handa offered to finance the creation of a Japanese-style garden and the designer Peter Swift from Planit EDC Ltd. was engaged to design and implement a suitable scheme.

The garden was built during the summer of 2001 by Ground Control Ltd., Billericay, Essex with stone supplied by CED Ltd, Thurrock, Essex, and was opened as part of the Japan 2001 celebrations.

The garden

Whether in the rain or the sun, the garden has a lot of character. Its character also changes with the time of day and the season, so it is worth a repeat visit!

屋上日本庭園

ロンドン大学SOASの屋上日本庭園は、日本2001記念行事が開催された、2011年の11月に公開されました。SOASの名誉フェローである深見東州氏(本名:半田晴久)がスポンサーを務めました。この庭園は、町の喧騒から離れて、静かな癒しの一時を訪れた人たちに与えてくれます。

Various types of stone are used in the garden: a sweeping curve blends the original rectangular sandstone with the irregular green slate; the central area of raked silver grey granite chippings has regular slabs of basaltic rock alluding to a bridge over flowing water; the island stones in the gravel areas are Larvikite from Norway; dark grey pebbles from a contrast in colour and texture to the formal granite edging and to the chequerboard planting.

The Japanese Roof Garden is currently closed due to building works.

To check updates on the reopening please visit:
www.soas.ac.uk/visitors/roofgarden/



MEIJI JINGU JAPANESE STUDIES RESEARCH GRANTS FOR SOAS STAFF

Grants are offered to assist full-time academic staff members of the JRC, SOAS, to promote Japanese Studies.

Funds may be used for personal research, conferences, etc. or to purchase research-level books for the SOAS Library. Group projects are acceptable, but should be submitted in the name of one representative individual.

Total subsidy of up to £2,200 will be offered in any one calendar year, for the duration of the agreement, to be divided between successful applicants. Awards will be assessed according to their importance for Japanese studies, as interpreted by the Steering Committee of the JRC. The Committee, together with the approval of Meiji Jingu, will decide who the successful applicant will be.

Further information:

www.soas.ac.uk/jrc/awards-and-grants

明治神宮

Meiji Jingu Intercultural Research Institute

2019/2020 RECIPIENTS OF THE MEIJI JINGU JAPANESE STUDIES RESEARCH GRANTS FOR SOAS STAFF



Meri ARICHI
 Project title: *Meiji Jingu: Commemorating 100 years (Working title)*
 Exhibition of photographs in the Wolfson Gallery in SOAS Library



Barbara PIZZICONI
 Project title: *Study abroad in Japan and the development of intercultural competence*



Ulrich VOLZ
 Project title: *How Green is the Bank of Japan's Quantitative Easing Policy?*



Timon SCREECH
 Project title: *The Shogun's Silver Telescope: God, Art & Money in the English Quest for Japan*



Wonwoong JEONG
 Meiji Jingu Recipient 2020-2021

Working title of the project:
 The dissolution of a cold-war alignment: Korea-Japan relations, 1969-1979

Outline of the project: This thesis examines a series of diplomatic conflicts between Japan and South Korea in the earlier half of the 1970s.

Introduction to the research:

My thesis examines a series of diplomatic conflicts between Japan and South Korea in the earlier half of the 1970s. Being the closest neighbours to each other not only geographically but also ideologically, Japan and South Korea had become regional partners and economic symbionts since their diplomatic normalisation in 1965. Even though they did not form a formal alliance, the two countries allied themselves commonly with the United States respectively so as to act almost like allies each other. During the latter half of the 1960s, Japan would provide South Korea with capital and technology while South Korea sent its troops to Vietnam to help the war effort of the United States. The United States offered security commitment to its two junior allies. This triangular relations enjoyed the golden age until the early 1970s. With the advent of the new decade, the South Korean government grew nationalist and dictatorial; Japan was losing confidence in profitable South Korean market and attempting to extend its relations with the communist world including North Korea. Japan and South Korea accumulated dissatisfaction with each other, which culminated in the diplomatic conflicts in the early 1970s. As a diplomatic history, this thesis examines transition of foreign policies of Japan and South Korea during the détente period. It further analyses the exceptionally weak American influence on the Japanese-South Korean relations. This thesis explores this space the lack of American interference created, in which Japan and South Korea autonomously navigated their discrete problems. It is not the purpose of this thesis to draw an ultimate cause of the perennial conflict between Japan and South Korea. By studying this specific conflict, however, I hope to better understand relations between these two 'close yet far' neighbours.



Huiying YANG
 Meiji Jingu Recipient 2020-2021

Working title of the project:
 Employee Trust in Japanese Firms: A Case of Different Types of Employees in the Japanese Information and Communication Technology Industry

Outline of the project: This research aims to investigate how, in the Japanese ICT industry, an employee's trust and confidence in their employer differs depending on whether they are on a permanent or temporary contract.

Introduction to the research:

Since Japan's economic successes in the 1920s, it was common for Japanese organisations to employ workers on a permanent contract. The life-time employment system used by Japanese companies was one of the fundamental reasons for the success of the Japanese economy in the post-war period. However, in an increasing number of cases in Japan, this unique employment system is being substituted for a temporary employment system in an attempt to succeed in the global market. As the system of employment continue to change, it is expected that an employee's trust and confidence in their employer will also change. As systems of employment in the Japanese ICT industry shift to be more consistent with the rest of the world, this research aims to investigate how, in the Japanese ICT industry, an employee's trust and confidence in their employer is changing depending on whether they are permanent or temporary contract. In addition, this research seeks to determine how Japanese companies treat their employees and how this affects the employees' confidence and trust in their employers.

The resources that I have examined so far have identified the impact an employment system has on employees, and confirmed the existence of a relationship between the system of employment and employee trust. This thesis assumes that the change of employment system in Japan will directly and indirectly affect the horizontal, vertical and institutional trust of an employee. It requires a research model to examine the changing attitudes of employees towards their employers and other correlating factors..

MEIJI JINGU SCHOLARSHIPS 2021-2022

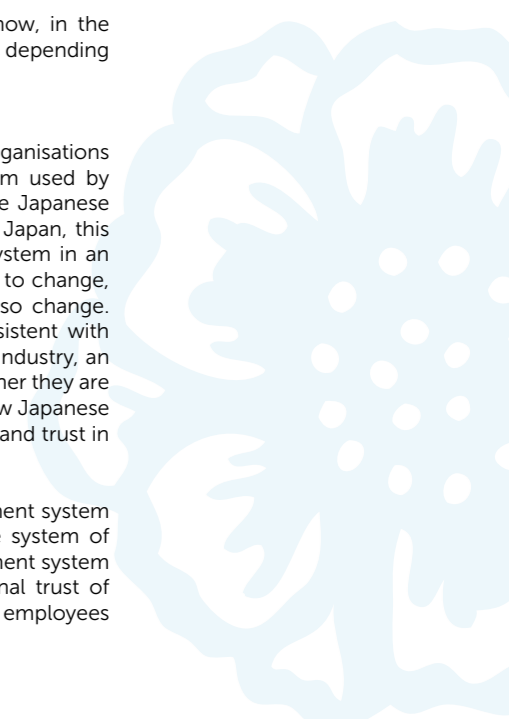
There are two scholarships available, each one valued at £7,000 in total.

Scholarships are for one year only, but it is possible to reapply if an award recipient has demonstrated outstanding potential for research. Please note that this scholarship cannot be held during the Extension of Writing-Up (Continuation) status.

Any full-time MPhil/ PhD programme where the student will be working on some aspect of Japanese Studies at SOAS is eligible.

Further information:

www.soas.ac.uk/registry/scholarships



JRC FUWAKU SCHOLARSHIP

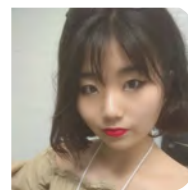
The JRC is pleased to announce the JRC Fuwaku Scholarship 2020-2021.



There is one JRC Fuwaku Scholarships available. Each Scholarship is valued at £10,000.

Any full-time MPhil/PhD student (new admissions and current students) whose thesis topic focuses on any aspect of Japan.

For more info please visit: www.soas.ac.uk/registry/scholarships/jrc-fuwaku-scholarship.html

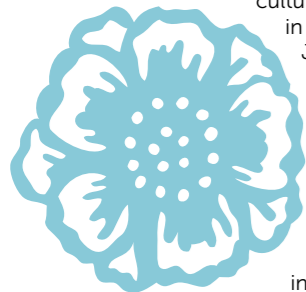


Maiko KODAKA
Recipient of the Fuwaku Scholarships 2020-2021

Working title of the project: Embrace me as I am: Japanese Pornography for Women and the Fan Community surrounding Male Porn Stars

Outline of the project: The research discusses female fan culture surrounding male porn actors in female-friendly pornography, and face-to-face interactions that they have with them. In order to shed light on how addiction to simulated intimacy affects female fans' gendered understanding of love, intimacy, and marriage

Introduction to research: The research discusses female fan culture surrounding male porn actors in female-friendly pornography. Josei-muke (literally means "for women" in Japanese) adult videos and face-to-face interaction that they have with them. Since the decline of the Adult Video industry, which is equivalent to the Japanese porn industry, due to free online streaming sites, one of the biggest AV companies in Japan, Soft on Demand (SOD), decided to launch a new production line for female consumers in 2009, called SILK LABO. The crucial innovation of SILK LABO is the cult-like fandom that has evolved around its male actors, Eromen, which is a combination of erotic and men. Their main job is to act in SILK LABO's films and to interact with fans at fan events where fans can shake hands, take photographs, or hug them. Sometimes fans that belong to official fan clubs set up by SILK LABO can apply for lunch dates with Eromen, so that they can enjoy a pseudo-relationship. Alexandra Hambleton (2016) has argued that the discourse which SILK LABO produces was submissive because it was 'reinforcing ideas of normative female desires and sexual behavior' (2016: 439) in Japanese society. However, the underlying problem is not just gender clichés, but also fans' understanding of love, intimacy, and marriage due to their ability to buy intimacy from Eromen. This research discusses the cognitive problems of those female fans who are addicted to such consumption of intimacy based on fieldwork which has been conducted from September 2018 to August 2019.



SASAKAWA POSTGRADUATE STUDENTSHIP

The Sasakawa Postgraduate Studentship, made possible through the generosity of The Nippon Foundation and the Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation. SOAS can nominate up to three students for studentships of £10,000 (untaxed)



Full details available at: www.soas.ac.uk/jrc/awards-and-grants/



Luba AMPLEVA
Sasakawa PG Studentship Recipient 2020-2021

INTRODUCTORY REPORT

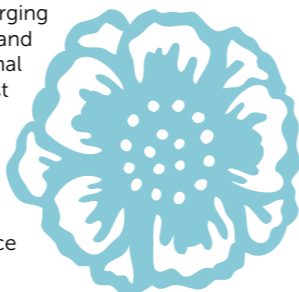
Thesis Title: The Beautiful Other: Russian Caucasian Fashion Models in Contemporary Japan.

Outline of the project: My PhD research is an enquiry into the realities of the lives and work of Russian Caucasian fashion models in contemporary Japan

Introduction: Images of Caucasian faces and bodies can be found in most spheres of contemporary Japanese media, such as posters, TV, billboards and online. The people depicted in these images are young, tall, slim, long-limbed, attractive people. Beautiful clothes and locations feature prominently in the images, and the whole aura of glamour generally associated with models and the modelling industry creates an illusion of wealth, wellbeing, happiness and desirability. In contrast to this perception, my research aims to investigate the realities of the models' lives, where they come from and why, their work, and their daily routines in Japan.

There is very little academic literature on this topic to date. Having spent a year doing fieldwork in Tokyo, I have collected a wealth of data to be able to produce an ethnography of the models' daily lives. I am interested in debunking the myths of the glamour of modelling and intend to show the people in the industry as real individuals and not just as beautiful images.

This research is also uniquely situated to fill in gaps in anthropological knowledge by engaging with and problematising more nuanced aspects of the models' lives. These include, but are not limited to, migration for work, linguistic struggles, social engagement, and forging relationships with clients and management. On a personal level, some of the most interesting aspects of the models' lives are the realities of communal living, food practices, money management, and personal local and long-distance relationships.



Claire BATE-ROULLIN
Sasakawa PG Studentship Recipient 2020-2021

INTRODUCTORY REPORT



Thesis Title: From Apples to Wine: Gastronomy Tourism in Rural Japan

Outline of the project: My research will look at the development and promotion of gastronomy tourism in rural Japan as part of efforts to revitalise the local area.

Introduction: There has long been a strong relationship between regional identities and local produce in Japan. Open a Japanese tourism brochure and it's likely that sampling the local delicacies will figure highly on the recommended activities list. This promotion of local food is not limited to the tourism industry. In primary schools, children memorise the local speciality of a prefecture along with its capital. The furusato nozei tax scheme, whereby tax payers redirect their tax payments to smaller communities (often in exchange for local food products) also helps in reinforcing the links between a region's identity and its produce.

Food has historically formed an integral part of Japanese domestic tourism. This is evident in the presence of omiyage shops located in most of Japan's train stations. These shops cater to the many Japanese travellers who are socially expected to hand out food souvenirs to their colleagues, family and friends. Yet, it is only recently that the role of food in developing tourism and its potential in supporting rural communities has been officially recognised in Japan. To date there is still little research on the development of gastronomy tourism and its socio-economic and cultural impact on local communities in rural Japan.

I intend to examine the roles that both state and non-state actors play in the development of gastronomy tourism; the use of existing culinary traditions in branding efforts as well as the creation of new culinary identities. To do this I plan to conduct a case study of Yoichi in Hokkaido. Historically established as a fishing town and now known for its whiskey and apples, I intend to investigate and evaluate Yoichi's recent efforts in branding itself as a wine tourism destination.

Ryan NOBLE
Sasakawa PG Studentship Recipient 2020-2021

INTRODUCTORY REPORT



Thesis Title: Japanese Ghost Towns: Can they be resurrected and preserved for the future?

Outline of the project: This project will research the growing number of rural Japanese towns and villages being abandoned by their youth in search of modern opportunities and convenience. In doing so, it hopes to shine a light on the reasons behind this growing number of aging, disappearing locales and discover ways to bring new revenue, new opportunities, and eventually, new life to these areas. By approaching this topic with an eye on previous success and failures, both in Japan and worldwide, this research aims to gather the insights needed to preserve, or even resurrect, Japan's rural towns and villages for future generations.



SOAS

SOAS University of London is the only Higher Education institution in Europe specialising in the study of Asia, Africa and the Near and Middle East.

SOAS is a remarkable institution. Uniquely combining language scholarship, disciplinary expertise and regional focus, it has the largest concentration in Europe of academic staff concerned with Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

Our academic focus on the languages, cultures and societies of Asia, Africa and the Middle East makes us an indispensable interpreter in a complex world

On the one hand, this means that SOAS scholars grapple with pressing issues - democracy, development, human rights, identity, legal systems, poverty, religion, social change - confronting two-thirds of humankind while at the same time remaining guardians of specialised knowledge in languages and periods and regions not available anywhere else in the UK.

This makes SOAS synonymous with intellectual enquiry and achievement. It is a global academic base and a crucial resource for London. We live in a world of shrinking borders and of economic and technological simultaneity. Yet it is also a world in which difference and regionalism present themselves acutely. It is a world that SOAS is distinctively positioned to analyse, understand and explain.

SOAS has the largest concentration of specialist staff (300+ academics) concerned with the study of Asia, Africa and the Middle East at any university in the world.



現在SOASにて学部生500名余り、院生100名余りが日本及び日本語に焦点を当てて学際的に学んでおります。欧州における当分野の研究機関としては最大の学生数となります。

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The SOAS Japan Research Centre is the forum for Japan-related activities at SOAS University of London.

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We produce a News and Updates eBulletin which provides information about the activities of the SOAS Japan Research Centre.

The eBulletin highlights the latest events, funding and knowledge being shared and other topical opportunities that we think will be of interest to you.

www.soas.ac.uk/jrc/news/jrc-bulletin/

JRC Annual Review

Current and past editions of the JRC Annual Review are available to download from:
www.soas.ac.uk/jrc/newsletter/

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