

# JRC news

Newsletter of the  
Japan Research Centre



## Centre Members

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## Professorial Research Associates

### **Professor Gina Barnes**

## Research Associates

### **Dr Penelope Francks**

### **Dr Christopher Jones**

### **Dr P. Ellis Tinios**

### **Dr Nicole Coolidge Rousmaniere**

### **Dr Nicole Liscutin**

# Japan Research Centre Seminars

**Wednesdays, 5pm  
Room G51, SOAS**

Except where otherwise stated

**Thursday 7 October, Room G3**

Jointly with CSJR

**Katja Triplett, SOAS**

***Human Sacrifice in Japanese Legends***

**13 October**

**Dr Angus Lockyer, SOAS**

***Revolutionary State, Restorative Spectacle:  
Exhibitions and Early Meiji Japan***

**20 October**

**Dr David Williams, Cardiff University**

**Will give a talk on his book *Defending  
Japan's Pacific War: The Kyoto School  
Philosophers and Post-White Power***

**27 October**

**JRC PARTY**

**10 November**

**Sir Hugh Cortazzi (former British  
Ambassador to Japan)**

***Britain and Japan: Did the Diplomats  
Make any Difference?***

**12, 15 and 18 November**

**Toshiba Lectures in Japanese Art**

**(Organized by the Sainsbury Institute for  
the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures.  
See below for details)**

**24 November**

Jointly with Taiwan Studies Programme

**Dr Phil Deans, SOAS**

***Nationalism on Taiwan and the  
Issue of Japan***

**1 December**

**Dr Mikiko Ashikari, Cambridge**

***The Memory of the Women's White Faces:  
Japaneseness and the Ideal Image of  
Women***

**8 December**

**Dr Chris Aldous, University College  
Winchester**

***Typhus in Occupied Japan, 1945-6:  
An Epidemiological Study***

## Inaugural Annual JRC Lecture

18 February 2003



Professor Rikki Kersten of Leiden University inaugurated the JRC's new annual lecture series with a fascinating talk on 'Revisionism and historical consciousness in post-war Japan'. The audience in the Brunei gallery, which numbered some 80, comprised representatives of the major Japan study centres in the UK. Professor Kersten explored revisionism in post war Japan through a fascinating analysis of the thought of the post-war Marxist thinker, Umemoto Katsumi. She made enlightening comparisons with the 19th century German Marxist Eduard Bernstein to argue that revisionism is a trans-national concept, a response to the crisis of modernity that seeks to return the subject to theoretical renderings of history and so restore meaning to history. The 2005 Annual JCR Lecture will be delivered by Professor James Ketelaar of the University of Chicago, in Term Two.

## Research Student Forum: Japanese Humanities

20 – 21 May 2004

The JRC co-hosted a two-day research student forum with the Japanese Cultural Studies Programme of Birkbeck College in May. Nine students from Cambridge, Oxford Brookes, Leeds, Chelsea College of Art and Design and SOAS spoke at the event. The topics they covered were wide-ranging in the extreme: literature of the 17th, 18th and 20th centuries; history from the 16th and 20th centuries, 19th century art, 21st century society and music and modernism. Academics from SOAS, Birkbeck and

Chelsea were on hand to offer commentary, and the proceedings were overseen by John Breen and Nicola Liscutin.

The event was a great success; it generated a lively exchange of ideas, and enabled PhD students from different institutions working on different, and sometimes not so different, themes, to establish what hopefully will be enduring contacts with each other and with SOAS. It is intended to make this an annual event.

The event was sponsored by the Japan Foundation, the JRC and Birkbeck.

**John Breen**  
**Department of the Languages and Cultures of Japan and Korea**



## Meiji Jingu and the JRC



Back row left to right: Dr Tim Screech, Prof Drew Gerstle, Dr John Breen, Rev Majima Youshihide  
 Front row left to right: Ms Imaizumi Youshiko, Dr Lucia Dolce, Mrs Toyama Mariko, Rev Nakajima Seitaso is behind the camera

On 17th July the Japan Research Centre played host to a delegation from the Meiji jingu in Tokyo. The delegation comprised the Deputy Chief Priest, Rev Nakajima Seitaro, the Chair of the Meiji jingu research centre, Rev. Majima Yoshihide, and Toyama Mariko, wife of Chief Priest of the shrine, Rev. Toyama Katsushi. On behalf of the Chief Priest, Rev Nakajima presented to the SOAS library a magnificent collection of books, which included the 20-volume Meiji jingu sōsho and 10 volumes of catalogues from recent exhibitions at the shrine.

The visit was organised by Imaizumi Yoshiko, a researcher at Meiji jingu currently in the 2nd year of her PhD at SOAS, and reciprocated a visit to the shrine earlier in the year by John Breen. Members of the JRC and the delegation discussed the possibility of future collaboration including the involvement of JRC members in Meiji jingu research projects, and financial support from the shrine for JRC members' research activities.

**John Breen**  
**Department of the Languages and Cultures of Japan and Korea**

## Visit by Professor Carol Gluck

SOAS was fortunate to have a visit from Professor Carol Gluck of Columbia University, who gave a public lecture on 'Past Obsessions: War and Memory in the Twentieth Century' on 12 March 2004 to an enthusiastic crowd at the Brunei Lecture Theatre. The lecture was from her forthcoming book of the same title. Professor Gluck's topic was comparative and argued that there were various paradigms common in the experiences of Japan, Germany and other nations in how they deal with and remember war both at a popular and at an official level.

Professor Gluck also attended and gave a presentation at the AHRB Centre for Asian and African Literatures PhD Student

Colloquium on 13 March. Her talk was on 'After the Shipwreck: New Horizons for History-writing', and challenged the PhD students to be bold in their attempts to find



new ways of approaching their subjects. Professor Gluck then, commented on all the student papers during a full-day of presentations. Her engagement with each of the student papers was inspiring for all who attended. The JRC and the AHRB Centre for Asian and African Literatures wish to thank her for her inspiration and enthusiasm.

## The CSJR Symposium

16 -17 September 2004

### The Worship of Stars in Japanese Religious Practice

The CSJR (Centre for the Study of Japanese Religions) Symposium in 2004 The Worship of Stars in Japanese Religious Practice took place at SOAS on 16 and 17 September. The aim of this symposium was to provide an international and inter-disciplinary forum for the study of pre-modern Japanese religious practice and art related to planets and constellations. A rich variety of visual representations and textual references indicate the profound influence the knowledge in astronomy and astrology exerted on the development of ritual, art and culture in general in Japan throughout its history, yet the significance of the topic has not been addressed in any co-ordinated way, either in Japanese or Western scholarship. One of the most important purposes of this project, therefore, was to draw attention to aspects of religious practice that has been marginalized by the mainstream study of religion so far, and to identify the major directions of enquiry.

The keynote speech 'The Tokugawa Shoguns and Onmyōdō' was delivered by Hayashi Makoto, from the Aichi Gakuin University, who is one of the few Japanese scholars specializing in the study of Onmyōdō in the Edo period. He pointed out the importance of astronomy in calendar making, and gave an informative overview of the way the Bakufu government employed *onmyōji* (Yin-yang practitioners) to deal with natural phenomena such as solar and lunar eclipse, and unusual movement of stars. He observed a shift in scholarship from the past studies in Onmyōdō within the aristocratic society of the Heian period to the more recent studies focused on the political dimension of the relationship between the government and Onmyōdō in the Kamakura, Muromachi, and Edo periods.

The rest of the symposium was divided into three sessions: The first session in the afternoon of the 16th was Worship of Stars Through History, with Mark Teeuwen from Oslo University presenting an intriguing paper entitled 'Classical and Early Medieval Ise: A Star Cult?' and John Breen (SOAS) examining the place of calendar-determined stellar-oriented religious practice in Tokugawa Japan in his presentation 'Inside Tokugawa Religion: Stars, Planets and the Calendar as Method'. The second session in the morning of the 17th, Personification of Stars focused on the development of iconography. Lilla Russell-Smith's paper 'Stars and Planets in Chinese and Central Asian Buddhist Art in the Ninth to Fifteenth Centuries' traced the sources of images, while Tsuda Tetsuei (National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo) presented a beautifully illustrated, detailed



The photo shows (from left) Meri Arichi, Professor Hayashi Makoto (Aichi Gakuin University) Lucia Dolce (CSJR Centre Chair) and Professor Mark Teeuwen (Oslo University)

account of the development of Star Mandala in medieval Japan. The third session in the afternoon of the 17th was Star Rituals in Context, with Meri Arichi's 'Seven Stars of Heaven and Seven Shrines on Earth: Hokuto Shichisei and the Hie-Sanno Cult', and Gaynor Sekimori (Tokyo University) introducing the present day Shugendō practice she observed in her field work 'Nikko Shugendō and Star Ritual'. The symposium ended with a lively presentation 'Manipulating the Heavens: The Artificial Skies of the Edo Period' by Timon Screech (SOAS).

The symposium was very well attended, proving a keen interest in the topic among scholars and students from across wide disciplines. The need for further research in the field was evident from the diversity of topics presented in those two days, and the stimulating series of questions and comments from the audience were very encouraging, as they clearly indicated a scope for potential development of the field in future.

**Meri Arichi**  
**CSJR Post-doctoral Fellow**

## The Mayagwas Folk music and dance

This year's SOAS graduation ceremony, on 22 July, featured a lively performance of Okinawan folk music and dance by the Mayagwas, a group born and bred at SOAS. This had many of the graduating students dancing in their seats to the finale. An informal gathering of people interested in Okinawan music began in the mid-1990s under David Hughes (Head of the Department of Music), and has reached its peak in the past few years under the leadership of Matt Gillan. Matt has just completed his PhD at SOAS on the folk music of Okinawa's Yaeyama archipelago, and has now moved to Okinawa, but the group will strive to continue without him. Members include Okinawans, other Japanese, and a few who are neither, and are a mix of SOASians and outsiders. For information, e-mail david.hughes@soas.ac.uk.



## Event at Brunei Gallery

A troupe of Japanese traditional street performers will take the stage in SOAS's Brunei Lecture Theatre on Monday **18 October** at 7pm. Led by the charismatic Gengorō, the four-member group will perform street arts (daidō-gei) such as juggling, lion dancing, kami-shibai (story-telling accompanied by paintings, an art transmitted by candy vendors), the over-the-top spiel of a seller of toad grease (truly a wondrous curative ointment, trust me!), and various other sleights-of-hand. Although the performance will be almost entirely in Japanese, previous overseas tours suggest that the visuals and the vocal delivery succeed in communicating to any audience, including children. (English introductions will be provided.)

Admission is free, but seating is limited - first come, first served. Doors will open at about 6.45pm. The troupe will also be performing in the arcade at Covent Garden on Saturday 16 October at 2 and 3pm, and again on Tuesday the 19th at 4pm.



Organised by the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures in co-operation with The British Museum and the Japan Society.

Sponsored by the Toshiba International Foundation.

## TOSHIBA LECTURES IN JAPANESE ART

**John M. Rosenfield, Professor Emeritus, Harvard University**

### The Renaissance of Japanese Buddhist Art and the Excellent Deeds of Monk Chôgen (1122-1206)

Friday 12 November 2004 at 6.15pm

### Rebuilding the Great Buddha of Tôdaiji.

BP Lecture Theatre, Clore Education Centre, The British Museum, London

Monday 15 November 2004 at 6.15pm

### Portraits of Chôgen

BP Lecture Theatre, Clore Education Centre, The British Museum, London

Please note that the following lecture will be the Third Thursday Lecture in November.

Thursday 18 November 2004 at 6.15pm

### Salvation in the Pure Land of the West

Blackfriar's Hall, St. Andrew's Plain, Norwich at 6.15pm

**Admission Free. All Welcome.**

#### For further information:

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## JRC Members

### Publications

**John Breen**, Japan and Korea Department

'BH Chamberlain', in Sonoda Minoru and Hashimoto Masanobu (eds.), *Shintoshî daijiten*, Yoshikawa kobunkan, (2004).

'JWT Mason' in Sonoda and Hashimoto (eds.), *Shintoshî daijiten*.

'Shinto to Kirisutokyo' in Sonoda and Hashimoto (eds.), *Shintoshî daijiten*.

'Tenno no gaiko girei to kokusai ninshiki' in Kokaze Hidemasa (ed.), *Kindai Nihon to kokusai shakai*, Hoso Daigaku Kyoiku shinkokai, (2004).

*Death in Japan* (special issue of *Mortality* 9/1), (2004).

'Death issues in 21st century Japan', Breen (ed.), *Death in Japan*.

'The dead and the living in the land of peace: a sociology of the Yasukuni shrine', in Breen (ed.), *Death in Japan*.

**Alan Cummings**, Japan and Korea Department

'An interview with Kosugi Takehisa', *The Wire*, 243 (May 2004).

'Black Blues', *Blow Up – rock e altre contaminazioni*, 76 (September 2004).

**Lucia Dolce**, Study of Religions Department

'Nichiren (1222-1282) Leader of Japanese Buddhism', in Geothals and Sorenson (eds.), *Encyclopedia of Leadership*, vols 4, Sage Publications (2004).

'Nel nome del 'vero' dharma: ortodossia, strategie di legittimazione e conflitti religiosi nel buddismo giapponese', in Massimo Raveri (ed.), *Verso l'altro. Le religioni dal conflitto al dialogo*, Marsilio (2003).

**Drew Gerstle**, Japan and Korea Department

'Pafômansu no honyaku no kanôsei: kabuki to tekisuto, haikai, kaiga', in Ii Haruki (ed.), *Nihon bungaku no kanôsei*, Kazama Shobô, (2004). [Chapter included both in Japanese and in English as 'Translating Performance into Visual and Written Text']

'Asobi no bunka: kabuki to tekisuto no sôzô', trans. Sugii Masashi, in *Toshi no ibunka kôryû*, ed., Osaka Shiritsu Daigaku Bungaku Kenkyûka, Seibundô, (2004).

**David Hughes**, Music Department

"When can we improvise?" The place of creativity in academic world music', in Ted Solis (ed.), *Performing Ethnomusicology: Teaching and Representation in World Music Ensembles*, University of California Press, (2004)

**Barbara Pizziconi**, Japan and Korea Department

'The work of Minami Fujio for the study of Japanese politeness', *SOAS Working Papers in Linguistics* 13:269-280, (2004)

'Keigo' [translation of Minami Fujio's Keigo], *SOAS Working Papers in Linguistics* 13:281-311 (2004).

## JRC Members

### Research and Travel

**John Breen**, Japan and Korea Department, gave talks on 'Yasukuni: behind the chrysanthemum curtain', at the Foreign Correspondents Press Club, Tokyo (15 March); 'Juyondai shogun lemochi no joraku to Komei seiken ron', Ocha no mizu joshi daigaku, Tokyo (2 August); 'The stars of Tokugawa Japan', at the symposium The Worship of Stars in Japanese Religious Practice, SOAS (16 September).

**Alan Cummings**, Japan and Korea Department, participated in a research seminar on kabuki at Waseda University, Tokyo (April); gave several lectures on kabuki history and performance at the National School of Drama in New Delhi, India (August), this was a part of a three week kabuki workshop led by actors Nakamura Ganjirō, Nakamura Kanjaku, and choreographer Fujima Kanjuro; gave a paper on 'Mokuami, criminality and the urban environment' at Osaka Shiritsu Daigaku (Osaka City University), Osaka, at a conference entitled 'Toshi no fikushon to genjitsu' (13-14 September 2004).

**Phil Deans**, Politics and International Studies Department, was awarded £3080 by the Japan Foundation Endowment Committee for a research trip to Japan and Taiwan. He gave a talk at Sophia University on 'Nationalism(s) on Taiwan and the issue of Japan', (April); and addressed the special meeting of the Japan Association of Taiwan Studies which followed the Presidential election in Taiwan in March.

**Lucia Dolce**, Study of Religions Department, spoke on 'Gyōki-zu and other 'esoterica': mapping Japan in the medieval period' at the international colloquy The Cortazzi Map Digitalization Project, Sainsbury Institute, Norwich. (20 February);

presented a paper 'Reconsidering medieval Buddhism again: reflections on ritual and the study of 'Japanese Religion', at the panel on The Consequences of Constituting 'Japanese Religion' as an Object of Concern, AAS, San Diego. (4-7 March);

visited Tokyo to receive the Nakamura Hajime Award for her study on 'Esoteric Patterns in Nichiren's Interpretation of the Lotus Sutra' (27 March);

conducted fieldwork in Japan, including the Suwa and Sannō matsuri. (28 March - 15April);

gave a guest lecture on 'Tantric Buddhism in Medieval Japan' at the Centre for Buddhist Studies, Istituto Universitario Orientale, Napoli (21 April);

presented a paper 'Reconsidering the taxonomy of the 'Esoteric': Taimitsu Hermeneutical and ritual practices' at the symposium The Culture of Secrecy in Japanese Religion, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna (18-21 May);

presented a paper 'Continuing shinbutsu rituals at Hiyoshi shrine' at the workshop on Shinto held on the occasion of the donation of the Shinto taikai at the University of Venezia Ca' Foscari. (7 June );

attended the conference Buddhist Monasticism in East Asia, St John's College, Cambridge. (2 July);

presented a paper 'The 'Esoteric Lotus Sutra': exploring the mandalic icons of the Lotus and the construction of alternative interpretations of mikkyō' at the international conference The Lotus Sutra in Asian Culture, University of Toronto (5-7 August).

**Barbara Pizziconi**, Japan and Korea Department, presented a paper 'Metalinguistic beliefs and processes of acculturation', at EPICS II, the Seville Symposium on Intercultural, Cognitive and Social Pragmatics (26-28 May).

**Timon Screech**, Art and Archaeology Department taught in the Department of East Asian Art at Heidelberg University, Germany (June-July); attended a conference on Edo Period Illustrated Books, in Sendai (August); and attended the Annual Convention on History of Glass, in Kyoto (September).



## Completed PhD

**Meri Arichi (Art and Archaeology Department 2003)**

**Supervisor:**

**Dr Timon Screech**

**Hie-Sannô Mandara: The Iconography of Kami and Sacred Landscape in Medieval Japan**



This study on Hie-Sannô Mandara examines visual representations of the *kami* and landscape of the Hie Shrine, and considers the religious, philosophical, and historical reasons that were influential in the formation of the distinct iconography of Hie-Sannô Mandara. Shrine related images such as these were categorized in the past as “Shinto Art”, a term that was coined by Kageyama Haruki between the 1950’s and 1970’s. Kageyama’s book *Shintô bijutsu* (1973) was a pioneering work, a comprehensive study of shrine related paintings, sculpture and decorative art.

### But what is “Shinto Art”?

The fundamental question I addressed in my thesis is the ritual context in which these images functioned. The belief in Sanno, the kami of the Hie Shrine, developed under a strong influence of Tendai Buddhism during the Heian and Kamakura periods. Textual references indicate that images of *kami* and shrine landscape were created from the late Heian period as icon for Buddhist rituals in which the kami were identified with buddhas and bodhisattvas according to the theory of *honji suijaku* (Origin and Trace). The shrine landscape was explained in a Buddhist term *jojaku kôdô* (the Land of Eternally Tranquil Light), indicating that shrine mandalas articulated the appropriation of Buddhist paradise on this earth in visual terms.

What this study highlights is the complexity of medieval Japanese religious practice which can not be described simply in the term “Shinto Art”. Furthermore the *shinbutsu shugo* (kami-buddha combination) of medieval Japan was in fact much more than a binary combination of Buddhism and the worship of indigenous *kami*. Some examples of Hie-Sannô mandara provide evidence for the identification of the kami with the seven stars of Hokutô shichisei (the Big Dipper), attesting the influence of Daoism, the Yin and Yang principles, astronomy and astrology. By studying the iconography of mandalas, I have come to understand the immense influence the Tendai doctrine exerted on the theoretical development of the Sanno Shinto.

Visual images are naturally the central concern of the thesis, but in order to elucidate the iconography of

mandalas, it was necessary to adopt an interdisciplinary approach, and to refer extensively to primary sources in religion, history and literature. Since most of the images I researched are in the collection of Japanese temples and museums, it was absolutely vital to spend some time in Japan. It was very important and also most enjoyable to visit the Hie Shrine and the Enryakuji on Mount Hiei in order to experience the sacred landscape at first hand and to understand the geographical relationship. My fieldwork in 2001 was supported by a grant from the Sanwa Fellowship, to which I would like to express my gratitude here.

## New JRC Members

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



I've just arrived at SOAS after thirteen years in the US: an M.A. in Japanese Studies at the University of Washington, a Ph.D. in History at Stanford, and four years teaching Japanese, East Asian, and world history at Wake Forest University, a mid-sized, mainly liberal arts college in North Carolina. Before all that I did a B.A. in History at Cambridge and then spent three years in Japan, teaching English on the JET program and learning Japanese. Teaching world history for the last few years has been an eye-opener, and opens up some useful comparative perspectives for thinking about Japan, but I am looking forward to restricting my focus a bit at SOAS. This year I'll be teaching two courses: an undergraduate course on Modern Japan and a postgraduate course on Japanese Modernity. Both will begin in 1600 or so, trying to tell what Andrew Gordon has recently characterized not as “a peculiarly 'Japanese' story that happened to unfold in an era we call 'modern' [but] a peculiarly 'modern' story as it unfolded in a place we call Japan”.

My research interests follow similar lines, using Japan to think about and sometimes reframe broader problems of modernization and modernity. At the moment I am completing a book manuscript, *Japan at the Exhibition, 1862-2005*, which examines international and domestic exhibitions (expos) in Japan, as well as Japan's participation in expos abroad. As a dissertation, this began as cultural history, working out what Japan looked like at expos, but as the project progressed it became apparent that these events had as much to do with issues of political economy as they did with questions of

representation and identity. I've tried to spell out some of the implications of this in a couple of recent articles on late 19th century exhibitions. The story of exhibitions also provides a counterpoint to our usual meta-narrative of modern Japanese history, with the post-, rather than pre-war period seeing the rise of wholesale state intervention in what had by then become a flourishing exhibition business. A forthcoming article along these lines, on 'Expo Fascism?', prompted my next major project, a re-examination of the early 1930s, seen as a response to the mixed legacy of the 1920s rather than a teleology leading inexorably to ultranationalism, war, and defeat. I'm also interested in writing a brief history of Japanese golf, using the golfing boom as a lens through which to explore the postwar relationship between economic growth (increasingly irrational, often overseas investment in new courses), social transformations (corporate culture, gendered leisure, and mass media), and environmental issues.

### **Nicola Liscutin** **Research Associate**

In 2002 I returned to London, after three years as a researcher and head of the Humanities Section at the German Institute for Japanese Studies (DIJ) in Tokyo, and joined the School of Languages, Linguistics and Culture at Birkbeck College. This new position came with the exciting task of building up a Japanese Studies programme at Birkbeck – a challenge that I greatly enjoy and for which the teaching and administrative experiences I gained while a lecturer at SOAS (1994-98) and guest lecturer at Waseda University (1999-2001) have proved very useful. By now, our programme consists of three levels of Japanese language courses and an MA degree in Japanese Cultural Studies that is now in its second year of teaching. The MA's multidisciplinary orientation (history, literature, art, media and gender studies) and its focus on modern/contemporary Japanese culture work very well and attract a good number of part-time and full-time students. Finding myself blessed with an international group of enthusiastic and bright students (ranging in age from 24 to 70!), I indulged in the joys of teaching (and learning!) and put most of my research activities on hold until the summer break.

Over the last six years, I have been working on the 'comfort women' and related questions of history writing. While in Tokyo, I was particularly interested to learn how Japanese feminist academics and activists deal with the issue of the thousands of Asian women, who were forced into sexual slavery by the Japanese Imperial Military during WWII. Thanks to the support of Professor Nakahara Michiko (Waseda), I was able to meet, interview and work with various academic-activists and NGO representatives, especially of VAWW-Net Japan, who fight for the surviving former 'comfort

women' and their demands for justice and compensation. This research led to the DIJ conference "Contested Historiography – Feminist Perspectives on World War II," which I organised in the spring of 2000 and which brought together leading feminist scholars of Japanese, Asian, and German history. The volume of articles that grew out of this international co-operation will soon be published.

The Women's International War Crimes Tribunal held in December 2000 in Tokyo, a truly historical event, opened a new, decisive dimension for my research but added also many more questions to it. For instance, women's human rights, the political potential of a 'global' civil society, and also the tension between such transnational initiatives and nation-centred notions of law, citizenship, and historiography. A study tour to North and South Korea, which the Japanese NGO Peaceboat organised in summer 2001, at the height of the most recent Japanese history textbook controversy, helped me to better understand the issues involved in the writing and teaching of Japan's war-time and post-war history as well as the complexities of the different positions represented in the East Asian history debates. A first attempt to put some of my thoughts into writing is the article "Between Women and Nation: The Politics of Representing 'Women and War' in History Museums" (*Waseda Journal of Asian Studies*, vol. 25, spring 2004), where I examine the Shôwakan (Japan), the House of Sharing (South Korea) exhibition and the recent 'Women and War' exhibition of the Imperial War Museum in London. Now, I face the challenge to bring the diverse strands of my research on the 'comfort women' issue and its representation(s) together in a monograph scheduled for publication with the German publisher Hamburger Edition in autumn 2005.

## **Letters from Japan**

### **Minoru Hamaguchi, Professor, Meiji University and JRC Visitor from August 2003 to March 2004**

The aim of my stay at SOAS was to study how Ryukyu occupied a unique place in the history of the contacts between Japan and the West. Among numerous materials on Ryukyu having been piled up over many hundred years, primary texts by western visitors and missionaries from the 16th century till the eve of World War II were selected and compiled chronologically by Patrick Beillevaire to be published in 2000-2 as *Ryukyu Studies: Western Encounter 1 & 2*.

Fortunately I had access to this wonderful collection along with other related materials at the open-shelf SOAS library (in which I came across Takizawa Bakin's *Yumiharidzuki*, one of his best-seller romances about the Ryukyu Kingdom, and a collection of beautiful prints presenting grand processions of

Ryukyu envoys going to Edo). And in the Special Collections Reading Room, I read the first editions of W. R. Broughton's *A Voyage of Discovery to the North Ocean*. (1804), Basil Hall's *Account of a Voyage of Discovery to the West Coast of Corea and the Great Loo-Choo Island* (1818) and others.

Hall's book is known to be the first detailed account on Ryukyu which was written not only in a naturalistic but also romantic tone, having a great reputation among Europeans. But soon after, their way of attending to Ryukyu changed dramatically and they began to see it as a geo-politically pivotal site for opening China, and then Japan, to conclude commercial treaties with them.

As you know, the Ryukyu Kingdom had long been a Chinese vassal state and actually the most favoured country that was permitted to pay tribute to the Chinese court 171 times, much oftener than the second favoured Vietnam's 89 times (and Japan, only 19 times). Its strong tie with China was one of the chief reasons for its being invaded and exploited by Satsuma which proved to be the greatest drive to promote the Meiji Restoration successfully.

Now imagine how Ryukyuan encountered Westerners calling at their tiny kingdom one after another (Commodore Perry, among them), being perplexed at their urgent demands and pretending their kingdom was an independent country by hiding its dual annexation to China and Japan. How worrisome and stressful! Now I am confident after my study in UK that Ryukyu provides us clues to reinterpret the conditions of the Far East growing increasingly intense and multi-nationally complicated, especially in the latter half of the 19th century.

But even in such geo-politically and historically severe conditions, Ryukyuan have never forgot their own life style and singular cultural tradition. Now in Japan, we have four national theatres for traditional performing arts — two in Tokyo for kabuki and noh, one in Osaka for bunraku, and one in Okinawa for kumiodori. The last one was designed to nurture and promote kumiodori, a kind of opera, created by Tamagusuku Chokun (1684-1734), an official of the Ryukyu Kingdom. By combining Okinawa's traditional ritual arts and folklore with elements of noh, kyogen, kabuki and Chinese plays, he produced it for the entertainment of Chinese envoys at the court. It was actually a product of Ryukyuan's multi-culturalism itself that is embodied in the "champuru" (or mixing) spirits still living in Okinawa! They believed and still believe that entertainment is the best and most effective way of attaining good relationships with people from foreign countries.

So, let me present you a poem of my own, titled 'Ayahaberu' (meaning 'a beautiful butterfly' in Ryukyuan dialect) about the ancient ritual of the

kingdom, which I tried translating into English by appealing to Dr Timon Screech for help (of course, idiomatic errors - if any - of English as below are all due to the author). But it might be better if I had chanted it to you in Japanese, being faithful to the unique verse and tone of ryuka, a counterpart of Japanese tanka, adopted in the lines of kumiodori

A beautiful butterfly flutters, its gown shining and signals a message, flying through the Forest. /

A beautiful butterfly rests waiting on the Eternal Rock, stained with spirits exhaling at the rites. /

A beautiful butterfly signals, a dream message nestled. A priestess appears, possessed, entering Seifa Utaki. /

A beautiful butterfly fans the air, and transient life streams outwards in all directions clearly...

### **Yasuko Hio, Professor, Shikoku Gakuin University and JRC Visitor from October 2003 to September 2004**

My sabbatical year at the Japan Research Centre was very satisfactory owing to the generous Academic Hospitality Programme at SOAS. First, I was given access to the SOAS Library. I was especially fascinated by the number of books on Japan and Japanese written by Western writers, which gave me opportunities to consider the Western way of thinking, which in turn led me to compare it with that of Japan. I was also able to use my laptop to connect to the internet access in one of the reference rooms at the Library, which enabled me to get various relevant information.

Second, I was honored to listen to three series of seminars run by the JRC on Wednesdays. Since my research interest is to see how language and culture are related and gauge how they are affected by each other, it was an occasion for me to observe how the Westerners view and interpret Japanese culture. Actually, they sometimes took my breath away and made me rethink my own culture.

Third, I am so much grateful to the SOAS staff for their reliable support. I still remember when I finally succeeded in connecting the internet on my laptop after persevering work by SOAS IT people. Also, I can't forget the SOAS librarians' countless support, such as collecting some books from SISJAC through Inter Library Loans, showing me how to download the articles from the electronic journals, suggesting which other libraries in London might house the book I wanted, and the like.

Fourth, I am thankful that I became acquainted with other Visiting Academics to JRC and the postgraduate students. I enjoyed discussions and friendship with them during my stay at JRC. We exchanged information with each other, which sometimes saved me some problems. Last, but not least, I thank Dr

Breen for his kindly accepting me under an Academic Hospitality Programme. I appreciate his letting me have not only a wonderful academic experience but also an enjoyable cultural one. I also thank Ms Barbara Lazoi for her patient help so that I was able to get a good start for doing research in the UK. I do hope I could contribute to JRC some day in some way.

### **Tetsu Washitani, Professor, Chuo University and JRC Academic Visitor April 2003 to March 2004**

I stayed in London as an academic visitor of the JRC from April 2003 to March 2004. It was an especially rewarding experience for me. I would like to thank for warm hospitality Dr John Breen and other members of JRC.

The main research theme I pursued during the stay was a comparison of labour problems between Japan and United Kingdom or Europe, but I could enjoy the intellectual stimulations from diversified fields outside my specialty through attending JRC seminars and lectures. An enormous collection of documents of SOAS Library helped me much in the inter-nation comparisons.

My surprising finding was a phenomenon like 'Japanization of UK Labour Affairs' such as unpaid overtime work and annual leave renouncement I could hardly imagine to exist in Europe unless I stayed at JRC. On the other hand, globalization of Japanese labour affairs, i.e. degradation of a lifetime employment/seniority system, which has long been one of the factors stabilizing Japanese society, is rapidly progressing. I would like to send my best wishes for the brightest future of JRC.

## **JRC Academic Visitors**

### **Koshi Endo, Professor, Meiji University**

Academic Hospitality from October 2003 to September 2004, extended to September 2005.

Recent publication: 'Are Personnel Assessments Fair?' in Masami Nomura and Yoshihiko Kamii (eds.), *Japanese Companies: Theories and Realities*, Trans Pacific Press: Melbourne, Australia, (2004).

Current research: Labour disputes in Japan and the UK; British Trade Unions and labour-related NPOs.

### **Gustav Heldt, Henry R. Luce Jr. Professor of Asian Studies, Bard College**

Academic Hospitality from September 2004 to August 2005.

Recent publication: *The Tosa Diary' in Haruo Shirane (ed.), Early Japanese Literature: An Anthology, Beginnings to 1600*, New York: Columbia University Press, (2004).

Current research: Heian court poetry.

### **Satoshi Kitahara, Associate Professor, Kansai University**

Academic Hospitality from April 2004 to March 2005.

Current research: The history of Anglo-Japanese economic relations.

### **Shinichi Kitani, Professor, Kansai University Academic Hospitality from April to September 2004**

Recent publication: in Japanese) Masura Sawai, Tatsuo Nikawa, Shinichi Kitani, Yutaka Nakagoshi, *The Second Stage of Municipal Reform Movement*, Gyousei. (2003).

Current research: Administrative reform.

### **Kazuko Nakagawa, Professor, Hokkai Gakuen University**

Academic Hospitality from September to November 2004.

Recent publication: 'Studies on Japanese Language Textbooks by Westerners in the Meiji Period', in W. G. Aston, *A Grammar of the Japanese Written Language*, Studies in Culture, No. 23-24, Hokkai Gakuen University, (March 2003).

Current research: Japanese language books written by Western scholars.

### **Kazuyoshi Oku, Professor, Kansai University Academic Hospitality from March 2004 to April 2005.**

Recent publication: *Global Economy*, with Takekazu Iawoto, Akihiro Ogura, Kim Chosol, Kaoru Hoshino, Yuhikaku, Japan, (2001).

'The rise and fall of Japanese Economy', in Yoshihiko Hatori (ed.), *Global Keizai*, Sekaishisousha, Japan, (1999).

Current research: Globalization and foreign trade of Japan.

### **Takashi Sengoku, Teacher, Waseda University**

Academic Hospitality from April 2004 to March 2005.

Recent publications: *Sôseki Ronkô* [The Treatises of Soseki Natsume's Novels', with a co-writer], (2002).

*Akutagawa Ryûnosuke Oboegaki* [The Treatises of Ryunosuke Akutagawa's Novels], (2001).

*Kusamakura* [The Three Cornered World], (2003).

Current research The study of Natsume Soseki who lived and studied in London for two years, 1900-1902.

## Hiroshi Tanaka, Professor, Daito Bunka University

Academic Hospitality from April 2004 to March 2005.

Recent publications: *Nihon-go Fukubun-Hyôgen no Kenkyû: Setsuzoku to Jojutsu no Kôzô* [Study of Japanese Complex-Sentence Expressions: Structures of Connection and Description], Hakuteisha, Tokyo, Japan, (March 2004.)

*Tôgo-kôzô wo chûshin-toshita Nihon-go to Tai-go no Taishou-kenkyû* (A Contrastive Study of Japanese and Thai: Focusing Syntactic Studies), Hitsuji Shobo, Tokyo, Japan, (April 2004.)

Current research: (1) Japanese complex-sentence expressions: focusing discourse studies; (2) Contrastive study of Japanese and Thai: focusing complex-sentence studies; (3) Studies of "Nanpô-go" (South-East Asian Languages) in Japan during the Pacific-War (1941-1945); (4) Responsibility and war. Literature in post war Japan.

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

### Dr John T Carpenter Department of Art & Archaeology, SOAS, and Head of London Office, Sainsbury Institute

The Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures (SISJAC), established in 1999 and now moving past the five-year mark, continues to support various individual and collaborative research programmes related to Japanese art studies in the UK and Europe. From the perspective of the London Office of SISJAC, the collaboration with the Department of Art and Archaeology at SOAS and the Japan Section of the British Museum have been particularly active and fruitful in recent years. News of various upcoming events and projects can be found on the Institute's website, [www.sainsbury-institute.org](http://www.sainsbury-institute.org); recent items that might be of interest to JRC colleagues in London include the following

### Sainsbury and Handa Research Fellows

Renewed funding for the Sainsbury and Handa Research Fellowship programmes has been secured and we look forward to their continuation for the foreseeable future. Our 2003-04 Sainsbury Research Fellows, Timothy Clark and Shane McCausland have just finished their year.

**Timothy Clark** (Head of the Japanese Section in the Department of Asia at The British Museum), while actively involved in upcoming BM exhibition projects, has just completed a study of 'The Floating World and

its Arts in Late Eighteenth Century Edo'. Related to this project, in October he will travel to the USA to deliver a lecture 'Regime Change in Japan, 1786-7, and the Floating World' to the Ukiyo-e Society of America, New York, and as the Nelson Wu Memorial Lecture at Washington University, St. Louis.

**Shane McCausland**, along with completing two BM publications related to the history of Chinese painting, has also been working on Chinese themes in the work of late-modern Japanese artists and aspects of Sino-Japanese and British-Japanese artistic collaboration. We are also pleased to announce that Shane has just been appointed to a one-year position as Curator of East Asian Collections at the Chester Beatty Library in Dublin.

**Tamaki Maeda**, who has just defended her PhD dissertation at University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, will take up a desk in the Handa Study Room, Brunei Gallery, at the beginning of October as one of our Robert and Lisa Sainsbury Fellows for the 2004-05 academic session. She is conducting research on Tomioka Tessai (1837-1924), a Japanese painter-calligraphy generally considered to be the most brilliant exponent of Chinese Literati-style painting of the post Meiji Restoration period; Tamaki's research also investigates the artist's work in the indigenous Yamato-e style.

We are also fortunate to be able to invite 2003-04 Handa Research Fellows **Ken Tadashi Oshima** (PhD, Columbia University) and Sachiko Idemitsu (PhD candidate, Keio University Tokyo) to continue their research visits for another year under the auspices of the Institute. Ken, who this year will be one of our Robert and Lisa Sainsbury Fellows, has been researching transnational links in 19th and 20th century architecture and design between Japan, Europe and America. In May 2004, he organized the international symposium 'Reflections on Japanese Modernism' at the Architectural Association, London, featuring architects Isozaki Arata, Peter Cook and historian Suzuki Hiroyuki.

Continuing as a Handa Research Fellow, **Sachiko Idemitsu** is presently finishing her doctoral dissertation examining mid-18th century Chinese-Japanese relations through a study of Japanese scholar landscape paintings, particularly those by Ike no Taiga and Obaku Zen preists. She has also assisted in the planning of an exhibition in the British Museum as well as conducting surveys of Literati paintings in European museums. Both Sachiko and Tamaki will be presenting papers at a colloquy at Leeds University, 'The Chinese World of Japanese Artists', on 20 November 2004.

### Affiliation with the British Museum

Following though on an official collaborative agreement drawn up between SISJAC and the British

Museum, our Administrator Hiromi Uchida has been seconded to the Japanese section of the British Museum for a year from April 2003, working half time both for the British Museum and SISJAC. At the British Museum she mainly works on educational programmes including a new project in collaboration with the Embassy of Japan, which invites school groups to the Museum for specially organised workshops. In early September she represented the Institute at the European Network of Japanese Art Collections (ENJAC) conference in Prague, and presented paper 'An Introduction to the Collection Databases at The British Museum, the Sainsbury Institute, and the Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts'.

### SISJAC-SOAS Library Cooperation

The Sainsbury Institute continues to support the purchase of books and audio-visual materials related to Japanese art for the SOAS library. Working in close collaboration with SOAS librarian Yoshiko Yasumura we are building up the collection (with both new and out-of-print books to fill in gaps) as they become available. Also, an inter-library loan system has been established to facilitate SOAS staff and students using books from the Lisa Sainsbury Library in Norwich. The SISJAC library site can be found at the Institute's website: [www.sainsbury-institute.org](http://www.sainsbury-institute.org) This summer, Akira Hirano, the Librarian of the Lisa Sainsbury Library, represented the Institute at the conference of the European Association of Japanese Resource Specialists (EAJRS), an organization that promotes the development and dissemination of information and library resources for Japanese studies in Europe.

### Collaboration with Art Research Center, Kyoto

During my sabbatical in Kyoto the past year, I was based at the Art Research Center at Ritsumeikan University, in Kyoto, working on research related to Japanese court calligraphy of the Heian and early medieval periods. After arriving in Kyoto, I was delighted to discover that Ritsumeikan had recently been bequeathed the Fujii Eikan Bunko collection, a highly-esteemed private collection of ancient Japanese manuscripts and paintings. Highlights of the collection include rare examples of sutras and Buddhist (especially Shingon-related) commentaries of the early medieval period. I have conducted research on the collection of *shinkan* (calligraphy by Japanese sovereigns), another important aspect of the Fujii Eikan collection. The Art Research Center is also actively collaborating with the Sainsbury Institute on image database projects including the digitisation of the map collection of Sir Hugh Cortazzi and *surimono* collections in Europe and the USA.

### Cortazzi Map Digitisation Project Colloquy

This international colloquy held at the Norwich Office of the Sainsbury Institute on 20 February 2004 brought together specialists from Europe and Japan to discuss the use of maps in their recent or ongoing research projects. The focus of the first part of the colloquy was on a discussion and examination of the maps collected by Sir Hugh Cortazzi, former British Ambassador to Japan, which have been placed on long-term loan to the Sainsbury Institute. Participants included Sir Hugh himself, Professor Peter Kornicki of Cambridge, SOAS scholars included Dr Timon Screech and Dr Lucia Dolce. The collection includes over fifty rare early European maps of Japan and pre-modern Japanese maps. In cooperation with the Art Research Center, Ritsumeikan, Kyoto, a high-resolution image database will be made available online. Cataloguing provided by map specialist Jason Hubbard will be incorporated into the site.

### Reflections on Japanese Modernism

Co-sponsored Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures in Association with the Architectural Association, and the Japan Foundation, 5 May 2004. This symposium reflected on the rise of Japanese modernist architecture within an international context and featured architects Arata Isozaki and Peter Cook and architectural historian Hiroyuki Suzuki. The symposium reflected back on this pioneering era and also critically looked to the future of international interchange in design. The symposium was organized and moderated by Dr Ken Oshima, research fellow at the Institute.

## Autumn Schedule of Third Thursday Lecture Series

(Held at the Sainsbury Institute Headquarters in Norwich)

16 September **Professor Toshio Watanabe,**

*Chelsea College of Art and Design*  
Buddhism and the Construction of Japanese Art History

21 October **Dr Ellis Tinios,** *University of Leeds*

An Introduction to the Illustrated Book in the Tokugawa Period 1615-1868

18 November **John M Rosenfield,**

*Professor Emeritus, Harvard University*

(Held in conjunction with Toshiba Lectures)

Salvation in the Pure Land of the West

## Japanese Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Projects at the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures

**Dr Simon Kaner, Acting Director,  
Sainsbury Institute**

One of the major areas of research activity at the Sainsbury Institute is Japanese archaeology and cultural heritage. I shall continue to teach MA modules in Japanese archaeology and early material culture at SOAS. This year one of the highlights will be a visit to one of the largest exhibitions of Japanese archaeology ever held in Europe, in Mannheim and Berlin, Germany

(<http://web.mannheim.de/museen-archiv/rem/de/ausstellungen/japan/ausstellung/index.htm>).

SOAS MA students joined a large audience in Norwich in March for the first conference on Medieval Japanese archaeology to be held outside Japan, sponsored by the Japan Foundation. Ten speakers from Japan, Europe and Canada gave papers on various aspects of the 'Archaeology of Towns in Medieval Japan and Beyond'. The papers are currently being revised for a publication which is being supported by the Japanese-government sponsored ABC Medieval Archaeology Project directed by Professor Maekawa Kaname of Chuo University, Tokyo. From September 2004 Jane Oksbjerg will be starting a PhD in Japanese archaeology at SOAS working on bronze working and ritual in the Yayoi period. Jane is the first Danish archaeologist to undertake doctoral research in Japanese archaeology and has won both an AHRB studentship and a SOAS scholarship.

The Sainsbury Institute is currently hosting our second Handa Japanese Archaeology Fellow, Nakamura Oki from Kokugakuin University in Tokyo, who will be based in Norwich until March 2005. Nakamura-san's specialism is funerary archaeology in the later Jomon period. He and I are co-editors of a new book on Jomon archaeology, *Jomon Reflections* by Kobayashi Tatsuo, published by Oxbow Books with assistance from the Japan Foundation. In March, the Japan Foundation Office in London organised a lecture by Professor Kobayashi marking the forthcoming publication of this book. Both Oki Nakamura and I presented papers in a special session on social complexity in the Jomon at the Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology in Montreal which are to be published in a volume edited by Professor Richard Pearson. Our first Handa Japanese Archaeology Fellow, Dr Yamamoto Noriyuki, will be back in the UK in late October to attend the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group meeting and to develop his ongoing project on ancient cord-marked ceramics in Japan and Europe.

In April the Sainsbury Institute hosted a workshop for the European Archaeological Archives Project (AREA) at which Nakamura-san presented a paper on the history of Japanese archaeology. The AREA Project is a European Union funded project and as a result of the warm reception given to this paper we are discussing further cooperation and involvement with the project organisers.

The Sainsbury Institute continues its association with the Niigata Prefectural Museum of History with a new field project involving an excavation at the important Middle Jomon Sanka site in Nagaoka, Niigata Prefecture. Courtesy of a British Academy Small Research Grant, I spent part of the summer at the site, where the famous Flame-style of pottery is thought to have first developed. This project, which aims to investigate the development of the historic environment of the Shinano River region, is expected to continue over the next few years, creating new opportunities for SOAS students and others to participate in archaeological fieldwork in Japan.

On 12th October the Institute will be holding a **one-day workshop on 'Japanese Archaeology'** in Norwich to explore future directions for the Institute's archaeology programme. One of our main priorities is to develop the research resources for Japanese archaeology at the Institute. The archaeology and cultural heritage holdings of the Lisa Sainsbury Library continue to grow and, with the assistance of Professor Kobayashi Tatsuo, we are expecting to receive a large number of archaeology books from Japan over the coming year.

### Recent papers presented by Simon Kaner:

'The involution of complexity in Jomon Japan'. Presented at the Society for American Archaeology, Montreal (March).

'Rebuilding the world in prehistoric Japan'. Presented to the Japan Research Centre, SOAS (March).

'Medieval archaeology in Japan'. Third Thursday Lecture, Norwich (March).

'Introducing Japanese medieval archaeology'. Presented at the conference The Archaeology of Medieval Towns and Beyond, Norwich (March).

'More than hunting: engendering the Late Palaeolithic of Japan'. Presented at the 10th Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists, Lyon (September).

### Recent publications:

'Japan and Korea 5000 BC - 500 BC' and 'Japan and Korea 500 BC - 500 AD' in *Atlas of World Art*, in John Onians (ed.), London: Lawrence King Publishing, 2004

*Jomon Reflections* by Kobayashi Tatsuo, edited with Oki Nakamura, Oxford: Oxbow Books, 2004

**Forthcoming lectures:**

'On the Trail of the Flame Pots: representations of local and national archaeological heritage in Japan'. To be presented as a Garrod Seminar, Department of Archaeology, University of Cambridge, 14 October 2004.

'The appropriation of prehistoric identity in the Japanese archipelago'. To be presented at the French Society of Japanese Studies (FSJS) conference, Strasbourg and Colmar, December 2004.

## **Kawamura Bumpô: Artist of Two Worlds**

**October - 10 December 2004, The University Gallery, University of Leeds**

This exhibition is the first anywhere to be devoted to the Kyoto artist Kawamura Bumpô (d.1821). In his lifetime Bumpô was well regarded as a painter and in demand as a designer of illustrated books. Today he is best known for his books, while his accomplished paintings are virtually forgotten. This exhibition seeks to redress this imbalance by introducing a range of Bumpo's paintings and reassessing his book illustrations in the context provided by those paintings. The exhibition includes loans from the British Museum as well as private collections in the UK, Germany and Japan.

Bumpô depicted subjects favoured by Chinese 'literati' painters, and contemporary Japanese scenes. The Chinese subjects encompass idealised landscapes, birds-and-flowers, and scholars engaged in the pleasures of poetry, calligraphy, painting and wine. The Japanese scenes include sympathetic accounts of the everyday lives of ordinary people, and landscapes that capture the beauty and tranquillity of the old imperial capital of Kyoto where the artist lived and worked.

Bumpô's art is characterised by free and vigorous brushwork, bold compositions and a pervasive sense of good humour.

An illustrated book accompanies the exhibition. Written by Ellis Tinios, who has curated the exhibition, it is published by the University Gallery Leeds with generous financial support from The Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation and The Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation.

## **Centre for the Study of Japanese Religions Seminars**

**5-6:30pm, Room G3, SOAS**

**All welcome**

- 7 October Joint seminar CSJR and JRC  
**Katja Triplett**, SOAS  
Human sacrifice in Japanese legends
- 21 October **Steven Heine**, *Florida International University*  
Exploring reasons for Dogen's mid-career move to Echizen
- 25 November **Michael Pye**, *University of Marburg*  
Religion on mountains
- 2 December **Klaus Antoni**, *Tübingen University*  
Izumo: the 'other Japan' as construction and reality
- 9 December 6pm Khalili Lecture Theatre  
Film: Death and Rebirth in the Mountain: The Ascetic Training of Shugenja Practitioners in Japan  
**Fumi Ouchi**, Miyagi Gakuin/SOAS  
**Gaynor Sekimori**, Tokyo University

**Convenor:** Dr Lucia Dolce (ld16@soas.ac.uk), telephone 020 7898 4217.

## **Japanese Religions Forum**

**5:00-6:30 pm, Room G3, SOAS**

The Forum, convened once a month in termtime, brings together postgraduate students, MA and PhD, working on Japanese religions from all academic departments at SOAS. The Forum aims to encourage a multidisciplinary approach to the study of Japanese religions.

- 14 October **Yukiko Nishimura**, SOAS  
Revisiting the study of the Cult of Avalokitesvara in Japan
- 11 November **Anna Shegoleva**, SOAS  
Place for imagination: Ikai portrayed in the ghost stories of Japanese youth

**Convenor:** Dr Lucia Dolce (ld16@soas.ac.uk), telephone 020 7898 4217.

[www.soas.ac.uk/Centres/JapaneseReligions](http://www.soas.ac.uk/Centres/JapaneseReligions)



## Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies

### Seminars

**Mondays, 5.00pm, Dahrendorf Room, Founders' Building, St. Antony's College, Oxford**

- 11 October **Dr Peter Hill**, *Oxford*  
The Matsuoka-kai of Kabuki-chō: profile of a contemporary yakuza group
- 18 October **Professor Fumio Nagai**, *Osaka City University and St Antony's*  
Japanese foreign policy towards Southeast Asia since the end of the Cold War
- 25 October **Dr Dolores Martinez**, *SOAS*  
Hollywood genealogies: or, the curious case of Kurosawa and the "Rashomon technique"
- 1 November **Mr Tomoki Kuniyoshi**, *LSE*  
Britain and the question of Japan's security, 1947-1951
- 8 November **Dr Malcolm Trevor**, *formerly of the EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation, Tokyo*  
Is Japanese business changing? A historical and political view
- 15 November **Professor Akiko Yamanaka**, *United Nations University, Tokyo and St Antony's*  
Japan's role in international peace-building efforts
- 22 November **Dr Jenny Corbett**, *Nissan Institute and St Antony's*  
Where has all my money gone? Policy towards cross-border electronic finance in the APEC region
- 29 November **Professor Akira Wakisaka**, *Gakushuin University and St Antony's*  
Family-friendly companies in Japan

The Dahrendorf Room will be open from 4.45 p.m. Those travelling from outside Oxford are advised to telephone the Nissan Secretary earlier in the day on 01865 274570, in case there has been a cancellation.

**Convenor:** Dr Ann Waswo

## The Chinese World of Japanese Artists

**Saturday 20 November 2004, The University Gallery, University of Leeds**

A one-day colloquy to be held in conjunction with an exhibition of paintings and illustrated books by Kawamura Bumpo at The University Gallery, University of Leeds, 13 October - 10 December 2004, curated by Dr Ellis Tinios.

Sponsored by the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures

SOAS staff and students, and other JRC members are cordially invited.

To register, contact Cathy Potter (c.potter@sainsbury-institute.org) at the Sainsbury Institute.

**Morning Session: 11:00 am -12:00 pm**

**Masatomo Kawai** (*Keio University, Tokyo*)

A Comparative Examination of Selected *Fūzoku-zu* by Kano and Shijō Artists (in Japanese, with English summary provided)

**Timothy Clark** (*British Museum*)

Minagawa Kien (1734-1807): Calligraphy and Painting

**Lunch: 12:00 – 1:30**

**First Afternoon Session: 1:30 -3:00 pm**

**Ellis Tinios** (*University of Leeds*)

Bumpō's Sinicisation of Kyoto

**Sachiko Idemitsu** (*PhD Candidate, Keio University/SISJAC, Handa Research Fellow*)

An Early 'True-View Painting' of the Nanga School: Hyakusetsu Genyō's *Wondrous Scenery of Kinosaki*

**Nicole Coolidge Rousmaniere** (*SISJAC*)

Curating China in Later Edo-Period Japan

**Second Afternoon Session: 3:15 – 4:30 pm**

**Shane McCausland** (*Curator of East Asian Collections, Chester Beatty Library, Dublin*)

Nihonga meets Gu Kaizhi

**Tamaki Maeda** (*SISJAC, Sainsbury Fellow, 2004-05*)

Tomioka Tessai's Narrative Landscapes

**Discussion**

**Moderator: John Carpenter** (*SOAS / SISJAC*)

**Discussant:** Professor John Rosenfield (*Harvard University*)

## Contributions to JRC News

Voluntary contributions to the JRC News are very welcome.

We suggest the following guidelines:

**Corporate subscribers: £50 • Individuals: £10 • Students/Concessions: Free**

Please make your cheque payable to 'SOAS' and send to the Japan Research Centre, SOAS.

Subscriptions are for one year.

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

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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 by completing the slip below; or email details to <bl1@soas.ac.uk>

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**Executive Officer** Barbara Lazoi ([bl1@soas.ac.uk](mailto:bl1@soas.ac.uk))

