

Letter from the Chair

Dear JRC members

Welcome everybody to the start of the new term, and the new year of the monkey.

We have a very full programme of events once more this term, but there are several items that bear picking out for special mention. In the order in which they appear in the calendar, they are the JRC Annual General Meeting, the JRC Annual lecture, Professor Carol Gluck's lecture and symposium, and the JRC PhD forum.

I understand that an AGM was indeed held three years ago, but was not especially well attended. I hope that many of you will turn up to the second-ever AGM on February 4th. The AGM will be held at the same time and in the same place as the weekly seminar. We have several issues to discuss, but I will ensure the meeting is chaired efficiently so that we can retire to the staff common room for drinks after an hour, at most. It is important, though, that we meet annually - and are seen to meet. The second event to point up is the JRC Annual lecture. The event will be held on February 18th at 6 o'clock when we will be welcoming Professor Rikki Kersten of Leiden University. This first-ever JRC annual lecture should be really stimulating, so please make a note in your diaries. I would also like to draw your attention to Professor Carol Gluck's lecture which will take place on Friday March 12th. The event is jointly hosted by the AHRB Centre and the JRC. It will be followed, on Saturday 13th, by a colloquium headed by Professor Gluck. Finally, the JRC will be co-hosting with the Japanese Cultural Studies Programme at Birkbeck College a PhD forum in May.

JRC NEWS

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Details of all these events are provided in this Newsletter and will be supplemented where necessary by e-mail.

I am very pleased to be able to welcome Dr Nicola Liscutin to the Japan Research Centre as Research Associate. Many of you will know Dr Liscutin since she was once a lecturer at SOAS in what was then the East Asia Department. She is presently Director of the Japanese Cultural Studies Programme at Birkbeck. I will present a full profile of Dr Liscutin in the next issue.

This issue contains a number of new features, and I would welcome your feedback on them. We have a new 'Letter from Japan' section, the idea of which is to encourage former academic visitors to stay in touch. Also, there is a section called 'Members' profiles'. My aim is to feature all members of the JRC in this section, eventually. For the present issue, I have focused on Alan Cummings of the Japan and Korea Department and Dr Ellis Tinios, a JRC research associate.

Once again comments on this issue, its form and presentation, and suggestions for future issues are very welcome.

John Breen
Monday, January 12, 2004

JAPAN RESEARCH CENTRE SEMINARS

WEDNESDAYS, 5PM, ROOM G51, SOAS

- 14 January Anthony Farrington, The British Library
The English Encounter With Japan 1613-1623
- 21 January Dr Nathalie Kouamé, INALCO
The 'Register of Demolitions' (1666), or How the Officials of the Mito Domain Set Out the Audacious Religious Policy of Tokugawa Mitsukuni
- 28 January Dr Naoko Shimazu, Birkbeck College
The Making of a Heroic War Myth in the Russo-Japanese War
- 4 February Japan Research Centre Annual General Meeting
- 18 February **1st Annual JRC Lecture**
6pm. Lecture Theatre, Brunei Gallery, SOAS **Professor Rikki Kersten, University of Leiden**
'Revisionism and Historical Consciousness in Postwar Japan'
- 25 February Dr Noriko Hanyu, Mukogawa Women's University and JRC Visiting Academic
Late Edo Literati Salons in Kyoto and Osaka: Kyōka Poets, Artists and Kabuki Actors
- 3 March Simon Kaner, Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures
Rebuilding the World in Prehistoric Japan
- Friday JRC & AHRB Centre
12 March Professor Carol Gluck
6pm. Lecture Theatre, Brunei Gallery, SOAS *Past Obsessions: War and Memory in the Twentieth Century*
- 10 March Dr Cecile Sakai, Universite Paris 7, Denis Diderot
The Meanings Of Epistolarity in Kawabata Yasunari's Fiction
- 17 March Dr Ken Tadashi Oshima, Robert & Lisa Sainsbury Fellow
Constructing the Modern House in Interwar Japan

1st Annual Japan Research Centre Lecture
Professor Rikki Kersten, University of Leiden
‘Revisionism and Historical Consciousness in Postwar Japan’

Professor Kersten is Professor of Modern Japan Studies, University of Leiden, where she is joint leader of the project on ‘Historical Consciousness and the Future of Modern China and Japan: Conservatism, Revisionism and National Identity’. She was awarded her DPhil in modern history at the University of Oxford in 1993 and, before joining Leiden University in 1998, headed the Research Institute for Asia and the Pacific at the University of Sydney. Prior to embarking on her academic career, she worked in Tokyo as a diplomat for the Australian government.



The Historical Consciousness project is comparative in its methodology and explores revisionist reinterpretations of tradition and their impact on the creation of national and political identity in modern China and Japan. It is especially concerned to ask how Japanese and Chinese thinking about the past have played off one another.

The project is designed to have two outcomes above all: a book on Historical Consciousness in modern China and Japan and, above all, the nurturing of a cohort of scholars able to engage in the comparative study of modern China and modern Japan.

Among Professor Kersten’s recent publications and presentations are ‘Japan: Three Scenarios for the 21st Century’. Keynote Lecture for the Japan Studies Centre, University of Groningen (Groningen 2003).

‘Revisionism, Reaction and the ‘Symbol Emperor’ in Post-war Japan’, *Japan Forum* 15, 1 (2003).

‘Defeat and the Intellectual Culture of Postwar Japan’. Inaugural lecture, University of Leiden, (Leiden: Leiden University Press 2003).

Democracy in Postwar Japan: Maruyama Masao and the Search for Autonomy (London: Routledge, 1996)

Professor Kersten has the following works in press:

The Left in Japanese Politics: Festschrift for Professor J.A.A. Stockwin (London: RoutledgeCurzon), Co-Editor and Contributor.

Turning to the Nation in Postwar Japan: A Study of Postwar Tenko (London: Palgrave).

‘Maruyama Masao and the Dilemma of the Public Intellectual in Post-war Japan’, in Steunebrink, Van der Zweerde and Cornelissen (eds.), *Nation, Religion, Civil Society: Modernization in Context*, (Amsterdam: Rodopi).

Professor Carol Gluck

'Past Obsessions: War and Memory in the Twentieth Century'

Date: Friday 12 March 2004

Time: 6pm

Venue: Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre, SOAS

The AHRB Centre for Asian and African Literatures at UCL and SOAS is pleased to welcome, in joint collaboration with the Japan Research Centre, SOAS, Professor Carol Gluck. She will be speaking on 'Past Obsessions: War and Memory in the Twentieth Century'. Carol Gluck is George Sansom Professor of History at Columbia University. She specializes in modern Japan, from the late nineteenth century to the present. Her publications include *Japan's Modern Myths* (1985), *Showa: The Japan of Hirohito* (1992), *Asia in Western and World History* (1997), *Versions of the Past: The Japanese and Their Modern History* (forthcoming), and *Past Obsessions: War and Memory in the Twentieth Century* (forthcoming).



Professor Gluck is known as a dynamic speaker and is the winner of a Teaching Prize at Columbia University.

Professor Carol Gluck

Day colloquium for postgraduate research students in literature a unique opportunity to present your work in progress

Looking for feedback on your thesis topic? Come and give a paper at the AHRB Centre for Asian and African Literatures at UCL and SOAS, Day Colloquium for MPhil and PhD students, which will take place on Saturday 13 March 2004. The colloquium will begin with a seminar led by Professor Carol Gluck of Columbia University entitled 'After the Shipwreck: New Horizons for History-writing'. The advance reading for this discussion will be available from the AHRB Centre office in February. Professor Gluck's seminar will be followed by 20-25 minute presentations by selected students.

If you would like to speak at the workshop, please submit a 300-500 word abstract of your proposed paper to Dr Ross Forman, rf19@soas.ac.uk, by 5 February 2004. The selection panel welcomes proposals from those working in national or comparative literatures, film studies, and related fields. Although preference is given to students at UCL and SOAS, students at other institutions are welcome to apply.

Students not giving papers are also invited to attend the seminar and presentations. To register to attend, please write to ahrblit@soas.ac.uk

SOAS
Japan Research Centre
Research Student Forum:
Japanese Humanities

The Japan Research Centre at SOAS is co-hosting with the Japanese Cultural Studies Programme of Birkbeck College a two-day workshop for PhD students working on topics in the Japanese Humanities. This **JRC PhD Forum** is intended to offer PhD students the opportunity to present their research to a larger group of like-minded postgraduate students and academics. It aims to create an informal and enjoyable atmosphere for stimulating discussions. The event will be held on 20 – 21 May, 2004.

Applications

Students registered for a PhD degree in Japan-related humanities at any UK university are invited to submit proposals for presentations. Please send a 300 word abstract of your presentation and a brief CV **by e-mail** to Dr Nicola Liscutin on n.liscutin@bbk.ac.uk

The closing date for applications is Friday 19 March.

Format

The JRC PhD Forum will take place on Thursday afternoon 20 May and Friday 21 May at SOAS. The presentations of 20 to max. 30 minutes will be followed by discussions of about the same length. Presentations will be chaired by academics in the field of research.

The Japan Research Centre will host a reception for all participants on the evening of 20 May.

All postgraduate students are most welcome to attend the Forum, to meet other students and to participate in the discussion of papers.

For further information, please contact Dr. John Breen on jb8@soas.ac.uk or Dr Nicola Liscutin on n.liscutin@bbk.ac.uk

Dr John Breen, Chair, Japan Research Centre
Dr Nicola Liscutin, Programme Director JCS, Birkbeck College

JRC Members

Publications

John Breen, Japan and Korea Department

‘Meiji tenno no Ise sangu: sono sozosei to hiteisei’ [The Meiji emperor's pilgrimage to the Ise shrines: invention and denial] in Shinto kokusai gakkai (ed.), *Koshitsu to Ise jingu* [The imperial court and the Ise shrines], (Tachibana shuppan, 2003).

John Carpenter, Art and Archaeology Department

Editor, *Hokusai and His Age: Ukiyo-e Painting, Printmaking and Book Illustration in Late Edo Japan*. Published in collaboration with the International Hokusai Research Centre (University of Venice) and the Sainsbury Institute, (Leiden: Hotei Publishing, 2003).

Drew Gerstle, Japan and Korea Department

‘The Culture of Play: Kabuki and the Production of Texts’, *BSOAS*, 66,3 (2003).

Christopher Jones, Research Associate

Political Philosophy in Japan: Nishida, the Kyoto School, and Co-Prosperity, (Routledge, 2003).

Tetsu Washitani, Visiting Academic

(in Japanese): ‘The relationship between the sense of professional insecurity and the career intention of the workers’ in the Research Institute for Advancement of Living Standards (ed.), *The Impact of Information and Communication Technology on Working Life*, (Tokyo: Rengoken, 2003).

JRC Members

Research and Travel

John Carpenter, Art and Archaeology Department, gave a presentation at the Kokubungaku Kenkyû Shiryôkan (National Institute of Japanese Literature) in Tokyo on ‘*Akihagi-jô* no “utsushi” no mondai ni tsuite’ (The *Akihagi-jô* and Issues of ‘Copying’ in Mid-Heian Court Calligraphy), 11 December 2003. Dr Carpenter is on research leave at the Art Research Center, Ritsumeikan University, Kyoto, for the 2003-04 academic year. He is completing a book manuscript on the history of 11th to 13th century Japanese calligraphy, tentatively entitled *Writing as Ritual: Calligraphy and Heian Court Society*.

Steve Dodd, Japan and Korea Department, convened the second workshop in the City and Literature project as part of the AHRB series of workshops at SOAS, 5 - 7 November 2003.

Lucia Dolce, Religions Department, delivered a report on her research at the meeting of the Canon Foundation in Europe, Bruges, November 2003; she will give a paper on ‘Ritual and the Study of ‘Japanese Religion’’ in the panel ‘Constituting “Japanese Religion” as an Object of Concern’ at the AAS convention, San Diego, 4 - 7 March 2004.

Drew Gerstle, Japan and Korea Department, gave a paper ‘Osaka Kabuki Actor Prints and Books’ at the International Ukiyoe Society annual conference, Tokyo, 8 November and at Mukogawa Women's University, Kobe, 15 November 2003.

David Hughes, Department of Music, visited Sado Island and Okinawa in August and September 2003, for research on the implementation of Japan’s new National Curriculum requiring the teaching of traditional musical instruments in middle schools. Also in 2003, on 20

February he presented an invited lecture on Okinawan music at the Center for Japanese Studies, University of Michigan, and introduced Japanese music as organiser of the 'Connecting Cultures Study Day' to open the Edinburgh Festival, 10 August. With PhD student Matt Gillan and others, he performed Okinawan folk song at SOAS on 26 June, and in Berkshire for the 10th anniversary celebrations of the Donnington Grove Japan Society on 8 November.

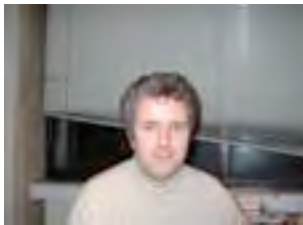
In March 2004, **Barbara Pizziconi**, Japan and Korea Department, will be welcoming Professor Atsuko S Kondoh, from the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, University of Tokyo. This visit is part of a project funded by the Ministry of Education and Sciences (Monbukagakusho) that focuses on the curricula of Japanese Language Education and exchanges scholarly information in order to establish standard curricula and testing among Japanese Language Programs.

Timon Screech, Art and Archaeology Department, spoke at the 75th Anniversary Conference of the Harvard-Yenching Library, Harvard University, September 2003; he was keynote speaker at the Oriente-Occidente Conference, Mexican Association of Art History, held at Santra Cruz, November; spoke at the conference held in celebration of the 400th anniversary of the Nippo Jisho (first Japanese-Portuguese dictionary), Lisbon, November.

JRC Members' Profiles

Alan Cummings

JRC Member



This is my third year of teaching full-time at SOAS, though since I did my BA here it does feel like I have been here much longer. This year I am teaching the compulsory third year course in Premodern Japanese Language and Literature - a constant struggle to prevent the dark forces of kakarimusubi and other linguistic arcana from overwhelming the joys of Genji, noh and Basho. Last term I taught a new course on

Japanese Traditional Drama on the MA Japanese Literature programme. In addition, I teach some classes in the first year Aspects of Japanese Culture course, and in Advanced Practical Japanese. My own research interests are in Edo popular culture in general, kabuki in particular, and specifically Kawatake Mokuami - the last, great kabuki playwright in the traditional mould. My interest in Mokuami lies especially in how his dramaturgy (he is best known for his plays about robbers, murderers and other urban lowlifes) interacts with contemporary bakumatsu Edo and early Meiji discourse on literature, society and law. I have been working on Mokuami now for five years and I hope to complete the research project this summer. In between I managed to find time to translate three of Mokuami's plays, which have now been published in the lavishly produced four volume *Kabuki Plays On Stage* series (University of Hawaii Press).

Away from SOAS, I have a second secret career as a critic and commentator on avant-garde, marginal and other 'un'popular Japanese music, a topic on which I write regularly for several journals in the UK, Japan, and the US. My current research subject in that field is the important conceptualist composer/performer Kosugi Takehisa, best known as an associate of John Cage and the Fluxus international art movement.

Ellis Tinios
Research Associate of the JRC



I trained as a historian of China at Harvard (B.A. 1969), Leeds (M.Phil. 1972) and the University of Michigan (Ph.D. 1988). While in Kyoto on an SSRC fellowship in 1977-78, my latent interest in things Japanese was transformed into a passion. Taking up the post of Lecturer in Asian History in the School of History at the University of Leeds in 1978, I developed and taught a wide range of courses on the histories of China and Japan. These teaching commitments slowed work on my dissertation, *Pan Ku, the Hsiung-nu and Han Shu 94*, but it was finally completed and successfully defended

in 1988. Thereafter, I pursued an interest in things Japanese, in particular prints and illustrated books of the Tokugawa period. In 1996 I served as curator of an exhibition, *Mirror of the Stage: the Actor Prints of Kunisada*, held in the University Gallery Leeds, and wrote a short book of the same title to accompany the exhibition. In 1999 I collaborated with the geographer Paul Waley on another book and exhibition for the University Gallery Leeds, *On the Margins of the City: Recreation on the Periphery of Edo*. In 2002, after twenty-four years in post, I decided to accept an early retirement package offered by the University of Leeds. Since then I have been lecturing and working on a number of projects. I prepared a third exhibition for the University Gallery Leeds on the paintings and books of the Shijô artist Kawamura Bumpô. The exhibition was scheduled to open in October 2003 but for reasons of health and safety, it has been postponed to the autumn of 2004. The book *Kawamura Bumpô: Artist of Two Worlds*, written to accompany the exhibition, was published in November 2003. I am collaborating with Timothy Clark on a catalogue of Maruyama-Shijô paintings, prints and books in the British Museum, with responsibility for the books. I am also working on a project with Iwata Hideyuki and John Carpenter devoted to the actor *surimono* designed by Kunisada, *Performance, Poetry and Prints*.

In January I will participate in a symposium on Chûshingura and Mitate at Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto. In July 2004 I will offer a course, Japanese Illustrated Books and Woodblock Prints, 1615-1868, at the Walters Art Gallery, Baltimore, Maryland, under the auspices of the Rare Book School run by the University of Virginia.

Letter from Japan

**Dr KITAGAWA Fukiko, Tottori University, and
JRC Academic Visitor August 2002 to July 2003**



At present I am working on the literary genre known as *bun*, which exerted a profound influence on readers and writers of literature during the Meiji to Showa periods (1870-1945). 'Bun' is a generic term used to denote short literary texts that have a certain thematic and stylistic consistency. Travel accounts, narratives, sketches and elegant prose known as *bibun* are of this order. I have focused on this genre of literature for two reasons above all.

Firstly, the genre retained various traditional elements which modern novels written in the *genbun itchi* style discarded. Secondly, the genre played a Major role in setting out a model of what constituted 'culture', and in constructing a sensitivity for the averagely well-educated who read novels.

Novels of the Meiji period took as their premise *genbun itchi* style expression. They regarded language as a transparent tool and description as their major technique. Meiji novels constituted a rejection, that is, of the methods of transmission and appreciation nurtured in the Edo period that relied on a rich audio-visual expressionism. I refer here specifically to the Edo style that drew on rhythm and rhyme, the evocation of mood, and associations with literary memory and form.

Bun, however, retained the multiple genres and styles of Edo literature, such as Chinese verse, waka and Japanese prose. It functioned as a receptacle for relaying to the masses the rich variety of the written language. I am especially interested in the *bibun* style of elegant prose which was immensely popular between the Sino-Japanese and Russo-Japanese wars. It was a sub-genre of *bun*. This elegant *bibun* used sophisticated rhetoric, and fine turns of expression not encountered in daily life. Between 1890 and 1910 when it became apparent that *genbun itchi* was the dominant new style in literature, *bibun* developed as a unique way of dissemination meaning. For example, much of the *bibun* carried in the journal *Meisei*, which was a representative literary art journal of the Meiji period, functioned as a medium for the sensual representation of the 'exotic West'. Again, the *bibun* that Natsume Soeki deployed in 『虞美人草』 (1907) had the function of masking the sexuality of the woman as 'other'.

My year at SOAS was immensely rewarding. I was extremely fortunate to have been able to research in that unique SOAS environment which was anything but Euro-centric. I was stimulated greatly by the lively research atmosphere at SOAS where outstanding students and staff gather and where research seminars on cutting-edge themes abound. It was especially exciting for me to attend weekly postgraduate lectures, and to read modern Japanese literature with students from all manner of ethnic backgrounds. The interpretations of my classmates who had no preconceived notions of Japanese literature overturned much of what I had taken for granted.

It was also a most valuable experience for me to be able to present at a JRC seminar my research on the semantic function of *bibun* and the construction of a reading public. I was uneasy about exploring in English the theme of stylistic difference but at the same time my translation endeavours enabled me to open up new perspectives that suggested more universal ways of dealing with problems. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those at SOAS who helped me and gave of their time during my stay in London.

JRC Academic Visitors

Sa Ok Cho, Vice Professor of Japanese Studies, University of Incheon, Korea

Academic Hospitality from September 2003 to August 2004, (email: sc60@soas.ac.uk)

Koshi Endo, Professor, Meiji University

Academic Hospitality from October 2003 to September 2004

Minoru Hamaguchi, Professor, Meiji University

Academic Hospitality from August 2003 to March 2004

Yasuko Hio, Professor, Shikoku Gakuin University

Academic Hospitality from October 2003 to September 2004

Noriko Hanyu, Research Fellow, Mukogawa Women's University

Academic Hospitality from October 2002 to September 2004. (email: nh33@soas.ac.uk)

Masatsugu Hongo, Professor of Letters, Ritsumeikan University

Academic Hospitality from September 2003 to August 2004, (email: mh4@soas.ac.uk)

Mariko Sakurai, Professor, Chiba Keizai College

Academic Hospitality from April 2001 to September 2004, (email: ms100@soas.ac.uk)

Tetsu Washitani, Professor, Chuo University

Academic Hospitality from April 2003 to March 2004

MA Dissertations at SOAS

The following dissertations were submitted by students as part of the
MA Japanese Studies programme 2002-03.

Sonia Chhabra

'Some Aspects of the Linguistic Processing of Kanji'.

Tanima Choudhury

'An Anthropological and Sociolinguistic Interpretation of Group and Self Identity in Japanese Society'.

Lucy Dugmore

'Nakagami Kenji: A Doubled and Pessimistic Vision'.

Jonathan Emery

'Withdrawal from School and Society in Japan'.

Sui Chin Han

'The Marginal Worlds of Gao Xingjian's "Soul Mountain" and the Kenzaburo Oe's "Silent Cry"'.

Sayaka Kato

'The Quality of Zen in the Work of Genpei Akasegawa'.

Eva Kuehnen

'The Development and Determinants of Japanese Foreign Direct Investment in the Asia-Pacific Region'.

Waltner Markus

'Japan's And Korea's Claims to the Liancourt Rocks: An Analysis of the Historical and Legal Arguments'.

Sarah Portch

‘Beyond “Madame Butterfly”: A Criticism of Current Scholarship Regarding the Image of Japanese Women Portrayed in Britain, 1853-1905’.

Harris Russell

‘“Utopian Idealism” Versus “Practical Realism”: The Roles of Nishida Kitaro and Maruyama Masao as Intellectuals in Japan’.

Damian Stanford-Harris

‘A Wild Sheep Chase? Hurakami Haruki and the Limits of Postmodern Interpretation’.

Nadine Winskowski

‘Changes in Post-War Japanese Housing’.

Hilary Wright

‘Retaining The Emperor: American Occupation Policy and the Question of the Japanese Emperor’.

Frances Yip Lai Ngor

‘Japanese and Natural Disasters: Japanese Views on Earthquake Yesterday and Today’.

Benjamin Zola

‘What Have Been the Effects on Yazuka Groups as a Result of the Bursting of the Asset Bubble and Imposition of the Botaiho (Anti-Organized Crime Legislation)?’.

Madeleine Totham

‘Language Disorder in Japanese and English Speaking Individuals: A Reappraisal of the Psycholinguistic Data’.

The following dissertations were submitted by students as part of the
MA Japanese Applied Linguistics programme 2002-03.

Ono Hisayoshi

‘The Role of Subjects in the Ni Direct Passive in Japanese’.

Miho Kozawa

‘The Factors and Problems to be Considered in Teaching Japanese Onomatopoeia’.

Tomonori Okada

‘Exploring the Possibility of a Learner Development Programme: A Case Study of Japanese Language Education in Higher Education Institutions in Thailand’.

Stephen Richmond

‘A Re-Evaluation of Kanji Textbooks for Learners of Japanese As A Second Language’.

Kyoko Yoo

‘An Examination of Cross-Cultural Learning in the Context of Japanese As A Foreign Language’.

Matsuura Yoshie

‘Male and Female Speech in Japanese: The Analysis of the Sentence - Final Particles in Relation to Gender’.

**Centre for the Study of Japanese Religions
Seminar Series**

5-6:30pm, Room G3, SOAS

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|-------------|--|
| 22 January | Mark Teeuwen, University of Oslo
<i>The Medieval Origins of Shinto</i> |
| 29 January | James McMullen, Pembroke College
<i>The Worship of Confucius in Early Modern Japan</i> |
| 5 February | Reiko Tanimura, CSJR Research Associate
<i>Samurai Spirituality in the Tokugawa Period - The Raison d'être of the Warrior in Times of Peace</i> |
| 29 February | Meri Arichi, SOAS
<i>Hie-Sannô Mandara: The Iconography of Kami</i> |
| 11 March | Silvio Vita, Italian School of East Asian Studies, Kyoto
<i>Moving Towards Academia: The Transformation of Buddhist Learning Institutions in Modern Japan</i> |
| 18 March | Marc Buijnsters, Leiden University
<i>Myôe and the Problem of Orthodoxy in the View on Mappô</i> |
| 29 April | Masatsugu Hongo, Ritsumeikan University
<i>Nara Buddhism</i> |
| 13 May | Lone Takeuchi, Independent Scholar
<i>Reactions of Nasake: Wu Wei in pre-Edo Japanese Narratives</i> |

For further information please contact the convenor Dr Lucia Dolce (ld16@soas.ac.uk)
Telephone 020 7898 4217.

**Centre for the Study of Japanese Religions
Post-doctoral Fellowship in Japanese Religions, 2004-5**

The SOAS Centre for the Study of Japanese Religions invites applications for the one-year CSJR Postdoctoral Fellowship in Japanese Religions (any area) to be held at SOAS from September 2004.

The main purpose of the Fellowship is to enable the holder to bring his/her recently completed PhD thesis to publication during the year at SOAS. Whilst at SOAS, the CSJR Fellow will be expected to contribute some teaching on Japanese religion within existing courses, depending on his/her research field, and to take part in the Centre's activities, including the CSJR seminars and fora. In addition, s/he will be expected to organise a workshop/symposium in his/her speciality. Financial and administrative support will be available to this end. The Fellow will have access to appropriate study facilities and will be a member of the Senior Common room and a full member of the SOAS library.

The fellow's annual stipend will be £23,259 (including London weighting).

Applications consist of a curriculum vitae and a list of publications, an abstract/ summary of the applicant's doctoral thesis, a clear statement of the candidate's academic plans for the

postdoctoral year (including a proposal for the workshop) and the names of three referees. Five copies of these documents together with a covering note should be sent to Human Resources Department, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London, WC1H 0XG.

The closing date for applications is Friday 5 March 2004.

Interviews will be held on 22-23 April 2004.

For informal inquiries, please contact Dr Lucia Dolce, Chair, Centre for the Study of Japanese Religions, SOAS, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London, WC1H 0XG.

e-mail: ld16@soas.ac.uk

Centre for the Study of Japanese Religions Research Studentships, 2004

Applications are now invited for the CSJR research studentship in Japanese religions to be held at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, from September 2004. The studentship is for training leading to a PhD in Japanese religions at SOAS. It will consist of a remittance of fees and a bursary of £9,350 per year in the first year of postgraduate study, and is renewable for up to a further two years, subject to satisfactory progress. The Studentship is open to outstanding students of Japanese religions regardless of nationality.

Closing date for applications is March 31 2004.

The selection will take place during April 2004.

The CSJR studentship may be awarded to candidates proposing to register full-time for a research degree (MPhil/PhD) at SOAS in September 2004, and to those who enrolled full time in September 2003 or after for a research degree at SOAS.

Candidates must have applied for a research degree at SOAS by 31 March 2004 in order to be considered for the CSJR Research Studentship.

Application forms and further particulars are available from: The Registrar, School of Oriental and African Studies, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London, WC1H 0XG.

For informal inquiries, please contact Dr Lucia Dolce, Chair, Centre for the Study of Japanese Religions, SOAS, Russell Square, London, WC1H 0XG. e-mail: ld16@soas.ac.uk

Further details on the CSJR and its activity may be found on the centre webpage: www.soas.ac.uk/Centres/JapaneseReligions/

AHRB PhD Scholarship

Professor Drew Gerstle (SOAS), Mr Tim Clark (British Museum) and Professor AKAMA Ryo (Ritsumeikan) have received a grant from the British Arts and Humanities Board (AHRB) for a research project on 'Creating Celebrity: Kabuki Actors, Poets and Artists in 19th Century Osaka and Kyoto'. One aim is to have an exhibition at the British Museum and two Japanese venues in 2005. The grant includes a three-year PhD scholarship for a student to work at SOAS on a topic related to this project, and to work with the project leaders. The PhD thesis should relate to Kabuki and the visual arts. There are some eligibility requirements set by the AHRB (see their website http://www.ahrb.ac.uk/ahrb/website/apply/postgrad/doctoral_competition.asp). Please contact Drew Gerstle (ag4@soas.ac.uk) for further information.

SISJAC EVENTS

The Archaeology of Towns in Medieval Japan and Beyond: 1100-1600AD

Speakers at the conference include:

Professor Maekawa Kaname, Chuo University, Tokyo

Professor Richard Pearson, Vancouver

Brian Ayers, County Archaeologist, Norfolk County Council

Dr Jane Grenville, University of York

Saturday 20 March 2004

Assembly House, Theatre Street, Norwich

Third Thursday Lecture Series

(monthly lecture at the Sainsbury Institute, Norwich)

6 - 7.30pm, followed by refreshments

19 February 2004

TIMOTHY CLARK

Robert & Lisa Sainsbury Fellow, Sainsbury Institute / Head of the Japanese Section, Department of Asia, The British Museum

Regime Change in Japan, 1786-7, and the Floating World

18 March 2004

PROFESSOR MAEKAWA KANAME, Chuo University, Tokyo

Medieval Archaeology in Japan

Further details on these and future events from the **Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Art and Culture, Norwich**. Telephone 01603 624349 email: sisjac@uea.ac.uk

BIRKBECK EVENT

One-Day Conference

'Re-imagining Culture in the Russo-Japanese War'

10-6pm, Saturday 27 March 2004, Birkbeck College, University of London

Rates: Concession for students and alumni £15. Others £35.

(The fee includes sandwich lunch and refreshments)

This one-day comparative conference marks the centenary of the outbreak of the Russo-Japanese war in 1904, by bringing together specialists on Japanese and Russian society and culture.

Check the website on www.bbk.ac.uk/russojapanesewar

Contact the conference administrator on russojapanesewar@bbk.ac.uk

NISSAN INSTITUTE EVENTS

Monday 9 February, 5pm, Headley Lecture Theatre, Ashmolean Museum
co-sponsored by Classics, the Oriental Institute and the Nissan Institute

Professor Stephan Steingräber

Professor of Etruscology and Italic Antiquities, University of Rome (and until recently Professor
of Mediterranean Archaeology, University of Tokyo)

'Greek and Roman Antiquities in Japanese Museums'

Workshop on 'Contested Memories of the Asia-Pacific War'

co-sponsored by the Nissan Institute and the Asian Studies Centre, St Antony's College

Thursday 11 March – Saturday 13 March

It is almost 60 years since the end of the Asia-Pacific War, and yet in terms of public memories in the countries involved in that conflict it is clear that the war is still with us as an emotive and sometimes hotly contested subject. This workshop will focus on one major arena in which the conflict continues, the media, and will explore some of the divergent interpretations to be found in recent documentary films and, in Japan, *manga* [comic books] about the war as a whole or key events in its still controversial history. The workshop will begin with screenings of documentaries from Japan, the USA, and the UK. It will then turn its attention to discussion of some of the main points of disagreement that these media accounts of the war reveal, with a view to explaining why these disagreements exist and what can be done to shift the discourse from the polarization that has characterized it in recent decades.

There will be panel discussions on such topics as:

- The Nanjing Massacre, and the general character of the war between Japan and China
- New tactics and weapons of warfare, and the place of the Asia-Pacific War in the history of modern warfare
- The politics of remembering the war in Japan and the United States
- The high profile of the Asia-Pacific War and war in general in the British media

Further details of the workshop will be available on website www.nissan.ox.ac.uk/news-and-events.htm in early February.

**Professor Hayami Akira, Reitaku University, Japan
will lecture on the population history of Japan**

Friday 19 March, 2.30pm
Nissan Institute Seminar Room

THERE IS NO WEEKLY SEMINAR AT THE NISSAN INSTITUTE OF JAPANESE STUDIES THIS TERM

Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies, 27 Winchester Road, Oxford OX2 6NA. Telephone 01865 274570

Contributions to JRC News

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We suggest the following guidelines:

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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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