# **AJLS Newsletter**

# **Association for Japanese Literary Studies**

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Edited by Eiji Sekine

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# **Twenty-First Annual Meeting Program**

## Rhetoric and Region: The Local Determinants of Literary Expression

October 12 - 14, 2012 The Ohio State University

#### **Sponsors:**

NEAC Japanese Studies Program, AAS

The Japan Foundation
The Ohio State University
Institute for Japanese Studies
East Asian Studies Center
Dept. of East Asian Languages and Literatures

Papers and panels will be presented, mostly concomitantly, in Hagerty Hall, Rooms 180 and 351.

Registration is required. Pre-registration ends September 14.

For registration, lodging, travel advice, program updates, and other information, visit the conference website: japan.osu.edu/ajls/.

For information and questions, contact: Professor Richard Torrance, AJLS Program Chair: torrance.2@osu.edu

or

Janet Stucky Smith, Event Coordinator: stucky.7@osu.edu

Note: This schedule is subject to change and updates are anticipated.

#### Friday, October 12

**4:00-6:00:** OSU Libs, Thompson Library **Registration & Welcoming Reception** 

6:15-8:00: Hagerty 180

**Spatial Practices in the Center and** 

## Regions: Genre, Technology, and Chronotope in Twentieth-Century Culture

"Nested Topographies: The Culture and Politics of Mini-FM," **Kerim Yasar**, *U of Notre Dame* 

"Deterritorialization and Hiroshima Literature," **Ann Sherif**, *Oberlin College* 

"'An Ashen Moon' and the Spatial Practice of Postwar Tokyo," **Seiji M. Lippit**, *UCLA* 

"Obligation, Compassion, and Revolution: Imaginations of Tokyo's Shitamachi Area in a Socialist Kodan Fiction," **Tomoko Seto**, *U of Chicago* 

Discussant: Ann Sherif, Oberlin College

#### Saturday, October 13

**8:00-8:30:** Hagerty Hall

**Welcome Breakfast & Registration** 

8:30-10:20: Hagerty 180

# Japanese Literature and Film in International Contexts

"Two Views from Paris: Japanese Culture in 1955," **Doug Slaymaker**, *U of Kentucky* 

"Intimacy, Language, and Place: An Analysis of Cultural Identity and Longing in Naoko Ogigami's 'Kamome shokudō' and 'Toiretto,'"Joanne Quimby, Wittenberg U

"Abe Kazushige's Shinsemia and the Enduring Postwar," **Jason Herlands**, *Oberlin College* 

"Envisioning Contemporary Okinawa: Yoshimoto Banana's and Kirino Natsuo's Depictions of Japan's Last Southern Colony," **Oliver E. Kuehne**, *M.A.*, *U of Tuebingen* 

Discussant: TBD

#### **8:30-10:20**: Hagerty 351

### Place and Contemporary Issues in Fiction

"Such an Uncanny Place: Tokyo in Murakami Haruki's Wind-Up Bird Chronicle," Chiaki Takagi, U of North Carolina - Greensboro

"Miyabe Miyuki and Her Description of Shitamachi Tokyo," Noriko Chino, Independent Scholar

"Playing House: Suburbia and Self in Miyabe Miyuki's R.P.G.," Raechel Dumas, U of Colorado at Boulder

"Japanese Earthquakes, Tsunamis, and Storms as Archetypal Nihilistic Symbols: an Explication of No Chomei's The Earthquake, Mccullough's The Great Earthquake and Sanvo's Hearing of the Earthquake in Kvoto," **Dovin Aguoru**, Olabisi Onabanjo U

Discussant: Eiji Sekine, Purdue U

**10:30 – 12:20**: Hagerty 180

### The Avant Garde and Internationalization of Literary Language

"Takahashi Gen'ichirō's Literary Dialect: Renaming Literature," Michael Tangeman, Denison U

"Universalism and Contextualism: Mizumura Minae's 'When Japanese Language Persishes (2008)," Takushi Odagiri, Stanford

"Wordplay in Tawada's Texts from a Transregional Perspective," Eri Koshikawa, Tsukuba U

"Language and Politics in the Dramas of Okada Toshiki," Andreas Regelsberger, Western Michigan U

Discussant: Jeffrey Angles, Western Michigan U

**10:30 – 12:20**: Hagerty 351

### Place, Poetics, and Other Operations on Language

"The Theory of 'Hypnotic Literature': The Japanese Romantic Anti-Symbolism in the Early 20th Century Novels," Shu Sakaguchi

"'The Vocabulary of Orientation' in the Poetry of Sekiguchi Ryoko," Joe DeLong, U of Cincinnati

"Yamato as Cultural Memory: Maekawa Samio's Poetry on Nara," Leith D. Morton, Tokyo Tech

"Communities of Reception: Edo Period Lending Libraries, their Readers, and Communal Practices of Inscriptive and Tactile Book Defacement," Dylan McGee, Nagoya

Discussant: Leith D. Morton, Tokyo Tech

12:20 - 1:00: Hagerty Hall

Lunch

1: **00** – **2:50**: Hagerty 180

### Osaka: Alternative Topographies

"Resonances of Chindon-va: Listening to Osaka's Cultural Geographies," Marie Abe, Boston U

"Komatsu, Kansai, and Diaspora," William O. Gardner, Swarthmore College

"Mastering the Local: Tanizaki and His Critics," Michael P. Cronin, William & Mary "The Provincial Writer's Prison Break: The

Case of Kono Taeko," Mary A. Knighton, William & Mary

Discussant: Livia Monnet, U of Montreal

1: 00 - 2:50: Hagerty 351

### Semi-Imaginary Places and the Realities of Home in Japanese Literature and Popular Culture

"Translating Yokohama: Self-Representation in Early Meiji Translations of Jules Verne," **Jeffrey Angles**, Western Michigan U

"Imagining Brazil from a World Away --Reading and Reception of Ishikawa Tatsuzo's Sogo (Salt of the Earth) in 1930's Japan," Seth Jacobowitz, San Francisco State

"Sesame Street's Place in Japan: Marketing Multicultural New York in Tokyo," Alisa Freedman, U of Oregon

"Gulliver in Japan in Gulliver's in Japan," Jonathan Abel, Penn State U

Discussant: Jeffrey Angles, Western Michigan U

3:00 - 4:50: Hagerty 180

#### Film

"Out of Place? The Japanese Religious Blockbuster," Rea Amit, Yale U

"Gendered Chronotope in Mizoguchi Kenji's 'Gion no shimai,'" Kelly Hansen, San Diego State U

"Toward a Socialist Epistemology of Wartime Japan: Tosaka Jun's Writings on Film," **Naoki Yamamoto**, *Yale U* 

"Cinematic Locality and Movie Criticism between 'Prokino' and 'Workers Film and Photo League,'" **Komei Amemiya** 

Discussant: Sharalyn Orbaugh, U of British Columbia

**3:00 – 4:50:** Hagerty 351

#### Meiji Prose

"Mori Ōgai and the Search for Modern Japanese Literary Space: Linguistic Dislocation in His Early Works," **Anri Yasuda**, *U of Southern Cal* 

"Diaries of Conversion: God, Self, and the Dilemma of Faith in Modern Japanese Literature," **Massimiliano Tomasi**, Western Washington U

"'A Living God': Hearn's Hidden Message of Love," **Takako Nakai**, *Nagaya U* 

"Gion in Early Meiji: Narushima Ryuhoku's 'A Glimpse Of Kyoto's Cats (1874)," **Matthew Fraleigh**, *Brandeis U* 

Discussant: Leith D. Morton, Tokyo Tech

**5:00 – 6: 50:** Hagerty 180

# Women, Politics, and the New and Old Proletarian Literature

"Japanese Women and Rural Settlement in Wartime Manchukuo: Gendered Expressions of Labor and Productivity in Manshu gurafu, 1940-1944," **Annika A. Culver**, *U of North Carolina at Pembroke* 

"The Space of the Labor Stuggle in Japanese-Occupied Manchuria: Early Fiction of Hirabayashi Taiko," **Stephen Filler**, *Oakland U* 

"Against the Storm: The Postwar Japanese Culture through the Real Voice of Working Women, 1946-50," **Yumi Soeshima**, *Stanford U* 

"Who are the Precariats?: Contemporary Japanese Society Mirrored in Literature," **Yasuko Claremont**, *U of Sydney* 

Discussant: Michael Bourdaghs, U of Chicago

**5:00 – 6: 50:** Hagerty 351

Modern Literary Expression from Tohoku

#### to Kyūshū

"Tokyo-centrism, the Literati, and Provincial Culture," **Louise Young**, *U of Wisconsin-Madison* 

"Modern Education in the Peripheries: Writing Childhood in Tōhoku," **Mika Endo**, *Bard College* 

"The Arrow of Time Won't Let Me Return to Aomori: Terayama Shūji," **Steve Ridgely**, *U of Wisconsin-Madison* 

"Yumeno Kyūsaku, Kyūshū and the Native in the Modern," **Nathen Clerici**, *U of British Columbia* 

Discussant: Hoyt Long, U of Chicago

7:00 – 9:00: Ohio Union

Keynote Address & Conference Dinner Sadami Suzuki, International Research Center for Japanese Studies

#### Sunday, October 14

**8:30-10:20:** Hagerty 180

#### **Regional Inflections and Dialects**

"Clanging Bells, Clanging Words: Iwate Dialect in Miyazawa Kenji's 'Changa Chaga Umako' Tanka Series," **Jon Holt**, *Portland State U* 

"Tosa-ben and the Severed Self," **Kendall Heitzma***n*, *U* of *Iowa* 

"The Dialect Complex of Dazai Osamu as Seen in 'Regrettable Parting,'" **Guohe Zheng**, *Ball State U* 

"Geographically Proximate Postmemory in Medoruma Shun's Fiction," **Kyle Ikeda**, *U of Vermont* 

Discussant: TBD

**8:30-10:20:** Hagerty 351

# Myth, Region, and Literature of the Classical Period

"Kiritsubo and Yang Kuei-fei: A Sino-Japanese Dimension," **Masako Nakagawa**, *Villanova U* 

"Poetry Transmission Before the Man'yōshū: the Mysteries of the Akihagino Mokkan," **Joshua Frydman**, *Yale U* 

"Mythical Landscapes and Imaginary Creatures: Pokémon as a Construction of National Unity through Regionalism,"

#### Kathryn Hemmann, U of Pennsylvania

"Place or Placename: Taira no Kanemori's Poetic Journey to Suruga in 979," **Gian-Piero Persiani**, *U of Oxford* 

Discussant: Naomi Fukumori, OSU

**10:30 - 12:20:** Hagerty 180

# The Role of Place in Perspectives on Conflict in Modern Fiction

"Images of Kanazawa in Izumi Kyōka's 'Yuna no tamashii," **Artem Vorobiev**, *OSU* 

"A Failure of De-colonization: Reading the Postcolonial Subject as Double Agent in Kim Sok-bom's 'Karasu no Shi (1957),'" **Robert Del Greco**, *OSU* 

"The Struggle between Nostalgia and Reality: The Assocation of Chinese Literature Studies and Takeda Taijun's 'Fūbaika,'" **Yongfei Y***i*, *OSU* 

Discussant: Richard Torrance. OSU

### **AJLS Membership**

Membership fee: US\$25 (North American members); US\$35 (members from outside the region). For membership form, please visit: japan.osu.edu/ajls/. All annual meeting panel participants must become members in order to present.

#### **AJLS Publications**

Technology and Japanese Literary, Film and Performance Studies (PAJLS, vol. 12) and The Poetics of Aging: Resisting and Transcending Mortality in the Japanese Narrative Arts (PAJLS, vol. 13) will be published this year.

### U of Chicago for 2013

The University of Chicago will host in 2013 (Western Washington University in 2014; and University of Illinois/ Champaign - Urbana in 2015).

If you are interested in hosting our conferences, please contact Professor Ann Sherif: ann.sherif@oberlin.edu or 440.775.8827.

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