

AJLS Newsletter

Association for Japanese Literary Studies

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Edited by Eiji Sekine

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Twenty-Sixth Annual Meeting Program

Violence, Justice, and Honor in Japan's Literary Cultures

February 16-17, 2018
Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio

SPONSORS

The Northeast Asia Council, AAS

and

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East Asian Studies, History, Comparative Literature, and Art History

Oberlin College will host the 26th Annual Conference of the Association for Japanese Literary Studies on February 16 & 17, 2018. The theme of this year's conference will be "Violence, Justice, & Honor in Japan's Literary Cultures."

Violence—war and violence elsewhere in society—is rarely separated from Japan's literary and cultural histories. Violence has also proved polysemic, highly mutable in its occurrences, meanings, and effects, at the intersection of literature and social justice, or claims to honor. Violent manifestations in literature and other cultural fields may discredit—or sanction—forms of bodily, ecological, and psychological harm. The aim of this interdisciplinary conference is to re-examine our ethical, imaginative, political, and creative engagements with violence in expressive cultures.

Here is our website for all up-to-date information related to the conference:

<http://languages.oberlin.edu/blogs/ajlsfeb2018conference/>

REGISTRATION

Register through our conference website by **January 15, 2018**. Registration is essential.

Meals are included *in your registration fee* (dinner Friday, continental breakfast, lunch, and dinner Saturday). Please indicate dietary restrictions when you register.

TRAVEL AND HOTEL INFORMATION

Our campus is 25 minutes away from Cleveland Hopkins Airport/CLE. The conference

sites are at StudioC for Friday and at AJ Lewis Center for Saturday. Please see “Transportation” and “Campus Map” on our conference website for further information.

Please reserve a room for yourself at the Hotel at Oberlin before **Jan 15, 2018**. Please mention AJLS when you reserve. Alternative lodging is listed on the LIASE webpage. Lodging is limited so please book soon. See “Hotel and Lodging” on the website.

SCHEDULE

Subject to change. Check AJLS website for up-to-date conference schedule

Friday, February 16, 2018

Registration open from 30 minutes before the first event each day
FRIDAY VENUE: StudioC (adjacent to the Hotel at Oberlin, 2nd Floor)

Friday 11:00 am - 12:45 pm

SESSION 1 Violence in Contemporary Japanese Literature

Davinder Bhowmik, University of Washington
“Circuitous Driving in Pursuit of Medoruma Shun’s *Rainbow Bird*”

Phillip Kaffan, University of North Carolina, Charlotte
“Revolution and Literature: Writing Against Violence”

Yukiko Shigeto, Whittier College
“Smashing the Buddha: Tsushima Yûko’s *Nara Report*”

Christopher Lowy, University of Washington
“History, Memory, and Violence in Tagame Gengoroh’s *Daruma kenpei*”

Friday 1:00 - 2:45 pm

SESSION 2 Copycat Violence and the Media/Reality Continuum

Paul Roquet, MIT
“Mixed Realism and Composited Violence in the Light Novel/LitRPG”

Kirsten Cather, University of Texas, Austin
“Remembering Werther: Copycat Suicide in Aokigahara Forest”

Jonathan Abel, Pennsylvania State University
“True Crime / Copycat Crime: The Mediations of Representation and Reverse Mimesis”

J. Keith Vincent, Boston University, Discussant

Friday 2:45 - 3:00 pm Coffee time

Friday 3:00 - 5:00 pm

SESSION 3A Resisting and Remembering the Slow Violence of Radiation in Japan

Yuki Miyamoto, DePaul University

“The Presence of Absence: Toward an Ethics of Exile as Resistance to Violence after Fukushima”

Linda Flores, Oxford University

“Remembering and Forgetting in Kōno Fumiyo's *Hi no tori* Series”

Rachel DiNitto, University of Oregon

“The New Normal: Radiation, Futurity, and Slow Violence in Fukushima Fiction and Manga”

Friday 3:00 - 5:00 pm

SESSION 3B Aestheticization of Violence

Monika Dix, Saginaw State University

“Compassionate Violence? The Aestheticization of Violence in the *Taima-dera jikkai-zu byōbu*”

Stephen M. Forrest, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

“The brutal and scandalous illustrations” of kusazōshi 草双紙: regulating the market for graphic violence in Edo popular fiction”

Kendra Strand, University of Iowa

“When Elegance Becomes Inconvenient: Violence in Word and Deed in Nijō Yoshimoto's *Solace of Words at Ojima*”

Friday 5:00 - 6:15 pm Buffet dinner

Friday 6:15 - 8:00 pm

SESSION 4: Bodily Violence in Japanese Literature & Visual Arts

Faye Kleeman, University of Colorado, Boulder

“Bodily Violence & Shōjo in Contemporary Japan”

Jeffrey Angles, Western Michigan University

“Slow Violence Across Nations and Bodies: The Scars of Ishiuchi Miyako”

Higuchi Yoshizumi, Tokyo

“The Body and War: Violence in the Work of Playwright and Novelist Juro Kara”

Christina Yi, University of British Columbia
“Escape to Nowhere: The Postwar Writings of Chang Hyökchu”

Friday 8:00 pm **Free time:** Concert at Finney Chapel or Art Museum reception

Saturday, February 17, 2018

Registration open from 30 minutes before the first event each day.
SATURDAY VENUE: AJ Lewis Center

Saturday 8:30 - 9:45 am

SESSION 5A: New Research in Literary Studies

Quillon Arkenstone, University of Hawai’I at Manoa
“Violence and Literature in Kim Nae-söng’s “The Oval Mirror”

Andrew Harding, Cornell University
“Memory of violence as a possibility for community in Ri Kaisei’s *Shōnin no inai kōkei*”

Victoria Oana Lupascu, Pennsylvania State University
“When Disaster Strikes: Hideo Furukawa’s Violent Circles and Their Immateriality”

Saturday 8:30 - 9:45 am

SESSION 6A: New Research in Literary Studies

Shih-Wei Sun, UCLA
“Violence against Monks in Shabby Stoles: Justice and Punishment in *Nihon Ryōiki*”

Pier Carlo Tommasi, University of Venice
“The *Bunbu* Paradigm Reconsidered: Warrior Literacy and Symbolic Violence in Late Medieval Japan”

&TBA

Saturday 9:45 - 10:00 am **Coffee break**

Saturday 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

SESSION 5B Family Disrupted

Sharalyn Orbaugh, University of British Columbia
“‘Destroy the Family, Save the Empire’: the bizarre rhetoric of mobilization propaganda, 1937-45”

Chiara Ghidini, University of Naples “L’Orientale”

“‘Who’s there?’ Disruption, revulsion and transformation in the portrayal of senile dementia within post-war Japanese literature and cinema”

Paola Scrolavezza, University of Bologna

“Translating Family Violence in Contemporary Japanese Literature: Dynamics of (Cruel) Affectivity in *Zangyakuki* by Kirino Natsuo”

Hiroma Tsuchiya Dollase, Vassar College

“Daughter’s Search for “Mother” in *Ai o kou hito* (A Person Begging for Love)”

Eiji Sekine, Purdue University, Discussant

Saturday 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

SESSION 6B Violence in Traditional Japanese Literary Contexts

Richard Torrance, Ohio State

“Mythic Representations of the Violent Vanquishing of Izumo”

Noriko Reider, Miami University

“Legends of Yasaburō Basa”

Naomi Fukumori, Ohio State University

“*Kenreimon*’in *Ukyō no Daibu shū*: The Experience of the Genpei War and the Work’s Reception during WWII”

Shelley Fenno Quinn, Ohio State

“Critical Treatments of War in Two ‘New’ Kyōgen Plays”

Saturday 12:00 - 1:00 pm Buffett Lunch

Saturday 1:00 - 2:30 pm

SESSION 7 Proletarian Responses to Class Violence

Mika Endo, Bard College

“Proletarian Protest and Protections against Violence in Lower-class Childhood”

Norma Field, University of Chicago

“Defying Environmental Harm, Sexism, Poverty, and War in Tokyo, 1932”

Heather Bowen-Struyk, DePaul University

“Colonial Violence in Proletarian Literature”

Nathan Shockey, Bard College, Discussant

Saturday 2:30 - 3:00 pm Coffee Break

Saturday 3:00 - 5:00 pm

SESSION 8 Keynote Panel: Atomic Art & Violence

Okamura Yukinori, Maruki Gallery for the Hiroshima Panels, Saitama, Japan

Notohara Yumi, Osaka College of Music

Charlotte Eubanks, Pennsylvania State University

Saturday 5:30 - 6:00 pm Reception & Dinner

Location: Hotel at Oberlin, Ballroom, 2nd Floor

Saturday 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Session 9 The Violence of Empire: Revisiting Colonial Narratives of Massacres, Insurrection, and Dislocation

Andre Haag, University of Hawai'i at Manoa

"Mediated Memories of the 1923 Kantō Earthquake Massacres: A History of Violence in Korean Diasporic Literature"

Robert Tierney, University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign

"Bodies and Violence in the Musha Incident"

Kimberly Kono, Smith College

"Violence, Assimilation and the Colonial Other in Manchuria"

Michiko Suzuki, University of California, Davis

"Speaking Violence Through Things: Miyao Tomiko's *Shuka*"

Ken K. Ito, University of Hawai'i, Discussant

Saturday 8:30 - 10:00 pm Reception and Exhibition, "Go for Broke"

AJLS ACTIVITIES

Please join us or renew your membership regularly. Our publications solely depend on your membership dues.

• Annual Meeting

An annual meeting is organized by an elected conference chair(s) and held at the host institution. A call for papers is announced in the spring issue of the AJLS Newsletter. A program of the meeting is published in the fall issue of the Newsletter.

• PAJLS Publication

All papers presented during the annual meeting can be included in an officially registered

serial titled PAJLS (Proceedings of the Association for Japanese Literary Studies).

- **Membership**

The annual fee is US\$30.00 for regular, student, and institution members (US\$40.00 for overseas members outside North America). Membership provides you with:

- Panel participation for our annual meeting (if your proposal is selected).
- Two newsletters (electronic publication)
- One copy of our latest proceedings.
- One free copy of a back or additional current issue of the proceedings if you are a student member.

Inquiries and orders (with checks payable to AJLS) should be sent to the AJLS office. **All annual meeting participants must become members in order to present.**

AJLS Membership Form

Name: _____

Mailing Address:

City _____ State _____

Country _____ Zip _____

Email: _____

Institution: _____

Status:

() Regular () Student

If you are a student, indicate which free copy you would like:

() _____)

UC BERKELEY FOR 2018

We also have the following host institutions in line: Emory University for 2019 and University of California, Los Angeles for 2020.

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

PROCEEDINGS BACK ISSUES

We have two publications out this year: *The Senses and Sensory Experience in Japanese Literature and Culture* (PAILS, vol. 17) and *Word/Image/Japan* (PAILS, vol.

18). Each back issue is \$10.00 for AJLS members and \$15.00 for non-members. Orders should be sent to the AJLS office. (Add \$15 for mailing if you order from outside the North American area.) Tables of contents of our back issues are posted on our web site: <http://www.cla.purdue.edu/slc/ajls/>.

Here is the list of our back issues (those issues marked with an asterisk are unavailable):

Poetics of Japanese Literature, 1993. Includes keynote addresses by Kawamoto Kōji and Watanabe Kenji.

**The Desire for Monogatari*, 1994.

**Japanese Theatricality and Performance*, PMAJLS 1, 1995.

Revisionism in Japanese Literary Studies, PMAJLS 2, 1996. Includes a keynote address by Earl Miner and a major address by Takahashi Tōru.

* *Ga/ Zoku Dynamics in Japanese Literature*, PMAJLS 3, 1997.

The New Historicism and Japanese Literary Studies, PMAJLS 4, 1998. Includes keynote addresses by Karatani Kōjin and Komori Yōichi.

* *Love and Sexuality in Japanese Literature*, PMAJLS 5, 1999 Includes keynote addresses by Saeki Junko and Inaga Shigemi.

Issues of Canonicity and Canon Formation in Japanese Literary Studies, PAJLS 1, 2000. Includes keynote addresses by Kubota Jun, Takahashi Mutsuo, and Suzuki Sadami.

* *Acts of Writing*, PAJLS 2, 2001. Includes keynote addresses by Zdenka Avarcova and Ohsawa Yoshihiro.

Japan from Somewhere Else, PAJLS 3, 2002. Includes essays by Tawada Yoko, Ito Hiromi, Kyoko Mori, and other creative writers.

Japanese Poeticity and Narrativity Revisited, PAJLS 4, 2003. Includes keynote addresses by Mizuta Noriko and Yoshimasu Gōzō.

Hermeneutical Strategies: Methods of Interpretation in the Study of Japanese Literature, PAJLS 5, 2004. Includes keynote addresses by Fujita Masakatsu and Matsumoto Yūji.

Landscapes Imagined and Remembered, PAJLS 6, 2005. Includes a keynote address by Nakahodo Masanori.

Reading Materials: The Production of Narratives, Genres, and Literary Identities, PAJLS 7, 2006. Includes a keynote address by Jordan Sand.

Travel in Japanese Representational Culture: Its Past, Present, and Future, PAJLS 8, 2007. Includes a keynote address by Yoshiaki Shimizu.

Literature and Literary Theory, PAJLS 9, 2008. Includes a keynote address by Minae Mizumura.

Parody, PAJLS 10, 2009. Includes a keynote address by Noriko Yamashita.

Rethinking Gender in the Postgender Era, PAJLS 11, 2010. Includes keynote addresses by Noriko Mizuta and Susan Napier.

* *Technology and Japanese Literary, Film and Performance Studies*, PAJLS 12, 2011 (unpublished).

The Poetics of Ageing: Confronting, Resisting, and Transcending Mortality in the Japanese Narrative Arts, PAJLS 13, 2012.

Rhetoric and Region: Local Determinants of literary Expression, PAJLS 14, 2013. Includes a keynote address by Suzuki Sadami.

Performance and Japanese Literature, PAJLS 15, 2014.

Religion and Spirituality in Japanese Literature, PAJLS 16, 2015. Includes a keynote address by Miyasaka Satoru.

The Senses and Sensory Experience in Japanese Literature and Culture, PAJLS 17, 2016.

Word/ Image/Japan, PAJLS 18, 2017.

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