

AJLS Newsletter

Association for Japanese Literary Studies

No. 57 (Spring 2023)

Edited by Matthew Fraleigh

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AJLS 30th Annual Meeting

In step/out of step:

performance/culture/location/dislocation

May 12–14, 2023, University of Pittsburgh

The meeting will be hosted by Charles Exley and Elizabeth Oyler, University of Pittsburgh, with the cooperation of Christopher Lowy and Yoshihiro Yasuhara, Carnegie Mellon University.

Tentative Program

Friday, May 12, 2023

2:30-4:00 PM

“Performative Artifacts in Postwar to Contemporary Japanese Culture”

Ikuho Amano, *University of Nebraska-Lincoln*, “An Impresario of Japanese Whisky: Suntory’s Advertisements as mise en scène of Modern Consumers”

Yoshihiro Yasuhara, *Carnegie Mellon University*, “Ōshima Nagisa’s Poetics of Documentary as a Performative Space for Engagement with Society”

Davinder Bhowmik, *University of Washington*, “Performance, Parody, Protest: Murakami Ryū’s 69”

Jiixin Yan, *Pennsylvania State University*, “Crossing Oceans, (Re)building Intimacies: Translations of Littoral Experience in Sakata Kiyoko’s ‘About Opposite Shores’”

Saturday, May 13, 2023

9:00-10:30 AM

“The Aesthetics of Economic Performance in Postwar and Contemporary Japan”

Brian Hurley, *University of Texas at Austin*, “Japanese Capitalism is Beautiful: Reading Morita Akio’s Corporate Memoir ‘Made in Japan’”

Diane Wei Lewis, *Washington University in St. Louis*, “Playing House: New Media and the Neoliberal Family”

Nathan Shockey, *Bard College*, “The Meaning of Mining: Remaking Coal County in the Popular Imagination”

Jessamyn Abel, *Pennsylvania State University*, Discussant

“Adaptation and Variation: Uses of the Past in Modern and Contemporary Genres”

Dunja Jelesijevic, *Northern Arizona University*, “Creepy Boys and ‘Dead Wet Girls’: Motifs of Mother/Child Monogurui in J-Horror”

Christopher Smith, *University of Florida*, “Staging Anime: The Dialogic of Performance in Kabuki Adaptations of Anime”

Wakako Suzuki, *Bard College*, “Childhood Memories and Oblivion: Kamikakushi in Izumi Kyōka’s ‘The Tale of Dragon in the Abyss’”

Michele de Sá, *Federal University of Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil*, “A Preliminary Study on Kabuki and Adaptability”

10:45 AM -12:15 PM

“Performing Across Rupture: Text, Body, and Sound in Contemporary Mediascapes”

Ashton Lazarus, *University of Utah*, “The Sound of a Nation: History, Listening, and the Politics of Conservation in 100 Soundscapes of Japan”

Justine Wiesinger, *Bates College*, “Idol Acts: Abe Shinzō’s Bodily Performances from 3.11 to the COVID Olympics”

Shelby Oxenford, *University of Texas at Austin*, “What They Saw in the Disaster: Wagō Ryōichi’s post-3.11 Twitter Poetry”

Paul Roquet, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*, Discussant

“Performative Play: Parody and Subjectivity in Japanese Literature and Art”

Chelsea Ward, *University of California, Berkeley*, “The Truth of Yū: Multisubjectivity, Magazines, and Sugiura Kōhei’s Readerly Typography”

Sarah Sherweedy, *Tokyo University of Foreign Studies*, “Narration as a Performance: Between Dazai Osamu’s Multilayered Narrator and Rakugo”

Yingzhi Lu, *University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign*, “Performing Aging in Postwar Japan: Reading Tanizaki Jun’ichirō’s *Diary of a Mad Old Man* (1961) as a Parody of Kawabata Yasunari’s Cultural-Aesthetic Discontinuity in *Sound of the Mountain* (1954)”

12:15-1:30 PM **Lunch**

1:30-3:00 PM

“Exploring Dialogic Poetics: Intertextuality, Performativity, and Literary Artifacts in Japanese and Beyond”

Mariko Naito, *Meiji University*, “A Theory of Resistance: An Analysis of the Concept of Performativity Developed in Minamoto Toshiyori’s Poetics on Japanese Linked-Verse, Renga”

Kai Xie, *Kenyon College*, “A Site of Social Interaction and Performance: Linked Verse in Japanese and Literary Sinitic Centered Around the Imperial Court”

Eric Esteban, *Yale University*, “The Poetry of Kunaikyō: the Intertextual and Affective Two-Step in Poetess Poetics”

John Bundschuh, *Swarthmore College*, “The Loss of Narrative Flow: Codification of Tense in Japanese Translations of Sinitic and Sanskrit Renditions of a Buddhist Story”

“Bodies Unbound: Losing Oneself, Fears of Replacement, and Topologies of Indeterminacy”

Jonathan Abel, *Pennsylvania State University*, “Singularity and Replacement Theory in 1950s Japan”

Mariko Schimmel, *Grinnell College*, “Synchronizing Moments: Rhythms of Labor, Dance, and Protest in Proletarian and Modernist Literature”

Steve Ridgely, *University of Wisconsin at Madison*, “Inagaki Taruho and the Indeterminacy of an Elliptical Universe”

Dan O’Neill, *University of California, Berkeley*, Discussant

3:15-4:45 PM

“Performing Proletarian Gender: Class Heroines, Socialist Masculinity, and Convert Vamps in Japanese Proletarian Literature”

Edwin Michielsen, *The University of Hong Kong*, “From Uneducated Shōjo to Proletarian Heroine: Gender Trouble and Class Performance in Murayama Tomoyoshi’s Play *Shimura Natsue*”

Heather Bowen-Struyk, DePaul University, “Performing Socialist Masculinity in the Underground”

Juhee Lee, Independent Scholar, “Vamp Acting Wife, Convert Performing Conversion: The Gendered Representations of ‘The Crisis of Representation’ in Takami Jun’s Post-Tenkō Works”

“Performing Identity and Language in Japanese Literature and Culture”

Yuki Ishida, *Columbia University*, “Between Performance and Literary Portrayal: Stuttering in the late 19th–early 20th centuries Japan”

Nina Farizova, *Yale University*, “Performing English: On the Reception of The Beatles Lyrics in Japan”

Mary Gilstad, *Yale University*, “Literary Artifacts on Screens: Performances of Cultural Legacy and Literacy”

Sunday, May 14, 2023

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

“Exploring Borders and Boundaries in Japanese Literature and Beyond”

Jiayu Gui, *Harvard University*, “Crossing the Border: Feminism and Colonialism in Fiction of Women’s Voices”

Nomin-Erdene Enkhbayar, *University of Tsukuba*, “Reimagining the Space Beyond: Planet-Hopping, Occupied Japan, and Osamu Tezuka’s Early Works”

Kumiko Saito, *Clemson University*, “Translating Robots in 1920-30s Japan”

Yu Umehara, *University of Tsukuba*, “Japanese Performative Schoolgirlhood during World War II”

12:00 – 1:00 PM

反省会 Roundtable format

For any questions, please contact Elizabeth Oyler at eaoyler@pitt.edu.

Conference website: <https://sites.google.com/view/japan-studies-at-pitt/ajls-pitt-conference>

Publication of vol. 21 of *Proceedings of the Association for Japanese Literary Studies*

Inclusivity and Exclusivity in Japanese Literature (*PAJLS*, vol. 21), which gathers papers from the 28th annual meeting of AJLS at Emory University in January 2020 was printed and sent to AJLS members in November of last year. We have a limited number of printed copies remaining; if you would like to purchase one, please contact ajls@brandeis.edu.

The Table of Contents of the volume is accessible on our website, at [this link](#).

Update on vol. 22 of *Proceedings of the Association for Japanese Literary Studies*

The editing of *PAJLS* vol. 22, gathering papers from the 2022 meeting at UCLA, is now underway. While the deadline for submissions has passed, participants in the conference who would still like to submit their papers are encouraged to be in touch with Torquil Duthie at ajls2022ucla@gmail.com to see if this may still be possible.

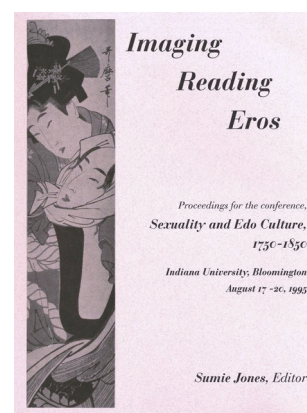
Digital Archive for *PAJLS*

The complete contents of *PAJLS*, more than 450 articles in 20 printed volumes, has been digitized and made available online. Brandeis University Library has agreed to host the digital files in perpetuity as part of its institutional repository. The articles can be freely browsed or downloaded. More than one hundred articles from the five published volumes of the predecessor of *PAJLS*, *PMAJLS* (Proceedings of the Midwest Association for Japanese Literary Studies), are included as well.

On [this page](#), the covers of our back issues are displayed. Click on a volume and you will be taken to a detailed listing of the contents of that volume. Click on an article of interest and you will be taken to that article in a PDF viewer (except for the most recent volume of *PAJLS*, which will be posted online one year after its publication). There is also a [comprehensive index](#) of all contributors to *PAJLS* and *PMAJLS* with links to all of the articles that they have published in both journals.

In addition, the complete contents of *Imaging/Reading Eros: Proceedings for the conference, Sexuality and Edo Culture, 1750–1850* Indiana University, Bloomington August 17–20, 1995, edited by Sumie Jones, were recently added to this online archive.

The volume can be accessed [here](#).



AJLS Activities

Please join us or renew your membership regularly. It is easy to renew your membership (or join AJLS for the first time). Just visit our [membership page](#) and complete the form with your name and contact information. You can then pay the annual membership dues using the Paypal link that appears beneath the form or by mailing a check made out to AJLS to the address that appears on the above page. You can also pay multiple years of membership dues at once by adjusting the quantity when you make payment. 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, ISSN: 1531-5533). *PAJLS* is included in the Modern Language Association's *Directory of Periodicals* and is also indexed in the *MLA International Biography*.

- **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.

Upcoming AJLS Annual Meetings

We are pleased to bring you two exciting announcements about future conferences. Yale University has agreed to host the AJLS annual meeting for the 2023–24 academic year. The University of Chicago has also agreed to host AJLS during the 2025–26 academic year.

We are presently looking for an institution willing to host for the 2024–25 academic year. If you would be interested in hosting the annual meeting during the 2024–25 year (or in 2026–27 or beyond), please contact Professor Ann Sherif at: ann.sherif@oberlin.edu.

PAJLS Back Issues

Each back issue is \$10.00 for AJLS members and \$15.00 for non-members. Orders should be sent to the AJLS office (or by emailing ajls@brandeis.edu). (Add \$20 for mailing if you order from outside the North American area.) Tables of contents of our back issues are posted on our association [website](#).

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.

Violence, Justice, and Honor in Japan's Literary Cultures, PAJLS 19, 2018.

Evidence, Transmission, and Inheritance in Japanese Literature and Media, PAJLS 20, 2019.

Inclusivity and Exclusivity in Japanese Literature, PAJLS 21, 2020.