

# Events

January - December 2016



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[Business & Government](#)

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[Lectures](#)

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**The Japan Society**, 13/14 Cornwall Terrace, London NW1 4QP  
tel: 020 7935 0475 email: [info@japansociety.org.uk](mailto:info@japansociety.org.uk) [www.japansociety.org.uk](http://www.japansociety.org.uk)

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# What do Anthropologists do in Japan? The Value of their Increasing Numbers – Joy Hendry

Monday 18 January 2016

6.45

The Swedenborg Society  
20-21 Bloomsbury Way  
London WC1A 2TH  
(Hall entrance on Barter St)

Free:  
Booking recommended



Social anthropology came to Japan in the late 1800s, and at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century the London-educated Tsuboi Shōgorō established a department at Tokyo University. Since that time, the field has flourished, with membership numbers of the professional association in Japan now second only to those in the United States, and books about company anthropology selling rather well to the general public. In Britain the discipline is less well-known outside universities, although it was here that the Japan Anthropology Workshop was founded in 1984.

Professor Hendry has been working as an anthropologist in Japan since before then, and although UK colleagues are still rather few, the number of anthropologists working there from other countries, including Japan itself, has grown exponentially since that time. This talk will explain what is so special about the “fieldwork” that these people do, and will propose that anthropology offers an understanding of Japan that goes beyond those driven by sociologists, economists, political scientists, journalists, and the many other “Japanologists”. Professor Hendry will illustrate the talk with some of her own experiences, offer examples of contributions

made by others, and will even suggest that any foreigner living and working in Japan can pick up anthropological techniques themselves. If you aren’t already an anthropologist of Japan, you may leave the talk with plans to dabble!

Joy Hendry is Professor Emerita of the Social Anthropology of Japan at Oxford Brookes University, founder of the Japan Anthropology Workshop and the Europe Japan Research Centre, and a Senior Member of St. Antony’s College, Oxford. She has held visiting associations with Tokyo, Doshisha and Keio universities, carried out long-term fieldwork in Kyushu and a seaside town south of Tokyo, and spent shorter periods in many other parts of Japan. She has published many books and articles on Japan, including *Wrapping Culture: Politeness, Presentation and Power in Japan and Other Societies* (Oxford University Press, 1993) and *The Orient Strikes Back: A Global View of Cultural Display* (Oxford: Berg, 2000). She is presently working to encourage the study of anthropology in schools.

# The World in 2050: Long-term Forecasts for the UK and Japan with Robert Ward

Tuesday 19 January 2016

12.00 for 12.30pm

Mitsubishi Corporation International (Europe) plc  
6<sup>th</sup> Floor, MidCity Place  
71 High Holborn  
WC1V 6AB

Free of charge:  
Members of the Japan Society only

Booking essential  
Booking deadline – Friday 15 January



Much has been made of the many issues currently facing the Japanese and British economies: the EU in/out referendum, the implementation of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), and the ongoing travails of Abenomics have all been considered in depth by various sources. But what of the longer-term trajectories of these countries, and others? Where will we be in ten, twenty, or thirty years' time?

Robert Ward became Editorial Director of the Economist Intelligence Unit in December 2013, and remains Director of Country Publishing (2010-present). Prior to these roles he was also Director of Global Forecasting (2007-2010), and Senior Economist (1997-2007), both at the EIU, as well as an Analyst at the Japan Bond Research Institute (1994-1996).

The Japan Society is delighted to welcome Robert Ward, Editorial Director of the Economist Intelligence Unit, to discuss his organisation's recently-published 2050 country forecasts. Is Japan's lacklustre projected economic growth as serious as it seems? How can the UK work around its infrastructure shortcomings to attempt to increase its future productivity? Can China's current political system survive to 2050, when its GDP is expected to be more than 2.5 times that of the USA? This talk by Robert Ward, with his extensive experience of global political and economic issues, will be of great interest to all Japan Society members interested in looking beyond the here-and-now.

# Japan Society Annual Dinner

Monday 25 January 2016 7.30pm for 8.00pm

One Great George Street  
London SW1P 3AA

Members under 30: £30 (first 30 to apply)

Members (& their guests): £55

Non-Members: £90

Booking essential

Booking deadline – Wednesday 20 January



The Japan Society is delighted to be returning to the Great Hall of the spectacular One Great George Street, home to the Institution of Civil Engineers in the heart of Westminster, for its Annual Dinner, the largest event in its calendar.

This Grade II listed building, completed in 1913, was conceived as a monument to British engineering – a celebration of Victorian gravitas and Edwardian vision. It was one of the first buildings in London constructed using a steel frame, allowing the architects to create the great spaces that characterise the building – the domed atrium, and Great Hall. Aside from the marble columns, gold leaf and magnificent crystal chandeliers, the Hall's defining feature is its painted ceiling, depicting soaring biplanes and steel cranes – a gift to the ICE as a tribute to the role played by its members in the First World War.

The dinner is traditionally a black tie event and many guests will wear formal dress, but for those who prefer lounge suits, this is perfectly acceptable. Most people will be sitting at round tables of 10. If you have any seating preferences, please specify with whom you wish to be seated. Please also

inform us of any special dietary requirements. Tickets will be sent to all those attending.

Cancellation policy: a full refund will be given where notice of cancellation is received at least 72 hours prior to the event. In other cases, refunds will be given at the discretion of the Japan Society and event partners.

We are very grateful to JTI for their support which enables us to offer discounted tickets to all members and a further discount to members under 30, ensuring that the event can be enjoyed by everyone.

Cost includes drinks on arrival, three course dinner, wine and coffee.

Dress code: Black tie / National dress / Lounge suits

This event is kindly supported by:



# Lecture by Tim Hitchens, British Ambassador to Japan

Tuesday 2 February 2016

6.00 for 6.30pm  
(reception afterwards until 8.30pm)

Nomura International plc  
One Angel Lane  
London EC4R 3AB

Free:  
Members of the Japan Society and their guests only

Booking essential  
Booking deadline – Friday 29 January



In this 2016 annual update for the Society by the British Ambassador to Japan, Tim Hitchens will share his insights on the political, diplomatic and commercial situation in Japan. This talk comes at a particularly important time, following the Paris Climate Change Conference and with heightened concern over global, and regional, security. Both are areas in which Japan and the UK are close partners, with the visit to Japan in July by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and the fourth annual UK-Japan Nuclear Dialogue in November 2015. Mr Hitchens has held this post now for over three years and the event will be chaired by his predecessor, Sir David Warren.

The Society's annual lecture by the current British Ambassador is always relevant, thought-provoking and useful to people from across its membership, as well as being extremely well attended. The Ambassador will speak for 30-40 minutes, after which there will be time for off-the-record discussion and questions.

There will be a reception immediately after the lecture. The Japan Society is extremely grateful to leading corporate member, Nomura International plc, for hosting this event.

Tim Hitchens read English at Cambridge. He joined the Foreign & Commonwealth Office in 1983 and held posts in Tokyo (1985-1989), Islamabad and Paris, as well as serving as Assistant Private Secretary to the Queen. He was Director for Europe in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office from 2008 to 2010 and then Director for Africa from 2010 to 2012, before taking up his present role in December 2012.

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Hosted by: **NOMURA**

# Japan Society Book Club: Grotesque by Natsuo Kirino

Monday 8 February 2016

7.00pm

The Japan Society  
13 / 14 Cornwall Terrace  
London NW1 4QP

Free for Japan Society Members:  
Booking recommended

The Book Club is held on the second Monday of every month



Two prostitutes are murdered in Tokyo. Twenty years previously both women were educated at the same elite school for young ladies, and had seemingly promising futures ahead of them. But in a world of dark desire and vicious ambition, for both women, prostitution meant power. Grotesque is a masterful and haunting thriller, a chilling exploration of women's secret lives in modern day Japan.

The book club is held every month. There is no restriction on the nationality of the authors read, but books should be available in translation in both Japanese and English. The discussion is conducted mainly in English, but you can choose the language in which you read the book. The intention is simple: to explore the themes of the book, express personal opinions on the style and content, discuss how the book has changed (or not) in

translation and to have a relaxed discussion with others who have similar interests.

Natsuo Kirino, born in 1951 in Ishikawa prefecture, was an active and spirited child brought up between her two brothers. Kirino's father, being an architect, took the family to many cities, and Kirino spent her youth in Sendai, Sapporo, and finally settled in Tokyo when she was fourteen, which is where she has been residing since. After completing her law degree, Kirino worked in various fields before becoming a fictional writer. She began writing professionally, after giving birth to her daughter, at age thirty. However, it was not until Kirino was forty-one that she made her major debut. Her smash hit novel *OUT* (Kodansha, 1997) became her first work to be translated into English and other languages.

# Japan's Role in the Great War 1914-18: A Reassessment from a Military History Perspective – Ian Gow

Monday 15 February 2016

6.45pm

The Swedenborg Society  
20-21 Bloomsbury Way (Hall entrance on Barter St)  
London WC1A 2TH

Free:  
Booking recommended



Studies of World War One is a vast and still expanding area of world history. However in terms of general surveys and indeed military especially naval studies Japan's contribution has not been fairly and positively acknowledged. Japan is given minimal attention in various historical WW1 and Naval Survey Histories surveys and in recent TV and journalistic coverage programmes on WW1. Evaluations tend to range between Japan as a 'hyena state' feeding off the spoils of war at worst or an ally driven mainly by self-interest and opportunism. Recent major books focusing on Japan such as Dickenson's excellent *War and National Reinvention: Japan in the Great War*, which focuses more on the China dimension of the war, and Fratillo and Best's new *Japan and the Great War* which looks at the impact of World War One on Japan itself are very important studies using multi-archival sources. While they do add considerably to the corpus of excellent existing diplomatic studies of the conflict they do not address the need to provide a more balanced evaluation of Japan's contribution globally to the war and especially the existing overly narrow focusing on the capture of Shandong or the capture of the German Micronesian islands

with passing references to Japanese naval activity in the Mediterranean in 1917-18 as too little too late.

Ian Gow OBE is Director of the Confucius Institute at the University of Glasgow. He was previously Inaugural Principal of the Sino-British College USST Shanghai (2009-2014). From 2003-2007 he was Founding Provost and CEO of the multi-award winning University of Nottingham, Ningbo, China, China's first independent foreign university campus. He was Dean of the Nottingham University Business School from 1998 to 2003. He is a former Deputy Principal, University of Stirling and Pro Vice-Chancellor, University of Sheffield and was Head of Management Studies at both these institutions concurrently with Director of the Scottish Centre for Japanese Studies (Stirling) and Chairman of the School of East Asian Studies (Sheffield). Professor Gow holds a PhD in Japanese Studies and has published in both Japanese and English on Japanese Business and Japanese Defence Policy. He has also has been a visiting professor at Tokyo and Saitama universities in Japan and a member of the UK –Japan 21st Century Group.



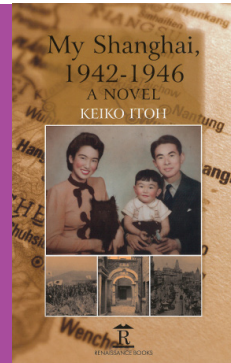
# My Shanghai, 1942-1946: A Novel, with author Keiko Itoh

Tuesday 23 February 2016

6.30pm

The Swedenborg Society  
20-21 Bloomsbury Way (Hall entrance on Barter St)  
London WC1A 2TH

Free:  
Booking recommended



It is 1942. Shanghai after Pearl Harbor. Newly-arrived Eiko Kishimoto, a 20-year-old, London-educated Japanese housewife, settles into a privileged existence in the French Concession. Initially, her days are filled with high society lunches and dinners, race course and night club visits and open-air summer concerts, amidst the ebullient and remarkably cosmopolitan society that makes up Shanghai.

But all is by no means what it seems. As war progresses, and Japan tightens its control within China, tensions mount, relationships unravel, and allegiances fall into question. It is not long before Eiko awakens to the meaning and implications of occupation for both her international friends and for Japanese civilians. Her settled domestic life is threatened as Japan escalates her war efforts.

Join us for this special event, introduced and chaired by Sir Hugh Cortazzi, in which Keiko Itoh will read selected extracts, before entering into a discussion about the novel's genesis and the experience of the Japanese community.

Partly biographical – the author taking

inspiration from her mother's own war experiences in China – *My Shanghai, 1942-46* provides a fascinating insight into the Asia Pacific War as never told before, that is through the eyes of a young Japanese woman caught between her Christian values and loyalty to her country.

Keiko Itoh, London-based writer and interpreter, was born in Kobe. After high school she continued her education in the United States, receiving her MA from Yale University. She has worked for the United Nations in New York, and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development in the UK. She gained a PhD in history from the London School of Economics, for her study of the Japanese community in London of the 1920s and 30s, to which both her grandfather and mother belonged. *My Shanghai, 1942-46* is a fictional account of her mother's experience in occupied China.

Copies of the book will be available on the night at the discounted price of £15 (25% discount on normal price £19.95)



# Sake Tasting and Food at Hox Cup Sake Bar

Tuesday 1 March 2016

6.00pm to 7.30pm

Hox Cup Sake Bar  
The Hoxton  
81 Great Eastern Street  
London EC2A 3HU

Japan Society members and their guests only:  
£35 per head

Booking Essential  
Deadline: Wednesday 24 February



Following our recent wine, whisky and beer tasting events, the Japan Society is joining forces with Hox Cup Sake Bar and returning to the more traditional world of sake. This is a chance for Japan Society members and their guests to enjoy an exclusive tutored sake tasting led by Sake Samurai Natsuki Kikuya of the Museum of Sake.

Kikuya has selected a line-up of five premium sake varieties to share with us, which will be accompanied by a bento box specially prepared by Atsuko's Kitchen.

## Provisional Menu:

- *Tara no ko umani* (simmered haddock roe with herbs)
- *Chawan mushi* (steamed egg and dashi)
- *Nuka zuke daikon* (pickled radish)
- *Horensou no ume ae* (spinach dressed with ume paste)
- *Tsukune* (free range chicken meat balls with yuzu goshō)
- *Kobujime suzuki* (kombu-cured seabass with salted cherry blossom)

Please note that this menu is subject to change depending on the catch of the day, and please let us know of any allergies or special dietary requirements when booking.

Hox Cup Sake Bar is a one-week-only pop-up bar open from Monday 29 February, showcasing 20 different varieties of cup sake gathered from across Japan, in the garden courtyard of the Hoxton, Shoreditch for the first week of March. Cup sake was originally invented in 1964 to enable thirsty Japanese spectators to enjoy drinking sake whilst watching the Tokyo '64 Olympic events. These individual portions of sake are typically packaged in beautiful and distinctively illustrated glasses and cans, opened by simply peeling off the metal lid. In somewhat eager anticipation of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, visitors can watch original Tokyo '64 footage around a 20m long concertina paper bar. [www.hoxcupsakebar.com](http://www.hoxcupsakebar.com)

The special tasting event will feature premium (not cup) sake, but never fear – Japan Society members have been offered a discount of 20% on drink-in cup sake at Hox Cup Sake Bar; please show the following logo at the bar:



# Japan Society Book Club: Rouse Up O Young Men of the New Age! by Kenzaburo Oe

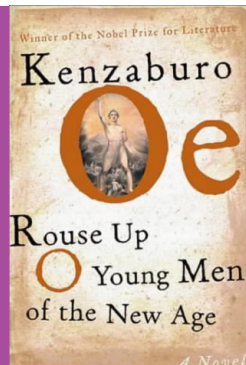
Monday 14 March 2016

7.00pm

The Japan Society  
13 / 14 Cornwall Terrace  
London NW1 4QP

Free for Japan Society Members:  
Booking recommended

The Book Club is held on the second Monday of every month



K is a famous writer living in Tokyo with his wife and three children, one of whom is mentally disabled. K's wife confronts him with the information that this child, Eeyore, has been doing disturbing things – behaving aggressively, asserting that he's dead, even brandishing a knife at his mother – and K, given to retreating from reality into abstraction, looks for answers in his lifelong love of William Blake's poetry.

The book club is held every month. There is no restriction on the nationality of the authors read, but books should be available in translation in both Japanese and English. The discussion is conducted mainly in English, but you can choose the language in which you read the book. The intention is simple: to explore the themes of the book, express personal opinions on the style and content,

discuss how the book has changed (or not) in translation and to have a relaxed discussion with others who have similar interests.

Kenzaburo Oe, born in 1935 in Ehime prefecture, is a major figure in contemporary Japanese literature. His novels, short stories and essays were strongly influenced by French and American literature and literary theory. They deal with political, social and philosophical issues including nuclear weapons, nuclear power, social non-conformism, and existentialism. Oe was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1994 for creating "an imagined world, where life and myth condense to form a disconcerting picture of the human predicament today".

Up next: Junichiro Tanizaki's poignant *The Makioka Sisters* on 11 April

# The Importance of Being Visible: Media and Religion in Contemporary Japan – Erica Baffelli

Monday 21 March 2016

6.45pm

The Swedenborg Society  
20-21 Bloomsbury Way (Hall entrance on Barter St)  
London WC1A 2TH

Free:  
Booking recommended



Since the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Japanese ‘new religions’ (*shinshūkyō*) have been noted for their ability to use various media. While movements that emerged in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries were adept at using the printed page – often in the form of books, pamphlets and newsletters – in more recent times new religions have adopted newer media forms and technologies. In particular, in 1980s and early 1990s some movements attracted attention with visual imagery, developing elaborately staged events and rituals, feature films and animated movies, and, more recently, elaborate websites. Through media these groups created new modes of ritual engagement and community and new forms of interaction between leaders and members. At the same time, the intensive use of media attracted criticism, and religious groups had to confront issues of image control and media exposure. This talk will discuss key issues in the creation of media narratives by religious organisations in order to proselytise, communicate with members and create (and, at times, recreate or reshape) their image.

Erica Baffelli is currently a Senior Lecturer in Japanese Studies at The University of Manchester. She is interested in religion in contemporary Japan, with a focus on groups founded from the 1970s onwards. Currently she is examining the interactions between media and new religions in 1980s and 1990s and the changes in the use of media by religious institutions after the 1995 Tokyo subway attack. Recent publications include *Media and New Religions in Japan* (Routledge, forthcoming 2016); Baffelli and Reader, ‘Aftermath: the Impact and Ramifications of the Aum Affair’ in *Special Issue of the Japanese Journal of Religious Studies*, 39, 1, 2012; and Baffelli, Reader and Staemmler eds. *Japanese Religions on the Internet: innovation, Representation and Authority*, Routledge, 2011.

# The EU-Japan EPA Free Trade Agreement – is it a game changer? – Kenichi Kawasaki

Tuesday 22 March 2016

12.30 for 1.00pm

JETRO  
MidCity Place  
71 High Holborn  
London WC1V 6AL

Free: Japan Society members, and those introduced by JETRO or BIS

Booking essential  
Booking deadline: Friday 18 March 2016



Dr Kenichi Kawasaki, senior fellow of the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies, will present the results of his recent research into the value of the EU-Japan EPA Free Trade agreement to Japan, the UK, and the EU.

Negotiations on the EU-Japan EPA, which have been through 15 rounds, have been conducted alongside discussions on the Trans-Pacific Partnership which were concluded (pending ratification) last October. While media attention has focussed heavily on the larger TPP, the outcomes of an EU-Japan agreement present significant opportunities to businesses and consumers in both the EU and Japan, and strengthen economic ties between the world's largest economic trading bloc and the world's third largest economy.

In this talk, Dr Kawasaki will discuss the EU-Japan EPA, its potential value to Japan, the UK, and the EU, and consider how it compares with other major trade agreements. He will also consider the impact of the EPA regionally and globally.

A sandwich lunch will be served from 12.30pm and the lecture will start promptly at 1.00pm. The event should be concluded by 2.25pm.

Dr Kenichi Kawasaki is a senior fellow of the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies. He is a consulting fellow at the Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry, and an adjunct fellow at the Japan Institute of International Affairs.

Dr Kawasaki spent more than two decades in the Japanese government, including the Department of Economics and Statistics of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. He has contributed to numerous policy studies, working for the research projects of the Economic Committee of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) on the impacts of trade and investment liberalization and facilitation. During the last decade and a half he has participated in the joint study groups of the Japanese government and trading partners on Japan's Economic Partnership Agreements (EPA), and most recently, estimating the impacts of Japan's participation in the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement.

In association with:

**JETRO**

  
Department  
for Business  
Innovation & Skills

# Suzuki Method and its international significance, with Professor Koji Toyoda

Thursday 24 March 2016

2.30pm

Daiwa Foundation Japan House  
13/14 Cornwall Terrace  
London NW1 4QP

Free:  
booking essential



"Talent is no accident of birth... the right environment can change a person with undeveloped ability into a talented one" Dr Shinichi Suzuki

We are delighted to welcome Professor Koji Toyoda, President of the Talent Education Research Institute in Japan, for a special afternoon lecture. Koji Toyoda is a direct musical descendant of Shinichi Suzuki, having been one of his first students of violin, and in 1999, a year after Dr Suzuki's death, was appointed president of the Talent Education Research Institute (now International Academy of the Suzuki Method), a position he held until 2010. In this lecture Dr Toyoda will discuss the significance of the Suzuki Method of teaching, from his experience as student, teacher and mentor.

The lecture, which will be given in Japanese with English translation, will be followed by a short demonstration by some very young students of the violin with the British Suzuki Institute.

Born in 1934, Koji Toyoda began studying the violin with Suzuki when he was only three and continued with him until the Second World War. After the war, during which Toyoda lost

both of his parents, they resumed their studies for another two years. At the age of 12, Toyoda left Japan to become a student at the French National Conservatory of Music in Paris. He later furthered his violin studies in Europe under Georges Enesco and Arthur Grumiaux. Toyoda has had an impressive career. He has won numerous solo playing competitions and distinctions in Europe throughout the years. He was also concertmaster of Rheinischem Kammerorchester in Cologne, and the Radio Symphony Orchestra in Berlin. From 1979 to 2000, he served as professor at the Hochschule der Künste in Berlin, directed several summer music festivals in Germany and Japan, and has made numerous recordings in Japan, Europe, and the United States.

The Suzuki Method of music education is based on the philosophy and teaching methods developed by the Japanese violinist, pedagogue, educator and humanitarian, Dr Shinichi Suzuki. Dr.Suzuki believed in the great potential of music to enrich children's lives, and developed a method of music education to enable children to play music to their highest possible level of ability. His method was derived from his observation of the ease and facility with which young children learn to speak their own language.

In association with:



# Joint Lunch with the JCCI: The Future Shape of London, Sir Edward Lister, Deputy Mayor for Policy & Planning, GLA

Wednesday 6 April 2016 12.00 for 12.30pm

National Liberal Club  
Whitehall Place  
London SW1A 2HE

£50 per head:  
members of the Japan Society, the JCCI and their guests

Booking essential  
Booking deadline: Friday 1 April



As Chief of Staff to the Mayor of London since 2011, and Deputy Mayor for Policy & Planning, Sir Edward Lister has been at the centre of planning for London's growth and highlighting infrastructure requirements for a successful city. Edward has been closely involved with London's promotion overseas, major regeneration projects (Crossrail, Nine Elms), supporting emerging business sectors (Tech, Science) and delivering high-profile events (2012 Games, Rugby World Cup).

On behalf of the Mayor, Edward spearheads London's engagement with Japan – the fourth highest investor here and an important community in the capital. Building on years of expanding bilateral business relations, Edward focuses on increasing trade in tech, life sciences, hosting major sports events, and infrastructure projects.

A month ahead of the London mayoral election, which will decide who follows Boris Johnson in this important role, Edward will give his observations on how Japan and London can continue to learn from each other and do business.

Sir Edward Lister was appointed Chief of Staff and Deputy Mayor for Policy and Planning by the Mayor of London in May 2011. In this role he has co-ordinated implementation of the Mayor's priorities, strategy and policy work, and activities by the Mayoral Team. He advises the Mayor on strategic planning applications and has oversight of the London Plan and Community Infrastructure Levy. He delivers the Mayor's jobs and growth agenda in this area.

Sir Edward served as leader of Wandsworth Council from 1992 to 2011. He is a Director and Chairman of London & Partners, the London inward investment, tourism and trade agency. He is also Deputy Chairman of the Old Oak and Park Royal Mayoral Development Corporation.

Following a two-course lunch, Sir Edward will speak for about 20 minutes, after which there will be time for questions until 2.00pm.

Co-organised by:





# Vickers Bovey Guitar Duo with Clive Bell (shakuhachi):

## Thirty Six Views of Mount Fuji

Friday 8 April 2016

7pm

The Swedenborg Society  
20-21 Bloomsbury Way  
(Hall entrance on Barter St)  
London WC1A 2TH

£6.50

Booking recommended: to guarantee a seat,  
tickets must be paid for in advance



*Thirty Six Views of Mount Fuji* is a brand new large-scale work for two guitars, composed by Ryan Probert in collaboration with the Vickers Bovey Guitar Duo. This concert marks the culmination of their four year-long project, and celebrates the CD release of this delicate yet expansive piece.

Taking inspiration from both Hokusai's famous woodblock prints and Probert's own time in Japan, the thirty-six movements enchant in their serenity and contrast, being described as 'charmingly Satie-like in their oddity, and played with truly uncanny unanimity by guitarists Julian Vickers and Daniel Bovey' (Ivan Hewett, *Daily Telegraph*). The concert will also feature music from Sergio Assad's *Summer Garden Suite* for two guitars, composed for the 1994 film *Natsu no Niwa (The Friends)*, and a set of solo improvisations and classical Japanese works performed by *shakuhachi* flautist Clive Bell.

The Vickers Bovey Duo owe a debt of gratitude to the Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation for financial assistance with production costs.

The Vickers Bovey Guitar Duo have

performed extensively around the UK, including at Wigmore Hall, Kings Place (London Guitar Festival), The Sage (North-East Guitar Festival), Bath Guitar Festival, Shrewsbury Guitar Festival, Symphony Hall (Birmingham), Colston Hall (Bristol), Frome Festival and The Forge (Camden). They have won multiple awards, including IGF's young artist scheme in 2014, and have received grants from Help Musicians UK, Blythe Watson Charitable Trust and the Countess of Munster Postgraduate Awards. [www.vickersbovey.co.uk](http://www.vickersbovey.co.uk)



Clive Bell is a musician, composer and writer with a specialist interest in the *shakuhachi*, *khene* (Thai mouth organ) and other East Asian wind instruments. He has travelled extensively in Japan (where he studied *shakuhachi* with the master Kohachiro Miyata), Thailand, Laos and Bali, researching music and meeting local practitioners. Clive is the *shakuhachi* player on Karl Jenkins's album *Requiem* on EMI Classics, the final two *Harry Potter* movies, and *The Hobbit*. His *shakuhachi* has been featured live on Radio 3's Late Junction and In Tune.



# Japan Society Book Club: The Makioka Sisters by Junichiro Tanizaki

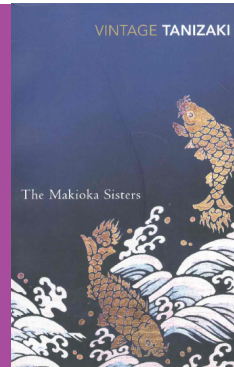
Monday 11 April 2016

7.00pm

The Japan Society  
13 / 14 Cornwall Terrace  
London NW1 4QP

Free for Japan Society Members:  
Booking recommended

The Book Club is held on the second Monday of every month



In Osaka in the years immediately before World War II, four aristocratic women try to preserve a way of life that is vanishing. Tsuruko, the eldest sister, clings obstinately to the prestige of her family name even as her husband prepares to move their household to Tokyo, where that name means nothing. Sachiko compromises valiantly to secure the future of her younger sisters. The unmarried Yukiko is a hostage to her family's exacting standards, while the spirited Taeko rebels by flinging herself into scandalous romantic alliances. The story of the Makioka sisters forms what is arguably the greatest Japanese novel of the twentieth century, a poignant yet unsparing portrait of a family – and an entire society – sliding into the abyss of modernity.

The book club is held every month. The discussion is conducted in English, but you can choose the language in which you read the book. The intention is simple: to explore the themes of the book, express personal

opinions on the style and content, discuss how the book has changed (or not) in translation and to have a relaxed discussion with others who have similar interests.

Junichiro Tanizaki (谷崎 潤一郎 Tanizaki Junichiro, 24 July 1886 – 30 July 1965) was one of the major writers of modern Japanese literature, and perhaps the most popular Japanese novelist after Natsume Sōseki. Some of his works present a shocking world of sexuality and destructive erotic obsessions. Others, less sensational, subtly portray the dynamics of family life in the context of the rapid changes in twentieth-century Japanese society. Frequently his stories are narrated in the context of a search for cultural identity in which constructions of 'the West' and 'Japanese tradition' are juxtaposed.

Up next: Taichi Yamada's haunting *In Search of a Distant Voice* on 9 May.

# Girls' Aesthetics in Japanese Theatre

## Nobuko Anan

Monday 18 April 2016

6.45pm

The Swedenborg Society  
20-21 Bloomsbury Way (Hall entrance on Barter St)  
London WC1A 2TH

Free:  
Booking recommended

The monthly lecture series takes place on the third Monday of every month



Japanese girls' culture evokes various images, from *kawaii* Hello Kitty and fighting girls in anime to female students involved in the sex business. While these are all parts of a vibrant Japanese girls' culture, in this talk, I will focus on a particular group of girls and adult women, who embody what I call "girls' aesthetics."

Girls' aesthetics have their genesis in early twentieth-century Japan with the creation of Western-style girls' schools and magazines for girls. These physical places and objects created a space where girls could escape from societal pressures within Japan's growing empire. In this space, girls rejected state-sanctioned motherhood and wife-hood and instead fantasised same-sex intimacy, longed for the West and romanticised death as a means to reject adulthood. These aesthetics continue into the contemporary period, influencing various artistic genres, such as Rococo/Victorian-inspired Gothic-Lolita fashion and boys' love manga.

In this talk, I will explore girls' aesthetics in contemporary Japanese theatre through a discussion of the Takarazuka Revue, an all-female musical company which stages Western romances, and Yubiwa Hotel, whose adult members perform Barbie-doll-like girls fetishising death.

Nobuko Anan is Lecturer in the Department of Cultures and Languages at Birkbeck, University of London, where she runs the Japanese Studies programmes. She researches widely on Japanese and intercultural theatre and visual arts, and her current research examines the intersections of girls' culture and various forms of performance. She is the author of a monograph, *Contemporary Japanese Women's Theatre and Visual Arts: Performing Girls' Aesthetics* (Palgrave 2016).

Up next: Henry Dyer – the Japanese Art of a Scottish Engineer, with Rosina Buckland.

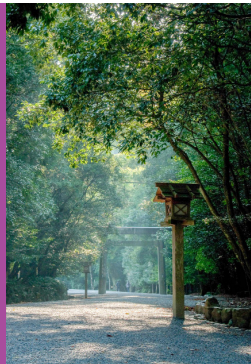
# Generation to Generation: Window on Ise – Japan’s Most Sacred Place

Wednesday 20 April 2016

6.30pm

The Swedenborg Society  
20-21 Bloomsbury Way (Hall entrance on Barter St)  
London WC1A 2TH

Free:  
Booking recommended



The 42<sup>nd</sup> G7 summit will take place on 26-27 May in Ise-Shima in Mie Prefecture. The site of the Ise Grand Shrine, this area is known as the spiritual heart of Japan, a place of both cultural significance and scenic beauty.

For this special event we welcome a number of guest speakers, including the Mayor of Ise, who will share their experience of this distinctive region and discuss what it means to them. The evening will include short talks and a panel discussion, a shakuhachi and koto performance and end with a chance to taste specialities from the region.

Among other things, we will learn about the *Shikinen Sengu*: the ritual in which the shrine is rebuilt every twenty years. What does this signify, and how does it enable the handing down of wisdom and traditions from generation to generation? Is it indicative of a distinctive relationship with the local environment?

Shin'nyo Kawai is currently a senior priest at Ise Jingu. He has written a number of books about the Shrine and Japanese history including *The Wisdom of Ise (Ise Jingu no chie)*, recently translated into English.

Kenichi Suzuki has been Mayor of Ise City since 2009, having been elected to Ise City Council in 2003 after periods working in business and as secretary to a member of the House of Representatives.

Reverend Katsuji Iwahashi is Chief of the Public Relations Section of Jinja Honcho (the Association of Shinto Shrines). He studied for an MA in Shinto studies at Kokugakuin University and an MA in the Modern History of Shinto Shrines and the Relationship between the Government and Shinto Shrines at SOAS. He has worked extensively on the ecological aspect of Shintoism in modern Japan, attending many international events on faith-based ecological action.

Dr Simon Kaner is Director of the Centre for Japanese Studies at the University of East Anglia and Head of the Centre for Archaeology and Heritage at the Sainsbury Institute.

The Hibiki Ensemble, featuring this evening Michael Coxall (*shakuhachi*) and Keiko Kitamura (*koto*), perform music from the traditional, classical repertoire to the very contemporary and will set the mood, with a short recital at the start of the evening.

In association with:



Ise City

伊勢市

CfW  
COMPANY FOR THE WORLD  
Exploring Shared Values

# Japan Festival for Families at the V&A

Sunday 1 May 2016

11.00am to 5.00pm

Victoria and Albert Museum  
Cromwell Road  
London SW7 2RL

Events are free and drop in



The Japan Society is delighted to be collaborating with the V&A for their Japan Festival for Families on Sunday 1 May. Join in the Japanese Festival for Children to celebrate their health, growth and happiness. Listen to traditional storytelling and music, make mini banners and origami shapes, watch traditional puppets, try your hand at manga drawing and digital creations. Activities for all the family.

## Programme for the Day:

Pop-up Performances: Tales from Old Japan  
30 minute performances at 11.00, 13.00 & 15.00 Raphael Gallery, Room 48a

Nihon Buyō Japanese Dance  
with Hiroko Tanaka

25 minute performances at 11.30, 13.30 & 15.30 Raphael Gallery, Room 48a

Masuda String Puppets

25 minute performances at 12.00, 14.00 & 16.00, The Lydia and Manfred Gorvy Lecture Theatre, level 4

Paper Banner Making

11.00 – 17.00, Raphael Gallery, Room 48a

Make a Card Samurai Helmet

11.00 – 17.00, Raphael Gallery, Room 48a

Drop-in Design: Create your own Mon

11.00 – 17.00, Japan, Room 45

Wear a Kimono (with the Japan Society)

11.00 – 17.00, Japan, Room 45

Japanese Calligraphy

(with the Japan Society)

14.00 – 16.30, Lunchroom, level 3

Manga

35 minute workshops at 11.00, 12.00 14.00, 15.00 & 16.00, Learning Centre, Art Studio

Digital Kids: Design your own Emoji

11.00 – 17.00, Learning Centre, Foyer

Dressing a Samurai in Armour

25 minute demonstrations at 12.00, 14.00 & 16.00, Raphael Gallery, Room 48a

Formal Kimono

25 minute demonstrations at 12.30, 14.30 & 16.30, Raphael Gallery, Room 48a

Organised by:



# Japan Society Book Club: In Search of a Distant Voice by Taichi Yamada

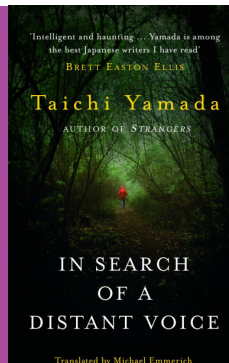
Monday 9 May 2016

7.00pm

The Japan Society  
13 / 14 Cornwall Terrace  
London NW1 4QP

Free for Japan Society Members:  
Booking recommended

The Book Club is held on the second Monday of every month



A woman is trying to contact Kasama Tsuneo at a crisis point in his life. But she won't reveal her identity. Kasama is an immigration officer in Tokyo, struggling to live a 'normal' life after an event that happened eight years previously, when he lived in the USA. His arranged marriage is looming, and he's seized by a strange emotional fit. And then the disembodied voice begins. All Tsuneo can do is desperately chase this woman, and the mystery behind what happened eight years earlier over the sea.

The book club is held every month. There is no restriction on the nationality of the authors read, but books should be available in translation in both Japanese and English. The discussion is conducted mainly in English, but you can choose the language in which you read the book. The intention is simple:

to explore the themes of the book, express personal opinions on the style and content, discuss how the book has changed (or not) in translation and to have a relaxed discussion with others who have similar interests.

Taichi Yamada, born in 1934 in Tokyo, attended Waseda University before entering the Shōchiku film studios, where he trained as an assistant director under Keisuke Kinoshita. He left the company at age thirty to focus on writing scripts for television dramas, penning such successful series as *Kishibe no arubamu* and *Fuzoroi no ringotachi*. He has also written scripts for film and the stage. As a novelist, his novel *Ijintachi to no natsu*, published in 1987, won the Yamamoto Shugoro Prize. It was translated into English, in 2004, as *Strangers*.

Up next: Kanae Minato's dark *Confessions*

# Henry Dyer: The Japanese art of a Scottish engineer – Rosina Buckland

Monday 16 May 2016

6.45pm

The Swedenborg Society  
20-21 Bloomsbury Way (Hall entrance on Barter St)  
London WC1A 2TH

Free:  
Booking recommended

The monthly lecture series takes place on the third Monday of every month



The Scottish engineer Henry Dyer spent nine years in Japan (1873–82) as one of the foreign advisers hired by the new Meiji government. The Japanese artworks he acquired were divided after his death between public institutions in Glasgow and Edinburgh. Among these works, of particular interest is an exceptionally large handscroll painting, entitled *Theatres of the East* and created circa 1720 by Furuyama Moromasa, grandson of Hishikawa Moronobu, the acclaimed progenitor of *ukiyo-e*.

Over its length of 13 metres, the handscroll depicts the lively appearance of Edo's theatre district, with a range of entertainments (*kabuki*, puppet theatre, comedy skits), numerous commercial operations, and hundreds of people from all walks of life. Dr Buckland's research has revealed the wealth of detail contained in the painting, as well as its close link to another, comparable work by Moromasa in an overseas collection. In her presentation, she will introduce the scroll and the world it portrays, and suggest the motivation for the commission of this spectacular work.

Rosina Buckland read Japanese Studies at the University of Cambridge and obtained her doctorate in Japanese Art History from New York University (Institute of Fine Arts). She joined National Museums Scotland in 2010, where she curates the Japanese collections, comprising a large group of 19<sup>th</sup>-century woodblock prints, ceramics, metalware, lacquer, miniature arts, textiles, arms and armour, archaeological and ethnographic material.

# Joint Lunch for His Excellency The Japanese Ambassador

Tuesday 17 May 2016

12.30pm for 1.00pm

Cavalry & Guards Club  
127 Piccadilly  
London W1J 7PX

£50 per head: Members of the Japan Society, the JCCI and their guests  
Booking deadline: Thursday 12 May

Booking is essential and payment must be made in advance, by bank transfer, credit/debit card or cheque made payable to the Japan Society.



The guest of honour at the Japan Society and the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the UK's second joint lunch of 2016, will be His Excellency the Japanese Ambassador, Mr Keiichi Hayashi, the President of the Japan Society.

Ambassador Hayashi will shortly be leaving London on retirement from the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, after a tour of duty as Ambassador to the Court of St James of over five years. He took up his post in early 2011, shortly before the tragedy of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami. In 2012 he oversaw the visit of Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Japan on the occasion of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, and he has of course been Ambassador during the 2012 London Olympics and last year's Rugby World Cup, as well as receiving a full programme of high level governmental visits, including two visits by the Japanese Prime Minister, Shinzo Abe.

This joint lunch provides a timely opportunity for the Ambassador to look back over his period in office and reflect on the current state of, and future potential for UK/Japan relations.

Keiichi Hayashi was Political Counsellor and then Political Minister at the London Embassy from 1996–1999 and served as Minister Plenipotentiary and Deputy Head of Mission in 2010, before his appointment as Ambassador. He also has extensive experience working on Japanese diplomatic missions in areas as diverse as South-east Asia, North America and Ireland.

Following a two-course lunch, Ambassador Hayashi will speak for about 20 minutes, after which there will be time for questions until 2.30pm.

Cancellation policy: a full refund will be given where notice of cancellation is received by 5.30pm on Thursday 12 May. After this date, refunds cannot be guaranteed.

Co-organised by:

**Jcci uk**  
Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the UK



# The Media and Politics: a conversation with Tadakazu Kimura

Wednesday 25 May 2016

6.00 for 6.30pm

Mitsui & Co Europe plc  
9th Floor  
1 St Martin's-le-Grand  
London EC1A 4AS

Free for Japan Society members and their guests

Booking essential

Booking deadline: Monday 23 May



For this event, Japan Society chairman, David Warren, will be joined in conversation by special guest Tadakazu Kimura to discuss the role of the press in a democratic society. An independent media is invaluable in holding government to account and enabling members of the public to participate fully in the democratic process, and Kimura, formerly President and CEO of the *Asahi Shimbun* and with wide international experience, is particularly well placed to review the situation in Japan and the UK.

Tadakazu Kimura is Senior Robert and Lisa Sainsbury Fellow at the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures.

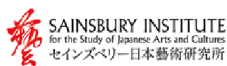
He is an experienced journalist and former President and CEO of the leading Japanese newspaper the *Asahi Shimbun*. He joined the company in 1976 after graduating from Waseda University in Tokyo. Since then, he has spent more than thirty years covering Japanese domestic politics and international affairs. In

1994 he was dispatched to Washington D.C. as political correspondent, and in 2005 was sent to London as European writer and Chief of European General Bureau of the *Asahi*. Until recently, he served as Executive Managing Editor, Board member in charge of cultural undertakings, and President and CEO of the company.

Kimura received the Award of the Tokyo Art Directors Club in 2009 and was made Honorary Commander of the British Empire (CBE) for his longtime contribution to the UK-Japan relationship in 2014. He is author and co-author of a number of publications: *The Persian Gulf War and Japan*; *The Dominant Rule by Takeshita Faction*; *What's Going on in European Socialism?*; *Policy Making and Media*; and *Odd Constructions Heritage in the World*.

The Japan Society is grateful to Mitsui & Co Europe plc, one of its key corporate members, hosts of this special event.

In association with:



MITSUI & CO.

# Trooping the Colour 2016: Special Seats at the Major General's Review

Saturday 28 May 2016

9.15 for 10.00am

Horse Guards Parade  
Whitehall London  
SW1A 2NS

Booking essential

Japan Society members only: £11  
Booking deadline: Friday 6 May



One of the great annual sights in London is the Trooping the Colour ceremony on Horse Guards Parade in Whitehall on Her Majesty's Official Birthday. All available Foot Guards, Household Cavalry and King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery march past Her Majesty starting at 11.00am. The event ends at approximately noon.

The Society has once again made application for a number of seats for the dress rehearsal, held two weeks before the real parade. If you are interested in attending, please indicate this by booking with us. We will be in touch once we know whether we have been successful in obtaining tickets.

The Household Troops, made up of the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery, are the personal soldiers of The Queen. It is important to remember that these are also fighting troops; many of those on parade will be veterans of various campaigns including Afghanistan and Iraq. About 1,000 men in bearskins,

tunics and full uniform will be on parade; there will be Massed Bands, Mounted Band, and a large number of cavalry. The troops will be reviewed and then will march past twice. The Queen will not be present on 28 May, but the Dress Rehearsal parade will be taken by the General in command of all Household Troops.

Members should be seated by 10.00am, but we are arranging to meet at 9.15am for coffee and a short talk. The cost of this is included in the price for the event. The talk will explain in more detail the conduct of the parade, its history and tradition. Full details will be sent to those who book.

This is always a popular event – please register your interest by 6 May. Once we know the result of our application for places, we will notify you. Should the number of people wishing to attend exceed the number of tickets, we will allocate places by ballot.

# Japanese Vegetarian Cuisine, with Mari Fujii

Tuesday 7 June 2016

6.30pm

Sozai Cooking School  
5 Middlesex Street  
London E1 7AA

£20 per person

Priority booking for Japan Society members and their guests

Booking essential (deadline: Friday 3 June)

Payment must be made in advance, by bank transfer, credit/debit card or cheque made payable to the Japan Society.



While London is home to some excellent Japanese restaurants, there are still very few opportunities to try Japanese temple cuisine, *shojin ryori*. We are therefore particularly delighted to welcome Mari Fujii, author of *The Enlightened Kitchen*, for a special lecture demonstration in which she will prepare a selection of dishes inspired by this school of cooking, and share her insights into Japanese vegetarian cuisine.

Mari Fujii has made it her mission, for over thirty years, to teach *shojin ryori* both within Japan and overseas. This temple food is based on seasonal vegetables and staples such as grains and tofu. In her own cooking and teaching, Mari aims to convey her husband's precept 'cooking should be from the heart' by always keeping in mind the person who is going to eat while she prepares food.

Joining us for a special lecture demonstration, Mari Fujii will touch on the principles of *shojin ryori* and show how to make some of her favourite dishes inspired by this style of cuisine, using locally available ingredients. She wants participants to come away with a selection of recipes to try at home, and an appreciation of the aesthetic and potential of this vegetarian cuisine.

Mari Fujii learned the secrets of *shojin ryori* from her husband who was a Buddhist monk and served as a temple cook at three different Zen temples. Together they established Zenmi-kai in Kamakura, where they taught temple cuisine. More recently Mari Fujii has frequently travelled overseas, teaching and cooking in many countries in Asia, North America and Europe and sharing her love of good food. She has published a number of books including *Kokoro ni Yasashii shojin ryori* (Take Shobo, 2002), *Itadakimasu* (Koseishuppansha, 2006), *Kamakura Fushikisan shojin recipes* (Kawade Shoboshinsha, 2008) and, in English, *The Enlightened Kitchen* (Kodansha International, 2005).

The Japan Society is grateful to Sozai Cooking School and Atsuko Ikeda from Atsuko's Kitchen for their help in arranging this event, and to Clearspring who have supplied ingredients for this demonstration.

In association with:

ATSUKO'S KITCHEN  
Japanese home style cooking made simple



Clearspring

# Joint Lunch with the JCCI: Peter Mandelson

Wednesday 8 June 2016

12.00 for 12.30pm

Furniture Makers' Hall  
12 Austin Friars  
London EC2N 2HE

£57 per head:  
members of the Japan Society, the JCCI and their guests

Booking essential (deadline: Friday 3 June)  
Payment must be made in advance, by bank transfer, credit/debit card or cheque made payable to the Japan Society.



For their third joint lunch of 2016, the Japan Society and the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the UK are delighted to welcome Lord Mandelson, former European Union Trade Commissioner and Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, and founder of strategic advisory firm, Global Counsel.

Lord Mandelson will speak about the forthcoming EU referendum as a board member of the official Remain campaign, as well as about trade policy, economic integration and free trade agreements between independent markets. He will also consider these issues from the perspective of Japanese companies looking out to Europe from London, and is well positioned to touch upon EU-Japan and UK-Japan trade relations, having spent four years at the heart of the European Commission, during which time he was part of the 2008 EU-Japan Summit.

Lord Mandelson was also co-Chair of the UK-Japan 2000 Group (now the UK-Japan 21st Century Group) from 2001 to 2004

Lord Mandelson is Chairman of Global Counsel. He is a former European Trade Commissioner and British First Secretary of State. As Trade Commissioner between 2004 and 2008, he negotiated trade agreements with many countries and led European negotiations in the WTO Doha World Trade Round. Prior to this, he was Minister without Portfolio, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Northern Ireland Secretary and Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills in the British government under Tony Blair and Gordon Brown between 1997 and 2010. He was Member of Parliament for Hartlepool in the UK from 1992 until 2004 and Director of Campaigns and Communications for the Labour party between 1985 and 1990. He became President of the Great Britain China Centre in 2015. This non-departmental public body encourages dialogue and collaboration between Britain and China. He is also President of the Policy Network think tank and Chairman of Lazard International.

Co-organised by:

**JETRO**

# Japan Society Book Club: Confessions by Kanae Minato

Monday 13 June 2016

7.00pm

The Japan Society  
13 / 14 Cornwall Terrace  
London NW1 4QP

Free for Japan Society Members:  
Booking recommended

The Book Club is held on the second Monday of every month



Her pupils murdered her daughter. Now she will have her revenge. After calling off her engagement in the wake of a tragic revelation, Yuko Moriguchi had nothing to live for except her only child, four-year-old Manami. Now, following an accident on the grounds of the middle school where she teaches, Yuko has given up and tendered her resignation. But first she has one last lecture to deliver. She tells a story that upends everything her students ever thought they knew about two of their peers, and sets in motion a diabolical plot for revenge.

The book club is held every month. There is no restriction on the nationality of the authors read, but books should be available in translation in both Japanese and English.

The discussion is conducted mainly in English, but you can choose the language in which you read the book. The intention is simple: to explore the themes of the book, express personal opinions on the style and content, discuss how the book has changed (or not) in translation and to have a relaxed discussion with others who have similar interests.

Kanae Minato, born in 1973, is a Japanese writer of crime fiction and thriller. She is a member of the Mystery Writers of Japan and the Honkaku Mystery Writers Club of Japan. She started writing in her thirties. Her first novel *Confessions* became a bestseller and won the Japanese Booksellers Award.

Up next: Yukio Mishima's classic *Spring Snow*

# The Film Compendium on the Japanese Mingei Movement: A presentation by Canadian film maker Marty Gross

Monday 20 June 2016

6.45pm

The Swedenborg Society  
20-21 Bloomsbury Way (Hall entrance on Barter St)  
London WC1A 2TH

Free:  
Booking recommended

The monthly lecture series takes place on the third Monday of every month



Marty Gross has been restoring and enhancing a selection of rare films on pottery-making in Japan. This collection begins with a film made by Bernard Leach in 1934. Segments from the films will be presented documenting what Bernard Leach, Shoji Hamada and Soetsu Yanagi were actually seeing as they developed their thinking on *mingei*, the Japanese folk art movement.

Marty Gross is a consulting producer for companies based in North America, Europe and Asia, with focus on Japanese art, film, theatre and crafts. His company, Marty Gross Film Productions, Inc. (founded in 1975), manages one of the most comprehensive websites devoted to films on Japanese cultural and historical subjects. Since 1974, he has produced and directed films (including *As We Are*, *Potters at Work*, *The Lovers' Exile*), restored archival films on Japanese arts and crafts (such as *The Leach Pottery*, *Mashiko Village Pottery, Japan 1937*), conducted numerous interviews, produced documentaries and coordinated publication of books on the history of Japanese cinema and on Japanese animation.

# The Japan Society Annual General Meeting 2016

Wednesday 22 June 2016

6.00pm

Embassy of Japan  
101-104 Piccadilly  
London W1J 7JT

Free:  
Japan Society Members Only

Booking essential  
Booking deadline: Monday 20 June



The Japan Society Annual General Meeting 2016 will be held on Wednesday 22 June at 6.00pm at the Embassy of Japan, London.

We hope to see many members at this year's AGM. Please remember that the Embassy of Japan's security policy means that you need to let us know in advance if you are planning to attend – please call the Japan Society office on 020 7935 0475 or email [events@japansociety.org.uk](mailto:events@japansociety.org.uk) or submit the online booking form.

Please also bring with you to the meeting a form of photographic ID.

Following the formal business of the AGM there will be a special launch event and reception for *Biographical Portraits Volume X*, which you are welcome to attend.

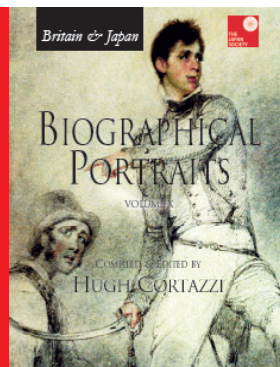
Please find enclosed all documentation concerning the AGM, including the formal Notice of AGM and Proxy Voting Form, and the Trustees Report / Japan Society Accounts (ending 31 December 2015).



# Book Launch: Biographical Portraits Vol. X

Wednesday 22 June 2016

6.30pm



Embassy of Japan  
101-104 Piccadilly  
London W1J 7JT

Free:  
Japan Society Members Only

Booking essential  
Booking deadline: Monday 20 June

To mark the publication of *Britain and Japan: Biographical Portraits Volume X*, the Japan Society is holding a special book launch to mark this significant milestone in its 125th anniversary year: ten books and nearly 600 'pen portraits' of individuals and organisations who have contributed to the development of the strong relationship between Japan and the UK.

The event will feature talks by Sir David Warren, Sir Hugh Cortazzi and James Hoare, and will afford an opportunity to look back on the 25-year project. These will be followed by a short introduction to the Japan Society's new e-library, and a celebratory reception.

*Biographical Portraits X* forms part of a series recording the lives of men, women and institutions who have played a significant role in the development of UK-Japan relations. When read together these give a many-faceted picture of modern history,

shedding light on controversial issues, illuminating past successes and failures, and providing a valuable point of reference for researchers and historians.

We are delighted to be able to offer copies of *Biographical Portraits X* free of charge to members of the Japan Society, while stocks last. Copies will be available to collect on the night. Further information on how to obtain your copy if you are unable to attend the event will be available shortly.

Please remember that the Embassy of Japan's security policy means that you need to let us know in advance if you are planning to attend – please call the Japan Society office on 020 7935 0475 or email [events@japansociety.org.uk](mailto:events@japansociety.org.uk) or submit the online booking form.

Please also bring with you a form of photographic ID.

# Japan Society Golf Tournament 2016

Thursday 30 June 2016 8.30am  
Essendon Country Club  
Bedwell Park  
Hatfield AL9 6HN  
£70 per head (all-in price for the day)  
Booking deadline: Friday 12 June  
Breakfast from 8.30am; shotgun start 9.30am



The Japan Society's Annual Golf Tournament, for the Asprey and Garrard Plate, is due to take place at Essendon Country Club on Thursday 30 June, with a shotgun start at 9.30am. The format will be Stableford and players have to be ready by 9.00am for transport to their allocated teeoffs.

The all-in price is £70, including breakfast, 18 holes of golf and a two-course lunch on completion.

BDO, a leading member of the Japan Society, is once again generously providing the prizes and there will be competitions for 'Nearest the Pin' and 'Longest Drive'; a mobile halfway house will be on hand to provide refreshments.

Designed by Fred Hawtree, the Old Course was opened about forty-one years ago and is a testament to parkland courses. Undulating in nature, the course provides a real test for golfers of all abilities, while they can enjoy the spectacular views. Probably the most demanding par 5 is the 12<sup>th</sup>, with tee shots halted by a sloping, narrow, tree lined fairway. The final hole, whilst being a long par 3, has a green well below the tees and will hopefully ensure a good end to a most enjoyable round.

Supported by:



# Hawaiian History with Britain and Japan

Thursday 30 June 2016 6.30pm  
Lodge Room No 11  
The Freemasons' Hall  
Great Queen Street  
London WC2B 5AZ  
Japan Society members: £9  
Non-members: £15  
Booking essential  
Booking deadline: Tuesday 28 June



Speaker: Pauline Chakmakjian

Beautiful beaches as well as stunning natural wonders and scenery are associated with the Hawaiian island chain, but there is so much more to this Pacific paradise than these and Pearl Harbor. Hawaii is also the only American State to have had a working royal palace.

This lecture will look at the connection between British and Hawaiian monarchs, Japanese immigration to Hawaii, and the Japanese experience there from arrival to the present day.

Please let us know if you would like to take an optional tour of the Freemason's Hall at 5.15 for 5.30pm.

Pauline Chakmakjian is a Visit Kyoto Ambassador and a writer and speaker on Japanese and British Masonic history.

In association with:



# Japan Airlines / Football Samurai Academy 5-a-side Tournament

Sunday 3 July 2016

5.00pm

Park Lodge  
North Acton Playing Field  
Noel Road  
London W3 0JF

Free:  
Japan Society members and their guests only  
Booking deadline: Monday 20 June



## Players Needed!

The Japan Society is once again recruiting members for a team to compete in the Football Samurai Academy 5-a-side Tournament. We are looking to improve on our third place finish at last year's event, which was won by Sumitomo Corporation.

Whether you currently play football or enjoyed playing at school, university or for a club, we need you. Players of all abilities, men and women, are welcome, and if demand is sufficient we will form two teams.

Companies and individuals interested in fielding their own teams should contact Samurai Academy directly at [hello@footsamurai.com](mailto:hello@footsamurai.com).

The tournament is taking place on the Football Samurai Academy's 3G artificial pitch in North Acton, following their U6 and U14 5-a-side tournaments earlier in the day. Players will be required to wear full football kit with either trainers or astro trainers (no football or rugby boots). Matches will be 15 minutes long with rolling substitutions and teams will consist of up to eight players.

During the day there will be a barbecue, food and drink, activities and a raffle, and the Samurai Academy's five adjacent tennis courts will be available for taster sessions. Even if you aren't playing, please do come and support us!

# Japan Society Book Club: Spring Snow by Yukio Mishima

Monday 11 July 2016

7.00pm

The Japan Society  
13 / 14 Cornwall Terrace  
London NW1 4QP

Free for Japan Society Members:  
Booking recommended

The Book Club is held on the second Monday of every month

VINTAGE MISHIMA



Tokyo, 1912. The closed world of the ancient aristocracy is being breached for the first time by outsiders – rich provincial families, a new and powerful political and social elite. Kiyooki has been raised among the elegant Ayakura family – members of the waning aristocracy – but he is not one of them. Coming of age, he is caught up in the tensions between old and new, and his feelings for the exquisite, spirited Sakoto. When Sakoto is engaged to a royal prince, Kiyooki realises the magnitude of his passion.

The book club is held every month. There is no restriction on the nationality of the authors read, but books should be available in translation in both Japanese and English. The discussion is conducted mainly in English,

but you can choose the language in which you read the book. The intention is simple: to explore the themes of the book, express personal opinions on the style and content, discuss how the book has changed (or not) in translation and to have a relaxed discussion with others who have similar interests.

Yukio Mishima (1925-1970) is a Japanese author, poet, playwright, actor, and film director. Mishima is considered one of the most important Japanese authors of the 20<sup>th</sup> century; he was nominated three times for the Nobel Prize in Literature. His avant-garde work displayed a blending of modern and traditional aesthetics that broke cultural boundaries, with a focus on sexuality, death, and political change.

# Carmen Blacker Lecture 2016 – Confucius in Tokugawa Japan: Unofficial Ceremonies of Worship, with James McMullen

Monday 18 July 2016

6.45pm

The Swedenborg Society  
20-21 Bloomsbury Way (Hall entrance on Barter St)  
London WC1A 2TH

Free:  
Booking recommended

The monthly lecture series takes place on the third Monday of every month



*For this year's Carmen Blacker Lecture we are delighted to welcome James McMullen, a highly respected scholar of Japanese Confucianism, and Fellow Emeritus at St Antony's and Pembroke Colleges, Oxford. The Carmen Blacker Lecture Series honours the memory and scholarship of Carmen Blacker and is organised jointly by the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures and the Japan Society. Each year a senior scholar is invited to speak on a theme related to Blacker's research in the area of Japanese religion and folklore.*

This lecture explores the possibly subversive nuances of two ceremonies to worship Confucius in 17<sup>th</sup> century Japan. Confucianism is, with Buddhism and Shinto, one of the great traditions that form the inheritance of modern Japan. Confucius was widely worshiped during the late feudal (Tokugawa) period in a now little known ritual called the *sekiten*. This ceremony is generally interpreted as providing an ideology for the political dominance of the samurai. Early in the period, however, several independent Confucian scholars initiated unofficial, short-lived ceremonies which reflected a different side of the tradition.

Two of these are well documented: the ceremony of Matsunaga Sekigo (1592-1657) was a cultural celebration that appealed to the court and ancient civil nobility; and the liturgy designed by the merchant-scholar Nakamura Tekisai (1629-1702) was explicitly intended to appeal to commoners outside the samurai estate.

James McMullen did National Service in the Royal Air Force. He was posted to Hong Kong and from there visited Japan for the first time in 1959. At St John's College, Cambridge, he read for the Oriental Studies Tripos (Japanese). One of his teachers was the late Dr Carmen Blacker. Following graduation in 1962, he embarked on research in Japanese Confucianism. In 1963, he held a Japanese Government Scholarship at the University of Kyoto, where he prepared for his Cambridge doctoral thesis on the Japanese thinker Kumazawa Banzan (1619-91). He taught Japanese Studies for seven years at the University of Toronto and from 1972 at Oxford. He is a Fellow of the British Academy and now Fellow Emeritus at St Antony's and Pembroke Colleges, Oxford. He has published extensively on Confucianism in Japan, and is now completing a book on the

Co-organised by:

 SAINSBURY INSTITUTE  
for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures  
セインズベリー日本藝術研究所

# Tanabata:

## Celebrate the Japanese Star Festival at Kew Gardens

Wednesday 3 & Thursday 4 August 2016

10.30am – 4.00pm

Bamboo Garden and Minka House  
Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew  
Richmond  
Surrey TW9 3AB

Standard Kew admission fee (£1 discount when booking online)

No booking required – just turn up on the day!



Tanabata is the Japanese festival that celebrates the coming together of two stars, Orihime and Hikoboshi, who can only meet once a year, on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of the 7<sup>th</sup> month. This year, join us at Kew Gardens to enjoy workshops, activities and performances marking this ancient summer celebration.

Try your hand at Japanese calligraphy and origami, then follow the Tanabata Treasure Trail to create *tanzaku* and decorations to be hung in the bamboo grove, learn about the Tanabata story through performances by Haruka Kuroda of A Thousand Cranes Children's Theatre Company, and tour Kew's famous bamboo collection with experts Ray Townsend and Maria Vorntsova.

Events include:

All day:  
Drop-in origami and calligraphy workshops

All day:  
Follow the Tanabata Treasure Trail and win prizes

10.30am to 12 noon:  
Yukata dressing up

11.00am & 2.00pm:  
Tour of the Bamboo collection with Ray Townsend and Maria Vorntsova

12 noon, 1.30pm & 3.00pm:  
The Tanabata story with A Thousand Cranes Children's Theatre Company

From 12 noon (4 August only)  
Nihon Buyo on Orangery Lawn

1.30pm to 3pm:  
Yukata dressing up

Don't miss out on taking part in the Tanabata story!

In Japan, Tanabata celebrates the romantic story of the weaver star Orihime and the cowherd star Hikoboshi, who are separated by the Milky Way and are only allowed to meet on this one day each year. People celebrate by making paper origami decorations and writing their wishes on strips of coloured paper called *tanzaku*, which they hang with other paper ornaments on bamboo in the hope that their wishes will come true.

In collaboration with:

Royal Botanic Gardens **Kew** Embassy of Japan in the UK



# Japan Society Book Club: Apparitions – Ghosts of Old Edo by Miyuki Miyabe

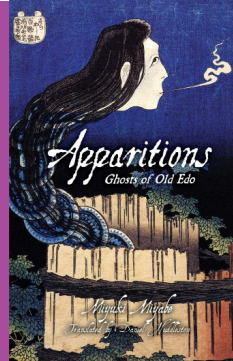
Monday 8 August 2016

7.00pm

The Japan Society  
13 / 14 Cornwall Terrace  
London NW1 4QP

Free for Japan Society Members:  
Booking recommended

The Book Club is held on the second Monday of every month



In old Edo, the past was never forgotten. It lived alongside the present, in dark corners, and in the shadows. In these tales, award-winning author Miyuki Miyabe explores the ghosts of Japan, and the spaces of the living world they inhabit. Written with a journalistic eye and a fantasist's heart *Apparitions* brings the restless dead, and those who encounter them, to life.

The book club is held every month. There is no restriction on the nationality of the authors read, but books should be available in translation in both Japanese and English. The discussion is conducted mainly in English, but you can choose the language in which you read the book. The intention is simple: to explore the themes of the book, express personal opinions on the style and content, discuss how the book has changed (or not) in translation and to have a relaxed discussion with others who have similar interests.

Miyuki Miyabe, born in 1960 in Tokyo, is a popular contemporary Japanese author active in a number of genres that include science fiction, mystery fiction, historical fiction, social commentary, and young adult literature. She started writing novels at the age of 23. In 1984, while working at a law office, Miyabe began to take writing classes at a writing school run by the Kodansha publishing company. She has been a prolific writer, publishing dozens of novels and winning many major literary prizes, including the Yamamoto Shūgorō Prize in 1993 for *All She Was Worth*.

Up next: Sawako Ariyoshi's *The Twilight Years*.

# A Ruin Nation: Excavating Japan's Haikyo Boom – Mark Pendleton

Monday 15 August 2016

6.45pm

Small Lecture Theatre, Cavendish Campus  
University of Westminster  
115 New Cavendish Street  
London W1W

Free:  
Booking recommended

The monthly lecture series takes place on the third Monday of every month



Since the 1990s, Japan has been caught up in a boom in interest in *haikyo* (ruins) that extends from literary and artistic representations to industrial heritage campaigns and tourist initiatives. These material remnants evoke past glory days, such as the postwar economic boom, while also bringing to the surface questions about how Japan deals with crisis and change.

While the *haikyo* boom appears relatively new, interest in ruins in Japan also has a much longer cultural history that extends throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century, from the great Tokyo earthquake of 1923 to the postwar ruined landscapes of Japan's cities and the collapse of the economic bubble into the Lost Decades. It might be tempting to see fascination with ruins as nostalgic and

backward-looking – and that is certainly part of the story – but it is not the full picture. This lecture will discuss past and present popular representations of ruins in Japan as sites where complexities have been and continue to be explored – from issues associated with the difficult histories of East Asia through changing economic, social and environmental presents and ultimately to an array of competing visions of the future.

Dr Mark Pendleton is a cultural historian and Lecturer in Japanese Studies at the University of Sheffield. He researches broadly in the fields of 20<sup>th</sup> century Japanese history, the politics of memory in East Asia and transnational histories of gender and sexuality.

# Tales of Ise with Translator Peter MacMillan

Thursday 8 September 2016

6.45pm

The Swedenborg Society  
20-21 Bloomsbury Way (Hall entrance on Barter Street)  
London WC1A 2TH

Free:  
Booking recommended



PENGUIN CLASSICS

*Tales of Ise*

Was it you who came to me,  
or I who went to you?  
I cannot tell.  
Was I awake or sleeping?  
Was it real, or just a dream?

Written by multiple authors over a period of approximately one hundred years, the *Tales of Ise* is one of the most famous and important works of Japanese literature. Consisting of 125 poem tales loosely based on the life of the hero, Narihira, a model lover of the Heian period, they evoke a world in which beauty and refinement are a way of life. Covering such themes as love, friendship, and delight in nature – these lyrical episodes combine great elegance with a subversive, experimental wit. This groundbreaking and brilliant new translation brings out the sophisticated humour and playfulness of the original, which has inspired Japanese art and literature for a millennium. In this talk the translator, Peter MacMillan, will introduce the audience to the pleasures of the *Tales* and the challenges of translating it.

Peter MacMillan is a prize-winning translator, scholar, poet, and artist. He was born and grew up in a part of the Irish countryside surrounded by more horses than people. He graduated first in his class from the National University of Ireland, University College Dublin, and then went on to take an M.A. in philosophy and a Ph.D. in English literature. He spent two years as a Visiting Fellow at Princeton, Columbia, and Oxford universities.

MacMillan is currently a Visiting Professor at Kyorin University and also teaches at The University of Tokyo. A citizen of both Ireland and Britain, he has lived in Japan for over twenty years and strives to be a bridge between Japan and the world. His artist name is Seisai.

In addition to creating prints, MacMillan is also a poet and translator. His translation, *One Hundred Poets, One Poem Each (Hyakunin Isshu)*, was published in 2008, winning prizes in both Japan and the United States. He recently completed an English translation of the *Tales of Ise (Ise Monogatari)*, to be published by Penguin in 2016. He has also published a collection of poetry, *Admiring*

# Edo Kiriko:

## Two Perspectives on the World of Japanese Cut Glass

Thursday 15 September 2016

6.30 for 7.00pm

Art Workers' Guild  
6 Queen Square  
Bloomsbury WC1N 3AT

Free:  
Booking essential



This event brings together *Edo kiriko* artist Toru Horiguchi and British glass historian Sally Haden to discuss the tradition from their own perspectives. Examining it from both the past and the present, they will highlight the particular characteristics of this very Japanese craft which was built on techniques brought from the UK, and offer an insight into the work of those who seek to preserve it for future generations.

The evening will unfold through a series of conversations, a video of Horiguchi at work in his studio and a display of *Edo kiriko* glassware.

Toru Horiguchi is a third generation master craftsman in the *Edo kiriko* tradition. He joined the Horiguchi Glass Company in 1999 to study under Tomio Suda. He succeeded to the title of *shuseki* (designating master craftsman status) in 2008 and left Horiguchi Glass to set up his own company, Horiguchi Kiriko. He was recognised by the Association for the Promotion of Traditional Craft Industries in 2012 as a leading proponent of *Edo kiriko*. He is a regular exhibitor and

prize winner in shows featuring Japanese traditional crafts and glassware, such as TOKYO CRAFTS & DESIGN where his collaboration with Yoh Komiyama on Edo Kiriko Ring was awarded the Grand Design Prize. In 2015, Horiguchi featured in the Cut-Glass Accents exhibition at the Embassy of Japan in London.

Sally Haden is a glass historian who has a particular interest in the Shinagawa Glassworks of Tokyo which transformed Japan's glass industry, 1873-1884. Since the discovery ten years ago that one of the four British men who assisted there was her Scottish great grandfather, James Speed, she has been researching, speaking and writing about the significance of the factory. As guest lecturer in Tokyo at the 2015 symposium of the Association for Glass Art Studies, Japan, she was welcomed by a wide range of Japanese glass manufacturers, artists, curators and collectors who all wanted to learn about this historic link between British and Japanese glassmaking, and the influence it had on their country's industry.

Treaty Port Life, 1859-1899,

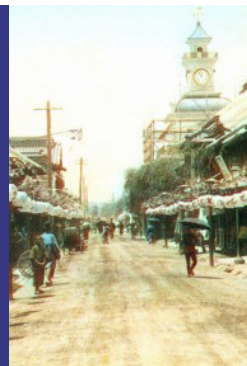
## Seen from the British Consular Court – Chris Roberts

Monday 19 September 2016

6.45pm

The Swedenborg Society  
20-21 Bloomsbury Way (Hall entrance on Barter Street)  
London WC1A 2TH

Free:  
Booking recommended



The case records of the British Consular Courts in Treaty Port Japan (1859 – 1899) cover the whole gamut of cases. In this talk, Chris Roberts will focus on what they tell us about daily life for Britons in Treaty Port Japan, their inter-relationship with each other, the other foreign communities in Japan and with the surrounding host Japanese society. Have things changed over the last 100 or so years, or are many of the issues still the same? Obviously, the picture is somewhat one-sided because most cases involved a dispute of some kind; but Chris will look beyond the working of the courts and legal issues (which were the subject of his PhD and his book) to extract the colour with which these records provide us of daily life, and indeed death, in the Japan of that time. These records are an important record of the social history of Britons in Japan at that time, whose daily lives, for the most part, passed below the radar screens of broader international political developments.

Chris Roberts graduated from Jesus College, Cambridge before qualifying as a solicitor. He lived and worked in Tokyo from 1988 to 1994 where he ran the Tokyo office of Allen & Overy, a major global law firm. On retirement, he gained his PhD from SOAS on a detailed analysis of the history and case-load of the British Consular Courts in Japan. An expanded version of his thesis was published in 2013 as *The British Courts and Extra-territoriality in Japan, 1859 – 1899*. He continues to research and write on Treaty Port Japan.

# Asobi: Japanese and Korean Post-War Art Tour with Christie's

Tuesday 20 September 2016

3.00pm

Christie's 8 King Street  
St. James  
London SW1Y 6QT

Free:  
Members of the Japan Society only

Booking essential  
Booking deadline Thursday 15 September



On 11 October Christie's will auction an extensive selection of works by well-known Post-War artists associated with movements including Gutai, Kyushu-ha and Mono-ha, as well as by artists working independently outside of these movements. Japan Society members are invited to a special viewing of this sale led by Anastasia von Seibold, Japanese Art Specialist, who will present highlights from the sale and give an insight into Japanese Post-War art.

The auctions will take place on Tuesday 11 October, with viewing open to the public between 16-21 September (*The Kenzo Kagami Collection of Postwar Japanese Art* and *Asobi: Japanese & Korean Post-War Art*) and 8-10 October (*The Kenzo Kagami Collection of Postwar Japanese Art* only).

Image © 2016 Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York / ADAGP, Paris

# Japan Matsuri 2016

Sunday 25 September 2016

10.00am – 8.00pm

Trafalgar Square  
Westminster  
London  
WC2N 5DN

Free



London's very own festival of Japanese culture – Japan Matsuri – returns on Sunday, 25 September 2016 in Trafalgar Square in the centre of the city. A regular fixture now in the London calendar, this free annual festival brings people together to enjoy Japanese food, music, dance, and activities for all the family.

Everything kicks off at 10.00am and runs through till 8.00pm. With two stages, there is plenty to see all day with an exciting programme of martial arts, the thrilling sounds of *taiko* drumming and festival dance. There is also the opportunity to join in with the ever popular Nodojiman karaoke contest.

Enjoy the atmosphere with Japanese festival food from the numerous stalls. Join in the fun in the family activities area with games and dressing in *kimono*. Try your hand at Japanese cartoons on the manga wall.

Japan Matsuri is organised jointly by the Japan Association, Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Japan Society and Nippon club, with support from the Embassy of Japan and the Japan Foundation.

Come and meet Japan Society staff at our stall on the north terrace in front of the National Gallery (opposite St. Martin in the Fields).

In association with:



JAPAN  
ASSOCIATION  
英国日本人会



日本クラブ

Embassy of  
Japan  
in the UK

*lcci.uk*



# The History of Manchuria: Book Launch and Talk with Ian Nish

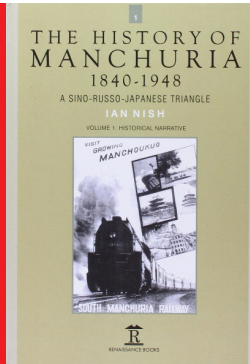
Wednesday 28 September

6.00pm

The Oriental Club  
11 Stratford Place  
London W1C 1ES

Free - Booking essential (deadline Monday 26 September)  
Priority will be given to Japan Society members

Please note that club rules require gentlemen to wear a jacket and tie,  
and equivalent smart formal dress is required for ladies.



To mark the publication of Professor Ian Nish's two-volume *The History of Manchuria, 1840-1948*, the Japan Society is holding a special book launch with a talk by the author.

Ian Nish, doyen historian of Japan, will reflect on how he came to be 'diverted' to his research on China – principally to address and reassess the history of Manchuria, in the context of the 'triangle' of rivalries between Russia, China and Japan – the significance of which has long been overlooked by modern historians. Japan Society Chairman, Sir David Warren will speak on Professor Nish's remarkable contribution to Japanese studies both in the UK and worldwide, while publisher Paul Norbury, who has worked with Professor Nish throughout his

later academic career, will comment on the planning and publishing of this major work. The talk will last 50 minutes and will be followed by a drinks reception.

*The History of Manchuria, 1840-1948: A Sino-Russo-Japanese Triangle* is published by Renaissance Books and will be available for £78 on the night, a 60% discount on the £195 RRP.

Ian Nish is Professor Emeritus of International History at the LSE and honorary senior research associate of the Suntory Toyota International Centre for Economics and Related Disciplines (STICERD); he is one of the most widely respected scholars in his field worldwide.

# Japanese in Britain: Oral Histories Film Screening

Thursday 29 September 2016

6.45pm

The Swedenborg Society  
20-21 Bloomsbury Way (Hall entrance on Barter Street)  
London WC1A 2TH

Free:  
Booking recommended



Following the devastation of the Second World War and the privations of the post-war period, the Tokyo 1964 Olympics marked the re-emergence of Japan on the world stage. As Japan flourished, enjoying economic growth and political stability, the liberalisation of passports and the end of restrictions on foreign currency opened the door for Japanese to travel abroad, and the Japanese community in the UK began to grow. Young travellers, businessmen, artists, entrepreneurs and spouses of British nationals have all contributed to this vibrant community.

The Wasurena-gusa (Forget-me-not) Project, run by the Japan Association in the UK records the history of the Japanese community through video interviews with those who settled in the UK from the 1950s and onwards. For this screening we will present a selection of interviews taken from the project, painting a picture of the many reasons for and ways in which Japanese have come to live in the UK and of the valuable contribution each has made to enriching this country.

Please note that the videos are in Japanese with English subtitles. Subtitling was undertaken with support from a Japan Society Small Grant.

(Photo: Tetsuro Hama, restaurateur, travelling Europe in the 1970s. © Tetsuro Hama.)

In association with:



# Family Cookery Day – Make a Hallowe'en Bento

Saturday 8 October 2016

10.00am to 12 noon  
2.00pm to 4.00pm  
(two classes)



Clearspring  
19A Acton Park Estate  
London W3 7QE

£15 per participating child

Deadline: Friday 30 September (early booking recommended)

*Priority given to members bringing children. One adult to every two children. Children will be the active participants with accompanying adults taking an assisting role. Please note that places are limited for what will be a popular event, so early booking is recommended.*

The Japan Society is delighted to team up with Clearspring and sushi art chef Satomi Mizuno-Lewis for this special workshop to make Hallowe'en themed bento boxes.

Using Clearspring's brand new Creative Kitchen, children will each make their own healthy bento filled with ghosts, pumpkin faces and black cats using fresh organic vegetables and organic ingredients taken from the extensive Clearspring range. They will make *temari* sushi, create character faces, and pipe designs to produce an attractively presented bento comprising a variety of colourful ingredients combining flavours and different textures.

Your children will be able to take their bento boxes home with them. Alternatively, there will be time after the morning workshop (until 1.00pm) for those who wish to stay and

eat their bento for lunch together with other participants.

The dishes made in this workshop are vegetarian (including egg); please notify us when booking if your children have any allergies or other dietary requirements. Please bring your own apron.

Satomi Mizuno-Lewis has always loved cooking. After training for two years with Sumiko Ushida, who is a master instructor of classes and events in the Tokai region of Honshu, Satomi's aim now is to share her skills in making decorated sushi which looks and tastes great. In this workshop, she takes these skills into the realm of lunchbox making. Packed lunches need never be the same again! [www.sushiartsurrey.com](http://www.sushiartsurrey.com)

The Clearspring brand promises premium quality Japanese specialities and organic fine foods that are authentic, versatile and support good health. Made to traditional recipes by master artisan producers, they bring you full, authentic flavours of some of the most exciting food cultures from around the world. [www.clearspring.co.uk](http://www.clearspring.co.uk)

Clearspring



# Japan Society Book Club: The Pillow Book by Sei Shōnagon

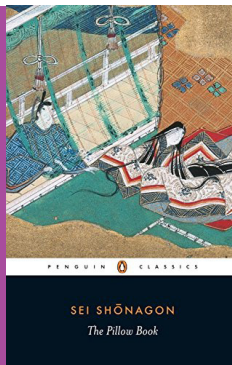
Monday 10 October 2016

7.00pm

The Japan Society  
13 / 14 Cornwall Terrace  
London NW1 4QP

Free for Japan Society Members:  
Booking recommended

The Book Club is held on the second Monday of every month



The Pillow Book (枕草子 *Makura no sōshi*) records the observations and musings of Sei Shōnagon during her time as court lady to Empress Consort Teishi in Heian Japan. The book was completed in the year 1002. In it Sei Shōnagon included lists of all kinds, personal thoughts, accounts of interesting events in court, poetry, and some opinions on her contemporaries. While it is mostly a personal work, Shōnagon's writing and poetic skill makes it valuable both as literature and as a historical document..

The book club is held every month. There is no restriction on the nationality of the authors read, but books should be available in translation in both Japanese and English. The discussion is conducted mainly in English, but you can choose the language in which you read the book. The intention is simple: to explore the themes of the book, express personal opinions on the style and content, discuss how the book has changed (or not) in translation and to have a relaxed discussion with others who have similar interests.

Sei Shōnagon was a Japanese author, poet and a court lady around the year 1000 during the middle Heian period. Little is known about her life except what can be found in her writing. She was the daughter of Kiyohara no Motosuke, a scholar and well-known *waka* poet, who worked as a provincial official. Shōnagon became popular through her work *The Pillow Book*. It was circulated at court, and for several hundred years existed in handwritten manuscripts.

Up next: *N.P* by Banana Yoshimoto

# The Collar Cup Golf Match 2016

Saturday 15 October 2016

10.30am

Buckinghamshire Golf Club  
Denham Court Drive  
Denham  
Buckinghamshire UB9 5PG

£70 per head (all-in price for the day)  
Booking deadline: Friday 30 September

Please remember to provide a handicap when registering



The annual golf match between the Japan Society and the JCCI is being held this year on Saturday 15 October at the Buckinghamshire Golf Club. Twelve players from each organisation will compete for the Collar Cup, which was won last year by the JCCI.

The day will include a light breakfast on arrival, the 18-hole competition (Stableford Rules), a buffet lunch, and the presentation ceremony for the Cup at the end of the day. Teams are currently being selected, and the Japan Society is looking for members who would like to help win back the title it last held in 2013. Competition will certainly be fierce!

The all-in price for everyone, including members of the Buckinghamshire Golf Club, is £70. Those registering are asked to provide handicaps.

To reserve your place, please contact the Japan Society office on 020 3075 1997 or [emma.routh@japansociety.org.uk](mailto:emma.routh@japansociety.org.uk). Payment must be made in advance by bank transfer, credit/debit card, or cheque made payable to 'The Japan Society'.

Supported by:



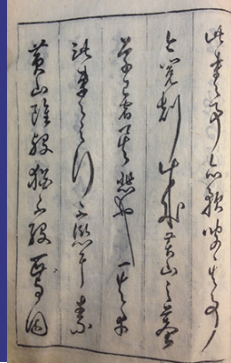
# Murdered for their Art? Censorship and the Dark Side of Edo-period Cultural Endeavours – Jenny Preston

Monday 17 October 2016

6.45pm

The Swedenborg Society  
20-21 Bloomsbury Way (Hall entrance on Barter Street)  
London WC1A 2TH

Free:  
Booking recommended



On the eighteenth day of the second year of Enkyō [延享, 1746] Sekiguchi Kōsan [関口黄山] died in his home on Ukiyo street off Nihonbashi. He was twenty-eight years old, and the author of a small handful of scholarly works: a seal script [篆書] version of the *Tōshisen* [唐詩選, *Tang Selection of Poems*], a study of the history of Japanese pronunciation, and a collection of miscellaneous writings. On the face of it, his narrative is unexceptional. Yet there are indications that his death was suspicious and that his endeavour to resurrect the art of seal script was not simply the product of an archaizing imagination. Through its prefaces and afterwords, Kōsan's seal script version of the *Tang* poems confronts us with the dark side of Edo.

Jenny Preston is a Leverhulme Early Career Fellow at the School of Oriental and African Studies, and teaches classical Japanese literature. She is currently working on a book on art and dissent in Edo period Japan.

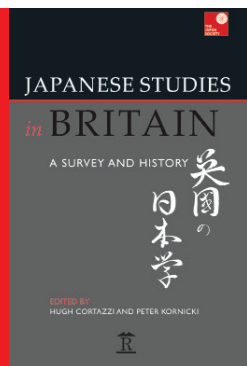
# Japanese Studies in Britain: Book Launch and Talk

Thursday 27 October 2016

7.30pm

Khalili Lecture Theatre  
SOAS University of London  
Thornhaugh Street  
Russell Square WC1H 0XG

Free:  
Booking essential (deadline Tuesday 25 October)



What is the state of Japanese studies in Britain and what are the implications of current education policy for our relationship with Japan? These are two of the questions at the heart of *Japanese Studies in Britain: A Survey and History*. The Japan Society is delighted to be supporting this important new study, and invites you to a special event marking its launch.

*Japanese Studies in Britain* takes an in depth look at the study of Japan in contemporary Britain, highlighting the many strengths but also pointing out some weaknesses, while at the same time offering a valuable historical record of the origins and development of Japanese Studies in British universities and other institutions. With essays looking at every department currently offering an honours degree in Japanese studies in the UK, this book will be of relevance not only to policy makers, academics and potential

students, but also to any reader interested in the developing relationship between Britain and Japan. It puts the current state of the discipline in the context of the broader business and political environment, and aims to prompt discussion by those responsible directly and indirectly for Japanese studies in Britain.

The event will be chaired by Japan Society Chairman, Sir David Warren and will feature talks by the book's editors, Sir Hugh Cortazzi and Professor Peter Kornicki, who will answer the question, why is it in our nation's interest for British people to have a good understanding of modern Japan?

The launch will be followed by a drinks reception.



# Japan Society Anniversary Dinner with Guest of Honour The Rt Hon Sir John Major KG CH

Wednesday 2 November 2016

7.00 for 7.30pm

Central London (W1)

Ticket holders will be informed nearer the event for security reasons.

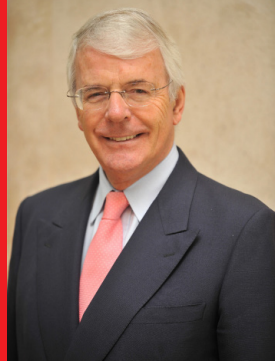
Members under 30: £40 (first 30 to apply)

Members (& guests): £70

Booking essential – deadline Friday 28 October

Dress code: Black tie / National dress / Lounge suits

Cost includes drinks on arrival, three course dinner, wine and coffee.



The Japan Society was founded on 9 September 1891 at a London meeting of the Japanese Section of the International Congress of Orientalists. It was conceived 'for the encouragement of Japanese studies and for the purpose of bringing together all those [...] interested in Japanese matters'. In its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, the Japan Society is delighted to welcome former Prime Minister The Rt Hon Sir John Major KG CH, as its guest for this special dinner. Also on this occasion, the Japanese Ambassador will formally make the presentation of the Foreign Minister's Commendation to the Society in recognition of its promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and the United Kingdom.

Sir John Major was first elected to the House of Commons in 1979, becoming the Conservative Member of Parliament for Huntingdon. Having served in Cabinet under Margaret Thatcher, including as Foreign Secretary and Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir John became Prime Minister on 28 November 1990 and served in that capacity until 1997. As Prime Minister, Sir John visited Japan on two occasions. He made clear his determination to develop "a true strategic partnership" between our two countries and oversaw significant campaigns aimed at boosting

bilateral trade. The nationwide Japan Festival 1991 also took place during his premiership: Sir John and Dame Norma attended the opening ceremony along with His Imperial Highness the Crown Prince of Japan and His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales. Sir John continues to be a regular visitor to Japan and encourages active engagement with Japan and Asia. On 8 May 2012 at the Imperial Palace in Tokyo, His Majesty The Emperor of Japan bestowed the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun upon Sir John in recognition of his invaluable contribution to Japan-UK relations through his work not only in the political and economic arena but also in promoting mutual understanding.

For security reasons, details of the venue will be sent to guests together with their tickets. Suffice it to say that we are sure that members will enjoy the chance to visit a gem of British architecture, full of intriguing detail and exquisite style. The dinner is traditionally a black tie event and many guests will wear formal dress, but for those who prefer lounge suits, this is perfectly acceptable. Most people will be sitting at round tables of 10. If you have any seating preferences, please specify with whom you wish to be seated. Please also inform us of any special dietary requirements.

Cancellation policy: a full refund will be given where notice of cancellation is received at least three working days prior to the event. In other cases, refunds will be given at the discretion of the Japan Society and event partners.

This event is kindly supported by:



# Sixth Form Japan Day 2016:

## a global perspective, a door to new opportunities

Thursday 3 November 2016 9.50am - 4.00pm  
(Registration from 9.30am)

The University of Manchester  
Oxford Road  
Manchester M13 9PL

Free of charge to schools  
Booking deadline: Monday 17 October (Please  
book early to avoid disappointment)



The Japan Society, in association with the University of Manchester, is pleased to invite sixth form students to attend its popular FREE one-day course about Japan, its culture and its role in the global community.

The day is designed to give students an insight into aspects of Japan, traditional and modern, through lectures and practical workshops. It is aimed at students who are studying Japanese, but will also be of interest to those who have not had the opportunity to do so formally at school, but who are considering Japanese studies at university in the UK or applying to do other subjects at university in Japan.

The course will feature a lecture by Dr Peter Cave, Senior Japanese Studies lecturer and a talk by final year Japanese studies students from the University of Manchester. Elective practical workshops in small groups will allow students to experience a range of activities, including: calligraphy, cookery, customs and business etiquette, manga, origami, *sumi-e* and *yosakoi soran*. Also for the first year this event will include the 'Japan Bowl Quiz' a competition workshop

developed by the Japan-America Society of Washington DC. During lunch students will have the opportunity to discuss Japan related study options with representatives from UK and Japanese Universities.

### Booking information

Reserve your place today! Places will be issued on a first-come-first served basis. Students may attend on their own or accompanied by a member of staff. To book places, please visit the event page on our website, download the spreadsheet and email the completed document to [education@japansociety.org.uk](mailto:education@japansociety.org.uk). Please also read and acknowledge on the booking form that you have read our terms and conditions.

During the day students will have the opportunity to join three out of nine possible workshop sessions. Please use the booking form to specify workshop preferred options. We will try, where possible, to give students their chosen workshops, but please note that this may not be possible in all cases. To help us match interests, please rank the workshop options 1-9, where 1 is the top preference.

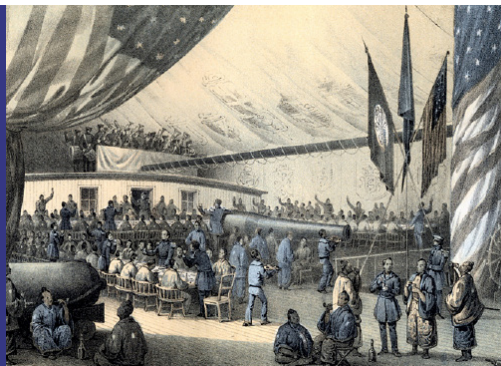
# Aliens Invade! The Barbarians and the Shogun with Lesley Downer

Thursday 10 November 2016

6.45pm

The Swedenborg Society  
20-21 Bloomsbury Way  
(Hall entrance on Barter St)  
London WC1A 2TH

Free:  
Booking recommended



In 1853 Commodore Perry's gunboat diplomacy forced an end to 200 years of Japanese isolationist policy. In this talk author Lesley Downer will unpick the many compelling narratives set in motion by the arrival of Commodore Perry and his Black Ships, telling the stories from both American and Japanese viewpoints.

Perry's mission to Japan was underpinned not only by American trade ambition, but also by a desire to bring Western culture to 'backward' Asian nations. What then was the Japanese reaction to the minstrel show offered up by USN sailors while negotiations took place in Kanagawa? And what was the role of *daimyo* Shimazu Nariakira, whose well-concealed factory complex, fledgling fleet of steam ships and daguerreotype camera marked him out as the most far-sighted of the shogun's advisors? Additionally, what were the circumstances behind the sudden deaths of not one but two shoguns following

the respective visits of Perry and the first American consul, Townsend Harris?

The talk will be illustrated with contemporary documents and pictures, including woodblock prints of Perry and Harris as seen through Japanese eyes, and American drawings of the Japanese.

Lesley Downer first went to Japan more than thirty years ago and her life has revolved around Japan ever since. She is the author of many books on Japan, including *Geisha: The Secret History of a Vanishing World*, *Madame Sadayakko: The Geisha who Seduced the West* and the first three in a quartet of novels: *The Last Concubine*, *The Courtesan and the Samurai* and *The Samurai's Daughter*. Her new novel, *The Shogun's Queen*, is a prequel, chronologically the first in the quartet, and begins at the moment when the Black Ships are sighted. Published 3 November 2016.

# Japan Society Book Club: N.P. by Banana Yoshimoto

Monday 14 November 2016

7.00pm

The Japan Society  
13 / 14 Cornwall Terrace  
London NW1 4QP

Free for Japan Society Members:  
Booking recommended

The Book Club is held on the second Monday of every month

BANANA  
YOSHIMOTO  
N.P.  
By the author of *Kitchen*,  
the International Bestseller



A celebrated Japanese writer has committed suicide, leaving behind a collection of stories written in English. But the book, itself titled *N.P.*, may never be published in his native Japan: each translator who takes up the ninety-eighth story chooses death too – including Kazami Kano's boyfriend, Shoji. Haunted by Shoji's death, Kazami is inexorably drawn to three young people whose lives are intimately bound to the late writer and his work. Over the course of an astonishing summer, she will discover the truth behind the ninety-eighth story.

The book club is held every month. There is no restriction on the nationality of the authors read, but books should be available in translation in both Japanese and English. The discussion is conducted mainly in English, but you can choose the language in which you read the book. The intention is simple: to explore the themes of the book, express personal opinions on the style and content, discuss how the book has changed (or not) in translation and to have a relaxed discussion with others who have similar interests.

Banana Yoshimoto was born in 1964 in Tokyo as a daughter of famous poet Takaaki Yoshimoto. Growing up in a liberal family, she learned the value of independence from a young age. She graduated from Nihon University's Art College, majoring in Literature. During that time, she took the pseudonym 'Banana' after her love of banana flowers, a name she recognizes as both 'cute' and 'purposefully androgynous.' She named American author Stephen King as one of her first major influences, and drew inspiration from his non-horror stories. Her debut novel, *Kitchen*, had over sixty printings in Japan alone.

Up next: *And Then* by Natsume Soseki

# A Japanese View on World Energy Future: The "3E" Challenges Under the Emerging Energy Landscape

Tuesday 15 November, 2016

2.00 to 3.45pm

JETRO London Office  
MidCity Place  
71 High Holborn  
London WC1V 6AL

Free of charge:  
Members of the Japan Society and their guests  
or those introduced by JETRO only

Booking essential (deadline Wednesday 9 November)



JETRO (Japan External Trade Organization) London, the Japan Society and JOGMEC (Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation) London would like to invite you to a seminar on a Japanese view on world energy outlook with special focus given to analyzing the impacts of lower oil price on world energy and economic future, as well as the issues related to the challenges for climate change.

Professor Ken Koyama, Chief Economist and Managing Director of the Institute of Energy Economics, Japan (IEEJ), will present an outline of the IEEJ's latest long-term Energy Outlook up to 2040, followed by comments and discussion by prominent energy experts. Professor Koyama will also touch upon Japan's latest energy policy challenges to achieve the government energy-mix target for 2030.

There will be a reception at 1.35pm.

Commentators:

Professor Paul Stevens, Distinguished Fellow, Energy, Environment and Resources, Chatham House

Peter Hughes, Director, Peter Hughes Energy Advisory Ltd.

Professor Ken Koyama received his BA and MA degrees in Economics from Tokyo's Waseda University, and his PhD from the University of Dundee where his thesis was titled *Japan's Energy Strategies toward the Middle East*. He joined the IEEJ in 1986 and has held various positions within the Institute, such as Senior Economist and later Head of the World Oil and Energy Group, and Senior Research Fellow in the Energy and Strategy unit. Alongside his current position, Professor Koyama has also taught at the University of Tokyo's Graduate School of Public Policy since 2010.

JETRO

In partnership with:



# The Abe Government, Freedom of Speech and the Issue of War Apology with Professor Arthur Stockwin

Monday 21 November 2016

6.45pm

The Swedenborg Society  
20-21 Bloomsbury Way  
(Hall entrance on Barter St)  
London WC1A 2TH

Free:  
Booking recommended



The central argument of this presentation is that with the election of the government headed by Mr Abe Shinzō in December 2012, the character of Japanese politics has changed in ways that may be considered fundamental

The Abe administration ended a little over three years of government led by the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ), which after early promise had collapsed in disarray. The DPJ government, however, was significant because it had interrupted a previously near total monopoly of power at national level by the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), whose tenure of office since it was founded in 1955 had been permanent, except for a brief interval in the early 1990s. The return to office of the LDP in 2012 was not a return simply to 'business as usual'. For reasons that Stockwin shall explain, the LDP since the 1990s had become far more united, and the power of an LDP prime minister a good deal more powerful, than used to be the case. Moreover, the party was now united around a leader, and around policies, of the hard right.

Mr Abe is an able political leader, who has learned much about the nature of political control in the course of his career. He is also what Stockwin shall call a 'nostalgic nationalist', determined to rewrite history in favour of a

positive version of Japanese modern history. His instincts veer towards the authoritarian, especially in relation to media freedoms.

In the course of this lecture, Stockwin shall examine two contentious issues that have marked his period in office: the Designated Secrets Law of 2013 and the issue of war apology. He shall offer a view on how far we should regard the shift to the right in Japan as causally similar to rightward trends in other comparable countries.

Arthur Stockwin was born in Birmingham, holds a BA in Philosophy, Politics and Economics from Oxford University and a Ph.D in International Relations from the Australian National University in Canberra. As a doctoral student he began to specialise in the politics and foreign policy of Japan and wrote a thesis entitled: *The Neutralist Policy of the Japanese Socialist Party*. Between 1964 and 1981 he taught in the Department of Political Science at the Australian National University. In 1982 he returned to the United Kingdom, to take up the position of Nissan Professor of Modern Japanese Studies, and Director of the Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies at Oxford University. He retired in 2003 but has continued to be active in research and writing, largely on matters relating to Japan.



# Japan Society Christmas Party 2016

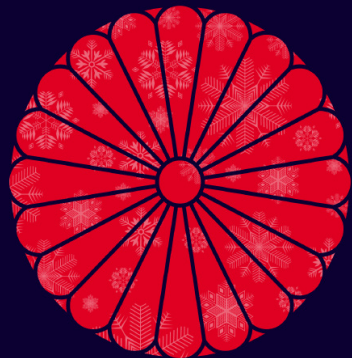
Thursday 1 December 2016

6.30 to 8.00pm

Embassy of Japan  
101-104 Piccadilly  
London W1J 7JT

£17 per head:  
Members and their guests only

Booking essential (deadline Monday 28 November)  
Please bring photographic identification with you as those  
without may be denied entrance



This year's Christmas Party will once again be held in the Ballroom of the Japanese Embassy, by courtesy of The Ambassador.

We hope that many members will join us for this festive occasion. In addition to speeches from His Excellency Mr Koji Tsuruoka and Japan Society Chairman, Sir David Warren, we are delighted to welcome Mr Paul Madden, British Ambassador-designate to Japan and Sarah Madden. Paul and Sarah will be leaving for Japan in the New Year.

This annual gathering provides members with a great opportunity to catch up with friends at the close of the year. Members may bring guests but space may well be limited, so early booking is advised; places will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis.

We are extremely grateful to the Japan Centre which is again generously providing the party canapes for the evening.

Names are required for the Embassy security in advance therefore early booking is advised. You will be sent a confirmation of your booking to print out and show on arrival.



# Book Launch: Carmen Blacker – Scholar Of Japanese Religion, Myth and Folklore

Monday 5 December 2016

5.45 for 6.00pm

Conference Suite  
The Society of Antiquaries of London  
Burlington House  
Piccadilly W1J 0BE

Booking essential (deadline Friday 11 November)

(places are very limited and will be issued on a first-come first-served basis)

CARMEN BLACKER  
SCHOLAR OF JAPANESE RELIGION,  
MYTH AND FOLKLORE

WRITINGS AND REFLECTIONS



EDITED BY HUGH CORTAZZI  
WITH  
JAMES MACHILLAN AND MARI-GRACE BROWNE



Carmen Blacker (1924–2009) was an outstanding scholar of Japanese language and culture, with a penetrating eye, a rare descriptive ability and a sensitive understanding of Japan. She was also closely involved with the Japan Society, playing a critical role in helping to re-establish it following the end of the Second World War and subsequently contributing as a member of the Council and later an Honorary Vice President, as well as giving numerous lectures.

This event celebrates the launch of *Carmen Blacker – Scholar of Japanese Religion, Myth and Folklore*, a tribute to her life and accomplishments published by Renaissance Books. The volume, edited by Sir Hugh Cortazzi, contains accounts of her

achievements by friends and colleagues, significant extracts from her diaries, selections from her published writings (some less well known) as well as the texts of the Carmen Blacker memorial lectures. There is also a full-colour plate section drawn from her extensive photo archive.

The event will be chaired by Lord Wilson of Tillyorn and will be followed by a drinks reception. Copies of the book will be available on the night at a special discounted rate.

Places are limited, but anybody who wishes to buy a copy of the book, but who is unsuccessful in obtaining a place, will still be entitled to the launch discount if they order by 5 December.

In partnership with:

 SAINSBURY INSTITUTE  
for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures  
セインズベリー日本藝術研究所

# Noh Masks:

## Behind the Scenes at the Pitt Rivers Museum

Monday 12 December 2016

10.15am to 12 noon

Pitt Rivers Museum  
South Parks Road  
Oxford OX1 3PP

(Meet in front of the main entrance to the Pitt Rivers Museum)

Booking essential (deadline Monday 5 December)

£20 per head (Places are limited and priority will be given to Japan Society members)



The Japan Society is organising a special visit to Oxford's Pitt Rivers Museum, home to one of the finest collections of *noh* masks outside of Japan, for a private view at a time when the museum is closed to the general public. Members will make their own way to and from Oxford, allowing them to explore the town at their leisure following the museum visit. (Anyone attending from London who would like to travel with Japan Society staff from Paddington should notify the office when booking.)

The Pitt Rivers Museum's stunning collection of 54 *noh* masks is notable for the fact that it came from an acting family rather than from a dealer and is believed to have been used by a *noh* theatre in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. Several were crafted by renowned mask-maker Deme Zekan in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century. In 2015 the Museum commissioned a new set of masks to show the various stages of fabrication of these ornate and striking objects.

The morning will be divided into two sessions. In one, Dr Rachel Payne, who spent two years studying the collection from 2001-2003, will introduce the 54 original masks, giving an insight into their carving, carvers, features, characters and the context of their use. In

the second session, Julia Nicholson, Curator and Joint Head of Collections at the Museum, will discuss how *noh* masks are made, using the new masks to give members a new appreciation of this living tradition.

Rachel Payne is Senior Lecturer and Japanese Programme Director at the University of Canterbury, New Zealand. She studied Japanese theatre history at the University of Oxford and Waseda University, and received her doctorate, focusing on Meiji era *kabuki* reform, from Oxford's Oriental Institute in 2001. She then spent two years studying the *noh* mask collection at the Pitt Rivers Museum as a Junior Research Fellow at Queen's College. Since moving to New Zealand in 2003 she has continued her research into Japanese theatre, most recently working as editorial assistant on the international project that produced *A History of Japanese Theatre* (Cambridge University Press, 2016).

The Japan collection at the Pitt Rivers Museum includes more than 7,500 items, ranging from an ornate suit of armour dating to around 1750, to 19<sup>th</sup> century children's toys, more than 800 netsuke, the remarkable collection of *noh* masks and collections from Ainu indigenous peoples.

# Japan Society Book Club: And Then by Natsume Soseki

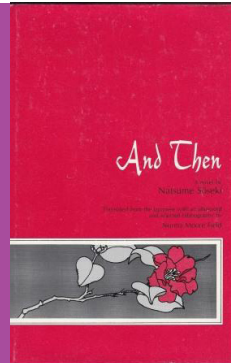
Monday 12 December 2016

7.00pm

The Japan Society  
13 / 14 Cornwall Terrace  
London NW1 4QP

Free for Japan Society Members:  
Booking recommended

The Book Club is held on the second Monday of every month



Daisuke, the protagonist in Natsume Soseki's classic *And Then*, is a man in his twenties who is struggling with his personal purpose and identity as well as the changing social landscape of Meiji-era Japan. As Japan enters the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, ancient customs give way to western ideals, and Daisuke works to resolve his feelings of disconnection and abandonment during this time of change.

The book club is held every month. There is no restriction on the nationality of the authors read, but books should be available in translation in both Japanese and English. The discussion is conducted mainly in English, but you can choose the language in which you read the book. The intention is simple: to explore the themes of the book, express personal opinions on the style and content, discuss how the book has changed (or not) in translation and to have a relaxed discussion with others who have similar

interests.

Natsume Soseki (1867-1916), was a Japanese novelist of the Meiji period (1868-1912). He was also a scholar of British literature and composer of *haiku*, *kanshi* and fairy tales. Soseki's literary career began in 1903, when he began to contribute *haiku* and literary sketches to literary magazines. However, it was the public success of his satirical novel *I Am a Cat* in 1905 that won him wide public admiration as well as critical acclaim. Major themes in Soseki's works include ordinary people fighting against economic hardship, the conflict between duty and desire, loyalty and group mentality versus freedom and individuality, the rapid industrialization of Japan and its social consequences.

# Madness and Moral Panic in Japan, Meiji to the Present Day – Christopher Harding

Monday 19 December 2016

6.45pm

The Swedenborg Society  
20-21 Bloomsbury Way  
(Hall entrance on Barter St)  
London WC1A 2TH

Free:  
Booking recommended



Japan is one of a number of countries around the world where in recent years government, the media, medics, and pharmaceutical companies have worked to increase public awareness about mental illness. Efforts are made to reduce stigma and encourage openness, with an insistence that mental illness is just like physical illness: it can happen to anyone, and it can be treated. For depression, there was even a popular slogan in the early 2000s: '*kokoro no kaze*' – a 'cold of the soul'.

But alongside these efforts runs a sense that rates of psychological distress are an indicator of wider, deeper problems in any given society: the robustness of the general population, the shifting demands of work and family life, the promise (or disappointment) of each new generation – even the ultimate fate of the country as a whole.

In this talk, we look at how in modern Japan, 'madness' and moral panic have often gone hand in hand. We look at worries in the 1870s connecting 'neurasthenia' with the alien pressures of westernized forms of life, the 'existential distress' into which the country's educated youth of the 1920s were

prone to fall – and the 'salaryman anxiety' suffered by their fathers. We explore the boom for psychological theorizing after the war, pitting the 'Japanese self' against the American one, all the way up to *hikikomori* and depression in our present age.

Should societies always try to avoid turning mental health into moral panic? Or in doing so, do they deprive themselves of a powerful tool of social and political criticism – 'solving' pressing problems by medicating the human fall-out?

Christopher Harding is a cultural historian of modern India and Japan. He is Lecturer in Asian History at the University of Edinburgh, where he specializes in religion, spirituality, and mental health. His most recent book is an edited collection: *Religion and Psychotherapy in Modern Japan*. He is currently working on a history of Japan's 20<sup>th</sup> century for Penguin. Dr Harding also writes and presents documentaries for BBC Radio 4. His series on culture and mental health, *The Borders of Sanity*, was broadcast earlier this year.

Image: *Disintegrating*, by Torisugari