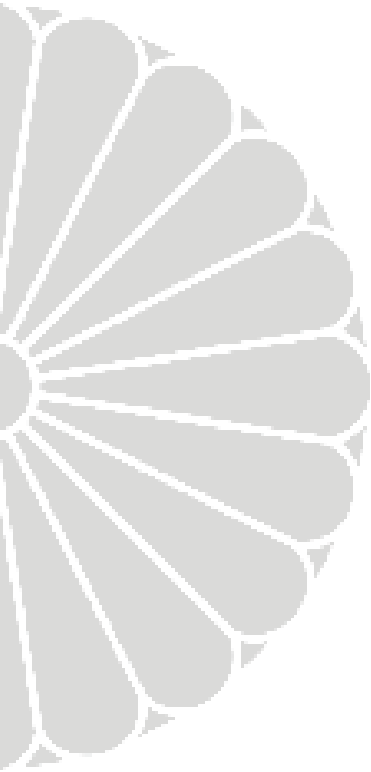


Events

January - December 2018



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The Japan Society, 13/14 Cornwall Terrace, London NW1 4QP
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Japan Society Book Club: An Artist of the Floating World by Kazuo Ishiguro

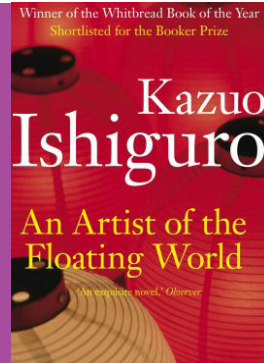
Monday 8 January 2017

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



An Artist of the Floating World is the second novel by the 2017 Nobel Prize-winning author Kazuo Ishiguro. The novel is set in Japan after the end of the Second World War and is narrated by Masuji Ono, a respected artist who is now retired. Struggling through the rapidly changing environment of the post-war society, the mature painter looks back on his life reflecting on his past actions and artistic work in support of the imperialist movement that led Japan into the war.

Kazuo Ishiguro is the 2017 winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature. He was born in Nagasaki in 1954 and moved to England with his family in 1960. He has received four Man Booker Prize nominations and won the 1989 award for his novel *The Remains of*

the Day. His work has been translated into more than 40 languages and adapted into highly acclaimed films. Ishiguro's other work includes *A Pale View of the Hills*, *Never Let Me Go*, and *The Buried Giant*.

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.

Grass Poets: Japanese Baskets, 1845-1953 – with Joe Earle

Monday 15 January 2018

6:45pm

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

Free – booking recommended



For thousands of years, Japanese farmers and artisans have plaited tropical woody grasses of the bamboo family into practical containers, but it is surprising to discover that basketry as a self-conscious art form is little more than 150 years old.

Based on the recent research and knowledge gained through cataloguing a major European collection, this lecture will explore Japanese bamboo art's origins in *sencha*, a supposedly Chinese manner of tea-drinking with Chinese-style utensils that became popular during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

Joe Earle will illustrate his talk with a wealth of previously unpublished works from two of Japan's greatest bamboo dynasties, the Hayakawa Shōkosai line in Kansai and the Iizuka line in Kanto. Hayakawa Shōkosai I (1815–1897), the first basket-weaver to sign his work, started by making almost direct copies of Chinese baskets but gradually developed a distinctively Japanese idiom.

His younger son, the little-known Hayakawa Shōkosai III (1864–1922), played a critical role in broadening the expressive potential of

bamboo, in particular through his use of the *ara-ami* ('rough weaving'). His innovations helped pave the way for the extraordinary and varied achievements of Iizuka Rōkansai (1890–1958), widely regarded as the greatest of all bamboo artists.

Joe Earle was Director of Japan Society Gallery in New York until 2012 and has held leadership positions in Asian art departments at the Victoria and Albert Museum, London, and the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Over the past 37 years he has curated, organized, or written catalogues for numerous exhibitions of contemporary Japanese art, craft, and design, including "Contemporary Clay: Japanese Ceramics for the New Century" (Boston and New York, 2005 and 2006), "New Bamboo" (New York, 2008), "Serizawa: Master of Japanese Textile Design," (New York, 2009), "Bye Bye Kitty!!!: Between Heaven and Hell in Contemporary Japanese Art" (New York, 2011), "Fiber Futures: Japan's Textile Pioneers" (New York, 2011), "New Forms, New Voices: Japanese Ceramics from the Gitter-Yelen Collection" (New Orleans, 2017). He is now based in London, and has recently completed a catalogue of 323 works of Japanese bamboo art in the Naej Collection.

Meiji at 150: Meiji Japan and Victorian Britain in dialogue

Saturday 27 January 2018 10am to 5.30pm (Doors open at 9.30am)

The Art Workers' Guild
6 Queen Square, Bloomsbury
London WC1N 3AT

£65 including buffet lunch and tea/coffee

Booking essential - Booking deadline: Wednesday 24 January 2018

Please note that tickets are booked directly with the Victorian Society.
Please visit our website or phone the Japan Society for a booking form.



On the sesquicentennial anniversary of the Meiji Restoration in 1968, the Victorian Society and the Japan Society are coming together to discuss how life in both Japan and the West changed during the Emperor Meiji's reign which coincided, almost exactly, with the second half of Queen Victoria's reign and Edward VII's subsequent monarchy.

Martin Dusinberre, Professor of Global History at the University of Zurich, will start the day with an overview of Meiji Japan, bringing together a Strong painting, an Armstrong ship and shows of strength in the late-nineteenth century world.

The first panel will focus on diplomacy. **Sir David Warren**, former Ambassador to Japan and Chairman of the Japan Society, will introduce the scholar, diplomat and Japanologist, Sir Ernest Satow. Satow's language skills made him indispensable to the first British Minister Plenipotentiary, Sir Harry Parkes, on whom, as well as the Japanese Ministers to the Court of St James, **Dr Andrew Cobbing** of the University of Nottingham will be speaking.

In the second panel, **Dr Angus Lockyer** of SOAS and **Dr Ayako Hotta-Lister**, an independent scholar, will investigate the international exhibitions which so facilitated Japan's

exposure to the West, culminating in the 1910 Japan-British Exhibition in London.

The consequent fashion for Japonisme which emerged in the later 19th century was very much a result of these exhibitions. In the third session, dedicated to visual arts, **Professor Toshio Watanabe** of the University of the Arts, London, will consider Japonisme in Britain while **Dr Monika Hinkel** of SOAS will explore the work of woodblock print artists in early Meiji Japan.

In Japan, the house and garden cannot be separated either physically or conceptually. Both Britain and Japan are island countries and quite wet ones at that. Thus the presentation on Japanese-style gardens in Britain and Ireland by **Dr Jill Raggett** of Writtle University College should come as no surprise, although the examples of Meiji-era houses and gardens in Japan, shown by **Professor Neil Jackson** of the University of Liverpool, might raise some eyebrows.

The Study Day will end with **Natasha Pulley**, the author of the international best-seller and award-winning novel, *The Watchmaker of Filigree Street* (Bloomsbury, 2015), talking about writing historical fiction set in Victorian London and Meiji Japan and, possibly, about a clockwork octopus.

Co-organised by:



Afternoon Tea and Film Screening with Screenwriter Kosuke Mukai

Friday 2 February 2018

3:00 pm – Afternoon Tea at Cinnamon Soho, 5 Kingly Street, London, W1B 5PF

6:15 pm – Screening of *Gukoroku* at Institute of Contemporary Arts (ICA) The Mall, London, SW1Y 5AH

£29 per head for afternoon tea and film screening
Priority for Japan Society members
Booking deadline: Wednesday 24 January 2018



The Japan Society is pleased to offer a select group of members the opportunity to meet and discuss screenwriting and film making with Kosuke Mukai over an Indian style high tea. Award-winning screenwriter Kosuke Mukai will be in London for the screening of *Gukoroku – Traces of Sin* (2016), which opens the Japan Foundation's 2018 touring film programme (*Un*)*true Colours*.

Based on a novel by acclaimed crime writer, Tokuro Nukui, *Gukoroku* is the debut feature of up and coming film maker, Kei Ishikawa. This informal session will provide the perfect opportunity to discuss the often overlooked screenwriter's art with Kosuke Mukai, the man who helped translate the written page to the screen. Mukai will share thoughts from his experience working with different directors and within different genres, and there will be plenty of time for questions before we move to the ICA to watch the film.

Afternoon Tea Menu*:

– A pot of tea for two from a selection of the finest Jing Teas Green | Assam | Earl Grey | Silver Needle Indian Masala Chai freshly brewed in-house using ginger and cardamom.
– Bombay potato bonda and green chutney

(v), Hyderabad caramelised onions and mint samosa (v), Tandoori chicken and chutney sandwich Bhangra lamb slider. – Malabar Plum Cake Bitter chocolate tartlets, dates and ginger.

* A vegetarian option is also available. Please inform us of any food allergies when booking.

Kosuke Mukai is a Japanese screenwriter, cinematographer and editor. He is a long-time collaborator with director Nobuhiro Yamashita in acclaimed films such as *Linda Linda Linda* (2005) and *Tamako in Moratorium* (2013). Mukai has also worked with Japanese directors Yuki Tanada and Toshiaki Toyoda and participated as screenwriter in the TV series *Midnight Diner* (2009-present). In 2007, he was awarded the Ryuzo Kikushima Award by the Writers' Association of Japan and in 2016, he was also the winner of the Best Screenplay Award at the 71 annual Mainichi Film Concours, one of Japan's most prestigious film awards.

Cancellation policy: a full refund will be given where notice of cancellation is received by Tuesday 24 January. In other cases, refunds will be given at the discretion of the Japan Society and event partners.

In association with:

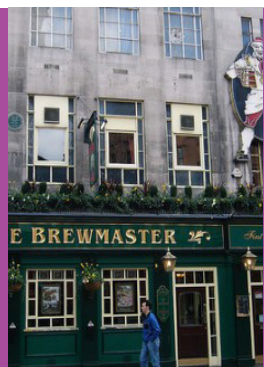
Japanese Conversation Group

Tuesday 6 February 2017

6.30pm

The Brewmaster
37 Cranbourn Street
London WC2H 7AD

Standard Admission £5.50
(£1 Discount for: Japan Society members/Students/Regulars)



The Japanese Conversation Group provides a friendly and informal atmosphere for Japanese speakers of all nationalities to come together and speak Japanese. Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of every month. They begin at 6.30pm with a pay-as-you-go bar, and finish around 11.00pm.

You will receive all discounts for which you qualify. The Regular Attendee Discount

will apply if you attended at least 50% of meetings during the previous calendar year, or once you attend six meetings in the current year.

Please visit the Japanese Conversation Group website <http://jcg.org.uk> for further details on their programme, which may be subject to change.

Life is Sweet – Japanese inspired desserts by Suzue Aoyama

Thursday 8 February 2018

5:30 pm for 6.00pm

K2 Building (main entrance on Keyworth Street, SE1 6NG)
The National Bakery School
London South Bank University
London, SE1 0AA

£25 per head
Priority for Japan Society members



We are delighted to welcome pastry chef Suzue Aoyama for a very special demonstration and tasting of her wonderful desserts inspired by Japan.

Award-winning Suzue Aoyama has created afternoon teas at world-renowned London hotels, Claridges and The Savoy. During her time in the UK, she has seen Japanese ingredients such as *sansho* pepper and miso become more easily available and has watched as connoisseurs have begun to experiment with uses beyond Japanese cuisine. It was a natural step for her, therefore, to take her skills in creating traditional pastries for the archetypal 'English Afternoon Tea' and begin to look for ways to infuse them with the flavours of her home, Japan. This has opened up into a world of creative patisserie-making firmly rooted in the classics.

At this event, you will have the opportunity to taste a selection of luxurious sweets and baked goods reinvented with Japanese flavours and, at the same time, watch a professional at work. While demonstrating patisserie skills and techniques, Suzue will speak about her passion and answer

questions. Learn about the art of combining flavours and pick up hints to inform your own baking. This event will doubtless appeal to the keen cooks among Japan Society members, but could also be a special Christmas or Valentine's gift. Please let us know if you would like a gift certificate for a loved one.

We are extremely grateful to the National Bakery School at London South Bank University for generously hosting this event and to King's Fine Foods for its support.

Suzue Aoyama is a Pastry Chef and Food consultant. Brought up in Osaka, Japan, Suzue moved to UK in 1995 to study culinary art at Le Cordon Bleu. After obtaining Le Grand Diploma at Le Cordon Bleu, she started her career at Claridges. In 1999 she became a Pastry Chef at The Savoy, in charge of tea pastry. In 2000, she won Gold award in afternoon tea pastry, *salon culinaire*, London – the first Japanese to do so. In 2004, she opened the boutique William Curley in Richmond with her former partner. The William Curley brand was awarded the Best British Chocolatier for 5 years from 2007 by The Academy of Chocolate. Since 2016 she has set up own workshop business.

In association with:



London
South Bank
University



Japan Society Book Club: *Slow Boat* by Hideo Furukawa

Monday 12 February 2018

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 story of *Slow Boat*, Hideo Furukawa's latest novella to be translated in English, is a self-reflective journey through the protagonist's experiences of Tokyo and the three girlfriends that characterise this journey. The story straddles the real and the imagined, dipping in and out of the narrator's memories, musings and dreams to create a magical realism that would not be out of place in a Haruki Murakami novel.

Hideo Furukawa was born in 1966. After working as an editor, freelance writer, and stage director, he made his debut in 1998 at the age of 13. In 2002, he won the Mystery Writers of Japan Prize and the Japan Science Fiction Award for *Arabia no yoru no shuzoku* (*The Arabian Nightbreeds*), a fantasy novel set in 13th-century Egypt. His other major novels include *SOUNDTRACK* (2003), the Mishima Prize-winner *Love* (2005) and *Horses, Horses, in the End the Light Remains Pure* (2011).

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.

Escaping to North Korea – with Markus Bell

Monday 19 February 2018

6:45pm

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

Free – booking recommended



Why did tens of thousands of people recently migrate from Japan to North Korea? What was life like for these people in North Korea? and why are an increasing number returning to Japan? Opening with the case of one family's heart-breaking decision to send their only daughter to North Korea, this talk illustrates the relationship between memory, emotions, ideology, and the shaping of post-colonial identities in contemporary Northeast Asia.

In this talk I draw on declassified documents and interviews with Koreans and Japanese who migrated to North Korea to argue that returnees' intimate memories of migration to North Korea contradict and consequently create friction with the Japanese state's memories of the period. Returnees from North Korea recall how anti-minority discrimination and the grinding poverty of life in post war Japan acted as push factors

that forced them to self deport. In contrast, the Japanese state recalls its involvement in the migration movement to North Korea as a humanitarian project to repatriate displaced people to their homeland. I show how returnees from North Korea are specters from Japan's past, embodying alternative histories that challenge modern Japan as a state that has yet to adequately address its colonial past.

Markus Bell is a social anthropologist in the School of East Asian Studies, University of Sheffield. His current research uses ethnographic methods to examine contemporary out-migration from North Korea. Markus is currently working on a book manuscript based on his research in Korea and Japan titled, 'Patriotic Revolutionaries and Imperial Sympathisers: Memory, Identity and Migration to North Korea'.

Lecture by Paul Madden CMG, British Ambassador to Japan

Thursday 1 March 2018
(reception afterwards until 8.30pm)

6.00 for 6.30pm

Nomura International plc
One Angel Lane
London EC4R 3AB

Free.
Members of the Japan Society and their guests only.

Booking essential (deadline Monday 26 February)



We are delighted to welcome the British Ambassador to Japan, HE Mr Paul Madden, to address the Japan Society at the end of his first year in post. In this lecture, Paul Madden will share his views on the political, diplomatic and commercial situation in Japan from his unique perspective as the UK's representative in Tokyo.

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.

Paul Madden CMG became British Ambassador to Japan in January 2017. He was previously British High Commissioner to Australia (2011-15) and British High Commissioner to Singapore (2007-11). He was Additional Director for Asia Pacific at the FCO in 2015. As Assistant Director of Information at the FCO (2003-2004) he was responsible for public diplomacy policy, including managing the FCO funding of the BBC World Service, the British Council and the Chevening Scholarships programme. He led the team responsible for the award-winning UK pavilion at the Aichi Expo in Japan 2005. He has an MA in Economic Geography from Cambridge University, an MBA from Durham University, studied Japanese at London University's School of Oriental and African Studies, and is a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society.

Hosted by:

NOMURA

Love and Other Cults – Film Screening and Q&A with director Eiji Uchida and producer Adam Torel

Friday 9 March 2018

6:00pm

Room B202 at SOAS Brunei Gallery
SOAS University of London
Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square
London WC1H 0XG

Free – booking recommended



The keenly awaited follow-up to controversial satire *Lowlife Love*, *Love and Other Cults* (*Kemonomichi*) is an irreverent story that crackles with energy and style depicting the lives of marginalised youth and their struggles in contemporary Japan. Having fended for herself as a child, drifting from a negligent mother to an oddball cult and a druggie dropout community, when Ai meets Ryota, she wonders: could love be the cult that heals all?

Written and directed by independent filmmaker Eiji Uchida, the film deals with social issues such as child neglect, teenage gangs and the sex industry against a blackly comic background. This coming-of-age narrative fizzles with rich symbolism and explosions of colour and secures Uchida's place as one of Japan's most exciting young directors.

Japan Society is very pleased to offer members and friends the opportunity to attend a free screening of the film in London and to meet director Eiji Uchida and British producer Adam Torel. Dr Marcos Centeno, lecturer in Japanese cinema at SOAS, will conduct the post-screening Q&A session and discussion on the film, Uchida's career and the state of independent filmmaking in Japan.

Eiji Uchida was born in Rio, Brazil to a Japanese mother, and returned to Japan in his childhood. Worked as a journalist for many major publications before becoming a film director. Made his debut with *Gachapon* in 2004 before going on to make a variety of features including *Topless* (2008), *The Last Days of the World* (2011), *Greatful Dead* (2013), *Lowlife Love* (2015), *Double Mints* (2016) and many more.

Adam Torel is the owner of Third Window Films, which is one of the UK's largest distributors of live-action Japanese cinema, which was started in 2005. In 2012 he started producing films in Japan, starting with Sion Sono's *The Land of Hope* (2012) then Yosuke Fujita's *Fukuchan of Fukufuku Flats* (2014) before two collaborations with Eiji Uchida: *Lowlife Love* (2015) and *Love and Other Cults* (2017).

Marcos Centeno, Ph.D. teaches Japanese Cinema and World Cinemas at SOAS, the University of London, where he is the convenor of the MA degree 'Global Cinemas and the Transcultural'. His research focuses on documentary film, avant-garde, transculturality and representation of minorities in Japanese cinema.

In association with:

 **third window films**

 **SOAS**
University of London

Japan Society Book Club: *Ghosts of the Tsunami* by Richard Lloyd Parry

Monday 12 March 2018

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



On March 11, 2011, a massive earthquake occurred off north-east Japan, about 70 kilometres east of the city of Sendai in the Tohoku region. It was the biggest earthquake ever known to have struck Japan, and the fourth most powerful in recorded history. Over 18,000 people died in the tsunami that followed an hour later, which at its peak saw waves 120 feet high. Half a million people became homeless. The resulting meltdown at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear reactor was the world's worst nuclear accident since Chernobyl. *Ghosts of the Tsunami* is a heart-breaking and intimate account of this tragedy, told through the personal testimony of the survivors; and also a meditation on its wider meaning.

Richard Lloyd Parry is Asia Editor of *The Times*. He was born in 1969 and was educated at Oxford. He has been visiting Asia for eighteen years and since 1995 has lived in Tokyo as a foreign correspondent, first for the *Independent* and now for *The Times*. He has reported from twenty-one

countries and several wars, including Iraq, Afghanistan, Indonesia, East Timor, North Korea, Papua New Guinea, Vietnam, Kosovo and Macedonia. His work has also appeared in the *London Review of Books* and the *New York Times Magazine*. He is the author of *In The Time of Madness* (2006) an eyewitness account of the violence that interrupted in Indonesia in the 1990s, and *People Who Eat Darkness: The Fate of Lucie Blackman* (2012).

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.

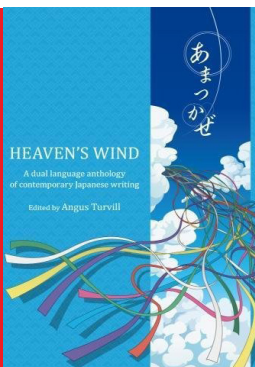
Heaven's Wind – Book launch and talk with editor and translator Angus Turvill and Professor Jay Rubin

Thursday 15 March 2018

6:30pm

October Gallery
24 Old Gloucester Street
London WC1N 3AL

Free – booking recommended



Taking its name from one of Japan's best known classical poems, *Heaven's Wind* (*Amatsukaze*) is the world's first dual language anthology of Japanese women's writing. Its stories are by some of the country's most celebrated contemporary authors: Kuniko Mukoda – *The Otter*; Natsuko Kuroda – *Ball*, Kaori Ekuni – *Summer Blanket*; Mitsuyo Kakuta – *The Child over There*; and Aoko Matsuda – *Planting*.

With the stories presented in Japanese/English parallel-text format, the anthology is aimed at readers of either or both languages. It seeks to bring people from different cultures together in the shared experience of reading the same stories from the same book.

The Japan Society is delighted to invite you to a special event marking the launch of *Heaven's Wind*, with the editor and translator of the book, Angus Turvill, and, on his first visit to the Japan Society, Professor Jay Rubin, whose translations include some of Haruki Murakami's best-known works. Following opening comments by Professor Rubin, Angus Turvill will talk about the book's five authors and their stories, reading excerpts and highlighting ways in which translation affects meaning and structure. Such issues

will be expanded on in further discussion with Professor Rubin, and with the audience.

The event will be followed by a drinks reception. **Copies of the book will be available to purchase on the night at a special discounted rate.**

Angus Turvill is an award-winning translator of Japanese. His other translations include work by anti-militarist Hisashi Inoue, Akutagawa Prize winner Masatsugu Ono and decluttering guru Nagisa Tatsumi. He teaches Japanese translation at Durham University.

Jay Rubin is Emeritus Professor at Harvard University. His translations include Haruki Murakami's *Norwegian Wood*, *The Wind-up Bird Chronicle*, *After the quake*, and *After Dark*; Natsume Soseki's *Sanshiro* and *The Miner*; and a volume of stories by Ryunosuke Akutagawa (*Rashomon* and *Seventeen Other Stories*). In 2015 he published *The Sun Gods*, a novel about a Japanese mother and her American son who were held at a US internment camp during World War II. Professor Rubin's *Penguin Book of Japanese Short Stories* will be published in 2018.

The obscured 'middle-way' in Japanese politics: the transformative power of dialogue, with Anne M. Fisker-Nielsen

Monday 19 March 2018

6:45pm

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

Free – booking recommended



The highly charged political rhetoric that erupted with the Peace and Security Legislation debates between 2014 and 2016 resulted in freezing debates at the level of being 'anti-Abe' meant being pro-peace, with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe presented by the opposition as the irredeemably ill-intentioned prime minister. This created a polarized political discourse that did not reflect the fact that the legislation was not a significant departure from Japan's past policies or from its 'self-defence-only-pacifism'.

Looking closely at the actual processes of negotiation and outcome of the bills, Komeito played an instrumental role in persuading the LDP to significantly change their initial security proposals. The legislation, arguable, increased the possibility of maintaining Article 9 and Japan's self-defence only position rather than the opposite.

This presentation focuses on Komeito's 'middle-way' politics that is driving a political agenda of complexity and concrete policy proposals, as well as direct engagement on the international scene. Komeito's politics have often been invisible to the general public, or explained away by the mass media as simply 'giving in' or 'compromising' with the LDP.

The talk will focus on two specific issues: 1) the politics that surround the LDP-Komeito coalition government decision not to sign the 2017 United Nations global ban on nuclear weapons and Komeito's long-standing political objective of abolishing nuclear weapons; 2) Komeito's long term direct engagement with China and what that may mean in Sino-Japanese relations today.

Dr Anne Mette Fisker-Nielsen is a social anthropologist focusing on politics and religion in Japan. Her research has focused on Japanese politics, and particularly on Komeito and its relationship with Soka Gakkai. Other areas of interests are civil society engagement, peace activism, religion in Japan, politics in Okinawa, and media and the public in Japan. In recent years, she has focused on politics surrounding security debates and Komeito in Sino-Japanese relations. She became a Senior Teaching Fellow at SOAS in 2008 and lectured on Japanese Culture and Society and Social Theory until August 2017 when she moved to Tokyo to take up a post as Associate Professor in Social Anthropology in the Department of Humanities at Soka University Japan.

Japan Society Book Club: *Heaven's Wind* edited and translated by Angus Turvill

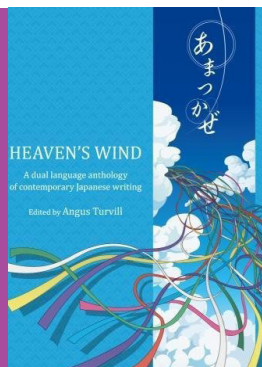
Monday 9 April 2018

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



Heaven's Wind is a collection of short stories by five of Japan's leading contemporary authors: Kuniko Mukoda – *The Otter*; Natsuko Kuroda – *Ball*, Kaori Ekuni – *Summer Blanket*; Mitsuyo Kakuta – *The Child over There*; and Aoko Matsuda – *Planting*.

These writers were born over five decades, from 1929 to 1979, and all of them happen to be women. The pieces themselves were written between 1963 and 2012. The fictional worlds they portray are set against pre-war to present-day backdrops, including towns, suburbs, the countryside and the coast. They engage with themes of childhood and child loss, work and society, marriage and isolation, deceit, illness and disaster. The stories are presented in Japanese and English translation, in a parallel-text format.

Angus Turvill is an award-winning translator of Japanese. His other translations include the work of anti-militarist Hisashi Inoue, Akutagawa Prize winner Masatsugu Ono and decluttering guru Nagisa Tatsumi. He teaches Japanese translation at Durham University.

***Heaven's Wind* is published by the Japan Society and is available for sale on our website.**

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.

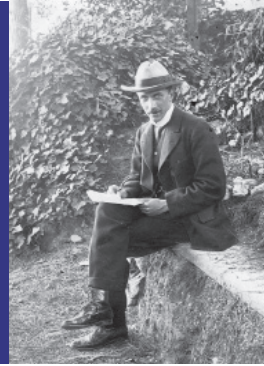
'Cherry' Ingram – the English Saviour of Japan's Cherry Blossoms – with Naoko Abe

Monday 16 April 2018

6:45pm

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

Free – booking recommended



Collingwood Ingram (1880–1981) was a self-taught English botanist whose passion for the Japanese cherry blossom saved many unique and rare varieties of this iconic flower from extinction. Based on 'Cherry' Ingram's diaries, original documents and scores of interviews, Naoko Abe's book examines the life of a plant hunter extraordinaire and the enormous impact that his pioneering work has had on cherry blossom cultures around the world.

In this lecture, Naoko will talk about Ingram's first sojourn in Japan in 1902 and his historic speech in Tokyo in 1926 exhorting Japanese royalty and industry leaders to save the dying blossoms at a time of rapid modernization and Westernization. She will discuss how the blossoms survived and will examine the flowers' political and cultural heritage throughout the 20th century, including their role in Japanese militarism during World War II and the evolution of a cloned cherry that's become the global symbol of modern Japan.

Naoko will also talk about how sakura helped ease tensions over U.K.-Japan prisoner-of-war issues in the 1990s and the current state of cherry blossom diplomacy between the two countries.

Born in Nagoya, Japan, **Naoko Abe** is a former staff writer for the Mainichi Newspaper, one of Japan's most influential newspapers. She covered the prime minister's office and travelled around the world with the paper. She moved to London in 2001. As a freelance journalist/non-fiction writer, Naoko has written extensively about British society and published six books in Japanese. Her most recent non-fiction book, *'Cherry' Ingram – the English Saviour of Japan's Cherry Blossoms* won the prestigious Nihon Essayist Club Award in 2016. She is currently writing an English version of the book, to be published in February 2019 by Chatto and Windus, an imprint of Penguin Random House.

The essence of omotenashi – Rethinking hospitality with Toru Machida, Head Concierge of The Savoy

Monday 30 April 2018

6.30pm

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

Free – booking recommended

Priority for Japan Society members



The concierge is the public face of a hotel and his or her reputation can be an important factor when choosing where to stay. Toru Machida is the first Japanese to become Head Concierge at London's five-star Savoy, an iconic hotel which has long played host to royalty, politicians and stars of the silver screen and which occupies an enviable position in the UK, where much store is set by traditions and status.

It has been 23 years since Toru Machida arrived in the UK at the age of 19. Starting as a room cleaner, he has worked his way up to a position as a top concierge. From making restaurant reservations to getting tickets for shows, Mr Machida does all he can to meet any requests from guests. Whether guests are trying to buy the latest games console on the day of release, or trying to get in touch with an old friend with whom they have lost contact, Mr Machida never says no. The ultimate spirit of omotenashi is demonstrated by someone who goes above and beyond the call of duty to understand people's desires, and results in guests who return time and again.

In this lecture, Mr Machida will discuss the art of looking after hotel guests with anecdotes from his experience, detailing his techniques for anticipating needs and managing the expectations of hospitality.

Toru Machida was born in Tokyo in 1976 and came to the UK after graduating from high school. He studied hotel management at university and, in 2001, started work at the Four Seasons Hotel in Canary Wharf. Beginning in housekeeping, he worked his way up to concierge clerk. He has extensive experience as concierge working in renowned hotels. Since December 2014, he has been working as Head Concierge at The Savoy; the first Japanese to do so.

Japanese Robata Grill Inspired Supper Club – With Japan Society and Jenius Social – Hosted by Silla Bjerrum

Thursday 10 May 2018

6:30pm for 7:00pm start

Jenius Social
6 Hornsey Street, Studio 8
London N7 8GR

£45 per head

Booking deadline: Friday 4 May 2018



We are delighted to announce an informal Japan Society supper club again, organised in partnership with Jenius Social and renowned chef and food consultant, Silla Bjerrum. Following our successful miso inspired supper club and sake & izakaya dining events, this is another opportunity to relax with other members of the Japan Society. Bring your friends, or simply come and meet new people. We look forward to seeing you there, but please be quick – places are limited.

Our host for this evening's supper club is Silla Bjerrum, co-founder in the late 1990s of London's first sushi delivery service, Feng Sushi. She is also known as an advocate for sustainability in food consumption and production, actively seeking positive solutions. She has become well-known as a sushi specialist, but her passion for good food does not stop at sushi. Her new book *Robata: Japanese Home Grilling* is published in April. In it she shares the appeal of robatayaki, a style of cooking which allows the flavours of the raw ingredients to shine.

Jenius Social is a vibrant new social hub in North London where food and passion collide: a fresh destination for people to meet, greet and eat.

With a menu based on Silla's new book, this event is certain to offer a memorable dining experience showcasing her delight in good food.

The menu* at this event includes:

1. Canton Hisbiscus Tea Royale cocktail served with Japanese appetisers of robata edamame and pickles
2. Spring 'robata garden' which is seasonal vegs set in sesame dip and toasted quinoa
3. Main, sharing dishes:
 - Salmon Negishio
 - Lamb Ribs with Shiso
 - Cubed Sirloin with Chilli Butter
 - Early Summer Salad
 - Rice Wrapped Banana Leaves
 - Japanese Slaw
4. Dessert of robata drunken pineapple with miso ice cream.

*Depending on availability of seasonal ingredients, this menu may be subject to last minute change. Please ensure you notify us of any dietary requirements when you book.

In association with



Japan Society Book Club: *Dendera* by Yuya Sato

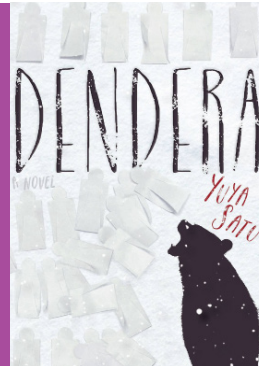
Monday 14 May 2018

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



Inspired by Shichiro Fukazawa's classic novel *The Ballad of Narayama*, Yuya Sato's novel explores the Japanese legend of *ubasute* – the custom of abandoning elderly relatives to die in a desolate place. The novel's heroine, Kayu Saito, was supposed to pass away after being taken to a remote mountain by her family, but she instead fell sleep and wakes up in a utopian community of old abandoned women who hunt and gather.

Yuya Sato was born in 1980 in Hokkaido. He is mostly known by writing crime fiction, thriller and science fiction. In 2001, his novel *Flicker Style* won the 21st Mephisto Prize. He also won the Yukio Mishima Prize for *1000 Novels and Backbeard* in 2007 and has been nominated for the Noma Literary New

Face Prize on two occasions. Some of his short stories have appeared in English in the mixed manga/prose anthology series Faust. His works have been translated into English, Chinese and Korean.

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.

Positive Energies: social inclusion of children with disabilities. A talk with parents, teachers and photographers

Thursday 17 May 2018

6:30pm

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

Free – booking recommended



In recent years, a range of prenatal screening tests has become widely available and many women now choose to have these tests. When the investigations reveal foetal abnormalities, pregnant women and their families have to face the difficult decision of whether or not to continue the pregnancy. In the UK, over 90% of parents told that their unborn child has Down's syndrome choose to have a termination.

The decision in the UK to offer women with a higher risk of a Down's baby a new safer, non-invasive, test from this year, has sparked much debate. This has brought to the fore ethical questions about policies which seem to devalue people who live with disability or which imply criticism of women who choose to continue a pregnancy, despite test results indicating abnormality.

'Positive Energies', an exhibition of the work of Japanese and British photographers, opens on 16 May 2018 at the Gallery@oxo in London. It presents images by Fumio Nabata, Fiona Yaron-Field and Richard Bailey that challenge pre-conceived ideas about people with Down's syndrome. Japan Society is pleased to hold this discussion to celebrate

and focus more closely on issues raised by the exhibition. We hope this event with speakers from a range of backgrounds will provide an opportunity to explore attitudes and perspectives on Down's and other children with disability, in Japan and the UK.

In the first half of the evening, we will reflect on bringing up children with disability, their education and questions relating to prenatal diagnosis with three speakers: Yumiko Little, a Japanese parent raising a child with disability in the UK, who will discuss, through her experiences with her son, the importance of children's hospices; Cathy Darvell, a British teacher who organised a Japan-UK school exchange project involving children with special needs; and Kazuhiro Takemura, director for international relations at the Japan Down Syndrome Society and father of a child with Down's syndrome, who will examine the concept of 'Smart Inclusion'.

It will be followed in the second part by a talk by photographers Fumio Nabata, Richard Bailey and Fiona Yaron-Field who will discuss about their work and the exhibition 'Positive Energies'. The evening will conclude with a Q&A panel session with all the speakers.

Translation and the public dissemination of science in Meiji-era Japan – with Ruselle Meade

Monday 21 May 2018

6:45pm

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

Free – booking recommended



The use of a single term, *hon'yaku*, to describe translation during the Meiji era belies the wide diversity of practices identified by this word. This diversity of practices reflects the variety of actors who became involved in translating texts to chart a way forward in this era of societal and intellectual upheaval. During the Meiji era, many who were not specialists in science turned their energies towards translating science. They did this, not simply to transmit scientific knowledge, but because they felt science had a special relevance in navigating the challenges particular to the times in which they were living, and because they felt it was a means of promoting the type of society they envisioned.

In this talk I will discuss who translated science in the Meiji period, for which audiences, and for what reasons. I will show how translator motives shaped how they approached their activity, and will discuss the role played by translators in shifting science from an elite activity into one open to people of various educational and literacy levels. Through a range of examples I will demonstrate how translators creatively made science accessible and relevant to those who had not previously engaged with it, and how they used science

as a means of engaging with wider debates about the future of Japanese society.

Ruselle Meade is a lecturer in Japanese studies in the School of Modern Languages at Cardiff University, where she teaches Japanese history, language and translation. Her research focuses on public representations of science in modern Japan, with a focus on the Meiji period. Her current work examines the methods and motives of those engaged in the translation and popularization of science, and seeks to understand the effects of their activities on emerging professional and national identities.

North Korea: a view from Pyongyang, with British Ambassador, Alastair Morgan

Friday 25 May 2018

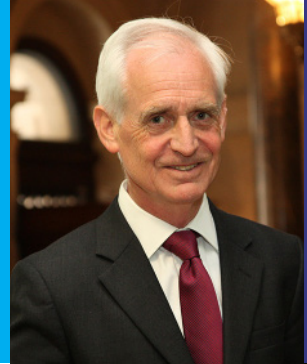
11:30 for 12:00 noon start

Willis Towers Watson
51 Lime Street
London EC3M 7DQ

Free – Booking essential

Priority booking for Japan Society members and their guests.
Non-member booking opens on Monday 14 May.

Booking deadline: Wednesday 23 May 2018



We are delighted to welcome British Ambassador to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Alastair Morgan, to brief members of the Japan Society on current developments on the Korean peninsula.

The historic meeting between the leaders of the two Koreas, Kim Jong-un and Moon Jae-in, on 27 April 2018 was observed eagerly by the world's politicians and press. The year began with heightened tension in the region, after over 20 North Korean ballistic missile tests in 2017, including two intercontinental ballistic missiles that can reach the US carrying a nuclear payload.

However, 2018 has seen participation in the Pyeongchang Winter Olympics by athletes from North Korea and the promise in the coming weeks of a meeting between Kim Jong-un and Donald Trump. The pace at which the political atmosphere has changed is remarkable and makes this session with the British Ambassador in Pyongyang particularly timely.

HE Mr Alastair Morgan is British Ambassador to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. He took up his appointment in Pyongyang in December 2015, before which he was Trade and Investment Director at the British Embassy in Beijing and then Britain's Consul-General in Guangzhou. He has had two previous diplomatic postings in East Asia, both in British Embassy Tokyo. From 1991 to 1996 he was First Secretary (Trade Policy) and from 2002 to 2006 he was Counsellor Trade Policy and Director of Inward investment. He also worked in Tokyo on loan to the Japanese Ministry of International Trade and Industry from 2001 to 2002 and from 1983 to 1985 as a Lecturer in English language and literature at Gakushuin University.

The Japan Society is very grateful to Willis Towers Watson for kindly hosting this important meeting.

In association with

Willis Towers Watson 

Japan Room Lecture: Trading Cryptocurrencies

Tuesday 29 May 2018

6.30pm

Lodge Room No 11
The Freemasons' Hall
Great Queen Street
London WC2B 5AZ

Free for Japan Society members
Non-members: £9

Booking deadline: Friday 25 May



Due to exciting progress being made in the world of blockchain and cryptocurrencies, The Japan Room will be shifting its focus to the arena of cryptocurrency trading.

In 2017, The Japan Society hosted a series of fintech events to introduce the basic ideas behind concepts such as AI, blockchain and cryptocurrencies. The Japan Room now takes this a step further to introduce the trading of cryptocurrencies, which has links to Japan from Homma's Japanese candlestick charting to Satoshi Nakamoto and beyond.

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

Guest Speakers: Anil, Oxana and Arran from Pro FX Options

Host: Pauline Chakmakjian, Visit Kyoto Ambassador.

In association with



Japan Society Book Club: *The Hunter* by Asa Nonami

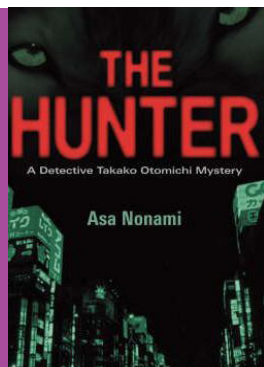
Monday 11 June 2018

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 Hunter is the first English translation of the atmospheric, gritty and character-driven work of prize-winning, bestselling Japanese writer Asa Nonami in which she presents the character of Takako Otomichi, a former motorbike patrolwoman-turned-detective. In this story, Otomichi is partnered with an older, seasoned, misogynist detective in a murder investigation in the nightclub underworld of Roppongi in Tokyo. Before long, the case is linked to another death, this time apparently the result of an attack by a large dog. *The Hunter* won the Naoki Prize in 1996.

Asa Nonami was born in 1960 in Tokyo and attended Waseda University to study sociology before dropping out and getting a job at an advertising agency. She is a prolific writer of Japanese crime fiction and horror stories and is known for her strong female characters. In 1988 she won the Japan Mystery and Suspense Grand Award for her debut novel *A Happy Breakfast*. Her other awards include the 115th Naoki Prize for *The Hunter*, which was adapted into a film, and the Chuokoron Prize for Literature in 2012. Her other works include *The June 19th Bride*,

Paradise Thirty, *Dramatic Children*, *Murderer of the Blooming Season*, and *Body*.

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.

Forthcoming book clubs in 2018

9 July: *Shiokari Pass* by Ayako Miura

13 August: *Tei, A Memoir of the End of War and Beginning of Peace* by Tei Fujiwara

10 September: *The Scarlett Gang of Asakusa* by Yasunari Kawabata

8 October: *After the Banquet* by Yukio Mishima

Joint Lunch for Mr Graham Stuart MP, Minister for Investment – The Investment Environment for Japanese companies in the UK

Wednesday 13 June 2018

12.30pm for 1.00pm

National Liberal Club
Whitehall Place
London SW1A 2HE

£60 per head

Members of the Japan Society, the JCCI and their guests

Booking deadline: Friday 8 June 2018



The guest of honour at the Japan Society and the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the UK's second joint lunch of 2018, will be Minister for Investment at the Department for International Trade, Mr Graham Stuart MP.

We are delighted to welcome Mr Graham Stuart, appointed in January 2018 to the position of Minister for Investment at the Department for International Trade, to share his views on the investment environment for Japanese companies in the UK.

Mr Stuart's speech is extremely timely against the backdrop of Brexit, and in light of the recently concluded EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) at end-December 2017.

Mr Graham Stuart will speak following a two-course lunch, after which there will be time for questions until 2.30pm.

Please note that spaces are limited and this is likely to be a very popular event.

Mr Graham Stuart was elected Conservative MP for Beverley and Holderness in 2005 and more recently, appointed Minister for Investment at the Department for International Trade. Graham started his publishing business while still at Cambridge University. He was later elected to Cambridge City Council, where he eventually led the Conservative Group.

Graham's Parliamentary career has seen him serve as Chair of the Education Select Committee (2010-15) and as a Government Whip with responsibility for the Department of Health, and later for HM Treasury and the Ministry of Defence. In his role as Minister for Investment at the Department for International Trade Graham focuses on encouraging foreign investment into the UK economy and promoting overseas investment opportunities to British companies.

In association with:



Oswald 'Shiro' White (1884-1970): Thirty-eight Years in the Japan Consular Service – with Hugo Read

Monday 18 June 2018

6:45pm

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

Free – booking recommended



Oswald White was a very modest man, both professionally and privately, who never bragged about his great achievements or his intimate knowledge of the Japanese language and culture. As a direct result of this, he is less well known than many of his predecessors in the Japan service, but he is nevertheless a significant figure in its history. He spent his whole career in the Japan Consular Service, serving the last third as a Consul General. He left his last official post in February 1941, before Pearl Harbour (November 1941) and therefore shortly before Japan entered WWII.

His interest in Japan extended beyond his work. Nicknamed 'Shiro' (White in Japanese), he had a great affection for Japan and the Japanese throughout his life. Always a hands-on people's person, White's Japanese became fluent and natural. By the end of his career he was one of the leading Western experts on the Japanese language, with profound knowledge of the culture, region and its people.

In the 1930s and up to 1942 he wrote his memoirs, *All Ambition Spent*, which paint a fascinating portrait of a Consul General in the centre of a key region at a pivotal time

in world history. For this talk, Hugo Read, his Great-Grandson, has drawn on White's memoirs (which he edited), artefacts held by the family and on personal accounts to describe White's life and times.

Hugo Read is the great-grandson of Oswald White, who spent 38 years in the Japan Consular Service (1903-1941). He contributed a portrait of Oswald White published in *Britain and Japan: Biographical Portraits, Vol. X* (Renaissance Books, 2016). White's Memoir, *All Ambition Spent*, edited by Hugo Read was published in 2017 also by Renaissance Books.

Artist talk -moment- Noritake Kinashi in conversation

Tuesday 19 June 2018

6.30pm

Conway Hall
25 Red Lion Square
London, WC1R 4RL

Free – Booking essential

Priority for Japan Society members



In June 2018, the work of anglophile and polymath Noritake Kinashi will be appearing in a new exhibition, introducing the latest phase of his ongoing creative project 'REACH OUT'. Also an actor, musician and comedian, Kinashi will showcase a series of paintings created as a result of his unique observational point of view, with his dynamic and non-conformist, yet ever-evolving brush style.

To celebrate his first show in the UK, Kinashi, in conversation with Dr Lena Fritsch, a specialist in 20th and 21st century Japanese art and photography, will discuss how he draws inspiration from everyday life, and how his art activities influence his acting and comedy performance, and viceversa.

Noritake Kinashi started his professional career as a comedian in the early 80s. He quickly became a household name, not only as a comedian, but also as a singer and actor. Since making his artistic debut in 1994,

his works have been exhibited in numerous museums including the 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art Kanazawa (Japan) and the Ueno Royal Museum (Tokyo, Japan) as well as in a solo exhibition in New York in 2015. This year saw him take the leading role in the film 'INUYASHIKI', that was awarded the 2018 Golden Raven at Brussels International Fantastic Film Festival. His first solo show, Noritake Kinashi London Exhibition -moment- will run at Protein Studios from 21 to 24 June.

Dr Lena Fritsch is Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at the Ashmolean Museum (University of Oxford). Prior to joining the Ashmolean in 2017, she was Assistant Curator of International Art at Tate Modern, co-curating exhibitions on Agnes Martin in 2015 and Giacometti in 2017. Fritsch studied Art History, Japanese Studies, and English Studies in Bonn University, Germany and Keio University in Japan.

In association with



JAPAN FOUNDATION

Japan Society Golf Tournament 2018

Wednesday 27 June 2018

8.30am for 9.30am two tee start

Berkhamsted Golf Club
The Common
Berkhamsted
HP4 2QB

£80 per head for Japan Society Members and their guests

Booking deadline: Monday 18 June



The Japan Society's Annual Golf Tournament, for the Asprey and Garrard Plate, is due to take place at Berkhamsted Golf Club on Wednesday 27 June, with a two tee start at 9.30am. The format will be Stableford.

The all-in price is £80, including coffee and a bacon roll on arrival, 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'; halfway house refreshments will be provided.

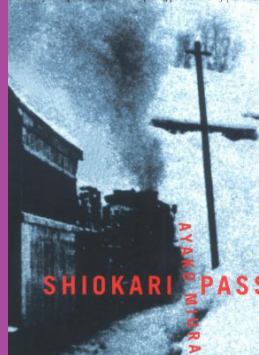
Berkhamsted's reputation is founded on the unique nature of the course, which is entirely natural with no man-made hazards. It was founded in 1890 and designed by renowned golf course architect G. H. Gowring, who made the most of the natural landscape, including Grim's Dyke, a huge Iron Age earthwork, which you will encounter several times as you navigate the course. While there are no sand bunkers, Berkhamsted is a quality heathland layout so watch out for the swathes of heather and gorse which await to gobble up any wayward shots.

In association with:



Japan Society Book Club: *Shiokari Pass* by Ayako Miura

A uniquely compelling depiction of surprising power. — *The Japan Times*



Monday 9 July 2018

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

Based on a true story, *Shiokari Pass* is a moving tale of love eclipsed by sacrifice and tragedy. The hero of this Japanese novel is the young and idealistic Nobuo Nagano, who finds himself forced to make a heart-wrenching decision, when he must choose between his childhood sweetheart, Fujiko, and his newly found Christian faith. Set in Hokkaido at the turn of the nineteenth century, when for the first time Western culture and ideas were beginning to challenge Japan's long-held traditions, *Shiokari Pass* takes an intriguing look at Japanese life and thought of a hundred years ago.

Ayako Miura (1922-1999) was born in Hokkaido and rose to literary stardom on the basis of her first novel, *Freezing point*, published serially in 1964. After graduation, she worked as a teacher at primary school, but soon afterwards, she contracted

tuberculosis and spent over 13 years in a sanatorium. Miura converted to the Christian faith and was baptised in 1952. Her life before her writing career began is described in the first volume of her autobiography *The Wind is Howling*. She published over eighty works of both fiction and non-fiction and a number have been remade as feature-length films.

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.

Private viewing and artist talk: Travels in a Paper Coat

Thursday 12 July 2018

6.30pm

APT Gallery
6 Creekside
Deptford SE8 4SA

Free – booking essential

Limited availability (Priority will be given to Japan Society members)



Following two successful exhibitions at the Poetry Society (2015) and the Glass Tank Gallery, Oxford Brookes University (2016), *Travels in a Paper Coat* is the third Matsuo Basho inspired collaboration between sculptor Isao Miura and poet, Chris Beckett. For this new multi media exhibition, they are joined also by filmmaker Nikolai Azariah.

Japan Society members are invited to a special private view of the exhibition, with introduction by the artists.

With Basho's paper coat as a symbol of lightness and simplicity, the exhibition takes visitors from a Departure point of collage and sculpture, past a "Haiku Creek" made of Shiramine paper, towards a Temple installation with tatami floor & shoji walls made by Isao Miura, onto which Nikolai Azariah's films from the *Narrow Road* are projected and where natural sounds together with readings of Japanese poetry are audible. Bronzes & paintings by Isao act as fascinating Uta Makura landmarks along the way, including the Mojizuri Stone and the Nine-Tailed Fox demon.

Isao Miura is a painter and sculptor from Akita in the "deep north" of Japan. He left his village near Mount Chokai (an active volcano) and Kisagata Bay to study painting in Tokyo, later moving to London to continue his studies. Isao is now engaged in a project to translate Basho's *Narrow Road* into visual images, to analyse its emotional power, its culture-defining charm, through paintings, drawings, calligraphy and sculpture.

Chris Beckett is an English poet, published by Carcanet Press, who worked in Tokyo in the 1980s. His collaborative book with Isao Miura, *Sketches from the Poem Road* (Hagi Press, 2015), was shortlisted for the Ted Hughes Award.

Nikolai Azariah is a half English, half Finnish filmmaker whose work centres around the idea of discovery, both in process and end product. Having a love for travel, he spent the last two years exploring India, Nepal, Japan, Colombia and Peru while working on three self-initiated documentary film projects. Being half Finnish, frequent sauna visits are essential to his creative process.

Carmen Blacker Lecture 2018: Thinking for Oneself. Individuality in Early Modern Japan – with Peter Nosco

Monday 16 July 2018

6:45pm

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

Free – booking recommended



For this year's Carmen Blacker Lecture we are delighted to welcome Peter Nosco, Professor of Japanese History and Culture at the University of British Columbia. The Carmen Blacker Lecture Series honours the memory and scholarship of Carmen Blacker (1924-2009) and is organised jointly by the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures and the Japan Society.

In his most recent published work, Nosco has attempted to challenge a number of long-standing assumptions regarding various aspects of Japanese society before the Meiji period. Looking at the construction of individual identity, the aggressive pursuit of self-interest, the defiant practice of forbidden religious traditions, the widespread interest in self-cultivation and personal betterment, new understandings of happiness and well-being, and the embrace of "neglected" counter-ideological values, Nosco has argued that taken together these point to higher degrees of individuality in early modern Japan than has generally been acknowledged, and perhaps higher levels than one finds in Japanese society today.

In this annual Carmen Blacker Lecture for 2018, Nosco attempts to synthesize and summarize his broader argument; and in an Afterword, he reflects on Dr. Carmen Blacker, her influence on him, and especially how she taught him what it means to think for oneself.

Peter Nosco is Professor of Asian Studies at the University of British Columbia. He benefited directly from Carmen Blacker's mentorship at Cambridge University in 1971-3 and again in 1977-8, and to this day his scholarship reflects her influence. A specialist in the intellectual and social history of early modern Japan, Nosco has published work on several Japan-related topics: Confucianism (the edited volume *Confucianism and Tokugawa Culture*) and especially its religious dimension, nativism or *kokugaku* (the monograph *Remembering Paradise: Nativism and Nostalgia in 18th-Century Japan*), values and identity (co-edited with J. Ketelaar and Kojima Y., *Values, Identity and Equality in Early Modern Japan*), individuality (the monograph *Individuality in Early Modern Japan: Thinking for Oneself*), underground Buddhist and Christian movements, civil society and even a translation of short stories by Ihara Saikaku (*Some Final Words of Advice*).

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

Japanese Garden Party

Sunday 29 July 2018

12:30pm – 6:00pm

Hammersmith Park – Japanese Garden
South Africa Road
White City, Shepherd's Bush
London W12 7NU



No booking required – just turn up on the day!

Join us for an afternoon of Japanese live music, family activities and Japanese food to celebrate the regeneration of the Japanese garden in Hammersmith Park! Expect taiko drumming, ramen, and family friendly activities such as origami and calligraphy, alongside much more!

The day will end with two very special performances by contemporary Japanese artists Ichi and Hatis Noit. We hope you can join us for what is bound to be a fantastic summer celebration of all things Japanese!

Why we're celebrating

Hammersmith Park is all that remains of the 1910 Japan-British Exhibition in White City, but few know it is a Japanese garden. Now an avenue of stone lanterns and a wooden entrance gate are being installed to celebrate the park's Japanese origins.

To mark the event, Japan Society, together with the Embassy of Japan and the Friends of Hammersmith Park, are hosting an afternoon

activities and music. Children and adults alike can make their own Japanese lantern to take home, learn to write their name in Japanese, try on a kimono, fold some origami, and even meet Hello Kitty herself!! That's right – Hello Kitty will be making a personal appearance at the celebrations! And if all the excitement makes you hungry, you'll be able to sample delicious Japanese street food at the Japan centre food stalls.

A wide range of Japanese traditional and contemporary music will fill the garden all afternoon, from the guitar-like shamisen, to taiko drums, concluding with performances by two exciting Japanese musicians. ICHI, takes the concept of the one man band to entirely new heights with his homemade instruments and eclectic, fun sound, while Hokkaido-born Hatis Noit's mesmerising vocals draw on musical traditions from Japanese court music to opera, and Buddhist chanting to pop.

Co-organised by:

Embassy of
Japan
in the UK

Japan Society Book Club: Tei, A Memoir of the End of War and Beginning of Peace by Tei Fujiwara

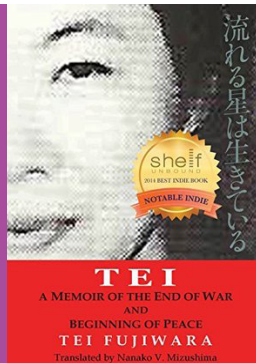
Monday 13 August 2018

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



More than sixty years ago, Tei Fujiwara wrote a memoir *Nagareru hoshi wa ikite iru* about her harrowing journey home with her three young children. Tei's memoir begins in Manchuria, then a Japanese-controlled state in China, in August 1945. Tei and her family fled from the invading Soviets who declared war on Japan a few days after the United States dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima. After reaching her home in Japan, Tei wrote her memoirs as a testament to her young children, who wouldn't remember their journey and who might be comforted by their mother's words as they faced an unknown future in post-war Japan. However, Tei survived and her memoir, originally published in 1949, became a best seller.

Tei Fujiwara (1918-2016) was born in Chino, Nagano Prefecture. After graduating in high school, she married the author Nitta Jirou in 1939. She traveled to Manchuria with her husband who was assigned to

the meteorological observatory in Shinjing in 1943. In 1945 after the defeat war, she temporarily left her husband and withdrew with her children to Japan. After returning home, she wrote her memoir *Nagareru hoshi wa ikite iru* which was adapted for film and TV. She worked as respondent of the Jinsei Anai section at *Yomiuri Shimbun* for about 13 years until 1997.

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.

Tiny Objects can tell the Truth. British Influence on the Birth of Japanese Archaeology – with Tomoaki Nakano

Monday 20 August 2018

6:45pm

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

Free – booking recommended



It was about one hundred years ago when the first department of archaeology was founded in Japan, at Kyoto Imperial University (1916). Kosaku Hamada, the first professor of archaeology, had studied the subject under Professor Flinders Petrie, the 'Father of Egyptian Archaeology', from 1913 to 1916 at University College of London.

At that time both imperial universities in Tokyo and Kyoto sent contributions to the Egypt Exploration Fund (now the Egypt Exploration Society), with which Petrie worked, and legally received finds excavated by the organisation in Egypt.

To mark the centenary of the relationship between Kyoto and London Professor Nakano made a study of about 1500 Egyptian objects over a seven year period, and published a catalogue of the Kyoto University collection. While conducting this research, he also identified distribution records of the finds and letters exchanged between UK and Japan in the archive of the Egypt Exploration Society.

In this lecture, Professor Nakano will introduce the Egyptian objects sent to Kyoto and discuss the academic exchanges between the two countries.

Tomoaki Nakano studied anthropology at Nanzan university and Egyptology at the University of Oxford. He received his PhD in anthropology from Nanzan University in 2000. After serving as a Research Fellow of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science and an Associate Curator of the Ancient Orient Museum, Tokyo, he moved to the College of International Studies, Chubu University, as Associate Professor in 2009 and then became Professor in 2016. His fieldwork in Egypt includes a 3D laser scanning survey of the step pyramid at Saqqara and excavations of a Graeco-Roman temple called El-Zayyan in Kharga oasis. The catalogue of the Egyptian Collection in the Kyoto University Museum was published in 2016 under his supervision and he is a co-author of the *Encyclopedia of Ancient Orient* (Iwanami-shoten, 2004) edited by the Society for Near Eastern Studies in Japan. He won the Society's Award for Young Scholars in 1997.

Japan Society Book Club: *The Scarlet Gang of Asakusa* by Yasunari Kawabata

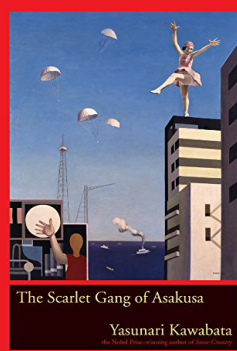
Monday 10 September 2018

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 the 1920s, Asakusa was to Tokyo what Montmartre had been to 1890s Paris, Alexanderplatz was to 1920s Berlin and Times Square was to be to 1940s New York. *The Scarlet Gang of Asakusa* captures the decadent allure of this entertainment district, where beggars and teenage prostitutes mixed with revue dancers and famous authors. Originally serialized in a Tokyo daily newspaper in 1929 and 1930, this vibrant novel uses unorthodox, kinetic literary techniques to reflect the raw energy of Asakusa, seen through the eyes of a wandering narrator and the cast of mostly female juvenile delinquents who show him their way of life. Markedly different from Kawabata's later work, *The Scarlet Gang of Asakusa* shows this important writer in a new light.

Yasunari Kawabata (1899-1972) was born in Osaka but after the early death of his parents he was raised in the countryside. He studied at the Tokyo Imperial University and was one

of the founders of the publication *Bungei Jidai*, the medium of a new movement in modern Japanese literature. Kawabata made his debut as a writer with the short story, *Izu dancer*, published in 1927. After several distinguished works, the novel *Snow Country* in 1937 secured Kawabata's position as one of the leading authors in Japan. In 1968, Yasunari Kawabata became the first Japanese novelist to win the Nobel Prize for Literature.

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.

Images with and without Text: The Photographic Magazine in 1930s Japan – with Jelena Stojkovic

Monday 17 September 2018

6:45pm



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

Free – booking recommended

The 1930s are sometimes referred to as the 'golden age' of Japanese photography. Following the touring of *Film und Foto* exhibition around the country in 1931 modernist approaches to the medium flourished on an unprecedented scale, among such prominent photographers as Kiyoshi Koishi, Iwata Nakayama and Nakaji Yasui. However, as a significant proportion of negatives and original prints from the period were lost in the Allied bombings at the end of the Second World War, this 'age' of Japanese photography is best perceived through the prism of photographic magazine.

In this lecture, we look at versatile examples of the rich photographic magazine culture

in 1930 Japan, from the iconic *Kōga* and *Photo Times* as well as the lesser-known publications such as *Kameraman* or even *Home Life*. We discuss the ways through which photography was mobilised in these publications in relation to text, and what these different forms of presentation tell us about the Japanese visual culture at large during the turbulent decade between the Manchurian Incident (1931) and the onset of the Pacific War (1941).

Dr Jelena Stojkovic is Lecturer in History and Theory of Photography at the Arts University Bournemouth. She is the author of forthcoming *Surrealism and Photography in 1930s Japan: The Impossible Avant-Garde*.

Recent Developments in the Global Market with Hiroshi Watanabe

Tuesday 18 September 2018

2.30pm for 3.00pm start

BDO LLP
55 Baker Street
London W1U 7E

Free for members – Booking essential
Non-members: £10 per head

Priority booking for Japan Society members and their guests
Non-member booking opens on Monday, 10 September



We are delighted to welcome Mr Hiroshi Watanabe, President of the Institute for International Monetary Affairs (IIMA) to brief Japan Society members on Recent Developments in the Global Market. Mr Watanabe's wide ranging experience in the public and private sector, has given him a broad overview of the international financial scene. At a time of great uncertainty in the UK, his views on the current situation from a Japanese perspective will be particularly relevant.

The Institute for International Monetary Affairs (IIMA) was originally established on December 1, 1995, as a non-profit research organization by MUFG Bank, Ltd.

Mr Hiroshi Watanabe, a graduate of the University of Tokyo, joined the Ministry of Finance (MOF) in 1972. He has served in various senior positions over the years, including as Vice Minister of Finance for International Affairs in 2004, Director-General of International Bureau, and Personal Secretary to the Minister of Finance. After his retirement in 2007, he was a professor at the Graduate School of Commerce and Management of Hitotsubashi University. From 2008 to 2016, he served as CEO of Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC).

The Japan Society is very grateful to BDO LLP for kindly hosting this important meeting.

In association with:



Japan Matsuri 2018

Sunday 30 September 2018

10.00am – 8.00pm

Trafalgar Square
Westminster
London
WC2N 5DN

Free



London's very own festival of Japanese culture – Japan Matsuri – returns on Sunday, 30 September 2018 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. The programme of stage performance for this year is still being finalised, and will feature exciting new acts as well as the return of favourites from previous Matsuri.

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.

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).

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.

For all the latest news, follow Japan Matsuri on facebook (@Japan.Matsuri.London), twitter (@japanmatsuri) or visit Japan Matsuri's website on **www.japanmatsuri.com**

In association with:



Japan Society Book Club: *After the Banquet* by Yukio Mishima

Monday 8 October 2018

7.00pm

VINTAGE MISHIMA

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



First published in 1960 under the Japanese title *Utage no Ato*, *The New Yorker* called *After the Banquet* “the biggest and most profound thing Mishima has done so far in an already distinguished career” upon its translation into English by Donald Keene in 1963, and it is still considered a modern classic. This book was praised in particular for its approach to contrasting musings on death with finding meaning in life itself, as well as its richly described settings. The plot follows Kazu, a shrewd and charming proprietor of a restaurant that caters to politicians. But when she falls in love with one of her clients, an aristocratic retired politician, she renounces her business in order to become his wife. As Mishima based the novel on events in the life of a real politician, Hachiro Arita, the work triggered a landmark legal case, famous due to its celebrity litigants and the groundbreaking decision with regards to a “Right to Privacy”.

Yukio Mishima (1925-1970) was the pen name of Kimitake Hiraoka, a Japanese author, poet, playwright, actor, and film director. Mishima

is considered one of the most important Japanese authors of the 20th century; he was nominated three times for the Nobel Prize in Literature and was poised to win the prize in 1968, eventually losing the award to his fellow countryman Yasunari Kawabata. 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. Mishima was also known for his bodybuilding and martial arts obsessions. In 1970 he committed ritual suicide by seppuku after a failed coup d'état.

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Japan Conference for Schools 2018

Friday 12 October 2018 10.00am – 4.15pm

The British Council
10 Spring Gardens
London SW1A 2BN

Free for school teachers but prior booking is an essential requirement.

Booking deadline: Friday 5 October 2018



Japan Conference for Schools 2018

Plus!
All-day Pearson CPD
A-Level Workshop

A free one-day conference for teachers to network and share ideas about introducing Japan and Japanese into schools.

This is a free one-day conference for teachers to network and share ideas about bringing Japan and Japanese into schools.

The event is open to schools or local authorities that are new to the study of Japan, schools already implementing Japanese in their curriculum, those involved with partnerships in Japan and schools looking to enhance or develop an existing programme of Japan-related study.

There will be general sessions as well as sessions specifically geared to Primary or Secondary teaching.

The day will be divided into three "sessions". For each "session", participants can choose one workshop. Please note that participants can choose to attend EITHER the Pearson A-Level CPD workshop OR a combination of the other session workshops running throughout the day.

Please note applications for the Pearson A-Level CPD Workshop are now closed.

Workshops that will be running include:

Session One

- Designing and Managing Japanese Language Instruction for a Multi-level Class
- Cross-Curricular Focused: Introducing Japan/Japanese in schools

Session Two

- Language Focused: Japanese Language Club
- Manga as a Gateway to Learning
- Cross-Curricular Focused: Enrichment and Curriculum Ideas to Engage Japanese Learners

Session Three

- Cross-Curricular Focused (Primary): Maths Through Japanese
- Cross-Curricular Focused (Secondary): Art in the Japanese Classroom.

If you have any queries, please contact: education@japansociety.org.uk

This event is co-organised by Japan Foundation London and the Japan Society with generous support from the British Council.



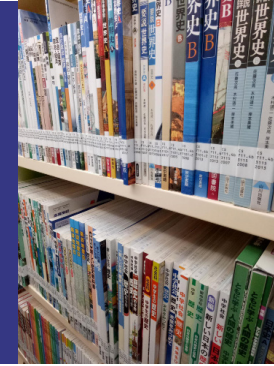
Turf Wars: Territories and Textbooks in Sino-Japanese Relations

Monday 15 October 2018

6:45pm

Japan House London
101-111 Kensington High Street
London W8 5SA

Free – booking recommended



The content of Japanese school textbooks has been a bone of contention between the Chinese and Japanese governments since the 1980s when the first 'textbook issue' emerged. The Chinese government has lodged protests at various points since 1982 at what they perceive to be a 'beautification' of history and distorted accounts of Japan's war of aggression. In recent years, their criticisms have shifted to include the changes made to the descriptions in Japan's middle school civics textbooks of territorial disputes (the Senkaku/Diaoyu islands) which have themselves courted controversy in Japan. At the same time, Japanese politicians and academics have begun to raise concerns about China's history textbooks, and their perceived anti-Japanese content.

This talk explores some of the changes that have been made in Japanese and

Chinese textbooks in recent years against the backdrop of 'patriotic education' reforms in both countries, and considers the implications for Sino-Japanese relations.

Professor Caroline Rose is based in the Department of East Asian Studies at the University of Leeds. She specialises in various aspects of Japanese and Chinese foreign policy as well as historical problems in Sino-Japanese relations. Her books include *Sino-Japanese Relations: Facing the Past, Looking to the Future?* (RoutledgeCurzon, 2004) and *Interpreting History in Sino-Japanese Relations* (Routledge, 1998). She is currently completing a monograph on history and citizenship education in China and Japan and has published widely on various aspects of the history problem in China-Japan relations. She is embarking on a project on the role of trust and friendship in East Asia.

Japan Room Lecture: The Curious Case Of Japan Leads To Deep Revelations About Money

Tuesday 30 October 2018

6.30pm

Lodge Room No 11
The Freemasons' Hall
Great Queen Street
London WC2B 5AZ

Japan Society members: £9
Non-members: £15

Booking deadline: Friday 26 October



How weak is macroeconomic theory? Japan has terrible macroeconomic numbers (by leading nation standards) yet a high quality of life. This contradiction drags macroeconomics, monetary policy, taxation, and politics under a spotlight.

In this talk, Professor Michael Mainelli intends to draw on the work of his Long Finance movement, along with the work of Professor Richard Werner, and use the more interesting contradictions of Japan to show how much more we need to learn about fiat currencies, cryptocurrencies, trade, and tax in order to provide alternative visions of economic and fiscal (six letter word for tax) policies.

Professor Michael Mainelli FCCA FCSI(Hon) FBCS, Executive Chairman, Z/Yen Group. A qualified accountant, securities professional, computer specialist, and management consultant, educated at Harvard University and Trinity College Dublin, Michael gained his PhD at London School of Economics where he was also a Visiting Professor. He began his career as a research scientist, later becoming an accountancy-firm partner and a director of Ministry of Defence research. During a spell in merchant banking in 1994, he co-founded Z/Yen, the City of London's

leading commercial think-tank. He has led Z/Yen from creating smart ledgers (aka blockchains) through the Financial Laboratory, Taskforce 2000, Long Finance & the London Accord, Global Financial Centres Index, Global Green Finance Index, and Global Intellectual Property Index. He is an Alderman of the City of London, a non-executive director of two listed firms and a regulator, Emeritus Professor at Gresham College, Fellow of Goodenough College, and Master of the Worshipful Company of World Traders. His third book, *The Price of Fish: A New Approach to Wicked Economics and Better Decisions*, won the 2012 Independent Publisher Book Awards Finance, Investment & Economics Gold Prize..

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

Host: Pauline Chakmakjian, Visit Kyoto Ambassador.

In association with



A Japanese View on World Energy Future: Energy Transition and A Thorny Path to 3E Challenges

Tuesday 6 November 2018 10.00am to 12.00am (registration: 9.45am)

JETRO London Office
Mid City Place
71 High Holborn
London WC1V 6BA

Free of charge – Booking essential
Members of the Japan Society and their guests

Booking deadline: Tuesday 30 October 2018



JETRO (Japan External Trade Organization), 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 the analysis of oil and electricity supply interruption, as well as that of the impact of “zero new coal-fired power generation” on 3E challenges.

Professor Ken Koyama, Chief Economist and Managing Director of Institute of Energy Economics, Japan (IEEJ), will present an outline of the IEEJ’s latest long-term Energy Outlook up to 2050, followed by comments and discussion by prominent energy experts. Professor Koyama will also touch upon Japan’s latest energy policy challenges, based on the discussion on the latest “Strategic Energy Plan” of Japan which was approved by the Cabinet July this year.

Minister Plenipotentiary with Embassy of Japan, Mr Takashi Okada will offer some brief remarks at the opening of the seminar.

Commentators:

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

Peter Hughes, Director, Peter Hughes Energy Advisory Ltd.

Mr. Masayuki Tanimoto, Regional Head for Europe, the Middle East and Africa, Japan Bank for International Cooperation.

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.

To reserve your place, please visit our website and find the link to JETRO registration form.

Organised by:

JETRO

In association with:

JOGMEC


Sixth Form Japan Day 2018

Wednesday 7 November 2018
(Registration from 10.00am)

10.20am to 4.00pm

SOAS University of London
Russell Square Campus
London WC1H 0XG

Free of charge to schools

Booking deadline: Thursday 1 November 2018



The Japan Society, in association with Ritsumeikan University (UK) and SOAS, is pleased once again 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 an insight into aspects of Japan, traditional and modern, through lectures and practical workshops. It is not only aimed at Sixth Form students who are studying Japanese, but is also for those who have not had the opportunity to do so formally at school. As part of the day we will have a University Exhibition, where students will have the chance to talk one on one with a range of representatives from universities in the UK offering Japanese Studies programmes. For those considering applying to do other subjects at universities in Japan, there will also be a chance to learn about study abroad opportunities.

Students will also have the chance to speak one on one with representatives from a range of universities offering Japanese studies.

The course will feature a keynote address by Beth Kempton, Founder of 'Do What You Love'

and bestselling author of 'Wabi Sabi: Japanese wisdom for a perfectly imperfect life'

The day will also include a lecture by a special guest speaker Professor Takeshi Hashimoto (Ritsumeikan University) and a talk by final year Japanese studies students from SOAS. Elective practical workshops in small groups will allow students to take part in a range of activities, including: Calligraphy, Cookery (Sushi), Oekakinden (Smart Wearable Sports Technology), Manga (Drawing), Martial Arts (Aikido), Sumi-e (Ink-wash painting), and a language focused workshop led by the Japan Foundation exploring the topic of O-Bento (Japanese lunch box).

Booking information

Places will be issued on a first-come-first served basis. Students may attend on their own or be accompanied by a member of staff.

For more information about the workshops and to apply, please visit our website and download the booking form: <https://www.japansociety.org.uk/schools/sixth-form-japan-day/>

Japan Society Book Club: 69 by Ryu Murakami

Monday 12 November 2018

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



**Ryu
Murakami**

PUSHKIN PRESS

Thirty-two-year-old narrator Kensuke Yazaki takes a nostalgic look back at the year 1969, when he was an ambitious and enthusiastic seventeen-year-old, living in Sasebo, in western Kyushu, where he gets into antics with his equally ambitious and enthusiastic best friends, Iwase and Adama. Their priorities are girls, cinema, music, literature, pop culture, organising a school festival to be called "The Morning Erection Festival", besting teachers and enemies, and finding a way to change the world somehow.

Born in 1952 in Nagasaki prefecture, **Ryu Murakami** is the enfant terrible of contemporary Japanese literature. Awarded the prestigious Akutagawa Prize in 1976 for his first book, a novel about a group of young people drowned in sex and drugs, he has gone on to explore with cinematic intensity the themes of violence and technology in

contemporary Japanese society. His novels include *Coin Locker Babies*, *Popular Hits of the Showa Era*, *Audition*, *In the Miso Soup* and *From the Fatherland, with Love*. Murakami is also a screenwriter and a director; his films include *Tokyo Decadence* and *Because of You*.

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.

Imamura Shohei: How to Win Fans and Influence People in the Postwar Japanese Studio System – with Jennifer Coates

Monday 19 November 2018

6.45pm

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

Free – booking recommended



Imamura Shohei's first four films have received significantly less academic and critical attention than his work from 1960 onwards. *Stolen Desire* (*Nusumareta yokujo*, 1958), *Ginza Station* (aka *Lights of Night*, *Nishi Ginza eki mae*, 1958), and *Endless Desire* (*Hatashinaki yokubo*, 1958), made at Nikkatsu Studios, have been largely dismissed, with *My Second Brother* (*Nianchan*, 1959) credited with bringing Imamura to critical and academic attention. This lecture takes a closer look at the contents and reception of these early films, investigating their relation to critical and popular understanding of Imamura's own directorial persona.

Many critics consider these films uncharacteristic of Imamura, yet if we look closely at their themes, casting, language, and settings, we can see many central components of Imamura's later work in these early studio films. While the dominant story of Imamura's career situates *My Second Brother* as the work in which he found his authorial

voice, this voice is discernible much earlier. Imamura's first three films are in fact strongly characteristic, not only of his later work, but also of his public-facing auteur persona. A closer look at these early works helps us to understand how Imamura won over professional film critics to become a critically lauded star director.

Jennifer Coates is Senior Lecturer in Japanese Arts, Culture, and Heritage at the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures, University of East Anglia. She is the author of *Making Icons: Repetition and the Female Image in Japanese Cinema, 1945-1964* (Hong Kong University Press, 2016). Her current ethnographic research project focuses on early post-war film audiences in Japan. Jennifer has been a Kluge Fellow at the Library of Congress, Washington D.C. (2012), a Visiting Research Fellow at the Australian National University (2011), and a Hakubi researcher at Kyoto University (2014-2018).

Japan Society Annual Dinner

Wednesday 21 November 2018

7.30pm for 8.00pm

One Great George Street
London SW1P 3AA

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

Members (& guests): £70

Non-Members: £100

Booking essential – deadline Friday 16 November

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



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 vast 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 during 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.

This event is kindly supported by:



The Fukushima Accident & Its Aftermath

Monday 3 December 2018 14.00pm registration for 14.15pm start

JETRO London Office
Mid City Place
71 High Holborn
London WC1V 6BA

Free of charge – Booking essential
Priority for members of the Japan Society and guests.

Booking deadline: Monday 27 November



The Japan Society is delighted to welcome Mr Naomi Hirose, Executive Vice Chairman, Fukushima Affairs, Tokyo Electric Power Company Holdings, for a special briefing for members.

More than seven and a half years have passed since the Great East Japan Earthquake and subsequent Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant accident. Steady progress has been made towards the reconstruction of Fukushima, the repopulation of surrounding areas, and the decommissioning of the plant, of which Tokyo Electric Power Company Holdings (TEPCO) must shoulder \$145 billion of the \$200 billion total estimated cost of the accident. Meanwhile, with Japan having fully liberalised its electricity and gas retail market (in 2016 and 2017 respectively), the business environment surrounding TEPCO is undergoing a major change. In the long term, TEPCO foresees a decrease in demand for their power service and increased competition among utility companies.

In this seminar, **Naomi Hirose**, who was appointed to manage the Fukushima incident in March 2011, and went on to spearhead reform as President of TEPCO from 2012 to 2017, shares his insights on the current situation in Fukushima, lessons learned and implications from the accident.

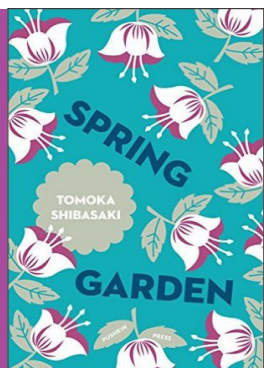
Monday 10 December 2018

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



Spring Garden is the second novel by Osaka-born Shibasaki Tomoka. It centres on twenty-something Taro who recently divorced after a short-lived marriage and is still reeling from the death of his father. Taro lives on his own in a one-bed flat in a condemned apartment block. The story follows him and his two neighbours who remain in the emptying building; the ones left behind, without much in the way of family. The unusual friendship that unfolds between Taro and Nishi, the woman from the top floor, leads him to surprising discoveries about his neighbourhood.

Tomoka Shibasaki was born in 1973 in Osaka and began writing fiction while still in high school. After graduating from university, she

took an office job but continued writing, and was shortlisted for the Bungei Prize in 1998. Her first book, *A Day on the Planet*, was turned into a hit movie, and *Spring Garden* won the prestigious Akutagawa Prize in 2014.

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Japan Society Christmas Party

Friday 14 December 2018

6.30 to 8.00pm

Embassy of Japan
101-104 Piccadilly
London W1J 7JT

£20 per head
Japan Society members and their guests only

Booking essential – deadline Monday 10 December



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. This annual gathering provides members with a great opportunity to catch up with friends at the close of the year and start thinking ahead to new challenges in 2019. 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 our hosts the Embassy of Japan and to the Japan Centre which is generously providing the party canapes for the evening. Established in 1976, the Japan Centre Food Hall is a well-loved institution situated in Central London with an outpost in Westfield Stratford City and an online shop. Summer 2018 saw the opening of Europe's largest Japanese food hall Ichiba, in partnership with Cool Japan Fund, Kikkoman and Gekkeikan.

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.

Please note that guests will not be admitted without a form of photographic identification (passport, driving licence etc).

Cancellation policy

A full refund will be given where notice of cancellation is received by Monday 10 December 2018. In other cases, refunds will be given at the discretion of the Japan Society and event partners.

This event is kindly supported by:

Embassy of
Japan
in the UK

 JAPAN CENTRE

The Arrival of Tango in Japan: Allure, Fear, and Morality in Early Twentieth-Century Japan – with Yuiko Asaba

Monday 17 December 2018

6.45pm

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

Free – booking recommended



In the early twentieth-century, Argentine tango arrived in Japan as a critical part of the country's modernisation. Since that fatal moment, its *foreign*, provocative allure – a music that 'originated' far, far away in Argentina – spiced with a hint of romanticised 'low-life' imaginaries, has continued to capture Japanese people's hearts and curiosity across the social classes. Japanese performers embraced this exogenous genre as a vehicle of expressivity. Devotees have digested its knowledge, creating and nourishing a distinctly Japanese tango culture. The sounds of tango provided comfort and a sense of hope to many during the most turbulent years of the twentieth century. In over a century of history in Japan, tango has entered the hearts and accompanied the lives of many Japanese people.

Crucially, however, tango's initial arrival in Japan in the early twentieth-century was through Britain, after tango had been accepted into the Western higher social strata as a morally agreeable dance-music. Tango thus brought with it in Japan its own social contexts of tensions between social classes. Above all, in spite of its acceptance into the Western high societies tango's 'morally

suspect' associations had never left its image. Taking a closer look at the early reception of tango and the development of regulations on tango in Japan at this time reveals intriguing historical details of allure, fear, and morality.

Yuiko Asaba is Tutor in Music at the University of Oxford, and Visiting Lecturer of Music at Royal Holloway, University of London. She is now completing her monograph on Tango in Japan for University of Hawai'i Press, part of which will be published in Japanese as a chapter in an edited volume (edited by Yusuke Wajima) with Minerva Shobo. Her article on Tango and emotions in Japan is also forthcoming. Yuiko's current research looks at the relationship between Japan's migration politics and tango in the early twentieth-century. She is also a Tango violinist and has worked as a member of the National Orchestra of Argentine Music (Argentina), Tango Orchestra Astrorico (Japan), and has recorded award-winning albums. Yuiko received her PhD in Music in 2017 from Royal Holloway, University of London.

© Image: dancers Ryo & Hazuki with tango orchestras Astrorico and Garufa of Japan