

# Sixth Form Japan Day 2019

## LECTURES

### Keynote Address

Fumio Obata (born in Tokyo, 1975) left Japan for the UK when he was 16 years old and studied Illustration at the *Glasgow School of Art* and the *Royal College of Art* in London. He pursues his creative and comic book career in Europe and he currently lectures in Illustration in various contexts such as animation, graphic novels and children's books at the *University of Gloucestershire* in the UK.

Fumio's work and inspiration come from cultural differences and social issues in his surroundings and his style and work are influenced by both Japanese and European aesthetics. His latest graphic novel '*Just So Happens*' published by *Jonathan Cape, Random House*, was highly acclaimed and has now been translated and published in 8 different countries. His next graphic novel '*The Garden*', written by Sean Michael Wilson, a Scottish writer based in Kumamoto, Japan, is inspired by the art of Japanese Gardening. The book is funded by *Arts Council England* and will be published by *Liminal 11*, London, due in spring 2020. Fumio has also been working on a graphic novel about the tsunami and subsequent nuclear disaster which hit Japan in March 2011.

Website: [www.fumioobata.co.uk](http://www.fumioobata.co.uk)

Instagram: [@fumioobata](https://www.instagram.com/fumioobata)

### Lecture 1:

Haruo Noma is Professor at the Graduate School of Information Science and Engineering, Ritsumeikan University. After completing his Doctoral study in Mechanical Engineering at University of Tsukuba, he worked as a Senior Researcher at ATR for various research and projects before joining Ritsumeikan University. He is an expert in Virtual Reality and Human Interface and has published over 50 research papers in his career.

Website: [http://research-db.ritsumei.ac.jp/Profiles/103/0010248/prof\\_e.html](http://research-db.ritsumei.ac.jp/Profiles/103/0010248/prof_e.html)

### Lecture 2 :

Jennifer Coates is Senior Lecturer in Japanese Studies at the School of East Asian Studies, University of Sheffield. She is the author of *Making Icons: Repetition and the Female Image in Japanese Cinema, 1945-1964* (Hong Kong University Press 2016), as well as a number of journal articles and book chapters on cinema and audiences in postwar and contemporary Japan. She has studied, worked, and taught in Tokyo and Kyoto for over 6 years.

Website: [www.sheffield.ac.uk/seas/staff/japanese/jcoates](http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/seas/staff/japanese/jcoates)

## WORKSHOPS

### 1. Calligraphy – Yukiko Ayres

Anyone who has studied Japanese will know something of its complex writing system. But there's a great difference between computer-generated kana and kanji and the calligraphic art form. These days, few people regularly use a brush when they write, but there is no doubt that it adds an extra dimension to the characters. Take your writing to the next level, under the expert guidance of London-based calligrapher Yukiko Ayres.

**More information:** <http://yukikoayres.com/>

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### 2. Cookery (Sushi) – Atsuko Console

Sushi has become embedded in British food culture, on sale now not only in specialist restaurants but at supermarket food counters throughout the country. In this workshop, you will learn simple techniques for recreating some of these flavours in your own home, without the need for specialist equipment with the help of Atsuko Console.

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### 3. Oekakinden (Smart Wearable Sports Technology) – Tetsuo Yoshimoto

An introduction to wearable sports technology. In this workshop you will get the chance to wear a basic model on your wrist and experience wearable tech for yourself, and learn how it works in various sports-related activities like table tennis under the guidance of Professor Yoshimoto and his colleagues. Come to this workshop to learn all about “smart-wear technology” and its benefit to our everyday life whilst having fun!

**More information:** <http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/research/radiant/eng/sports/story1-1.html/>  
[http://research-db.ritsumei.ac.jp/Profiles/40/0003937/prof\\_e.html](http://research-db.ritsumei.ac.jp/Profiles/40/0003937/prof_e.html)

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### 4. Manga – Chie Kutsuwada and Ai Inko

Brighton-based Manga artists, Chie and Inko will share the secrets behind creating a successful manga character with you in their workshops, showing you how simple tweaks in line and shading can result in very different outcomes. Whether you are a beginner manga-ka, or have more experience, this is your opportunity to ask questions and learn from an expert.

**More information:** <http://chitangarden.wix.com/chiekutsuwada> & <http://inko-redible.blogspot.com/>

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## 5. Aikido – Hugh Purser

Hugh originally started aikido training in Japan and, since moving back to the UK, has been training at the Cambridge Aiki Dojo. In this workshop, you will learn something of the philosophy behind this martial art, and be introduced to some core elements. Hugh will also provide insights into how aikido knowledge and training can be applied in everyday life. If you want to come prepared for his session, check out this [book](#) to learn more about the founder of this martial art.

**More information:** <http://www.cambridgeaikidojo.co.uk/ourClub.htm>

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## 6. Japanese Taiko (Drumming) – Liz Walters

Liz Walters is a facilitator of Japanese Taiko (wadaiko) with over 23 years of experience performing and teaching in the UK and worldwide. She runs her own school of Taiko-dō in East London and specializes in the fluid, dynamic and colourful Fukui style which comes from the west coast of Japan. In her workshop, you will learn all the basics as well as a great deal about Japanese etiquette and the kind of focus and discipline you would find within strict martial arts. This workshop is suitable for complete beginners or those with some taiko experience. All equipment provided. Please bring bottled water. We will have a lot of fun on the way!

**More information:** [www.taikoschool.com](http://www.taikoschool.com)

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## 7. Kanji in Everyday Conversation – Yuko Fujimitsu

Kanji has been an essential part of the Japanese written language for years; today, it also plays an important role in popular culture and the everyday language amongst young people. In this workshop, you will not only get the chance to boost your knowledge of kanji but also learn how young people in Japan use kanji to enhance their everyday conversation with one another in text messages or social media. Yuko from the Japan Foundation, London has a wealth of experience leading immersive and interactive workshops involving hands-on activities and real-life scenarios scenarios.

**More information:** <http://www.jpf.org.uk/index.php>

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