

Events

January - December 2012



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Collecting Japanese Ceramics for the British Museum in the later 19th Century

Nicole Rousmaniere



Monday 16 January 2012
6.45pm

Garden Room
Oriental Club
11 Stratford Place
London W1C 1ES

Free – booking recommended

Augustus Wollaston Franks (1826-1897), Keeper of the British Museum from 1866-1896, was responsible for what became in due course the Department of Oriental Antiquities (now the Department of Asia) at the British Museum. He amassed a large collection of Japanese ceramics during this time. This talk will illustrate some of his more interesting purchases, chart recently discovered documents, such as letters from Ernest Satow and examine his in-depth search for what Franks believed was an 'authentic' representation of Japanese ceramic production from prehistory to present.

Dr Nicole Coolidge Rousmaniere is Research Director of the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures. She received her PhD from Harvard University in 1998. Her research interests include Japanese contemporary craft expression, Japanese manga, early modern to contemporary ceramics in East Asia and trade networks, the history of archaeology and collecting things Japan in Asia and in Europe. She is currently seconded to the British Museum as a curator in the Department of Asia working on their extensive ceramic collection.

Tohoku: Images of a Disaster

Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts - Cultures



24 January - 24 March 2012
Open Tuesday - Saturday 10.30pm - 17.00pm
(Thursdays late night up to 20.00pm)

Brunei Gallery
School of Oriental and African Studies
Russell Square
London WC1H 0XG

Free

Tohoku: Images of Disaster is a collaborative venture amongst the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures, the School of Oriental and African Studies and Zen Foto. The exhibition comprises images by Japanese and international photographers revealing the terrifying drama and damage wreaked by the earthquake and tsunami along Japan's north-eastern coastline on 11 March 2011. The work is a mix of art, documentation, reportage and interpretation, first shown in Tokyo earlier this year by Mark Pearson at Zen Foto Gallery. The exhibition will be in place on the first anniversary of the disaster, providing an opportunity for remembrance and commemoration.

In the immediate aftermath of the Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami, Zen Foto Gallery in Roppongi, Tokyo coordinated an exhibition of photographs taken by photographers immediately after the earthquake. Taking place during the aftermath of the disaster, this exhibition included many images of devastation, as they were taken at a time when people were simply struggling to survive an unprecedented natural disaster. Life goes on in Tohoku, but some things have been affected for ever. In this exhibition, we consider how the people in the region and Japan as a whole have responded to the events of 11 March 2011.

This event is co-organised by the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures, the School of Oriental and African Studies, and Zen Foto. This event is kindly supported by the Embassy of Japan in the UK and the Japan Society.

Prospects for the Coalition

Philip Stephens, Financial Times



Wednesday 15 February 2012
12.30pm

The National Liberal Club
Whithall Place
London SW1A 2HE
(nearest tube: Embankment Station)

Cost: £50 per head for members of the Japan Society and JCCI

Philip Stephens is our guest at the first joint JCCI and Japan Society lunch of 2012. This very experienced and perceptive speaker can be expected to give us much to think about as the British Government faces critical issues at home and in Europe.

Rarely does a day go by without further speculation on the future of the coalition. There is a focus on disunity and difference rather than an emphasis on commonality. The impact on domestic policy is significant, but the question of the UK's role within Europe is the main concern for the moment.

The coherence of the coalition remains vital for the government; its success dependent on plans formulated within a 5 year election cycle. But will this slightly one-sided partnership hold strong until 2015? Common aim, compromise, accommodation and personal relationships are key.

Philip Stephens is associate editor of the Financial Times and also its chief political commentator. The author of twice weekly columns on global and British affairs, Philip Stephens travels widely in Europe, Asia, the Middle East and the United States. In addition, he is a regular contributor to political and foreign affairs journals, radio, television news and current affairs programmes. In 2008, he received the British Press Award for Political Journalist of the Year.

The Crucible of Seld: A Critical Analysis of War Diaries by Japanese Soldiers, 1937-1945

Aaron William Moore



Monday 20 February 2012
6.45pm

The Oriental Club
Stratford House
11 Stratford Place
London W1C 1ES

Free - booking recommended

Touching on research conducted for his forthcoming book, *The Peril of Self-Discipline* (Harvard University Press, Fall 2012), Aaron William Moore will analyze how Japanese soldiers came to write 'war diaries' (*jinchu nikki* / *jugun techo*) during the period of total war in East Asia. The completion of this project required the reading of over two hundred diaries by Japanese, Chinese and American soldiers in the Asia Pacific theatre, providing the first truly comparative study of the ordinary soldier's experience outside Europe. Japanese wartime diaries were not unique, and thus the project demonstrates transnational aspects of battlefield diary writing by soldiers.

Dr Aaron William Moore is Lecturer in East Asian History, School of Arts, Histories, and Cultures at the University of Manchester. He received his PhD from Princeton University and has held Postdoctoral appointments at the University of Oxford and the Harvard University Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies. Research support includes grants awarded from the British Academy and the Sasakawa Foundation. Dr Moore's work focuses on transnational social history and includes documents in Chinese, Japanese and Russian, as well as research in British and American archives. His second book concerns the wartime writings of children and adolescents in China, Japan, the UK and the USSR.

This event is co-organised with:



This event is associated with:



KABUKI, a Photographic Exhibition by Frederic Aranda



10 - 16 March 2012
10.00am - 7.00pm
(Special Event 11 March 2012 3 - 6pm)

The Hospital Club Gallery
24 Endell St
London
WC2H 9HQ

Free

Kabuki, a Photographic Exhibition will run at The Hospital Club's iconic gallery from 10 - 16 March 2012, featuring a stunning set of images of Kabuki's brightest young actors, photographed by acclaimed portrait photographer Frederic Aranda over the last five years, during performances and backstage at London's Barbican and Sadler's Wells theatres. Limited edition prints of photographs in the exhibition will be available for sale.

This exhibition will provide a unique opportunity to catch a glimpse into a closed and rarefied world; this is the first time that backstage pictures of Kabuki have been exhibited or put up for sale, even in Japan.

This is a charity exhibition which will provide a welcome boost to long-term fundraising and media activities to provide crucial ongoing support to the people who have been affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami. Thanks to the support of the partners in this event, all proceeds from the sale of photographs will go to the Japan Society Tohoku Earthquake Relief Fund.

On 11 March, 3 - 6pm, the anniversary of the earthquake, there is a special programme of events:

- An Introduction by photographer, Frederic Aranda
- The Making of a Kabuki Star - talk by Ronald Cavaye
- The Wisteria Maiden: Poetry in Motion - talk by Paul M Griffith
- An Echo from London - piano recital by Waka Hasegawa

To register attendance for 11 March, please email:
rsvp@thehospitalclub.com

Gender, Power and the Erotic Body in the Tale of Genji by Rajyashree Pandey



Monday 19 March 2012
6.45pm

The Oriental Club
Stratford House
11 Stratford Place
London W1C 1ES

Free - booking recommended

This lecture argues that that the erotic body in the Tale of Genji does not belong to the realm of a pure aesthetics, divorced from relations of power and free of political consequences. Through close textual readings, Rajyashree Pandey explores the politics of bodily performance by focusing on the centrality of gender and status to the ways in which the erotic body, desire and affect come to be constituted in the text.

Dr Rajyashree Pandey is Reader in Asian Politics at Goldsmiths, University of London. Her work focuses on issues surrounding gender, body and sexuality in medieval and modern Japan. Additional research interests include examining contemporary popular culture, particularly manga and anime, looking at the intersection between pre-modern Buddhist forms of understanding the world and Japan's 'post-modern' condition. She has published numerous articles including 'Reconfiguring sex, body and desire in Japanese Modernity' which was published in the journal Postcolonial Studies. Her book entitled Writing and Renunciation in Medieval Japan: The Works of the Poet-Priest Kamo no Chōmei was published as part of the University of Michigan Japanese Monograph Series.

A pay bar is available before the lecture. Please note that the Oriental Club rules require gentlemen to wear jacket and tie.

'Catch the Blossom' - A Haiku Workshop
with Sho Otaka



Saturday 24 March 2012
3.00 - 5.00pm

The Triangle Space
Chelsea College of Art and Design
16 John Islip Street
London SW1P 4JU

Free – Booking essential (places are limited)

Explore the beauty of haiku through a writing workshop with poet Sho Otaka. The cherry is one of the most frequently used seasonal references (kigo 季語) for spring and will form the focus for this session. Sho Otaka will read spring haiku and discuss their structure and references, paying attention to the subtle ways in which mood and meaning is conveyed through allusion to this flower.

Working with British haiku poet, Paul Conneally, Sho Otaka will encourage and assist participants to create their own haiku in English or in Japanese.

Sho Otaka has been writing haiku since the age of 13 and published her first collection 「ひとりの聖域」 (hitori no seiki) at 18 years old. Her recent book 「親子で楽しむ こども俳句塾」 (oyako de tanoshimu - kodomo haiku juku) (2010, Meiji Shoin) encourages parents to write haiku with their children. Since 2004, Sho Otaka has made it her mission to organize haiku workshops for beginners, both adults and children. As well as working on her own haiku, she gives lectures, appears on television and judges competitions.

This event is organised in conjunction with an exhibition 'Catch the moon, Catch the blossom' at the Triangle Space, Chelsea College of Art & Design. Open daily (including weekends) 11.00am - 6.00pm, 21 - 29 March.

BADA Antiques and Fine Art Fair



Monday 26 March 2012
6.00pm

Duke of York Square
(Off Sloane Square)
London SW3 4LY

£12 for Japan Society Members
Booking deadline: Monday 19 March

A reception and special talk at the British Antique Dealers' Association Fair has been organised for Japan Society members and guests. The cost of booking includes attendance at the reception, champagne and gallery talk. A BADA Handbook and voucher for a return visit the following day is also included.

With approximately 100 members of BADA exhibiting from throughout the UK, this is the leading annual national art and antiques fair in the country. A visit is a 'must' for anyone interested in art and antiques, where a dazzling array of top quality furniture, paintings, clocks, ceramics, jewellery and silver can be viewed and bought. The group will be entertained to drinks and shown the special loan exhibition. The Fair is open to the public daily at 11.00am between Wednesday 21 - Tuesday 29 March. Standard admission is £10 for single entry, £15 for double.

From West to East: Testing the 'Re-balance' by Robin Niblett



Thursday 26 April 2012
12.30pm

The National Liberal Club
Whitehall Place
London SW1A 2HE
(nearest tube: Embankment Station)

£50 for members of the Japan Society
Booking deadline: Monday 23 April

Robin Niblett is our guest at this joint JCCI and Japan Society lunch. In this lecture, the Director of Chatham House will look at the shifts of power and influence across the globe. In particular, he will consider how Japan, the United Kingdom and the Western world must adjust.

The impressive growth rates of Brazil, India, Russia and China (labelled the 'BRICs' as a group) compare very favourably with the near-recessionary condition of most Western economies. The latter sometimes seem to be tired and their politicians grapple with many global concerns, often not as effectively as they would like. On the other hand, the former struggle with corruption, extremes of wealth and poverty, and a lack of sophisticated infrastructure, but are starting to invest heavily and find their feet politically as well as in global forums such as the G20.

One sign of the BRICs new confidence is an increased ability to articulate more forceful opinions with regard to territorial disputes as illustrated in the incident two years ago surrounding the Senkaku Islands between China and Japan. Once seen as the leader in Asia, Japan will have to be ever mindful of an emerging China and the influence it seeks to exert as the country increases trade not only within Asia but around the world.

Zen: Its Practice and Philosophy for Everyday Life by Sukon Tsushimoto



Thursday 26 April 2012
6.45pm

The Oriental Club
Stratford House
11 Stratford Place
London WC1 1ES

Free - Booking recommended

In this talk, Sokun Tsushimoto, a Zen master of the Rinzai School and qualified medical doctor, will provide insight into the essence of Zen, its traditional practices and discipline. He will also discuss his role as both clinician and priest in the context of birth, aging, sickness and death.

Zen is one of the main schools of Buddhism and originally came to Japan from China in the 13th century. Over time, a distinctly Japanese form of Zen developed. Today, what the world commonly understands as Zen is without a doubt a Japanese tradition. It is not an overstatement to say that the essence of Zen goes right to the heart of many Japanese cultural traditions.

To understand the essence of Zen will give a richer understanding of Japanese culture. As a doctor and priest, Reverend Tsushimoto is concerned with both the physical and spiritual; this talk about his ideas and experiences promises to offer fascinating insights.

Reverend Sokun Tsushimoto studied the philosophy of religion at Kyōto University and spent 15 years training at Tenryūji in Kyōto. In 1993, he was appointed Chief Abbot (kanchō), the highest position in Rinzaishū, and became involved in Zen training within Japan as well as in Europe. Later, he switched to medicine and graduated from Kyōto University Medical School in 2006. Since then, he has been active as a doctor priest with a specialism in internal medicine. He has been in London since 2010, engaged in the study of clinical uses of complimentary medicine.

In association with:





Wednesday 9 May - Wednesday 11 July 2012
6.30pm - 8.00pm

Toray Industries
Verulam Gardens
70 Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8NH

£60 for 10 weekly sessions
Booking essential - places are limited

The Spring 2012 course in pre-intermediate Japanese will begin in May and run for ten weeks, until Wednesday 11 July. This course will be taught by teachers from the SOAS Japanese language teacher training programme.

This is a pre-intermediate level course. Students need approximately Level Three of the Japanese Language Proficiency Test: basic grammar, approximately 300 kanji, approximately 1500 vocabulary items; an ability to carry out conversation in everyday situations and to read and write simple sentences. The focus of the course is on communication in daily life. The classes will start from Lesson 8 *Minna no Nihongo Chukyu I*.

Classes take place from 6:30pm on Wednesdays at the offices of Toray Industries, Inc. At 8.00pm the lesson will end and participants move to a nearby pub to practise Japanese conversation in a more relaxed setting.

We are grateful to Toray Industries, Inc. and SOAS Language Centre for making it possible to continue these very popular classes.

To book a place, or register an interest in this course, please contact Hiroko Kimura, email: hiroko.kimura@japansociety.org.uk or tel: 020 7828 6330



Friday 11 May 2012
8.45am for 9.00am start

Tate Modern
Bankside
London SE1 9TG

£12 - booking essential (places are limited)
Booking deadline - Monday 7 May

Courtesy of the Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation, Japan Society members are invited to an exclusive exhibition tour of *Yayoi Kusama* at Tate Modern. Richard Thomas, one of Tate's art specialists, will give a guided tour of the exhibition outside normal public opening hours from 9.00 – 10.00am. After the tour, Japan Society members are welcome to remain in the exhibition after the gallery opens to the general public.

This is the largest collection of *Yayoi Kusama's* work ever exhibited in the UK. It reflects nine decades of her life, from rural Japan to the New York art scene to contemporary Tokyo. This retrospective illustrates how Kusama has continuously re-invented herself and her artistic style throughout a long and distinguished international career. *Yayoi Kusama* continues until Tuesday 5 June 2012.

Yayoi Kusama The Passing Winter 2005 (detail) © Tate. Presented by the Asia Pacific Acquisitions Committee 2008. Photo: Tate Photography.



Monday 21 May 2012
6.45pm

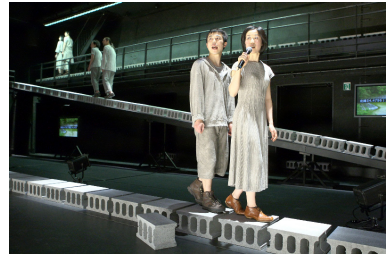
The Oriental Club
Stratford House
11 Stratford Place
London W1C 1ES

Free – booking recommended
(Oriental Club rules require gentlemen to wear jacket and tie)

When the protests against the 1960 Japan-America Security Treaty (Anpo) erupted and sixteen million people nationwide took to the streets, photographer Hamaya Hiroshi was among them, documenting the mayhem, hope, and ultimate defeat of the opposition. Julia Adeney Thomas will explore the purpose served by his photographs, asking whether they opened up a new civic space or memorialized its closure. Using images and drawing on contemporary theories of photography, this lecture considers the nature of the photograph as a political space.

Dr Julia Adeney Thomas writes about nature, politics, historiography, and photography in Japan and comparatively. Her interest in how we grapple with the natural world has led to work on the Korean DMZ, a comparison of Maruyama Masao's ideas with those of Frankfurt School philosophers, a manifesto on the future of environmental history for Munich's Rachel Carson Centre, and *Reconfiguring Modernity: Concepts of Nature in Japanese Political Ideology* (winner of the 2002 John K. Fairbank prize from the American Historical Association) as well as the forthcoming edited volume *Japan at Nature's Edge* with Brett Walker and Ian Miller. Articles on Japanese photography during and after the war have appeared in *The American Historical Review*, *History and Theory*, and *The Journal of Asian Studies* among others. Trained at Princeton, Oxford, and Chicago, she has taught at the University of Illinois at Chicago, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and, currently, the University of Notre Dame where she is associate professor of history.

In association with: **JRC**
JOURNAL OF
RESEARCH IN
CRITICAL THEORY



Tuesday 22 May 2012

7.30pm Performance at Globe Theatre 10.15pm Reception at Bankside Theatre

Globe Theatre Tsuru Bankside
21 New Globe Walk 4 Convey Street
London SE1 9DT London SE1 9AN

£25 – Coriolanus
£20 – Reception with Chiten Theatre Company
£45 – Coriolanus and Reception

Booking deadline – Thursday 9 April

Join the Japan Society at the Globe Theatre for Shakespeare's *Coriolanus*, performed by Chiten Theatre Company. Under the direction of Motoi Miura, one of Japan's most imaginative artists, this Kyoto-based company has gained a strong reputation for its interpretation of Chekhov in particular. Working together with actors, stage artists, lighting artists and others, Chiten performances explore the dynamics of expression with words, movement, lighting, sound and video. Celebrated for their innovative minimalist vision and restructuring of original playwrights' works, they will present their interpretation of Shakespeare to England for the first time at the Globe to Globe Festival. *Coriolanus* will be performed in Japanese with scene synopsis in English.

Meet the Chiten Theatre Company at the post-performance reception. Japan Society members will have the opportunity to meet the members of the Kyoto company and their select Globe Theatre guests while enjoying drinks and food prepared by Tsuru Bankside, just a short walk from the Globe Theatre.

The Globe to Globe Festival is part of the World Shakespeare Festival and London Festival 2012. 37 Plays. 37 Languages. All of Shakespeare's plays will be performed, each in a different language, each by a different international theatre company. Every day for six weeks, the world will celebrate performing Shakespeare in London within the architecture Shakespeare wrote for.



Friday 1 June 2012

7.15pm

Barbican Theatre
Barbican Centre, Silk Street
London EC2Y 8DS

Prices include 20% group discount for Japan Society Members
£40 – SPECIAL OFFER premium seats (stalls & circle)
£32 – SPECIAL OFFER stalls

Booking deadline: Wednesday 25 April

'Yukio Ninagawa's Japanese Shakespeare productions have been among the experiences of a lifetime.'

- *The Guardian*

Internationally renowned for his visually powerful adaptations, celebrated director Yukio Ninagawa returns to the Barbican Theatre with Shakespeare's romantic tragedy, *Cymbeline*. Starring two of Japan's most talented and successful actors, Hiroshi Abe and Shinobu Otake. The play will be presented in Japanese with English surtitles.

Ninagawa's previous directorial credits at the Barbican include the samurai tale *Musashi*, *Hamlet*, *Coriolanus* and the sell out Kabuki performance of *Twelfth Night*.

Cymbeline is part of the World Shakespeare Festival produced by the Royal Shakespeare Company for London 2012 Festival.

Image from the Ninagawa Company's production of *Coriolanus*.



Monday 18 June 2012
6.45pm

The Oriental Club
Stratford House
11 Stratford Place
London W1C 1ES

Free – booking recommended
(Oriental Club rules require gentlemen to wear jacket and tie)

Lesley Downer's new novel, *Across A Bridge of Dreams*, is set immediately after the Meiji Restoration, when well-off Japanese were experimenting with all things western. Rickshaws clattered through the streets, women wore bustles and bonnets and men ate beef, cut off their topknots and wore boots and Inverness capes. But there were many who opposed the radical changes transforming their society. Prime among them was Saigo Takamori with his desire to maintain samurai values and return to the purity of the old ways. Down in the south he prepared to do battle to defend all that the samurai stood for. In a last twist this would involve a clash between the northern and southern clans who had fought to control Japan and would finally give the defeated northerners their chance of revenge.

Lesley Downer is an internationally best-selling author, translated into 30 languages. Her books include *Geisha: The Secret History of a Vanishing World*; *Sadayakko: The Geisha who Seduced the West*, the story of the geisha on whom Puccini modeled *Madam Butterfly*; and two novels, *The Last Concubine* and *The Courtesan and the Samurai*. *Across A Bridge of Dreams* is the Romeo and Juliet story of Taka, the daughter of a great southern general (modeled on Saigo), and Nobu, who hails from the defeated Aizu clan.



Thursday 12 July 2012
12.30 – 2.30pm

The National Liberal Club
Whitehall Place
London SW1A 2HE
(nearest tube: Embankment Station)

£50 per head for members of the Japan Society and JCCI
Booking deadline - Friday 6 July

An old friend of the Japan Society, Glen S Fukushima will talk about recent developments in Corporate Japan. He is well qualified to do so, as his CV shows.

Mr Fukushima was appointed Chairman, Airbus Japan K.K. in July 2010, before which he served as President & CEO (2005-2010). Prior to this, Mr Fukushima served as President of the Japan operations of NCR Corporation, Cadence Design Systems Inc., and Arthur D. Little Inc. Until 1998, he was Vice President of the Japan operations of AT&T Corporation. Before embarking on his business career in 1990, Glen S. Fukushima, who is a US citizen and who attended Stanford and Harvard Universities, was based in Washington, D.C. as Director for Japanese Affairs (1985-1988) and Deputy Assistant United States Trade Representative for Japan and China (1988-1990) at the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR), Executive Office of the President. He began his career as an attorney at a prominent Los Angeles law firm.

Glen S Fukushima served two terms as President of the American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ACCJ), 1998-1999, and Vice President, 1993-1997. He has served on numerous corporate boards and government advisory councils in the United States, Europe, and Japan.

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



Friday 13 July 2012
6.30pm

Asia House
63 New Cavendish Street
London W1 7LP

Booking essential
Booking deadline - Monday 9 July

Japan Society members are invited to a special private view of *re:new Tohoku: a Tradition of Perfection Brought to Life for You* followed by a drinks reception featuring a performance from renowned percussionist Joji Hirota.

Devastated by the 2011 earthquake and the tsunami which followed, Tohoku, a region of outstanding natural beauty, was home to a thriving community of manufacturers, designers and craftsmen. As it fights to recover, the area is becoming a testing ground for exciting partnerships between Japanese designers, craftspeople and the manufacturing industry and overseas businesses, organisations and individuals.

re:new Tohoku: a Tradition of Perfection Brought to Life for You, will bring an astonishing array of products from the area affected by the disaster to a British audience – from furniture, fashion, cookware and technology to traditional craft items unique to the region. Together they showcase an extraordinary kaleidoscope of creativity and the quintessential Japanese drive for perfection in craftsmanship – as well as the importance placed on creativity and innovation. Individually each object embodies a belief in the future of the region and commitment to overcoming the daunting challenges of the 2011 disaster.

Product highlights on show at Asia House range from Calligraphy watches made in Iwate to Music box-inspired handbags from Miyagi.

Carmen Blacker Lecture – Paragons of Culture:
The Soft Power of the Japanese Emperors



Monday 16 July 2012
6.45pm

Khalili Lecture Theatre
London WC1H 0XG

And

Thursday 19 July 2012
6.00pm

Norwich Cathedral Hostry (Weston Room)
Norwich NR1 4EH

In this third annual Carmen Blacker Lecture Series, Professor Ben-Ami Shillony will examine the role of the imperial family in Japan.

The Carmen Blacker Lecture Series honours the memory and scholarship of Carmen Blacker (1924-2009). Each year a senior scholar will lecture on a theme related to Japanese religion or folklore. Professor Ben-Ami Shillony was twice awarded the Michael Milken Prize for Excellence in Teaching. In 2000 the Emperor of Japan, through the Japanese ambassador to Israel, bestowed on him the Order of the Sacred Treasure, Gold and Silver star (*Kun-nitō Zuihōshō*). In October 2010 he received the Japan Foundation Award and was granted an audience with the emperor and empress. The Japan Society and Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures are pleased to have the opportunity to present Professor Ben-Ami Shillony as part of this series.

Admission is free and all are welcome. A drinks reception will follow each lecture. Booking is recommended and seats will be provided on a first come first serve basis. For the London lecture, please contact the Japan Society office on tel: 020 7828 6330 or email events@japansociety.org.uk. For the Norwich lecture, please contact the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures on tel: 01603 597507 or email sisjac@sainsbury-institute.org. The lecture in Norwich will be given in conjunction with the Third Thursday Lecture Series.

Children's lost landscapes in Tohoku
by Helen Woolley



Monday 20 August 2012
6.45pm

The Oriental Club
Stratford House
11 Stratford Place
London W1C 1ES

Free – booking recommended

A pay bar will be available before the lecture
(Oriental Club rules require gentlemen to wear jacket and tie)

In April of this year, Helen Woolley visited Japan to begin to understand the situation of children's outdoor environments in the post-disaster Tohoku area. She visited sites in Miyagi, Iwate and Fukushima meeting playworkers, Principals of schools and some Prefecture staff. This visit was in collaboration with Professor Isami Kinoshita from Chiba University in Japan and funded by the Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation.

Helen will discuss some of the findings from her visit, giving insights into where children would have played before the triple disaster; some of the issues and outdoor places children are playing in while they are in temporary housing, and some of the interventions in place to support children's play. Her talk will explore current initiatives and their reception by children, parents and teachers in the area.

Helen Woolley is a Chartered Landscape Architect and Reader in Landscape Architecture and Society at The University of Sheffield. Helen worked in practice for both the private and public sectors before returning to academic life. Helen also has a strong belief that sharing knowledge is important and has a track record of working with policy makers, local government; practitioners, charities and the commercial sector.



Wednesday 5 September 2012
6.15pm

The Mayfair Library
25 South Audley Street
London W1K 2PB

Free – booking recommended

Light refreshments will be provided
Books will be available for purchase and signing by the author

Monday 10 September 2012
2.00pm

JETRO London
MidCity Place
71 High Holborn
London WC1V 6AL

Free for Japan Society members and those
invited by JETRO and the JCCI

Booking essential (places are limited)
Booking deadline - Thursday 6 September

As an extension to its monthly book club meetings, the Japan Society will host a discussion with internationally acclaimed author Lian Hearn at the Mayfair Library. The writer will be delving into her latest novel, *Blossoms and Shadows*, and the inspiration behind the story. Following the talk, the audience will be invited to take part in a question and answer session.

Blossoms and Shadows is a compelling tale of love and war, men and women, and the rise of modern Japan. It shines a brilliant light on a period of history that few have known about until now, though the changes it brought continue to this day.

The story begins in Japan, 1857. For centuries a country has stood alone; isolated by choice from the rest of the world. But the Western powers are now at its shores demanding to be let in, the government is crumbling and revolution is building. The age of the samurai is coming to an end and in its place a new Japan will be born.

Lian Hearn studied modern languages at Oxford University and worked as a film critic and arts editor in London before settling in Australia. A lifelong interest in Japan led to the study of the Japanese language, many trips to Japan, and culminated in her writing *Across the Nightingale Floor*, an international bestseller. The book was the first in the *Tales of the Otori* series, which has sold over 4 million copies around the world.

This seminar, arranged by JETRO and the Japan Society, will look at the energy and climate policies of Japan and UK and discuss their implications for investment and industry for both countries. In his keynote presentation, Professor Morihiro Kurushima, of Toyo University, will spell out the technical and international issues involved. Following this, senior specialists will talk about the two national strategies and their implications: Mr Jun Arima, Director General of JETRO and a specialist in this sector, and Mr Ben Golding, Deputy Director of Strategy in the UK's Department of Energy and Climate Change. They will be then be joined in a panel discussion by representatives of companies which are directly affected by these policies and who can discuss the challenges facing modern investors. There will be ample time for discussion, questions and answers.

Whether you are an investor, an academic or a user of energy, the issues to be discussed are of fundamental importance. National governments are putting into practice the necessary actions at varying speeds but all are affected.

The seminar will conclude at 4.00 pm when tea will be provided.



Tuesday 18 September 2012
6.45pm

Tsuru Restaurant
201 Bishopsgate
London EC2M 3AF

£30 per head

Booking essential (places are limited)
Booking deadline – Friday 14 September

After the success of last year's event, Tsuru are once again offering Japan Society members the chance to sample six of the finest organic wines on offer from Les Caves de Pyrene. The wines will be paired with freshly prepared Japanese dishes from Tsuru's kitchen and introduced by wine guru, Phil Barnett.

Aperitif

Moussamousettes NV Petillant Natural, Rene Mosse, Anjou, France

Reserve de Gassac, Languedoc, France, 2011

with

Cornish Crab & Avocado Maki

Montlouis Minerale +, Franz Saumon, France, 2011

with

Salmon and avocado maki with tobiko

SP68 Bianco Arianna Occipinti, Sicily, 2011

with

Prawn Tempura

Raisins Gauloise, France, 2010

with

Tuna nigiri sushi

Les Galets Rouge, France, 2011

with

Chocolate Ice Cream Mochi

Monday 1 October 2012
7.00 for 7.30pm

Hotel Russell
Russell Square
London
WC1B 5BE

Members and guests: £55/ticket

Non Members: £90/ticket

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

Once again, the Japan Society Annual Dinner will take place in the splendid surroundings of the historic Hotel Russell. Built in 1898, the Hotel Russell was designed by Charles Fitzroy Dolls, the main architect for the interior of the Titanic.

The Japan Society Awards 2012 will also be announced and presented during the evening.

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.

The cost includes drinks on arrival, 3 course dinner, wine and coffee.

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.

Combined Lunch for his Excellency The Japanese Ambassador



Monday 15 October 2012
12.30 for 1.00pm

The National Liberal Club
Whitehall Place
London SW1A 2HE
(nearest tube: Embankment Station)

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

Booking deadline – Wednesday 10 October

The speaker at the next combined lunch of the Japan Society and Japanese Chamber of Commerce in the UK will be His Excellency the Japanese Ambassador, Mr Keiichi Hayashi. Since his appointment as Ambassador of Japan to the UK on 11 January, 2011, Mr Hayashi has overseen dramatic events, from the devastating news of the Great East Japan Earthquake in March 2011 to this year's Diamond Jubilee and Olympic festivities in London.

The Ambassador will be reviewing his time in office to date and looking at the overall state of UK Japan relations.

Mr Hayashi was Political Counsellor and then Political Minister at the London Embassy from 1996 – 1999 and was appointed Minister Plenipotentiary and Deputy Head of Mission here in 2010. He also has extensive experience working on Japanese diplomatic missions in areas as diverse as SouthEast Asia, North America and Ireland.

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

Images of Japan 1885-1912: Scenes, Tales and Flowers by Sir Hugh Cortazzi



Monday 19 October 2012
6.45pm

The Oriental Club
Stratford House
11 Stratford Place
London W1C 1ES

Free – booking recommended

A pay bar is available before the lecture

Please note: Oriental Club rules require gentlemen to wear jacket and tie

Drawing from extensive research, Sir Hugh Cortazzi will discuss his latest book *Images of Japan 1885-1912: Scenes, Tales and Flowers*, published by the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures. This introduction to the multiple forms of visual material, created in Japan from the latter part of the Meiji era and intended for European and American consumption, presents a wide variety of rare and exquisite prints depicting diverse subject matter. In particular, he will address the research process that led to its publication and share a number of examples not included in the book. The author will be available to sign books after the lecture.

Sir Hugh Cortazzi was born in 1924 and educated at St Andrews and London Universities. He began to learn Japanese in 1943 in the RAF. He joined the diplomatic service in 1949 and was the British Ambassador to Japan between 1980 and 1984. He was chairman of the Japan Society between 1985 and 1995 and was closely involved with the Japan Festival in the United Kingdom in 1991 which marked the centenary of the Society.

Sir Hugh Cortazzi has written various books relating to Japanese history and culture. He has also acted as editor and compiler of a number of volumes in the series *Britain and Japan: Biographical Portraits*. His translation of the Japanese Crown Prince's memoir of his two years at Oxford, *The Thames and I*, was published in 2006.



Wednesday 24 October 2012
2.30 - 6.00pm

The Herbarium
Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew
Richmond
Greater London TW9 3AB

£5.00 (price includes tea & cake in the library)

Booking essential (places are limited)
Booking deadline – Monday 22 October

The Japan Society is delighted to offer its members an exclusive tour of Kew Garden's rarely seen Japanese collections.

Kew's Economic Botany Collection, Library and Archives hold many treasures from Japan including 19th century lacquer and washi (handmade paper), decorative wood panels, rare botanic books and prints. Visitors will have the opportunity to admire objects as diverse as 19th century botanical illustrations and a waterproof coat made entirely out of paper. The collection reveals a story of botany in Japan, and contact between Europe and Japanese scientists, artists and craft makers. For highlights from the collection please visit the Kew website.

The tour will be led by Chris Mills, Head of Library, Art & Archives and Mark Nesbitt, Curator of the Economic Botany Collection. Japan Society members will meet at the entrance to the Herbarium and then split into two groups, taking turns to visit the Archives and the Economic Botany Collection. The day will conclude with tea and cake in the Library.

*Any guests wishing to arrive earlier in the day and view the gardens should notify the Japan Society when booking.



Thursday 1 November 2012
6.45 for 7.00pm

Large Meeting Room
Nippon Club
2nd floor
Samuel House
6 St. Albans Street
London SW1Y 4SQ

£12 (£18 for non-members)

Booking deadline – Monday 29 October

Have you ever wanted to try your hand at traditional Japanese calligraphy? Join the Japan Society for a calligraphy workshop with artist Yoko Takenami.

The workshop will begin with a brief introduction on the history of calligraphy, but will largely focus on practical demonstrations and a chance to hone your skills. The session will conclude with instruction on caring for the calligraphy equipment used.

This is a wonderful opportunity to try this quintessential Japanese art under the tutelage of a professional calligrapher. Beginners are welcome.

Yoko Takenami gained a licence to teach calligraphy in 1990 and has since authored the English language publication *The Simple Art of Japanese Calligraphy* (Cico Books, 2004) which has also been translated into French and German. She is involved in a wide range of activity, conducting workshops and demonstrations in both the UK and Monaco while also giving lectures including at the British Museum and London University.



Monday 19 November 2012
6.45pm

The Oriental Club
Stratford House
11 Stratford Place
London W1C 1ES

Free – booking recommended

A pay bar is available before the lecture
Please note: Oriental Club rules require gentlemen to
wear jacket and tie

In this lecture Shizuka Suzuki will look at recent changes to pre-school education in Japan and discuss the challenges presented, drawing particularly on the experience of the Sakado Azuma Kindergarten.

Pre-school education in Japan is based on two different institutions, kindergarten (yochien) and nursery school (hoikuen), and the choice made is dependent on the needs of the child's parents or guardians, on the economic situation and the facilities provided in their particular municipality. However, with increasing economic uncertainty and falling birth rates in Japan, the current institutional structure is inadequate to deliver a satisfactory pre-school education.

In response to this, a new type of pre-school facility, known as Nintei Kodomo-en (approved kindergarten) was introduced from 2006. This brought together the features of the existing yochien and hoikuen, and made it possible to deliver a more flexible service and education to meet the needs of both children and their guardians.

Sakado Azuma Kindergarten opened in Sakado, Saitama Prefecture in 1974. There are currently 303 pupils in the kindergarten, 21 pre-school and 15 in the new Nintei Kodomo-en Rapan. The kindergarten aims to foster children's academic development through specially devised 'project work'. It has three large allotment style areas and other varied facilities to provide multi-faceted learning experiences on a daily basis.

Monday 3 December 2012
12.30 for 1.00pm

The National Liberal Club
Whitehall Place
London SW1A 2HE
(nearest tube: Embankment Station)

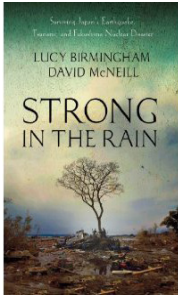
£50 per head for members of the JCCI and
Japan Society, and their guests

Booking deadline – Wednesday 28 November

The JCCI and Japan Society are delighted to welcome Lord Janvrin, Private Secretary to Her Majesty the Queen until 2007, to offer his insights on the relevance of the Monarchy in modern Britain. The Queen's Private Secretary is effectively her closest advisor and chief of staff and has responsibilities for advising on all aspects of Her Majesty's public life, including contacts with the Government, constitutional issues, programmes at home and overseas, speeches and media.

The Rt Hon The Lord Janvrin, GCB, GCVO. After eleven years in the Royal Navy and twelve years in the Diplomatic Service, Robin Janvrin became The Press Secretary to the Queen 1987-1990. He was then successively Her Majesty's Assistant Private Secretary and Deputy Private Secretary, until he became Her Private Secretary, which key appointment he held from 1999 to 2007. He is now Deputy Chairman of HSBC Private Bank.

Following a two-course lunch, Lord Janvrin will speak for about 15 minutes, after which there will be time for questions until 2.30pm.



Monday 3 December 2012
6.45pm

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

Free to all Japan Society members
Booking deadline - Friday 30 November

Sake and light refreshments will be served

Tuesday 18 December 2012
8.00 to 10.00am

The Royal Academy of Arts
6 Burlington Gardens
Piccadilly
London W1S 3ET

Free for Japan Society members and their guests

Booking essential (places are limited)

The Japan Society is delighted to welcome journalist and academic, David McNeill, to talk about his new book *Strong in the Rain: Surviving Japan's Earthquake, Tsunami and Fukushima Nuclear Disaster*, published in November 2012.

This special breakfast event for Japan Society members will take place at the Royal Academy of Arts on Tuesday 18 December. Guests will have the opportunity to view the RA's autumn exhibition, *Rebirth* by Mariko Mori, outside normal opening hours and enjoy a continental breakfast, courtesy of Japan Tobacco International.

Strong in the Rain blends history, science and gripping storytelling to bring the immediate aftermath of the March 2011 triple disaster to life, through the eyes of the men and women who experienced it first-hand.

This will be the first major exhibition of Mariko Mori's work to be held in London in 15 years. It will focus on recent and new works that engage with spiritualism and the natural world, combining traditional beliefs and contemporary technology to reflect on mankind's relationship to the natural environment. Visitors will encounter a variety of material, ranging from sculpture to sound works, and large-scale immersive environments.

Following the narratives of six individuals, the book traces the shape of a tragedy and the awe-inspiring heroics it prompted. In addition to this beautifully-written and moving collection of personal stories, McNeill, and his co-author, Lucy Birmingham, look at the wider consequences of what Japan endured in 2011.

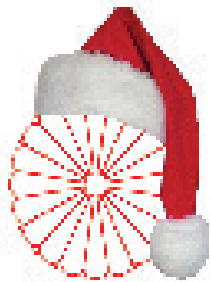
A video and photographic artist of extraordinary international repute, Mariko Mori's works often juxtapose Eastern philosophy with Western culture; pop culture with traditional Japanese identity. Through computer-generated photographs and large scale multi-media installations, she has produced renowned art pieces, featured in the most prestigious collections and exhibited across the globe. Developed in close collaboration with the artist, the exhibition's title *Re-birth* is timed to coincide with the winter solstice in 2012.

Following the talk, there will be an opportunity to purchase the book and have it signed by the author.

David McNeill writes regularly for the *Independent*, the *Irish Times*, and *Japan Times*, while teaching at Sophia University in Tokyo, Japan. His work has appeared in *Newsweek*, *New Scientist*, *The Face*, *Marie Claire*, *New Statesman*. He is a board member of the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan and chair of The Foreign Press in Japan. He lives in Tokyo.

Mariko Mori, *Tom Na H-Iu II*, 2006. Glass, stainless steel, LED, real time control system, 450 x 156.3 x 74.23 cm. Courtesy of Mariko Mori Studio Inc. © Mariko Mori. Photo: Richard Learoyd

Japan Society Christmas Party 2012



Wednesday 19 December 2012
6.30 to 8.00pm

Embassy of Japan
101-104 Piccadilly
London W1J 7JT

Price: £17 (Members) / £27 (Non members)

Booking Deadline – Friday 14 December

This year's Christmas Party will be held, by courtesy of His Excellency The Ambassador, in the Ballroom of the Japanese Embassy. The party will be attended by our new Chairman, Sir David Warren, and Lady Warren, just returned from their four years in Japan.

Please bring guests but space may well be limited and places will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis. Please note that the significantly lower price for members is once again thanks to generous sponsorship by The Japan Centre, which is providing the food.

Attendees will be sent a formal confirmation notice. You will need to bring this, together with photographic ID, in order to gain entrance to the Embassy.