

Events

January - December 2015



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

Thursday 22 January 2015

7.30pm for
8.00pm

One Great George Street
London SW1P 3AA

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

Members (& their guests): £55

Non-Members: £90

Booking essential (deadline 19 January)



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

This Grade II listed building is a monument to Edwardian decadence and has played host to a range of historic events, including the signing of the charter establishing UNESCO in 1945. More recently it has provided a backdrop for films including *Starter for 10*, *Gandhi* and *Bridget Jones: Edge of Reason*, along with TV dramas *Foyle's War*, *Spooks* and *Silent Witness*. The Great Hall's magnificent chandeliers and painted ceiling – depicting soaring biplanes and steel cranes – were donated by a former president of the Institution of Civil Engineers

as a reminder of the role its members played during the First World War.

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 Japan Society Awards 2014 will also be announced and presented during the evening.

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

Dress code: Black tie / Lounge suits / National dress

This event is kindly supported by:



Glen S Fukushima in Conversation

Wednesday 28 January 2015

6.00pm for 6.30pm

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

Free: Japan Society members and their guests only
Booking essential (deadline 26 January)

Oriental Club rules require gentlemen to wear a jacket and tie



The recent general election in Japan has raised a number of new questions as well as given renewed confidence and vigour to Shinzo Abe's LDP administration. In the wake of an ambivalent message from the electorate, only 53% of whom turned out to vote, what implications does Abe's premiership hold for the future of his country and its relationship with regional and global powers?

Glen S Fukushima, Senior Fellow at the Center for American Progress and a commentator well-experienced in examining the economic developments in Japan, Europe, and the USA, has the experience and insight necessary to consider these issues which he will explore 'in conversation' with the Japan Society's Chairman, Sir David Warren. The discussion will allow ample time for questions from those present and will be followed by a reception until 8.15pm.

This event is being kindly hosted by the Oriental Club, a traditional London club which actively encourages membership by senior Japanese businessmen based in London.

Glen S Fukushima's work at the Center for American Progress focuses on the USA's relationship with East Asia and international political economy.

From 1990-2012, he was based in Tokyo as a senior executive with several major multinational corporations, including AT&T Corp, Arthur D Little Inc, Cadence Design Systems Inc, NCR Corp, and Airbus. He was President of the American Chamber of Commerce in Japan between 1998 and 1999.

Before embarking on his business career, Mr Fukushima was based in Washington, DC as Director for Japanese Affairs (1985-88) and Deputy Assistant US Trade Representative for Japan and China (1988-90) at the Office of the US Trade Representative.

A native of California, Mr Fukushima was educated at Stanford University, Harvard University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Harvard Business School, and Harvard Law School. At Harvard, he was awarded a National Science Foundation Fellowship. He has studied and worked in Japan for over 20 years, including at Keio University, a daily newspaper, an international law firm, and as a Fulbright Fellow and a Japan Foundation Fellow at the Faculty of Law, University of Tokyo.

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

This event is kindly supported by:



Joint Lunch with the JCCI:

A house divided, a pre-election prognosis – Philip Stephens

Wednesday 4 February 2015

12.30pm for 1.00pm

The National Liberal Club
Whitehall Place
London SW1A 2HE

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

Booking essential (deadline 2 February)



For their first joint lunch of 2015, the Japan Society and the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the UK are delighted to welcome Philip Stephens of the *Financial Times*.

As UKIP celebrates its second by-election victory, the coalition government's desire for the general election to focus on the economy is becoming less and less tenable. The recent news about increased EU charges and the failure of the government to meet its net migration targets has helped steer the campaign agenda back towards the UK's relationship with the EU and its continued role in the region. Moreover, the leaders of the three major parties struggle to project authority, and the fallout of the Scottish referendum still looms over Westminster.

In this uncertain and fractious climate, how does the general election and beyond bode for the future of British politics? Philip Stephens, one of the leading columnists in Britain today, will explain his view.

Philip Stephens began working for the *Financial Times* in 1982 and has served as its Economics Editor, Political Editor and Editor of the UK edition before his current position as Associate Editor and Senior Commentator. He is also a vice chair of the Council of the Ditchley Foundation and a member of the advisory board of the Institute for Public Policy Research.

Prior to working for the *Financial Times*, he worked for Reuters in London and Brussels. He was educated at Wimbledon College and Oxford University, where he read Modern

In association with:

Jcci uk
Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the UK

Interpreting Japan's controversial plutonium strategy Peter Wynn Kirby

Monday 16 February 2015

6.45pm

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

Free:
Booking recommended



Within elite pronuclear circles in Japan, parlous nuclear residues like spent fuel rods have never truly been viewed as waste, since they could potentially be reprocessed into further nuclear fuel. Resource-poor Japan's laborious attempts to close the nuclear fuel cycle in recent decades have largely been with this goal in mind.

Yet the dream of unlimited energy potential from converting high-level nuclear waste (HLW) into 'resources' has always hovered more alluringly than the poorly managed, dysfunctional reality on the archipelago. This talk will discuss Japan's notoriously expensive and ill-fated plutonium programme against the irradiated backdrop of the 2011 Fukushima Daiichi meltdowns and the uncertain future of

Japan's nuclear energy apparatus generally, in the process posing timely questions regarding proliferation risks and Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's oft-stated desire to transform Japan into a more assertive regional and global power.

Dr Peter Wynn Kirby is a Japan specialist and waste ethnographer at the University of Oxford. He holds a PhD in anthropology from the University of Cambridge. Dr Kirby embarked on his career as a tenured academic at Ritsumeikan and has held a range of research posts in Japan, France, and the UK. He is the author of *Troubled Natures: Waste, Environment, Japan*; Dr Kirby has also disseminated his research in such publications as *The New York Times*, *The Japan Times*, *The*

Japan Society Choral Workshop

Sunday 22 February 2015

2.00pm to 4.00pm

Grosvenor Chapel
24 South Audley Street
London W1K 2PA

£5 per head:
all welcome

Booking essential (deadline 20 February)



The Japan Society is delighted to present its first ever choral workshop – a one-off a chance for Japanese and anyone with an interest in Japan to meet and sing British and Japanese choral music in a relaxed environment. The workshop will be led by Jonathan Gregory, Director of the UK-Japan Choir and Orchestra and Fellow of the Royal College of Organists.

The event will be suitable for both beginners and more experienced singers. We will start with singing warm ups, including pitching and Japanese counting games, before tackling arrangements of traditional Japanese songs (written phonetically), and three-part British madrigals.

Preparation will not be necessary, but for anyone who does wish to practice prior to the workshop, music can be sent out on request by email shortly before the event.

Jonathan Gregory founded the UK-Japan Music Society and UK-Japan Choir in 1992

to promote cross-cultural understanding between Japanese and British through music. Since then he has conducted performances involving musicians from Japan and Britain in venues across the UK, including St John's Smith Square, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Leicester Cathedral, and the V&A.

Jonathan is Director of Music and organist at the Free Church in Hampstead Garden Suburb. Previously, he was organist at Leicester Cathedral and Great St Mary's, Cambridge. He has worked extensively in Ireland, conducting the Bach passions, Elgar's *Apostles* and Britten's *War Requiem*, and broadcasting Radio 3 *Choral Evensong* from Belfast Cathedral on numerous occasions.

Jonathan is an Associate of the Royal Academy of Music, a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists and a graduate of Clare College Cambridge where he was Organ Scholar. He was given the distinguished Honour of the Order of the Rising Sun in 2011.

Lecture by Tim Hitchens, British Ambassador to Japan

Wednesday 4 March 2015

6.00pm for 6.30pm

Nomura International plc
One Angel Lane
London EC4R 3AB

Free:
Members of the Japan Society and their guests only
Booking essential

There will be a reception afterwards until 8.30pm



In this 2015 annual update for the Society by the British Ambassador to Japan, Tim Hitchens will share his insights on the political, diplomatic and commercial situation in Japan. This year's talk comes close on the heels of both the first 'two-plus-two' Foreign and Defence ministerial talks between the Japanese and British governments and The Duke of Cambridge's visit to Japan. Mr Hitchens has held this post now for over two years and the event will be chaired by his predecessor, Sir David Warren.

The Society's annual lecture by the current British Ambassador is always relevant, thought-provoking and useful to people from across its membership, as well as being extremely popular. The Ambassador will speak for 30-

40 minutes, after which there will be time for off-the-record discussion and questions.

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

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

Hosted by:

NOMURA

Japan Society Book Club: A Tale for the Time Being by Ruth Ozeki

Monday 9 March 2015

7.00pm

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

Free for Japan Society Members:
Booking recommended

A TALE FOR THE TIME BEING
RUTH OZEKI



In Tokyo, sixteen-year-old Nao has decided there's only one escape from her aching loneliness and her classmates' bullying. But before she ends it all, Nao first plans to document the life of her great grandmother, a Buddhist nun who's lived more than a century. A diary is Nao's only solace – and will touch lives in ways she can scarcely imagine.

Across the Pacific, we meet Ruth, a novelist living on a remote island who discovers a collection of artifacts washed ashore in a Hello Kitty lunchbox – possibly debris from the devastating 2011 tsunami. As the mystery of its contents unfolds, Ruth is pulled into the past, into Nao's drama and her unknown fate, and forward into her own future.

Full of Ozeki's signature humor and deeply engaged with the relationship between writer and reader, past and present, fact and fiction, quantum physics, history, and myth, *A Tale for the Time Being* is a brilliantly inventive, beguiling story of our shared humanity and the search for home.

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.

Ruth Ozeki is a novelist, filmmaker, and Zen Buddhist priest. Her first two novels, *My Year of Meats* (1998) and *All Over Creation* (2003), have been translated into 11 languages and published in 14 countries. Her most recent work, *A Tale for the Time-Being* (2013), was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize and will be published in over thirty countries.

Ruth's documentary and dramatic independent films, including *Halving the Bones*, have been shown on PBS, at the Sundance Film Festival, and at colleges and universities across the country.

A longtime Buddhist practitioner, Ruth was ordained in 2010 and is affiliated with the Brooklyn Zen Center and the Everyday Zen Foundation. She lives in British Columbia and New York City.

Book Launch and Talk by Dorothy Britton

Tuesday 10 March 2015

6.30pm

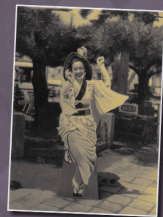
The Oriental Club
Stratford House
11 Stratford Place
London W1C 1ES

FULLY BOOKED

Oriental Club rules require gentlemen to wear a jacket and tie

Rhythms, Rites and Rituals

My Life in Japan in Two-step
and Waltz-time



Dorothy Britton

RENAISSANCE BOOKS

To mark the publication of Dorothy Britton's *Rhythms, Rites and Rituals: my life in Japan in two-step and waltz time*, the Japan Society is holding a special book launch with a talk by the author. Sir David Warren, the Japan Society Chairman, will chair the event and will also speak about Dorothy's life, achievements and her contributions to Anglo-Japanese understanding.

Having survived the Great Kanto Earthquake of 1923, when she was 16 months old, Dorothy Britton went on to lead a life of extraordinary variety, working as a composer, musician, writer, poet, radio and television presenter, postal censor, and translator. Bilingual from birth, she found the immense joy of blending in with people of different cultures, and this is the remarkable and remarkably frank story of a life lived to the full by the doyenne of British residents in Japan.

Amusing episodes and stories of fascinating people and relationships abound in the book, as do valuable insights into topics such as the post-war Occupation and its impact on everyday life, the role of women, learning Japanese, marriage customs, food and many other aspects of Japanese culture and society. Dorothy was appointed a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) in 2010 for her highly regarded contributions to bridging

two cultures, and this long awaited memoir will be widely welcomed. *Rhythms, Rites and Rituals: my life in Japan in two-step and waltz-time* is published by Renaissance Books.

Dorothy Britton (Lady Bouchier, MBE) was born in Japan and educated in Britain and the USA. A pupil of Darius Milhaud, she is known for her popular Capitol Records album *Japanese Sketches*, hailed by the American Record Guide as a highly successful 'translation of the koto / samisen [sic] aesthetic into occidental terms'. She was later commissioned to write a musical for a leading traditional dance troupe.

Dorothy had regular programmes on NHK's Radio Japan introducing Japanese folklore, music and musicians for listeners abroad, as well as a twelve-year TV programme teaching English conversation to Japanese middle-school pupils and singing British folksongs.

She is well known for her translations of Basho's *Narrow Road to a Far Province*, Tetsuko Kuroyanagi's best-seller *Totto-chan, the Little Girl at the Window*, and short stories by Ryunosuke Akutagawa.

At the Crossroads: Japan and Low-Skilled Foreign Workers

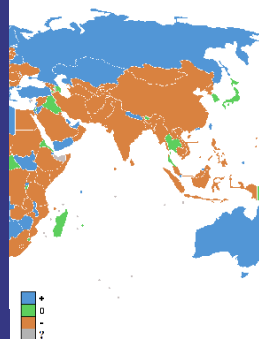
Kristin Surak

Monday 16 March 2015

6.45pm

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

Free:
Booking recommended



Despite a steady decline in the size of its workforce, Japan continues to prohibit the formal entrance of low-skilled migrant workers. In this talk, Dr Kristin Surak will discuss the history of labour migration in post-War Japan, and the ways in which the country has – at multiple crossroads – avoided a turn to foreign workers. Through a comparison with South Korea and Taiwan, she will focus on how Japan has arrived at a distinctive configuration within the region for dealing with labour migration.

Kristin Surak is a Senior Lecturer (Associate Professor) in Japanese Politics at SOAS, University of London, specializing in international migration, nationalism, culture, and globalization. Her book *Making Tea, Making Japan: Cultural Nationalism in Practice* was published by Stanford University Press in 2013, and received the Outstanding Book Award from the American Sociological Association's Section on Asia. Her articles on ethnic categorization, nation-building,

symbolic power, capitalism and ethnicity, migration policies, and guestworker schemes have appeared in several prominent academic and intellectual journals, including the *European Journal of Sociology*, *International Migration Review*, *Merkur: Zeitschrift für Europäisches Denken*, *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, *Lettre Internationale*, and the *New Left Review*. For her scholarship, she has been named a Chancellor's Fellow at the University of California, Los Angeles and a Fellow of the American Academy of Political and Social Science. She has received awards and fellowships from the Japan Foundation, Fulbright-Hays Foundation, European University Institute, Frankfurt University, the University of California Board of Regents, and the Sainsbury Foundation. Her current research compares migration regimes and temporary migrant labor programs in East Asia and across the globe. She received a PhD in sociology from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Wednesday 18 March 2015

12.30pm for 1.00pm

BT Tower
45 Maple Street
London W1T 4JZ

Free:
Japan Society members and their guests only (1 guest per booking)
Booking essential (deadline morning of Monday 16 March)



Governments, organisations, companies and individuals have taken a long time to appreciate the scale and effect of the cyber threat now being faced. Threats come across the spectrum, from small scale-hackers to government-directed operations and can be active (in other words, aimed to disrupt or destroy) or passive (in other words, intercepted without the knowledge of the owners of the information). The lessons of the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, which came under far greater a threat than most realise, provide pointers to all, particularly those working towards the 2020 Games.

In this seminar, kindly hosted by BT, two keynote speakers and a panel of experts from two of the most relevant of British Government departments, from the Japanese Embassy and from BT, will aim to give those attending a better appreciation of what is faced by companies and organisations and then seek to answer three specific questions: Are we in London and Tokyo under threat? What are the scales and natures of those threats? And what are the British and Japanese Governments doing about them? The speakers and panel will look at the commercial threat; they will also

use, as illustration, the 2012 London Olympics experience and thereby provide pointers for the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo.

Details of the speakers will be sent ahead of the seminar to those attending but the Japan Society, which has been planning the seminar for some months, is immensely grateful that it has received support for it at such a high and well-informed level.

Capacity in the seminar is very limited. Those applying for places will be informed if their applications for tickets have been successful. The panel discussion will allow plenty of time for involvement of the audience. The seminar itself will finish at 3.00pm

We are very grateful to BT for hosting this event, and for providing refreshments at the end of the seminar.

Private viewing and artist talk: Sketches from the Poem Road

Monday 30 March 2015
7.15pm

6.30pm for

The Poetry Society (The Poetry Place)
Covent Garden Market
22 Betterton Street
London WC2H 9BX

Free:
Limited availability (Priority will be given to Japan Society members)
Booking essential (deadline Thursday 26 March)



Join us for a private viewing of Isao Miura's Sketches from the Poem Road, with accompanying talks by Isao and his collaborator, the poet Chris Beckett.

In spring 1689, Matsuo Basho set off from Edo (now Tokyo) on a long risky journey to the north of Japan. He travelled light, he tells us, just a paper raincoat and cotton gown, his writing brush and ink. On his return to Edo, he wrote one of the defining works in Japanese literature, *The Narrow Road to the Deep North*, which describes his journey in *hai-bun* – a mixture of poetry and prose.

In this collaborative exhibition of artwork and poetry, Isao and Chris aim to recreate something of the freshness and intensity of Basho's iconic text, reflecting Isao's own life-journey from the 'deep north' of Japan where he was born. For this private viewing, they will talk about the interpretative journey from text to image and the relationship between sculpture and drawing, before opening up the discussion to general questions. The talk will begin at 7.15pm, but attendees are invited to arrive from 6.30 to explore the exhibition at their own pace.

The show is the first in Isao Miura's project on *The Narrow Road*, on which he is working during a six month Fellowship in the Foundry

at Chelsea College of Art.

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. Isao began a Fellowship in the Foundry at Chelsea College of Art in October 2014.

Chris Beckett was born in London but grew up mostly in Ethiopia. He has been writing poems off and on since he was about 12 years old. Many years later he won first prize in the Poetry London competition 2001 and second prize in Chroma 2006.

His poems have been published in many great UK poetry magazines, and his second collection of poems, *Ethiopia Boy* (Carcenet/Oxford Poets), came out in 2013 and was described by Ian McMillan on Radio 3 as 'remarkable and exciting'.

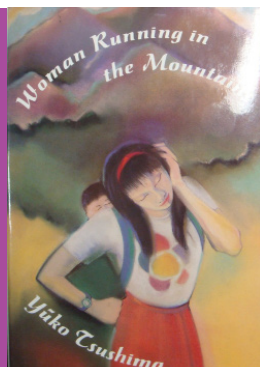
Japan Society Book Club: Woman Running in the Mountains by Yuko Tsushima

Monday 13 April 2015

7.00pm

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

Free for Japan Society Members:
Booking recommended



21-year-old Takiko Odaka lives with her working-class family in a small house in a crowded Tokyo neighborhood. After graduating from high school, she takes a job as an office clerk for a small company, but following a brief affair with a married man she discovers she is pregnant.

Despite her increasingly exhausting and alienated existence, Takiko refuses to bow to convention, and together, she and her son overcome the obstacles faced by a single mother navigating love, work and independence in an often parochial society.

The book club is held on the second Monday of 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.

Yuko Tsushima (born 30 March 1947) is the pen

name of Satoko Tsushima, a contemporary Japanese writer, essayist and critic. She is the daughter of famed novelist Osamu Dazai, who committed suicide when she was one year old.

While attending Shirayuri Women's University she published her first fiction, and at age 24 she published her first collection of stories, *Carnival* (Shaniku-sai). Now a prolific writer, she is the winner of several literary prizes.

In 1972 her story *Pregnant with a Fox* (*Kitsune wo haramu*) was a runner-up for the Akutagawa Prize. She was awarded the Izumi Kyōka Prize for Literature in 1977 and the first annual Noma Prize for New Writers in 1979. In 1983 she was awarded the Kawabata Prize for her short story *The Silent Traders* (*Danmari ichi*) and in 1986 she won the Yomiuri Prize for her novel *Driven by the Light of the Night* (*Yoru no hikari ni owarete*). In 1998 she was awarded the 34th Tanizaki Prize and the 51st Noma Prize for her novel *Mountain of Fire: Account Of A Wild Monkey* (*Hi no yama – yamazaruki*).

150 Years On: the Satsuma Students in Britain and the 'unequal treaties' – Andrew Cobbing

Monday 20 April 2015

6.45pm

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

Free;
Booking recommended



This year marks the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the Satsuma Students in Britain. Most of this group of nineteen went on to enrol at University College London, although the leaders were otherwise engaged talking to the Foreign Office or buying textile machinery in Manchester. It was a project remarkable because overseas travel was still illegal in Japan, and because Satsuma and Britain had been at war less than two years before. Some members of this party went on to become senior diplomats in the Meiji regime and played key roles in early attempts at treaty revision. After recapping on the Satsuma Students' momentous journey, and how this has been commemorated in stone, this paper explores these diplomats' experience in tackling the so-called 'unequal treaties'.

and PhD (SOAS) degrees. Now based at the University of Nottingham, he spent several years in Japan managing a student exchange programme at Kyushu University, and two years in China helping to set up Nottingham's campus in Ningbo. Early publications included *The Japanese Discovery of Victorian Britain* (1998) and *The Satsuma Students* (2000). He has been involved in translation projects such as Kume Kunitake's official account of the Iwakura Embassy (2002) and *Clouds Above the Hill* (2014), Shiba Ryōtarō's epic historical novel of the Russo-Japanese War. An interest in regional history has also led to works on Kyushu (2009) and Hakata (2013). His current project is on treaty revision in an international perspective, a theme suggested by several contributions he has written on Meiji diplomats for the Japan Society's *Biographical Portraits* series.

Andrew Cobbing studied History at Bristol and then, after a year on the JET Programme, focused on Japan for his Masters (Kyushu)

In association with SATSUMA 150:



A journey into the fabled world of Japanese running with Adharanand Finn

Wednesday 29 April 2015

6.45pm

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

Free:
Booking recommended



With viewers in their millions watching marathon relay *ekiden*, and with the most developed and lucrative league in the world, long distance running in Japan is a serious business. Big companies such as Honda, Konica Minolta and Toyota keep teams of road-runners who live and train together and compete in races, and further down the ladder, amateurs and students regularly clock professional times.

In 2013, only six of the hundred fastest marathon runners in the world were not from Africa; five of those six were from Japan. And in the women's marathon, eleven of the top hundred runners in 2013 were from Japan – the third highest number after Kenya and Ethiopia by some margin.

Having spent six months with Kenyan athletes in 2011, Adharanand Finn turned to Japan's obsession with running to discover what it could do for his own style and performance. To mark the publication of his *The Way of the Runner: A journey into the fabled world of Japanese running*, the Japan Society is delighted to be holding a talk by the author in which he will introduce us to the complex and contradictory world of Japanese running. He will be joined in conversation by British Olympic marathon runner Mara Yamauchi,

and this will be followed by an open Q&A.

Adharanand Finn is the author of *Running with the Kenyans*, which was the *Sunday Times* Sports Book of the Year, won Best New Writer at the British Sports Book Awards, and shortlisted for the William Hill Sports Book Award. He is an editor at the *Guardian* and a freelance journalist. He is also a former junior cross-country runner and now competes for Torbay AC in Devon, where he and his family usually live.

Mara Yamauchi is a former elite British marathon runner and diplomat. A two-time Olympian, she is the second fastest female British marathon runner ever. She grew up in Kenya, and has lived in Japan for many years as a diplomat and professional athlete. Mara finished 6th in the 2008 Beijing Olympic marathon – the best performance ever by a British woman in this event – and was runner-up in the 2009 London marathon. She also competed for Team GB at the 2012 London Olympics. In January 2013 Mara announced her retirement from elite competition. She is now working as a freelance coach, speaker and writer.

The Way of the Runner will be available for £10 on the night (usual price £14.99).

In association with Faber & Faber:



Japan Society Book Club: The Sea and Poison by Shusaku Endo

Monday 11 May 2015

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 full 2015 Book Club programme is available on our website



Doctor Suguro, haunted by his wartime experience as an intern co-opted into performing vivisections on American airmen, practices medicine in a dingy office in a modern-day Tokyo backwater. In a series of flashbacks within flashbacks, this short novel tackles themes of cruelty, moral weakness, and contempt for human life as the reader is introduced to a cast whose participation in wartime atrocities is slowly revealed.

The book club is held on the second Monday of 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.

1996) was an award-winning Japanese author, whose passion for French literature, and steadfast Catholic faith lend his novels their distinctive perspective, focusing on the notion of the outsider and the complex morality of modern life. At Keio University he majored in French literature (B.A., 1949), a subject he studied from 1950 to 1953 at the University of Lyon in France. His first collections of fiction, *Shiroi hito* and *Kiiroi hito* (both 1955; *White Man* and *Yellow Man*), indicate the direction of most of his later work, contrasting Japanese and Western experience and perspectives. Endo's other extended fiction includes *Kazan* (1959; *Volcano*), *Chinmoku* (1966; *Silence*), *Sukyandaru* (1986; *Scandal*), and a number of comic novels. He also wrote short stories, drama, essays, and non-fiction.

Shusaku Endo (Endō Shusaku, 1923 –

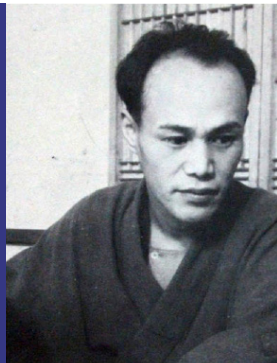
Don't mention the War! Writing the Alienated Self in Post-war Japan – Mark Williams

Monday 18 May 2015

6.45pm

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

Free:
Booking recommended



This paper represents an attempt to consider how artists in general – and Japanese post-war novelists in particular – deal with traumatic experience and how this process is reflected in their subsequent literary texts. More specifically, it will consider how two Japanese immediate post-war authors, Shimao Toshio (1917–86) and Shiina Rinzō (1911–73) – neither of whom saw active experience at the front but who both emerged, by their own admission, heavily traumatized from their experiences of the period – tackled the issue of depicting in their literary texts their wartime experiences and their subsequent attempts to return to 'normal' life in the immediate aftermath of war. The literary process whereby they first 'act out' and subsequently 'work through' their particular traumatic experiences will be examined – and, in so doing, their oeuvres will be presented as ongoing, collaborative projects aimed at more fully 'constituting' certain traumatic events in cognitive, affective and ethical terms.

the University of Oxford and a PhD in Japanese Literature at the University of California, Berkeley. He has spent most of career at the University of Leeds, UK, where he is Professor of Japanese Studies. He was Head of East Asian Studies between 2000-04, and Chair of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures between 2006-11. He was also President of the British Association for Japanese Studies (BAJS), 2008-11. Between 2011-14, he was seconded as Vice President for Academic Affairs to Akita International University, Akita, Japan.

He has published extensively, in English and Japanese. His published works include: *Endō Shūsaku: A Literature of Reconciliation* (Routledge); *Christianity and Japan: Impacts and Responses* (Macmillan; co-edited with John Breen), *Representing the Other in Modern Japanese Literature: A Critical Approach* (Routledge; co-edited with Rachael Hutchinson) and *Imag(in)ing the War in Japan: Representing and Responding to Trauma in Post-war Japanese Literature and Film* (Brill; co-edited with David Stahl). He is also the translator of *Foreign Studies* and *The Girl I Left Behind*, two novels by the Japanese author, Endō Shūsaku.

Mark Williams took his BA in Japanese Studies at

Trooping the Colour 2015: Special seats at the Major General's Review

Saturday 30 May 2015

10.00am

Horse Guards Parade
Whitehall London
SW1A 2NS

Japan Society members only: £5
Booking deadline: Tuesday 5 May

Tickets will be allocated by ballot



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

The Society has once again arranged for a limited number of seats for the dress rehearsal, held two weeks before the real parade.

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

and full uniform will be on parade; there will be Massed Bands, Mounted Band, and a large number of cavalry. The troops will be reviewed and then will march past twice. The Queen will not be present, but the Dress Rehearsal parade will be taken by the General in command of all Household Troops. Members should be seated by 10.00am, but we are arranging to meet at 9.15am for coffee and a short talk (optional). This will cover the conduct of the parade, its history and tradition. Full details will be sent to those who book.

This is always a popular event – please apply by 5 May, after which tickets will be allocated by ballot.

Kew's Heritage Trees: private tour with artist Masumi Yamanaka (additional tour added)

Tuesday 2 June 2015
10.30 for 11.00am
or 1.30 for 2.00pm

Shirley Sherwood Gallery of Botanical Art
Royal Botanic Gardens TW9 3AB

Japan Society members only:
£12.75; £11.90 (over 60s); free for Kew members
Booking deadline – Thursday 14 May

When booking, please state whether you are an
adult, senior (over 60), or Kew member



We are pleased to announce that due to high demand, we have organised an additional private tour of *Kew's Heritage Trees: Paintings by Masumi Yamanaka*, in the company of the artist. The original tour is still taking place at 11.00am, and the additional tour will start at 2.00pm. This exhibition brings together 40 paintings of rare trees – superlative specimens, each with their own unique value – by Yamanaka, one of Kew's resident botanical artists.

Kew boasts trees that are ancient, fascinating and historic – some of them date back to 1762 – and Yamanaka's stunning illustrations have captured them in all their mesmerising beauty.

Passes will be sent out in advance, allowing attendees access to Kew's extensive gardens for the whole day. We will meet at the Shirley Sherwood Gallery at 10.30am for the tour beginning at 11, and at 1.30pm for the tour beginning at 2.

When booking, please state if you would prefer the morning or afternoon tour.

Masumi Yamanaka is an award winning botanical artist currently based at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. She was born in Nara,

Japan and came to London in 1987 to work for Marks & Spencer as a ceramics designer. During her career as a designer she has worked with many prestigious ceramic manufacturers and retailers, including Royal Doulton, Portmeirion, The National Trust, Vista Alegre and Crate & Barrel.

She subsequently found her true calling as a botanical artist, and won a medal at the RHS London Flower Show at her first attempt in 2002. She is a member of the Royal Horticultural Society and The Society of Floral Painters.

Masumi is entranced by the confounding beauty of the rare and iconic champion trees that grow at Kew. Her remarkable works – each of which takes three months – are her way of highlighting, from an artist's perspective, the value of trees to the planet's environment. As Masumi says "I'm not a scientist or botanist, so I can't express the detailed science behind the significance and importance of these trees. But I'm an artist, and I hope that through painting these beautiful specimens I can highlight the value of trees in a way that will translate to everyone."

Japan Society Book Club: The Setting Sun by Osamu Dazai

Monday 8 June 2015

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

OSAMU DAZAI



THE SETTING
SUN

The Setting Sun is told through the eyes of Kazuko, the unmarried daughter of a widowed aristocrat, whose search for self meaning in a society that has no use for her forms the crux of the novel. Hard financial times force the family to take a cottage in the countryside, and their situation is complicated by the return of Kazuko's brother – an opium addict – from the war.

The book club is held on the second Monday of 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.

Osamu Dazai (Dazai Osamu, 1909 –

1948) was a novelist and master storyteller, who became at the end of World War II the literary voice and hero of his generation. His own life ended in a double-suicide with his married mistress. In many books Dazai used biographical material from his own family background, making his self-destructive life the main subject. His daughter, Yuko Tsushima, has gone on to forge a highly successful literary career of her own.

Japan Society Golf Tournament 2015

Monday 22 June 2015

Brocket Hall
Welwyn
Hertfordshire AL8 7XG

£70 per head (all-in price for the day)
Booking deadline: Friday 12 June

Breakfast from 8.30 am; Assembly and Briefing 9.15 am; Shotgun
Start 9.45 am; Japanese Lunch 2.00 pm; Prizegiving by BDO



The Japan Society's annual Golf Tournament, for the Asprey and Garrard Plate, is due to take place at Brocket Hall on Monday 22 June, with a shotgun start at 9.45am. The format will be Stableford and players have to be ready by 9.15am for transport to their allocated tee-offs. The all-in price is £70, including breakfast, 18 holes of golf and a Japanese lunch on completion. Brocket Hall, corporate members of the Japan Society, have been incredibly generous to offer their facilities at such a discounted rate.

BDO, a leading member, is once again providing the prizes and there will be competitions for 'Nearest the Pin' and 'Longest Drive'; a halfway house will be on hand to provide refreshments. Any number of players can be accepted, so

please bring friends, colleagues, and clients.

The par 72 Melbourne Course was opened in June 1992 and is the handiwork of design duo and former Ryder Cup golfers Peter Alliss and Clive Clark; their encyclopaedic knowledge of the game shines through as soon as you set foot on the first tee. The course provides an enjoyable challenge in stunning surroundings, crossing the river Lea on several occasions as you follow the natural contours of the Estate, before a memorable finish in front of the Hall after a short ferry ride to the 18th green.

Supported by:



Brexit: Will Britain Leave Europe?

The Real Issues – Denis MacShane

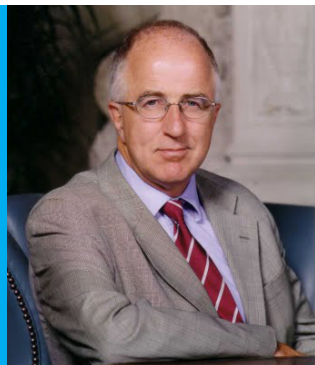
Tuesday 23 June 2015

2.00 for 2.15pm
to 3.45pm

Citadines Holborn
94-99 High Holborn
London WC1V 6LF

Free:
Booking essential.

Bookings for this event are being handled by JETRO here: <http://bit.ly/1KYPrq4>



As a result of the Conservative victory in last month's General Election, by the end of 2017 there will be an In-Out referendum to decide whether the UK will remain a member of the EU. Prime Minister David Cameron has already begun to discuss with the major EU Member States the concessions he wants in order for the UK to stay in the EU; the biggest debate about the future of Britain and Europe is about to begin.

All major referendums on the EU this century, in Sweden (2003), France and the Netherlands (2005), and Ireland (2008), have gone against closer EU integration. Will Britain vote to stay in or to leave the EU? The outcome of this referendum will influence Japanese business activities in the UK and also potentially have a big impact on the future UK-Japan relationship.

JETRO, in association with the Japan Society, is welcoming Dr Denis MacShane, Former Minister for Europe, as its main guest speaker for this seminar. Dr MacShane has a profound knowledge of and insight into the political dynamics of both the UK and Europe, and this lecture will enable us to deepen our understanding of the historical background to BREXIT, the real issues at stake, and likely upcoming developments.

After Dr MacShane's talk, Sir David Warren,

Chairman of the Japan Society, will provide brief comments before the floor is opened to discussion.

Dr Denis MacShane graduated from the University of Oxford and subsequently worked as a BBC journalist. As a Labour MP from 1994 to 2012 he was close to Tony Blair, and served as Foreign Office Minister responsible for relations with Japan and East Asia before becoming Minister for Europe (2002-2005), UK delegate to the Council of Europe (2005-2010), and personal envoy to Europe for Tony Blair. He is a foreign affairs specialist, speaking French, German and Spanish, and is the author of many books on international issues, including *Brexit: How Britain will Leave Europe*, published in January 2015.

Due to limited space, please inform JETRO at your earliest convenience if you later need to cancel your place.

Organised by:

JETRO

The Japan Society Annual General Meeting 2015

Wednesday 24 June 2015

6.00pm

Embassy of Japan
101-104 Piccadilly
London W1J 7JT

Free:
Japan Society Members Only

Booking essential
Booking deadline: Monday 22 June



The Japan Society Annual General Meeting 2015 will be held on Wednesday 24 June at 6.00pm at the Embassy of Japan, London.

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

All documentation concerning the AGM, including the formal Notice of AGM and Proxy Voting Form, and the Trustees Report / Japan Society Accounts (ending 31 December 2014), will be available to download from our website shortly.

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

Following the formal business of the AGM there will be a drinks reception to which all members are most welcome.

Former Prime Ministers in Japanese Politics:

Who's Sori Now? – Hugo Dobson

Monday 29 June 2015

6.45pm

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

Free:
Booking recommended



This lecture is based on a current research project that seeks to make two contributions. First of all, it provides an alternative political history of Japan from the perspective of former prime ministers and their post-premierships. Japan's modern political history is a relatively well-researched field presenting little opportunity for new perspectives. However, by focusing on what happens after a prime minister has stepped down, this project shifts our attention from the usual concerns of political biography towards the question of what happened next. This project seeks to answer that simple but elusive question 'where are they now?'.
Second, it is hoped that this project appeals not only to political historians but also to political scientists by categorizing and evaluating the various roles of informal actors in domestic and international politics, but in the specific case of former Japanese prime ministers. As there is no template or precedent for what prime ministers do after retirement, these post-premierships can be varied and overlapping. Former prime ministers may continue to exert influence behind the scenes; they may return to the top job or a ministerial role; they may assume an unofficial role but still be actively engaged in the political process; they may make a career break and move into

a new field; they might publish their memoirs; or, they may even retire completely from the limelight. Whatever the post-retirement role they assume, these can be categorized in order to shed light on possible sources of influence and power, official or unofficial, formal or informal, that have been ignored and under-researched up until now.

Hugo Dobson is Professor of Japan's International Relations at the National Institute of Japanese Studies and currently Head of the School of East Asian Studies at the University of Sheffield. His research interests are broadly divided into two strands. The first strand focuses upon international relations, multilateral organisations and global governance, especially the G8 and G20 and Japan's role therein. The second strand of his research explores the role of images in shaping our understanding of international relations and Japan's role in the world, from postage stamps and logos to TV programmes such as *The Simpsons*. A more detailed profile and list of publications are available at: <http://www.shef.ac.uk/seas/staff/japanese/Dobson>

Japanese Conversation Group

Tuesday 7 July 2015

6.30pm

The Brewmaster
37 Cranbourn Street
London WC2H 7AD

Standard Admission: 5.50
(£1 Discount for Japan Society members, students
and 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.

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.

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

Energy and Climate Change in the Build Up to COP21

Friday 10 July 2015

12.00 for 12.30pm

Vista, 9th Floor
EY London
1 More London Place
London SE1 2AF

Free:
Japan Society members and those introduced by JETRO only

Booking essential
Booking deadline: Wednesday 8 July



The world is moving towards a crucial climate change meeting in Paris in December 2015. At COP21 some 40,000 delegates and officials will convene in an international effort to address the effects of climate change, striving to achieve a universal, legally-binding agreement to lay the groundwork for more sustainable low-carbon economies.

This seminar, hosted by EY and organised by JETRO London and the Japan Society in cooperation with the International Energy Agency (IEA), will brief members on global energy and climate change policy in the context of COP21. The Head of the IEA's Environment & Climate Change Unit, Dr Takashi Hattori, will share insights from recent IEA analysis, including findings from *Energy Technology Perspectives 2015* and the *World Energy Outlook: 2015 Special Report on Energy and Climate Change*; this special edition of the *World Energy Outlook* – widely regarded as the world's most authoritative source of energy market analysis and projections – has been produced in advance of COP21.

Climate Change and Environment: 2014 Insights, as well as *World Energy Outlook: 2015 Special Report on Energy and Climate Change*. He received his PhD from the University of Tokyo's Graduate School of Decision Science, after gaining a Master's degree in Public Policy from Harvard University. Prior to joining the IEA in 2013, he held a number of roles in the Ministry of Economy, Trade & Industry (METI), culminating in being appointed the Director for Climate Change.

A light lunch will be served from 12 until 12.30. The Japan Society is extremely grateful to Corporate Supporters EY for hosting this event.

Takashi Hattori has been one of the driving forces behind the publication of *Energy*,

Hosted by:



Matsuya Nozawa and the World of Joruri: Musical Storytelling

Sunday 12 July 2015

3.00 to 4.30pm

Grosvenor Chapel
24 South Audley St
London W1K 2PA

Free:
Booking recommended



Matsuya Nozawa is a *gidayu shamisen* performer at the National Theatre of Japan, and one of Japan's Living National Treasures. He will introduce us to the world of *joruri*, a form of musical narrative which accompanies *bunraku* and *kabuki*. Alongside his professional performances, Nozawa has made it his mission to develop wider interest in *kabuki*, *bunraku* and *joruri* by going beyond the usual classical repertoire. Since 2004, he has been performing his own *joruri*, telling familiar folk tales in everyday Japanese, in schools, kindergartens and community centres.

For this event Nozawa will tell the stories of Momotaro, the Japanese hero born from a peach, and Oitekebori, the ghost who lurks in canals haunting unwary fishermen, and will give an account of the legendary duel between General Minamoto no Yoshitsune and the warrior-monk Benkei. Nozawa will also talk about his craft and answer questions on *joruri*, *kabuki* and *bunraku*.

in 1955 and began playing the *shamisen* at the age of 14. In 1972 he joined the National Bunraku Theatre as a trainee, making his full debut in 1974. In 1979 he joined the National Theatre of Japan, where he continues to accompany *kabuki* and teach. One of his most significant contributions to the *kabuki* repertoire was an adaptation of Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*.

Matsuya Nozawa is one of Japan's Living National Treasures. He was born in Hiroshima

Japan Society Book Club: The Diving Pool by Yoko Ogawa

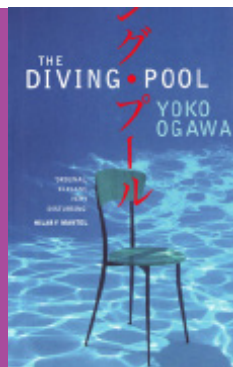
Monday 13 July 2015

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 Diving Pool compiles three stories by Yoko Ogawa: a lonely teenage girl falls in love with her foster-brother as she watches him leap from a high diving board into a pool, sparking an unspoken infatuation that draws out darker possibilities; a young woman records the daily moods of her pregnant sister in a diary, but rather than a story of growth the diary reveals a more sinister tale of greed and repulsion; and driven by nostalgia, a woman visits her old college dormitory on the outskirts of Tokyo, where she finds an isolated world shadowed by decay, haunted by absent students and the disturbing figure of the crippled caretaker.

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.

Okayama Prefecture, graduated from Waseda University, and lives in Ashiya, Hyōgo, with her husband and son. Since 1988, she has published more than twenty works of fiction and nonfiction.

Yoko Ogawa (小川 洋子, born March 30, 1962) was born in Okayama,

Amaterasu's progress: the Ise shrines in the public sphere of postwar Japan – John Breen

Monday 20 July 2015

6.45pm

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

Free:
Booking essential



For this year's Carmen Blacker Lecture we welcome John Breen, a highly respected scholar on the history of shinto, based at the International Research Center for Japanese Studies in Kyoto, who is visiting the UK to give this lecture. The Carmen Blacker Lecture Series honours the memory and scholarship of Carmen Blacker and is organised jointly with the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures.

In 2013, the Inner and Outer shrines in Ise were rebuilt at vast expense. On 2 October 2013 Amaterasu, the Sun Goddess, abandoned her old, and somewhat worn, shrine to progress to her new abode, located a matter of metres away on an adjacent site, the latest event in a remarkable tradition of vicennial rebuilding that extends back to the 7th century AD. In 20 years Amaterasu will be on the move again. In this lecture, I explore the ritualized rebuilding of the Ise shrines in postwar Japan as a technique to highlight the shrines' constant negotiation with the realms of politics, economy and society. Out of this negotiation has come change for the private religious charity that is Ise. I propose here that the dominant trajectory of change is best understood in terms of "de-privatisation" or the re-emergence of the Ise shrines into the public realm.

John Breen received his BA, MA and PhD from Cambridge University. He was subsequently lecturer, senior lecturer and reader at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. He is presently Professor at the International Research Center for Japanese Studies in Kyoto, where he edits the journal *Japan Review*. He is the author of *Shinto monogatari: Ise jingū no kingendaishi (Tales of a Sacred City: the Ise shrines in Modern Japan)*, 2015, and *Girei to kenryoku: tennō no Meiji ishin (Ritual and Power: the Emperor and the Meiji Restoration)*, 2011. He is also co-author (with Mark Teeuwen) of *A New History of Shinto*, 2011. Recent articles in English include 'The Nation's Shrine: Conflict and Commemoration at Yasukuni', in Tsang and Woods eds., *The Cultural Politics of Nationalism and Nation-building*, 2014, 'Fine Words Indeed: Yasukuni and the Narrative Fetishism of War', Prohl and Nelson eds., *Handbook of Contemporary Japanese Religions*, 2012 and 'Voices of Rage: Six Paths to the Problem of Yasukuni', in Roy Starrs ed., *Politics and Religion in Modern Japan: Red Sun, White Lotus*, 2011. He is presently completing a history of the Ise shrines in English with Mark Teeuwen.

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

Japan Society Pub Quiz – Satsuma 150 Special

Tuesday 21 July 2015

6.00 for 7.00pm

The Prince of Wales
Drury Lane
Covent Garden
London WC2B 5PF

£1 per head (payable on the door)
Booking essential (places are limited)

Booking deadline: Monday 20 July



Oyattosaa! This year marks the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the Satsuma Students, 19 residents of what is now Kagoshima who travelled to the UK to study and learn. To celebrate this, 19 young people from Kagoshima will be arriving from Japan to visit the sites travelled to by their predecessors. To help show them the strength of the UK-Japan relationship, the Japan Society pub quiz returns after two years in retirement.

A popular feature of British pub culture, a pub quiz is a chance to band together with a team of friends and pit your wits against the pub's quiz master – and of course enjoy a drink or two along the way. The unique point about the Japan Society Pub Quiz is that half the questions are in English and half in Japanese, although it is structured so that anyone can take part.

This, the sixth Japan Society Pub Quiz, is your chance to show everyone just how much you know, or simply to come and have fun with like-minded people. If you have never participated in a pub quiz, it's time you found out what they are all about. If you are a past master, this is another chance to form a winning team. In honour of our visitors from Kagoshima, there may well be some questions thematically linked to the

journey of their forebears. But don't worry, it is not a quiz about the history of southern Kyushu and we will try to place one of our visitors from Kagoshima in each team to help. *Kibaiyanse!*

Although the quiz is starting at 7pm, the 19 students from Kagoshima will be arriving at around 6pm and will eat at the pub. All Japan Society members, along with any other attendees, who would like to meet them are very welcome to arrive early and to join them for dinner or a drink.

All team members will be asked to pay £1 on the night. The collected takings will form the prize, which will be awarded to the winning team. The more teams and more participants, the bigger the bounty! There will also be a prize for the team with the best name.

The rules are not strict, but teams will have about six members and will need to include at least one Japanese speaker. If you are interested, but haven't got a full team, please let us know. We can match you with other people to make up a six.

If you would like to take part, gather together a team, name it and register your team with the Japan Society office on 020 3075 1996 or email events@japansociety.org.uk.

Tanabata:

Celebrate the Japanese Star Festival at Kew Gardens

Wednesday 5 & Thursday 6 August 2015

10.30am – 4.00pm

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

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

No booking required – just turn up on the day!



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

Try your hand at Japanese calligraphy and origami, follow the Tanabata Treasurer Trail, learn about the Tanabata story through performances by Haruka Kuroda of A Thousand Cranes Children's Theatre Company, and tour Kew's famous bamboo collection with experts Ray Townsend and Maria Vorntsova.

Don't miss out on taking part in the Tanabata

story!

In Japan, Tanabata takes place every year on the 7th day of the 7th month. The festival celebrates the romantic story of the weaver star Orihime and the cowherd star Hikoboshi, who are separated by the Milky Way and are only allowed to meet on this one day each year. People celebrate by making paper origami decorations and writing their wishes on strips of coloured paper called *tanzaku*, which they hang with other paper ornaments on bamboo in the hope their wishes will come true.

Time	Event
All day	Drop-in origami and calligraphy workshops
All day	Follow the Tanabata Treasure Trail and win prizes
11.00am	Tour of the Bamboo collection with Ray Townsend and Maria Vorntsova
12.00pm	The Tanabata story with A Thousand Cranes Children's Theatre Company
1.30pm	The Tanabata story with A Thousand Cranes Children's Theatre Company
2.00pm	Tour of the Bamboo collection with Ray Townsend and Maria Vorntsova
3.00pm	The Tanabata story with A Thousand Cranes Children's Theatre Company

There are also plenty of opportunities to get involved as a volunteer.
Email info@japansociety.org.uk to find out more.

In collaboration with:

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

Japan Society Book Club: Black Rain by Masuji Ibuse

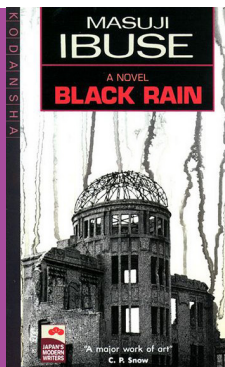
Monday 10 August 2015

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



Black Rain tells the story of a young woman caught in the radioactive 'black rain' that fell after the atomic bombing of Hiroshima. Ibuse bases his tale on real-life diaries and interviews with victims of the atrocity. The result is a book that is free from sentimentality, yet manages to reveal the magnitude of the human suffering caused by the atom bomb.

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.

and poetry. Ibuse was known and appreciated for most of his career, although it wasn't until after the war that he became famous. In 1966 he published his best known work, *Black Rain*, which won him international acclaim and several awards including the Noma Prize and the Order of Cultural Merit, the highest honor that can be bestowed upon a Japanese author.

Masuji Ibuse (伊豆野 昌司, Ibuse Masuji, 15 February 1898 – 10 July 1993) was greatly influenced by the works of Shakespeare and Basho, and was an avid reader of French fiction

Bakumatsu Kabuki Heroes: Thieves, Cutpurses & Extortionists with Alan Cummings

Monday 17 August 2015

6.45pm

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

Free:
Booking recommended



Like theatres elsewhere in the world, kabuki was viewed askance by the authorities during the Tokugawa period. *Bakufu* officials repeatedly issued legislation that was designed to hem in and control the theatre's impact on popular morality and customs. *Kabuki* reacted in different ways to this web of control. On the one hand, the creation of a sense of visual extravagance and abundance obliquely questioned the logic and effect of the *bakufu's* sumptuary regulations. On the other, the theatre created plots and heroes that more explicitly ran against the dictates of official morality. In this lecture, Alan Cummings will explore the trope of explicit criminality in the plays of the 1850s and 1860s to argue that the use of criminal heroes is emblematic of a wider popular discourse on, and representation of, criminality that encompassed oral narrative forms like *kōdan* and that worked against a number of opposing, official narratives on justice and punishment.

University of London. He is currently a Senior Teaching Fellow at SOAS. His research interests include *kabuki* dramaturgy, pre-modern literature, and post-war performance. His recent publications include *Haiku: Love* (British Museum Press, 2013), and "Benten the Thief" in Jones & Watanabe (eds.), *An Edo Anthology: Literature from Japan's Mega-City, 1750-1850* (University of Hawai'i Press, 2013).

Alan Cummings received his MA from Waseda University, and his BA and PhD from the School of Oriental & African Studies,

Joint Lunch with the JCCI: The UK-Japan 21st Century Group's 32nd Annual Meeting

Thursday 3 September 2015

12.30 for 1.00pm

The Cavalry & Guards Club
127 Piccadilly
London W1J 7PX

£55 per head for members of the Japan Society, the JCCI and their guests.

Booking deadline: Monday 31 August

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



The guests at the next Japan Society and JCCI Joint Lunch will be the co-Chairmen of the UK-Japan 21st Century Group, Mr Yasuhisa Shiozaki and the Lord Howard of Lympne, together with other British and Japanese members of the Group.

The 21st Century Group is a non-Governmental forum. It was set up in 1984 to help cement closer links between British and Japanese politicians, business and media figures, and academics. It meets each year, alternating between Japan and the UK, to discuss issues of mutual national interest, reporting direct after each meeting to the British and Japanese Prime Ministers. Membership of the group varies from year to year but includes Members of the UK Parliament and of the Diet, experts on the issues being discussed, senior business representatives and well-known media commentators.

For this lunch, members of the 21st Century Group will be spread through tables of ten, otherwise made up of members of the Japan Society and of the JCCI; all attendees will be allocated seats. The co-Chairmen will make brief speeches, but the aim of the lunch will be to enable the members of the Society and the Chamber to discuss current issues of interest in UK/Japan relations directly with

the members of the Group. There will be designated rapporteurs on each table, who can feed back any specific points after the lunch as necessary.

We are indebted to Nikko AM for funding the participation of the delegates from the 21st Century Group.

This is an important event: dialogue with the parliamentary and other delegates who will be going straight on to debate the same issues over the weekend, will give our members a chance to provide input to key questions and also to ensure that the members of the Group are aware of the issues faced by those involved in UK-Japan relations here in the UK.

In association with:

Jcci uk
The Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the UK
在英日本商工会議所 1988

nikko am
Nikko Asset Management

Bill Emmott in Conversation

Wednesday 16 September 2015

6.00 for 6.30pm

Mitsui & Co Europe plc
9th Floor
1 St Martins-le-Grand

Free:
Japan Society members and their guests

Booking essential
Booking deadline: Monday 14 September



No sooner had Prime Minister David Cameron outlined his proposed EU reforms at a summit in Brussels than officials confirmed that the UK's in-out referendum will go ahead before they can be ratified.

In the face of this uncertainty, and the ongoing Greek debt crisis, what does the current state of the EU mean for the UK? Bill Emmott, respected journalist and author, will consider the implications of EU reform in conversation with Mami Mizuturi, Executive Director of the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures. With the majority of Japanese companies' European headquarters based in London, this talk will be of great relevance to a broad range of Japan Society members and associated organisations. Bill's experience and writing on this topic will enable him to provide a level-headed and clear analysis of what is at stake, and the way forward.

with books, documentary films and the work of The Wake Up Foundation, a charity dedicated to education and communication about the decline of western societies. He is also Executive Producer of the recent documentary *The Great European Disaster Movie*, shown on BBC4, Arte, and NHK.

Prior to this, Bill was Editor of *The Economist* from 1993 until 2006, doubling its circulation during his tenure. He had also been based in the magazine's Tokyo office from 1983-1986.

Bill Emmott is an independent writer and consultant on international affairs, based in London and Somerset. He is involved

Hosted by by:



MITSUI & CO.

Japan Matsuri 2015

Saturday 19 September 2015

10.00am - 8.00pm

Trafalgar Square
Westminster
London
WC2N 5DN

Free



London's very own festival of Japanese culture – Japan Matsuri – returns on Saturday, 19 September 2015 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.

This year we are celebrating a special anniversary of 150 years of friendship between London and Japan and the story of the Satsuma Students from Kagoshima.

We have special appearances from a number of acts from Kagoshima including the spectacular Izaku Taiko Odori (Izaku Drum Dancers), the brave samurai character Satsuma Kenshi Hayato and Guribu, Kagoshima's yurukyara mascot.

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

Enjoy the atmosphere with Japanese festival food from the numerous stalls. Join

in the fun in the family activities area with games and dressing in kimono. Try your hand Japanese cartoons on the manga wall.

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

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

In association with:



JAPAN
ASSOCIATION
英国日本人会



日本クラブ

Embassy of
Japan
in the UK

Jcci uk
在英日本商工会議所

Japan's demographic shift and its implication for the future of Japanese education and social policy

Monday 21 September 2015

6.45pm

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

Free:
Booking recommended



Japan is currently going through the most dramatic demographic transition that the world has ever seen that cannot be ascribed to either war or plague. Life expectancy is rising, fertility rates are falling, the country is ageing and the population is shrinking – all faster than in any other country in the world. According to most estimates, by the end of the current century, the Japanese population will be half its present size. There is no area of Japanese educational, social, political and economic policy which remains untouched by this demographic shift. This talk will discuss some of its most immediate implications, focussing in particular on a predicted implosion of Japan's higher education system where, since 2014, supply has for the first time outstripped demand.

of the largest groups of social scientists in the world. In 2003, he took up the Nissan Chair of Modern Japanese Studies. Prof. Goodman's research over the past 30 years has been mainly on the education and social welfare system of modern Japan. He has published many books including, most recently, *Higher Education and the State*, 2012, *A Sociology of Japanese Youth*, 2011, and *Ageing in Asia*, 2007. Prof. Goodman is currently Chair of the UK Academy of Social Sciences.

Roger Goodman has since 2008 been Head of Oxford University's Social Sciences Division which, with almost 1000 academic staff, is one

Obubu: Green Tea Talk and Tasting with Kyoto Obubu Tea Farms

Friday 25 September 2015

6.45pm

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

£5 – all welcome

Payment can be taken in advance or on the door

Booking recommended



The Japan Society welcomes you to a talk and tasting led by tea expert Yasuharu Matsumoto, Vice President of Kyoto Obubu Tea Farms, an innovative agricultural social enterprise in Kyoto. Matsumoto will talk about tea farming (what makes a tea sweet or bitter?), brewing techniques (how much theanine and catechin do you want in your tea?), green tea varieties (matcha, sencha, houjicha, bancha, genmaicha), and tea culture. There will also be a rare chance to try traditional teas from Wazuka, Kyoto.

Obubu is Kyoto slang for tea, and Kyoto

Obubu Tea farms is an agricultural social enterprise dedicated to revitalising local interest in agriculture, and encouraging interest internationally in quality Japanese tea. This event is part of a European tour, comprising workshops and seminars at the University of Oxford, the University of Madrid, the International Tea and Coffee Academy in the Hague and the Italian Tea Culture Association in Milan.

Global markets for grains, rice and oilseeds: Recent trends and prospects – Etsuo Kitahara

Tuesday 29 September 2015

12.00 for 12.30pm

King & Wood Mallesons
10 Queen Street Place
London EC4R 1BE

Free of charge

Members of the Japan Society or those introduced by JETRO only

Booking essential

Booking deadline: Friday 25 September



In the middle of negotiations surrounding the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade agreement, and the lead-up to the COP21 climate summit in Paris this December, the importance of food security continues to grow. 800 million people go hungry every day around the world, predominantly in developing countries. The UN's Food & Agriculture Organization projects a required 70% increase in food production by 2050 to feed an estimated 9 billion people; a growth that may become increasingly hard in the face of growing climate instability.

The Japan Society is delighted to welcome Etsuo Kitahara, Executive Director of the International Grains Council, to talk on this topic. Mr Kitahara's expertise in the global grains market – maize and wheat alone make up two thirds of the world's food energy intake, and developing countries account for nearly 80% of all wheat imports – and his prior experience working for the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) will be of particular relevance to Society members. Many Japanese trading houses are deeply involved in the import and export of grains and other food products, and the UK, while importing 40% of its food compared to Japan's 60%, is also very much invested in the world's agricultural stability.

Etsuo Kitahara joined the International Grains Council after serving as Vice-President of JICA (2004-2006). Prior to this he worked as the Senior Deputy Director General for the Land and Water Bureau of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (2003-2004), and the Deputy Director General for the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries' Rural Development Bureau (2002-2003). He joined MAFF in 1974, and assumed his current position in 2006.

The International Grains Council works under the framework of the 1995 Grains Trade Convention and the 2013 Food Assistance Convention, both of which are multilateral cooperation instruments whose aims include enhancing world food security. In the case of the Grains Trade convention, this objective is sought by improving market transparency. Japan and the EU are both members of the International Grains Council, along with 25 other countries.

To book for an event, please call the Japan Society office on 020 3075 1996, email events@japansociety.org.uk or visit our website and use the online booking form.

Mme Butterfly: what happened next, with Ignacio Jarquin and Chris Roberts

Wednesday 30 September 2015

6.45pm

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

Free:
Booking recommended



Ignacio Jarquin joins the Japan Society to discuss and perform excerpts from his stunning show *Mme Butterfly – The One Man Opera*.

Behind the sweeping emotionalism of Puccini's popular tragedy *Madama Butterfly* lies a real-life drama of imperialism and sexual exploitation amid the grittiness of late 19th century Nagasaki. Set thirty years after the end of the iconic Puccini opera, which leaves a mixed race child abandoned by its mother and father, Ignacio's new work seeks to answer the question, 'What happened next?'

Mme Butterfly – The One Man Opera brings together *nihon buyo*, *noh* and a contemporary operatic score by doyen British composer Michael Finnissy to depict Madame Butterfly's son in his journey to America in search of his father, now the Governor of Georgia and engaged in a fight for re-election.

Ignacio will discuss how *Mme Butterfly – The One Man Opera* uses traditional Japanese music, dance and drama to explore an iconic story that belongs fundamentally to Western cultural archetypes, and will draw parallels between Puccini's opera and Michael Finnissy's wonderful new score. He will also

be joined by historian Chris Roberts, who will discuss the sociocultural environment in which the Butterfly story was born.

Ignacio Jarquin studied music at the Vienna University for Music and Performing Arts and the Vienna Conservatory. In 1991 he obtained his diploma as Orchestra Conductor with distinction, and made his professional debut at the Stadt theatre, St Pölten. He subsequently worked at the Atelier d'Art Lyric of the Conservatoire National de Musique et de Danse de Paris, and later became the musical director of a Paris based independent opera company and orchestra. He has worked as a musical director for France's TF1, and has conducted numerous top orchestras and choruses. Since moving to the UK he has focussed on developing his acting career.

Chris Roberts is a retired British lawyer, who practised in Japan. His book *The British Courts and Extra-territoriality in Japan, 1859-1899* explored the British courts that operated in Japan under the terms of the 1858 Treaty, and he has contributed a number of chapters on British judges and lawyers to the Japan Society's *Biographical Portraits* series.

Private Viewing, Artist Talk and Workshop with Ichijoh Shimotani

Saturday 3 October 2015

6.30-8.30pm
(workshop at 7.15pm)

DoubleTree by Hilton
92 Southampton Row
London WC1B 4BH

Free (suggested donation on the door to
Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research, £5)

Booking recommended



The Japan Society is delighted to invite you to a private viewing of Ichijoh Shimotani's 'Life and Hopes for the Future', an extensive exhibition featuring eight spectacular *byobu-e* (folding screens, literally 'wind wall pictures') and 25 *kakejiku* (hanging scrolls). In addition to the exhibition, Shimotani, a *bokusai* painter based in Osaka, will be leading a 30 minute painting workshop at 7.15pm. Numbers for the workshop are limited, so please let us know if you would like to take part. An additional workshop will take place if demand is sufficient. The exhibition will remain open until 9.30pm.

Byobu-e originate from China, and were first produced in Japan in the 8th century. They were painted with ink, paint, gold and silver on Japanese paper or silk stretched over multiple frames, and displayed in the Imperial Court, homes of the *daimyo*, temples and shrines. Shimotani has introduced contemporary elements of symbolism, mysticism and spiritualism to these traditional art forms.

This exhibition is being held in remembrance of the Kobe earthquake of 1995, and is raising money for Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research (Bloodwise). There is a suggested donation of £5 for attendees.

Ichijoh Shimotani is a Japanese *bokusai* painter based in Osaka. Born in Tokushima, Ichijoh graduated from the Osaka University of Pharmaceutical Sciences in 1965 and soon discovered her love for painting. In 1974, she ventured into the world of oil painting and has had a presence in the Japanese traditional and modern art scene ever since. With expertise in Japanese and Chinese-Indian Ink painting, Ichijoh has held numerous exhibitions in Japan and overseas. She founded the Ichijoh Art Gallery and the Japanese Modern Art Association in Osaka and has served as a global ambassador for Japanese art and culture, participating in international art and culture exchange programs with China and France.

The Asia Pacific War and Its Legacy: A Historical Debate on the 70th Anniversary of the End of the War

Monday 5 October 2015

6.30pm

The Carisbrooke Hall
Victory Services Club
63-79 Seymour Street
London W2 2HF

Free

Booking essential
Booking deadline: Noon, Monday 5 October



Even 70 years on the Asia Pacific War continues to pose compelling questions concerning morality, justice, accountability and the writing of history. It also remains a contentious topic in both local and world politics, colouring diplomatic relations between Japan, its East Asian neighbours, and beyond. It took place on a theatre many times the size of the war in Europe, and on numerous fronts across the most hostile climates imaginable. These factors have led Francis Pike – one of the speakers at this event – to describe it as ‘the most complex conflict geopolitically, geographically and militarily since the Thirty Years War of 1618-1648’. To mark the 70th anniversary of the end of the War, the Japan Society and the International Friendship and Reconciliation Trust are delighted to welcome a panel of world experts for a symposium on the War and its continuing legacy.

Chair:

Alessio Patalano is lecturer in East Asian Warfare and Security at the Department of War Studies, King’s College London, where he specialises in Japanese naval history, strategy, and East Asian security. He has been a visiting researcher at the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies; he is affiliated with the Institute of Contemporary Asian Studies, Temple University Japan, and is currently a

visiting professor at Aoyama Gakuin University. His work has appeared in English, Japanese and Italian academic and professional journals. Dr Patalano’s first book was titled *Maritime Strategy and National Security in Japan and Britain: From the Alliance to Post-9/11* (Brill/Global Oriental, 2012), and his latest book, titled *Postwar Japan as a Sea Power: Imperial Legacy, Wartime Experience, and the Making of a Navy*, was recently published by Bloomsbury.

Speakers:

Barak Kushner, Reader in Modern Japanese History at the University of Cambridge

Rana Mitter, Deutsche Bank Director of the China Centre and Professor of the History and Politics of Modern China and Fellow of St Cross College at Oxford University

Francis Pike, historian and geopolitical economic analyst

Co-organised by:

International Friendship and Reconciliation Trust

With kind support from:



Japan Society Book Club: The Cape: and other stories from the Japanese Ghetto by Kenji Nakagami

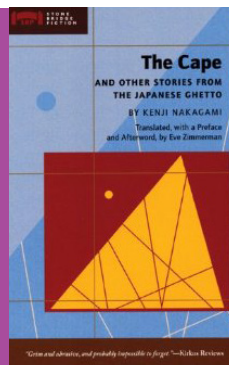
Monday 12 October 2015

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



Born into the *burakumin* — Japan's class of outcasts — Kenji Nakagami depicts the lives of his people in sensual language and stark detail. *The Cape* — the title story from this collection — is a breakthrough novella about a burakumin community, their troubled memories, and complex family histories. The protagonist, 24 year-old Akiyuki, is the illegitimate son of a despised drifter. Akiyuki lives with his mother, stepfather, and stepbrother, and near his half-sister, Mie, a child from his mother's first marriage. While struggling to find his place in this patchwork family, Akiyuki vows to rise above the violence and squalor of his surroundings.

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.

1946 – 1992) was a Japanese novelist and essayist. He is well known as the first post-war Japanese writer to identify himself publicly as a *burakumin*, a member of one of Japan's long-suffering outcast groups. During the 1980s Nakagami was an active and controversial figure in the Japanese literary world, and his work was the subject of much debate among scholars and literary critics.

Kenji Nakagami (Nakagami Kenji,

Wabori: The World of Japanese Tattoo Art

Wednesday 14 October 2015

6.45pm

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

Free:
Booking recommended



Tattooing holds a controversial place in modern Japan. With roots in the darker side of Edo period merchant and artisan society, Japanese tattoo art has from its earliest days been associated with fringe culture and the criminal underworld of the yakuza. As a result it remains something of a closed world, even to ordinary Japanese.

Tonight's speaker, Manami Okazaki, has gone to great lengths to immerse herself in the world of traditional tattoos, and will reflect on the world of *wabori* today. Based on her interviews with the masters of the craft, she will discuss the techniques, the contemporary clientele, why people get tattooed, and the place of *wabori* within modern Japanese society. The cross-pollination between East and West in tattoo culture makes this opportunity of great interest for those curious about tattoos and the transnational spread of culture. This talk will provide a chance to enjoy the value and beauty of what is a rich, highly-skilled, and often under-appreciated artistic tradition.

Japanese culture, art, crafts and fashion, which have been widely acclaimed by international media. She specializes in traditional Japanese culture, popular culture, travel, style, fashion, and subcultures.

Her book *Wabori, Traditional Japanese Tattoo*, will be available on the night.

Manami Okazaki is an author and freelance journalist. She has written nine books on

Lifetime Employment in 21st Century Japan: Stability and Resilience Under Pressure – Peter Matanle

Monday 19 October 2015

6.45pm

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

Free:
Booking recommended



This presentation will examine the proportion and persistence of lifetime employment in the Japanese labour force over the past decades. In it Peter Matanle will argue that, despite repeated predictions of its demise, lifetime employment remains the core institution of the Japanese management system, and regular employment in a large and prestigious organization continues to be the aspiration of the majority of Japanese younger people.

He will show that the institution of lifetime employment shows little sign of weakening; that from the employer's perspective the rationale for maintaining it continues, and that it still provides the best means available within Japan for the satisfaction of employees' needs over the course of their working lives. Much of the supporting discussions will be based upon analysis of labour throughput mechanisms, including legal constraints on organizational flexibility, and will end with the conclusion that lifetime employment remains stable, despite the pressures that Japanese organisations have encountered in recent decades. In this way, the Japanese management system demonstrates its fundamental strength and resilience throughout the long period of Japan's postwar expansion,

and its subsequent globalization and post-industrial transformations.

Peter Matanle is Senior Lecturer in Japanese Studies and Director of Research and Innovation at the School of East Asian Studies, University of Sheffield. He has published widely on the social and cultural geography of Japan, in particular on employment, demography, and regional development. Details of his publications and other activities can be found at his homepage: <http://www.peter-matanle.net/>.

The Olympus scandal: has anything changed since then?

Michael Woodford

Monday 26 October 2015

5.30 for 6.00pm

Simmons & Simmons LLP

CityPoint

1 Ropemaker Street

London EC2Y 9HT

Free of charge

Japan Society members and their guests only

Booking essential

Booking deadline: Friday 23 October



In the wake of the news still rocking the Japanese business community, in which Toshiba was discovered to have been overstating its operating profits by almost £800m, the topic of corporate governance in Japanese firms has once again been placed in the limelight.

Michael Woodford, former President & CEO of Olympus and whistleblower of his own company in 2011, hopes to answer the question: 'Has anything changed since then?'

Relating his own experiences in exposing the Olympus scandal and looking to present developments, Michael's engaging and dynamic talk will be of great relevance to many Japan Society members who are interested in an insider's view of this subject.

In this talk he will describe the sequence of events after his exposure of the scandal and discuss what lessons can, and should, be learned from his experience. Michael will use his story to address questions that concern many outside the business community. In today's business climate is there ever greater risk of these sorts of fraud? How can regulation be made to work? Michael has chronicled his story in *Exposure: Inside the Olympus Scandal: How I Went from CEO to*

Whistleblower, the best-selling business book of 2012 shortly to be made into a major motion picture. He will be dedicating and signing copies immediately following his talk.

Michael Woodford joined Olympus's British subsidiary, KeyMed, in 1981, and became Executive Managing Director of Olympus's European operations in 2008. In 2011 he was promoted to global president, and CEO.

After his stand at Olympus, Michael was named 'Business Person of the Year' in 2011/12 by the *Sunday Times*, the *Independent*, the *Financial Times* and the *Sun*. He was also the winner of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners award 'For Choosing Truth Over Self', and in 2013 was the recipient of the inaugural Contrarian Prize. In 2014, he was awarded the International Chamber of Commerce's commercial crime services special award for 'displaying courage and a sense of deep conviction towards the highest principles of corporate governance'.

In May of this year, at the Foreign Correspondent's Club of Japan's First Annual Freedom of The Press Awards, he received the 'Friend of the Free Press' award.

Hosted by:

Simmons & Simmons

Japan Room Lecture: Kyoto's International Links

Thursday 29 October 2015 6.30pm
Lodge Room No 11
The Freemason's Hall
Great Queen Street
London WC2
Japan Society members: £9
Non-members: £15
Booking essential
Booking deadline: Tuesday 27 October



In 2014 Kyoto was voted the world's best city by readers of U.S. magazine *Travel+Leisure*. Renowned for its rich history and glorious atmosphere, particularly in the spring and autumn, Kyoto additionally has international links worldwide through various initiatives. This lecture will explore these links by covering the League of Historical Cities, founded in Kyoto in 1987, Kyoto's Sister Cities, and Kyoto's partner cities.

an optional tour of the Freemason's Hall at 5.15 for 5.30pm.

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

Please let us know if you would like to take

Yoichi Masuzoe, Governor of Tokyo:

Creating the Future City – Tokyo's Vision and Action

Friday 30 October 2015

4.00pm

Oriental Club
11 Stratford Pl
London W1C 1ES

Dress Code: Please note that Club rules require gentlemen to wear a jacket and tie. Jeans and trainers are not permitted.

Japan Society members only
Free of charge: Booking essential



We are delighted to welcome Mr Yoichi Masuzoe, Governor of Tokyo, to share with members of the Japan Society his vision for Tokyo as a sustainable global city. Governor Masuzoe will discuss development plans for the next four years as well as looking ahead at the legacy by which the success of the Games will be measured. Mr Masuzoe will speak for about 20 minutes, after which he will take questions from the audience.

As the Rugby World Cup enters the knock out stage and with the stunning impact made by the Japanese team, eyes are beginning to turn to Japan, host to the 2019 tournament. Tokyo will feature as one of the rugby venues then take centre stage for the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Yoichi Masuzoe was elected Governor of

Tokyo in February 2014, standing as an independent. From 2007-2009 he served as Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare before leaving the LDP to set up the New Renaissance Party in 2010.

Before his election to the House of Councillors in 2001, Mr Masuzoe was assistant professor at the University of Tokyo from 1979 and, after leaving the university in 1989, established the Masuzoe Institute of Political Economy.

Sixth Form Japan Day: a global perspective, a door to new opportunities

Thursday 5 November 2015

10.20 – 3.45pm

School of Oriental & African Studies (SOAS)
Vernon Square Campus
Penton Rise
London WC1X 9EW

Free of charge for schools

Booking deadline – Friday 16 October (Please book early to avoid disappointment)



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

The course will feature a key note speech by Susumu Takiyama, Managing Director and Editor-in-Chief for *Nikkei* Europe, and lectures from Professor Hiroshi Yoshida, Ritsumeikan University, and Matilda Smith, fourth year undergraduate at the University of Leeds on the Japanese Studies BA programme. Elective practical workshops in small groups will allow students to experience a range of activities, including: calligraphy, cookery, kendo, manga, origami, *sumi-e* and *yosakoi soran*. During lunch students will have the

opportunity to discuss Japan related study options with representatives from UK and Japanese Universities.

Booking Information

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

During the day, students will have the opportunity to join three out of eight possible workshop sessions. Please use the booking form to specify preferred options. We will try, where possible, to give students their chosen workshops, but please note that this may not be possible in all cases. To help us match interests, please rank the workshop options 1-8, where 1 is the top preference.

In association with:

R RITSUMEIKAN

Japan Society Book Club: Underground by Haruki Murakami

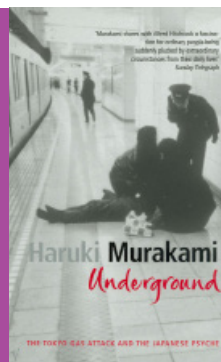
Monday 9 November 2015

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 spite of the perpetrators' intentions, the Tokyo gas attack on 20 March 1995 left only 12 people dead, but thousands were injured and many suffered serious psychological after-effects. In *Underground*, Murakami interviews the victims to try and establish precisely what happened on the subway that day. He also interviews members and ex-members of the doomsday cult responsible for the terror attack in an attempt to understand their reasoning and how it was that their guru managed to instil such devotion in his followers.

The book club is held on the second Monday of every month. There is no restriction on the nationality of the authors read, but books should be available 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.

writer, successful in the West as well as in his native country. In 1978 Murakami was in the bleachers of Jingu Stadium watching a baseball game between the Yakult Swallows and the Hiroshima Carp when the American Dave Hilton came to bat. In the instant that Hilton hit a double, Murakami realized that he could write a novel. He went home and began writing that night, and hasn't stopped since.

Haruki Murakami (Murakami Haruki, 1949) is a prolific contemporary Japanese

Reimagining Japan's Position on the World Stage in the Early 20th Century – Ian Rapley

Monday 16 November 2015

6.45pm

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

Free:
Booking recommended



Since the opening of Japan to greater contact with the West in the mid nineteenth century, Japan's relationship with the wider world has been one of its most sustained and dynamic sources of new ideas. The Japanese have engaged internationally in a wide variety of ways and for a broad range of different motives. Despite the breadth of these means and purposes, all have faced a similar dilemma: the question of language. In short, the need to learn a (usually European) language has been a persistent barrier to better and more fruitful connections overseas.

For some, a potential solution to their problems came in the form of the constructed language Esperanto. Intended to facilitate international communication and cooperation, Esperanto was designed to be easy and fast to learn. Japan came to be the home of the largest non-European Esperanto community. Particularly in the 1920s and 1930s, a wide range of Japanese experimented with it: socialists and anarchists; schoolchildren; scientists, engineers and doctors, followers of various religions old and new; foreign visitors to Japan and Japanese abroad. Although peaking in the interwar period, it is a history which spans the twentieth century.

The Esperanto movement was but one part of a wide network of popular efforts: groups, and individuals seeking to reimagine Japan's position on a global scale. By following the broad history of popular, bottom-up attempts to forge connections with worlds beyond Japan's borders, Ian Rapley aims to explore a new dimension of the ways in which ordinary Japanese saw themselves, and the world around them.

Ian Rapley is a lecturer in modern East Asian history at Cardiff University. He graduated in 2014 from the University of Oxford. His research focuses on early twentieth century cultural and intellectual history, especially on popular movements and transnational networks. In the summer of 2015 he was a UK Arts and Humanities Research Council International Placement Scheme fellow at the National Institute for the Humanities in Kyoto.

Japan Society Christmas Party 2015

Tuesday 1 December 2015

6.30pm to 8.00pm

Embassy of Japan
101-104 Piccadilly
London W1J 7JT

£17 per head:

Members and their guests only

Booking essential: deadline Friday 27 November

Please bring photographic identification with you as those without may be denied entrance



This year's Christmas Party will once again be held in the Ballroom of the Japanese Embassy.

This annual gathering provides members with an opportunity to catch up with friends at the close of the year and to start thinking ahead to new challenges in 2016, when we will be celebrating the 125th anniversary of the Japan Society. Please bring guests but space may well be limited and places will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis so early booking is advised.

We are extremely grateful to the Japan Centre who are generously providing the canapes for the evening, and to our hosts the Embassy of Japan.

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.

Supported by:

Embassy of
Japan
in the UK

Japan  Centre

Drop-In Christmas Crafting Family Day

Saturday 5 December 2015

10.30am to 4.00pm

The Japan Society

13/14 Cornwall Terrace

London NW1 4QP

(Please arrive via the front door, facing onto Regent's Park, rather than from the mews)

Free:

Japan Society members only

Booking essential (deadline noon, Friday 4 December)



Join the Japan Society office team for a day of Christmas themed activities; make origami decorations, learn Japanese present wrapping, listen to Christmas music, and enjoy festive food and drink! There will be activities for children (and adults) of all ages, including Styrofoam 'woodblock' Christmas (or New Year) card printing and making an origami advent calendar.

The Japan Society will supply all materials. Members are welcome to arrive at any point during the day, but capacity is limited, so please do let us know when you are planning on coming.

Joint Lunch with the JCCI: Japan's concerns with China, the UK's concerns with Europe: Do we understand each other? – Robin Niblett

Thursday 10 December 2015

12.30 for 1.00pm

The In & Out Club
4 St James's Square
London SW1 4JU

£50 per head for members of the Japan Society, the JCCI and their guests.
Booking deadline: Tuesday 8 December

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



For their final joint lunch of 2015, the Japan Society and the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the UK are delighted to welcome Dr Robin Niblett, director of Chatham House.

A reportedly positive meeting between the Korean, Chinese and Japanese premiers was held in Seoul at the beginning of November. However, at the same time, Chinese and Japanese officials have clashed over the ongoing militarisation of the South China Sea and concerns regarding the presence of American warships. Meanwhile, the UK's laborious process of negotiating EU reform continues against a backdrop of domestic political manoeuvring.

The internal dynamics of both Europe and East Asia are of great interest to British and Japanese alike. But to what extent do we understand the complexities of each other's relationships? Robin Niblett, with his extensive experience of geopolitical issues, will look behind the easy political shorthand to analyse Britain and Japan's relationships with their nearest neighbours.

Dr Robin Niblett CMG became the director of Chatham House in 2007. Prior to this he worked for the Center for Strategic &

International Studies (CSIS) in Washington and London between 1992 and 2006, with roles including Executive Vice President (2001-2006), and Director of the CSIS's Europe Program and Initiative for a Renewed European Partnership (2004-2006).

Among other activities, Robin is also a Special Adviser to the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee (2015), and served as Chairman of the Experts Group for the 2014 NATO Summit. He received his BA in Modern Languages and MPhil and DPhil from New College, Oxford.

In association with:



Japan Society Book Club: Penguin Parallel Text Short Stories in Japanese, edited by Michael Emmerich

Monday 14 December 2015

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



Featuring many stories appearing in English for the first time, this collection, with parallel translations, offers students at all levels the opportunity to enjoy a wide range of contemporary literature without having to constantly consult a dictionary. Richly diverse in themes and styles, the stories are by well-known writers such as Haruki Murakami, and Banana Yoshimoto, as well as by emerging voices on the Japanese literary scene. Complete with notes, these selections make excellent reading in either language.

Although with this collection, issues of translation are likely to figure slightly more in discussion than usual, please note that no Japanese reading or speaking ability is required.

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 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.