From the Executive Editor


Now, we are pleased to announce that in collaboration with the Japan Literature Publishing Project we have published Furui’s novel White-haired Melody. The novel won the Mainichi Art Award in 1997 and received rave reviews when it was published. Kazahara Nobuo in Sankei Shinbun called it “a long-awaited masterpiece” and Jonathan Zwicker (Literatures) called it “a rich, evocative, and thought-provoking work.”

White-haired Melody
by Furui Yoshikichi
Translated by Meredith McKinney

From the Director

I’m writing for the first time as the Director of Michigan’s Center for Japanese Studies. It’s a privilege to lead a Center where past and present contain so many accomplished faculty, promising students, and distinguished alumni. As I start in this job, I’m mindful that the Center exists only because of the community it serves. Our mission is to make the study of Japan at Michigan as strong as it can possibly be — to produce new and lasting scholarship and to train students who will outdo their teachers. No single person can do this by himself or herself. We grow as scholars, and our work gains dimension, depth and expressiveness, when we’re in touch with other minds, those of our colleagues and those of our students. Our students, in turn, develop through forming networks of knowledge and relationships with their teachers and their classmates. As much as scholarship demands time alone in the stacks or in front of the computer, it also draws sustenance from the pleasures of connectedness.

The Center, then, undertakes its mission by encouraging collaborations, by fostering communication, by insuring the health of the community it serves. I hope, when my term is over, to be able to say that we know each other a little better and that we’ve shared some good work.

The need for an intellectual community focused on Japan is as great as it’s ever been. When CJS was first established in 1947, the project was to build something in the United States called “Japanese Studies.” The challenge now is to redefine Japanese Studies when the demands of disciplines have grown so intense, when the call is to think beyond national boundaries, when the claims of theory and method insist that we not separate the subject from its discourse. What we need now is a Japanese Studies that can be reflexive in examining what it means to study “Japan” while asserting that truly thinking globally or theoretically demands attention to the particularities of culture and language. This is a kind of Japanese Studies best pursued and supported by a community.

It’s also a kind of Japanese Studies that will be brought to maturity by another generation of scholars. Michigan’s Japanese Studies faculty is undergoing a shift. This term we welcome Kenneth McIswain as our new faculty member in Japanese politics. He joins an impressive cohort of assistant professors who have come to Michigan in the last few years: Mirah Auerbach (History and Buddhist Studies), Kevin Carr (Art History), Maki Fukuoka Auerback (History and Buddhist Studies), Kiyo Tsutsui (Sociology), and Jonathan Zwicker (Literatures). Part of my job will be to see that they become full stakeholders in the shared work of CJS.

CJS’s community exists not only here, but also wherever Michigan graduates have gone. Alumni of CJS and Michigan’s various Ph.D. programs are leading Japan specializations in universities, in government, and in the private sector. I would like to find ways for us to continue the conversations that start in Ann Arbor’s classrooms.

My job as director has been made easier because I come to a Center that has been led effectively and wisely by Mark West for the past five years. Under other circumstances, we would wish Mark a peaceful return to scholarship and teaching, but he has left us to become Associate Professor 4.

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Center for Japanese Studies University of Michigan Fall 2008

Now Available from Center for Japanese Studies Publications

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continued on page 2
Furui Yoshikichi’s work has long dealt with the human dramas of growing up and growing old, but by probing further into the recesses of the mind and memory, he also touches upon the deepest mysteries of human existence. And as if to balance the somber themes of madness and death, Furui shows a great sensitivity to the dark humor inherent in everyday life. White-haired Melody is no exception; it is the record of the daily experiences of a man approaching old age, diving into the essential but hidden nature of his daily life, employing prose that is relentless in its re-creation of detail. White-haired Melody, a work by one of Japan’s finest contemporary novelists writing at the height of his power, is not to be missed: Michigan Monograph Series in Japanese Studies, No. 61, 2008, ISBN 978-1-929280-46-9 (cloth only, $29.95).

The translator of White-haired Melody, Meredith McKinney, is also not new to the Center’s Publication Program. In 1998 we translated her translation of The Tale of Genji (ISBN 0-939512-83-1, paper, $11.95). She lives in Braidwood, Australia, and teaches Japanese at the Australian National University.

A second publication coming out this fall, Preachers, Poets, Women, and the Way: Izumi Shikibu and the Buddhist Literature of Medieval Japan, by R. Keller Kimbrough (Michigan Monograph Series in Japanese Studies No. 62, 2008, 62 illustrations, ISBN 978-1-929280-47-6 [cloth], $73.00, ISBN 978-1-929280-48-3 [paper], $29.00 [tentative]), was endorsed by Joshua Mostow of the University of British Columbia as follows: “In Preachers, Poets, Women, and the Way, Keller Kimbrough has produced a masterwork of research and deduction. Examining a variety of stories of Japan’s medieval period about famous Heian-period women poets — especially Izumi Shikibu — he considers who told these tales, in what contexts, for what audiences, and for what purpose. Kimbrough reveals a complex web of preachers, prostitutes, and temple fund-raisers who recited the poetry and embellished accounts of the lives of aristocratic Heian women in order to justify their own convictions about morality, sexuality, and the place of women in Buddhist soteriology. One will never regard the enduring fame of such classical authors as Murasaki Shikibu, Izumi Shikibu, or Sei Shonagon in quite the same light again.”

Inspired by the folklore scholar Vanagaun’s groundbreaking work of the early 1930s, Preachers, Poets, Women, and the Way explores the ways in which fictional and usually scandalous stories of the Heian women authors Izumi Shikibu, Ono no Komachi, Murasaki Shikibu, and Sei Shonagon were employed in the competitive preaching and fund-raising of late-Heian and medieval Japan. The book draws upon a broad range of medieval textual and pictorial sources to describe the diverse and heretofore little-studied roles of itinerant and temple-based preacher-entertainers in the formation and dissemination of medieval literary culture. By plumbing the medieval roots of Heian women poets’ contemporary fame, Preachers, Poets, Women, and the Way Ruminates a forgotten world of doctrinal and institutional rivalry, sectarian struggle, and passionately articulated belief, revealing the processes by which Izumi Shikibu and her peers came to be celebrated as the national cultural icons that they are today.

R. Keller Kimbrough came to give a brown bag talk on October 9. He is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Asian Languages and Civilizations at the University of Colorado, Boulder. He completed his Ph.D. at Yale University in December 1999 and has held teaching positions at the University of Michigan, the University of Virginia, Colby College, and the University of Colorado.

A book due out this winter is William Wayne Farris’ Daily Life and Demographics in Ancient Japan (Michigan Monograph Series in Japanese Studies No. 63, 2009, ISBN 978-1-929280-49-0 [cloth], $70.00 [tentative]), ISBN 978-1-929280-50-6 [paper], $26.00 [tentative]). For centuries, scholars have wondered what daily life was like for the common people of Japan, especially for long hygene eras such as the ancient age (700-1150). Farris’ book attempts to solve this mystery. Using the discipline of historical demography, William Wayne Farris shows that for most of this era, Japan’s overall population hardly grew at all, hovering around six million for almost five hundred years. The reasons for the stable population were complex. Most importantly, Japan was caught up in an East Asian pandemic that killed both aristocrat and commoner in countless numbers every generation. These epidemics of smallpox, measles, mumps, and diemtry declined the adult population, resulting in wide-ranging social and economic turmoil. Famine recurred about once three years, leaving large proportions of the populae malnourished or dead. Ecological degra-

dation of central Japan led to an increased incidence of drought and soil erosion. And the occasional war caused what people today refer to as “collateral damage,” as soldiers murdered innocent bystanders in droves. Broken families and an appallingly high rate of infant mortality were part of kinship patterns. In short, life was harsh for almost all people during 700-1150, but the suffering was not in vain, as all these experiences represented investments in human capital that would bear fruit during the medieval epoch (1150-1600).

William Wayne Farris, who is coming to give a brown bag talk on October 30, received his doctorate from Harvard University in 1981 and now holds the Sen Soshitsu XV Distinguished Chair in Japanese History and Culture at the University of Hawaii at Maua. His research and writing have focused on the social and economic history of Japan to 1700, including such topics as disease and famine, agricultural technology and commerce, and aspects of the daily life of the common people.

Many other titles are in the queue for publication in late 2008 and early 2009. See the Winter 2009 Newsletter for details on those books. For information on all the titles available from the Center for Japanese Studies, please go to our website at www.umich.edu/~jst/books/publications/.

Bruce Willoughby
Executive Editor, CJS Publications Program
regime, a “habitus” if you will, regulating the first time the birth of a new epistemic project is the possibility of documenting for a sign of the new equality between the bodily and intellectual freedom and was, in discussing Japanese pornographic vending machines, it became clear I in the English-language scholarship on Japan. This kanatai (or, “the drug’s”) genre of writing, long considered frivolous, hard, and superficial by some scholars is, in fact, an immensely important resource for understanding the hybridized manner in which globally circulating discourses of sexual “knowledge” were localized and indigenized in the Japanese context. This vast collection of popular erotic texts is evidence of the “insurrection of subjugated knowledges” described by Foucault and full of energy, irony and resistance — resistance not only to the Occupation’s attempt to establish “top-down” democracy but also to a whole range of “feudal” restrictions on mind and body inherited from the militarist past. The opportunity to rediscover some of these forgotten strategies and to tell some stories of the Occupation experience that have been buried for the last 60 years has been the most gratifying part of the TVP experience, one for which I shall always remain grateful.

Mark Meakins

From the Toyota Visiting Professor

In an area of growing popular as well as academic interest. Indeed, I was very encouraged by the lively and engaged manner in which my students in the course I taught for CJS — “Genders, Transgenderings and Sexualities in Japan” — embraced the material I made available and put it to creative and useful ends.

The most exciting aspect of my visit, however, must be sitting for weeks on end in front of the microfiche machine in the Ithtaer Graduate Library, poring over the Gordon W. Prange collection of Occupation-period popular magazines and associated censorship documents. This is an astonishing archival resource which so far has been underutilized in the evidence of the “insurrection of subjugated knowledges” described by Foucault and full of energy, irony and resistance — resistance not only to the Occupation’s attempt to establish “top-down” democracy but also to a whole range of “feudal” restrictions on mind and body inherited from the militarist past. The opportunity to rediscover some of these forgotten strategies and to tell some stories of the Occupation experience that have been buried for the last 60 years has been the most gratifying part of the TVP experience, one for which I shall always remain grateful.

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2008-09 Student Funding Awards

Mellon Summer Fellowship

Erith M. Aguna, CJS MA
Brian C. Dowdle, ALC, PhD
Sherry J. Funches, History, PhD
Jean Kim, Anthropology, PhD
Gabriele Koch, Anthropology, PhD
Andrea K. Lands, ALC, PhD
Soma K. Pandit, CJS MA; Architecture
Christopher J. Schad, CJS MA
So Jung Um, History, PhD

International Institute Language Fellowship

Molly C. Des Jardins, ALC, PhD
Leah M. Zoller, CJS MA

Center for Japanese Studies Endowment Fellowship

Erika R. Alpert, Anthropology, PhD
Sumi Chou, Anthropology, PhD
Claire M. Kaup, CJS MA/D
Allison M. Kingsry, CJS MA
Nikki A. Nabolosh, CJS MA
Mari Suzuki, CJS MA
Szuo-Shih Wang, CJS MA
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Mari Suzuki, CJS MA
Szuo-Shih Wang, CJS MA
Leah M. Zoller, CJS MA

U-M Alumni Club of Japan Fellowship

Hiroshi Sawada, Psychology, PhD
Junko Teruyama, Anthropology, PhD
Michio Umeda, Political Science, PhD
Izumi Yokoyama, Economics, PhD

Mellon Fellowship

Willy S. Burton, History, PhD
Aaron P. Proffitt, ALC, PhD
Linda H. Takamine, Anthropology, PhD

Undergraduate Study Abroad Scholarship

Michelle M. Bumoughs, LS
Hanako Kim, LS

Competitive Fellowships

Eric A. Alpert, Anthropology, PhD
Shoyo Club Scholarship; Itou Foundation for International Education and Exchange Fellowship
Brian C. Dowdle, ALC, PhD
Montebello/Seikatsu Scholarship; Japan Foundation Doctoral Fellowship
Gabriele Koch, Anthropology, PhD
International Institute of Individual Fellowship
Andrea K. Lands, ALC, PhD
Japan Foundation Doctoral Fellowship
Deborah R. Solomon, History, PhD
Korea Foundation Fellowship
Jennifer L. Wright, CJS MA
Institute for International Education Exchange Fellowship
**15th Annual Michigan Japanese Quiz Bowl**

The annual Michigan Japanese Quiz Bowl was held at the Modern Languages Building on March 15, 2008. Hosted and directed by CJS, this year’s event marked record participation numbers with 432 students from 24 Michigan K-12 schools attending. The students competed on ninety-nine teams in five different divisions, exercising their knowledge of Japanese spoken and written language and culture. The event is co-sponsored by CJS and the Japanese Teachers’ Association of Michigan (JTAM), with support from the Consulate General of Japan in Detroit and the Japan Business Society of Detroit.

Now in its 15th year, the one-day event drew students from Battle Creek, Lansing, DeWitt, Ann Arbor, Beverly Hills, Birmingham, Clarkston, Garden City, Livonia, Novi, Oak Park, Sterling Heights, Troy, West Bloomfield, and Utica. Volunteer judges, scorekeepers, and timekeepers came from Eastern Michigan University, Michigan State University, Oakland University, St. Clair Shores University, Wayne State University, private language schools, and of course, The University of Michigan. In addition to the quiz competition, cultural poster/logo competition, and awards ceremony, this year’s MJQB featured a kendo demonstration by the U-M and the University of Michigan. In addition to the quiz competition, cultural poster/logo competition, and awards ceremony, this year’s MJQB featured a kendo demonstration by the U-M and Eastern Michigan University Kendo Clubs, and a visit by the Deputy Consul General of Japan, Akiko Fuji.

The roots of the Michigan Japanese Quiz Bowl (MJQB) go back to 1993, when Professor Asae Shichi of Madonna University and her student Kaethe Stella organized an event modeled after the Japan-America Society’s national Japan Bowl.

**Bon-odori at “Top of the Park”**

Summer in Ann Arbor is a time for celebration, with the Ann Arbor Spring Festivals’ Top of the Park embalming this spirit every year. This year, CJS participated in this celebration by sponsoring a bon-odori performance on June 22 presented by the Japan Society of Detroit Women’s Club. The Club’s members, men, and children, performed three dances. This performance was coordinated by CJS’s Community Outreach Coordinator whose task it is to educate public audiences about various aspects of Japanese culture, history, and society. There are many opportunities throughout the year available to graduate students and other interested individuals who want to participate in outreach activities. Those include teaching lessons on various subjects related to Japan and assisting in workshops and other public events. If you would like to be a part of these activities, please contact Heather Littlefield at hclittle@umich.edu.

**CJS Congratulates its MA Graduates**

Three CJS MA students were recognized at a reception in April to celebrate the end of the academic year. Alyssa Hoy (April graduate), Michael Decker (April graduate), and Simone Heron (August graduate) were congratulated for their hard work by CJS’s Director of Graduate Studies, Leslie Pincus (Associate Professor, History).

**Gordon W. Prange Collection Workshop**

Regular readers of the Densho may be familiar with the fact that U-M’s Asia Library possesses a version of the Gordon W. Prange Collection, the most comprehensive collection in the world of print publications issued in postwar Japan. The Prange Collection contains newspapers, books, pamphlets, magazines, news agency photographs, posters, and maps—a wealth of information for researchers and scholars of this time period.

On November 5, CJS welcomes Eiko Sakaguchi, curator of the original Gordon W. Prange Collection at the University of Maryland. Ms. Sakaguchi will present an afternoon workshop at the Hatcher Graduate Library entitled, “G.W. Prange Collection: Japan, 1945-1949: Its Resources and Search Tools.” For more information on the Gordon W. Prange Collection, please visit: http://www.lib.umich.edu/prange/.

**CJS’ Mochitsuki**

The 2009 Mochitsuki will take place on January 10. As in previous years, guests will be able to try their hand at making mochi using an ass (a wooden mortar) and a kine (a wooden mallet). When ready, guests have the opportunity to taste the freshly made mochi with different toppings. Other activities at the event include the ever-popular kaiseki (New Year’s messages written with ink and brushes), origami, kumihomki (children’s storytelling), and an assortment of Japanese games. Mijuh, a koto and shakuhachi group, will provide musical entertainment. For more information about the Mochitsuki or if you are interested in volunteering at the event, contact CJS (umcjs@umich.edu).

**UPCOMING CJS EVENTS**

- **Japanese Teachers’ Association of Michigan’s 2009 Winter Conference**
  - **Friday, January 30, 2009**: Overview of the Year 2009—Public Diplomacy, by Professor John S. Pott, Colgate University
  - **Saturday, January 31, 2009**: Asian Business and Economic Development, by Professor Robert S. Charters, University of Michigan

- **Densho Lecture Series**
  - **March 3, 2009**: “The End of the Second World War,” by Zensho Sakakibara
  - **March 10, 2009**: “Military and Governmental Issues in the Occupation of Japan,” by Professor Philip C. Nibley
  - **April 7, 2009**: “The Occupation in Pictures,” by Eiko Sakaguchi

- **Gordon W. Prange Collection Workshop**
  - **November 5, 2009**: Gordon W. Prange Collection: Japan, 1945–1949: Its Resources and Search Tools

- **CJS Winter Lecture Series**
  - **February 17, 2009**: “The Japanese American Internment Camps,” by Professor Yoichi A. Ito, University of California, Los Angeles
  - **March 12, 2009**: “The Occupation in Pictures,” by Eiko Sakaguchi

**CJS’ MA Program**

CJS’ MA program is designed to prepare students for employment in education, government, business, and non-profit organizations. The program offers a wide range of electives, allowing students to create a flexible program that meets their individual needs. For more information, please visit: http://www.cjs.umich.edu/graduate/ or contact Jane Ozanich at jozanich@umich.edu.

**Contact Information**

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**Prange Collection**

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**Outreach Coordinator**

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**Community Engagement**

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Fall 2008

Center for Japanese Studies
University of Michigan

Erika R. Alpert (Anthropology, PhD) will be attending the Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Study in Yokohama this year. She received the Shoyu Club scholarship.

Tom Blackwood (CJS MA, 1996) returned to Tokyo to become an Associate Professor at the University of Tokyo’s Institute of Social Science, where he will take over as the managing editor of Social Science Japan Journal.

David J. Campbell (CJS MA, 1989) accepted a position as an English instructor at Ohirah University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine.

Molly Des Jardins (ALC, PhD) received a College Women’s Association of Japan fellowship in order to study abroad at the Inter-University Center in Yokohama. In fall 2008, she will begin coursework for a Master of Science in Information (MSI) degree in the School of Information. She received a School of Information Merit Scholarship for the 2008-09 academic year. Her MSI specialization is Library and Information Services and she hopes to become an academic librarian specializing in Japanese language materials.

Brian C. Dowdell (ALC, PhD) is conducting research in Japan for his dissertation, “Reprinting History. The Period Novel, the roman Antique and the Historical Consciousness in Meiji Japan” on the Mombukagakusei Scholarship.

Neil Harrison (CJS MA/MBA, 2005) recently joined the Sony Corporation. Neil will be based in Sony’s U.S. headquarters in New York City, working in special projects roles supporting the senior management team. Neil and his family, including one-year-old Evan, live just outside New York City in Great Neck, Long Island.

Alyssa Ilovy (CJS MA, 2005) has been accepted into the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Programme and will be teaching English in Japan.

Isao Kamata (Economics, PhD Candidate) former recipient of CJS’s Briefing Fellowship and Mellon Fellowship joined the faculty of the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs (GSPIA) at the University of Pittsburgh in fall 2008.

Andrea K. Landis (ALC, PhD) is conducting research in Japan for her dissertation, “Turn-of-the-Century Japanese Literature and the Culture of Serialization” on a Japan Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship.

Brooke Lathrum (CJS MA, 2008) finished a year of intensive study at the Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies in June. She recently began working for a marketing research company, AIP Corporation, which has its headquarters in Tokyo. She currently lives in the Shinagawa Ward.

Anne-Elise Lewallen (Anthropology, PhD, 2006) accepted an offer to be an Assistant Professor of Modern Japanese Cultural Studies in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultural Studies at University of California, Santa Barbara (U.CSB). She will begin at U.CSB in January 2009, following the completion of her current two-year post-doc at Hokkaido University.

Hoyt J. Long (Japanese Literature, PhD, 2007) was awarded the Rackham Graduate School’s Distinguished Dissertation Award for his thesis, “On Unseen Ground: Provincializing Cultural Production in Interverian Japan.” He was one of eight dissertations given this honor out of the more than 700 dissertations completed at The University of Michigan in 2007.

Long’s research approaches the fiction of the noted Japanese writer Miyazawa Kenji (1896-1933) as an expression of modernity. It examines how modernity, which is almost always theorized as an urban and metropolitan phenomenon, was negotiated by a writer who closely identified with the rural region. The dissertation focuses on a number of nodes—among them the exigencies of publication outside of Tokyo, the appropriation of the above genre created by metropolitan writers, Miyazawa’s engagement with metropolitan discourses of science and folklore, the interaction of Miyazawa’s writing with visions of progress held by local elites, and the writer’s efforts to establish an utopian agrarian community—to provide a case study of how a regional writer’s struggle with the modern produces a literature and a picture of modernity considerably different from anything that comes out of Tokyo.

CJS Associate Akiko Takanaka, who wrote the citation for the award in her role as a member of the Michigan Society of Fellows, said that, “By paying careful attention to the process of modernization in the periphery, Dr. Long demonstrates not only the temporal but also the spatial dimension of modernity in Japan,” when it is published, is sure to become an influential piece not only in the field of literature, but also in history and cultural studies.” Long is currently assistant professor of Japanese at Bard College. His dissertation committee, chaired by Ken Ito, also included John Knott, Atsuko Lia, Leslie Prince, and Jonathan Zwicker.

Maria Sonia Mejuto Gonzalez (CJS MA) attended the Inter-University Center summer course in Japan from June 19 through August 1.

Nikki Nakanishi (CJS MA) participated in the internship program through the U.S. State Department from late May through early August. She worked in the Public Affair section of the U.S. Consulate in Osaka, which covers a 17 prefecture area between Nagoya and Hiroshima. During her time there, she assisted with outreach events to local NPOGOS’s and other community groups, visited local colleges to arrange consultants to use English language teaching resources provided by the U.S. government, and worked in the press filing center set up for the G8 Foreign Ministers Meeting in Kyoto on June 26 and 27. During that work, she was able to meet the U.S. Secretary of State and attend the press conference as a member of the media.

Suma Pandhi (Architecture, PhD Candidate, CJS MA) received support from a CJS summer fellowship and was able to travel to Tokyo in order to intern for architect Ito Toyo. While there, she researched sites for her CJS MA and PhD work regarding the relationship between public and private space in Japanese cities, specifically inos. During her time in Japan, she helped with the new University of California, Berkeley’s Film Archive “Project that is scheduled to be completed in 2011.


The Center for Japanese Studies welcomes the following students entering U-M in fall 2008.

CJS MA

Allison M. Kingery, Dickinson College
Elizabeth M. Muzika, The University of Michigan
Joseph D. Tulema, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
Yang Yang, Guangdong University of Foreign Studies

CJS MAJD

Clair M. Kaup, New York University
Benjamin J. Potter, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

The following graduate students entered Japan-related programs in fall 2008. Their field of study is listed next to their names.

William S. Burton, History
Evans Dunn, Law
Megan E. Hill, Ethnomusicology
Andrew T. Norskov, Architecture
Aaron P. Proll, Buddhist Studies
Linda H. Takamine, Anthropology

CJS MA Graduates in April 2008

Michael S. Declerq, CJS MA
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Evans Dunn, Law
Megan E. Hill, Ethnomusicology
Andrew T. Norskov, Architecture
Aaron P. Proll, Buddhist Studies
Linda H. Takamine, Anthropology

CJS MA Graduates in April 2008

Michael S. Declerq, CJS MA
Alyssa G. Hoey, CJS MA

The Center for Japanese Studies welcomes the following students entering U-M in fall 2008.

CJS MA

Allison M. Kingery, Dickinson College
Elizabeth M. Muzika, The University of Michigan
Joseph D. Tulema, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
Yang Yang, Guangdong University of Foreign Studies

CJS MAJD

Clair M. Kaup, New York University
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Cinema Babel: Cultures; Screen Arts & Cultures) published Abé Markus Nornes. Prior to the election, Kabashima was of Kumamoto Prefecture on March 23. Professor, 2002-03) was elected Governor Ikuo Kabashima characterized as “shashin.” “Between Seeing and Knowing: Representing the Real in Japan, 1830-1872” at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars Asia Program Special Report, no. 140, June). She also gave invited lectures on her research on humanoid robot technology and posthuman society in Japan (and Israel and Irish). Her research in Japan will be highlighted in a forthcoming issue of Newsevaku Japan. Robertson also gave a live interview on Japanese-bred beliefs and practices on the Bogota-based Columbian talk radio station, La FM (27 June). She also gave invited lectures on her robotics research at Princeton University, the Woodrow Wilson Center (Washington, D.C.), and UC-Santa Barbara, and was a guest panelist at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Detroit (MOCAD) and a guest seminar at Tel Aviv University on the “Asia’s First Cyborg? Miss Hitomi Ubuya (Parturition Hut): Ubuya’s Memoir,” Monument Nipponten 61.3 (Fall, 2006), pp. 253-256, and “Gender and Sexuality in Premodern Japan,” in Blackwell Companion to Japanese History, edited by William M. Tsutsui (Blackwell, 2006), pp. 331-71. Her interest in social perceptions of birthing practices became an essay titled, “Birthgiving and Assistance in Women’s Bodies versus the Historiography of Ube,” published in Writing Historiographies 19 (2005), pp. 251-275. Another article was published titled “Rewriting the Ube (Parturition Hut): Its Historicity and Historiography,” in Writing Historiographies 19: Texts and Their Transformations from Ancient Times through the Meiji Era, ed. by James C. Baker and Joshua A. Fogel (Kyoto International Research Center for Japanese Studies, 2007, pp. 41-58). She wishes to thank the Japan Foundation, CJS, History Department, Women’s Studies Program, and the Institute for Research on Women and Gender, and the specific character of the spirituality that long informed traditional Japanese artistic practices. The opportunity to complete this work was provided by Ramirez-Christensen’s appointment as Edwin O. Reischauer Visiting Professor of Japanese Studies at Harvard University in 2005-06, and its publication was aided by a grant from the Center for Japanese Studies.
CJS Welcomes Yuri Fukazawa back to the Center

CJS’s former administrator, Yuri Fukazawa, returned to CJS in September 2008. Yuri has resumed the position that she held from 2001-07 where she manages the Center’s finances and human resources. She can be reached at: yuri@umich.edu.

CJS Co-sponsors Residency for Butoh Performer

CJS is helping to sponsor a residency in fall 2008 for Butoh performer, Kumi Muki. Muki is a principal dancer/choreographer of the renowned Butoh troupe, Daitoku. Muki will conduct an evening presentation on November 11, co-sponsored by CJS and the U-M Center for World Performance Studies. He will mark the end of his stay at U-M on December 5 and 6 with evening performances at the U-M Center for World Performance Studies. Additional information about the artists and their work can be found at http://internationaldanceartscenter.org.

Some comments from participating students included:

“We got the chance to talk, ask questions and listen to the lectures about very interesting topics by experts in the field in a very intimate/loose environment.”

“This trip provided an outstanding authentic experience which gave me an everlasting memory full of joy.”

This study trip was conducted as part of the Integrating Study Abroad into the Curriculum (ISAC) program organized by the Office of International Programs (OIP) and was partially funded by CJS.

(Article written by Junko Kondo.)

CJS’s Winter 2009 Toyota Visiting Professor Announced

Katsuya Hirano will arrive in Ann Arbor this January to become CJS’s 33rd Toyota Visiting Professor. A professor of history at Cornell University since 2006, Professor Hirano specializes in Japanese and cultural history. He holds a BA in Political Science from JoshiUniversity, an MA in Cultural Studies from the University of Birmingham, and a PhD in History from the University of Chicago. Professor Hirano’s most recent publications include: editing and translating Doing Intellectual History by Tetsuo Najita (2008) and a book chapter entitled, “Social Networks and Production of Public Discourse in Early Popular Culture” in Elizabeth Lillehoj (ed.) Acquisition, Japanese Arts and Their Owners (New York: Floating World Edition, 2007). He is currently working on a book manuscript, “Politics of Shūgaku: Imagination, Power and Popular Culture in Early Modern Japan, 1750-1890.”

During his semester at CJS, Professor Hirano will teach a mini course and present a CJS noon lecture on March 19 entitled, “Toward a New Understanding of the Political in Tokugawa Japan.” A CJS reception to welcome Professor Hirano to campus will be held on January 14.

Volunteers Needed for RC’s Japanese Conversation Table

UM’s Residential College offers intensive Japanese courses in the fall and winter semesters. As a co-curricular activity, an hour-long Japanese conversation table is held in the East Quad on the Central Campus twice a week throughout these semesters. Enrolled students are required to attend at least one conversation table a week in order to gain listening and speaking practice in a more authentic and relaxing atmosphere. Local Japanese-speaking students and/or residents are needed to take part in these tables. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact the RC’s Japanese program instructor, Tetsuro Sato, at satoot@umich.edu or visit this website for details. http://internationaldanceartscenter.org

Butoh Performer Kumiko Muki

Katsuya Hirano, CJS Winter 2009 Toyota Visiting Professor

Asia Library Travel Grants

Grants up to $700 are available to help defray the cost of travel, lodging, meals, and photo duplication for Japan scholars at other institutions who wish to utilize the collection at the University of Michigan Asia Library from July 1, 2008 until June 30, 2009. More information about the library is available at http://www.lib.umich.edu/asia/ or by contacting the Library assistant at 734.764.0406.

Interested scholars should submit a letter of application, a brief statement to the Center describing their research and their need to use the collection (not to exceed 250 words), a list of sources that they would like to access (applicants must check availability of these sources in the Library’s online catalog before submitting applications), a current curriculum vita, a budget, and proposed travel dates.

The Center accepts applications until May 31, 2009 by email at umcjs@umich.edu or by mail at: Asia Library Travel Grants, Center for Japanese Studies Suite 4640, 1080 S. University, The University of Michigan Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1106.

Calling All CJS Alumni and Former Visitors

CJS would like to feature short articles written by our former students and visitors which focus on their experiences at CJS. Please contact us with your stories at umcjs@umich.edu.

Above: Visit to the Toyota Dealership

Right Top: Students from Junko Kondo’s class visit Toyota.

Right Bottom: Students attend a pottery lesson at Kitagama Kasen.
September

17 Noon Lecture*; Crossing Boundaries: Japanese Classical Theatre and Cinema – Practice and Research; Zvika Serper, Department Chair, East Asian Studies, Associate Professor, East Asian Studies and Theatre, Tel Aviv University; 12:30pm, Room 1636, School of Social Work Building (Co-sponsored by the Jean & Samuel Frankel Center for Judaic Studies.)

18 Noon Lecture*; "Law Schools under Siege: Any Way Out?"; Setsuo Miyazawa, Professor, Law; Aoyama Gakuin University Law School (Co-sponsored by the U-M Center for International and Comparative Law.)

25 Noon Lecture*; "The Genji Scrolls 'Tangled Script' as Ideology."; Reginald Jackson, Assistant Professor, Theatre; Princeton University


25 Noon Lecture*; "The Last Tuna? Japanese Food Culture in Transition."; Theodore Bestor, Professor, History; University of Hawaii at Manoa

October

2 Noon Lecture*; "Zamichik (Koreans in Japan)."; John Lie; Class of 1958 Professor, Sociology, The University of California, Berkeley

3 CJS Free Film*; Akira Directed by Katsuhiro Ōtomo; 1988, 124 min., Dubbed in English.

9 Noon Lecture*; "Horror of the Medieval Imagination: The Illustrated Lives of the Demon Shuten Dōji."; Keller Kaminro, Assistant Professor, Literature, University of Colorado, Boulder

10 CJS Free Film*; My Neighbor Totoro (Jibunto no monna-kami), Directed by Isao Takahata; 1988, 104 min., English subtitles.

13 Special Lecture; "Korean Buddhism in an East Asian Context."; Robert Buswell, Professor, Director of the Center for Buddhist Studies, University of California, Los Angeles; 1pm, Room 1636, School of Social Work Building (Co-sponsored by CJS, the U-M Centers for Chinese, Korean, South Asia, and Southeast Asian Studies.)

16 Noon Lecture*; "Japanese National Identity: Its Recent Evolution and Impact on International Relations."; Gilbert Rozman, Macgraw Professor, Sociology, Princeton University

17 CJS Free Film*; Princess Mononoke (Mononokē); Directed by Hayao Miyazaki; 1997, 134 min., Dubbed in English

23 Noon Lecture*; "The Last Tuna: Japanese Food Culture and Global Fisheries."; Theodore Bestor, Professor, Social, Anthropology and Japanese Studies; Harvard University

24 CJS Free Film*; Metropolis (Metropotora), Directed by Kurosawa; 2003, 108 min., Dubbed in English

30 Noon Lecture*; "Body Life and Demographics in Japan."; Wayne Farris; Sen Sotsuido XV Distinguished Chair, History, University of Hawaii at Manoa

31 CJS Free Film*; Book of the Dead (Tōshō-ja no ash); Directed by Kihachiro Kawamoto; 2005, 70 min., in Japanese with English subtitles.

November

3 Workshop; "G. W. Prange Collection: Japan 1945-1949: An Online Resource and Search Tool."; Elissa Sakaguchi; Curator, East Asia Collection and Gordon W. Prange Collection; University of Maryland, 3-3:30pm; Room 100, Hancher Graduate Library

6 Noon Lecture*; "Kurosawa (kurosawa) or Just Plain Mad: Emotion Regulation in Japanese, Chinese, and U.S. Preschoolers."; Tsuila Tardif; Professor, Psychology, The University of Michigan

7 CJS Free Film*; Pororo Jisso (Kisensu no barai), Directed by Hiyao Miyazaki; 1992, 94 min., in Japanese with English subtitles.

11 Demonstration/Discussion; Kumoto Muki, Butoh Performer; 6:30pm; Room 1636 (SSWB) (Co-sponsored by CJS and the Center for World Performance Studies.)

11 Noon Lecture*; "The Genji Scrolls 'Tangled Script' as Ideology."; Reginald Jackson, Assistant Professor, Theatre; Princeton University

14 CJS Free Film*; Summer Days with Coo (Kappu no yu to Natsu no Inami), Directed by Kechi Haru; 2007, 138 min.; in Japanese with English subtitles.

20 Noon Lecture*; "Samurai in Lament: Letters of Family Man in the Fourteenth-century War."; Hitomi Tomonura, Professor, History; The University of Michigan

21 CJS Free Film*; Amazing Lives of the Fast Food Grifters (Tachiyuki Botsuden), Directed by Mamoru Ishii; 2006, 104 min., in Japanese with English subtitles.

December

5&6 Performance; Butoh dance performance by Kumoto Muki Butoh Performer, Darunokufukun, 8pm; Duderstadt Video Studio (Co-sponsored by CJS, the Center for World Performance Studies, and the School of Music, Theatre & Dance.)

30 Noon Lecture*; "Crossing Boundaries: Japanese Classical Theatre and Cinema – Practice and Research."; Zvika Serper, Department Chair, East Asian Studies, Associate Professor, East Asian Studies and Theatre, Tel Aviv University

January

10 Special Event; CJS, 5th Annual Mochitsuki; Traditional mochi-making, mochi-tasting, music, calligraphy, origami, games, and more, 1-4pm; International Institute Gallery, School of Social Work Building

14 Welcome Reception; Reception to welcome CJS Winter 2009 Toyota Visiting Professor, Katsuya Hirami, Assistant Professor, History, Cornell University; 4-6pm; International Institute Gallery, School of Social Work Building

22 Noon Lecture*; "How to Cultivate a Mass Movement: Ethnographic and Historical Perspectives on Sekai Kakkai, Japan’s Largest Activist Religion."; Levi McLaughlin, Doctoral Candidate, Religion, Princeton University

25 Noon Lecture*; "Beyond Hunger: Food in Wartime Japan."; Katarzyna Owińska, Lecturer, East Asian Studies, Leiden University

February

5 Noon Lecture*; "Socializing ‘Kawakiri’,

5 Noon Lecture*; "Socializing ‘Kawakiri,’” Matthew Burbelski, Lecturer, East Asian Languages and Cultures, California State University, Long Beach

12 Noon Lecture*; "Culture of the Four Seasons: Secondary Nature, Social Difference, and Trans-Seasonality."; Haruo Shirane, Shōchū Professor, Japanese Literature and Culture, Columbia University

17 Special Event; Tom Vick Film programmer, Freer and Sakler Galleries, The Smithsonian Institution, 4pm, Rackham Amphitheater (Co-sponsored by CJS, the U-M Center for Korean Studies, and the Center for Chinese Studies.)

19 Noon Lecture*; "Japanese Temples and Congregations in Early Shin Buddhism;" James Dobbins, Professor, Religion, Oberlin College

"All noon lectures are free and open to the public. They run from 12noon to 1pm in Room 1636 (SSWB) unless otherwise noted. The noon lectures are made possible in part by a Title 10 grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

"All films begin at 7pm and are screened in Adams Auditorium in Lurie Hall (811 Tappan Street, Ann Arbor). The film series is made possible in part by a Title 10 grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

Please visit CJS’s website for up-to-date information: http://www.ii.umich.edu/cjs/events/calendar.html."