

ICU ICC Symposium

NEW PERSPECTIVES ON TAISHŌ JAPAN

April 18, 2026

International Conference Room, Dialogue House, ICU

9:15-10:45 New Aspirations in the Taishō Era

Chair and Discussant: Ian Rapley

「自己解放」の時代——内省と改造の行方
(The Era of 'Self-Liberation':
A Path towards Introspection and Transformation) [In Japanese]
Fuke Takahiro, Kyoto University (Japan)

“Esperanto estas la Latino de la Demokratio”:
International Language Ideals and Politics in Taishō Japan
Edwin Michielsen, Hong Kong University (China)
and Eugenia Gudieva, Waseda University (Japan)

Colonial Taiwan and Transwar Anarchist Trajectories:
Empire and the Question of Decolonial Politics
Ya Hsun Chan,
National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University (Taiwan)

Enjoying Genocide:
On the Superegoic Injunction Driving the Kantō Massacre
Sašo Dolinšek, Osaka University (Japan)

11:15-12:45 The “Places” of Grassroots Taishō

Chair and Discussant: Morisato Takeshi

Shūyō among Female Factory Workers:
Self-Cultivation and Gender in Modern Japan
Ōsawa Ayako, Tōhoku University (Japan)

Asakusa Cinemas and Their Audiences in the 1910s
Irena Hayter, University of Leeds (UK)

The Nakamura Bakery as a Meeting Point of Ideas
Ian Rapley, Cardiff University (UK)

Shinkō buyō: the Rise of Modern Dance
Innami Fusako, Durham University (UK)

13:45-15:15 Border Crossing, Imagination, and Spirituality

Chair and Discussant: Nadine Willems

Re-entering *Rashomon*:
How Do We Break Through the “Shining Darkness” of
Akutagawa’s Literary Existentialism?
Morisato Takeshi, University of Edinburgh (UK)

The Dissemination of *Reigaku* (Spiritual Learning)
during the Taishō Period
Namiki Eiko,
International Christian University (Japan)

Taisho at Sea:
Maritime Literature and Imagining Africa across the
Indian Ocean
Robert Fletcher, University of Missouri (US)

A Southern Islander Meets the Northern
Continent: Nobori Shomu in Soviet-Russia
Amano Naoki, Sophia University (Japan)

15:45-17:00 Reading (in) the Taishō Era

Chair and Discussant: Irena Hayter

Print Culture and the Taishō Intellectual Landscape

**Andrew Kamei-Dyche,
Aoyama Gakuin University (Japan)**

Playing with Identity:

**A Nishidian Reading of Higuchi Ichiyō's Takekurabe
Denise Ee Ting Ho, The University of Edinburgh (UK)**

The Literary Zeitgeist at the End of Taishō Twelve:

Magazine Editors and the Great Kantō Earthquake of September 1923

Claire Demenez, University of East Anglia (UK)

17:15-18:45 Multifaceted Taishō Rurality

Chair and Discussant: Innami Fusako

**Cosmopolitanism in the Nagano Mountains:
Reconsidering Rural Educational Experiments
Nadine Willems, University of East Anglia (UK)**

***Blossoming Upon the Earth: Sumii Sue's Anarcho-
feminism and Continuities in Rural Radicalism*
Tyler Walker, Western Washington University (US)**

宮沢賢治作品における労働の芸術化の試みと表現：「オツベルと象」を軸として
(Miyazawa Kenji's Literary Experiments and Representations of Transforming Labor into Art:
Focusing on *Otsubel and the Elephant*) [In Japanese]
Shima Takeshi, Bunkyo University (Japan)

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- * For more details, please visit our website(<https://subsite.icu.ac.jp/icc/>).
 - * Contact: The Institute for the Study Christianity and Culture (icc@icu.ac.jp)
 - * This symposium is co-supported by the Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation.