

# Japan: Pre-Modern, Modern, Contemporary

*September 1-3, 2023*

Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Center for Japanese Studies

## Book of Abstracts

### Summary (with clickable links)

#### Keynote lecture

Ikuya KANO (University of Hyogo): A Research in the Impact of Telework on Work-Life Balance in Japanese Management

#### Session 1

Tomoko YAMAKAWA (Bunkyo University): 欧州評議会の提唱した「複言語・複文化主義」の日本における可能性

Raluca Maria CIOLCĂ (Osaka University): “More Japanese than the Japanese” and “More Romanian than the Romanians:” Insights Offered by Gradability

#### Session 2

Stephen CHRISTOPHER (University of Copenhagen): A Mixed-Methods Study of Japanese Minority Religions

Michiko URITA (Kogakkan University): A Song of Continuity: Kagura Secret Song and the Jingū Shikinen Sengū on the Eve of the Modern Period

#### Session 3

Iris HAUKAMP (Tokyo University of Foreign Studies): Cinematic Networks: The Narutaki Scriptwriting Collective and Their Creative Connections

Patricia LENZ (University of Zurich): Tennō-Related Art in the 1980s: Ōura Nobuyuki's Holding Perspective (1982-85) in Context

#### Session 4

Mengfei PAN (Kokugakuin University): Visualizing and Selling the Local Place: A Study of Three Ōiso Maps in the Mid-Meiji Period (1880s–1890s)

Bettina GRAMLICH-OKA (Sophia University, Japan): Approaches to History: Japan Biographical Database (JBDB)

## Session 5

Carmen SĂPUNARU TĂMAȘ (University of Hyogo): Japanese Popular Theater Between the Sacred and the Profane

Annegret BERGMANN (Ritsumeikan University/University of Applied Science Zittau/Görlitz): The Rebuilding of the National Theatre of Japan and Kabuki: Present Interdependencies and Future Challenges

Daria MELNIKOVA-SOLIGNAC (Hebrew University of Jerusalem): The Dawn of Modernist Dance since the Age of the Dancefloor: Japan and Global Modernism

## Session 6

Marianna LÁZÁR (Karoli Gaspar University): Interpreting the Seven-Branched Sword's Inscription: A Critical Interdisciplinary Approach

Marijana MAKSIMOVIĆ, Nena VASOJEVIĆ (Institute of Social Sciences, Belgrade): Migration in Japan at the Beginning of the 21st Century

## Session 7

Stevie POPPE (KU Leuven): Metapolitical Strategies and Amplification of Online Narratives: Unraveling Post-Assassination Disinformation and Conspiracy Discussions

Alina-Elena ANTON (independent researcher): Finding Value in the "Every Day:" Local Revitalisation and the Japanese Kankō Machizukuri

## Session 8

Yosri RAZGUI (Kobe University): Remodelling Masculinities within Capitalistic Sports: 'Ritual Re-semantisation' and Gender Discourses in Japanese Professional Football

Alexandru CRIȘAN (independent researcher): Ghosts, Shells, and Electric Sheep: A Case Study of Intelligent Devices and Practices from the Cybernetics and Digital Nature Research Centers within Tsukuba University

Laura COCORA (independent researcher): The Descending Slope: Vital Imaginaries and Fantasies of Autonomy in Post-Growth Japan

## Session 9

Tomasz DYMOWSKI (University of Warsaw): Postmodern Japan Portrayed by Shōno Yoriko in Her Novel Taimu Surippu Konbināto (Timeslip Combinat)

Luiza-Irina MIHAI (Babeş-Bolyai University): Osamu Dazai's The Flowers of Buffoonery and Max Blecher's Scarred Hearts: A Comparative Study

Maria Ester REIS MARTINS (Tokyo University of Foreign Studies): The Metaphors in Kishidanchōgoroshi: Use of the Fantastic and Metaphors in Haruki Murakami and Their Relation to an Open-Ended Narrative

### **Session 10**

Mohammad MOINUDDIN (Osaka University), Saddam KHALID (University of Hyogo), Ahmed Shabbir CHAUDRY (Osaka Metropolitan University): Good Wife, Wise Mother to Excellent Entrepreneur: The Journey of Women Entrepreneurs in Japan from Breaking the First Glass Ceiling to the Second Glass Ceiling Effect and Its Impact on Their Subjective Well-Being

### **Session 11**

Sheikh Rashid BIN ISLAM (Kobe University), Mahmuda NAZNIN (University of Dhaka): Anime and Manga as an Agents for Cultural Dissemination and Export of Japan in the South Asian Region: The Case of Bangladesh

Caroline SAKAMOTO YONAMINE (University Centre Leonardo Da Vinci): The Influences of Modern and Contemporary Literature on Popular Music

### **Keynote lecture**

James HEISIG (Nanzan University): An Appreciation of Nothingness

### **Session 12**

Roman PAŞCA (Akita University): Beyond "Deep Ecology": Cultivating the Heart-Mind and the Fields

Vladlena FEDIANINA (Moscow City University): Jien's Periodization of the History of Japan: The Philosophical Underpinnings

Garcia CHAMBERS (Sophia University): Kawabata's Thousand Cranes: A Phenomenological Reading of Its Juxtaposing Values of Aesthetic Sensibility, Morality, and Negativity

### **Session 13**

Hiroko NISHIGUCHI (Waseda University): 翻訳におけるテキスト変容の諸相 —— 西洋児童文学を例に

its body - was a gift from a king or crown prince of Baekje (an ancient Korean kingdom in the southwestern part of the Korean Peninsula) to a Yamato (Wa) ruler. It is mentioned in the *Nihon Shoki* in the 52th year of the reign of the mythical Empress Jingū. Given the sword's delicate form, it probably had a ceremonial function and was never used as a military weapon. This theory is supported by the inscription as well, which is inlaid with gold on the 74.9 cm long central blade, and has been the subject of many (mostly East Asian) scholarly discussions since it was first discovered in 1874 (Meiji 7).

In my presentation, I will briefly introduce the origin, characteristics, restoration method and research history of the sword. Then I explore topics such as why one needs to do critical and interdisciplinary examination to interpret the classical Chinese text in the much-debated context of ancient Japan-Korea relations.

Marijana MAKSIMOVIĆ, Nena VASOJEVIĆ (Institute of Social Sciences, Belgrade): *Migration in Japan at the Beginning of the 21st Century*

International mobility and migration are part of a broader trend of globalization and raise a host of scientific and social discussions. The relevant research literature says that during migration there is a "brain gain", "brain circulation" and "brain drain". Managing migration is important for state development but to understand the impact of international migration we must know how states shape and control migration. At the beginning of the 21st century, a number of changes were observed in Japan regarding migrants and migrant policy. Namely, for several decades, Japan was not a popular destination for migrants, due to the distance, difficulties with learning the language, due to a specific business culture that is unique in the world but adapted to Japanese workers. At the same time, it is a country that until recently led a restrictive migrant policy, although this is now changing, albeit slowly. With the process of intensive connection in the world, the international mobility of people intensified. Japan also saw in this a chance to supplement the labour force on the labour market. The new immigration policy from 2018, as well as measures related to migrants through Abenomics, are aimed at attracting foreign professionals, i.e. labour migrants.