

Center for Japanese Studies Events - 2009

The Pacific War Revisited: Scholars' View on "Letters from Iwo Jima"

January 23, 2009

Center for Japanese Studies, Department of History

The Center for Japanese Studies presents this program on the "Pacific War Revisited" with a panel of distinguished scholars of Japanese film studies and Japanese history who will comment on this critically acclaimed film. This panel will be followed by a screening of *Letters from Iwo Jima*, with post-screening comments by the film's director, Clint Eastwood.

The Pacific War Revisited: A Screening of "Letters from Iwo Jima"

Takashi Fujitani, History, University of California, San Diego

Carol Gluck, History, Columbia University

Akira Mizuta Lippit, Cinematic Arts, University of Southern California

January 23, 2009

Center for Japanese Studies, Pacific Film Archive

Clint Eastwood's *Flags of Our Father* and *Letters from Iwo Jima* depicted one of the most horrific WWII battles in the Pacific theater from both the American and Japanese points of view. *Letters from Iwo Jima*, based on letters written by General Tadamichi Kuribayashi (portrayed in the film by Ken Watanabe), is the first major Hollywood film on the Pacific War that managed to portray the Japanese from the perspective of ordinary soldiers and as fellow human beings.

Philip Gotanda and Asian American Art and Culture: Yohen

Philip Gotanda, Playwright, Asian American Theater

Miryam Sas, Moderator, Comparative Literature, UCB

January 29, 2009

Center for Japanese Studies, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Department of Theater, Dance and Performance Studies

A bilingual Japanese-English reading of excerpts from Philip Gotanda's play *Yohen*, followed by discussion with the playwright and actors.

A divorced Japanese woman and an African American GI meet in post-World War II Japan and fall in love. After decades of struggle, they have found an accepting Los Angeles suburb to call home—but their peaceful world is changing. More than a study of clashing cultures, *Yohen* is the poetic, resonant story of two partners who discover that intimate relationships change with environments—and love, however time-tested, is never constant.

Kazuo Inamori: A Conversation on Business Innovation and Philosophy

Kazuo Inamori, Founder of Kyocera Corporation and KDDI Corporation

February 5, 2009

Center for Japanese Studies, Consul General of Japan, San Francisco, Japanese Chamber of Commerce of Northern California, Haas School of Business

Kazuo Inamori is the founder and chairman emeritus of the Kyocera Corporation (originally Kyoto Ceramic Co.), a global firm producing information and communications equipment and fine ceramic products. Inamori was also the Chairman of one of Japan's largest telecommunications companies, KDDI (originally DDI).

One of Japan's leading entrepreneurs with a distinctive management philosophy, Inamori is a visionary business leader, an ordained Zen Buddhist priest, and a major philanthropist. Inamori today serves as president of a private business school, the "Seiwa-Jyuku," with branches in 60 locations, sharing his management philosophy at no charge to thousands of young business

owners and entrepreneurs.

His concern for humanity and the environment is well-known. He established the Inamori Foundation and its Kyoto Prize since 1984 as a way to recognize individuals and groups worldwide who have made outstanding contributions to the betterment of society and humankind. (The talk will be presented in Japanese with simultaneous English translation)

Higher Education and the University Today: From a Japanese Perspective

Takeshi Sasaki, Professor of Politics, Gakushuin University, Tokyo

March 11, 2009

Center for Japanese Studies, Center for Studies in Higher Education

Professor Takeshi Sasaki received his undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Tokyo, specializing in political science and the history of Western political thought. He joined the faculty in 1968 and is now a noted commentator on Japanese politics. From 2001 to 2005, Professor Sasaki served as the 27th president of the University of Tokyo. He has also served on government commissions on higher education and the imperial house law, as well as on corporate boards including the Eastern Japan Railway Co. and Tōshiba Corporation.

Reform, Political Culture and Globalization: Japanese Party Politics and the Problem of Political Integration

Takeshi Sasaki, Professor of Politics, Gakushuin University, Tokyo

March 13, 2009

Center for Japanese Studies

Professor Takeshi Sasaki was born in the northern Japanese prefecture of Akita. He received his undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Tokyo, and joined the faculty there in 1968. A student of Kan'ichi Fukuda, Professor Sasaki specialized in political science and the history of Western political thought. From an initial focus on Machiavelli, Bodin, and Plato, Professor Sasaki broadened his scope to the U.S., and moved on from there to become a noted commentator on Japanese politics. A prodigious and prolific author, Professor Sasaki has published multiple books in each of his areas of expertise, ranging from *The Political Thought of Machiavelli* (1970), *Contemporary American Conservatism* (1984), *What Can Politics Achieve?* (1991), *Plato's Curse: Philosophy and Politics in the 20th Century* (2000), to *The Mysterious System Called Democracy* (2007). In parallel with his rising stature as a political analyst, Professor Sasaki served in a number of high-profile administrative positions, including dean of the Faculty of Law and Politics, and, from 2001 to 2005, as 27th president of the University of Tokyo. He is currently professor of politics at Gakushūin University, Tokyo. Along with his academic activities, Professor Sasaki has served on government commissions on higher education and the imperial house law, as well as on corporate boards including the Eastern Japan Railway Co. and Tōshiba Corporation.

Toyo Ito: A Conversation on Japanese Architecture

Toyo Ito, Architect

Dana Buntrock, Architecture, UC Berkeley, Interviewer

April 11, 2009

Center for Japanese Studies, Department of Architecture, Berkeley Art Museum

In September 2006, the [Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive](#) at the [University of California, Berkeley](#) announced that Japanese architect Toyo Ito had been selected to design a new facility for the world-renowned art museum and film center. While honoring the University and community's collective influence in art and film, his plans for the new museum will provide a visual arts gateway capable of absorbing the intellectual, cultural, and seismic shifts that the twenty-first century will undoubtedly bring to Berkeley. Japan is one of the few countries in the world today with the ability to foster a culture of the highest quality, contemporary architecture

and a futuristic urbanism. Toyo Ito is part of a new generation of modern Japanese architects who are creating magical and imaginative, innovatively engineered buildings that profoundly influence the way people view urban communities and the space that we live and play in. Among this cadre of international, up-and-coming Japanese architects are Yoshio Taniguchi (Museum of Modern Art, New York), Kazuyo Sejima and Ryue Nishizawa (New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York) and Arata Isozaki (Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles). Each brings a Japanese aesthetic to their work, drawing on certain carpentry and architectural traditions, while utilizing the latest technologies to shape the future of architecture. The building, set to open in 2013, will be situated on a half-block site bordered by Oxford, Addison, and Center Street, where the museum will be rejoined with its sister institution, the Pacific Film Archive. BAM/PFA's new building will also be Ito's first work in North America, which brings its own challenges in regards to environmental impact, regulations and codes, as well as the Berkeley cultural and intellectual aesthetic. (For information on the building project, visit bampfa.berkeley.edu/newbuilding.) Toyo Ito's best-known projects are the Sendai Médiathèque, Miyagi, Japan (2001); TOD'S Omotesando Building, Tokyo, Japan (2004); the Serpentine Gallery Pavilion, London, England; (and the Taichung Metropolitan Opera House, Taiwan, Republic of China (under construction). In this special event, Toyo Ito will engage the audience with his observations on Japanese architecture today and explore the implications of his own most innovative works. Tickets will be available on a first-come-first-served basis at the Wheeler Auditorium box office at UC Berkeley, starting at 6 p.m.; doors open at 6:30.

Kazuo Hara: Documentary Film Making

May 2, 2009

Center for Japanese Studies, Pacific Film Archive

Throughout the four decades of his career, Hara Kazuo has pursued the bizarre and disturbing margins of Japanese society, certain that central truths are to be found in fringe phenomena. His method of documentation, which he calls "action documentary," pursues the shocking effect of the action film, following the gesture and staying in the moment – not commenting in voiceover from a safe distance. Hara's innovations have transformed documentary filmmaking, and contributed directly to the current ascendance of the documentary, both within the industry and among audiences, on a global scale. His best-known admirer is Michael Moore, who lists Hara as one of his favorite directors.

Born in 1945, Hara Kazuo was influenced as a young man by the protest movements that took place throughout Japan and the world in the late 1960s and 70s. He founded Shisso Productions in 1971 with his wife, producer, and primary collaborator Sachiko Kobayashi. He has published five documentary films thus far, including the award-winning *The Emperor's Naked Army Marches On*, widely recognized as most important and influential documentary ever made in Japan, *Goodbye CP, A Dedicated Life*, *Extreme Private Eros: Love Song 1974*, and *Watashi no Mishima*.

This event includes a screening of two of Hara's best known films, followed by a booksigning to launch the release of Hara Kazuo's new memoir/documentary handbook.

Film Screening (Ticket required for each screening.)

12:00 pm — Extreme Private Eros

2:45 pm — The Emperor's Naked Army Marches On

Comments by Hara Kazuo, Hosted by Miryam Sas, Comparative Literature, UCB

For Ticket, please check the website at: <http://www.bampfa.berkeley.edu/visit/visitor>

Book Release and Signing (Free and open to the public)

5:30 pm — Camera Obtrusa: Hara Kazuo's Action Documentaries

Kazuo Hara and Japanese Film Studies

Abe Mark Nornes, Screen Arts & Culture, University of Michigan

Aaron Gerow, Film Studies Program, Yale University

Akira Mizuta Lippit, Cinematic Arts, University of Southern California

May 3, 2009

Center for Japanese Studies

Three of the top film studies scholars from around the country will conduct a panel discussion on Hara Kazuo's body of work and the future of Japanese film studies at universities worldwide.

Program:

10:00–10:30 am — Opening Remarks and Introduction of Guest Speakers

Miryam Sas, Comparative Literature, UC Berkeley

Comments by Kazuo Hara (with translation)

10:30 am – 12:00 noon — Panel presentation

Documentary and Historical Context — Abe Mark Nornes, Screen Arts & Cultures, University of Michigan

On "Chika" — Aaron Gerow, Film Studies Program, Yale University

Subjects and Subjection in Hara's Films — Akira Mizuta Lippit, Cinematic Arts, University of Southern California

12:00–12:40 pm — Question & Answer

Tracing Japanese Buddhism: An International Conference

September 25–27, 2009

Center for Japanese Studies, Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai/Numata Foundation, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, Shinnyo-en Foundation

International Conference on Japanese Buddhism featuring leading scholars from the U.S. and Japan. Featured speakers include: Sueki Fumihiko (International Research Center for Japanese Studies, author of *Studies in the Formation of Kamakura Buddhism*), Shimazono Susumu (Univ. of Tokyo, former President of the Japanese Association for Religious Studies), Ryuichi Abe (Harvard Univ., author of *The Weaving of Mantra*), Jacqueline Stone (Princeton Univ., author of *Original Enlightenment and the Transformation of Medieval Japanese Buddhism*), Bernard Faure (Columbia Univ., author of *The Rhetoric of Immediacy and Visions of Power*), Carl Bielefeldt (Stanford Univ., Director of the Stanford Center for Buddhist Studies and author of *Dogen's Manuals of Zen Meditation*), Hoshino Eiki (Taisho Univ., President of the Japanese Association for Religious Studies), and Tamamuro Fumio (Meiji Univ., author of *The History of Japanese Buddhism: Early Modern*)

See <http://ieas.berkeley.edu/events/2009.09.25w.html> for the full conference agenda.

US-Japan Relations: A Japanese American Perspective

Norman Mineta, former US Secretary of Commerce, Clinton Admin., US Secretary of Transportation, Bush Admin., Cal Class of '53

October 9, 2009

Center for Japanese Studies

This evening talk by Hon. Norman Mineta is the first keynote address that will be followed by a full-day conference next day on the theme of "Japan and Japanese America: Connections Across the Pacific Rim." It will explore the close historical and contemporary interconnections between Japan and the Japanese American Community.

Opening Remarks by Yasumasa Nagamine, Consul General of Japan, SF

See <http://ieas.berkeley.edu/2009.10.09w.html> for the full conference agenda.

Japan and Japanese America: Connections Across the Pacific Rim

October 10, 2009

Center for Japanese Studies, UC Berkeley Asian American Studies Program, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, San Francisco Consulate General of Japan, National Japanese American Historical Society

Morning Session

9:00 AM–11:45 AM — Goldman Theater

9:00 AM — Opening Remarks

9:15–10:30 AM — **Keynote Lecture**

Gary Okihiro, Columbia University — "Rethinking Subjects: "Japan" and "America"

10:30–11:45 AM — **Panel Session I: History**

Eiichiro Azuma, University of Pennsylvania — "Issei Antiracism and Japan's World War I Diplomacy: The Fickleness and Perils at Immigration Homeland Political Partnership"

Lon Kurashige, University of Southern California — "Japanese Immigrants and the Opposition to White Supremacy in the U.S."

Respondent: Greg Robinson, University of Quebec

Noon Session

11:45 AM – 1:45 PM — 2nd Floor

11:45 AM–12:45 PM — Luncheon — Outdoor Terrace

12:45–1:45 PM — **Luncheon Lecture** — Tamalpais Room

Glen S. Fukushima, CEO, Airbus Japan and former President, ACCJ — "Adventures of a Japanese American Positioned Between the U.S. and Japan"

Afternoon Session

2:00 PM – 5:30 PM — Goldman Theater

2:00 – 3:30 PM — **Panel Session II: Literature**

Yoshitaka Hibi, Nagoya University — "The Flow of Books and Japanese (Language) Literature"

Teruko Kumei, Shirayuri College — "Immigrant Senryu Clubs and Japan, 1930s–1950s"

Kyoko Nozaki, Kyoto Sangyo University — "Internment and Identity Shift: Through Transnational War Memory"

Respondent: Andrew Leong, UC Berkeley

3:30 – 3:45 PM — Coffee Break

3:45 – 5:15 PM — **Panel Session III: Religion**

Mark Mullins, Sophia University — "Kagawa Toyohiko and the Japanese Christian Impact on American Society"

Akihiro Yamakura, Tenri University — "Transnational Context of the Wartime Internment of Tenrikyo Ministers in America"

Duncan Williams, UC Berkeley — "Faith within Barbed Wire: Issei Buddhism and the Wartime Incarceration"

Respondent: Jane Iwamura, University of Southern California

5:15 – 5:30 PM — Closing Remarks

Shots in the Dark: Japan, Zen, and the West

Shoji Yamada, International Research Center for Japanese Studies

November 3, 2009

Center for Japanese Studies

Japanese Food Culture on the Global Stage — Part I: Scholarly Roundtable

November 8, 2009

Center for Japanese Studies

The History and Contemporary Forms of Japanese Food Culture

9:00 am — Welcome Remarks

9:15 am – 12:15 pm — Panel Session

Eric Rath, Univ. of Kansas, author of *Food and Fantasy in Early Modern Japan* — "Food and Fantasy in Early Modern Japan"

Katarzyna Cwiertka, Leiden Univ., author of *Asian Food: The Global and Local and Modern Japanese Cuisine: Food, Power, and National Identity* — "Legal and Illegal Dining in 1940s Japan"

Jordan Sand, Georgetown Univ., author of *A Short History of MSG* — "Japanese Hybrid Gastronomy at the Beginning and End of the 20th Century: "The Gourmet's Delight" and "Iron Chef"

Tomoko Aoyama, Univ. of Queensland, author of *Reading Food in Modern Japanese Literature* — "Food and Gender in Yoshinaga Fumi's Manga"

Gavin Whitelaw, ICU, author of *At Your Conbini* — "Convenient Cuisine"

Japanese Food Culture on the Global Stage — Part II: The World's Longest California Roll

November 8, 2009

Center for Japanese Studies, Cal Dining

Food historians generally credit Ichiro Manashita, of the Tokyo Kaikan restaurant in Los Angeles, with "inventing" the California roll. Although the exact date on when the California roll made its culinary debut is undocumented, according to gastronomical lore, this unique hybridization of Japanese sushi was available on cutting edge menus starting in the early 1970s. The "California roll" is popularly defined as sushi made with avocados, crabmeat, cucumbers and other ingredients wrapped in vinegar rice. The roll has also gained popularity in Japan, where it is called kashu-maki, a literal translation of "California roll."

Here is your chance to make food history by participating in the attempt to make a new world record for the longest California roll. Here is a listing of [official and unofficial records for longest sushi rolls in the world](#). Can we beat it?

With fifty-six tables, you can sign up as an individual ("unaffiliated") or as part of a team (students groups, community organizations, etc.) with a team leader for each table.

In addition, feel free to email CJS Chair Duncan Williams at duncanw@berkeley.edu if you want to create your own team. The team leaders need to report to their tables at 11:30 am on November 8th and will also be responsible for attending a mandatory practice roll at 8 pm on Tuesday, October 27th at the Unit 1 Residential Halls All-Purpose Room (basement of Unit 1 — located at College/Bowditch and Durant/Channing).

After creating the longest California roll at noon and documenting its length as a certified world record, we will all have the chance to eat the results! This event is co-presented with Cal Dining and the many food sponsors who have contributed the ingredients.

The current record is 300 feet, and was set in Maui, Hawaii in 2001. Let's bring the California roll record back to Cal!

Japanese Food Culture on the Global Stage — Part III: Washoku and Wine

November 8, 2009

Center for Japanese Studies, JETRO

Washoku and Wine — A Benefit Gala Dinner for the Center for Japanese Studies

Culinary Institute of America, Napa, CA

5:00 pm — Vinters Barrel Room — *Reception*

Reception Lecture by featured speaker, Prof. Ted Bestor, Harvard Univ., author of *Tsukiji: The Fish Market at the Center of the World*

6–8:30pm — Ventura Center — *Washoku and Wine*

Exclusive 5-course dinner prepared by SF Bay area celebrity chefs

Hiro Sone – First Japanese chef to own two Michelin starred restaurants — Terra in St. Helena and Ame in SF St. Regis Hotel; 2003 winner of the James Beard Foundation award for "Best Chef in California."

Mitsunori "Nori" Kusakabe – Executive Chef at Michelin-starred and Zagat top-5 Bay area restaurant, Sushi Ran in Sausalito; winner of the world 2008 Sushi of the Year Award in London; former executive chef at Nobu in Tokyo and Miami Beach and kaiseki chef at Kyo Kaiseki Juntei in Kyoto.

Shotaro "Sho" Kamio – Executive Chef of San Francisco hot spot, Yoshi's Jazz Club and Japanese Restaurant; winner of the Iron Chef San Francisco title and former executive chef at SF Ozumo.

Ron Siegel – The chef of the Dining Room at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in SF, which has made Gayot's "Top 40 Restaurants in the US" every year since Siegel took over. The first American "Iron Chef" beating Hiroyuki Sakai in 1998. Former sous chef at the French Laundry, chef at Charles Nob Hill and executive chef at SF Masa's.

Stephen Durfee – Executive pastry chef instructor at the Culinary Institute of America, formerly at Charles Nob Hill and the French Laundry. Winner of the James Beard "outstanding Pastry Chef" award and named one of the "10 Best Pastry Chefs in America" by Pastry Art and Design.

Washoku and Wine Menu

Reception — Small bites

By Ron Siegel (Ritz-Carlton) and Sho Kamio (SF Yoshi's)

DeLoach Chardonnay (DeLoach Winery)

2006 Russian River Pinot Noir (Freeman Winery)

Course I — Chawan-Mushi: Japanese Savory Custard with Maine Lobster and Sea Urchin

By Hiro Sone (Ame/Terra)

2008 Viognier (Miner Winery)

Course II — Abalone with Miso Gelee, Matsutake Mushrooms, Dashi Broth

By Ron Siegel (Ritz-Carlton)

White Wine TBA

Course III — Five Classic Tastes of Nagasaki Hon-Maguro

By Nori Kusakabe (Sushi Ran)

1905 Vintage Merlot (Luna Winery)

Course IV — Wagyu Rib Eye Beef "Shabu-Shabu" Style with Sesame Miso Beurre-Blanc
By Sho Kamio (SF Yoshi's)
Raymond Reserve Cabernet (Raymond Winery)

Course V — Black Sesame Seed Panna Cotta with Buckwheat Sable Cookies and Fuyu
Persimmon Salad
By Stephen Durfee (CIA)
Premium Teas from Japan

Facing Japan: A Special Screening of 15 Short Videos Presented by Digital TV and the World Reporters

November 9–10, 2009

Institute of East Asian Studies, The Center for Digital TV and the World, a project of the Tides Center, Skirball Foundation, ANA, The Japan-United States Friendship Commission, The Henry Luce Foundation, Sony, Center for Japanese Studies, Graduate School of Journalism

Join us for a close-up look at Tokyo at a moment of social and political confusion.

Digital TV and The World reporters invite the J-School community and friends to a special screening of "Facing Japan." Their 15-short videos document the lives of ordinary people in Tokyo and California. J-Schoolers Nick Burns ('10), Tuomas Forsell ('09), Julie Johnson ('09), Tyler Sipe ('10), Clayton Trosclair ('10) and Japhet Weeks ('10) reported and produced the videos. Their works examine tensions and changing attitudes among Japanese and Japanese Americans on both sides of the Pacific. The group also took an intimate look at a Tokyo neighborhood that clings to tradition. Monzen-Nakacho, located on Tokyo's east side, typifies some of the demographic and societal shifts taking place in Japan: an aging population, fewer children, and flagging faith.

At Berkeley, the reporters took Digital TV and the World classes and produced video profiles of Japanese and Japanese Americans in the Bay Area. They also enrolled in a Reporting on Japan class taught by Yomiuri Shimbun reporter Izumi Miyachi. Some of the reporters, participated in the Center for Digital TV and the World's month-long professional reporting practicum in Tokyo.

The Digital TV and the World class is offered each spring. Past reporting projects covered [Beijing](#), [Guangzhou](#), [Phnom Penh](#), [India](#), [Latin America](#) and [other points around the globe](#). The class is taught by instructor Todd Carrel with Samantha Grant and technical advisor Milt Wallace. For more information on Digital TV and the World contact Todd Carrel.

The Center for Digital TV and the World, a project of the Tides Center, is supported by the Skirball Foundation, ANA, The Japan-United States Friendship Commission, The Henry Luce Foundation, Sony, and UC Berkeley's Center for Japanese Studies, Graduate School of Journalism and Institute of East Asian Studies.

Event contact: Julie Hirano (510) 642-3394
<http://journalism.berkeley.edu/events/details/641/>

Japanese Studies at Berkeley: Past, Present, and Future

December 6, 2009

Center for Japanese Studies, Japan Foundation

9:00 – 9:10 am — Welcome and Introduction by Duncan Williams

9:10 – 10:40 am — Roundtable Discussion: UC Berkeley, Japanese Studies, and Area Studies Presentations by Former CJS Chairs

- Irwin Scheiner

- Mary Elizabeth Berry
- Andrew Barshay

10:40 – 11:00 am — Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:00 pm — Roundtable Discussion: Supporting Japanese Studies
Presentations by Major Foundation Representatives

- Isao Tsujimoto, Director General, Japan Foundation
- Seishi Takeda, Director, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, SF
- Eric Gangloff, Executive Director, Japan-United States Friendship Commission

12:00 – 1:30 pm — Lunch and Lecture: Japanese Studies in the U.S.: A Global View

- Patricia Steinhoff, University of Hawai'i

1:30 pm – 5:00 pm — Roundtable Discussion: The Future of Japanese Studies in North America
Presentations by Current Directors/Chairs of Centers for Japanese Studies

East Coast Centers

- Steve Covell, Western Michigan University, Soga Japan Center
- Ken Ito, University of Michigan, Center for Japanese Studies
- Greg Pflugfelder, Columbia University, Donald Keene Center of Japanese Culture
- Susan Pharr, Harvard University, Edwin O. Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies

2:10 – 2:40 pm — Coffee Break

West Coast Centers

- David Edgington, University of British Columbia, Centre for Japanese Research
- Robert Huey, University of Hawai'i, Center for Japanese Studies
- Michael Thies, UCLA, Paul I. & Hisako Terasaki Center for Japanese Studies
- Duncan Williams, UC Berkeley, Center for Japanese Studies

Discussion