

Leiden Lecture Series in Japanese Studies

With support from the Ailion Foundation (IAAF), every year six eminent Japan specialists will come to Leiden, for the coming five years, for open lectures. Capitalizing on Leiden's renown as the founding university of Japanese Studies in the world, this new initiative brings top global researchers to Leiden, integrates them into the normal classroom experience of Leiden undergraduates, and showcases Japanese Studies scholarship from around the world to the wider Leiden community through public lectures.

For upcoming lectures, please refer to the [events calendar](#) of the faculty of Humanities at Leiden University.



March 7, 2014: **Japanese Medical Books**

Prof. Dr. Peter Kornicki (University of Cambridge)

On March 7, Carel Stolker, the Rector Magnificus of Leiden University, will introduce the inaugural lecture of the newly established “Leiden Lecture Series in Japanese Studies”. The inaugural lecture is to be given by professor Peter Kornicki (University of Cambridge).



Peter Kornicki's lecture, “Leeches, prohibited foods and suspicious deaths: vernacular knowledge in pre-modern Japan”, will focus on three Japanese medical books, one each from the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries. The oldest reveals the nature of manuscript culture, the second suggests an explanation for the abandonment of typography in favour of woodblock printing, and the third shows one way of dealing with imported knowledge in premodern Japan.

About the speaker

Professor Peter Kornicki is Professor of Japanese Studies and Head of the Department of East Asian Studies at the University of Cambridge. Professor Kornicki is a member of the Academia Europaea, a Fellow of the British Academy, and was last year awarded the Yamagata Banto Prize. He has authored around twenty monographs, edited volumes and catalogues, as well as countless articles on East Asian and Japanese history, literature and language, the most famous being: *The Book in Japan: a Cultural History from the Beginnings to the Nineteenth Century* (Brill 1998, republished University of Hawaii 2001).

Time and place

This lecture is open to the public.

When: March 7, 2014, 15:00 (exactly) - 16:30.

Where: Klein Auditorium, Academiegebouw, Leiden University, Rapenburg 73, Leiden.

The lecture is followed by a reception in the Faculty Club, Rapenburg 73, Leiden.

For further information, contact dr. Kiri Paramore or professor Ivo Smits.

April 11, 2014: Japanese Visual Story Telling in the 17th Century

Prof. Dr. Melanie Trede (Heidelberg University)

Unnoticed in art history

No time period in Japan saw as rich, varied and monumental a visual genre of story telling as the Seventeenth-Century. Ranging from small fans to long handscrolls and large folding screens, the hundreds if not thousands of pictorial narratives created in this most historicizing century of Japanese history have gone unnoticed in the discipline of art history until around ten years ago. Why was this so, and in which way has the field changed?



This lecture addresses the rich engagement with tradition, history, and past visualities in this era of change and emerging socio-political stability, while touching upon recent research trends, and changing paradigms in Japanese art history.

About the speaker

Melanie Trede is professor for the histories of Japanese art at Heidelberg University since 2004. She taught at Columbia University (1999) and the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University (1999 – 2004) after she had received her PhD at Heidelberg University (1999) and completed BA and MA studies at the Free University, Berlin, Waseda and Gakushuin Universities, Tokyo, and Heidelberg University.

Time and place

This lecture is open to the public.

When: April 11, 15:00-17:00.

Where: Lipsius 011.

May 8, 2014: Postwar Judicial Reforms and the Discourse on the Trial by Jury
Prof. Dr. Dimitri Vanoverbeke (KU Leuven)

In this lecture we will first offer a policy analysis of three important waves of judicial reforms in postwar Japan; in the immediate aftermath of the Second World War, in the 1960s and in the 1990s. In these periods, judicial policy showed a building up towards the realization of the post-1945 ideals of the democratization of justice. Yet, the long-awaited reforms did not happen until the end of the 1990s. Why did the reforms happen then and not earlier?

Second, we will specifically focus on the changing discourse related to the participation of civilians in the criminal procedure -- trial by jury. Finally, we will assess Japan's most recent experience with the so-called 'lay judge system' (saiban'in seido 裁判員制度) based inter alia on interviews with former jurors.



About the speaker

Dimitri Vanoverbeke is Professor of Japanese studies at the K.U. Leuven (Faculty of Arts) since 1998. He was trained at the graduate school of Tokyo University's law faculty (socio-legal studies) and was Associate Professor at Kyushu University (1995-1998). Recently, he has been awarded a guest professorship at Tokyo University's Social Science Institute. His research focuses on the development of the judiciary in modern Japan; Japan's legal capacity building in Asia and on the development of the rule of law in Japan and in the wider Asian region.

Time and place

When: May 8, 11:15-13:00.

Where: Lipsius 005.

September 23, 2014: **Reflections on the Disasters of March 11**

Prof. Dr. Ted Bestor (Harvard University)

Based on fieldwork in Tohoku and extensive research collecting and using on-line digital resources, Bestor will discuss ways in which the triple disasters of 3.1.1 have become incorporated in local patterns of memorialization and planning toward reconstruction.



About the speaker

Professor Theodore Bestor is as a specialist on contemporary Japanese society and culture, focusing much of his research on Tokyo. He has written widely on urban culture and history, markets and economic organization, food culture, the fishing industry, and popular culture.

Time and place

When: September 23, 17:00-19:00.

Where: Lipsius 028.

November 6, 2014: **The Samurai in Japanese and World History**
Prof. Dr. Constantine Vaporis (University of Maryland, Baltimore County)

Samurai in Japan

It would be difficult to find any aspect of Japanese culture that has had as long and strong a hold on the popular imagination, both in Japan and abroad, than the samurai and the code of ethics and conventions associated with them, known as bushidô. Using literary works, print images, museum exhibitions, film and other elements of popular culture as sources, this lecture will focus on the theme of the samurai as metaphor or trope for Japan, as a symbol of national identity, and explore the uses to which the symbol has been put, in Japan and abroad.



About the speaker

Professor Vaporis teaches Japanese and East Asian History at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC). He has received numerous fellowships for research in Japanese history including a Fulbright Scholar's Award and an NEH Fellowship for College Teachers.

He is the author of *Breaking Barriers: Travel and the State in Early Modern Japan*; *Tour of Duty: Samurai, Military Service in Edo and the Culture of Early Modern Japan*; *Nihonjin to sankin kôtai* [The Japanese and Alternate Attendance]; and *Voices of Early Modern Japan. Contemporary Accounts of Daily Life during the Age of the Shoguns*.

Dr. Vaporis also holds an affiliate appointment in the Gender and Women's Studies Program and is the Director of the Asian Studies Program. He was recently appointed the 2013-2016 UMBC Presidential Research Professor. More information about his newest book, *Voices of Early Modern Japan*, may be found at: [Voices of early modern Japan](#).

Time and place

When: November 6, 17:15-19:00.

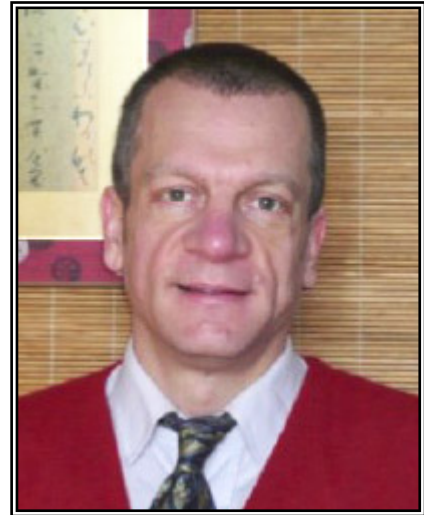
Where: Lipsius 0.11.

October 9, 2014: **Landscapes of Power: the Saishō shi tennō-in Imperial Residence and its poems**

Prof. Dr. Michel Vieillard-Baron (National Institute of Oriental Languages and Civilizations, Paris)

Saishō shitennō-in Imperial Residence

The purpose of this paper is to understand the aesthetic, symbolic and political issues of this exceptional undertaking which combines architecture, religion, painting and poetry. First of all, Vieillard-Baron will recount the genesis of the project, using mainly the *Meigetsu-ki* (The Journal of the Harvest Moon), the diary of Fujiwara no Teika, who was the main coordinator of the enterprise. Then, he will analyse some of the twenty-nine poems which were actually written on the sliding doors of the Palace (*goshō*) — the most official part of the residence — and in the private apartments of the retired emperor (*jōgoshō*), where he lived.



About the speaker

Michel Vieillard-Baron is Professor of Japanese Literature and language at the National Institute of Oriental Languages and Civilisations (Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales, INALCO, Paris). He studied at the Paris-Diderot-Paris 7 University and Seikei University (Kichijōji, Japan). He teaches Premodern Literature and specializes in classical court poetry (*waka*). His research focuses on poetry and poetics of the twelfth and thirteenth century, especially on the poet Fujiwara no Teika (1162-1241). His publications include: *Les enjeux d'un lieu, Architecture, paysages et représentation du pouvoir impérial à travers les poèmes pour les cloisons de la Résidence des Quatre Dieux-Rois-Suprêmes, Saishō shi tennō-in shōji waka (1207)* (2013); “Male? Female? Gender confusion in classical poetry (*waka*)”, *Cipango in English- French Journal of Japanese Studies*, online on the site) (2007-2013); “The Power of Words : Forging Fujiwara no Teika’s Poetic Theory. A Philological Approach to Japanese Poetics”, in *Reading East Asian Writing: The limits of literary theory* (2003).

Time and place

When: October 9, 15:00-17:00.

Where: P.N. van Eyckhof 1, room 0.03c.

November 14, 2014: **Japan and International Debates on Commercial Morality**
Prof. Dr. Janet Hunter (London School of Economics)

Evolution of Transnational Discourse

Discussions on the morality of business conduct have a long tradition in Western Europe, and the rapid growth of the British economy in the 19th century generated growing debates on what was referred to as 'commercial morality'. Though starting mainly in England, consideration of these issues developed into a global discourse on commercial morality in the late-19th – early 20th centuries, a period during which Japan became



increasingly integrated into international commercial transactions. This discourse included a perceived global hierarchy of standards of business morality, a hierarchy in which Japan was regarded as being situated right at the bottom. This lecture will explore the evolution of this transnational discourse, Japan's part in it, and the response of Japan's business and political leaders to the criticisms levied at their country.

About the speaker

Janet Hunter, Saji Professor of Economic History at the London School of Economics has written widely on the economics and social development of modern Japan, focussing in particular on the development of the female labour market, the textile industry, and the development of communications. Her current research is focussed on two projects: the economic effects of the Great Kanto Earthquake of 1923 and on the international discourse on commercial morality (in conjunction with the Shibusawa Eiichi Memorial Foundation), the subject of this lecture. Recent publications include *The Historical Consumer: Consumption and Everyday Life in Japan, 1850-2000* (edited, with P.Francks, 2012); 'Reviving the Kansai Cotton Industry: Engineering Expertise and Knowledge Sharing in the Early Meiji Period' (Japan Forum Spring 2014).

Time and place

When: November 14, 15:10-17:00.

Where: Lipsius 0.28.

April 22, 2015: **Robots, Cyborgs, and Other Machines in Japanese Contemporary Art**

Prof. Dr. Gunhild Borggreen (University of Copenhagen)

Around the world, Japan is often associated with advanced technology and state-of-the-art machinery, such as automobiles, robotics, or various types of electronic devices. Notions like 'techno-orientalism' or 'techno-nationalism' are often used in an attempt to frame the economic, political and social discourses of Japanese technology within a domestic as well as an international context. Gunhild Borggreen (Copenhagen University) will give a lecture on this theme.



How do Japanese artists use their art works to respond to such 'techno' discourses? How can Japanese contemporary visual art be seen as a way of understanding the development and application of new technology, and how may art works offer visionary or critical perspectives on the imaginaries of technology in the future?

About the speaker

Gunhild Borggreen is Associate Professor in Art History and Visual Culture at Department of Arts and Cultural Studies, University of Copenhagen. Gunhild is the co-founder and project manager of ROCA, Robot Culture and Aesthetics, a research network focusing on practice-based research into the intersection of art, technology, and society. Focusing on gender, nationhood and performance in contemporary Japanese art and visual culture, Gunhild has published in journals such as *Performance Review* and *Copenhagen Journal of Asian Studies*, and is co-editor of and contributor to *Performing Archives / Archives of Performance* (Museum Tusulanum Press, 2013).

Time and place

This lecture is open to the public.

When: April 22, 17.00 hours.

Where: Lipsius 0.11.

May 1, 2015: Family Memorials, Waka, and Material Culture

Prof. Dr. Edward Kamens (Yale University)

In 1194, Fujiwara no Teika composed a sequence of eight poems (*waka*) on themes and passages in the Lotus Sutra, to be inscribed on frontispiece illustrations in a set of copies of the sutra offered as a memorial for his late mother. This lecture focuses on these poems as a site for considering practices of poetic composition occasioned by mourning and memorial rites and linked to the production of visual representations and reproductions of Buddhist scriptural texts. Teika's offering can be read alongside and as part of a rich tradition of *waka* composition directly engaged with the *Lotus Sutra* itself. But his 1194 memorial also invites consideration as an example of the intimate and productive engagement of *waka* with material culture; and there may be good reasons to think of poems such as these as material culture, as things created and preserved among the artifacts of family remembrance for the dead.



About the speaker

Edward Kamens is Sumitomo Professor of East Asian Languages & Literatures at the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, Yale University. His research interests focus primarily on the poetry and prose genres of the early and medieval Japan. His major publications include *Utamakura, Allusion and Intertextuality in Traditional Japanese Poetry* (1997); *The Buddhist Poetry of the Great Kamo Priestess: Daisaiin Senshi and Hosshin wakashū* (1990); and *The Three Jewels: A Study and Translation of Minamoto Tamenori's Sanboe* (1988); *Heian Japan, Centers and Peripheries*, ed. with Mikael Adolphson and Stacie Matsumoto (2007); and articles in *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies* and *Journal of Japanese Studies*. His current projects examine the relationship between traditional poetry (*waka*) and material culture.

Time and place

When: May 1, 15:15-17:00.

Where: KOG (Kamerling Onnes Gebouw; Law Faculty), room A051.

September 24, 2015: **Intolerant but Morally Indifferent Regime? Social Control in Early Modern and Modern Japan**

Prof. Dr. Koichiro Matsuda (Rikkyo University)

The early modern political regime of Japan (Tokugawa Shogunate, 1600-1868) has generally been characterized as an oppressive system which was ideologically dominated by the moral codes forced by the ruling power. On the other hand, however, the ethical norms of daily life of Tokugawa society have been viewed as quite flexible or even anarchic in terms of the restrictions in sexual conducts, religious faiths (except for Christianity which was strictly prohibited) or family duties. How could these split characters coexist? This lecture attempts to suggest a way to understand the historical character of "heresies" and "misconducts" in the politico-ethical arguments in early modern Japan. Also the implications for modern Japanese society will be in scope.



Following on the lecture Daan Kok, Curator (Japan/Korea), National Museum of Ethnology, will discuss interaction of these ideas of social control with the worlds of art, literature and culture in early modern Japan.

About the speaker

Koichiro Matsuda is Professor of Japanese Political Thought in the Department of Politics, Faculty of Law, Rikkyo University, Tokyo. He is the author of *Edo no chishiki kara Meiji no Seiji e* [From Edo Knowledge to Meiji Politics] (Perikansha, 2008), *Kuga Katsunan* (Minerva, 2008), and (with Jun-Hyeok Kwak) *Patriotism in East Asia* (Routledge, 2014), and also serves on the advisory boards of the *Journal of Japanese Studies* and *Monumenta Nipponica*.

Time and place

When: September 24, 15:15-17:00.

Where: Lipsius 0.11.

October 16, 2015: A Rite of Their Own: Japanese Buddhist Nuns and Ritual Praise of Ānanda

Prof. Dr. Barbara R. Ambros (University of North Carolina)

In 2003, the Aichi Senmon Nisōdō in Nagoya, Japan celebrated the one-hundredth anniversary of its founding as a training convent for Sōtō Zen nuns. To commemorate the occasion, the nuns performed the Anan kōshiki, a chanted lecture commemorating the Buddha's disciple, Ānanda, and recorded the event on film in order to preserve it for posterity. Rituals dedicated to Ānanda, of which the Anan kōshiki is one example, have a long history within the community of Buddhist nuns dating back to India.



Originating in medieval Japan, the Anan kōshiki has been performed exclusively by Buddhist nuns in honor of Ānanda's role in convincing the Buddha to admit women to the monastic order. Even though it is largely unknown to most male Buddhist clerics in Japan and rarely celebrated within nuns' communities today, the ritual has been an important marker of female monastic identity for centuries. The ritual has functioned ambivalently for nuns, affirming their marginalization and lesser status vis-à-vis the male clergy, while also serving as a means for nuns to celebrate their gender difference as female monastics. In performing the Anan kōshiki, nuns employ oblique strategies of self-affirmation that allow them to invert androcentric concepts to suit their own agendas.

About the speaker

Barbara Rossetti Ambros is a professor in East Asian Religions in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her research on Japanese Religions has focused on issues in gender studies; human-animal relationships; place and space; and pilgrimage. She is the author of *Emplacing a Pilgrimage: The Ōyama Cult and Regional Religion in Early Modern Japan* (Harvard University Asia Center 2008), *Bones of Contention: Animals and Religion in Contemporary Japan* (University of Hawaii Press, 2012), and *Women in Japanese Religions* (New York University Press, 2015).

Time and place

When: October 16, 15:00-17:00.

Where: Lipsius 0.11.

November 5, 2015: **The Translation of Same-Sex Desire in Natsume Soseki's Kokoro**

Prof. Dr. Stephen Dodd (School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London)

On November 5, 2015, Steve Dodd of the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London will deliver a lecture on aspects of same-sex desire in Natsume Soseki's novel, *Kokoro*, through the lens of translation studies theory.

Drawing on the writings of Walter Benjamin and Paul Ricoeur, Steve Dodd argues that the relationship between Sensei and the student can be likened to a process of translation (of mutual feeling, thought, desire). Furthermore, he suggests that certain ultimately untranslatable aspects of their relationship open up a new way of defining the very process of translation.



About the speaker

Steve gained two BA degrees in Chinese (1977) and Japanese (1980) from Keble College, Oxford. He obtained a PhD in Japanese Literature from Columbia University (1993). After teaching briefly at UC Santa Barbara (1993), he became Assistant Professor in Japanese Literature at Duke University (1993-94). From 1994, he has been teaching at SOAS, University of London, where he is currently Professor of Japanese Literature. He lectures on various aspects of modern Japanese literature, including women's writing, the development of a modern self-identity, and literary representations of the city.

Time and place

When: November 5, 15:00-17:00.

Where: Vrieshof 4, room 8A.

November 20, 2015: Weapons for the Revolution: the Meiji Restoration and the International Arms Trade

Prof. Dr. Harald Fuess (Heidelberg University)

The Meiji Restoration of 1868 has been studied for almost 150 years so one would not expect significant re-interpretations at this stage. My presentation will approach the Meiji Restoration Period from the perspective of new advances in global history and explore a hitherto neglected but seminal topic in shifting the domestic balance of power and legitimacy in Japan itself



and in East Asia at large: the international arms trade and its lasting political and economic implications.

About the speaker

Harald Fuess studied History and Japanese Studies at the Universities of Princeton (B.A.), Tokyo and Harvard (M.A., Ph.D.), and is now Professor for Cultural Economic History at Heidelberg University. He currently examines the wide impact of Western industrial and mercantile capitalism on East Asian economies and cultures during the long nineteenth century. His case studies are connecting the global and the local through topics such as arms trade, treaty ports societies, consular jurisdiction, international epidemics, diplomatic disputes on trademarks, the role of the multilingual press, multinational business histories, and transcultural fusions of consumer cultures.

Time and place

When: November 20, 15:00-17:00.

Where: Lipsius 0.11.

March 23, 2016: **Imagining Nihon-bashi, the Fulcrum of the Shogun's Realm**
Prof. Dr. Timon Screech (School of Oriental and African Studies, SOAS)

Nihon-bashi (the 'Bridge of Japan') was built in 1603 to commemorate creation of the new shogunate. It was designated as the centre of Edo and the zero-point of all distances throughout Japan. Yet where did the idea come from and what did Nihon-bashi mean? No Japanese city had ever before been equipped with an official centre. The authorities used the site to gather buildings and monuments symbolising Tokugawa rule, and this lecture will offer a new interpretation of the iconography and meaning of Nihon-bashi.



About the speaker

Timon Screech was born in Birmingham, UK, and received a BA (Hons.) in Oriental Studies (Japanese) at Oxford, before completing his Ph.D at Harvard in 1991. He also studied at the universities of Geneva and Gakushuin. He has taught the history of Japanese art at SOAS, University of London, since 1991, and in 2006 became Professor of the History of Art. He is Head of the Department of the History of Art & Archaeology, and Head of the School of Arts, SOAS.

Screech is the author of some dozen books on the visual culture of the Edo period. His PhD was published as *The Lens Within the Heart: The Western Scientific Gaze and Popular Imagery in Later Edo Japan* (CUP 1996) and is still in print in a second edition (Curzon, 2002). Perhaps his best-known work is *Sex and the Floating World: Erotic Images in Japan, 1700-1820* (Reaktion, 1999; second, expanded edition, 2009). More recently, he has introduced and edited the writings of two 18th-century travelers, as, *Japan Extolled and Decried: Carl Peter Thunberg and the Shogun's Realm, 1775-1796* (Routledge, 2005), and *Secret Memoirs of the Shoguns: Isaac Titsingh and Japan, 1779-1822* (Routledge, 2006). His field-defining general study, *Obtaining Images: Art, Production and Display in Edo Japan* was published in 2012 (Reaktion Books/Hawaii University Press). His numerous writings have been translated into French, Japanese, Korean, Polish and Romanian. He is currently working on the early history of the East India Company, and its role in cultural exchange.

Time and place

When: March 23, 11:00-13:00.

Where: Lipsius 0.28.

June 3, 2016: How to tackle disease: medical knowledge in official home doctor manuals of early modern Japan

Dr. Regina Huebner

By examining the diseases and remedies contained in an official home doctor manual published 1791 this presentation seeks to find out whether and to which extent these kind of texts contributed to the improvement of medical knowledge and public health care in early modern Japan.

About the speaker

Regina Huebner is a licensed non-medical practitioner specialized in acupuncture, having obtained her license in 2000. She has obtained her PhD in Japanese Studies in 2015 (Cantab).

Time and place

When: June 3, 16:20-17:00.

Where: Lipsius 130.



September 20, 2016: Japan's security "normalization" and historical revisionism in the contemporary East Asian context

Prof. Koichi Nakano (Sophia University)

In this lecture, the speaker shall discuss the current trends in Japan's security policy change and rising historical revisionism by first looking back at the challenges that Japan faced as the Cold War drew to a close a quarter of a century ago. Initially, the dominant guiding principle of Japan's foreign and security policy change was a liberal, internationalist



orientation. That, however, was replaced by key changes that began in the late 1990s and early 2000s. What we see today is a simultaneous move towards security "normalization" and historical revisionism. There shall also be reference to the complex role played by the US in those changes.

About the speaker

Koichi Nakano is Professor of Political Science at the Faculty of Liberal Arts, Sophia University. He specializes in the comparative politics of advanced industrial democracies, particularly Japan and Europe, and in political theory. He has a B.A. in philosophy from the University of Tokyo, a second B.A. in philosophy and politics from the University of Oxford, and an M.A. and a Ph.D. in politics from Princeton University. His research has focused on a variety of issues of contemporary Japanese politics from comparative, historical, and philosophical perspectives.

Time and place

When: September 20, 13:00-15:00.

Where: Lipsius 0.28.

September 20, 2016: **Women's Empowerment without Gender Equality: Care and Work in Contemporary Japan**

Mari Miura (Sophia University)

Women in general, and working mothers in particular, occupy a strategic position in Japan's welfare capitalism. In order to generate economic growth amid the shrinking labor force, policy makers have pursued numerous working-women friendly policies without producing yet tangible results. I will show that the lack of concerns on gender equality makes these policies at best schizophrenic, if not mutually contradictory.

About the speaker

Professor of Political Science, Faculty of Law, Sophia University. Ph.D. from University of California, Berkeley. Author of *Welfare Through Work: Conservative Ideas, Partisan Dynamics, and Social Protection in Japan* (Cornell University Press, 2012), *Making Our Voices Heard—Revival of Representative Democracy* (in Japanese, Iwanami Shoten, 2015), co-editor of *Gender Quotas in Comparative Perspectives: Understanding the Increase in Women Representatives* (in Japanese, Akashi Shoten, 2014).



Time and place

When: September 20, 13:00-15:00.

Where: Lipsius 0.28.

September 20: The Grand Urban Vision of Ashikaga Yoshimitsu: Cosmic pretensions or pragmatic planning?

Matthew Stavros (University of Sydney)

Kyoto's urban landscape was completely reimagined in the late fourteenth century through the ambitious building projects of the shogun Ashikaga Yoshimitsu (1358-1408). This paper examines these projects with the aim of identifying a grand urban vision and, more important, a guiding principle that inspired the warrior-aristocrat's monumental aspirations. Several interpretations will be explored, including the possibility that Yoshimitsu imagined himself a cosmic ruler creating a capital suited to his transcendent status.



About the speaker:

Matthew Stavros is an historian of early Japan, specializing in urban and architectural history during the medieval period. He is the author of *Kyoto: An Urban History of Japan's Premodern Capital* (University of Hawai'i Press). Dr. Stavros is currently working on a historical biography of Ashikaga Yoshimitsu that focuses primarily on the shogun's material legacy.

Time and place:

When: September 20, 9:15-11:00.

Where: KOG (Kamerling Onnes Gebouw; Law Faculty), room C131.