

Sophia University Institute of Comparative Culture Lecture Series 2013

# Beyond 'the West' and 'the East'

Occidentalism, Orientalism, and Self-Orientalism in Italy-Japan Relations

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July 5, 2013 / 17:30-19:00 / Sophia University Building 10, 3F, Room 301

The inter-disciplinary perspective adopted by this study is aimed at contributing to critical enquiry into the notions of "the West" (Occidentalism) and of "the East" (Orientalism). It will focus on the interrelational, intersectional, and positional dynamics of mutual perceptions seen in Italy-Japan relations from the late nineteenth century to the present, as in regards to issues of national/regional/global identity, culture, and power. The final scope is to elaborate an interrelational theory of Occidentalism, Orientalism, and self-Orientalism, as well as to attest the reproduction or dismissal of its hegemonic relevance, in accordance to the transnational imperatives induced by present regionalism in Europe/Asia and globalization in the world.

Dr Toshio MIYAKE is a Marie Curie Researcher at Ca' Foscari University of Venice. His main research interest lies in Critical Occidentalism as in regards to issues of hegemony, nation, race/ethnicity, gender, and youth. He has published a monograph on representations of "the West" and "Italy" in modern Japan (Occidentalismi, Cafoscarina 2010), as well as essays on trans/national identity and Japanese popular cultures (manga, anime, youth subcultures).

Lecture in English / No RSVP required