

Sophia University Institute of Comparative Culture collaborative research project on the translation and circulation of "Japanese" texts in the early twentieth century presents a workshop on

# Trajectories of 'Japanese' Texts in the Early Twentieth Century

March 8, 2014

In this project, we wish to examine various aspects of the global flow of texts, people and ideas related to publications in Japanese or about Japan in the early twentieth century, and to investigate their transnational and/or transcultural possibilities. First, we wish to focus on the early translations of Japanese literature into European and Asian languages between the 1900s and the 1940s. The translation affects the reading and writing of the original literary texts, as writers such as Ōgai Mori were highly conscious of the possibility of their works being translated. Also, we wish to examine how texts of Japanese bilingual writers such as Kakuzō Okakura and Yone Noguchi circulated across national borders, contributing to the construction of the images of Japanese culture within and outside Japan.

We are particularly interested in the role of various institutions involved in the circulation of Japanese texts. For example, new translations of Japanese texts (written in European languages or in translation) were linked with the transformation of academic disciplines related to Asian culture and the rise of Japanese studies in the West in the early twentieth century. The international network of publishers, writers, and institutions (private and governmental) was also significant. We hope to illuminate the roles of these institutions and their networks in the early twentieth century.

## Venue:

Room 301, 3F, Building 10  
Sophia University Yotsuya Campus

## Schedule:

**Opening Remark: 13:00**

**Session 1: 13:10-14:30**

- **Shion Kono** (Sophia University)  
“*The Hokuseidō Press and the English-language Translation Network in the interwar Japan*”
- **Kazuhiko Sawada** (Saitama University)  
“*Russian Translations of Japanese Literary Works Published by the South Manchuria Railway Company*”

**Session 2: 14:50-16:10**

- **Yorimitsu Hashimoto** (Osaka University)  
“*The Rise and Fall of Morning Glory: the Contrasting Reception of Chiyo's Haiku in the 20th Century*”
- **Noriko Murai** (Sophia University)  
“*Culture as Translation: Okakura Kakuzō's English Writings and their Dissemination*”

**Roundtable Discussion: 16:30-17:30**

**Closing Remarks: 17:30**