

Sophia University Institute of Comparative Culture presents a workshop on

Sexual boundary crossings and sexual contact zones in East Asia

Saturday Oct. 2, 2010

Room 10-301 Sophia University Yotsuya Campus

The purpose of this workshop is to explore interactions across sexual boundaries and sexual contact zones in East Asia, with a goal of understanding the new sexualities that emerge in zones of boundary crossing and cross-border sexual contact while both understanding and problematizing the socially constructed meanings of race, gender, and heteronormativity. Mary Louise Pratt defines contact zones as “social spaces where disparate cultures meet, clash, and grapple with each other, often in highly asymmetrical relations of domination and subordination – like colonialism, slavery, or their aftermaths as they are lived out across the globe today” (Mary Louise Pratt, 1992, *Imperial Eyes: travel writing and transculturation*, Routledge, p. 4). The study of contact zones allows us to see how actors produce resistant, hybrid or transcultural cultural forms in conditions of power inequality. A major focus of this workshop will be on racial and ethnic sexual contact zones in late postcolonial and contemporary globalizing Asia. Another focus will be on constructions of gender and sexuality of individuals and groups who themselves cross the normative bounded categories of race, ethnicity, heteronormativity or gender. By bringing these discussions together, we hope to create a conversation between queer theory, postcolonial theory and critical race studies in the East Asian context.

Contemporary Contact Zones 9:30 – 11:45

Shanghai's global nightscapes as ethnosexual contact zones
James Farrer, Sophia University

The “Bare Life” of Money Boys: Transgression in Sexual Contact Zones of Rural-to-Urban Male Sex Workers in Mainland China
Travis Kong, Hong Kong University

Sexworkers Who Stay Tomorrow: Sexualised Migrants and Their Survival Strategies
Kaoru Aoyama, Kobe University

Beyond Colonial Desire: Cross-Cultural Contacts of Queer Masculinities in Japan
Katsuhiko Suganuma, Oita University

Historical Contact Zones 1:15 – 3:00

Cabarets as Sexual Contact Zones in Shanghai, 1916-1936
Andrew Field, NYU Shanghai Program

The Rise and Fall of the 'Gei Boi' in Postwar Japan
Mark McLelland, University of Wollongong

Transgressive Sexual Contacts in the Works of Tadashi Yoyogi
Masakazu Tanaka, Kyoto University

Graduate Student Research on Sexual Boundaries 3:15 – 4:30

X-Gender: “Gender Ambiguity” in Contemporary Japan
S. P. F. Dale, Sophia University

Interracial Desires and the Psychosocial Dynamics of Sexual Preference Formation
Jamie Paquin, Sophia University

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