New Approaches to the Study of Premodern Japan Project

Loose Canons: Value and Valuation in Japanese Engagements with Chinese Writing

This symposium seeks to investigate questions related to canon inheritance, canon formation, and canon disintegration: how do habits of quotation and other episodes of appropriation suggest evaluative judgments about “sources”? How have these practices affected literary composition in the archipelago, composed in Japanese wabun and Chinese-styled kanshibun? A group of specialists will consider these issues across the span of premodern Japanese history.

Speakers

Wiebke Denecke, Boston University
Matthew Fraleigh, Brandeis University
Jennifer Guest, Oxford University
Kōzō Kawai, Brandeis Univ./Kyoto Univ.
Ivo Smits, Leiden University
Brian Steininger, Princeton University
Akiko Walley, University of Oregon
Glynne Walley, University of Oregon
Jason Webb, University of Southern California

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http://dornsife.usc.edu/cjrc
Loose Canons: Value and Valuation in Japanese Engagements with Chinese Writing

A symposium organized by Jason Webb and Matthew Fraleigh

9:00 AM  Welcome - Jason Webb and Matthew Fraleigh

9:15 AM  Panel I
Akiko Walley (University of Oregon)
“Negotiating Sources: Visual Canons and the Principle of Salvation in the Ōta Haiji Reliquary Set”

Kōzō Kawai (Brandeis University and Kyoto University)
“Reading Du Fu and Yamanoue no Okura through the Lens of Tao Yuanming”

10:45 AM  Coffee Break

11:00 AM  Panel II
Wiebke Denecke (Boston University)
“Historical and Continental Awareness in the Saga Anthologies”

Jason Webb (University of Southern California)
“Buddhism from the Outside: Bonmon Poems of the Early 9th Century”

12:30 PM  Lunch

1:30 PM  Panel III
Jennifer Guest (Oxford University)
“Creating a Non-Specialist Chinese Canon: Chinese Sources, Women Writers, and Models of Romance in the Heian Court”

Brian Steininger (Princeton University)
“Monzen and Mongols: The Classical Canon in a Time of Crisis”

Ivo Smits (Leiden University)
“Lotus Meditation in a Boat: Renzen and the Landscape Outside the Capital in the 1140s”

3:30 PM  Coffee Break

4:00 PM  Panel IV
Matthew Fraleigh (Brandeis University)
“Talking about Sinitic Poetry in Early Modern Japan”

Glynne Walley (University of Oregon)
“Audition: Chinese Vernacular Fiction and the Logic of Yomihon”

5:30 PM  Closing Remarks