



[Cross Currents: East/West](#)

Now – July 28

Art exhibition, Kalamazoo Book Arts Center

Japanese woodblock prints are characteristically spatially flat, graphic, and colorful — as Funasaka’s modern abstractions are in this exhibition. Brodbeck’s prints are perhaps a combination of East and West with the landscape as a traditional Japanese subject matter yet portrayed with a Western eye using layers of dark on light to create form and distance. Brodbeck studied woodblock printmaking in Tokyo with Funasaka during a five-month fellowship from the Japanese government 25 years ago. This is the latest of several exhibitions they have had together since, featuring both artists’ use of the historic 17th-century Japanese woodblock technique.



[Sugoi! 200 Years of Japanese Art](#)

Now – Sept. 3, 2023

Art exhibition, Kalamazoo Institute of Arts

The KIA’s longstanding history of collecting works and presenting exhibitions celebrating the artists and art practices of East Asia continues with Sugoi! 200 Years of Japanese Art. Opening in two parts, this exciting exhibition uses select loans while also highlighting the breadth of the KIA’s permanent collection to illuminate the ways in which Japanese and Japanese American artists have depicted society and their environments, challenged artistic and societal conventions, or innovated long-standing artistic practices and explored new media.

[Hokusai’s Career in Prints](#)

Monday, June 5, 6:30 – 8 pm

Online event, Smithsonian Associates, Registration Required

Internationally renowned for iconic works such as Under the Wave off Kanagawa, Katsushika Hokusai designed popular woodblock prints on a range of subjects for more than five decades. National Museum of Asian Art curator Kit Brooks examines his print works.



[Japan’s Role in Efforts to Combat Climate Change](#)

June 8, 6am EST (7pm JST)

Online Lecture, Japan Foundation

There is a broad consensus within Japan to cooperate with global efforts to mitigate climate change, although there are debates about how and how fast. In this webinar of Yokosuka Council on Asia-Pacific Studies's *Getting to Know Japan* series, Dr.

Paul Midford will talk about Japan's ambitious goals for reducing Green House Gases, renewable energy in 2030, net carbon neutrality by 2050, and the large challenges that Japan must overcome in order to reach its ambitious goals. This event is supported through the Japan Foundation New York's Salary Assistance Grant for U.S.-Japan Community Grassroots Exchange Program.

→**LEARN MORE**

[Artistry and Spectacle in the Kabuki Tradition](#)

Tuesday, June 13, noon – 1 pm

Online lecture, Kalamazoo Institute of Arts

Woodblock prints by Hokusai Katsushika, Kunisada Utagawa, and Toyokuni Utagawa in the Sugoi exhibition feature Kabuki actors in costume, as well as scenes from popular Kabuki plays in 19th century Japan. What is Kabuki theatre? How and why did the Kabuki tradition emerge, and what accounts for the continuing popularity of this enduring art form? Dr. Quincy Thomas, Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts at Kalamazoo College, joins us to explore these questions and more.

GLOBAL ASIAS CYBER CHAT 2
"MIGRATION, IDENTITY, AND DIASPORAS AT THE INTERSECTION OF JAPAN STUDIES AND GLOBAL ASIAs"
TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 2023
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM EST | 8:00 - 10:00 AM TOKYO TIME

As an archipelago, the Japanese islands have been a site of cultural exchange and migration for centuries, resulting in complex identities and cultural flows. On the one hand, people who trace their heritage to the Japanese islands have created diasporic communities around the globe. Some of these diasporas stem from Japanese laborers who traveled to the Americas and others have their origins in the displacements of 20th century warfare. On the other hand, there are sizable ethnic, regional, or linguistic minority populations within Japan.

- How does getting Japan in this larger, transnational, and multiethnic context open possibilities for collaboration in your own research?
- What are some of the challenges or obstacles to writing on questions of migration, identity, and diaspora in the field of Japan Studies?
- How might an interdisciplinary and collaborative approach, such as Global Asia, enable new directions or new connections in your research?

GAI will provide all Cyber Chat participants with a year-long Project Move subscription to *Japan Studies in Global Asia*, so that they can become more familiar with the field.

We would love to be in conversation with you and look forward to using these Cyber Chats to create collaborative spaces for people to think through these issues together. This is an open formal conversation via Zoom but to book the site of the group we will use an application process. Applications due by Tuesday, May 23, 2023 and can be submitted here: <https://bit.ly/gaiapplication>

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[Migration, Identity, and Diasporas at the Intersection of Japan Studies and Global Asia](#)

Tuesday, June 13, 7 – 9 pm

Online lecture, Japan Foundation New York

As an archipelago, the Japanese islands have been a site of cultural exchange and migration for centuries, resulting in complex identities and cultural flows. On the one hand, people who trace their heritage to the Japanese islands have created diasporic communities around the globe. Some of these diasporas stem from Japanese laborers who traveled to the Americas and others have their origins in the displacements of 20th century warfare. On the other hand, there are sizable ethnic, regional, or linguistic minority populations within Japan.

[Japanese Woodblock Printmaking with Mary Brodbeck](#)

Friday, June 16 – Sunday, June 18

In-person classes, Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, enrollment required

Learn to make a Japanese woodblock print! The workshop begins with a hands-on printing demonstration from a prepared block using; water-based pigments, kento registration, and pressing with a baren – all hallmarks of this Japanese process dating back to the 17th century. We will then move into designing, carving, and printing our own designs with thorough demonstrations along the way. Please bring a 5" x 7" cartoon sketch for your one-color woodblock print. Sample designs will be available for beginners, advanced printmakers may use more than one color by using both sides of the block. All tools and materials are provided; please bring carving tools if you have a set. All levels are welcome.



Commercial Music and Intergenerational Community in the Toyama City Center

June 22, 7pm ET

Online Lecture, Japan Foundation

The eighth session of *Illuminating Japanese Studies: Lecture Series with Former JF Fellows* titled Commercial Music and Intergenerational Community in the Toyama City Center where Former JF Fellow Dr. **W. Donnie Scally** will discuss intergenerational creative practices among commercial musicians in the Toyama City Center, drawing on first-hand experience listening, performing, and talking with musicians at performance venues specializing in jazz, blues, and related commercial musics. The discussion will be followed by a live Q&A moderated by Dr. **Jennifer Matsue**.

→[RSVP](#)



The Legend of Zelda: Exploring the Legacy of Breath of the Wild

June 30, 8pm EDT

Online Panel Discussion, Japan Foundation



For the 17th episode of our JFNY pop culture series, we are celebrating the release of *The Legend of Zelda: Tears of the Kingdom* by doing a deep academic dive into the world of its predecessor, *Breath of the Wild*! Since its release in 2017, *Breath of the Wild* is the best-selling game in *The Legend of Zelda* series and is considered one of the greatest video games of all time. It has been described as

“groundbreaking,” changing how many saw open-world experiences in video games and inspiring many following titles.

Join the panel discussion with five professors researching video games: **Matt Barton, Stephen Kuniak, Sarah Stang, Rachael Hutchinson** and **Wesley Bradford**. They will discuss the legacy of *Breath of the Wild* from the perspectives of video game history, ideology, psychology, gender and music all while exploring the significance and impact of the series in the gaming world. We’ll also be hearing their first takes on the latest release of *Tears of the Kingdom*. The panelists will discuss the topic based on questions from you. If you have any questions about the series and *Breath of the Wild*, please submit them through Eventbrite when you register.

[RSVP HERE](#)