



PITTSBURGH TAIKO BRINGS JAPANESE DRUMMING TO THE REGION

Japanese taiko drumming groups have wowed audiences around the world, and now the art form has come to Pittsburgh. **Pittsburgh Taiko** was formed in September 2009, beginning as a student group affiliated with the Asian Studies Center. Comprised of both students and community members, it has given performances and workshops both within the university and around Pittsburgh, helping to introduce a unique form of Japanese musical performance to the area.

Japanese group taiko drumming, or *kumidaiko*, first emerged in the early 1950s. Its founders took many of the folk and classical drumming traditions of Japan and combined them into a new dynamic performance art. This art form quickly became popular thanks to performances at the 1964 Tokyo Olympics and other venues; many groups also toured internationally, introducing new audiences to this dynamic form of Japanese cultural expression.

American *kumidaiko* groups began in the late 1960s. Taiko particularly appealed to young Japanese-Americans who were looking for a form of cultural performance through which they could express their sense of identity. The first groups were founded in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Jose, but the art form quickly spread to other communities as well. Now, there are groups in most major American cities, and membership has evolved beyond just Japanese-Americans; people of all backgrounds participate in and enjoy *kumidaiko*. It is an art form that crosses cultural boundaries and speaks to people in many different ways.

Pittsburgh Taiko was founded with the support of **Dennis Hart**, **Jennifer Murawski**, and **Brenda Jordan** of ASC, with **Bell Yung** (Music), past Director of ASC, who serves as the advisor of the student group. Since its founding, group members have given workshops for undergraduates in the "Introduction to World Music" class, as well as for participants in the National Consortium for Teaching about Asia workshop series.

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The Newsletter of the Asian Studies Center

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The University of Pittsburgh has been selected by the US Dept. of Education since 1988 as a National Resource Center for East Asian Studies.

The Newsletter is published twice yearly, in Spring and Fall. Unless otherwise stated, all activities reported are sponsored and organized by the Asian Studies Center, either solely or in collaboration with other units on campus or with local institutions. News, letters, and comments are welcome and should be addressed to Katherine Carlitz, kcarlitz@pitt.edu.

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PHOTO: UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

Richard Scaglion

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Academic Year 2010 has been a very busy one for the Asian Studies Center. Beginning with my appointment as Director, the year has been a whirlwind of grant applications, symposia, lectures, performances and outreach activities. Although I have taught at Pitt for over 30 years, and worked with the Asian Studies staff virtually since its inception, I never fully appreciated the richness and diversity of activities that connect the Center with the students, faculty and staff of the University; the local Pittsburgh and wider Western Pennsylvania area; and the global community. I am honored and delighted to have the opportunity to direct the ASC and to work with the outstanding and dedicated staff members who make all this possible.

Our new Center theme, "Beyond Borders," envisions a broader, interconnected Asia of increasing world importance. Building on our traditional strengths in China and Japan studies, we seek to explore how a growing and dynamic Asia is far more than just the sum of its parts. In the coming year we will be crossing borders and boundaries—geographical, intellectual, and disciplinary—to promote the study of Asia both within the Asia-Pacific region and throughout the globe.

The Asian Studies Center at the University of Pittsburgh has been designated since 1988 as an undergraduate National Resource Center in East Asian Studies by the U.S. Department of Education. This identifies the center as being among the best and most comprehensive in the country in research, public service, and teaching about East Asia. During the past year, we have applied to continue this recognition, and have worked to further develop our Korean Studies program. Our Korea-Japan Transnational Postdoctoral Fellowship is an example of our commitment to an integrated and interconnected region. But also this year, for the first time, we have significantly expanded our efforts beyond East Asia by applying for recognition by the DOE as a National Resource Center in South Asian Studies in a consortium arrangement with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. In the coming year we look forward to fulfilling our mandate to promote an enhanced understanding of all of Asia—including East Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia, and the Pacific Islands—through exceptional academic programs, strong interdisciplinary faculty development, and energetic community outreach.

This is an ambitious agenda, but we have an exceptionally talented and dedicated staff, and some great partners in our efforts. The Center is home to an award-winning Confucius Institute that promotes Chinese language and culture study throughout the world; we are a National Coordinating Site for the National Consortium for Teaching About Asia, a nationwide initiative to encourage and facilitate teaching and learning about East Asia in the K-12 curriculum; and much, much more. I encourage you to visit us at our website <http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/asc/> and see what we've been up to!

LATE-BREAKING NEWS

New Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation (CCKF) Grant

ASC has just received a second grant from the CCKF, to bring 3 Nanjing University faculty members to Pitt during 2010–2011. Groundwork for the current grant was laid in October 2009, when CCKF funded Pitt China Studies faculty members **Katherine Carlitz** (EALL), **Evelyn Rawski** (History), **Thomas G. Rawski** (Economics), and **Cecile Chu-chin Sun** (EALL) to meet potential research collaborators at the Nanjing University Institute for Advanced Studies. Long live this new collaboration!

New Postdoctoral Fellow

Kim Gyewon has accepted our offer to serve as the Korea-Japan Transnational Post-Doctoral Fellow in AY 2010–11. While she is here at Pitt, Dr. Kim will bring in speakers, arrange talks, and engage in other activities. Kim received her doctorate from the Department of Art History and Communication Studies, McGill University, Montreal, Canada. Her research topics are art and nation-building, visual culture in pre-war Japan, Korean modern art and visual culture, and postcolonial discourses.

New ASC Interns

We look forward to working with **Sara Bularzik**, graduate student in Pitt's School of Education, Department of Administration and Policy Studies; and **Laura Werner**, graduate student in GSPIA's programs on Human Security and Behavioral and Community Health. Both of them bring a wealth of international and administrative experience, Bularzik in China and Werner in the Pacific Islands. Learn more about them in our Fall 2010 issue.



PHOTO: CHET KINICAD

Looking at photos from their own album and from the book *Shinjō: The Chronicle of a Japanese Village* (published by Brown), are, from left to right, Noboru Nasukawa, Keith Brown, and Yōichi Watanabe, sitting on the deck of the Watanabe house in Shinjō, Mizusawa, Japan (May, 2009). Many of the album photos were taken by Brown in the early 1960s. The fathers of Mr. Nasukawa and Mr. Watanabe were key informants and good friends of Brown in his first study in Shinjō in 1961–1963. The sons, Noboru and Yōichi, likewise are good friends and teachers of Brown now.

WHAT'S COMING

Can't Go Native? Join us on Sept. 28, 2010 for a screening of the documentary *Can't Go Native?*, a portrait of the life and work in Japan of L. Keith Brown (Anthropology, emeritus). This film by David Plath, Emeritus Professor of Anthropology and Asian Studies in the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, explores Keith Brown's fieldwork in the town of Mizusawa in northeastern Japan, a longitudinal study that has continued since the 1960s. Brown shares a wealth of data on everyday life in regional Japan, dealing with issues such as the troubles of an aging population and infrastructure, shortages of young adults and cheap labor, and shrinking populations. Following the screening, Dr. Brown and Dr. Plath will head up a panel on anthropological fieldwork, for Pitt students interested in conducting research in Asia. Those interested in purchasing a copy of the film can visit www.cantgonative.com for more information.

World History Seminar Series On Sept. 29, 2010 Stewart Gordon returns to this seminar series, a collaboration between Pitt's World History Center and our National Consortium for Teaching about Asia (NCTA) national site. Gordon's topic this year is "Unknown Chains: Slavery Across the Eurasian World." Gordon is affiliated with the

University of Michigan Center for South Asian Studies, and author of the widely acclaimed *When Asia was the World* (Yale University Press, 2008).

On Oct. 2, 2010 join us for *Celebrating Gandhi: The Man and his Teachings*, our annual observation of the great Mahatma's birthday. Join us for a celebration of Indian culture, featuring dance performances, cultural activities displays, and more!

China's Periphery and Beyond: Perspectives from Art and Archaeology A conference on May 6–7, 2011, will recognize the important contributions made by **Katheryn Linduff** to the study of the art and archaeology of peripheral regions beyond China's Yellow River valley, traditionally considered to be its cultural and political core. The study of such regions, many of which once lay—and in some cases still lie—outside China's borders, has played an increasingly important role in our understanding of cultural development and interregional interaction in early East Asia. This conference will bring together archaeologists and art historians whose research has been influenced by Professor Linduff, on topics ranging from southern China to Mongolia and Japan, and from the Neolithic to recent times.

Check our Asian Studies Center website, www.ucis.pitt.edu/asc/, for a detailed calendar with times and venues for these events.

CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

Our conference year featured a border-crossing theme. We began on **October 7, 2009** with the **Jean Monnet Symposium on Regionalism, Innovation, and Economic Crises: Challenges for Asia, NAFTA, and the European Union**, jointly sponsored by Pitt's Asian Studies Center, European Studies Center, and European Union Center of Excellence. John Ravenhill of Australian National University explored "Crisis Not of Their Own Making: East Asia and the Global Recession." ASC contributions came from **Thomas G. Rawski** (Economics), with "China: Short-term Crisis Response and Longer-Term Environmental Issues," and **William Keller** (GSPIA), "Innovation in the Indian Semiconductor Industry."

Border-crossing continued in Spring with our **April 10, 2010** workshop **Reframing Gender, Power, and Resistance in Latin America and Asia**, co-sponsored by ASC and the Center for Latin American Studies, focused on the understudied linkages between Asia and Latin America. Keynote speaker at the workshop was Trinh T. Minh-ha, Professor of Rhetoric and of Gender and Women's Studies at University of California, Berkeley, and the ASC organizer was Japan-Korea Postdoctoral Fellow **Young-Rae Oum**.

How will East Asian youth respond to the changing social conditions described above? This question shaped our **March 6, 2010** conference on **Youth, Labor, and Neoliberal Governmentality in East Asia**, organized by **Gabriella Lukacs** (Anthropology) to explore how young people have been affected by the deregulation of national economies in East Asia. Will they earn less, but take up new lines of work more conducive to creativity? This conference was supported by a Global Academic Partnership (GAP) grant from the University Center for International Studies (UCIS).

These themes were taken up again on **April 27–28, 2010**, in the **Education in Asia Today** symposium, organized by **W. James Jacob** (School of Education) and Pitt's Institute for International Studies in Education (IISE), with funding from Pitt's Confucius Institute and China Council. Invited speakers were

Ruth Hayhoe (University of Toronto), lecturing on "Portraits of 21st Century Chinese Universities for the Higher Education Program," and Ka Ho Mok, Hong Kong Institute of Education, on "The Liberalization of Privatness in Higher Education: Funding Strategies, Changing Governance and Policy Implications in Asia."

On **April 16, 2010**, the conference **Minority Groups: Comparisons & Cases From Taiwan and the PRC** focused on some of China's earliest border-crossers and their descendants, the Austronesian indigenous groups of Taiwan. Organized by **Andrew Strathern** and **Pamela Stewart** (Anthropology), the conference explored questions of land use, cultural change and revitalization, and historical encounters with state authorities, comparing the Taiwan experience to that of the PRC.

PITTSBURGH TAIKO BRINGS JAPANESE DRUMMING TO THE REGION

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Other performances have included the Nationality Rooms 2009 Holiday Open House and the April 2010 Pittsburgh Cultural District Gallery Crawl. The group has also hosted workshops by visiting artists, including Takumi Kato, 2008 winner of the O-daiko division of the Tokyo International Taiko Contest, and members of the LA-based group TAIKOPROJECT.

Recently, Pittsburgh Taiko has entered into a partnership with the Japan-America Society of Pennsylvania, which will allow the group to further expand its outreach and performance activities. In addition, it has been funded by the ASC National Resource Center grant and Pitt's Japan Studies Strategic Budget and Planning Committee to purchase a set of drums from manufacturers in California and Washington. These developments will help Pittsburgh Taiko bring the Pittsburgh region an exciting new opportunity to learn about Japanese culture.



ASIAN FILM AT PITT

"Fractured Fairytales:" Fall 2009 Japanese Film Festival

This festival gave us a window on the role of fantasy in Japanese life today. On **Oct. 2**, Studio Ghibli's animated film "**The Cat Returns**" (Neko no Ongaeshi, dir. Hiroyuki Morita, 2002) showed us fantasy gone wrong, as our heroine barely escapes marriage to the King of Cats. On **Oct. 9**, "**Memories of Matsuko**" (Kiraware Matsuko no Isshou, dir. Tetsuya Nakashima, 2007) followed the heroine's tragic spiral from fantasies of love into the reality of despair. But on **Oct. 16**, another Nakashima film "**Kamikaze Girls**" (Shimotsuma Monogatari, 2004) told us the picaresque story of Momoko, an emotionally repressed teenager with an active fantasy life who learns to open herself up to friendship from Ichigo, a rough-riding punk on a tricked-out scooter.

Bollywood at Pitt: Spring 2010

Our South Asia film festival began with a colloquium on **Jan. 21**: **Neepa Majumdar** (English/Film Studies) spoke on "Cinema and Liveness: The Problem of Self-Reflexivity in Indian Cinema," and **Usha Iyer**, graduate student in English/Film Studies, on "Finding the Past in Pastiche: The Politics of Intertextuality in Bollywood Song-and-Dance Sequences." The six films in the series were **Om Shanti Om** (Farah Khan, 2007), on **Feb. 2**; **Kaagaz Ke Phool/Paper Flowers** (Guru Dutt, 1959), on **Feb. 6**; **Bioscopewallah** (Prashant Kadam, 2006), on **Feb. 12**; **Herbert** (Suman Mukhopadhyay, 2006), introduced by Anustup Basu, Executive

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PHOTO: DANGDUT COWBOYS

Front (L to R): Ening Rumbini, Ikke Nurjanah, Margot Goldberg
Back (L to R): Ben Pachter, Mathew Rosenblum, Michael Dodin, Indra Ridwan, Andrew Weintraub

PERFORMANCES

A Spring Festival of Kyogen

ASC and the Japan Society jointly presented the U.S. debut tour of the Yamamoto Kyogen Company on **March 20, 2010** in Pitt's Charity Randall Theatre. *Kyogen* (literally "mad words") is a form of Japanese theater dating back to the medieval era. The Yamamoto Kyogen troupe, on a six-city tour of North America, performed two plays: *Shido Hogaku* (Stop in your Tracks) and *Tsukimizato* (Moon-viewing Blind Man). Troupe members also held a workshop for students at Pittsburgh's High School for the Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA).

In preparation, Julie Iezzi (University of Hawai'i, Manoa) visited as part of a course titled "*Noh* in Historical Context," taught by **Richard** and **Mae Smethurst** (History and Classics, respectively), and taught "Walk the Walk and Talk the Talk *Kyogen*-Style: A Lecture, Demonstration and Workshop," (Feb. 24). Iezzi, a trained *noh*, *kyogen*, and *kabuki* performer, has translated a number of *kyogen* (the comic counterpart of *noh*) plays into English, and directs students at the University of Hawai'i in performing both *kyogen* and *kabuki*.

World Beat Concerts at Pitt

Dangdut superstar **Ikke Nurjanah**, one of Indonesia's most prominent and successful dangdut singers and television celebrities, joined Pittsburgh's own Indonesian pop band **The Dangdut Cowboys** (including the Music Department's **Andrew Weintraub**, **Mathew Rosenblum**, and ethnomusicology grad students **Indra Ridwan** and **Ben Pachter**) for one concert at Bellefield Hall Auditorium on Friday, April 9, 2010. Dangdut is dance

music rooted in Indonesia and inspired by Malay, Indian, Middle Eastern, Latin, American, and British pop music.

Ening Rumbini performed with the University Gamelan on April 10, in her first return visit since her semester as artist in residence in 2006. Ening Rumbini performs Sundanese classical and modern dance. Her specialty is *jaipongan*, a modern popular form based on rural dance forms (*ketuk tilu*) and martial arts movements (*penca silat*).



PHOTO: YAMAMOTO KYOGEN TROUPE

Yamamoto Kyogen Troupe performs *Shido Hogaku*

NEW FACULTY PUBLICATIONS ON ASIA

Books

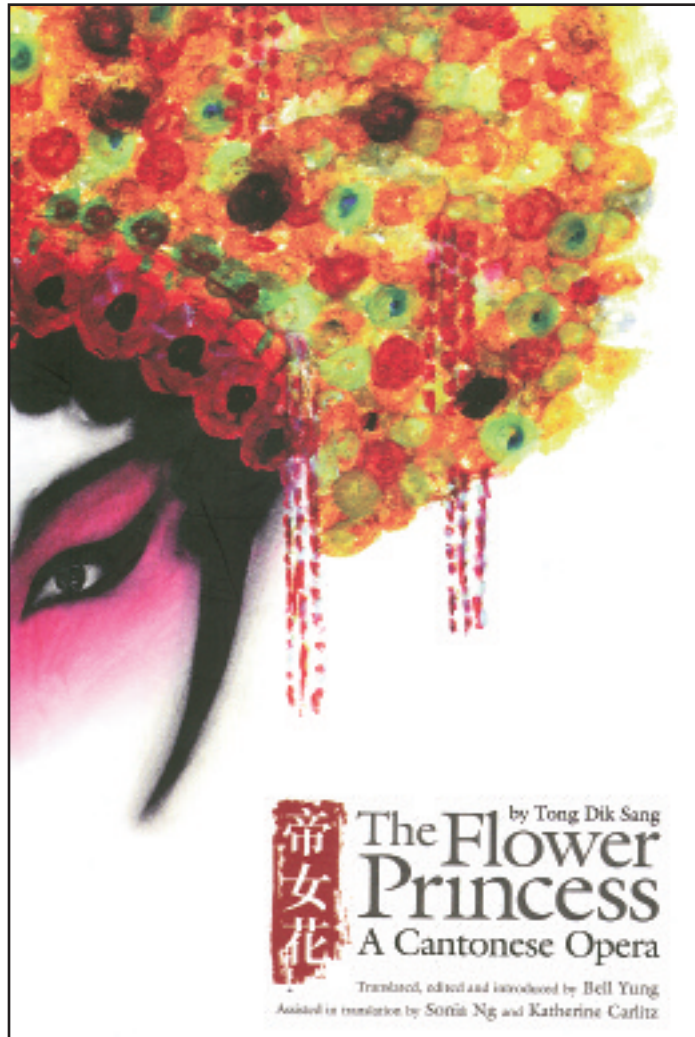
Katheryn Linduff (HAA and Anthropology/Archaeology), with Bryan Hanks, eds., *Monuments, Metals and Mobility: Trajectories of Complexity in the Late prehistoric Eurasian Steppe* (Cambridge University Press, 2009); **Gabriella Lukacs** (Anthropology), *Scripted Affects, Branded Selves: Television, Subjectivity, and Capitalism in 1990s Japan* (Duke University Press, 2010); **Neepa Majumdar** (English/Film Studies), *Wanted! Cultured Ladies Only: Female Stardom and Cinema in India, 1930s to 1950s* (University of Illinois Press, 2009); **Nita Rudra** (GSPIA), *Globalization and the Race to the Bottom: Who Really Gets Hurt?* (Cambridge University Press, 2008); **Pamela J. Stewart** and **Andrew Strathern** (Anthropology), *Curing and Healing: Medical Anthropology in Global Perspective*, Second Edition (Carolina Academic Press, 2010); **Andrew Weintraub** and **Bell Yung** (Music), eds., *Music and Cultural Rights* (University of Illinois Press, 2009); **Bell Yung** (Music) ed. and trans., with **Katherine Carlitz** (EALL & ASC) and Sonia Ng, *The Flower Princess: A Cantonese Opera* (Chinese University Press, 2010); **Haihui Zhang** (East Asian Library), *Classical Chinese Poems and Their Western Translations: Extensive Indexes to Recent Renderings*. (Beijing: National Library Press, 2009).

Selected Articles and Book Chapters

Chapters

Katherine Carlitz (EALL & ASC), "Passion and Chastity: Meng Chengshun and the Fall of the Ming," in Maghiel van Crevel et al, eds., *Text, Performance and Gender in Chinese Literature and Music: Essays in Honor of Wilt Idema* (Brill, 2009); **James Cassing** (Economics), "Transient Products but Persistent Trade Patterns," *Journal of Economic Studies* 36.6 (December 2009): 583–595, with **Steven Husted** (Economics); and "Trade Dispute Diversion: The Economics of Conflicting

Dispute Settlement Procedures between Regional Trade Agreements and the WTO," in *Trade Disputes and the Dispute Settlement Understanding of the WTO: An Interdisciplinary Assessment*, James C. Hartigan, ed. (Elsevier, 2009); **Robert D. Drennan** (Anthropology/Archaeology), "Centralized Communities, Population, and Social Complexity after Sedentarization," in *The Neolithic Demographic Transition and Its Consequences*, ed. Jean-Pierre Bocquet-Appel and Ofer Bar-Yosef (Springer.



2008); **William W. Keller** (GSPIA), "Innovation in the Indian Semiconductor Industry: The Challenge of Sectoral Deepening," *Business and Politics* 11.2 (Fall 2009), with Louis W. Pauly; **Adam Lowenstein** (English/Film Studies), "Ghosts in a Super Flat Global Village: Globalization, Surrealism, and Contemporary Japanese Horror Films," *Post Script* 28.2 (Winter/Spring 2009): 59–71 (Special issue on Japanese Popular Culture in Film, ed. Keiko McDonald); **Gabriella Lukacs**

(Anthropology) "Dream Labor in Dream Factory: Japanese Television in the Era of Market Fragmentation," in *Television, Japan, Globalization*, ed. Mitsuhiro Yoshimoto (University of Michigan Press, 2009); **Neepa Majumdar** (English/Film Studies), "Beyond the Song Sequence: Theorizing Sound in Indian Cinema," in *The Continuum Companion to Sound in Film and Visual Media*, ed. Graeme Harper (London: Continuum Press, 2009); **Thomas G. Rawski** (Economics), "Urban Air Quality in China: Historical and Comparative Perspectives," in *Resurgent China: Issues for the Future*, ed. Nazrul Islam (Palgrave-Macmillan, 2008); **Nita Rudra**, "Why International Organizations Should Bring Basic Needs Back In," *International Studies Perspective*, 2009 (10.2:129–150); **Louis Schwartz** (Law), "China Takes Steps to Rebalance Its Solar Industry," in *Renewable Energy World.com*, April 2009; and "The Emerging US-China Strategic Alliance on Clean Energy," *Renewable Energy World.com*, Nov. 2009; **Pamela J. Stewart** and **Andrew Strathern** (Anthropology), "Shifting Centres, Tense Peripheries: Indigenous Cosmopolitanism," in *United in Discontent: Local Responses to Cosmopolitanism and Globalization*, Dimitrios Theodossopoulos and Elisabeth Kirtsoglou, eds., (Berghahn Books, 2009); and "Placing and Dis-Placing the Dead," in *Religion and Retributive Logic: Essays in Honour of Professor Garry W. Trompf*, Carole M. Cusack and Christopher Hartney, eds. (Brill, 2009); **John C. Weidman** (Education), "Finance of Public Community Colleges in U.S. Higher Education: The Case of CCAC." *Higher Education*, 154 (2008): 99–103 (in Korean, with Eun Kyung Lee); **Bell Yung** (Music), "Voices of Hong Kong: the Reconstruction of a Performance in a Teahouse" in *Critical Zone* No. 3, 37–56 (2009); **Xiuying Zou** (EAL), "Integration of Chinese Digital Resources in an English Environment: Status-quo and Prospect", *Journal of East Asian Libraries*, no.148 (June, 2009), pp. 40–44.

ASIAN FILM AT PITT

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Producer of the film and Assistant Professor of English and Cinema Studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, on **Feb. 13**; **Akaler Sandhane/In Search of Famine** (Mrinal Sen, 1980), on **Feb. 19**, and **Rangeela/Colorful** (Ram Gopal Varma, 1995), on **Feb. 20**.

Spring 2010 Korean Film Festival

This year's Korean films ranged from darkness to light: the documentary **Silence Broken: Korean Comfort Women** (Dai Sil Kim-Gibson, 1999) contrasts the testimony of Korean women forced into sexual servitude by the Japanese Imperial Military during World War II with that of former Japanese soldiers and recruiters (**Jan. 1**). The animated film **My Beautiful Girl Mari** (Seong-kang Lee, 2002) takes us into the fantasy world of a lonely boy who dreams up a mysterious girlfriend (**Mar. 26**). **Treeless Mountain** (So Yong Kim, 2008) follows a pair of sisters as they navigate the difficulties posed by the adults in their lives (**Apr. 2**).



2010 ASC Certificate Graduation Ceremony

ASIAN STUDIES CENTER GRADUATION CEREMONY

The annual Asian Studies Center Graduation Ceremony for ASC certificate graduates was held in the Lower Lounge of the William Pitt Union on April 29, 2010. This event is a must for all students who earn our Undergraduate or Graduate Certificate in Asian Studies in August, December, or April. Faculty, family, and students turned out in record numbers to honor the 75 students who graduated with Certificates in 2009–2010. Our certificate students are tops! Of the 54 undergraduates, more than half graduated with distinction: 8 students *summa cum laude*, 17 *magna cum laude*, and 9 *cum laude*. Alum **Eric C. Shiner** (BA, BPhil HAA and Japanese 1994), Milton Fine Curator of Art at the Andy Warhol Museum, addressed the graduates with a speech titled “Asia and Beyond.” An informal reception followed the ceremony.

ALUMNI BRIEFS

Weilu Tan—Almost an alum and already a star!

Featured alumna **Weilu Tan** (BA, BPhil Political Science, Japanese 2010) is the first Pitt student to win a Carnegie Endowment Junior Fellowship, which will take her to Washington, DC next year to work as a research assistant at the Endowment, focusing on US-Japan relations. Tan will graduate in August 2010, but has already completed her majors in Political Science and Japanese, and her Bachelor of Philosophy degree under the tutelage of ASC Associate Director **Dennis Hart** (Adjunct Faculty, GSPIA). Weilu is currently in Japan as an intern at Panasonic Electric Works' Ambient Technologies Research Lab, having just completed an internship with the Education Committee of the Pennsylvania State House of Representatives. Congratulations, Weilu, and stay in touch!

ASC alumni continue their record of success, from academia to finance to government. In academia, **Lei Ouyang Bryant** (PhD Music 2004), currently Assistant Professor of Music at Skidmore College, recently published “Performing Race and Place in Asian America.” *Asian Music* 40(1): 4–30. **Mason Myoung-Shik Kim** (PhD Political Science 2010) has just been appointed to a 3-year position as Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science at Tulane University. **Christina (Harknett) McNaughton** (BA Chinese 2005) is now a certified K–12 Chinese Language Teacher, and is now pursuing her MA at Pitt in Foreign Language Education. **John Riley** (JD Law 2008) is currently an associate law professor at Dongguk University in Seoul, Korea (see his “Notes from the Field” on p. 11).

At the earlier stages of their academic and professional careers, **Mary (Meg) Goehrig** (BS Economics, BA History and

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ALUMNI BRIEFS

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Political Science) will enter the PhD program in Agricultural Economics at Cornell University this fall, where she has also been awarded an Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship grant for Food Systems and Poverty Reduction. **Christopher Rendall Jackson** (BA 2008 Japanese) has just completed his first year at Harvard Law School. Studying 14 hours a day, he says he still has time for a Steelers game now and then!

Kristin Kos (BA History and Political Science, 2005) is Grants and Projects Administrator at PathStone, a not-for-profit community development and human service organization. At PathStone Kristin oversees adult education and youth programs. **Guonan Ma** (PhD Economics 1990), now at the Bank of International Settlements, has hit the Top Ten download list on the Social Science Research Network, with his paper "China's Evolving External Wealth and Rising Creditor Position."

Rachel Tataranowicz (MPIA GSPIA 2009) is working for the United States government in Washington DC.

STUDENT BRIEFS

Three Interdisciplinary Master of Arts (IDMA) candidates gave research colloquia in Spring 2010:

Dorothy Holland-Minkley, on "God in the Machine: Mechanical Kami in Japanese Anime" (Jan. 29); **Remi Feuillassier**, on "Remembering World War II & Narrating the Nation: Study of Tezuka Osamu's War Manga" (Feb. 19); and **Clifford McRae**, on "Effects of Teaching Order on the Acquisition of the Japanese Imperfective" (Mar. 19).

Holland-Minkley and Feuillassier also presented their papers at the Thirteenth Annual 2010 Harvard East Asia Society (HEAS) Graduate Student Conference, titled "Facing East: Conversations and Connections," (Feb. 26–28).

The first annual **Chinese Language Speech Contest** was held on April 17,

organized by **Xinmin Liu** and **Yi Xu** (both of EALL). 22 students participated, from the first through the fourth-year classes. Topics ranged from the experience of learning Chinese language and culture, to environmental protection and ideologies embedded in modern people's life styles. Several contestants also integrated humor and short performances into their speeches, making the atmosphere of the occasion especially lively. Winners were **Kevin Jeffries** for first-year, **Alek Suni** for second-year, **Daniel Mathieu** for third-year, and **Chassie Kauffman** for fourth-year Chinese.

Summer **Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships** for language study overseas were awarded to graduate students **Rebecca Carlson** (Anthropology), **Eric Linge** (Law), and **Amanda Robinson** (Anthropology); and to undergraduates **Virginia Mulky**, **Andrea Richards**, and **Michelle Sattazahn**, who was also the recipient of a Boren Fellowship that will allow her to continue her study of Chinese in China during 2010–2011.

Alek Suni and **David Tringali** were awarded 2010 **Summer Study in China** awards, and 2010 **Summer Study in Japan** awards went to **Kristin Antosz**, **Dirk Hollabaugh**, **Erica Holtgraver**, **Jason Lawrence**, **Sarah Maiocchi**, and **Jordan Strasbaugh**.

Four students received **Japan Studies Graduate Research Development Grants** for Summer 2010: **Jonathan Corliss** for work on the "localization" of Japanese video games, **James Hommes** for the study of the Meiji-era missionary Guido F. Verbeck, **Yuki Morishima** to continue her work on Meiji-era Japanese official imperial portraiture, and **Benjamin Pachter** for fieldwork and study on Taiko drumming in Hawaii.

FACULTY BRIEFS

ASC Director **Richard Scaglion** (Anthropology) has been named a recipient of the 2010 **Provost's Award for Excellence in Mentoring**. The



EAST ASIAN LIBRARY

EAL expands collection of North Korean materials

The Korean studies program at Pitt is undergoing substantial expansion, with a high-profile collection of materials from North Korea. EAL has begun acquiring movies, journals, and school textbooks from North Korea. Such materials are rare in United States library collections, and scholars of North Korea from around the world will recognize Pitt as a repository for these research materials.

Norio Tamaki Travel Grants Available to use the Mitsui Collection

The valuable Mitsui Collection, with over 64,000 volumes of books and journals dating from the World War II and postwar eras, was donated by the Institute for Financial and Economic Research of the former Mitsui Bank.

To encourage use of the Mitsui Collection, the University's Asian Studies Center has established two annual "Norio Tamaki Grants" of \$750 each to help defray the expenses for those visiting the University to use the collection. To apply for the awards, please contact **Brenda Jordan** (ASC, EALL), at jordanb@pitt.edu.

New Databases Available at EAL

Scripta Sinica, developed by the Institute of History and Philology, Academia Sinica, in Taipei, Taiwan, is a full-text database containing about 460 Chinese pre-modern works essential to research in traditional Sinology. **Zasshi Kiji Sakuin Shusei Database** is the complete index database for Japanese magazines and periodicals from the Meiji era to the present. **Brill's Encyclopedia of China** is a basic introductory encyclopedia to China, with a primary focus on the modern period from the mid-19th to the 21st century, covering the history, geography, society, economy, politics, science, and culture of China.

award recognizes as many as four University of Pittsburgh faculty members each year who demonstrate outstanding mentoring of doctoral students.

Thomas G. Rawski (Economics), nominated by Pitt Chancellor **Mark Nordenberg**, has been named a Research Associate at the **National Asian Research Program (NARP)**, an arm of the National Bureau of Asian Research (NBR) of the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington, DC. NARP is a new research and conference program designed to reinvigorate and promote the policy-relevant study of Asia. 39 outstanding scholars of Asia were chosen through a competitive, nationwide selection process based on their research into issues of importance to US interests in Asia.

China studies faculty members **Katherine Carlitz** (ASC, EALL), **Evelyn S. Rawski** (History), **Thomas G. Rawski** (Economics), and **Cecile Chu-chin Sun** (EALL) spent a week in October 2009 meeting with colleagues at Nanjing University Institute for Advanced Studies (NJIAS), funded by a grant from the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation. The discussions were fruitful and a group of three Nanjing University faculty will be visiting Pitt during the academic year 2010–2011.

Richard Smethurst (History) continues his public intellectual role in Japan, with another review of his book *From Foot Soldier to Finance Minister: Takahashi Korekiyo, Japan's Keynes* in the *Japan Times Online* (Apr. 18, 2010). **Sajeesh Kumar** joins ASC-affiliated faculty as Assistant Professor in the Department of Health Information Management, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences. **Seth Spaulding** (School of Education, emeritus) was recently honored by the Higher Education Special Interest Group of the Comparative and International Education Society for his contributions and years of service in the field. Spaulding is a former director of the International Bureau of Education in Geneva (1983–1986) and Director, UNESCO School and Higher Education Department—PARIS (1968–1973). Spaulding founded the International Development Education Program (IDEP) at Pitt.



TOSHIBA INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION SYMPOSIUM: “JAPAN’S CULTURAL IMAGINATION AND ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE WORLD”

On Oct. 16–17, our international symposium on “Japan’s Cultural Imagination” honored both the 20th anniversary of the Toshiba International Foundation, and the memory of the late **Keiko Iwai McDonald** (EALL), Professor of Japanese literature and prime mover of Pitt’s close relationship with the Toshiba International Foundation. The generous assistance of the Toshiba International Foundation has been instrumental in making Pitt one of the premier academic sites in the United States for learning about Japan.

Eleven visitors, with specialties ranging from traditional drama to video game manufacture, joined Pitt faculty and graduate students to present four wide-ranging panels. “**The Place of Women in Japanese Culture**,” chaired by **Karen Gerhart** (HAA), examined how women in different periods of Japanese history were portrayed by male diarists, their own families, artists, and finally through their own voices. “**Japanese Classical Theater in the World**,” chaired by **Mae J. Smethurst** (Classics) explored the popularization of *Noh* and *Kabuki* theater on American university campuses, in modern Japan, and in postwar Europe.

“**Asian Popular Culture in Films**,” chaired by **Adam Lowenstein** (English/Film Studies), looked at a variety of film genres, from samurai tales to ghostly horror to youth dramas, in order to evaluate Japanese and Korean cinema in global contexts. “**International Influences of Video Games**,” chaired by **Gabriella Lukacs** (Anthropology) considered the inherently transnational features of video game culture.

Outside the symposium itself, community and visitors enjoyed films, art and music. *Kamikaze Girls/Shimotsuma Monogatari* (2004) was shown on Oct. 16 as the conclusion of our Japanese Film Series “Fractured Fairytales” (see p. 4). “Using Asian Films in the Classroom,” a professional development workshop, brought the expertise of Pitt alum **Kevin Wetmore** (PhD Theater Arts 1999) to participating K–16 teachers. The exhibition “Making Face: The Depiction of Women in Japan from Edo to Today” was on view in the University Art Gallery, as the culmination of a Museum Studies seminar taught by another outstanding alum, **Eric Shiner** (BA, BPhil HAA and Japanese 1994), now Milton Fine Curator of Art at the Andy Warhol Museum.

For more details, visit the Symposium website at <http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/asc/toshiba/>

OUTREACH

Asia for Kids

In a **Celebration of India**, Balwant N. Dixit (Center for the Performing Arts of India, University of Pittsburgh) transformed West View Elementary School for the academic year 2009–2010. Taught by renowned artist Mrs. Rashmi Bhalakia, students created a permanent *rangoli* sand painting for the school entryway, and explored Valmiki's *Ramayana* by reading teacher Martin Richter's adaptation, creating shadow puppets based on Ramayana characters, and creating travel murals of Indian cities based on the famous illustrations of the Udaipur *Ramayana*.

Children joined library and ASC staffers in the Children's Room of the Oakland Carnegie Library for **Passport to the World: India**, with a puppet



PHOTO: BALWANT N. DIXIT

Rangoli by Bhalakia

show based on Indian folktales, basic yoga techniques from instructor Leah Giovenego and Indian snacks and art (Apr. 17), and **World Kaleidoscope: Japan** with a concert of Japanese folk melodies performed by Takeaki Miyamae and Friends, on flute, piano, and *koto* (Apr. 25).

India for Everyone

In **Fall 2010**, ASC sponsored an **Evening Bengali Course for Adults** on Wednesday evenings. Bengali is the 5th most spoken language in the world, with over 230 million speakers. Open to the community, this non-credit Bangla language evening class taught basic conversation and culture of Bengal (Bangladesh and Eastern India).

Sushi for All

On October 9, 2009, sushi chef Atsuo Hayakawa of Handa City, Aichi, Japan, and Mr. Koji Nozawa of Mizkan



PHOTO: JENNIFER MURAWSKI

Chef Atsuo Hayakawa

corporation gave a workshop for Pitt students and faculty on the history and art of traditional Japanese sushi, sponsored by ASC, Bethany College, the Japanese Nationality Room, the Handa City Explore Japan Committee, and the Japan Iron and Steel Federation and Mitsubishi Endowments at Pitt, longtime partners in Japanese studies outreach programming. The 35 participants were treated to a presentation on the history of sushi vinegar production by Mizkan, Japan's oldest sushi vinegar producer, as well as a hands-on workshop making their own sushi using genuine wasabi root with traditional "sharkskin" graters and other traditional tools.

Confucius Institute News

"Innovation and Integration—the success of East Asian Languages" was the theme of our **Chinese/Japanese Pedagogy Workshop** (Apr. 10, 2010), supported by ASC, the Confucius Institute, and the Berks County Intermediate Unit. The keynote



Chinese/Japanese Pedagogy Workshop
L to R: William Miller, Berks County Intermediate Unit; Kim VanEtten, Conrad Weiser Area School District; Michele Heryford, Managing Director of Pitt's Confucius Institute; Ying Xiao, Chinese Director of Pitt's Confucius Institute

speaker, Mari Noda (Ohio State University) demonstrated recent student performance assessment research, and Alan Juffs (Linguistics) introduced new perspectives on second language acquisition.

NCTA News

Pitt's NCTA within ASC has received another grant for the next fiscal year in the amount of \$268,300. As one of seven national coordinating sites for the National Consortium for Teaching About Asia (NCTA), Pitt runs 30-hour seminars for teachers in four states on teaching about East Asia, offers programs such as lecture series and workshops for alumni of the seminars, and supports schools with mini-grants for materials and projects. Summer study tours are also part of the NCTA effort, and this summer, Hiroshi Nara (EALL) and Brenda G. Jordan (NCTA Director, ASC) led a tour to Japan for NCTA alumni. The tour ran from June 28 to July 18, based in the Kobe area and with the theme "The Making of Modern Japan: Ideas, Technologies, Innovations."

For details, visit Pitt's NCTA website: <http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/ncta/>.

Asia Unreeled

ASC continued our *Asia Unreeled* film series at the Winchester-Thurston School, with films from Korea, Japan, Bangladesh and China. Each film was introduced by Pitt faculty or staff, who led the audience in discussion after the film. On Feb. 21, *Good For Her* (South Korea), which analyzes the prevalence of cosmetic surgery, was introduced by Japan-Korea Postdoctoral Fellow Young Rae Oum. On Feb. 28, *Wings of Defeat* (Japan), which probes the multiple significance of World War II kamikaze airstrikes, was introduced by Diana Marston Wood, Pitt NCTA. March 7 saw *That's Why I'm Working* (Bangladesh), which queries the complexities of child labor in a subsistence economy, introduced by ASC Outreach Director Jennifer Murawski. On March 14, Mr. Yu Tian and Karen Gaul, W-T 3rd-grade teacher, introduced *Please Vote for Me* (China), where we saw an election play out in a 3rd-grade class in Wuhan, Pittsburgh's sister city.

ASIAN STUDIES CENTER STAFF

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Visit us on the web:

www.ucis.pitt.edu/asc



John Riley overlooking the East Sea near summit of Seorak Mountain, Gangwon Province, South Korea

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

Professor of Law in Korea

John Riley, Esq. (Pitt Law Graduate, 2008)

My professional interest in Korea began with a study abroad program during the summer of my first year of law school at the University of Pittsburgh. This experience provided me with invaluable firsthand knowledge about various domestic legal regimes and international law. As a law student, my research focused primarily on trade law issues between the United States in Korea.

Following graduation, I continued to pursue studies at Seoul National University. While at Seoul National University, I had the pleasure of meeting several prominent Korean colleagues and soon became a fellow at the Yijun Institute of International Law. As a member of the Institute, I have been and continue to serve on the editorial board of the Institute's flagship publication, *The Journal of East Asia and International Law*.

The Journal is published twice a year and provides cutting-edge, provocative, and thoughtful works about legal issues related to East Asia. Our staff includes scholars, lawyers, and judges from China, Japan, Korea, Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines, Canada, Singapore, the United States and Taiwan. Some of our most recent articles have covered: the legal status of Tibet; the Islamic world and international law; maritime environmental protection in East Asia; various regional controversies presented by local scholars; analysis of recent bilateral and regional agreements; interviews with prominent East Asian

legal scholars; and country-specific news and updates. I have learned a tremendous amount about East Asian legal affairs from editing works of the region's most respected legal minds.

I am currently an assistant professor of law at Dongguk University's College of Law in Seoul, Korea. Dongguk University was founded in 1906 by the largest Buddhist fraternity in Korea and remains one of the premier institutions of higher education with several campuses. I teach both undergraduate and graduate courses in International Law, Commercial Law, Constitutional Law, and Anglo-American Law.

In addition to teaching, I have continued to pursue research about U.S.-Korea trade relations and I have assisted my Korean colleagues with comparative constitutional legal works. Next semester my research will include contentious issues in immigration law and North Korea. Throughout my time in Korea, I have also continued to maintain a private law practice that focuses primarily on foreign investment in the United States.

In all of the endeavors I have pursued since graduating from the University of Pittsburgh, I owe a great debt of gratitude to the Asian Studies Center for their support. The Center helped foster my Korean studies and encouraged me to pursue the areas of law for which I had a true passion. The Center's willingness to help students opened doors for me, and has provided me with exceptional academic and professional opportunities in both Korea and the United States.

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WHO WE ARE

The Asian Studies Center of the University of Pittsburgh is one of six Area Studies Centers housed in the University Center for International Studies. The Asian Studies Center promotes and coordinates all programs and activities in the University of Pittsburgh relating to Asia and the Pacific. We serve the local and regional community as a resource center, heightening awareness of Asia and the Pacific both within and beyond the University. Also central to our mission is the training of teachers, linking the University with local and regional schools and colleges, to develop a better understanding of Asia and the Pacific among students K-16. Since 1988 the Asian Studies Center at Pitt has been designated by the US Department of Education as an Undergraduate National Resource Center for East Asian Studies, under Title VI of the Higher Education Act 1965.