

APRIL

24

第16回 共生学コロキウム

The 16th Kyosei Studies Colloquium

場所：大阪大学人間科学研究科
北館 2F ラーニングコモンズ
日時：2024年4月24日（水）
17:00~19:00

Date: April 24 2024
Time: 17:00~19:00
Place: Learning Commons
2F North Building
School of Human Sciences
Osaka University

ON SOUND, SILENCE, AND SOIL

Sonic Ethnography, Japanese Court Music, and the Disappearance of the Yodo River Reed Canes

Andrea Giolai

*Institute for Area Studies
Universiteit Leiden*

Discussant: *Madoka Fukuoka*



申し込み不要・参加無料

主催

コーディネーター

使用言語

お問合せ

Open to public. Admission Free. No registration is required.

Osaka University, School of Human Sciences, Dept. of Kyosei Studies

Gergely Mohacsi (Conflict & Kyosei Lab)

This event will be held in English (without translation).

For further details contact: mohacska.hus@osaka-u.ac.jp



大阪大学
OSAKA UNIVERSITY



On Sound, Silence, and Soil

Sonic Ethnography, Japanese Court Music, and the Disappearance of the Yodo River Reed Canes

Andrea Giolai (Leiden University)

ABSTRACT

Between Kyoto and Osaka, along the Yodo river, small communities have been making a living out of canes for centuries. The sturdy but flexible grasses that grow here need care - weeding, controlled burning, harvesting - but they can be used to make window blinds (*sudare*), washi paper, and the reeds for a traditional musical instrument used in *Gagaku*, Japanese court music. In fact, it's precisely the vibrations of a thick double reed (*yoshi*) that gives the *hichiriki* its piercing, powerful sound. In recent years, however, the survival of the Yodo river canes has been threatened by a highway bridge project that will alter the ecosystem indelibly. This talk presents the results of my ongoing multimodal and multisensory fieldwork with *Gagaku* practitioners and grassroots activists. I explore how my interlocutors blend sonic and environmental categories into local discourses about "a Japanese sense of hearing", which in turn is mobilized to "protect" both musical sounds and nature. Connecting the threat of environmental loss to the noises and silences of a specific milieu, I propose that we open our ethnographic ears to other ways of listening to and worrying about the nature of music.

Short bio

Andrea Giolai is an Assistant Professor of ethnography and performing arts of Japan at Leiden University's Institute for Area Studies. His research focuses on the anthropology and ethnography of Japan, with a strong emphasis on sound as a medium for art and as a cultural artifact. He has worked extensively on Japanese court music and dance (*Gagaku*) and he is working on a monograph on the cultural history of sonic heritage in Japan.

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