

The 33rd AALA Forum in 2025

Hosted by AALA (Asian American Literature Association in Japan)

Date : September 20 (Sat.) and 21(Sun.), 2025

Venue : Nihon University College of Art Ekoda Campus, South Building S302

Address: 2-42-1 Asahigaoka, Nerima-ku, Tokyo 176-8525, Japan

<https://www.art.nihon-u.ac.jp/english/about/>

Theme: “(Transborder) Asian Literature and Intersectionality: Race/Gender/Sexuality”
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Day One: September 20 (Saturday)

Registration starts at 13:15.

13:50: Opening Speech by President Hideyuki Yamamoto (Kobe University)

14:00-17:30

Symposium: “(Transborder) Asian Literature and Intersectionality: Race/Gender/Sexuality”

Chair: Hideyuki Yamamoto

“Odyssean Crossings in the 21st Century: Intersectionality through Translation and Adaptation”

Special Panelist: Yoshiko Uzawa (Keio University)

“Henry James and Whiteness: What Lies Beneath ‘White’ Newport”

Megumi Matsuura (Nihon University)

“Starlight from the Margins: Intersectionality and Women’s Bonds in Ryka Aoki’s *Light from Uncommon Stars*”

Marika Watanabe (Chukyo University)

“Contemporary Trends in Asian American Graphic Novels: Visual Imagination as Alternative Media Culture and Its Role in Promoting ‘Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging’”

Kotaro Nakagaki (Senshu University)

18:00～Reception Dinner

Venue: Italian Restaurant Pancontomate Ekoda

30-1-2F Sakaemachi, Nerima-ku, Tokyo 176-0006 TEL: 03-3557-3555

Fee : 5,000 yen

Day Two: September 21 (Sunday)

Registration starts at 9:00

※9:00～10:00 General Meeting (For AALA members only)

10:00～12:00 Keynote Lecture I

“‘Almost Words’: Sense, Sensibility, and the Paranoid Style in Cold War Asian American Literature”

Prof. Allan Isaac (Rutgers University, USA)

Chair: Rie Makino (Nihon University)

12:00～13:00 Lunch Break

13:00～15:00 Keynote Lecture II

“Politics of Intersectionality in Disney Animations”

Prof. Tomoyuki Zettsu (Rikkyo University)

Chair: Keiko Furuki (Nara University)

15:00～17:50 Individual Presentations

< Presentation 1 >

“Border-crossers' 'Emptiness': Exploring Cultural Identity in *A Tale for the Time Being*”

Yuka Nishiyama (Graduate Student, Kwansei Gakuin University)

< Presentation 2 >

“(Un)Recoverability from Trauma of Japanese Canadian Incarceration: Dissociation from Others in Kerri Sakamoto’s *The Electrical Field*”

Mayu Odani (Graduate Student, Kobe University)

Chair: Misao Ikeno (Tsuda University)

< Presentation 3 >

“Collective Narration and the Erasure of Self: Gendered Voice and Racial Invisibility in *The Buddha in the Attic*”

Kahina Aimeur (Ph.D. Student, Nihon University)

< Presentation 4 >

“(Re)Constructing Race in Transborder Vistas: Intersectionality and Takezawa’s 3R in Kazuo Ishiguro’s *Never Let Me Go*”

Lyle De Souza (Kyoto Notre Dame University)

Chair: Eliko Kosaka (Hosei University)

< Presentation 5: Special Poster Presentation >

“Utility and Community in *A Map of Betrayal* and *Native Speaker*”

Haiyi Wang (PhD Researcher, Sungkyunkwan University)

Chair: Hideyuki Yamamoto

17:50 : Closing Remarks by Vice President

Rie Makino

How to Register for AALA Forum

Participation fee: free

Reception Dinner at Italian restaurant Pancontomate: 5,000 yen

※The cancellation fee will apply after September 19th.

※Hotels in Tokyo are expected to be in high demand during the forum. We encourage you to make your hotel reservations as soon as possible.

If you want to participate in the Form, please send the following information by email to the AALA Office:

- Name
- Affiliation
- Email Address)
- Sections you wish to attend
 - Day1 Symposium
 - Day1 Reception Dinner
 - Day 2 General meeting for AALA members only
 - Day2 Special Lecture I
 - Day2 Special Lecture II
 - Day2 Individual Presentations

For all registration/conference-related questions, please contact the AALA Office by E-mail:

aala.jp.office@gmail.com