

English-Language Works by JAAS Members 2020

The following citations and abstracts introduce recent publications written in English by members of the Japanese Association for American Studies on topics related to American Studies.

ARTICLES IN JOURNALS

Arnold, Wayne E. "Harold Persico Paris, Henry Miller and the Difficulties of Creating Historical Connection." *Faculty of Foreign Studies Bulletin* (University of Kitakyushu) 150 (2020): 1–31.

The author explores a potential connection between the Northern Californian art scene in Berkeley and the Southern Californian art scene in Los Angeles by trying to uncover an association between two specific artists: Harold Persico Paris and Henry Miller. Paris and Miller did not know each other, but an interesting piece of fan mail sent to Miller opens the possibility of an interartist connection.

Arnold, Wayne E. "An Interview with Honda Yasunori, Professor Emeritus." *NEXUS: International Henry Miller Journal* 13 (2020): 68–79.

Honda Yasunori has been at the forefront of Henry Miller studies in Japan for over five decades. In this interview, Honda explains his initial foray into Miller's literature and life. Arnold and Honda discuss Honda's interest in Miller's religious elements, as well as the significant achievements in Honda's research.

Chan, Edward K. "Race in the *Blade Runner* Cycle and Demographic Dystopia." *Science Fiction Film and Television* 13, no. 1 (2020): 59–76.

In this article Edward Chan surveys the existing scholarship that treats racial

representation in the original *Blade Runner* (1982) in order to trace its continuation into *Blade Runner 2049* (2017) as well as the three short film intertexts. The author argues that the overriding racial sentiment of the series thus far is the imagination of “demographic dystopia,” a core logic of white supremacy.

Inoue, Hiroyuki. “The World Turned Strange: Rereading Nathaniel Hawthorne’s ‘Wakefield’ in Self-Isolation.” *Literary Geographies* 6, no. 2 (2020): 219–22.

This article is about the author’s experience of rereading Nathaniel Hawthorne’s “Wakefield,” a short story that resonates with the current pandemic circumstances. Employing the concept of the uncanny, a mixture of the familiar and the strange that lies at the bottom of Hawthorne’s poetics, the author discusses how alienation and estrangement function at multiple levels in this story.

Izumi, Masumi, and Joy Kogawa. “The Citizenship Question: A Conversation.” *Georgia Review* (University of Georgia) (Spring 2020): 174–82.

This is an interview of Masumi Izumi by Joy Kogawa on the publication of Izumi’s 2019 book, *The Rise and Fall of America’s Concentration Camp Law* (Temple UP). Izumi explains the differences between Japanese American and Japanese Canadian wartime incarceration, while Kogawa reflects on her activism regarding racial and environmental justice in Canada.

Kubo, Fumiaki. “Japan–US Relations in a Post-COVID-19 World.” *East Asia Forum*, June 6, 2020, <https://www.eastasiaforum.org/2020/06/06/japan-us-relations-in-a-post-covid-19-world/>.

Many are insisting that we are seeing a new world order emerge in the current COVID-19 pandemic. But in East Asia there are a number of reminders that we still live, at least partly, in the same world of geopolitics as before with a high level of tension between Japan and China centering around the Senkaku Islands.

Kubo, Fumiaki. “US–Japan Relations from Heisei to Reiwa: Huge Progress Made, but Challenges Remain.” *AJISS-Commentary* (Japan Institute of International Affairs), March 30, 2020, https://www.jiia.or.jp/en/ajiss_commentary/us-japan-relations-from-heisei-to-reiwa-huge-progress-made-but-challenges-remain.html.

While there has been enormous progress in defense cooperation between Japan and the US, the rise of China’s military might and its behavior and intention are destabilizing and threatening progress in defense capabilities of Japan and the US and the deepening cooperation between the two countries.

Namiki, Yuki. “It’s a Wise Child Who Knows His Own Father: The Figure of the American Family in *The Last Samurai* and *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*.” *Textual Practice* (Taylor and Francis) 34, no. 12 (2020): 2131–43.

In this article the author examines two twenty-first-century American bildungsroman, both featuring prepubescent boys rediscovering their families, and their mothers in particular. Each story features a bright child who is innocent and mature at the same time and is in search of a nonexistent father. Examining their similarities and differences serves as an important starting point in discussing family figures in contemporary culture.

Park, Soonyoung. "Frederick Douglass in Japan: Reception and Research from the 1930s to the Present." *New North Star* (Frederick Douglass Papers, Institute for American Thought, Indiana University/Purdue University) vol. 2 (2020): 20–32.

Frederick Douglass studies in Japan have existed for more than a half-century, and a number of articles and translations have been published in both Japanese and English. This article takes as its context Black Studies in Japan and reviews the reception and research on Frederick Douglass, focusing on the period from the 1930s to the present.

Sato, Chitose. "Gendering 'Hunger in the Midst of Commodity Surplus': The Food Stamp Plan and American Women in the Great Depression." *Women's History Review* (Taylor and Francis) 30, no. 2 (2020): 287–301.

By examining the role of female participants in the food stamp plan that was administered by the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation in the late 1930s, the author demonstrates that despite the newly created image of low-income women as "consumers," their access to the plan remained limited and had no significant impact on their dietary conditions.

Suzuki, Nanami. "Weaving Flexible Aging-Friendly Communities across Generations while Living with COVID-19." *Anthropology and Aging* (Journal of the Association for Anthropology and Aging) 41, no. 2 (2020): 155–66.

The author presents the possibility of developing flexible aging (age)-friendly communities in Japan, allowing people to reorganize lifestyles under changing circumstances, such as the current COVID-19 pandemic. The author specifically examines the various ways that people have developed to be connected and to work together despite restricted face-to-face interaction.

Takeda, Okiyoshi. "NHK and 'Black Lives Matter': Structural Racism in Japan." *Asia Pacific Journal: Japan Focus* 18 (18), no. 16, <https://apjif.org/2020/18/Takeda.html>.

In June 2020, NHK aired a TV program on the killing of George Floyd. A computer graphic posted on NHK's official Twitter account drew widespread criticism for distorting the image of black people. In this article the author explains the problems with the program and considers why NHK aired it, while looking at the wider issue of structural racism in Japanese society.

Takeda, Okiyoshi. "When Sister City Relationship between Allied Countries Is Ended: The Case of Osaka and San Francisco." *Aoyama Journal of International Politics, Economics and Communication* no. 105 (November 2000): 157–69.

The author argues that the dissolution of the sister city relationship between the two cities occurred because the mayor of Osaka did not see the whole picture of the "comfort women" statue. The statue not only rebukes the Japanese Imperial Army but also speaks for stopping current human trafficking of girls, becoming a sacred place for future reflection.

Takezawa, Yasuko. "Encounters with Transmigrants and a Navaho Chef: Yoko Inoue. Special issue Trans-Pacific Japanese Diaspora Art: Encounters and Envisions of Minor-Transnationalism." *Amerasia Journal* (University of California, Los Angeles) 45, no. 3 (2020): 391–95.

The author discusses works by the New York–based multimedia artist Yoko Inoue: *Tea Taste Democracy* and *Upside-Down Objects*. She explains how these works were created in the context of post-9/11 New York, using the concept of minor transnationalism.

Takezawa, Yasuko. "Racialization and Discourses of "Privileges" in the Middle Ages: Jews, "Gypsies," and Kawaramono." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 43 (2020): 193–210.

The author examines the social conditions experienced by Jews in Spain, "Gypsies" in Romania, and the Kawaramono in Japan in the Middle Ages and claims that racialization had already begun in Japan before European colonization. She points out a variety of parallel patterns of marginalization and racialization. This article contributes to understanding global trends of backlash against minoritized groups.

Takezawa, Yasuko and Laura Kina. "Forum: Trans-Pacific Japanese Diaspora Art: Encounters and Envisions of Minor-Transnationalism." *Amerasia Journal* (University of California, Los Angeles) 45, no. 3 (2020): 373–76.

This short article introduces an *Amerasia Journal* forum by presenting reflective essays by six participants from the December 8, 2018, international symposium "Trans-Pacific Japanese Diaspora Art: Encounters and Envisions of Minor-Transnationalism," which was held in Tokyo and sponsored by Kyoto University Zinbunken Academy.

Tatsumi, Takayuki. "The Advent of Asian Speculative Fiction: In Response to Wai Chee Dimock's Reading of *The Three-Body Problem*." *AALA Journal* (Asian American Literature Association) 25 (2020): 16–26.

The rise of Chinese science fiction in the past two decades disturbed the status of American literature and science fiction. Emphasizing the significance of Cixin Liu's

The Three-Body Problem and the achievements of Ken Liu's beautiful translation, the author contextualizes the intersection between Asian American literature and Asian science fiction.

Tatsumi, Takayuki. "Transnational American Studies: or, Trans-Atlantic, Trans-Pacific, Trans-Chronological." *Journal of Keio American Studies* (Keio University's American Studies Association) inaugural issue 0 (2020): 7–16.

The twenty-first century witnessed neither the rebirth of cosmopolitanism nor the remaking of internationalism but, rather, the rise of transnationalism in the wake of the 9/11 terrorist attacks in 2001. Keenly aware of the paradigm shift, the author creates a manifesto for establishing Keio University's American Studies Association.

ARTICLES IN BOOKS

Iino, Masako. "Two Sisters, Two Stories: Transnational Lives of Ume Tsuda and Yona Abiko." In *Our Voices, Our Histories: Asian Americans and Pacific Islander Women*, edited by Shirley Hune and Gail Nomura (New York: New York University Press, 2020): 53–68.

The author examines why and how Ume Tsuda founded a school for women's higher education in 1900 and how Yona Abiko, Ume's younger sister, who immigrated to the United States and married Kyutaro Abiko, an immigrant leader in the Japanese American community in San Francisco, supported Ume in her endeavor. She also discusses Yona's work to improve race relations in the United States and to improve US–Japan relations through building a network of supportive, influential American women.

Izumi, Masumi. "The Vancouver Asahi Connection: (Re-)engagement of the Families of Returnees/Deportees in Japanese Canadian History." In *The Subject(s) of Human Rights: Crises, Violations, and Asian/American Critique*, edited by Cathy J. Schlund-Vials, Guy Beauregard, and Hsiu-chuan Lee (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2020): 56–73.

In this chapter the author recounts the history of a Japanese Canadian baseball team in prewar Vancouver. Izumi also describes how the increased interest in this team's history in Japan helped scholars of Japanese Canadian history to find the descendants of former emigrants who returned or were deported to Japan before or right after World War II.

Kubo, Fumiaki. "Addendum to the English Edition." In *The Japan–US Alliance of Hope: Asia-Pacific Maritime Security*, edited by Nakasone Peace Institute (Tokyo: Japan Publishing Industry Foundation for Culture, 2020): 257–72.

The author traces developments from 2016, when the original Japanese edition of the book was published, to 2019, when manuscripts for this English edition were being written, which are of importance to maritime security in the Asia-Pacific region and the Japan–US alliance.

Kubo, Fumiaki. “Asymmetry in the Rights and Obligations under the Japan–US Security Treaty.” In *The Japan–US Alliance of Hope: Asia-Pacific Maritime Security*, edited by Nakasone Peace Institute (Tokyo: Japan Publishing Industry Foundation for Culture, 2020): 27–34.

One of the most important features of the US–Japan alliance is asymmetry of rights and obligations, in which the US must defend Japan while Japan is obliged to let the US use military bases in Japan, in order to maintain peace and stability in the Far East.

Tatsumi, Takayuki. “Editing and Anthologizing Poe in Japan.” In *Anthologizing Poe: Editions, Translations, and (Trans)national Canons*, edited by Emron Esplin and Margarida Vale de Gato (Bethlehem, PA: Lehigh University Press, 2020): 351–67.

The author surveys the history of Poe anthologies in Japan, with special emphasis on the act of retelling as a literary genre, the popularity of Poe in the wake of the Meiji Restoration, and the boom in collected works of world literature in postwar years.

BOOKS

Goldstein, David S., and Shawnrece D. Campbell. *Toni Morrison’s Secret Drive: A Reader-Response Study of the Fiction and Its Rhetoric* (Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 2020).

The late Toni Morrison was the first African American to win the Nobel Prize for Literature. She wove stories depicting the African American experience and exploring the intersection of gender and race. Synthesizing some 250 scholarly works, Goldstein and Campbell examine eight novels and a short story, analyzing the author’s techniques for guiding readers’ responses.

Nakasone Peace Institute, *The Japan–US Alliance of Hope: Asia-Pacific Maritime Security*. Edited by Fumiaki Kubo and Shinichi Kitaoka (supervisors). Translated by Charles Stewart and Ikuo Anai (Tokyo: Japan Publishing Industry Foundation for Culture, 2020).

The author-editors analyze the state of the alliance between Japan and the United States and discuss its future direction with respect to maintaining maritime security in the Asia-Pacific region, having in mind the growing importance of the alliance.

Takezawa, Yasuko, and Gary Y. Okihiro, eds., *Transpacific Japanese American Studies: Conversations on Racializations*, paperback ed. (Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 2020).

Trans-Pacific Japanese American Studies is a collection of essays derived from a series of dialogues held in Tokyo, Kyoto, and Los Angeles on the issues of racialization, gender, communities, and the positionalities of scholars involved in Japanese American studies. The book brings together works by ten Japan-based and nine North America-based scholars.

Takezawa, Yasuko, and Laura Kina, eds., "Trans-Pacific Japanese Diaspora Art: Encountering and Envisioning Minor-Transnationalism." Special issue, *Asian Diasporic Visual Cultures and the Americas* 6, nos. 1–2 (2020): 1–212.

This special issue of *ADVA Journal* sheds light on new dimensions of Japanese diasporic art, reflecting on the encounters of Japanese diaspora artists with other transmigrants and/or minoritized and marginalized peoples. This issue comprises five articles, two spotlights, and two perspectives essays.

DISSERTATIONS

Iwao, Kimihiro, "Strategies for Cultural Integration Following Cross-Border Mergers and Acquisitions." Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) diss., Walden University, 2020.

The author explores strategies that business leaders use to integrate diverse workers following cross-border mergers and acquisitions using qualitative multiple-case studies. The findings reveal the practical knowledge and competencies that successful leaders use during the postacquisition integration phase related to workplace transparency, business practices and working styles, communication styles, cross-cultural education, and relationship building.

Takada, Tomoko. "Atomic Evangelists: An Investigation of the American Atomic Narrative through News and Magazine Articles, Official Government Statements, Critiques, Essays and Works of Non-Fiction." PhD diss., Kyushu University, 2020.

This author focuses on Hiroshima and Nagasaki narratives, written and told by American war journalists, Christian ministers, nonfiction writers, and critics, all of whom felt compelled to speak out about the two atomic-bombed cities. One important purpose of this study is to uncover the authors' innermost thoughts about the bombings and the unintentional, inherent stories behind these discourses.