

English-Language Works by JAAS Members 2019

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. "Henry Miller and Ueno Shōri: A Transpacific Friendship." *Faculty of Foreign Studies Bulletin* (University of Kitakyushu) 149 (2019): 1–28.

Ueno Shōri wrote extensively in Japanese about Miller and published several books and articles dealing with Miller's intellectual ideas. The two men also exchanged more than four hundred letters. In this article Arnold examines their fifteen-year friendship and explains how Ueno's letters were an important source of information about Japan for Miller.

Arnold, Wayne E. "Japan Field Research on Henry Miller." *Critical Asian Studies Commentary & Opinions* 13 (2019).

By describing the author's interview with Koga Tsutomu, who maintained correspondence with Miller, in this short article Arnold discusses the benefit of going outside the archive library and pursuing field research to enrich and enliven academic writing. The conversation with Koga helped illuminate a deeper understanding of this friendship.

Arnold, Wayne E. "The Letters of Henry Miller to Bezalel Schatz: 1945–1978." *DELTA: Studies on Henry Miller, Anais Nin and Lawrence Durrell* 11 (2019): 3–75.

In this article Arnold examines the recently discovered letters between Miller and Schatz and provides a summary of their correspondence. Schatz was friends with Miller during

the Big Sur years; over the decades, Miller shared significant personal information. The whereabouts of these letters were unknown by Miller scholars until they were located in Japan.

Asakawa, Tomoyuki. “‘Old Sport’ Is Jay Gatsby’s Way of Life: Familiarity, Snobbery, Ridicule, and Failure.” *Bulletin of the Institute of Human Sciences* (Institute of Human Sciences, Toyo University) 21 (2019): 27–43.

In this article Asakawa discusses the repeated use of the phrase “old sport” in *The Great Gatsby*. Jay Gatsby, the enigmatic central character, utters this phrase forty-two times in the novel. One can argue that the phrase encapsulates the nature of the kind of life Gatsby led.

Chan, Edward K., and Patricia Ventura. “Introduction: Articulating Race and Utopia.” *Utopian Studies* (Society for Utopian Studies) 30 (2019): 1–7.

Editors Chan and Ventura provide this introduction to the special issue of *Utopian Studies* on race and utopia. Their introduction places the five articles in the special issue in the context of previous scholarship on race and utopia.

Inoue, Hiroyuki. “‘A Southern California Beach That Never Was’: Adapting the Noir City in *Inherent Vice*.” *Gengo Bunka* (Institute for Language and Culture, Meiji Gakuin University) 36 (2019): 203–17.

Paul Thomas Anderson’s cinematic adaptation of Thomas Pynchon’s *Inherent Vice* is unique in its representation of Los Angeles. With its deliberately fragmented and confined narrative space, Anderson’s film reimagines the city that has appeared in many film noirs, while also building connections with the extratextual city in terms of both geography and historiography.

Itoh, Shoko. “Survey on the Ecocritical Studies of Herman Melville: From Cetology to Material Ecocriticism.” *Sky-Hawk* (Journal of the Melville Society of Japan) 7 (2019): 107–17.

Melville shared a concern for the environment with Thoreau, who sensed a crisis in American civilization during his travels in the Maine Woods. While Thoreau established an American Jeremiad discourse in *The Maine Woods* (1864), Melville provided a prophetic environmental idea of interrelationships between the human and nonhuman marine world.

Kawamura, Mami. “A New Notion of Culture in Liberal Multiculturalism: Alan Patten and His Critics.” *Kobe University Law Review* (Graduate School of Law, Kobe University) 52 (2019): 45–60.

In this article Kawamura critically reexamines the notion of culture by comparing Alan Patten’s formulations with those of Will Kymlicka. The author shows that Patten’s new

notion of culture, which focuses on social relationships, extends the scope of the agent of collective rights to temporary workers or refugees and provides stronger justification for their rights.

Nagatomi, Mari. "Proletariats or Merchants of Death?: Transnational Cowboys and the Crisis of Japanese Communists' Masculinities in the Early 1960s." *Doshisha American Studies* (International Institute of American Studies, Doshisha University) 55 (2019): 31–55.

In this article Nagatomi examines how and why the Japanese Communists understood cowboy images in the early 1960s. By introducing their various interpretations of this symbol, the author argues that these Communists used the image of cowboys to convey the idea of brave men who could overturn society, which they believed to be dominated by the bourgeoisie and violence.

Park, Soonyoung. "Frederick Douglass and His Strategic Use of Photography as Visual Voice." *Treatises and Studies by the Faculty of Kinjo Gakuin University Studies in Humanities* 16, no. 1 (2019): 95–109.

In focusing on the relation between Frederick Douglass and photography, Park elucidates Douglass's strategic use of three voices: oration as physical, autobiography as readable, and photography as visual voice; all three voices are in a reciprocal and complementary relationship. Park concludes that Douglass continues to exercise authorship, power, and influence over his self-image through his photography.

Suzuki, Motoko. "The Intercourse between Japan and Southeast Asia: Centering on Shusaku Endo's *Silence*." *China-USA Business Review* (David Publishing) 18, no. 2 (2019): 13–22.

In this article Suzuki explores encounters between Japan and the rest of the world, especially Southeast Asia, that arose through literature, such as *The Travels of Marco Polo*, *Gulliver's Travels*, *Moby-Dick*, and, mainly, Shusaku Endo's *Silence*.

Takanashi, Yoshio. "Emerson's 'God-Within' and the Buddhist 'Buddha-Womb.'" *Journal of East-West Thought* (International Association for East-West Studies) 9, no. 1 (March 2019): 1–14.

Emerson wrote of his discovery of a "God-within" in his journal. Reading the Bhagavad-Gita, he learned of the Upanishad doctrine of the identity of Brahman and Atman. The conception of "Buddha-womb" was incorporated into the Mahayana Buddhism influenced by the Hindu doctrine. It is no wonder that Daisetsu Suzuki exclaimed, "Emerson preached on the cultivation of the mind in the same way as Zen does!"

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* 45, no. 3 (2019): 391–95.

In this article, Takezawa discusses works by the New York-based multimedia artist Yoko Inoue, *Tea Taste Democracy* and *Upside-Down Objects*. The author explains how these works were created in the context of post-9/11 New York using the concept of “minor transnationalism.” From the symposium “Trans-Pacific Japanese Diaspora Art: Encounters and Envisions of Minor-Transnationalism,” which was held on December 8, 2018, in Tokyo as a Kyoto University Zinbunken Academy.

Takezawa, Yasuko, and Laura Kina. “Introduction: Trans-Pacific Japanese Diaspora Art: Encounters and Envisions of Minor-Transnationalism.” *Amerasia Journal* 45, no. 3 (2019): 373–76.

The authors provide an introduction to six reflective articles by participants at the international symposium “Trans-Pacific Japanese Diaspora Art: Encounters and Envisions of Minor-Transnationalism,” which was held on December 8, 2018, in Tokyo as a 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*, no. 25 (30th Anniversary Issue), (2019): 16–26.

This article was originally written as a long response to the keynote speech of Wai Chee Dimock on Chinese speculative fictionist Cixin Liu’s global bestseller *The Three-Body Problem* delivered at the 30th anniversary forum of AALA (Asian American Literature Association in Japan) held in Kobe in September 2019.

Tatsumi, Takayuki. “Dr. Franklin’s Children: Kant, Shelley and Priest.” *Colloquia* 40 (2019): 97–107.

It is Immanuel Kant who nicknamed Benjamin Franklin, one of the Founding Fathers of the United States, as “Modern Prometheus.” In this article Tatsumi investigates the way this nickname inspired Mary Shelley to come up with the idea of her novel *Frankenstein; or, The Modern Prometheus* (1818), which was the genesis of the genre of science fiction.

Tatsumi, Takayuki. “In Pym’s Footsteps: Poe, Ooka, and Ballard.” *Edgar Allan Poe Review* 20, no. 1 (2019): 110–25.

Expanding on the author’s plenary lecture given at the International Poe and Hawthorne Conference at Kyoto Garden Palace in June 2018, Tatsumi weaves out the transnational impact of Poe’s *Narrative of Arthur Gordon Pym of Nantucket* on Ooka Shohei’s *Fires on the Plain*, which further influenced J. G. Ballard’s *The Drowned World*.

ARTICLES IN BOOKS

Chan, Edward K. “The White Power Utopia and the Reproduction of Victimized Whiteness,” in *Race and Utopian Desire in American Literature and Society*, ed. Patricia Ventura and Edward K. Chan (Cham, Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan, 2019): 139–59.

In this article Chan analyzes two novels, each of which imagines an ethnonational utopia based on racial whiteness, in the context of the ideologies of white supremacy, white nationalism, and white separatism. Both novels draw on (and exaggerate) fears of white people as victims as they fall from majority to minority status (as compared to all other nonwhite people).

Moriya, Tomoe. “The Eastward Transmission of Buddhism across the Pacific: The Development of Buddhist Missions in Hawaii and Mainland United States,” in *Globalizing Asian Religions: Management and Marketing*, ed. Wendy Smith, Hirochika Nakamaki, et al. (Amsterdam: University of Amsterdam Press, 2019): 259–75.

In this article Moriya explores the expansion of Japanese Buddhist denominations in prewar Hawaii and California. The author demonstrates that the process of religious expansion was often driven by a demand from the Japanese diaspora. She also shows the role of lay Buddhists in its development, including the Buddhist social ethics that grew out of engagement with labor movements.

Tatsumi, Takayuki. “Thinking After the Hemispheric: ‘The Planetary Expanse of Transnational American Writing,’” in *The Routledge Companion to Transnational American Studies*, ed. Nina Morgan, Alfred Hornung, and Takayuki Tatsumi (London: Routledge, 2019): 357–69.

As one of the editors of the *Journal of Transnational American Studies* inaugurated in 2009, the author and his colleagues joined forces to publish this collection of essays. This article analyzes the cultural negotiations between the Monroe Doctrine and William Faulkner’s novel *The Wild Palms*.

BOOKS

Hisano, Ai. *Visualizing Taste: How Business Changed the Look of What We Eat* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2019).

Visualizing Taste explores how our perceptions of what food should look like have changed over the course of more than a century. By examining the development of color-controlling technology, government regulation, and consumer expectations, Hisano demonstrates that scientists, farmers, food processors, dye manufacturers, government officials, and intermediate suppliers have created a version of “natural” that is, in fact, highly engineered.

Izumi, Masumi. *The Rise and Fall of America’s Concentration Camp Law: Civil Liberties Debates from the Internment to McCarthyism and the Radical 1960s* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2019).

In this book Izumi dissects the entangled discourses of race, national security, and civil liberties by examining how Japanese American wartime incarceration generated the Emergency Detention Act of 1950, which legalized preventive detention and expanded a ubiquitous regime of surveillance in McCarthyist America. The author also shows how the memory of Japanese American incarceration helped repeal this law in 1971.

Okayama, Hiroshi. *Judicializing the Administrative State: The Rise of the Independent Regulatory Commissions in the United States, 1883–1937* (New York: Routledge, 2019).

Through arguing that the US administrative state judicialization from the turn of the twentieth century was caused by the institutional combination of common law and the presidential system, Okayama analyzes the creation and development of independent regulatory commissions explicitly modeled after courts. The commissions judicialized the state through their proliferation and the diffusion of their formal procedures to executive agencies.

Ventura, Patricia, and Edward K. Chan, eds. *Race and Utopian Desire in American Literature and Society* (Cham, Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan, 2019).

This anthology includes essays that examine the confluence of issues regarding race and utopian desire in a broad range of texts from the mid-nineteenth century to the twenty-first. The fifteen chapters include discussions of classic texts such as *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* (1845), overlooked works such as Pauline Hopkins’s *Of One Blood* (1902–3), and recent works of Afrofuturism including N. K. Jemisin’s *Dreamblood Duology* (2012).

Yoshihara, Mari. *Dearest Lenny: Letters from Japan and the Making of the World Maestro* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2019).

Dearest Lenny interweaves an intimate story of love with the making of Leonard Bernstein as a world maestro during the second half of the twentieth century. Through the story of Bernstein’s relationships with two Japanese individuals, the book examines the relationships between art and commerce, artists and the state, private and public, and Japan and the United States.

DISSERTATIONS

Matsusaka, Hiroaki. "Border Crossings: Anti-Imperialism and Race-Making in Transpacific Movements, 1910–1951." PhD diss., University of Michigan, 2019.

Matsusaka examines how Korean and Japanese migrant activists in cities like New York, Chicago, Seoul, and Tokyo developed global anti-imperial thought and practices from the 1910s through the 1940s. The author argues that interracial encounters of the activists, such as their relationships with other Asians, African Americans, and migrant whites, were central to the development of their political ideas and cultural expressions.

Nagatomi, Mari. "Tokyo Rodeo: Transnational Country Music and the Crisis of Japanese Masculinities." PhD diss., Doshisha University, 2019.

Nagatomi investigates why Japanese men have consumed American country music and the cowboy images that served as the music's main symbol. Dealing with four decades from the 1920s to the early 1960s, the author argues that Japanese men used American country music as a battlefield to define masculinity and their nation.