IAJS
האגודה הישראלית ללימודי יפן
イスラエル日本学会
الجمعية الإسرائيلية لدراسة اليابان
Israeli Association for Japanese Studies

The Eighth Biennial International Conference of the Israeli Association for Japanese Studies

4-5 November 2026
Jerusalem, Israel

Program

Hosted by: Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design Jerusalem

Bezalel בצלאל بتسلئيل
Academy of Arts אקדמיה أكاديمية للفنون والتصميم and Design Jerusalem לאמנות ועיצוב ירושלים القدس

האוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים
THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM

JAPANFOUNDATION

Wednesday, 4 November

Venue:
Nathan Drahi Research and Innovation Center, 3F, Room 365

PROGRAM DAY 1

8:30-9:00 **Gathering and Registration**
Venue: Nathan Drahi Research and Innovation Center, 3rd Floor, Room 365.

9:00-9:30 **Greetings, Opening**
Erez Golani Solomon Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design Jerusalem. IAJS Chair
Arie Kutz Nir-Kutz Architects. IAJS President

In Memoriam
In memory of **Adlai Stock** Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design Jerusalem

9:30-11.30 **Panel 1**
CRAFTS AND THE FINE ARTS: BEYOND THE DIVISION OF GEIJUTSU INTO BIJUTSU (FINE ART) AND KŌGEI (CRAFT)
Chair: **Erez Golani Solomon** Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design Jerusalem
Discussant: **Oshrat Dotan** Tel Aviv University

- **Kazuko Kameda Madar** Tel Aviv University, and The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
  From Kōgei to Mingei: Bamboo Basketry and the Changing Status of Craft in Modern Japan

- **Yael Harnik** University of Haifa, and Shenkar College of Engineering, Design, and Art
  Sculptural Variations of the Hidden and Exposed: A Contemporary Perspective on Nui-Shibori

- **Michal Ben Ari Babayof** Tel Aviv University
  Knotting the Self: Crochet as Bodily Extension in Chiharu Shiota's Thread Works

- **Ayelet Zohar** Tel Aviv University
  Sloughing the Skin: Woodcutting in Kurakake Junichi Shedding House, Echigo-Tsumari Art Field

11:30-12:00 **Coffee break**

12:00-12:45 **Panel 2**
KEYNOTE LECTURE **ONLINE**
Chair: **Michal Daliot-Bul** University of Haifa

Aaron William Moore University of Edinburgh
Development of Japanese Literary Science Fiction

12:45-13:45 **Lunch break**

Organized by:
Israeli Association for Japanese Studies

Conference steering committee:
Erez Golani Solomon, Helena Grinshpun, Dan Sherer

Venue:
Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design Jerusalem

Generously supported by:
The Japan Foundation
Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design Jerusalem
Union Motors Ltd.

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PROGRAM DAY 1

13:45-15:15 **Panel 3**

AFFECTIVE SPACES OF STRANGENESS, SPEECH AND SYMPATHY IN CONTEMPORARY JAPANESE CULTURAL FORMS

Chair: **Reut Harari** Tel Aviv University

- **Erez Golani Solomon** Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design Jerusalem
  Drawing, Writing Horror: Reading the Strangeness of Japanese Architecture through Uketsu
- **Maayan Barkan** Hunter College of the City University of New York (CUNY)
  Speaking Japanese, Thinking American: Communication Strategies, Underlying Norms, and Relational Implications in Japanese Language Learning
- **Michal Daliot-Bul** University of Haifa
  Tokyo Sympathy Tower: Words and Architectural Structures as Prisons

15:15-15:30 **Coffee break**

15:30-17:30 **Panel 4**

OBJECTS, RITUALS, AND PLAY IN JAPANESE CULTURAL LIFE

Chair: **Liora Sarfati** Tel Aviv University

- **Itamar Zadoff** University of Haifa
  We are Primitives of an Unknown Culture — Matsuri, Identity, and Continuity in the Japanese Hippie Community
- **Erez Joskovich** Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, and Tel Aviv University
  Updated Instructions for the Cook: Ritual, Cuisine, and Proper Nutrition in Contemporary Japanese Zen Monasteries
- **Yoshiya Makita** Hitotsubashi University
  The Extraordinary Path to Mount Zion: The Growth of Indigenized Christianity in Late Twentieth-Century Japan
- **Dan Sherer** The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
  Chasing the Action: The Gambling Games of Pre-Modern Japan

Thursday, 5 November

PROGRAM DAY 2

Venues:
Nathan Drahi Research and Innovation Center, 3F, Room 365
Bezalel Research & Innovation Authority, 3F, Room 370

9:00-9:30 **Gathering**
Venue: Nathan Drahi Research and Innovation Center, 3rd Floor, Room 365.

9:30-11:00 **Panel 5**
JAPAN'S STRATEGIC REORIENTATION: TRADE, ALLIANCES, AND SECURITY
Chair and Discussant: **Danny Orbach** The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

- **Eyal Ben-Ari** Jerusalem Institute for Strategy and Security
  Japan's Accelerated Militarization: From Quiet Normalization to Overt Rearmament
- **Elad Ben David** INSS-ISGAP postdoctoral researcher
  Balancing Between Washington and Tehran: Japan's Strategic Relations with Iran in a Shifting Middle East
- **Alon Levkowitz** Bar-Ilan University
  Japan's new defense policy: Redefining the alliance with Washington and regional security cooperation

11:00-11:30 **Coffee break**

11:30-13.00 **Panel 6A (parallel panel)**
FIGURES OF INFLUENCE: MAKING AND TRANSMITTING KNOWLEDGE IN AESTHETICS, ARCHITECTURE, AND SCIENCE
Chair: **Irit Averbuch** Tel Aviv University, Emeritus

- **Galia Dor** Tel Aviv University, and Tel Hai University
  The Roots of omoshiroi: Surprise and Wonder in Zeami's Aesthetics and Beyond
- **Yona Siderer** The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
  Kawamoto Kōmin Chemistry Reader Kagaku Dokuhon and Other Books
- **Arie Kutz** Independent Researcher
  Kazuyo Sejima and the Shinohara School

11:30-13.00 **Panel 6B (parallel panel)**
Venue: Bezalel Research & Innovation Authority, 3rd Floor, Room 370.
ENCOUNTERS AND EXPRESSIONS IN JAPANESE VISUAL CULTURE
Chair: **Irina Lyan** The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

- **Irit Weinberg** Tel Aviv University
  Negotiating Foreignness in Contemporary Japanese Manga: Kuromaru's Tokyo Salad Bowl and Gao Yan's Sukima
- **Marat Galimov** The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
  What do YouTube users mean by "anime commercials"?
- **Raz Greenberg** Tel Aviv University, and The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
  Coming a Full Circle: Miyazaki Hayao, Studio Ghibli and The Mechanical Monsters

13:00-14:00 **Lunch break**

Thursday, 5 November

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14:00-16:00 **Panel 7**
IDENTITY BUILDING PRACTICES: SITES, LEGACIES AND MEMORY
Chair: **Shira Taube Dayan** The Academic College of Tel Aviv—Yaffo

- **Roni Zadok Webber** Tel Aviv University
  The Humanless Sea: The "Kerama Blue", Tourism and Island Identities in Zamami-son islands, Okinawa
- **Yotam Gazit** Sophia University
  Muddied Memories — Narratives of the Minamata Disease in Contemporary Museums
- **Helena Grinshpun** The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and Tel Hai University of the Galilee
  Tourism, Media, and the Boundaries of Belonging: Foreignness and Immigration in Contemporary Japan
- **Daniel Milne** Kyoto University **ONLINE**
  Regulating Overtourism: Short-Term Rentals and Community Resistance in Kyoto

16:15-16:45 **Coffee break**

16:15-17:00 **Panel 8**
KEYNOTE LECTURE **ONLINE**
Chair: **Dan Sherer** The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Ethan I. Segal Michigan State University
Learning from the Past: Wonder, Mystery, and the Challenge of Problematic Sources from Premodern Japan

17:00-17:15 **Epilogue and Closing**
Dan Sherer The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. IAJS Head of Academic Committee

19:00-21:00 **Farewell Dinner** (Advance reservation required)

Tuesday, 3 November

COLLABORATIVE EVENT

Venue:
Margulies Educational Center, Jerusalem Botanical Gardens
Yehuda Burla St 1, Jerusalem

15:00-20:00 **JAPAN CULTURE DAY (BUNKA NO HI)**
Celebrating Japanese Culture, Knowledge & Creativity
Jerusalem Botanical Gardens
https://tinyurl.com/3c33kerh