

**MYCAH BRAZELTON-BRAXTON**

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**ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT**

**Indiana University**, Assistant Professor of Art History

Teaching Focus: Japanese Art, East Asian Art and Culture, Modern Art and Visual Culture

Book Project: “Investigating Reality: Humanism and the Japanese Avant-Garde Under Fascism”

**EDUCATION**

**Harvard University**, Cambridge MA

**PhD**, Japanese Art History, East Asian Languages and Civilizations, May 2021.

Dissertation: “Investigating Reality: The Japanese Avant-Garde’s Search for Realism, 1929-1941”

Committee: Profs. Melissa McCormick, Yukio Lippit, Benjamin Buchloh, and Alexander Zahlten

**Stanford University**, Stanford, CA

**MA**, Center for East Asian Studies. Focus in History and Japanese Art History. January 2013.

**Duke University**, Durham, NC

**BA**, Graduation with Distinction, Art History major, Visual Studies minor, May 2010.

**RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS**

Japanese Art History and Visual Culture, 1500-Present Day

Japanese Photography, 1868-Present Day

Intellectual Movements and Art

Intermedia Art and Cross-Media Influence

Politics, Society, and Visual Representation

Art in International Contact and Exchange

Global Modernism

Asian-American Art and Artists

**FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

Getty Research Institute Postdoctoral Fellowship, 2021-2022

Doctoral Grant Award, Metropolitan Center for Far Eastern Art Studies, 2018-2019

IIE Fulbright Fellowship to Japan, Fulbright Japan, Japan-U.S. Educational Commission, 2017-2018

Japan Studies Fellowship, Japan Foundation (declined), 2017-2018

Reischauer Supplementary Dissertation Research Fellowship, Harvard University, 2018-2019

Reischauer Institute Summer Research Grant, Harvard University, 2015

Satoh Scholarship Foundation and Tsuchiya Culture Foundation Merit Scholarship,

Harvard University, 2014

GSAS Summer Tuition Waiver, Harvard University, 2014

Watanabe Foundation Scholarship, Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies, 2012

Stanford Japan Fund Scholarship, Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies, 2012

CEAS Summer Fellowship, Stanford University, 2011 and 2012

Stanford Japan Fund Tuition Fellowship, Stanford University, 2010-2011

Visual Studies Initiative Award, Duke University, Spring 2010

## ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

“A Weapon to Change Modern Reality: Agitation and Action in On Kawara’s Death Masks, 1955-1956,” *October* 163 (April 2018): 102-130.

“Kamisaka Sekka: *Momoyogusa, Flowers of the Four Seasons, Pine in the Snow, Pines of Mibo, Woman Dancing in Male Style, and Standing Beauty*,” catalog entries in Saunders, Rachel, and Yukio Lippit. *Painting Edo: Selections from the Feinberg Collection of Japanese Art*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard Art Museums, 2020.

## PRESENTATIONS

“Rejecting the Primitivizing Gaze: Katsura Yuki’s Drawings of Ubangi-Shari,” Decolonizing Art History Panel, Midwest Art History Society, March 2022.

“The New Photography Movement: From ‘Scientific’ Knowledge to Social Realism,” Photography as Knowledge (Re-)Production in Twentieth-Century East Asia, University of Heidelberg, February 2022.

“Society and the Graph: The New Photography Movement, Proletarian Photography, and Photography Theory in 1930s Japan,” Annual Conference for the Association of Asian Studies, Seattle, Washington, March 2021.

“Writing the History of Japanese Photography: Challenges and Provocations,” Roundtable, Annual Conference for the Association of Asian Studies, Seattle, Washington, March 2021.

“Portrait of a Community, Portrait of a City: The ‘Refugee Jew’ Series and 1941 Kobe,” Annual Conference for the Association of Asian Studies, Boston, Massachusetts, March 2020.  
[Draft Submitted but Conference Cancelled Due to COVID-19 Pandemic]

“Transwar Humanism and the Legacy of Liberalism, 1933-1956,” Harvard-Osaka Graduate Student Workshop, Cambridge, Massachusetts, March 2020.

“From Ei-Q to Demokurāto: Active Humanism in the Transwar Era,” College Art Association Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois, February 2020.

“Humanism in the Transwar Era,” Invited Guest Lecture in *Rip and Tear: The Body as Moving and Moved Image in Japanese Film*, Seminar, Cambridge, Massachusetts, October 2019.

“The Body of Ink Painting: Hasegawa Saburo’s 1950s ‘Abstract Calligraphy,’” PoNJA-GenKon Symposium, Chicago, Illinois, April 2017.

## TRANSLATIONS

Nakahira, Takuma, “The Horizon That Exhausts the Gaze,” in *Nakahira Takuma Translations*. Edited by Franz Prichard, Forthcoming.

Gotō, Meisei, “Dark Night Light Path—What Does Photography Do?—” and Hatakeyama, Naoya and Shiga, Lieko “Seventeen Photographs” in *Heisei Photography* (Co-translator). Josai University: *Review of Japanese Culture and Society*, Tokyo, Japan. Forthcoming.

Sugiura, Kōhei, “Interview with Sugiura Kōhei” and Nikkei Design, “The Smart Design Award: *The Always Convenient × Always Prepared Series*” in *Reading Sōseki Now (Design in Focus)* (Translator). Josai University: *Review of Japanese Culture and Society* 29, Tokyo, Japan. December 2017.

Furuta, Ryō, “Sōtatsu in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century” in Lippit, Yukio and Ulak, James T. *Sōtatsu*. Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Books, 2015.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Teaching Fellow, Harvard University

- Designed and ran weekly hour-long discussion sections, led viewings of art at local museum.
- Directed close looking and reading sessions, developed powerpoints and teaching materials.
- Held regular office hours, advised student projects, and organized review sessions.

Anime as Global Popular Culture (Professor Tomiko Yoda), Fall 2020

Buddhism and Japanese Culture (Professor Ryuichi Abe), Spring 2017

Vision and Justice (Professor Sarah Lewis), Fall 2016

A History of Photography (Professor Robin Kelsey), Fall 2015

### Course Redesign Assistant for Helen Hardacre, Harvard University

- Redesigned course for virtual instruction to facilitate student engagement and learning.
- Created three active learning activities per session using Zoom and Canvas interfaces.
- Developed an online archive of themes of Japanese religion in art, film, games, and anime.

Japanese Religions in the 20th and 21st Centuries, Spring 2021

Animated Spirituality: Japanese Religion in Anime, Manga, and Film, Spring 2021

Shinto: A Conference Course, Fall 2020

### Remote Support Teaching Fellow, Harvard University

- Ran activities using digital media, troubleshooted student connection issues.
- Set up and managed course media content, Slack channels, and breakout rooms.

Global Japanese Cinema (Professor Alexander Zahlten), Spring 2021

Animated Spirituality (Professor Helen Hardacre), Spring 2021

Japanese Religions in the 20th and 21st Centuries (Professor Helen Hardacre), Spring 2021

Anime as Global Popular Culture (Professor Tomiko Yoda), Fall 2020

Shinto: A Conference Course (Professor Helen Hardacre), Fall 2020

## SERVICE AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

**East Asian Languages Department**, Harvard University, United States.

**Assistant Department Coordinator**, Summer 2017

- Worked with faculty and the registrar's office to assign classrooms to the language program.
- Managed office communications, ordered event supplies, collated placement exam results.

**11<sup>th</sup> Japanese Art Workshop for Students**, Harvard University, United States.

**Conference Organizer**, Spring 2017.

- Organized transportation logistics and payment for 28 international student visitors.
- Rearranged housing and transportation during emergency blizzard conditions.
- Provided staff and IT support during presentations.

**Cameras in Turmoil Symposium**, Harvard University, United States.

**Conference Organizer and Discussant**, Fall 2015.

- Selected speakers, advertised symposium, communicated with guests, and was a discussant.

**East Asian Languages Department**, Harvard University, United States

**EALC Social Committee**, 2013-2017.

- Organized biweekly events for EALC graduate students.
- Wrote quarterly applications for funding to the Graduate School of Art and Sciences.

## LANGUAGES AND REFERENCES

**Languages:** Professional Japanese, Intermediate German, and Intermediate French (reading)

**Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies;** Yokohama, Japan, 2012-2013.

- Received training in Japanese from the Intermediate to Professional Level
- Ten-Month program, Focus in Japanese Art History and History

### References:

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