



European architecture public lecture with a surprise guest

In commemoration of the Japan-EU friendship week, the Tohoku University main library dressed up accordingly. Paintings of famous European artist decorated the walls of the venue for a special event that counted with an unexpected visitor.



A poster posted in the entrance

As a representative of the Department of Architecture, Associate Professor Dr. Higaya Junichiro orchestrated a lecture that focused on describing the evolution of the European architecture. Professor Higaya, made emphasis on the Classical influence on Modernism, and on the presence of features of ancient Greek architecture on it. Strolling down the domes of the Renaissance, with small stops under the Flying buttress of the Gothic period, we enjoyed the view of the gigantic central spaces of the Renaissance period and many more styles of architecture that reflected the history of Europe until the beginning of the 20th century.



Assoc. Prof. Higaya Junichiro

After Professor Higaya closed his lecture, 3 researchers in each field took over the spectator's attention. In order, Ms. Endo; Ph.D student of the department of aesthetics and western art history, and Mr. Nakajima; Master's degree student of the Urban Architecture & Engineering Department, Professor Dr. Kato; Associate Professor of the Tohoku University Archives, spoke about their respective researches.

Ms. Endo's presentation centered on the ancient Greek – ancient Rome transculturation, and its effect on the architecture of the era; specifically on the living spaces and temples. Respectively, as a student of Professor Higaya's laboratory, Mr. Nakajima presented his work on the influence of European Architecture on the South East Asian structures. His studies do not only show how elements imported from the "old world" are still appreciable on a myriad of buildings in central cities of Hong Kong, Taiwan, the Philippines, Japan, Korea, and China, but also how these features were passed down on to a new generation. Japanese architectures, formed by European masters, took on the task of spreading the architecture through South East Asia and, in some cases, added their own culture into their creations. Professor Kato, who studied the architecture of several Universities in Japan, highlighted the presence of Classical elements on most of the buildings on the campuses.



Ph.D student Ms. Endo and panelists

After the panelists finished their presentations, the room erupted in a sea of questions. Architecture enthusiasts, professors and students showed their interest on the topic. Shape, light, art, and even bureaucracy were some of the inquiries the scholars answered. However, one intervention marked the end of the event. In an expression of serendipity, one of the attendants was in fact Professor Waldemar Affelt, an expert in the field of architectural conservation from Poland. Professor Affelt did not ask any questions, but he commented on the importance these kinds of events. He mentioned that getting to know what is the perspective of Japanese scholars of the European Architecture was a long-awaited experience. In addition, he commented on the importance on respecting the well-established timelines and the important events that mark the transition between periods, specifically the use of concrete on the structures. Finally, he commended Mr. Nakajima on his work, Professor Higaya for coordinating the event, and all the panelists for their presentations.



Prof. Affelt from Poland

And so, an event planned by Japanese scholars to show their appreciation of European architecture, finished with a European scholar showing his appreciation of the Japanese dedication.



Many audiences visited the venue

=====Program=====

*2018 EU-JAPAN Friendship Week
Euro-parade*

- Architecture and History Carnival -

Public lecture

Date : Wed. June 13, 2018 (16:30 ~ 18:40)

Venue : Tohoku University Library Main Library 1st floor "Flexible work area"

\$1st Topic Keynote speech (16:30 ~ 17:10)
「Classical Architecture」

Speaker : Higaya Junichiro
(Associate Professor of the Department of the Architecture and Building Science, Graduate School of Engineering Tohoku University)

\$2nd Topic Panel discussion (17:20 ~ 18:40)
「Influences and originality observed on the external architecture」

Panel coordinator : Hiyaga Junichiro

Panelists :

-Kato Satoshi (Associate Professor of the Tohoku University Archives)

-Endo Sae (Ph.D. student of Department of aesthetics and western art history, Graduate School of Arts and Letters Tohoku University)

-Nakajima Yasuo (Master's degree student of the Department of the Architecture and Building Science, Graduate School of Engineering Tohoku University)

*As reported by **Manuel Campos***

Reader's Choice: What to Read Next?

This section introduces a-book-a-month to feed your grey matter with intellect and emotion from the selection available at Tohoku University Main Library. Sit back and let's read!

The book I choose for the Biblio Battle is the Japanese version of: "Namazu-e and their Themes" by the Dutch anthropologist and a scholar of Japanese folklore Cornelis Ouwehand.

Ouwehand in his book, writes a very accurate and detailed analysis of the Earthquake catfish legend and the "Namazu-e", the Edo Period printings who illustrate this folklore. But why did I choose this book?

Actually, the theme of my Master and P.H.D. research is exactly the legend of the Earthquake Catfish, and Ouwehand is considered, even in Japan, the maximum expert in this topic. His book is the basis for all the other researches about the Namazu!

The Legend says that, under the Japanese archipelago, lays a huge catfish that, with its movements, shakes the islands creating earthquakes. To prevent this, the "Kashima-daimyoujin", the god of the Kashima Shrine in Ibaraki Prefecture, holds the fish with a huge stone called the "Kanameishi". But when the Catfish runs free, the disaster occurs somewhere in Japan.

This legend is interesting because, with the later "Namazu-e" printings, helps to understand the deep relation between Japanese people and earthquakes. Japan is shocked by natural disasters since it appeared on earth and its inhabitant battle with earthquakes since the dusk of time! By making the Catfish the symbol of the earthquake, I think that Japanese people was able to "fight" against it and, somehow, make fun of it to take it in a little lighter way.

So, in the end, if you want to know more about this interesting and fascinating topic, Ouwehand's "Namazu-e and their Themes: an interpretative approach to some aspects of Japanese folk religion" is a must read!



*The cover photo is from Kinokuniya webstore Web Store

Book: 鯰絵：民俗的想像力の世界

Author: コルネリウス・アウエハント 著；
小松和彦 [ほか] 共訳

Publisher: せりか書房

Barcode No. : 01820263865

Call No. : GD33/034

Location : Main Library (LIB-BF-Stacks)

Reviewd by **Davide Bitti**

My hometown: Porto Alegre

In this column, we introduce our hometowns to make you familiar with the culture and the best things to do!

I was born and raised in Porto Alegre, Brazil. It is a big city (population 1.481.019 inhabitants) and the capital of Brazil's southernmost state, Rio Grande do Sul. Porto Alegre means "Joyful Harbor" in Portuguese. The city was founded in 1722 and was gradually formed by people from all over the world. Porto Alegre continued developing as an important economic and cultural center. Today, it is one of Brazil's main cities.

Brazil



Porto Alegre

The city reflects very well the culture of Rio Grande do Sul state, which is distinct from the culture of other Brazilian regions. People in the city enjoy drinking chimarrão, a drink prepared by steeping dried leaves of herb in hot water and served with a metal straw in a hollow calabash gourd. The churrasco (grilled meat) is a traditional and delicious food. On the other hand, what I particularly like about Porto Alegre is its people. The citizens are always very friendly.

*Chimarrão, or Mate, is a characteristic drink of southern South American culture bequeathed by the indigenous cultures of the Caingangue, Guaraní, Aymara and Quechua.

<https://www.pinterest.ca/pin/484559241141866515/>

Chimarrão (Mate)

<http://wp.clicrbs.com.br/holofote/2012/06/26/em-porto-alegre-ticiane-pinheiro-desrespeita-mandamento-do-chimarrao/?topo=52,1,1,,186,e186>

Chimarrão is very popular

Soccer is extremely popular in Brazil and Porto Alegre is not an exception. Two of Brazil's main soccer clubs, Grêmio (known for its blue uniform) and Internacional (known for its red uniform) are based in the city. Both clubs were already world champions. If you have the opportunity, come to Porto Alegre and discover a part of Brazil that remains largely unknown, but that surely has its fascinations.

<http://homediner.co/tradiciones-y-costumbres-de-brasil.html#>

Usina do Gasômetro*

*The Usina do Gasômetro building is a landmark in the city: it housed the old thermoelectric plant of the capital, between 1928 and 1974, and is located on the banks of the Guaíba River.

As expressed by **Ernei Ribeiro**

Andi's corner

"An evening in the library"

This time, Andi Holik Ramdani is in charge of this corner instead of Ms. Yang Yan.

He is from Indonesia and member of the International Students Concierge.

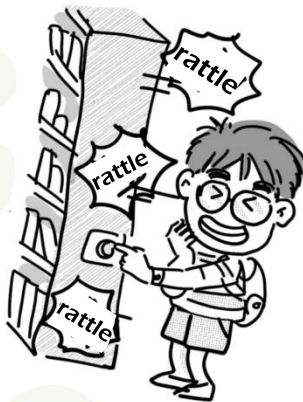
He will show you by using realistic illustration what happened in the Main Library. It is a story of alternate between joy and grief.

★BOOK LOVER★



Love to smells
Library books
more than
one minutes!

Love to play
With bookshelves
automatic
Button!



*Please operate with safely and carefully



Love to
stay at
Library
than your
Lab or Home

angry when
your friend
returning your
book in a bad
Condition!!



Story & picture by andi holik

★BIRTHDAY GIFT★

Happy Birthday
DARLING!!
What gift
do you want
From me?



Oh!! So Sweet!!
thank you, HONEY!
mmmh... i want
to see Europe!
then bring me
to the moon!!

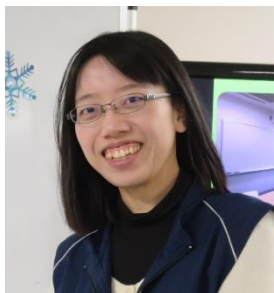
Easy!! here i give you
Tosho Card!!
and buy
Encyclopedia
about Europe and the moon!!



Stup'id!!
dont text
me again!
We Break
up!!

Story & picture by andi holik

Editors



Lin, I-Chia (林宜佳)

A graduate student of International Cultural Studies from Taiwan, she loves listening to music and reading children's literature which full of illustrations. "Peace begins with a smile" is her favorite quote.

Manuel Campos



A graduate student of medicine from Venezuela, he loves to travel, write and cook. "Hard times forge steel smiles," is what he believes. Did we tell you that he speaks English, Japanese and Spanish?



Yang Yan (楊妍)

Yang, from China, loves to write comic strips! A graduate student of international cultural studies, she believes that none of us should ever forget our first resolution. Interested in her work? Check out the next issue for her manga!

Trishit Banerjee
[Editor-in-Chief]



From the land of Buddha - India, Trishit loves to read, write and travel. A student of chemistry, he can speak 5 languages! "Pick up a good book and open up your world," is what he believes in.

How to reach us?

Facebook : @tohokuunivlib

Twitter : @TUL_Global

Website : www.library.tohoku.ac.jp

E-Mail : desk@grp.tohoku.ac.jp

Telephone : 022-795-5935

Office Hours : 8:30 - 17:00 (Weekdays)

Address : 27-1 Kawauchi, Aoba-ku, Sendai, Miyagi, 980-8576 JAPAN

