

EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the fifteenth volume of the *Japan Studies Review* (JSR), an annual peer-reviewed journal sponsored by the joint efforts of the Institute for Asian Studies at Florida International University and the Southern Japan Seminar. JSR continues to be both an outlet for publications related to Southern Japan Seminar events and a journal that encourages submissions from a wide range of scholars in the field. This issue includes a special topics section showcasing a variety of articles on Japanese women and popular culture, as well as additional articles, essays, and book reviews covering a variety of topics in Japanese studies.

This year's journal features a special section with a brief introductory essay by Jan Bardsley, who has organized a panel for the annual Southern Japan Seminar and edited articles for this issue. Also included are two articles. "Edward Said and the Japanese: British Representations of Japan in the Years before the Sino-Japanese War" by Stephen Smith explores the extent to which the application of Edward Said's notion of Orientalism – which juxtaposes an "irrational Japan" with a "mature, rational" Europe – provides fresh insight into Western writing on Japan in the late nineteenth century. In addition, "The Forgotten Script Reform: Language Policy in Japan's Armed Forces" by Yuki Takatori analyzes the reform in the Japanese written language implemented by the armed forces during Imperial Japan's transformation into a colonial power. Takatori explains why military officers were more enthusiastic supporters of such reforms than the cautious bureaucrats of the Education Ministry.

There is one essay in this issue. Carl M. Johnson's translation of Watsuji Testurō's *Mask and Persona*, reflects on the importance of the face in human existence by explicating three main Japanese terms – *men*, *kao*, and *gammen* – which Watsuji contrasts with the Latin term *persona*. For the convenience of the reader, these are consistently translated throughout as "mask," "face," "visage," and "persona," respectively.

Four book reviews are included. Salvatore Ciriaco reviews *The Role of Tradition in Japan's Industrialization* by Masayuki Tanimoto, and Lucien Ellington reviews Benjamin Duke's book, *The History of Modern Japanese Education: Constructing the National School System, 1872-1890*. Also, Ernesto Fernández reviews *Realizing Genjōkoan: The Key to Dōgen's Shōbōgenzō* by Shohaku Okumura, and Katsumi Sohma reviews "From Marco Polo Bridge to Pearl Harbor: Who was Responsible?" by the Yomiuri Shimbun.

Steven Heine

Re: Submissions, Subscriptions, and Comments

Submissions for publication, whether articles, essays, or book reviews, should be made in both hard copy and electronic formats, preferably Word for Windows via email attachment (please inquire about other formats). The editor and members of the editorial board will referee all submissions.

Annual subscriptions are \$35.00 (US). Please send a check or money order payable to *Florida International University* to:

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All comments and feedback on the publications appearing in *Japan Studies Review* are welcome.

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