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USC Dornsife *East Asian Studies Center*

January 21, 2026

Welcome Back EASC Community

We hope everyone had an enjoyable winter break and are well rested for the New Year. We will be issuing a **monthly EASC eNewsletter** on the third Wednesday of each month this semester and are excited to announce our **Spring 2026 events**. We look forward to seeing you again soon!

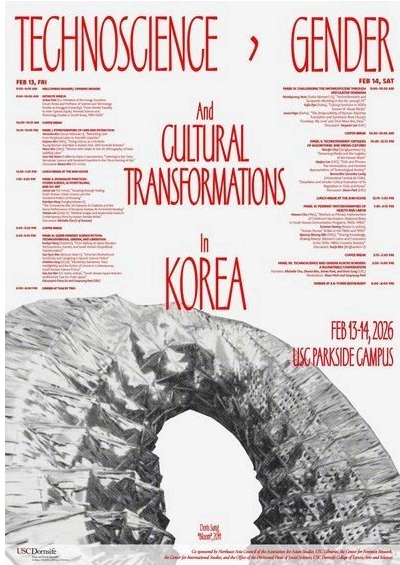


Cultural Landscapes of Japanese American Art: *perspectives from artists, curators & scholars*

Friday, February 6 | 10:30AM - 4:00PM | DML 240 | [FLYER](#) | [RSVP](#)

Please join us for this one-day symposium bringing together scholars, curators and artists to explore the creation, interpretation and presentation of Japanese American art. Presentations will examine how Nikkei artists like **Chiura Obata** and **Isamu Noguchi** were shaped by the spatial and historical contexts of the 20th century, including the profound impact of wartime incarceration. The symposium also considers the broader landscape of Nikkei Art - its development within arts collectives, community museums and major contemporary art institutions. Presenters will offer insights into the contemporary politics of curating and making Japanese American art. There will also be a selection of catalogues and ephemera available for viewing. This

event is presented by the [Shinso Ito Center](#) and co-sponsored by the USC [Van Hunnick History Department](#) and [East Asian Studies Center](#).



Technoscience, Gender and Cultural Transformations in Korea

Fri, Feb 13 - Sat, Feb 14 | 9:00AM - 5:00PM | TCC 227 Rosen Family Screening Rm | [FLYER](#) | [RSVP](#)

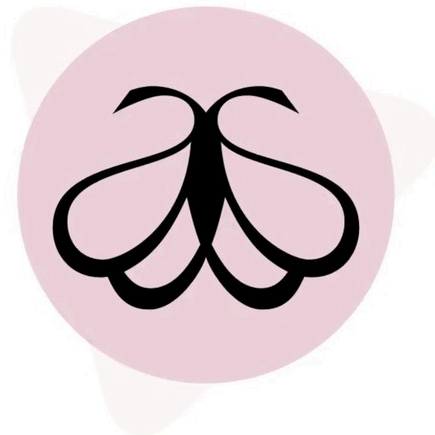
This two-day international conference seeks to advance the growing interdisciplinary field of cultural studies of science and technology in Korea by examining the dynamic intersections of technoscience, gender, and culture. Hosted by the [Korean Studies Institute](#), the conference will foster dialogue across disciplines and methodologies to deepen our insights into both the gendered impacts of contemporary technoscientific developments and the ways in which embodied perspectives inform technoscientific practices and cultural imaginaries. Please go to the [event page](#) for the presenters' bios and abstracts, as well as the the program. Co-sponsored by the [Northeast Asia Council of the Association for Asian Studies](#), [USC Libraries](#), [Center for Feminist Research](#), Office of the Divisional Dean of Social Sciences, [Center for International Studies](#) and [East Asian Studies Center](#).

EASC Guest Speaker Series

Between Export and Inheritance: Korean American Identity in the Age of K-Beauty

Wed, Feb 18 | 3:30PM-4:50PM | AHN House | [FLYER](#) | [RSVP](#)

Prof. **Sunyoung Park** invites the wider community to an event with **David Yi** as part of her EALC 430 course on *Gender and Sexuality in Korean Literature and Culture*, David Yi is a USC alum and co-founder of [Very Good Light](#) and the gender inclusive beauty brand good light. He is the author of *Pretty Boys*, the history of men, masc-identifying folx, beauty and masculinity. In this talk, he will focus on discussing a central paradox of the present moment: as Korean culture - through K-beauty, K-pop and media, and overall Korean capitalism - achieves unprecedented global visibility, Korean Americans often remain culturally peripheral to that success. Drawing from his work as a writer and founder in the K-beauty industry, the talk explores questions of belonging, authorship and power at the intersection of diaspora, capitalism, and cultural export.



This event is co-sponsored by the USC [Korean Studies Institute](#), [Department of Gender and Sexuality Studies](#) and the [Consortium for Gender, Sexuality, Race and Public Culture](#).

Spring 2026 Events

Please see below and SAVE-THE-DATE for our upcoming events this Spring!



Global East Asia 2026 Orientation **Fri, Feb 20 | 2:00PM – 3:00PM | TBD**

This mandatory orientation session for the **EASC Global East Asia Tokyo Maymester** program will cover travel-related requirements, health and safety, and provide an opportunity to meet the course faculty, staff, and fellow classmates.

For registered students of EASC 360 only.



Grateful Crane Ensemble: Grateful Crane Shows **Fri, Feb 27 | 3:00PM – 5:00PM | TBD**

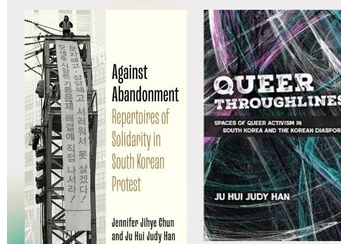
The **Grateful Crane Ensemble** (GCE), under the leadership of Executive Director and Playwright **Soji Kashiwagi**, presents Grateful Crane Shows Over the Years - a special performance highlighting the Ensemble's artistry from 2001-2025.



Spring 2026 EASC Grad Connect **Thurs, Mar 26 | 12:00PM – 1:30PM | CAS 100**

Enjoy food, drinks and conversation with fellow graduate students in Asian studies across USC. Graduate students from any field are welcome, providing an opportunity to meet peers and learn about the resources for Asian studies.

Open to graduate students only.



Joint Book Talks on South Korea Social Activism **Wed, April 8 | 3:00PM – 4:50PM | AHN House**

Professors **Jennifer Chun** (UCLA, Asian American Studies) and **Judy Han** (UCLA, Gender Studies) will discuss their latest books which focus on the widespread culture of protest in South Korea and examine both its significant achievements and inherent precarity.



Spring 2026 EASC Faculty Meeting and Book Launch **Thurs, April 9 | 11:30PM – 1:30PM | Univ. Club**

EASC hosts its annual Faculty Luncheon and Book Launch event. We look forward to having the opportunity to share recent developments, reconnect with each other and celebrate the latest publications of our affiliated faculty.

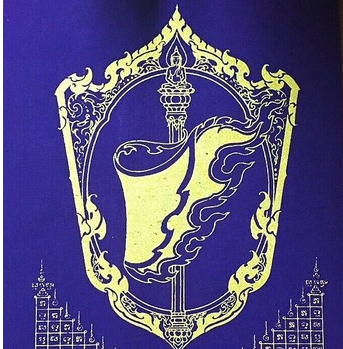
Open to EASC affiliated faculty only.

EASC Guest Speaker Series: Page and Stage: The Printing of Drama in the Late Ming - Talk by Yuming He **Mon, April 13 | 4:10PM – 5:50PM | Zoom only**

Prof. **Yuming He** from UC Davis will discuss the characteristic strategies used by late-Ming bookmakers and explore how these editorial acts allowed such imprints to



enter broader intellectual and cultural life where a critical position within the popular became possible.



EASC Guest Speaker Series: Trump Yantra: the Material Culture of Symbiotic Provisions between Thai Monks and Laity - Talk by Susanne Kerekes

Mon, April 20 | 2:00PM – 3:20PM | Zoom only
Prof. **Susanne Kerekes** from Trinity College will discuss the salience of Buddhist material culture in defining Thai monastic-communal relations, and Thai monks' mutual dependence on lay commissions for enhancement of their spiritual power and social prestige.

FINAL REMINDER

EASC Grad Fellowships Applications

Deadline: 5:00PM Friday, February 6

EASC Graduate Fellowships provide summer stipends, typically between \$1,000-\$3,000, depending on the proposed course of study. The purpose of the award is to advance understanding of East Asia and/or US-Asia relations. Awards are given based on the quality of the proposed project and budgets submitted with the application. The award may be used for field research, language training, area studies, and can also be used for research including Asia in a comparative context or as a case study.



To learn more about the fellowship and application requirements, please see the [fellowship page](#). The deadline to apply is by **5:00PM Friday, February 6!**

Preference is given to applicants who are active in the EASC community.

Please see the **EASC Instagram** post on one of our last year's awardees **Tian Jing Teh** (PhD Candidate, EALC) and click the arrow to view past awardees! ➤

Events Around USC & LA

A Special Theatrical Screening of WHITE RIVER

Wed, Jan 21 | 7:00PM | School of Cinematic Arts | [RSVP](#)

“Za”: A Place for Shared Experience

Thurs, Jan 22 | 2:30PM-3:30PM | The Huntington | [RSVP](#)

[Chinese Diasporas in Southeast Asia and Their Relations with China](#)

Thurs, Jan 22 | 5:00PM-6:15PM | UCLA Asia Pacific Center

[Renaming Plants and Nations in Japanese Colonial Korea](#)

Thurs, Jan 22 | 8:00PM-9:30PM | MJHA | [RSVP](#)

[Markets and Collecting Japanese Art in Latin America](#)

Fri, Jan 23 | 3:00PM-4:30PM | Yanai Initiative

[Kevan Hall | Journey to Japan Fashion, Craft, and Cultural Dialogue](#)

Wed, Jan 28 | 6:00PM-7:30PM | Japan House | [RSVP](#)

[Riding the Korean Wave in China: The Reception and Remaking of Popular Korean Screen Culture](#)

Thurs, Jan 29 | 2:00PM-3:30PM | UCLA Asia Pacific Center

[Questioning Racial Binaries: Co-Ethnic Racialisation, Intersectionality, and Immigration Hierarchies in East Asia](#)

Thurs, Feb 5 | 5:00PM-6:15PM | UCLA Asia Pacific Center

[Levan Book Chat—Jessica X. Zu, Just Awakening](#)

Fri, Feb 6 | 1:00PM-2:00PM | Levan Institute

[Cybernetic Maoism and the Origins of the Chinese Internet](#)

Fri, Feb 6 | 2:00PM-3:30PM | UCLA Center for Chinese Studies

[Onibaba in 35mm](#)

Sun, Feb 8 | 2:30PM | Academy Museum of Motion Pictures | [RSVP](#)

[Noise and Redundancy: Nonsense Literature as World Literature During the Cold War](#)

Thurs, Feb 12 | 4:00PM-5:30PM | UCLA Asia Pacific Center | [RSVP](#)

Support EASC



Comments? Questions? Promotion requests?
easc@dornsife.usc.edu

For more news and information about the USC East Asian Studies Center visit usc.edu/easc

USCDornsife

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