



Representations of Gender, Race and Culture in Wartime Japan and Germany

Saturday, 9 December 2006, 9:00 to 17:30

Organizers: Andrea Germer (DIJ) and
Ulrike Wöhr (Hiroshima City University)

Much has been written to assert the affinity between the modern histories of Germany and Japan. Our aim is to reexamine this affinity from the viewpoint of comparative gender and cultural history. How did discourses about women and by women help to establish and maintain the wartime systems of both nation-states? What roles did ethnicized and racialized images of femininity and masculinity play in the visual culture of both countries and how did they contribute to the construction of an ideology of Japanese-German affinity? By deconstructing seemingly monolithic wartime gender ideologies and by looking at women as agents producing, modifying and sometimes questioning these ideologies we address the question of women as "culprits or victims". We also examine how representations of race (or ethnicity) and gender were intertwined in the nationalist and imperialist wartime discourses evolving within and between Germany and Japan.

Program

- 9:00-9:15 Opening and Greetings: Florian COULMAS (Director DIJ)
Andrea GERMER (DIJ), Ulrike WÖHR (Hiroshima City University)
- 9:15-10:00 Jill STEPHENSON (Edinburgh University): The Imaginary Idleness of Women in Wartime Germany.
- 10:00-10:45 HAYAKAWA Noriyo (Meiji University): Contesting Women's Identities: Imperial Japan and Colonized Manchuria.
- 10:45-11:15 COFFEE BREAK
- 11:15-12:00 CHIBA Kei (Chiba University): Genealogy of Images of Motherhood in Wartime Japan.
- 12:00-12:45 Andrea GERMER (DIJ): Images of the Nation: Representations of Gender, Race and Culture in Women's Magazines of Wartime Japan and Germany.
- 12:45-14:15 LUNCH BREAK
- 14:15-15:00 Ulrike WÖHR (Hiroshima City University): National Femininities and their Other: Constructing German and Japanese Women's Identities in Wartime Japan.
- 15:00-15:45 Martha CASPERS (Frankfurt Historical Museum): National Socialist Propaganda Photography and its Reception in Japanese Wartime Women's Magazines.
- 15:45-16:15 COFFEE BREAK
- 16:15-17:00 KAWATA Akihisa (Waseda University): The Symbolism of the Japanese Sword (Nihontō).
- 17:00-17:30 Final Discussion

Venue: **German Institute for Japanese Studies (DIJ)** (in Yotsuya!)
Please note our change of address:
Kioizaka Bldg 2F, 7-1 Kioicho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-0094, Tel. 03-3222-5077, Fax 03-3222-5420 Map:
<http://www.dijtokyo.org/?page=address.php>

Admission is free but please register with gender@dijtokyo.org