



Uncommon Thoughts on Common Things in Academia

All I Really Need to Know about Japan Studies I
Learned at a Strange Japanese Restaurant in Texas

By Dr. Sachi Schmidt-Hori

Associate Professor of Japanese Literature and Culture
Dartmouth College



Moderator & Commentator: Junnan Chen

Ph.D Candidate, Princeton University / JF-GJS Fellow at Institute
for Advanced Studies on Asia, the University of Tokyo

12 July 2023 (WED) 10:00-12:00

@ Conference Room 2 (Room 302) / ZOOM

Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia(IASA), UTokyo

*audience will be invited on a first-come, first-served basis.

JF-GJS Fellow Talk Series

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In this talk, Sachi Schmidt-Hori shares her thoughts on “transnational/global perspective” regarding Japan Studies by drawing on her own experience of being a kimono-donning waitress at a high-end Japanese restaurant in Dallas, when she first immigrated from Japan to the United States in 1997.

Pondering upon questions of what “transnational/ global perspective” means to Japan Studies through reflecting on her journey to become a Japan Studies scholar, Professor Hori discusses the challenges she experiences as a researcher of gender and sexuality in premodern Japan as well as an instructor of Japanese literature and culture courses in the United States.

Professor Hori will talk about “interculture,” as opposed to the binary of “localization vs. foreignization,” in the global commercial and artistic spheres. Without assuming a simple cause-and-effect trajectory, the talk will explain why “interculture” will likely contribute to bringing more transnational/global perspective to Japan Studies in the near future.



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