

## **WGEA Conference 2025**

(Update April 15, 2025)

**April 22. Tue.** Day of Arrival

**April 23. Wed.** The Faculty of Letters, University of Tokyo

*Lunch Meeting* (A closed-door meeting for WGEA members)

12:20–13:20

The third meeting room in the Faculty of Literature, the University of Tokyo

*Opening Remarks*

13:20–13:30

Sean McGrath (MUN)

Uwe Voigt (Uni Augsburg)

*Young Researchers Forum I: Schelling's Philosophy*

13:30–15:30:

Chair: Shunsuke Kuwahara (University of Tokyo)

Arata Nakashima (Bonn University): Technique and art in Schelling's late natural philosophy

Norihito Nakamura (Mie University):

Kenosis as the Art of Mind in the Anthropocene: Schelling and the Contemporary Political Theology

Discussants: Jason Wirth (Seattle Univ.)

15:30–16:00 Coffee break

16:00–17:00

Chair: Barry Stephenson (MUN)

Russell J. Duvernoy (King's Univ. College): Contradiction and Ambiguity in Aesthetic Experience East and West

*Keynote Lecture*

17:00–18:00

Chair: Tanehisa Otabe (The Open Univ.)

Lorenzo Marinucci (Tohoku University): A More Than Human Breath. Towards an  
Olfactory Ecology

18:30–20:30      Reception (at the Sanjō Conference Hall)

**April 24. Thu.**      The Japan Academy

10:00–12:00

Chair: Yi Ding (Hokkaido Univ.)

Tanehisa Otabe (The Open Univ.): Exploring Atmosphere as Resonance and Rhythm: A  
Japanese Perspective on the Concept of “Ki”

Uwe Voigt (Uni Augsburg): The Mask of the Great Filter. On the Anaesthetics of  
Environmental Ruin

12:00–13:30 Lunch

13:30–15:30

Chair: Russell J. Duvernoy (King’s Univ. College)

Jason Wirth (Seattle Univ.): Zen in the Anthropocene

Yi Ding (Hokkaido Univ.): A Comparative Study of Goethe's and Zong Baihua's Attitudes  
toward Nature

15:30–16:00      Coffee break

*Keynote Lecture*

16:00–17:00

Chair: Sakura Yahata (Hitotsubashi University)

Mami Aota (Gunma Prefectural Women's University): Depicting Nature with Flowers:  
IKEBANA (Japanese Flower Arrangement) Seen from the Perspective of  
Environmental Aesthetics

**April 25. Fri.**      The Japan Academy

10:00–12:00      Cultural Experience (Museum Visit)

12:00–13:00      Lunch

13:00–14:00

Chair: Yi Ding (Hokkaido Univ.)

Leila Michelle Vaziri (Uni Konstanz): The Intersection of Ecology, Ethics and Aesthetics in  
20th-Century Poetry

14:00–14:30      Coffee break

*Keynote Lectures*

14:30–16:30

Chair: Tanehisa Otabe (The Open Univ.)

Tatsuya Higaki (Senshu University): HIROMATSU Wataru and Ecological View of History

Noburu Notomi (University of Tokyo): Giving birth in the beautiful: Plato on the aesthetic  
experience of philosophy

16:30–17:30

Chair: Sakura Yahata (Hitotsubashi University)

Philipp Höfele (University of Freiburg): Imitation of Nature: On Aesthetic and Ethical  
Aspects of an Old Paradigm (online)

**April 26. Sat.**      Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia, University of Tokyo

*Young Researchers Forum II*

10:00–12:00

Chair: Yi Ding (Hokkaido Univ.)

Anh-Thu Nguyen (Ritsumeikan University): The Player as Virtual Tourist – On Player Subjectivities through the Lens of Video Games

Hu Sheng (Nagoya University): The Representation of the Chinese Battlefield: A Study of Environmental Descriptions in Journey to a War

12:00–13:30 Lunch

13:30–15:30

Chair: Leila Michelle Vaziri (Uni Konstanz)

Joachim Rathmann (Uni Würzburg): Loss of awe and reverence in the digital age?

Sakura Yahata (Hitotsubashi Univ.): Reconnect with Nature through Art: Aesthetic Appreciation and Local Histories

15:30–16:00      Coffee break

*Greetings from Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia/East Asian Academy for New Liberal Arts*

16:00–16:05

Takahiro Nakajima (University of Tokyo)

16:10–18:10

Chair: Sakura Yahata (Hitotsubashi University)

Laura Fumagalli (Uni Augsburg): Negative Aesthetics and the Natural Environment (online)

Stefanie Voigt: TBA

**April 27. Sun.**      Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia, University of Tokyo

13:30–15:30

Chair: Joachim Rathmann (Uni Würzburg)

Barry Stephenson (MUN): The Aesthetics of ‘Wild Language’

Tomoki Sakata (Uni Bamberg): Phenomenological analysis of ‘control’ for a better environment

15:30–16:00      Coffee break

16:00–17:00

Chair: Sakura Yahata (Hitotsubashi University)

Georg Gasser (Augsburg): How wonderful this piece of nature is! Wonder as a core element of the aesthetic experience of nature

17:00–18:00

Chair: Sakura Yahata (Hitotsubashi University)

Sean McGrath (MUN): Praising Shadows with Tanizaki and the German Romantics

**April 28. Mon.**      Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia, University of Tokyo

10:00–12:00      Meeting of WGEA (A closed-door meeting for WGEA members)

12:00–13:30      Lunch

13:30–17:00      Excursion

18:00–20:00      Dinner of the members of WGEA

**April 29. Tue.**      Day of departure