New Titles

Autumn 2019-Spring 2020

Renaissance Books publishes both monographs and major collections for the scholarly market in East Asian and Central Asian Studies

EARLY PHOTOGRAPHY IN VIETNAM
Jacques-Philippe Potteau Vietnamese Embassy to Europe, Paris, 1863, albumen print
SEE PAGE 2
Drawing on the papers presented at CEEJA’s* first international conference addressing the long-neglected field relating to the generation, dissemination and application of technical knowledge in Japan from the Edo to the Meiji periods, this volume provides a valuable selection of new research on the subject, from Hashimoto Takehiko’s detailed examination of Tanaka Hisashige’s ‘Myriad Year Clock’, Regine Mathias’s paper on mining and smelting, and Erich Pauer’s overview of Japanese technical books in the pre-modern era, to Suzuki Jun’s detailed account of boiler-making in late nineteenth-century Japan.

* Centre Européen d’Études Japonaises d’Alsace, 2017

As part of the growing scholarship on family and empire, this study examines Britain’s presence in China through the lens of one family, arguing that, as the physical embodiment of the imperial project, it provided a social and cultural mechanism for mediating Britain’s imperial power, authority and presence, and forging connections and networks throughout the expanding British world. Drawing on public and private papers, it breaks significant new ground in its development of those themes.

Early Photography in Vietnam
Terry Bennett

Early Photography in Vietnam is a fascinating and outstanding pictorial record of photography in Vietnam during the century of French rule. In more than 500 photographs, many published here for the first time, the volume records Vietnam’s capture and occupation by the French, the wide-ranging ethnicities and cultures of Vietnam, the country’s fierce resistance to foreign rule, leading to the reassertion of its own identity and subsequent independence. This benchmark volume also includes a chronology of photography (1845–1954), an index of more than 240 photographers and studios in the same period, appendixes focusing on postcards, royal photographic portraits, Cartes de Visite and Cabinet Cards, as well as a select bibliography and list of illustrations.
Distinguished Asian Studies Scholars: Collected Writings. Vol.3 ISSN2515-0626

Early Japanese Trade, Administration and Interactions with the West

Louis Cullen (Trinity College, Dublin)

Throughout his academic career Louis Cullen’s main research interest has been foreign trade - originally that of England, Ireland and France, but from the mid-1990s, his focus turned to Japanese history resulting in his critically acclaimed A history of Japan 1582–1941: Internal and External Worlds. Subsequently, he concentrated on the analysis of archival sources and of the problems they pose for the interpretation of Japanese history; papers on some of these themes and their associated statistical dimensions have appeared in Nichibunken’s Japan Review and are republished here together with a collection of other papers including interpreting Tokugawa history and the knowledge and the use of Japanese by the Dutch on Dejima island.

Towards Japan
A Personal Journey

Arthur Stockwin (Oxford)

Richard Sorge, the GRU and the Pacific War

John W. M. Chapman (Glasgow)

Sorge’s activities between 1930 and 1942 have tended to be lauded as those of a superlative human intelligence operator and the Soviet Union’s GRU (Soviet military intelligence unit) as the optimum of spy-masters. Although it was unusual for a great deal of inside knowledge to be obtained from the Japanese side, most attention has always been paid on the German side to the roles played by representatives of the German Army in Japan. This book, supported by extensive notes and a bibliography, by contrast, highlights the friendly relations between Sorge and Paul Wenneker, German naval attaché in Japan from 1932 to 1937 and 1940–45. Wenneker, from extensive and expanding contacts inside the Japanese Navy (and also concealed contacts with the Japanese Army) supplied Sorge with key information on the depth of rivalry between the Japanese armed services.

A History of Discriminated Buraku Communities in Japan

Teraki Nobuaki (Momoyama Gakuin) & Kurokawa Midori (Shizuoka)

At the heart of modern Japan there remains an intractable and divisive social problem with its roots in pre-history, namely the ongoing social and state discrimination against the Ōwa communities, otherwise known as Buraku. Principally identified with ‘unclean’ work linked to the leather industry and Japan’s abattoirs and meat processing factories, their resulting marginalization and isolation within society as a whole remains a veiled yet contested issue. Buraku studies, once largely ignored within Japan’s academia and by scholarly publishers, have developed considerably in the first decades of the twenty-first century, as the extensive bibliography provided here clearly demonstrates, thereby ensuring that the authors of the present study (2016), translated by the Oxford scholar Ian Neary, have been able to access the most recent data. Because of its importance as the first broadly-based Buraku history, a wider readership was always the authors’ principal focus. Yet, it also provides a valuable source book for further study by those wishing to develop their knowledge about the subject from an informed base.

This history of the Buraku communities and their antecedents is the first such study to be published in English.
Kyoto’s Renaissance
Ancient Capital for Modern Japan
John Breen (Nichibunken) Maruyama Hiroshi (Meijo) Takagi Hiroshi, (Kyoto) (Eds.)

Drawing on a significant archive of primary sources and critical writings, Kyoto’s Renaissance is the first volume in English to take an in-depth look at Kyoto’s modern transformation – how it came to reinvent itself after its ‘collapse’ at the time of the Meiji Restoration of 1868 and relocation of the imperial court to Tokyo.

Following a contextualised introduction, which also includes a scholarly appraisal of recent and contemporary studies on the city - in both English and Japanese – nine chapters focus on the most notable historical elements that sustain Kyoto as a quintessentially modern ‘ancient capital’ today. The topics examined are the Emperor System, Festivals and Pageants, Buddhism, the Reorganization of Urban Space, Celebrating Heian, Kyoto’s Forest Policy, Industrialization, Nihonga and trends in Modern Pottery.

Kyoto’s Renaissance represents current Japanese scholarship at its best and will be welcomed both as an informed reference book on today’s city and as a benchmark reference for further wide-ranging research.

Unbeaten Tracks in Japan
Revisiting Isabella Bird
New Abridged Edition with Notes and Commentaries by
Kiyonori Kanasaka, (Kyoto) (Translated by Nicholas Pertwee)

Isabella Bird’s best-selling book on Japan is republished here, but with a difference: for the first time, it is now fully annotated with supporting commentaries, providing the twenty-first century reader with an enhanced informed view of the new ‘modern Japan’ as Bird experienced it in 1878.

Originally published as a two-volume work in 1880, this later abridged version, first published in 1885 and promoted as ‘a tale of travel and adventure’, became one of the best-selling travel books published by John Murray; it was reprinted numerous times and by different publishers. This volume is the original 1885 edition. It is not a facsimile, but has been reprocessed digitally to enable the annotations to be inserted, as well as the 40 copperplate illustrations to be restored to their original quality.

The commentaries and notes have been written by Kiyonori Kanasaka, Japan’s leading expert on Isabella Bird, (See Isabella Bird and Japan: A Reassessment, Renaissance Books 2017.)

US-Japan Human Rights Diplomacy
Post 1945
Trafficking, Debates, Documents and Outcomes
Roger Buckley (ICU & Temple Uni, Tokyo)

This is a pioneering study of a worsening human rights issue, supported by documentary evidence (Part I) with Part II providing an extensive collection of primary sources, including international covenants, US Trafficking In Persons and Congressional reports, and Japanese government papers.

The author describes and assesses how the United States, post-1945, has deployed public diplomacy to lead the global fight against sexual and labour trafficking. In particular, it traces how the US has named and shamed its key ally Japan to improve its human rights performance as measured by US annual listings of trafficking activity. Japan’s belated attainment of Tier One ranking suggests that the US in some circumstances has been able to succeed in its declared ‘war’ on domestic and international trafficking.

A Life of Sir Harry Parkes
British Minister to Japan, China and Korea, 1865–1885
Robert Morton (Chuo)

Harry Parkes was at the heart of Britain’s relations with the Far East from the start of his working life at fourteen, to his death at fifty-seven. Orphaned at the age of five, he went to China on his own as a child and worked his way to the top. God-fearing and fearless, he believed his mission was to bring trade and ‘civilisation’ to East Asia. In his day, he was seen as both a hero and a monster and is still bitterly resented in China for his part in the country’s humiliations.
at Western hands, but largely esteemed in Japan for helping it to industrialise. Morton’s new biography, the first in over thirty years, and benefiting in part from access to the Parkes’ family and archives, offers a more intimate and informed profile of the personal and professional life of a Victorian titan and one of Britain’s most undiplomatic diplomats in the history of the British Civil Service.

‘Sir Harry Parkes and suite, in the vestibule at the palace at Osaca, going to visit the tycoon.’ The Illustrated London News Aug. 10, 1867

The History of the Fujiwara House
An Introduction to and Translation of the Tōshi Kaden
Mikaël Bauer (McGill)

With the addition of a contextualized introduction, here is the first annotated translation of the eighth-century clan history Tōshi Kaden or the History of the Fujiwara House. Hitherto, scholars have focused on the more famous eighth-century imperial histories Nihon Shoki and Kojiki, but other sources such as the History of the Fujiwara House provide a narrative that complements or deviates from the official histories. The book was written to provide students and researchers with additional material to reconsider the political and intellectual currents of seventh- and eighth-century Japan and, in addition, reveal further insight into the career and motivations of its controversial author, the courtier Fujiwara no Nakamaro.

RECENTLY PUBLISHED

Culture, Power and Politics in Treaty-Port Japan, 1854–1899
Key Papers, Press and Contemporary Writings
J. E. Hoare, (SOAS)

This two-volume collection, supported by an in-depth, contextualized introduction, brings together contemporary documentation, including the original treaties, and more recent scholarship to give a broad, overall picture of the ports – their development, culture, trade and political status in the second half of the nineteenth century.

The material selected also shows how the ports’ existence and the Japanese struggle to end their special status, impacted on many aspects of modern Japan beyond their primary role as trading stations.

The thriving modern cities of Yokohama and Kobe had their origins as treaty ports. Nagasaki, a major centre of foreign trade since at least the sixteenth century, may not have owed so much to its treaty-port status, but it was a factor in its modern development.

The Paintings of Korean Shaman Gods
History, Relevance and Role as Religious Icons
Kim Tae-gon (Kyunghee)
[Translated by Christina Han]

This is the first comprehensive, fully illustrated study of Korean shaman gods to be published in English; it includes 130 full-colour plates of shaman gods, many dating back to the eighteenth century.
In addition to the plate section, the volume comprises three texts: An illustrated introductory chapter by Christina Han on shamanism – its origins and its significance in Korea as the most ancient form of spirituality framed by the shaman paintings, followed by two further contextualising essays – ‘Reflections on Shaman God Paintings and Shamanism’ by Kim Tae-gon, and ‘The Shaman God Paintings as an Icon and Its Artistic Qualities’ by Bak Yong-suk, both distinguished authorities in the study of Korean shamanism.

The Private Diplomacy of Shibusawa Eiichi
Visionary Entrepreneur and Transnationalist of Modern Japan
Shibusawa Masahide Shibusawa Eiichi Foundation

• January 2019
• ISBN 978-1-898823-81-0
• Hardback (xx, 410pp.)
• List price £65.00

“This book offers an account of the life of Shibusawa Eiichi, who may be considered the first ‘internationalist’ in modern Japan, written by his great grandson Masahide and published in 1970 under the title, Taiheiyo ni kakeru hashi (Building Bridges Over the Pacific).

Japan had a tortuous relationship with internationalism between 1840, when Shibusawa was born, and 1931, the year the nation invaded Manchuria and when he passed away. The key to understanding Shibusawa’s thoughts against the background of this history, the author shows, lies in the concept of ‘people’s diplomacy,’ namely an approach to international relations through non-governmental connections. Such connections entail more transnational than international relations. In that sense, Shibusawa was more a transnationalist than an internationalist thinker.” [Akira Iriye]

The Ghost of Namamugi
Charles Lenox Richardson and the Anglo-Satsuma War
Robert Fletcher, (Warwick)

• February 2019
• ISBN 978-1-898823-84-4
• Hardback (xii, 220pp., 16pp. plates)
• List price £55.00

In 1862, a British merchant was killed by samurai, in uncertain circumstances, at Namamugi, a quiet village near Yokohama. One year later, a British fleet bombarded the port of Kagoshima to extract reparations, reducing much of this south-western city to ash. The Ghost of Namamugi is a captivating re-telling of this story, locating it firmly within the wider context of British imperial expansion in East Asia.

For the first time and in full, the volume includes Richardson’s personal correspondence home. Written across ten years spent living and trading at Shanghai, the Richardson letters give readers a chance to form their own judgement of the man at the centre of a nineteenth-century ‘outrage’.

British Royal and Japanese Imperial Relations, 1868–2018
150 Years of Association, Engagement and Celebration
Peter Kornicki (Cambridge)
Antony Best (LSE)
Hugh Cortazzi (GCMG, 1924–2018)

• April 2019
• Hardback (xxx, 360pp., 36pp. plates)
• List price £75.00

This new study examines the history of the relations between the British and Japanese monarchies over the past 150 years. Complemented by a significant plate section, with many rarely seen historical photographs and illustrations, together with supporting chronologies, British Royal and Japanese Imperial Relations, 1868–2018, will become a benchmark reference on the subject.

The volume is divided into three sections. Part I, by Peter Kornicki, examines the ‘royals and imperials’ history during the Meiji era; Part II, by Antony Best, examines the first half of the twentieth century; Part III, by Sir Hugh Cortazzi (Ambassador to Japan 1980–1984), focuses on the post-war history up to the present day.

Co-published with the Japan Society, its appearance marks the abdication of Emperor Akihito and the ascent to the throne of Crown Prince Naruhito in May 2019. It is also a memorial volume to the late Sir Hugh Cortazzi who died in August 2018, shortly after completing his own contribution to this volume.
The Rise and Evolution of Meiji Japan
James L. Huffman, (Wittenberg)

Considered a doyen of Meiji studies, particularly in the field of the newspaper press in Japan, former journalist, Jim Huffman and emeritus professor of History at Wittenberg University, was recently honoured (2017) with the Distinguished Service Award by the Association of Asian Studies (AAS), marking his outstanding scholarship and service in the field of Asian Studies. He has also received three Fulbright Awards and was the recipient of the Ohio Academy of History’s Distinguished Teaching Award.

Huffman is the author of eight acclaimed books, including A Yankee in Meiji Japan: The Crusading Journalist Edward H. House; Japan: A History in Documents and most recently Down and Out in Late Meiji Japan. Supported by an introductory mini memoir, this collection of Jim Huffman’s writings, comprises thirty journal papers and scholarly essays, thematically structured under (1) Media, (2) Society, Culture and Environment, (3) Democracy, Government and Nationalism. Part 4 offers a selection from his portfolio of book reviews.

The Rise and Evolution of Meiji Japan offers a valuable one-stop access to the scholarship of Jim Huffman that both complements and enhances his existing published works.

British Foreign Secretaries and Japan, 1850–1990
Aspects of the Evolution of British Foreign Policy
Co-published with the Japan Society, London
Antony Best, LSE & Hugh Cortazzi, GCMG, 1924–2018 (Eds)

Incorporating over 250 illustrations, this is the first comprehensive study in English of French artist and caricaturist George Ferdinand Bigot (1860–1927) who, during the last two decades of the nineteenth century, was renowned in Japan but barely known in his own country. Even today, examples of his cartoons appear in Japanese school textbooks. The volume includes a full introduction of the life, work and artistry of Bigot by Christian Polak, together with an essay by Hugh Cortazzi on Charles Wirgman, publisher of Japan Punch.

Georges Bigot and Japan, 1882–1899
Satirist, Illustrator and Artist Extraordinaire
Compiled and Edited by
Christian Polak (EHESS & Meiji) with Hugh Cortazzi, GCMG, 1924–2018

In this his latest work, Gavan McCormack argues that Abe Shinzo’s efforts to re-engineer the Japanese state may fail, but his radicalism continues to shake the country and will have consequences not easy now to predict. The significance of this book will be widely recognized, particularly those researching contemporary world politics, international relations and the history of modern Japan.
Born into the post-war American Occupation of Japan, Nobuko Kanasaka (née Fujimoto) emerged as a woman of her time, both tempered and inspired by the vicissitudes and challenges of occupation life (up to 1952), followed by the hazards of the early post-occupation growth of the economy, the 'miracle' years and finally the 'post-bubble' years. This illustrated volume comprising over 400 photographs and illustrations, tracks both Nobuko’s life experiences from early childhood and celebrates her achievements as an amateur artist, calligrapher and writer – allowing us insights into aspects of everyday life in Japan during this highly significant period in Japanese history.

The Call of Japan
A Continuing Story – 1950 to the Present Day
Hans Brinckmann

Part personal memoir, part professional flashback, part socio-cultural commentary, The Call of Japan chronicles the author’s experiences during his 40 years of living in Japan, from 1950 to 1974 as a ‘reluctant banker’, and from 2003 to the present as a writer. The Call of Japan comments extensively on the country’s economic, political and cultural realities during the crucial early years of post-war reconstruction as well as during more recent times.

Northern Light
Norway Past and Present – A Critical Assessment
Nils-Johan Jørgensen

Here is a new, challenging appraisal of Norway - the author’s country of birth, that redefines its history, culture and heritage – ‘after Ibsen’ – and looks, with a degree of ominous foreboding, at its future and the future of Europe. Ex-diplomat and widely published author Jørgensen explores an array of topics, from Norway’s Viking past, its pursuit of independence, the German occupation, its politics and cultural heritage, the defence of NATO, the relationship with Europe, and the challenge of Russia, concluding with ‘self-image and reality’.

The Thames and I
A Memoir of Two Years at Oxford
Prince Naruhito Crown Prince of Japan

Translated by the late Sir Hugh Cortazzi and first published in hardback in 2006, this reprint in paperback is published to mark the ascendancy to the imperial throne of Crown Prince Naruhito in 2019. Prior to becoming Crown Prince in 1989, Prince Naruhito studied at Merton College, Oxford, from June 1983 to October 1985. His research topic was the River Thames as a commercial highway in the eighteenth century. In 1992, he published a record of his time at Oxford under the title Thames na tomo ni. The memoir, which includes a colour plate section incorporating photographs taken by the Prince, explores his daily life, studies and recreational experiences, including discovering beer and being banned from entering a disco because he was wearing jeans. [Co-published with the Japan Society]
A Life of Sir Harry Parkes
British Minister to Japan, China and Korea, 1865–1885
Robert Morton
2020. 978-1-912961-16-0 [hbk] 288pp. 8pp plates. £65.00
[E-book: 978-1-912961-17-7]

A B. Mitford and the Birth of Japan as a Modern State
Letters Home
Robert Morton
2017. 978-1-898823-48-3 [hbk], 176pp, £40.00

Across the Three Pagodas Pass:
The Story of the Thai-Burma Railway
Yoshiko Futamatsu
2013. 978-1-898823-07-0 [hbk], 240pp, 16pp b/w plates, £35.00

ANJIN-The Life and Times of Samurai William Adams, 1564–1620
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Hiromi T. Rogers
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A Unique Banchado
The Documentary Painting of King Jeongjo’s Royal Procession to Hwaseokng in 1795
Han Young-woo
2016. 978-1-912883-49-0 [hbk], 144pp, col. thro’out, £35.00
[E-book: 978-1-912883-54-4]

Britain & Japan:
Biographical Portraits, Vol.X
Hugh Cortazzi (ed.)
2016. 978-1-912883-43-8 [hbk], 832pp, £85.00
[Co-published with the Japan Society, London]

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Hugh Cortazzi (ed.)
2015. 978-1-912883-14-8, 434pp + 8pp b/w plates, £75.00
Co-published with the Japan Society, London

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[E-book: 978-1-898823-93-3]

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[Trs. John Farndon]
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[E-book: 978-1-898823-36-0]

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James Huffman
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See Mediating Empire, page 2