

Title:

“Mapping Film Studies in and outside Japan: Language, Disciplines, Institutions”

Background and Objectives:

The Graduate School of International Culture and Communication Studies at Waseda University is celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. We are organizing a variety of public events covering a wide range of academic and critical issues that are relevant to the research interests of our faculty and students. As one of such anniversary events, we will hold a round table on film studies as a research field, a discipline, and an institution. Because virtually all courses in GSICCS are English-based and our students write their MA theses and PhD dissertations only in English, we are particularly interested in exploring the questions of English-language film scholarship in the Japanese context. To pursue such an intellectual inquiry properly, however, we must have a clear picture of the state of Japan’s film studies in its multiple facets and at different scales. It is also important to consider the effect of a fast-changing academic landscape on film studies both in and outside Japan. We are of course keenly aware of the major challenges film studies faces when digital media and networks have fundamentally changed the meanings of “film,” “spectator,” “screen,” “production,” “consumption,” etc.

The round table features Professors Ishida Minori and Kinoshita Chika, two leading film studies scholars based in Japan. Given the informal format of the round table, we expect a lively discussion on the topics mentioned above and additional pertinent issues. Each of the invited scholars will be asked to give a brief opening remark, and then engage in an open discussion led by a moderator. The event is open to the public. We welcome anybody interested in the current state and future of film studies in and outside Japan.

Speakers

**ISHIDA Minori** is a professor in the Faculty of Economic Sciences, co-director of Center for Anime Studies at Niigata University. She has published several books on the voice and gender in anime, including *Anime to seiyū no media shi* (2020). Her essays on the voice in anime and its related genres are “Deviating Voices” (2019), “Sounds and Sighs” (2019), and “Voice Actresses Rising” (2021).

**KINOSHITA Chika** is a professor of Film Studies at the Graduate School of Human and Environmental Studies at Kyoto University, Japan. Her research interests are in Japanese film history, with a focus on gender and sexuality. She is the author of the award-winning book, *Mizoguchi Kenji: Aesthetics and Politics of the Film Medium* (Hosei University Press, 2016). Her essays have appeared in numerous journals and collections in both English and Japanese.

Moderator

Mitsuhiro Yoshimoto, GSICCS