

Institute of Asian and Oriental Studies – Japanese Studies











Scandal in Japan: Transgression, Performance and Ritual

12 October 2023, 14:00-15:30

Room KAB-G-01, Kantonsschulstrasse 3, 8001 Zurich

Guest Lecture by Dr. Igor Prusa, Metropolitan University Prague

This talk is an exploration of media scandals in contemporary Japanese society. It offers a novel view of scandal as a highly mediatized "ritual" which manifests and manages revealed transgressions throughout Japanese history. The first part focuses on Japanese scandal as "media product", and it delves into the media's role in constructing,

shaping, and distributing scandals in Japan. The second part approaches Japanese scandal as "social ritual". It explores the performative nature of scandal and demonstrates how the social drama of confession, exclusion and reintegration is turned into a spectacular media event with a high degree of ritualization.