

Travis Seifman

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〒113-0033 東京都文京区本郷 7-3-1 東京大学史料編纂所・特任研究員
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EMPLOYMENT: **Postdoctoral Researcher**, *University of Tokyo Historiographical Institute (Shiryōhensanjo)*, 9/19-present

Teaching Associate, *UC Santa Barbara*, 6/16-7/16
Japan under the Tokugawa Shoguns

Teaching Assistant, *UC Santa Barbara*, 9/15-3/16
Academic Writing

Teaching Assistant, *UC Santa Barbara*, 9/12-6/15
World History 1000-1700; Japanese History through Art & Lit.;
East Asian Traditions (Premodern); East Asian Civilization;
Western Civilization (1000-1700); Western Civ. (1700-present);
African History (1945-present)

Graduate Assistant, *University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa*, 9/11-5/12
Global Survey of Art History

EDUCATION: **University of California, Santa Barbara**

PhD, History, June 2019
Dissertation: “Performing ‘Lūchū’: Identity Performance and
Foreign Relations in Early Modern East Asia”
(Luke Roberts)

University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa

MA Art History, May 2012
Thesis: “Pictures of an Island Kingdom: Depictions of Ryūkyū in
Early Modern Japan” (John Szostak)

School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London

MA Japanese Studies (History focus), Sept. 2007
Thesis: “Seals of Red and Letters of Gold: Japanese Relations with
Southeast Asia in the 17th Century” (Angus Lockyer)

Brandeis University

BA History & East Asian Studies, May 2004
Study Abroad: Sophia University, Tokyo, Spring 2003

- PUBLICATIONS:** “Displaying Foreignness for Prestige: Lūchūan Embassy Processions in Early Modern Japan, 1644-1850,” in Richard Morris (ed.), *Crossing Boundaries: Festival and Diplomatic Encounters in the Early Modern World*, Brepols Publishing (forthcoming)
- “Nihonmachi in Southeast Asia in the 16th-17th Centuries,” in Gary Leupp and Tao Demin (eds.), *Tokugawa World*, Routledge (forthcoming)
- “Hokusai’s ‘Eight Views of Ryūkyū’: Islands of Imagination,” in *Andon* 106, Dec 2018.
- “Seals of Red and Letters of Gold: Japanese Relations with Southeast Asia in the 17th Century” *Explorations* (UH Graduate Student Journal of Southeast Asian Studies), Spring 2010, 5-22.
- BOOK REVIEWS:** Review of Gregory Smits, *Maritime Ryukyu, 1050-1650* (University of Hawai‘i Press, 2019), *Japanese Studies* (Sept 2020)
- NON-ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS:** “The loss of Shuri castle is a devastating blow for the people of Okinawa,” *Apollo: The International Art Magazine*, 5 Nov 2019.
- MEDIA APPEARANCES:** News Briefs, Channel News Asia (CAN), 31 Oct 2019 (discussing fire at Shuri castle, Okinawa, that day)
- “Shuri castle on the Record,” Japan on the Record podcast, 12 Feb 2020. <https://share.transistor.fm/s/42993688>
- SELECTED ACADEMIC HONORS:**
- Early Modern Japan Network AAS Conference Award**
Funding attendance and paper presentation at the annual Association for Asian Studies conference, March 2019
 - Graduate Division Dissertation Fellowship (UCSB) (2018)**
Funding continued dissertation research, Fall 2018
 - Humanities & Social Sciences Research Grant (2018)**
Funding brief dissertation research overseas, Summer 2018
 - UCSB History Department Research Travel Grant (2018)**
Funding brief dissertation research overseas, Summer 2018
 - UCSB History Department Dissertation Fellowship (2018)**
Funding continued dissertation work, Winter 2018, Winter 2019

Interdisciplinary Humanities Center (UCSB) Pre-Doctoral Fellowship (2017)

Funding continued dissertation research, Fall 2017

Japan Foundation Japanese Studies Fellowship (2016-2017)

Funding dissertation research for 11-month residency at University of the Ryukyus & University of Tokyo, Fall 2016 – Summer 2017

National Museum of Japanese History / Graduate University for Advanced Studies Grant (Summer 2013)

Funded research at the museum/graduate university in Japan as part of a partnership between that institution and U. of Hawai'i

East-West Center Assoc. Alumni Scholarship (2010-11)

Scholarship awarded to University of Hawai'i graduate students specializing in Asia-Pacific topics. Provides for residence at the East-West Center and involvement in the EWC scholarly community

Center for Japanese Studies Graduate Fellowship (2010-11)

Scholarship awarded to University of Hawai'i graduate students specializing in Japanese Studies

LANGUAGES & SKILLS:

***Japanese** – near fluent reading proficiency
upper advanced conversational / writing proficiency,
incl. reading proficiency in premodern / early modern documents

***Spanish** – intermediate reading ability

***Mandarin** – elementary level

***Okinawan** – elementary level

*Experienced with **Wiki markup**, basic **HTML** and various online platforms including Twitter, Tumblr, Flickr, WordPress

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

CURATORIAL:

Co-curator, (*Freelance*) *Picturing the Ryukyus: Images of Okinawa in Japanese Artworks from the UH Sakamaki/Hawley Collection*, University of Hawai'i Art Gallery, 2/13

Intern, *Freer Gallery of Art, Smithsonian Institution*, 6/11-8/11

- Handled 2,000 museum objects of various age, material, conservation status (17th-20th c. Japanese books)
- Photographed Pulverer Collection of Japanese books for online publication

Gallery Intern, *Japan Society Gallery*, 9/08-8/09

Curatorial Intern, *Museum of Fine Arts, Boston*, 12/05-8/06

DRAMATURGY:

“*The Vengeful Sword*” *Ise Ondo Koi no Netaba* 伊勢音頭恋寝刃
University of Hawai‘i Kabuki production Spring 2011

- Produced research on history of the play, backstory of the plot, Edo period teahouse culture, history of the setting, and other relevant subjects
- Presented pre-show talk, “The Real Story Behind the Play”
- Performed a small onstage role (that of the *taikomochi*)

EVENT ORGANIZATION:

“Networks and Negotiations: UCSB Graduate Student Conference on Premodern Japan,” co-organizer (with K. Saltzman-Li and E. Simpson), February 12-13, 2016

“Love, Peace, Dreams, and Bombs,” collaborative art exhibition / panel discussion, co-organizer (with Y. Glover, C. Gabrielson, N. Matsushima, and C. Raymond), February 26 – March 4, 2017

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE: History Graduate Student Association (HGSA), UCSB
Vice President (2014-2016)

Graduate Student Association (GSA), UCSB
History department representative (2013-2016)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS: Association for Asian Studies (AAS)
Japan Art History Forum (JAHF)
Early Modern Japan Network (EMJNet)
Premodern Japanese Studies (PMJS)
Okinawa Bunka Kyōkai (Assoc. of Okinawa Culture [Studies])
Ryūkyū Okinawa Rekishi Gakkai (Ryukyu Okinawa History Ass.)

SELECTED CONFERENCE PAPERS: “The Ryukyuan Embassies to Edo in Japanese Procession Scrolls”
Okinawan Art in its Regional Context conference
University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK, Oct 10-11, 2019

“Emulating the Central Flowering: Confucian Civilizational Rhetoric and Practice in Lūchūan Embassies to Edo”
Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference
Denver, CO, Mar 24, 2019

“Not Simply Tributary: The Character of Ritual Diplomacy in Tokugawa-Ryūkyū Relations”
Sixth International Conference of the Japan Studies Association in Southeast Asia
Jakarta, Indonesia, Dec 5-7, 2018

“Displaying foreignness for prestige: Luchuan embassy processions in Edo, 1644-1850”
Perceiving Processions Early Modern Postgraduate Symposium
The Courthauld Institute of Art, London, Nov 24, 2018

“Music and Ritual Diplomacy: Ryukyuans at the Shogun's Court”
The Society for Ethnomusicology, Southern California and Hawaii Chapter (SEMSCHC) Annual Conference
Pomona College, Claremont CA, Feb 24-25, 2018

「『中華』を演じる：琉球使節の江戸・北京での謁見儀礼」
"Performing the "Central Flowering": Protocols for the Ryukyu Ambassador's Ceremonial Audiences in Edo and Beijing"
USC/Meiji University Exchange
University of Southern California, Los Angeles CA, Feb 8, 2018

“Okinawan Art Today,” Love, Peace, Dreams, and Bombs event,
University of California, Santa Barbara, Mar 1, 2017

“New Views of Ryūkyū: Yamamoto Hōsui in Okinawa, 1887”
Japan Arts & Globalizations conference,
University of California, Irvine, Jan 31, 2014.

“Ryukyuan Embassy Processions: A 1710 *Edo Nobori* Scroll from the Sakamaki/Hawley Collection”
Interpreting Parades and Processions of Edo Japan symposium
University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, Feb 11, 2013

“The Okinawa Prefectural Museum: Native Voices or National Narrative?”
Western Museums Association Conference, Honolulu, Sep 2011

**ACADEMIC
REFERENCES:**

Luke Roberts
Professor, History
University of California, Santa Barbara
lukerob@history.ucsb.edu

Kate McDonald
Associate Professor, History

University of California, Santa Barbara
kmcdonald@history.ucsb.edu

Katherine Saltzman-Li
Associate Professor + Chair, East Asian Languages & Cultural
Studies
University of California, Santa Barbara
ksaltzli@eastasian.ucsb.edu