

Asian Center for Women's Studies
Race and Gender Special Lecture Series 2

Violence of the Frontier: Indigeneity, Race, Prostitution, and Domesticity in Cinematic Representations of the American and Japanese 'Wests'

27 May 2022 (Fri)

10:00am-12:00pm (Korea Standard Time)

Venue Online (Zoom) **Language** English

Abstract

This presentation juxtaposes Clint Eastwood's critically acclaimed *Unforgiven* (1992) against Lee Sang-il's "remake" (*Yurusarezaru mono*, 2013) of the original as a method for rethinking key themes in political philosophy -- such as the violence of law, sovereign power, the right to kill, prostitution, domesticity, and historical memory and accountability -- while foregrounding issues of indigeneity and settler colonialism. Fujitani will give special attention to the classical Marxist question of "primitive accumulation" in relation to women's sexual and reproductive labor. This is part of a book length study tentatively titled: "Cold War Clint: Asians, "Indians" and Others in an American Political (Un)conscious)." While Eastwood's many Westerns are well known, *Yurusarezaru mono* is Lee's only offering in this genre. Lee's first film, *Chong* (1998, 2001), is in part based upon his own life growing up as an ethnic Korean in Japan. His more well-known films include *Hula Girl* (2006), *The Villain* (Akunin, 2010), and *Rage* (Ikari, 2016).


Bio


Takashi Fujitani holds the Dr. David Chu Chair in Asia Pacific Studies at the University of Toronto, where he is also Professor of History and Director of the Dr. David Chu Program in Asia-Pacific Studies. His research has centered on the intersections of nationalism, colonialism, war, memory, racism, and gender in Japan and the U.S. His major works include: *Splendid Monarchy* (UC Press, 1996); *Race for Empire: Koreans as Japanese and Japanese as Americans During WWII* (UC Press, 2011); and *Perilous Memories: The Asia Pacific War(s)* (co-edited, Duke U. Press, 2001). He is editor of the book series *Asia Pacific Modern* (UC Press) and has held numerous grants and fellowships, including from the John S. Guggenheim Foundation.





Speaker

Professor
Takashi Fujitani
(University of Toronto)

 We recommend watching the two movies, Clint Eastwood's *Unforgiven* (1992) and Sang-il Lee's *Yurusarezaru mono* (2013). Regarding the information for watching the movies, feel free to contact us.

 Registration Link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/13qsw9T250vvytAHHX8EKLAC6l9_07u6Pr3TAsRiUtnY/

 Registration Deadline: 26 May 2022 (Thu) / 12:00pm (Korea Standard Time)

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